## PROJECT 10073 RECORD

| 1. DATE - TIME GROUP | 2. LOCATION |
|---|---|
| 25 April 1966 26/0115-0120Z | Northeastern, United States |
| **3. SOURCE**<br>Civilians | **10. CONCLUSION**<br>Astro (METEOR) ✓ JJH |
| **4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS**<br>One | |
| **5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION**<br>Seconds | **11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS**<br>Object was very bright. It left an exhaust trail. Traveled in a straight path and when it disappeared it broke up into pieces. Numerous reports of a spectacular meteor was confirmed by the Smithsonian Institute. |
| **6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION**<br>Ground-Visual | |
| **7. COURSE**<br>North | |
| **8. PHOTOS**<br>☐ Yes<br>XX No | |
| **9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**<br>☐ Yes<br>XX No | |

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

25 April

FTD (TDEW)
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433
27 April 1966

[redacted]
East Islip, New York 11730

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Reference your recent unidentified observation of 25 April 1966. From the information which we have received it indicates that you observed a meteor. In order to confirm our evaluation we would appreciate your completing the attached FTD Form 164 and returning it in the envelope provided. Since this is a possible meteor sighting we would appreciate your permission to forward a copy of your report to Dr. Charles P. Olivier, who is head of the American Meteor society.

Your report indicated that you took photographs of the trail. We would like to borrow the original negative for evaluation. We would return the negative with two prints to you upon completion of analysis.

We wish to thank you for reporting your observation to the Air Force.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF
Chief, Project Blue Book

FTD (TDEW)
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433
11 May 1966

[redacted]
[redacted]
Wayne, New Jersey 07470

Dear [redacted],

We appreciated your inquiry about the suspected unidentified flying object observation on 25 April 1966. The UFO has been confirmed by the Smithsonian Institute as a meteor observation. Numerous reports were received by this office on said date, and all have been determined to be a result of this meteor.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF
Chief, Project Blue Book

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN : 12899 (5 May 66) O/jja



ACTION: NIN-7

INFO : XOP-1, XOPX-2, SAFOS-3, DIA-1, RDC-4 (19) ADV CY DIA

SMB B033RTTU JAW RUEDGMA5181 1242052-UUUU--RUEDHQA.

ZNR UUUUU

R 041932Z

FM 52FTRWG SUFFOLK COUNTY AFB NY

TO RUEDHQA/CSAF

RUEDHQA/SECRETARY OF THE AF WASHDC

RUWMFVA/ADC

RUEDMAA/1AF STEWART AFB NY

RUEDBOA/21AIRDIV MCGUIRE AFB NJ

RUEBBAA/AFSC

BT

UNCLAS 520DC 00122 MAY 66.

FOR AFSC FTD-TDEW-UFO, USAF (AFNIN), 21AIRDIV (21ADOIN).

UFO RPT. IAW AFR 200-2 INFO SUBMITTED ON UFO SIGHTING

AT 1525Z, 25 APR 66.

A. (1) CIRCULAR (2) N/A (3) GREEN (4) ONE (5) (6) N/A (7)

ORANGE TAIL AND WHITE TRAIL (8) NONE (9) N/A.

B. (1) LOOKING AT MOON AND SAW GREENISH OBJECT (2) ORBIT

BETWEEN EARTH AND MOON, 15 DEGREES EAST TO NORTH (3) SAME AS

(2) (4) ORBITING BETWEEN THE EARTH AND MOON (5) SLOWLY

SMS

| TO | | CYS |
|---|---|---|
| | OS | |
| | OSA | |
| | OSP | |
| | US | |
| | RR | |
| | IL | |
| | ILA | |
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| | ILP | |
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| | FM | |
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| | AAA | |
| | AAR | |
| | GG | |
| | OT | |
| | LL | |
| | SS | |
| | DSMS | |

AFHQ FORM JAN 65 0-309C

UNCLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE



TO NORTH (5) FIVE SECONDS.

PAGE 2 RUEDGMA5181 UNCLAS

C. (1) NAKED EYE (2) (3) N/A.

D. (1) 1525Z, 25 APR 66 (2) DUSK.

E. CITY OF ORDSLEY, NY.

F. THE FOLLOWING PERSONS REPORTED SUBSTANTIALLY
THE SAME INFO AS REFLECTED ABOVE. (1) R[redacted],
AGE 14, ADDRESS [redacted], ORDSLEY, NY PH: [redacted]
(2) MR[redacted] AGE N/A ADDRESS SYOSSETT NY PH: [redacted]
(3) MR [redacted] AGE N/A ADDRESS [redacted].
EAST NORTHPORT NY PH: [redacted]

G. (1) EXCELLENT (2) WINDS NW AT 12 KNOTS (3) N/A (4)
VISIBILITY (5) NONE (6) (7) N/A

H. N/A

I. N/A

J. N/A

K. CONSIDERING FLURRY OF CALLS RECEIVED AND STATE-
MENT DECLARED BY STEWART AFB HEARD ON LOCAL RADIO,
THIS REPORT WAS ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE METEOR SHOWER
WHICH WAS SEEN FROM VIRGINIA TO MAINE ON 25 APR 66.



UNCLASSIFIED

## U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U.S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes. Your name will *not* be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

25 (Day) April (Month) 1966 (Year)

2. Time of day: ~~0500~~ 20 (Hour) 20 (Minutes)

(Circle One): A.M. or (P.M.)

3. Time Zone:

(Circle One): (a. Eastern) b. Central c. Mountain d. Pacific e. Other _____

(Circle One): (a. Daylight Saving) b. Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Concord Airport (Nearest Postal Address) | Concord (City or Town) | New Hampshire (State or County)

5. How long was object in sight? (Total Duration) _____ (Hours) _____ (Minutes) 6 (Seconds)

a. Certain
(b. Fairly certain)
c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

5.1 How was time in sight determined? 1001, 1002, etc. ✓

5.2 Was object in sight continuously? Yes _____ No _____

6. What was the condition of the sky?

| DAY | NIGHT |
|---|---|
| a. Bright | (a. Bright) |
| b. Cloudy | b. Cloudy |

late dusk

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. (In front of you) b. In back of you c. To your right d. To your left e. Overhead f. Don't remember

in west.
Sun 1/2 hr. below setting

FORM FTD OCT 62 164 This form supersedes FTD 164, Jul 61, which is obsolete.

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (*Circle One*):

a. None
b. A few
c. Many
d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (*Circle One*):

a. Bright moonlight
b. Dull moonlight
c. No moonlight – pitch dark
d. Don't remember

9. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (*Circle One*):

a. Clear sky 15 miles
b. Hazy
c. Scattered clouds 5 - NW 35
d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (*Circle One*):

a. Dry
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

10. The object appeared: (*Circle One*):

a. Solid
b. Transparent
c. Vapor
d. As a light
e. Don't remember

Orange pearls
green blue weak band
center (white) (1 sec) - about
~~3~~ 4-5-6 sec
very bright
and sparks
came off.

11. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? (*Circle One*):

a. Brighter
b. Dimmer
c. About the same
d. Don't know

11.1 Compare brightness to some common object: intense light - like Rigel touch (center)

12. The edges of the object were:

(*Circle One*):
a. Fuzzy or blurred
b. Like a bright star
c. Sharply outlined
d. Don't remember

e. Other stroboscopic.

13. Did the object:

(*Circle One for each question*)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time? | Yes | (No) | Don't know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | Yes | No | Don't know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | Yes | No | (Don't know) |
| d. Give off smoke? | (Yes) | No | Don't know |
| e. Change brightness? | (Yes) | No | Don't know |
| f. Change shape? | (Yes) | No | Don't know |
| g. Flash or flicker? | Yes | (No) | Don't know |
| h. Disappear and reappear? | Yes | (No) | Don't know |

14. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how?

Yes - only saw power source.

15. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind: MAY have gone behind cloud deck to North.

16. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes (No) Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what in front of: _____

17. Tell in a few words the following things about the object:

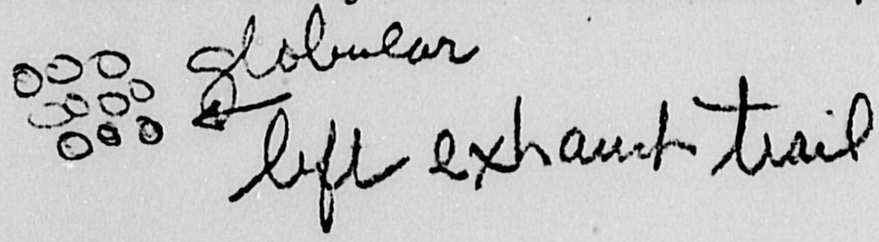
a. Sound NO

b. Color _____

18. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick at arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head?

10 Times size of DC-7 - would not have quite covered it

19. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.



20. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? Fast-like Jet - 6 sec - 10 miles

21. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? 10 miles

22. Where were you located when you saw the object? *(Circle One):*

a. Inside a building
b. In a car
(c. Outdoors)
d. In an airplane (type)
e. At sea
f. Other walking from airplane to car.

23. Were you *(Circle One)*

a. In the business section of a city?
b. In the residential section of a city?
c. In open countryside?
(d. Near an airfield?)
e. Flying over a city?
f. Flying over open country?
g. Other _____

24. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

24.1 What direction were you moving? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

24.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

24.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

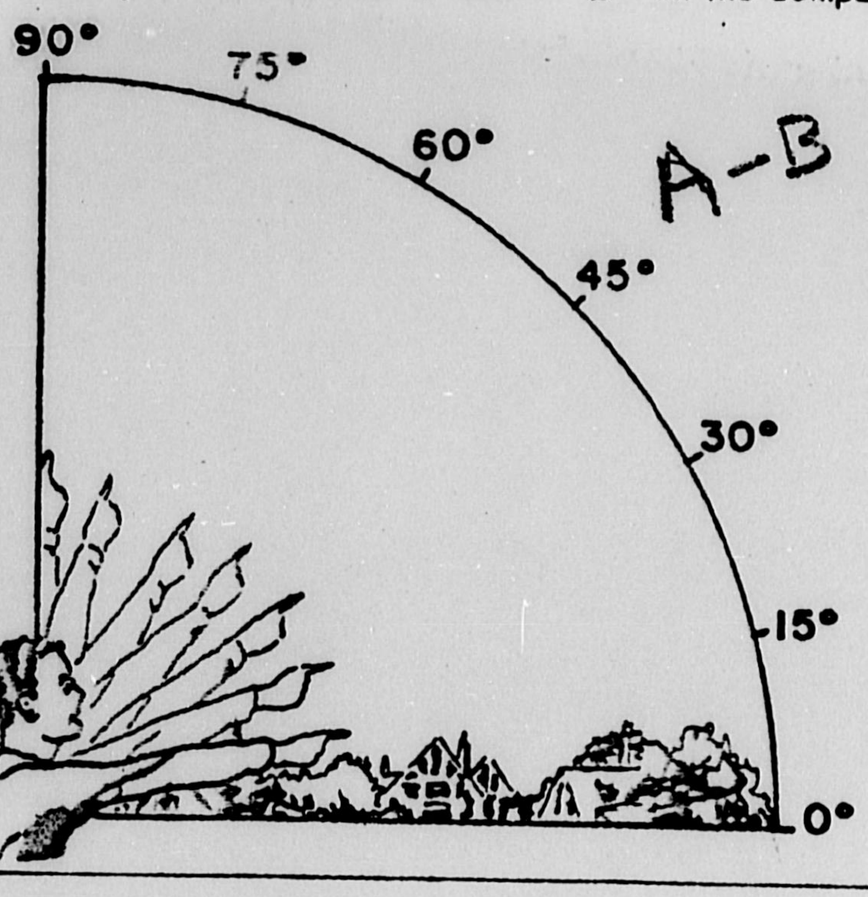
25. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

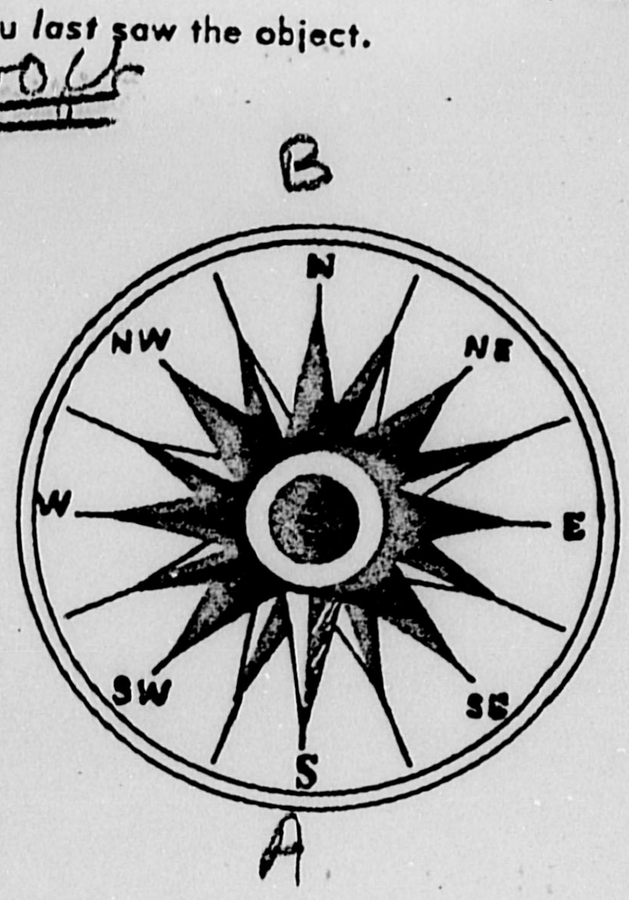
| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a. Eyeglasses | Yes | (No) | e. Binoculars | Yes | (No) |
| b. Sun glasses | Yes | (No) | f. Telescope | Yes | (No) |
| c. Windshield | Yes | (No) | g. Theodolite | Yes | (No) |
| d. Window glass | Yes | (No) | h. Other _____ | | |

26. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

Upper part of rocket from Cape Kennedy.

27. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it. Place an "A" on the compass when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the compass where you *last* saw the object.




28. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.

Straight path —

29. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____
Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

one main object but as the disappeared it broke up into groups

30. Have you ever seen this, or a similar object before. If so give date or dates and location.

No

31. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object? *(Circle One)* (Yes) No

31.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too? *(Circle One)* (Yes) No

31.2 Please list their names and addresses:

WIFE - SAme

~~[redacted]~~ 1

Other two witness - live boy on flight crew Ferry. Flight Service Concord Airport -

32. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME [redacted] (Last Name) [redacted] (First Name) [redacted] (Middle Name)

ADDRESS [redacted] (Street), East Islip (City) NEw York (Zone), (State)

TELEPHONE NUMBER [redacted] AGE 48 SEX Male,

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any special experience, which might be pertinent.

[redacted]

FORmer AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE LINGUIST stated at WPAFB 1952-53.

Close to Bedford + Westover.

33. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object? only local people.

25 (Day) April (Month) 1966 (Year)

34. Date you completed this questionnaire: 25 (Day) April (Month) 1966 (Year)

35. Information which you feel pertinent and which is not adequately covered in the specific points of the questionnaire or a narrative explanation of your sighting.

[redacted]

Cranston R.I.

U.S. Signal Service

Transmit may concern

To whom it may concern

This is to certify that I left Pawtuxet
Village on the 2nd day of May
about 8 1/2 P.M.

I was in Pawtuxet Cranston R.I.
a very high spot. Our house is on
an angle facing East N. West is
over Pilling & a low window
just before entering on the right
when I saw the flash & light and
declared and my husband jumped
up and we saw what was thought
was a huge flame of fire white light-
ning green, red, white and yellow
the sky today was dark green & white

My husband said it must be a test plane from Quonset which is about 25 m from Pasco on Rte. 2 it circled and looked around & then it zoomed down & the front part broke off, the other part came down in fire

Mr Ellis called the boy Bill was my baby & I had Bill on the front of it. Bill was green & white but it didn't take on the black background, the way we saw it. It looked in the picture as though the front had turned out & the time the picture was taken and if you look closely it looks like the flame ends of a plane. It would show & stands on the negative.

"Could it be something the Dancers
eat up, in our Ornament & make them
and it just came through
like the old saying "that goes in must
come down"
Read the Times & was delighted
to see we are to have a Trade Union
& obey rules at work &c
Is Ben home on Tue? will explain
a letter, & need have seen D
I was in bed & read & read &
doze and not to bright, but great
glided on the time flies in
full war
I can't imagine why more people
don't read & love reading
Can't it? Now my dear
Yours truly Yours
[redacted]

25 Apr 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 911TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP, MEDIUM (RESERVE) (CONAC)
GREATER PITTSBURGH AIRPORT, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15231

REPLY TO ATTN OF: CSS-I

SUBJECT: UFO, Pittsburgh, Pa.

26 APR 1966

TO: AFSC (FTD)
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

1. Unidentified Flying Objects seen in the Pittsburgh area 25 Apr. 66.

2. General resume attached

FOR THE COMMANDER

Eugene F. Rehrer

EUGENE F. REHRER
Information Officer

1 Atch
Sighting and Summary

Astro (meteor)

25 Apr 66 — Mr. [redacted] Upper Sinclair Township [redacted]
Sighted UFO at 2015 on 25 Apr 1966 -- Blueish Green emmited a trail of white flame and sparks, round snub nose ball like comet.

" " " — Mrs. [redacted] St. Clair Hosp. [redacted]
UFO sighted same time same description as one above.

" " " — Mr. [redacted] RD2 Chicora, Pa [redacted]
UFO sighted same time same description as ones above.

" " " — Miss [redacted]. Mt. Lebanon [redacted]
UFO sighted same time same description.

" " " — Miss [redacted]. Elizabeth, Pa. [redacted]
UFO sighted at 2037 25 Apr 1966 -- Cigar shaped blue green streak South East to Northwest.

" " " — Miss [redacted]. White Hall, Pa. [redacted]
UFO sighted at 20 15 -- East to North same description.

" " " — [redacted]. Gibsonia, Pa. [redacted]
UFO sighted at 2015, same as above.

" " " — Mr. [redacted] Fox Chapel [redacted]
UFO sighted 2020 Due North -- Red and Green oblong and traveling and a high rate of speed.

" " " — Mr. [redacted]. Glenwillard, Pa. [redacted]
UFO sighted -- Large green oblonged shaped.

" " " — Mr. [redacted]. Arlington Hts, Pa [redacted]
UFO sighted -- Large circular disc going north.

" " " — Mr. [redacted] Glenwillard, Pa. [redacted]
UFO sighted -- round greenish disc

" " " — [redacted]ve. Oakdale, Pa. [redacted]
UFO Sighted -- Long green bullet shaped object with fire coming out the back end of it.

SUMMARY:

The inspecting officer did not observe the UFO. However, information given the public by the news media indicated that the UFO was either a Meteorite or a Satelite being burned up by the earth's atmosphere.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20007

April 25, 1966

UFO Investigation Unit
Andrews Air Force Base
Maryland

Dear Sirs:

I wish to report that, at approximately 8:10 this evening, while driving towards the east through the Georgetown University Medical Area, I saw an extremely unusual object flying through the sky. The object was a bright, flaming turquoise and gold. It was headed towards the north and appeared to be losing altitude. I watched the object for about five or ten seconds, until it disappeared behind the trees. I thought that it was an aircraft going down in flames, but I did not hear any explosion or other unusual sounds at the time of the sighting. The object was relatively large and slow-moving. It was a startling thing to see, and I would be very surprised if no-one else saw it. I have no particular theory as to the nature of this object.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Class of 1966
School of Foreign Service

( ) ( 25 April

Ulster Co Fire Control Center

Mr. [redacted] — (Kingston # [redacted])

Mr [redacted] reported that the UFO had passed at low Altitude northward over West Charley toward Woodstock and crashed near Mead Mountain — His report was secard hand from a Mrs [redacted] (West charley [redacted]) who apparently thought it was a jet aircraft. She reported that it crashed with a loud explosion at about 2015hrs.

[redacted] (Allenville [redacted]) reported that the object passed at an altitud of 10,000' - 20,000' or lower over Allenville. He stated that he was sure it was a jet aircraft. He said it was burning with a magnasium type fire and that it crashed and two loud booms were heard.

[redacted] (Crane Road, Carmel, N.Y [redacted])

Reported the object passed at high Altitude over Carmel, N.Y at a 010° heading. He saw it break up high above the ground and saw the pieces falling.

[redacted] saw different colores across
New City [redacted] sky heard at a high rate of
speed

[redacted] and Wife saw a
Poughkeepsie red ball of fire exploded in
[redacted] mid air & lost to ground

[redacted] aft crashed are unknown
Newburgh
[redacted]

[redacted] aft crashed are unknown
Monague, N.J.
[redacted]

[redacted] - Pilot heard loud noise
Sussex airport N.J. saw something
100 miles explode in air

[redacted]

([redacted] meter landed in streets
Redhook, N.Y. of Kingston very vague
SW of Kingston
[redacted])

Miss [redacted]
Walker Valley, N.Y.
18 Miles W of Kingston, N.Y.
[redacted] area code 914
Stated low flying object followed near her area, loud noise, fire

([redacted] in sky fire ball exploded
Tobelt Air Port heard loud noises Boom)

([redacted] it 15FT crashed did'nt know
Chester, N.J. area)

(Milford, P.A. thought as it 15FT had
St. Police crashed in direction of Kingston)

Susquehanna, County
Lake, Lewis, PA
St. Police

(Commercial Pilot Mr [redacted]
NW of Middletown : saw two flying
objects at high alt. traveling high rate of Speed)

(Ridgewood N.J. reported ufo crashed
Police Dept. but could not tell the exact area)

[redacted] saw a streak of light flying
New Paltz low to the ground and disentegrated
[redacted]

[redacted] aft. crashed area
Fostervill, N.Y. unknown
Sullivan, County

(al Split AF Res saw a object of black)
Walker Valley is mid air

(Col. Ellis Res AF saw streaks of different
colster, N.Y. colored lights then blew up)

[redacted]
Kingston
[redacted]

([redacted] thought two AFETS had crashed in ~~the~~ mid Gallentown Road 5 miles of field air on 9W [redacted])

(Dave Sapman had camera after crates near Paltz set to take Pictures [redacted])

( [redacted] saw beautiful lights
La Bruyeville explosion then nothing )

Mrs. [redacted]
between Middletown & Fairoaks

Rowena
Kingwood, N. J.

Mr [redacted]
Brian Cliff Manor

Lt. Col. Ezekiel was Posted as acft
1st AF Res Reg. and exploded then crashed
[redacted]

( Moore Lt. Police was wondering about
Catskill Lt. Police blue smoke coming
from Stewart AFB )

Sargent Romona saw lites flying across
Hewestown, N. J. sky traveling fast
[redacted]

Telephone call 2200 hrs.

Mrs [redacted] - [redacted]

Hahnsville, New York

saw brilliant white light

west of Hahnsville

at 2015 hours.

Mrs. H. Chaplain Answering

call received at my home at 1225 hrs —

[redacted]

Roselle, N. J.

[redacted]

Right above
saw parts breaking off
& shooting across sky
with smoke trail for about 3 min
— then broke up into
small pieces and turned
bright orange at aprox the
height of a house on the
horizon.

# OD / NCOD / CHARGE OF QUARTERS REPORT

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Read local instructions prior to completing this report.
2. Describe any unusual happenings and actions taken in Section A.
3. When important phone calls are received, list the origin of the call, person calling and actions taken.
4. Enter all time, incidents and actions taken concerning items in Section B, under Section A.

| NAME & GRADE (Typed or Printed) | TYPE OF REPORT |
|---|---|
| PINKSTON KAY A. CAPT | [X] OD [ ] NCOD [ ] CQ |
| **REPORTED FOR DUTY (Date/Time)** / **NORMAL DUTY SECTION** | **TELEPHONE NUMBERS** |
| 25 APRIL 66 / 1545 hrs / 4713TH DSES | HOME 512-5713 / DUTY 511 |

**A. DUTIES PERFORMED**

| TIME | REMARKS/INCIDENTS OR EVENTS | ACTION TAKEN |
|---|---|---|
| 2300 hrs | 1. Initial Base Inspection | None |
| | | |
| 0620 ~~2230-2330 hrs~~ | 2. Meal in Consolidated Dining Hall | None |
| | | |
| 2230-2330 hrs | 3. Conduct Inspections in "B" Below | |
| | | |
| 0200 | 4. Base Inspection (Final) | None |
| | | |
| | 5. Other activities (Use reverse side if necessary) (Include VIP arrivals, unusual occurences, incidents and especially items requiring further action. Details should include hour, action taken, persons notified, etc). | |

**B. BUILDINGS/EQUIPMENT/AREAS TO BE CHECKED**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Base Guard House | 2. VOQ - VAQ | 3. BX Cafeteria |
| 4. | 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. | 9. |
| 10. | 11. | 12. |

**C. BASE/STATION PHONE NUMBERS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FIRE DEPARTMENT | EXT 333 | HOSPITAL/DISPENSARY | EXT 301 |
| AIR POLICE | EXT 424 | OD/NCOD | EXT 221/535 |
| Transportation | EXT 553 | VOQ - VAQ | EXT 311/320 |

| SIGNATURE (Person Performing Duty) | RELIEVED BY (Name & Grade) | DATE/TIME |
|---|---|---|
| Kay A. Pinkston | [illegible] | 0725/26 Apr 66 |

AF AD FORM [illegible] [illegible]

1700 hrs: Maj Allman of 1st AF Personnel advised that the "US Flag must be flown half Staff on 26 Apr 66 for the death of Former Sec of Defense, Mr Louis Johnson. The APO desk was advised at 1705 hrs. - Reconfirmed with the APO at 0650, 26 Apr 66.

2020 hrs: Unidentified Flying Object: The OD's office was suddenly swamped with telephone calls reporting a U.F.O. at about 2020 hrs. At first all calls indicated that a jet aircraft had crashed about 20-30 miles north of Stewart AFB. So many incoming calls were being received by this office that I was unable to contact base operations or initiate and carry-through the normal emergency notification. (Telephone calls were received continuously until about 2200 hrs) In an attempt to get the information to at least a few Command and Operations individuals I contacted Lt Col Johnson, Col Gould and attempted to contact Col Moore. By the time I was able to try to continue with the emergency notification I had determined that the incident was not an aircraft accident and therefore did not carry out the notification process.

At no time did the OD's office make or release even a guess as to the nature of the U.F.O. To our surprise, several news agencies called and indicated that they had heard that an official information release had been made by Stewart AFB. The source of this alleged release could not be traced and information concerning this release was at best "second-hand." At approximately 2200 hrs we were informed that Griffiss AFB had released an official statement.

An attempt was made to receive all telephone calls and record the names and telephone numbers and all information reported. ~~Some of~~ this information is on the attached pages.

Observation & Recommendation: I feel that the base operators did a fine job ~~at least~~ of handling the tremendous load imposed upon them — if not ~~at least~~ for the simple fact that they did not simply "give up". The problem is that for a while we had all eight lines either being answered or blinking & ringing at us. For a time it was impossible to even try to initiate a notification. Recommend: that in such a situation at least one line be avoided by the operators so that out bound calls can be made.

Thanks OK Jan

Good Luck

MEMBER
OF THE
NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
BOSTON, MASS

4-25-66

[redacted]
PORT JERVIS,NY

BASE INFORMATION OFFICER
STEWART AIR FORCE BASE
NEWBURG, NY

DEAR SIR,

AS A MEMBER OF THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION I DO REPORTS CONCERNING THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHEN FIRE IS THE TOPIC, I HAVE MY OWN PRIVATE REPORTS ON FILE FOR USE IN VIOLATION & SUPPRESSION ENFORCEMENT . WHICH I REFER TO FIRE OFFICAL IN CHARGE.

ON THE4-25-66 AT ABOUT 8:20 pm, My ATTENTION WAS ALERTED TO A OBJECT TRAVELING NORTH WEST TO NORTHEAST AS SHOWN IN FIGURE I.

AS THE OBJECT CAME THROUGH THE SKY OVER JERSEY AVE IT LITE UP THE GROUND AS IT CROSS THE CITY IN A ROUTE PASSED SULLIVAN AVE TOWARD THE CITY WATERSHED. ASTHIS OBJECT PASSED JERSEY IN ROUTE OVER THE CITY OF PORT JERVIS IT LOOKED LIKE THIS THE FRONT WAS CURVED, THEN TOP TO CENTER WAS RED WITH SPARKS COMING OUT THE SIDES. WITH THE LOWER HAEF ALL WHITE WITH A SOLID WHITE TAIL TRAILING BEHIND IT. AS IT PASSED OVER SULLIVAN AVE TOWARD THE WATERSHED, IT RESEMBLED A BLUEISH- WHITE BALL WITH FLAME OR SPARKS ABOUT I50 FT. LONG COMMING FROM THE BLUEISH- WHITE BALL ON ALL SIDES WITH TWO TRAILORS ~~SEPARTE~~ SEPARATE FROM EACH OTHER BOTH WERE WHITE AND DISTINGUSABLE THIS LAST DESCRIPTION WAS FROM A MOTOR VEHECLE ALSO PLEASE NOTE IN THE LAST DESCRIPTION AS IT PROCEED TOWARD THE WATERSHED THERE WAS ONE TIME WHERE IT SEEMED TO BURST OR REACT WHILE IT PROCEEDED. THE WHITE TRAILORS SEEM TO BARE TO THE NORTHWEST, POSSIBLE DIRECTION OF THE WIND. THE WHITE TRAI LOR SEEM TO TURN ON SIDES AT INTER VIEWS SEE FIGURE 2.

THE PATH WAS STRAIGHT ABOUT A 70° DEGREE FROM THE NORTH TO NORTHEAST .

ABOUT I5 MINS AFTER PASSAGE OF OBJECT HEARD NOISE THAT RESEMBLED A JET PLANE I WAS ON BALL STREET THEN. I DID PROCEED HOME AND ATTEMPTED TO CALL THE BASE TO SEE IF A CRASH HAD OCCURED BUT WAS TOLD ~~THE~~ WAS BUSY AND THE OPERATOR STATED ARE YOU REFERING TO CRASH NEAR MIDDLETOWN NY DUE TO MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE OBJECT AND DESCRIPTION, IDECIDED TO CHECK THE MOUNTAIN RANGE OVER THE WATER SHED TO SEE IF THERE WAS A FIRE OF SOME ORIGIN OR PERSONS INJURIED , I DID AND FOUND NO ACCIDENT.
I THEN CHECKED WITH THE TELEPHONE CO AND A OPERATOR STATED THERE WAS NO ACCIDENT IT WAS A METEORITE AND WAS ON THE RADIO.
I THEN CALLED THE BASE AN THE OFFICER REFERED ME TO THE BASE OFFICER HOME RESIDENTS, I BELIVE YOUR WIFE ANSWERED AND TOLD ME YOU WERE OUT ON THIS SUBJECT OF WORK NOW. SHE TOOK MY NAME AN I SAID I WOULD CALL ON THE4-26-66; THE OFFICER I TALKED WITH STATED NOT SURE OF OBJECT.
AT II: 20 pm I CALLED THE UNITED STATES WEATHER BUREAU AND HE STATED A LOT OF PUBLICTY BUT JUST RUMERS A FAINT CHANC THAT IT COULD BE A METEIORITE.
I CHECKED WITH A NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION RANGER, A GOOD FRIEND OF MR DON WILTSE , WHO WAS SUPPRESSING A FIRE ON THE OAKLAND VALLEY ROAD HE STATED ALL HE SAW WAS TWO WHITE TAILS

Continued on Page 2

(1)

ALSO PLEASE FIND A MAP ENCLOSED WITH NEAR EXACT ROUTE.

I DO ORDAIN AN ESTABLISH THIS REPORT TO BE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AN ABILITY TOWARD PUBLIC SAFTY DUE TO FIRES.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO OFFER MY SERVICES TO YOU ON FUTURE DATA

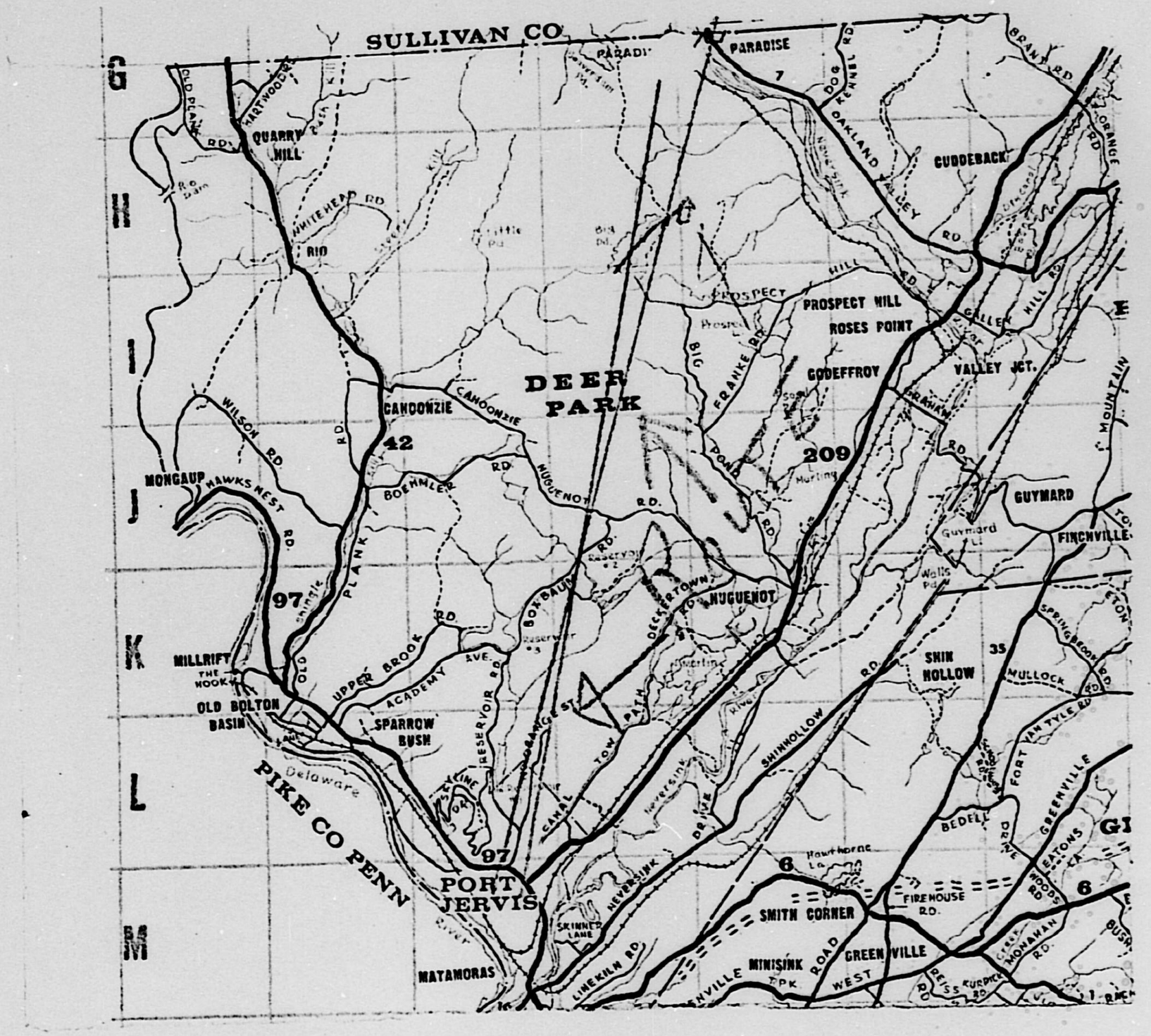
I HOPE THE MATERIAL I HAVE FURNISH WILL BE OF DIRECT ASSISTANCE IN TRACING THIS OBJECT.

I READ THE NEWSPAPER , WERE SMITHSTON INSTITUE-CAH BRIGE MAS BELIVES IT A METEORITE. IS THIS HEARSAY OR DIRECT EVIDENCE.

I WOULD LIKE YOUR OPINION OF IT.

P.S, PLEASE OMITT MY TYPING ERRORS.

THANK YOU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SHIN HOLLOW
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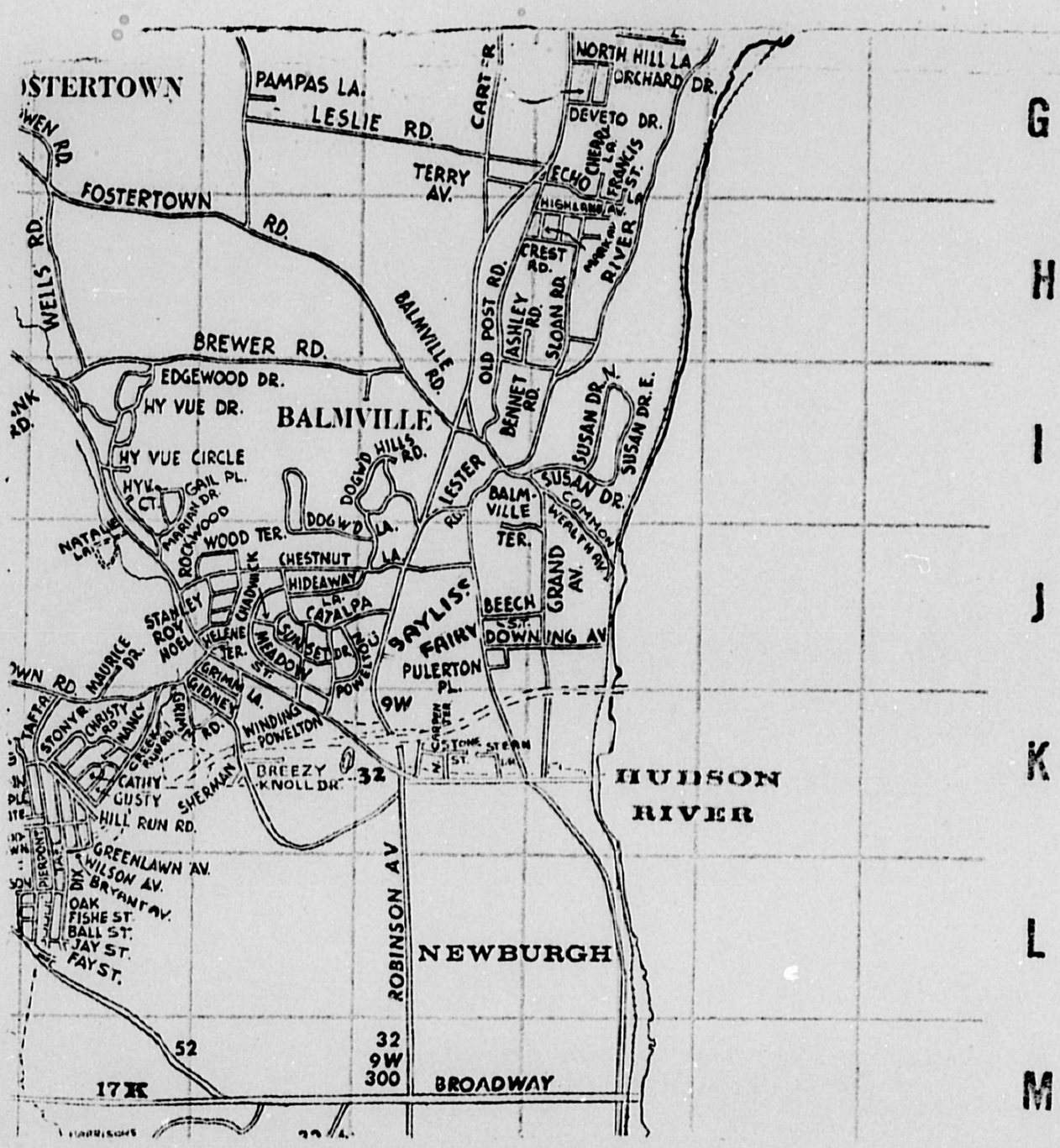
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LESLIE RD.
CART'R
NORTH HILL LA
ORCHARD DR.
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SLOAN RD.
BENNET RD.
SUSAN DR.
SUSAN DR. E.
WELLS RD.
BALMVILLE RD.
BREWER RD.
EDGEWOOD DR.
HY VUE DR.
BALMVILLE
HY VUE CIRCLE
HYVUE CT.
GAIL PL.
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Port Jervis 4-4422

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| 14 West Main and McAllister Sts. | 125 West End School |
| 15 West Main and Holbrook Sts. | 131 Skydyne |
| 16 West Main and Garriss Sts. | 211 Hammond & Fowler Sts. |
| 17 West Main and Willard Sts. | 212 Franklin and Church Sts. |
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| 19 Erie and Francis Sts. | 214 Hill and Fowler Sts. |
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| 36 Elmendorf and Hudson Sts. | 315 Pine St. & Kingston Ave. |
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| | 422 East Main and South Sts. |
| 53 Kingston Ave. & Cahoonzie St. (No Box) | 423 East Main St. (No. 6 Hose House) |
| | 424 East Main Street School |
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| 62 Erie Steel Car Yard | 432 Wright and Minisink Aves. |
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| 13 | Ave. F & 3rd St. |
| 14 | Ave. C & 2nd St. |
| 21 | Penna Ave. & 2nd St. |
| 23 | Ave. N & 2nd St. |
| 24 | Penna. Ave. & 5th St. |
| 31 | Ave. N. & 4th St. |
| 32 | Ave. N. & 6th St. |
| 33 | Ave. L & 8th St. |
| 222 | Chief Call |
| 1 | Recall |

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**Union-Gazette**

- FIRST
- FAST
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# Port Jervis
## NEW YORK

# Matamoras
## PENNSYLVANIA

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PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK

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Insurance Underwriters Advisory Board 3-7421

# Milford
PENNSYLVANIA

# Port Jervis
NEW YORK

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- FAST
- FACTUAL

MUNICIPAL BLDG.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SHOP in

[redacted]

April 25, 1966

Commander,
Stewart Air Force Base
Newburgh, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Tonight at about 7.45 there passed over this village, one of those U.F.O's.

It was some kind of object giving off light like a magnesium flare and crossed the sky from south to north at a height of approximately 5000 ft. Its speed was similar to that of a shooting star and left a vapor or smoke trail which lasted for about five minutes after it disappeared.

This was no hallucination as it was still daylight, but it was its brightness that drew my attention to it as I was sitting at a picture window and had a perfect view.

I write this to you only because C.B.S. TV mentioned your base as interested when the city of Middletown reported sighting one there. It is evidently the same one I viewed.

Yours very truly

[redacted]

25 April

*John Ray Mayone*
LEGAL STENOGRAPHER
75 CEDAR STREET, KINGSTON, N. Y.
TELEPHONE FE 8-5866

April 25, 1966

Stewart Air Force Base
4603rd Base Hdqs.
Newburgh, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

This will confirm my telephone report of this evening to Sgt. Kennedy. The U.F.O. incident in question occured as follows; sighted this date;

Witnessed by: Myself, [redacted] of [redacted]; J[redacted] of l[redacted]t, Kingston; my son, [redacted], age 15; [redacted], age 17; several other neighbors.

Our location: Standing on Cedar Street which is in direct center of City of Kingston.

Time of sighting: 8:20 P.M.

Trajectory: From general direction of Eddyville-Rifton, diagonally across City of Kingston, toward general direction of Woodstock. Approximate South West to North East direction.

Altitude: Not too high; rough estimate of less than one mile.

Description: Very large; funnel shaped, with large part in front; Blue-Green color (bright), with yellow and red flashes emitting from rear. Entire body appeared to be a solid mass - no wings.

Speed: Tremendous speed; traveled out of our vision in approximately 5 seconds.

Sound: Made absolutely no noise.

Vapor Trail: Left large, very distinct vapor trail which appeared much like those left by Jet Aircraft.

Visibility: Excellent; dusk; cloudless sky.

Opinion: This appeared to be no aircraft that we have ever seen before. We clearly observed this object in its [redacted]e path across the City of Kingston.

[redacted]
Kingston, N.Y. 12401

[redacted]
Kingston, N. Y.
26 April 66

To:
4603 Headquarters Squadron
Stewart A. F. B.
Newburgh, N. Y.

Subject: UFO sightings of 25April 66

Dear Sir;

The following is a report of two sightings of objects in the sky on the night of 25 ~~April~~ 66. Witnesses in both cases were Mrs. Arvo Aho, three children, neighbors and myself. Our position at the time was on Union Center Rd. in Ulster Park, N. Y. which is approximately eight miles south of Kingston, N. Y. between town of Rifton and 9W.
The occurances went as follows:

At approximately 8:10 - 8:15P.M. a flickering light drew my attention to the sky where I saw what I believed to be a meteor, approaching at high altitude from the S.SW in a direct path slightly to the north, passing over St. Remy area and passing on to the N. NE. The object was headed by a red mass with a blue to green trail approximately 4-5 times the size of the mass. Because of the high elevation we witnessed "burnout" and disintigration of it above the horizon. A hissing noise was heard by all and sounded much like a sky rocket. We estimated by height and size that the disintigration occured in the area just north of the Kingston Rhinecliff Bridge in the vicinity of Red Hook. Approximately 90 seconds following disintigration we heard what could be described as sonic boom probably from its entrance into atmosphere. Because of our elevation and relatively good visibility, I could say that the track did not continue beyond the horizon but did burn out completely.

Thirty minutes later reports started to come in over my uncles two-way radioon 14 MC that a vehicle was sighted hovering in the Red Hook area. The station first sighting it described it as ~~an~~ oval shaped brilliantly lit and around 1,000 ft in length. Further reports stated that it was moving in a S. South Westerly direction at rapid speed. Subsequent sightings were slighltly west of Rhinecliff on the east bank of the Hudson. At this point we again went outside and immediately sighted the object(UFO) at an estimated altitude of 11- 12,000 ft. approaching from the Rhinecliff area. Passing to the south of us over Esopus, it steadily gained altitude and at what I would say was the rate of a B52 under full power, leaving no trail of any kind. At an estimated altitude of 30,000 ft. it gained speed and finally disappeared from view in the sky somewhere over Monticello area.

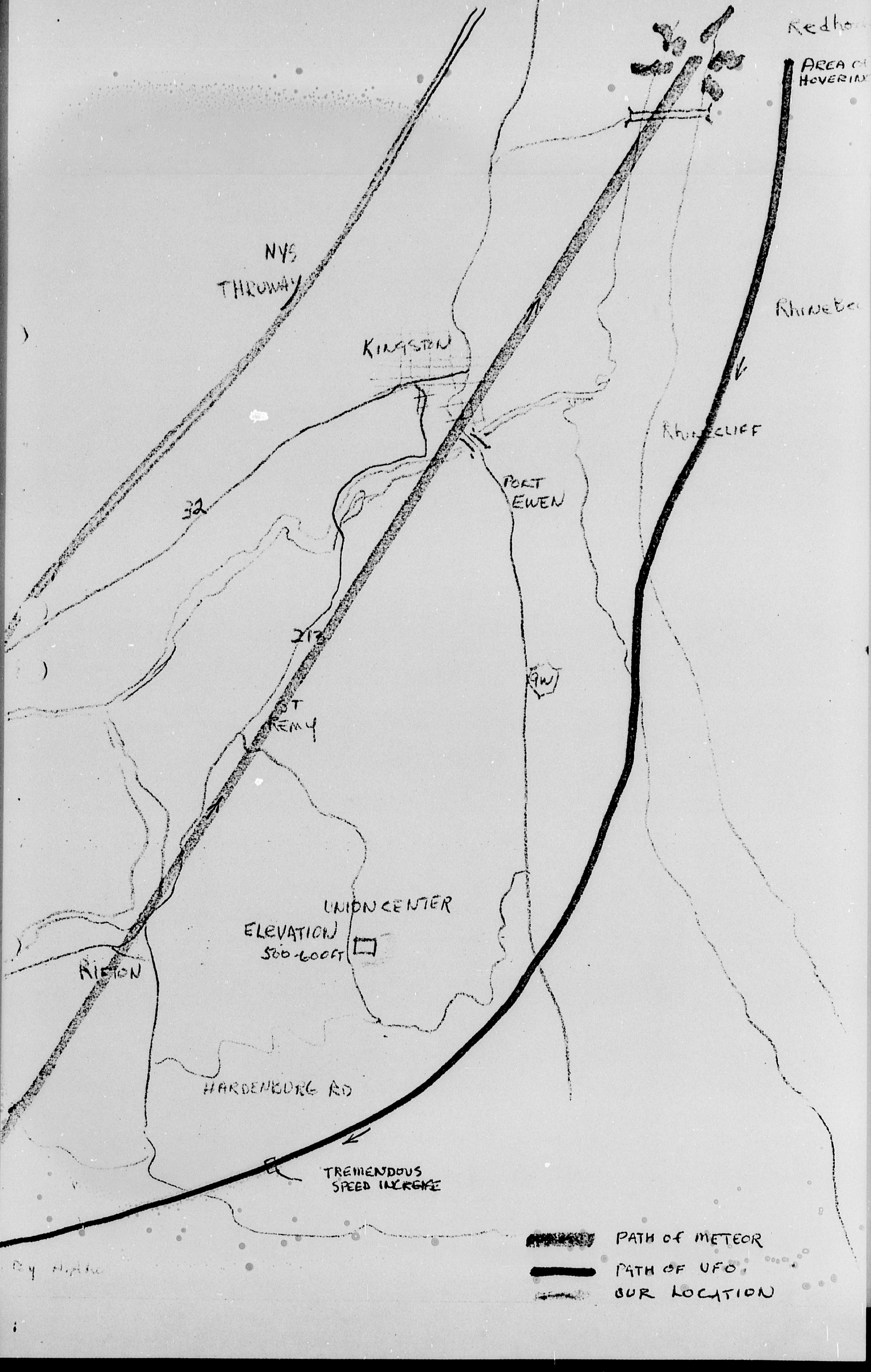
Description of the vehicle was oval, looking much like a blimp but at least eight times larger than Iv've seen before. It was brightly illuminated over its entire surface with band of brighter light extending from the front and tapering off towards the rear of the vehicle. From further reports over the two way radio we learned that those who made the first sightings were going to contact Poughkeepsie Airport and Stewart Field. The sightings were confirmed by at least 6 other ham radio operators in the area. It is evident from the press releases that the presence of the second sighting was obscured by the excitement of the first.

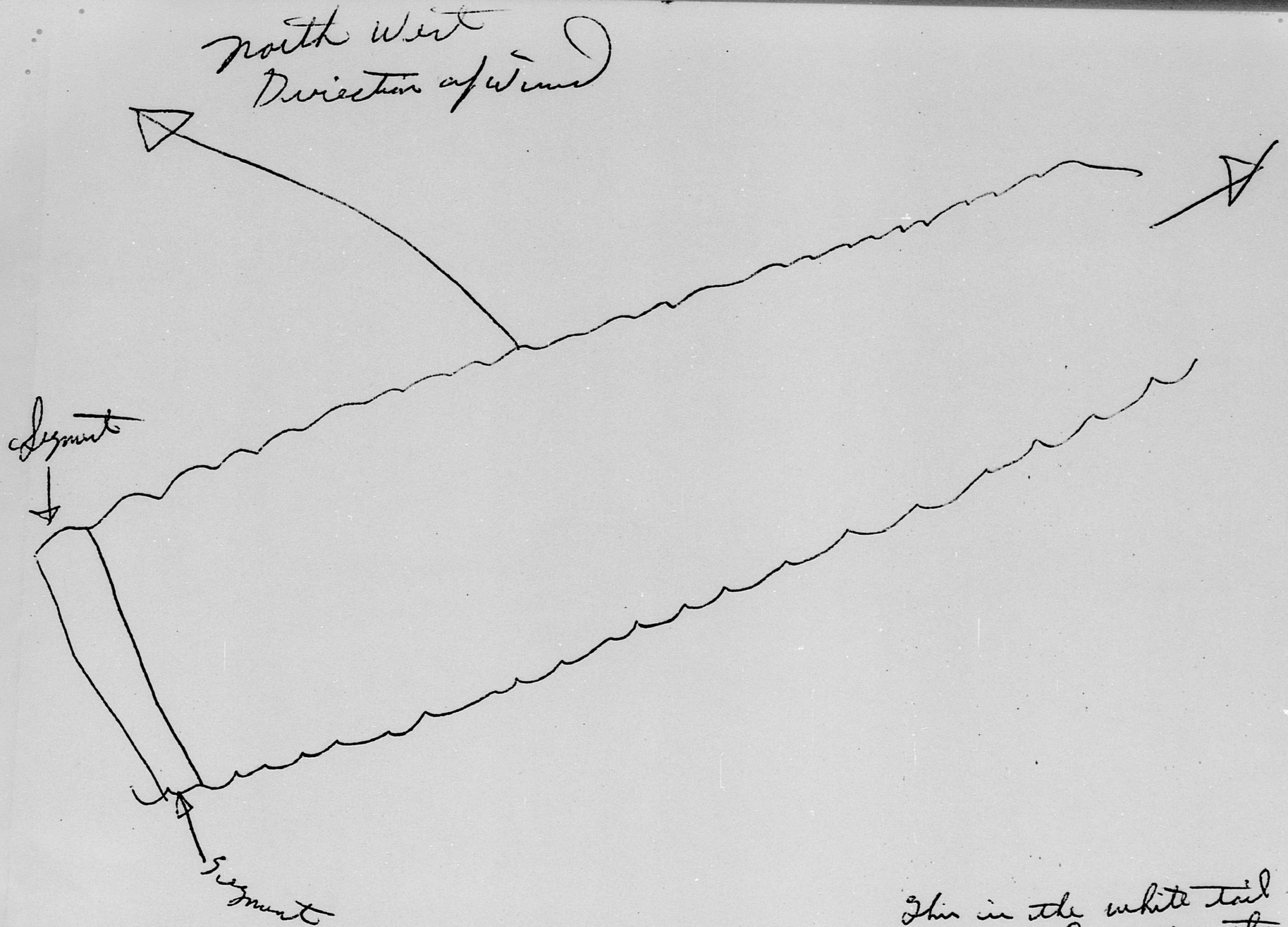
Might I also add that I have just completed four years with the Air Force and of all the things I've witnessed nothing compares with that which we saw last evening. Please forward me information a s to proper channels for future referance.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]


Redhook
AREA OF HOVERING
NYS THROWAY
KINGSTON
32
PORT EWEN
RHINEBECK
RHINECLIFF
213
9W
UNION CENTER
ELEVATION 500-600FT
RIFTON
HARDENBURG RD
TREMENDOUS SPEED INCREASE
PATH OF METEOR
PATH OF UFO
OUR LOCATION

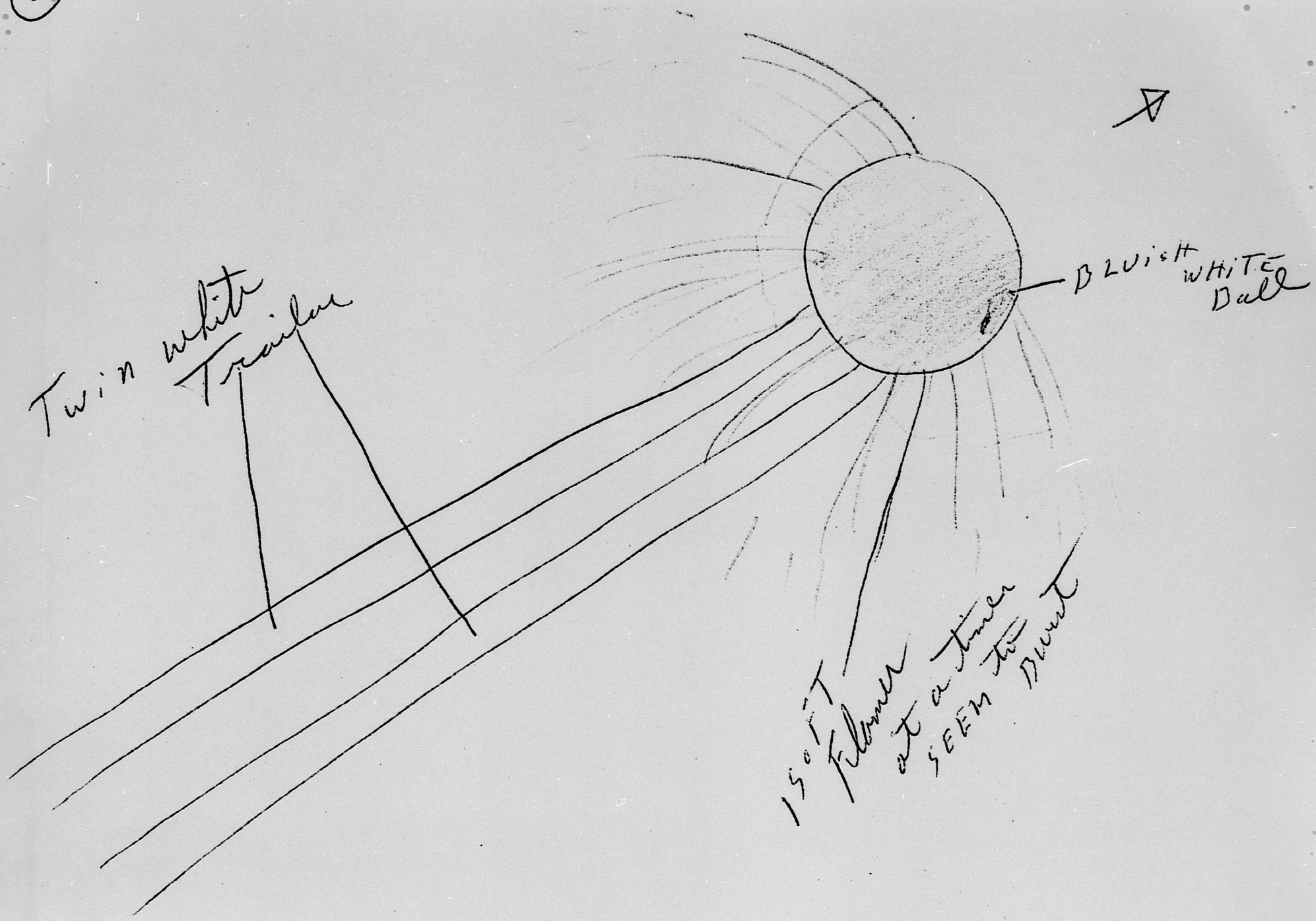



This is the white tail
left behind note the
Edger

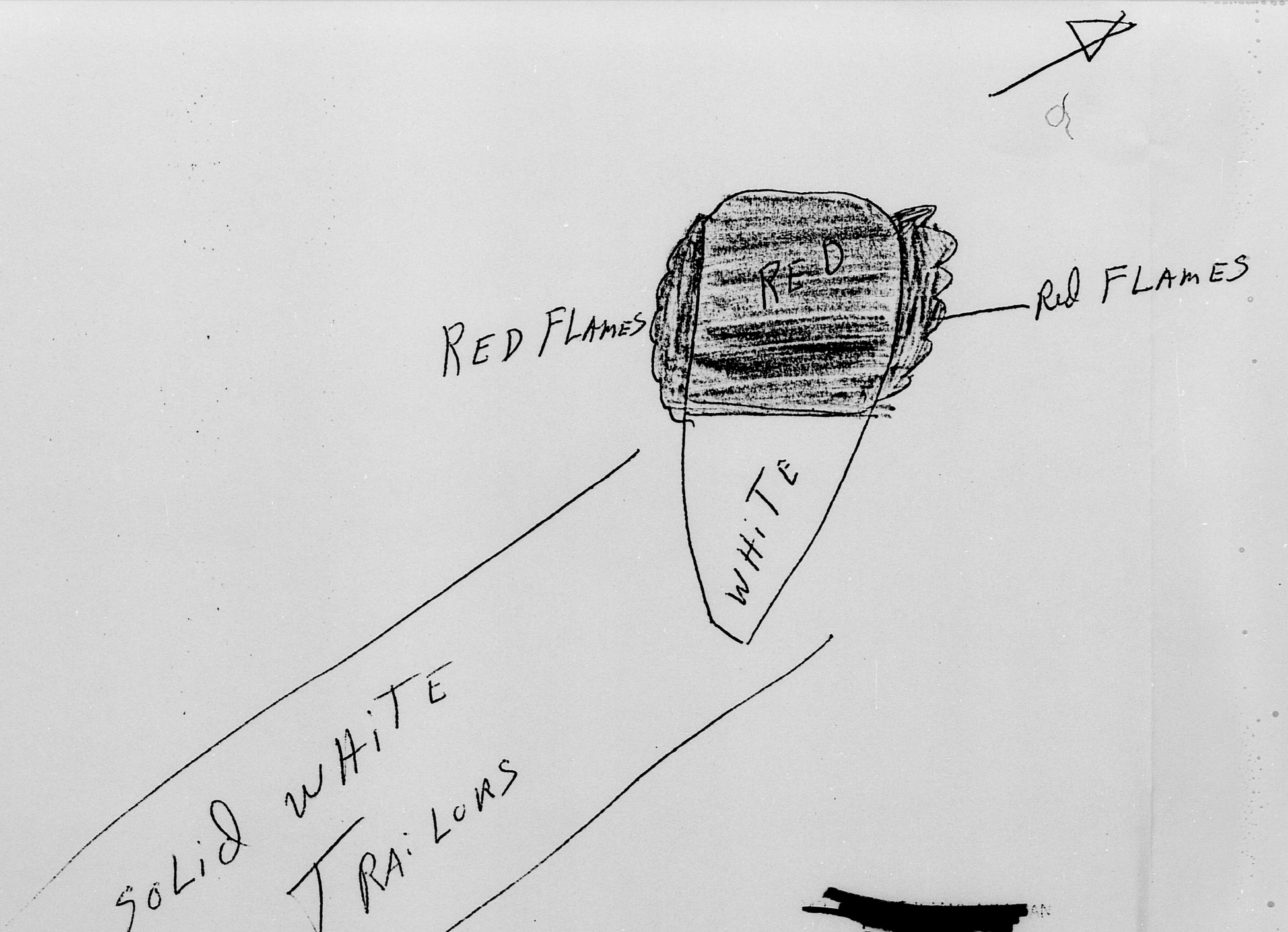
Each Segment was first
About equal in shape

[redacted]MAN
PORT JERVIS, N. Y. 12771

Fig (2)




MR. JOHN THOMAS NEWMAN


RED FLAMES
RED
Red FLAMES
WHITE
SOLID WHITE
TRAILORS

By ALTITUDE & SIZE
Here is COMPARISON
of Vehicle & what
it's figure looks
THAT [illegible] ARCHIP

Dear Les,

This evening, April 25 I was outside and all of a sudden I saw what looked like a meteorite, later I heard on the news it was a meteorite but I do not believe so because it was much too fast for a plane and much too slow for a meteorite. It was a silverish ball. This took place shortly after sundown.

I would request that you write back to me telling me what you think it was. (There will probably be no definite answer but I am wondering about it)

Thank you,

[redacted]

P.S. I am very interested in science (astronomy anyway)

Flower and Cook Observatory Reprint No. 171 File

# The Great Bolide of April 25, 1966

CHARLES P. OLIVIER, *Director, American Meteor Society*

ON THE ABOVE DATE, at about 7:14 p.m. Eastern standard time, a remarkable bolide entered the earth's atmosphere over the eastern United States. Traveling northward very slowly, it finally broke into fragments and ended over eastern Canada. It also left a long-enduring train, seen for a maximum of 18 minutes.

Immediate steps were taken to collect eyewitness reports. In eastern Maryland at the time, the writer telephoned the Washington *Evening Star,* which then published a request for observations. From this I received perhaps 50 reports. SKY AND TELESCOPE supplied the original accounts used in its June article, while the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia furnished many others. Eventually, the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base sent in a large number, as did the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

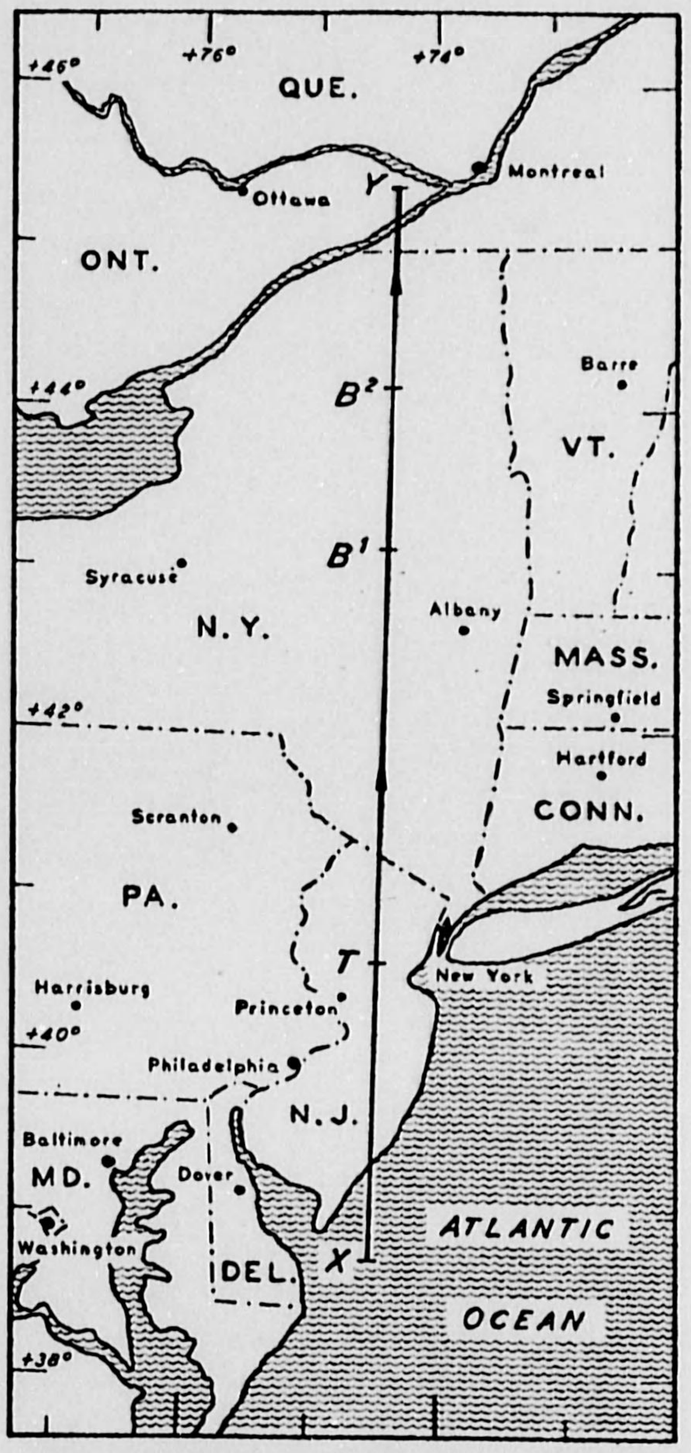
In all about 200 reports were assembled, including those from American Meteor Society members. Although the descriptions varied in accuracy and usefulness, enough data were collected to permit deriving quite an accurate path for the meteor. After the preliminary path had been found, it was checked against a large number of reports received later from the Hayden Planetarium in New York City. The writer is grateful to all these institutions and to the reporting observers for making the computation of the fireball's path feasible.

Although several excellent photographs included trees and telegraph poles, no facts were given as to their heights and directions, so exact measurements were impossible. However, one print from Dennis Cassia at Thornwood, New York, showed the moon, giving a good position for a point on the meteor train. The other photographs indicated the path's approximate slope and showed train drift, but no accurate altitudes or azimuths were obtained from them.

The usual reduction procedure was followed. A large-scale chart was prepared covering the whole region, with one millimeter representing one minute of arc in latitude. The observers' stations were then plotted and azimuth lines drawn in the directions reported for points on the meteor's trail. We were fortunate in having a number of observers near Princeton, New Jersey, all of whom reported that the bolide crossed the zenith. Their mean positions gave a very accurate point on the projected path.

Probably the bolide became visible somewhat south of the beginning point we determined, but efforts to obtain reports from the area farther south did not succeed. Newspapers there did not give local reports but reprinted northern ones. But what we have assigned as the beginning point seems a good anchor for the projected path. Over New York State a primary burst occurred ($B^1$ on chart), and later a secondary burst ($B^2$), followed by two more; the main ones gave fairly well-defined points. The end point was determined as well as could be, although I had few Canadian observations.

Some reports were of exceptional value. Five AMS members plotted the part of the path seen from their stations. One observer each in Washington and Baltimore made what amounted to instrumental measures of the azimuth and altitude of a point on the path. Many persons gave more or less accurate estimates of one of these coordinates.




**The April fireball went across New Jersey and New York, into Canada. At point *T* a long-enduring train became visible; at $B^1$ and $B^2$ bursts occurred. Longitudes and latitudes of these points are given by the author as: *T*, +74° 30′, +40° 35′; $B^1$, +74° 23′, +43° 10′; $B^2$, +74° 21′, +44° 10′. The beginning and end points are X and *Y*.**

AMERICAN METEOR SOCIETY FIREBALL NO. 2388

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Date | 1966 April 25.51 UT | | |
| Sidereal time at end point | 142° 45′ (9h 31m) | | |
| Began over | Long. +74° 33′, lat. +38° 45′, height 111 km. | | |
| Ended over | Long. +74° 19′, lat. +45° 25′, height 24 km. | | |
| Projected path length | 738 km. | | |
| Actual path length | 742 km. | | |
| Radiant corrected for curvature | Altitude 3°.4, azimuth 1°.5 | | |
| Orbit solutions | *Ellipse* | *Parabola* | *Hyperbola* |
| Azimuth of radiant | 1°.5 | 1°.5 | 1°.5 |
| Altitude of radiant | −2°.3 | −5°.4 | −2°.1 |
| Right ascension | 140°.1 | 140°.5 | 140°.6 |
| Declination | −56°.8 | −50°.0 | −46°.7 |
| Longitude | 181°.6 | 171°.8 | 168°.3 |
| Latitude | −65°.2 | −59°.9 | −57°.2 |
| Semimajor axis in A. U. | 2.78 | — | −1.97 |
| Eccentricity | 0.88 | 1.0 | 1.34 |
| Inclination to the ecliptic | 25°.6 | 28°.7 | 29°.0 |
| Longitude of ascending node | 215°.2 | 215°.2 | 215°.2 |
| Longitude of perihelion | 25°.3 | 235°.2 | 224°.9 |
| Perihelion distance in A. U. | 0.32 | 0.97 | 0.96 |

The preliminary projected path ran almost due north, and the final direction was from 1°.5 west of south to 1°.5 east of north. This can hardly be more than a degree in error. Now that the projected path was determined, a vertical diagram was constructed. The observed altitude angles were corrected for the earth's curvature (probably a useless refinement in many cases), and from them 95 estimates of heights were determined, not counting the six zenith sightings. More weight was assigned to heights that depended on plotted points in the sky or actual measurements. Then a straight line was drawn to fit the 95 heights as well as possible. From this diagram, the slope of the path was 6° 44′, which must be corrected by −3° 20′ for the earth's curvature, so that at the end point of the path the observed altitude of the radiant was 3° 24′. In each orbit calculation, the appropriate correction for zenith attraction was applied. Usually in meteor calculations only whole degrees have real significance,

but minutes of arc were retained in this work, and final results were rounded off to 0°.1.

The vast majority of observers saw the fireball as blue, green, or green-white over most of its path, but a few reported a change to yellow or orange towards the end, after disintegration. Magnitude estimates scatter from —4 to —18 because of differences in distance to the path and in observer training. Disregarding distance, the average of 33 estimates is —10. Many observers compared the angular diameter of the fireball with the moon's, their results ranging from 8′ to 30′.

Very near its end, the bolide was captured in three photographs by Veronica Schwartz at Baldwinsville, New York, which record successive stages of the disintegration. As the last picture on the June, 1966, cover shows, fully a dozen large fragments and many smaller ones appear. This multiplicity added to the difficulty of distant observers in fixing the end point.

No reliable observer saw the whole path and also estimated the time the bolide took to traverse it. We sought to calculate the average velocity through the atmosphere by combining observed sector and duration in the 20 cases where both were recorded. The average velocity comes out 23.5 ± 6.6 kilometers per second, and the overall duration 31 seconds.

Three orbits were calculated for the meteoroid in space around the sun: ellipse, parabola, and hyperbola. These correspond respectively to velocities of 38, 42, and 47 kilometers per second at the earth's distance from the sun. The corresponding velocities relative to the earth are 12.5, 18, and 23.5 kilometers a second, the last being the observed value. However, if the actual orbit lies between the elliptical and the parabolic cases, the body might have come from the asteroidal zone, since the orbital inclination to the plane of the ecliptic is not too large.

After the fireball had passed through the atmosphere, its train lasted so long that a nonuniform drift would be expected. Photographs show that it did not remain straight but appeared wavy, the irregularities being small except near the end. The train was compared in appearance to the trail left by a jet airplane, and many descriptions include the word "smoke."

Two observers, D. B. Smith (Plattsburgh, New York) and D. K. Speed (Glastonbury, Connecticut), charted both the fireball and train on AMS maps. The general drift of the train was westward, but it developed humps that made the direction of motion unclear. Four other observers described the travel as to the west, two to the east.

T. D. Nicholson (Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey) observed the train in much detail. He noted its general drift as to the west-northwest, and that it started 15° southwest of the zenith and was visible to 10° above the horizon, which was formed by buildings. This report is significant because many observers in Virginia, Maryland, and southern New Jersey did not mention a train, and a few stated specifically that there was none. Most of these people saw only the first part of the path.

From all the evidence, we infer that the train (T) began to be visible at a height of 90 kilometers, about 200 kilometers from the beginning point of the path, and then extended in some form or other to the end.

Just before this paper was completed, H. Oliak's very full discussion of the fireball of January 14, 1965, over Poland and Germany, appeared in *Mitteilungen 27,* Babelsberg Observatory. That fireball also had a very long, almost horizontal path, and its apparent magnitude was —11. On various assumptions, he calculated a diameter from 0.6 to 1.5 meters and a mass from 500 to 6,000 kilograms. The analogy suggests that the April 25th bolide was quite a massive body too, though somewhat smaller, and that it should have dropped meteorites. The debris, if any, would have fallen on Canadian territory, and for this reason P. M. Millman of Ottawa has also made a detailed derivation of the path.

William Blitzstein, of the University of Pennsylvania astronomy department, has given me valuable advice on certain points of this study.

Reprinted from SKY AND TELESCOPE, Vol. XXXIII, No. 2, *February, 1967.*

# Fire Ball 'a Meteor'

*(Continued from Page 1)*

200 to 300 miles . . . we really don't know what it was."

Neither did John F. McHale, city editor of the Press, who on his way back to newspaper after dinner, said "the object itself was more green than blue . . . I'd call it turquoise. The tail was colorless and the vapor trail was visible for quite a length of time."

Police departments were also bombarded with calls.

At Ilion, police said they had 17 calls in 15 minutes.

State Police at East Herkimer said they had between 60 and 70 calls. A trooper said most reported an explosion.

The object was more or less identified by the majority of the callers as a spectacular display of colors. Most reported the object exploded "like a Roman candle" with as many as a dozen "greenish" sparkles. Some persons reported the object separated into two. Most agreed the object was very high, while others as low as "100 feet."

The Associated Press said it had reports from Maine to the Carolinas and as far west as Ohio.

In Utica, the first caller said she saw "an object near Deerfield Hill," thought it was a plane on fire.

In Rome, police handled 12 calls in 10 minutes.

A General Electric executive, who lives in New Hartford, said he was at a Route 12 filling station when he spotted "a green object, with a fiery white tail, very high up that exploded sensationally."

Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff LaVerne Trommer, of Hagaman, said he saw it from his living room window—"a fantastic sight."

It was the second time in four days that calls have flooded the state reporting a bright object in the sky that burned out after several seconds.

John Calabrisi, vicechairman of the Broom County Astronomical Society, said that, in his opinion, the object was a man-made satellite breaking up.

Another woman called the Press, yelling "What are you going to do about this? . . . Everyone here at our place is scared to death . . . do something."

Twenty Air Force reservists meeting outside Rochester said the ball of light maintained a "very steady, flat trajectory."

However, there were many conflicting reports on what the object looked like and where it was headed. But most witnesses said that it was headed from south to north, in a sequence of changing colors of red, blue and white, the New York Times News Service reported.

The majority of the sightings occured about 8:15, from mainly Boston to Washington.

Dr. Asher Chapman, an examiner for the F.A.A., said that he rushed to the window of his Glen Cove home to see the object traveling "about 1,000 feet above ground, 300 to 400 miles an hour, from south to north."

Assistant Professor Anthony Aveni at Hamilton College said, "It sounds exactly like a giant fire ball, a bright meteor, not at all uncommon . . . except for pictures of it. We observe three or four a year. The public is especially conscious of things in the sky and everyone is sky-watching these days because of publicity given to UFO's."

Aveni said he "ruled out anything but it being a meteor, since it wasn't picked up by radar."

Dr. Curtis Hemenway, director of the Dudley Observatory in Albany, the AP reported, said, "as near as I can judge it was a giant fireball and it was big enough to indicate that a meteorite should have fallen somewhere north of Albany."

Hemenway said he would like to get some sightings and photographs "in hope of finding the meteorite."

David Fisher, a professor in the engineering-physics department at Cornell University, said what most observers saw as a bright ball giving off sparks before it was extinguished "probably was little asteroids."

EXCITEMENT AT PROCTOR—Dana DeGeorge, left, and Vincent Femia, were the talk of Proctor High School today. Everyone wanted to see the camera that DeGeorge used to photograph a fiery ball that brightened the skies over the Utica area last night. (Photo by Leo Hobaica.)

Utica Observer-Dispatch - 26 Apr 66

## Thousands See Fireball

# *Young Utican's $8 Camera Puts 'Something in the Sky' on Film*

By GARY STRANGES

Dana DeGeorge didn't get much sleep last night, what with an interview from the Utica newspapers and a telephone call from the New York Times.

And, it looks as though the picture he took of a fireball winging its way across the night sky will be keeping him awake for nights to come.

Dana, 14, thinks the fireball just might be a UFO, but some authorities say it was a meteor. (UFO is, of course, an unidentified flying object).

**The Proctor High School freshman and a friend snapped four pictures of the fireball last night on Dana's $8 used 35 mm. camera.**

• • •

**THE FIREBALL**, identified by a number of authorities as a meteor, excited thousands from the Eastern Seaboard to Ohio as it flashed across the sky.

In Utica and Central New York, the spectacle prompted a flurry of fearful calls to police agencies and rave reviews from a number of other onlookers.

The photo that came out, revealing a spectacular ball of fire and tail, was beamed nationally by The Associated Press Wirephoto network.

Dana said he is sending an enlargement of the photo that appears in today's O-D to the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), a private body that thinks the Air Force isn't telling all it knows about UFOs.

"I don't really think it was a meteor," Dana said today, a little groggy from a near-sleepless night.

**"But I'm not qualified," Dana admitted, "I'm more inclined to think it was a UFO than a meteor."**

• • •

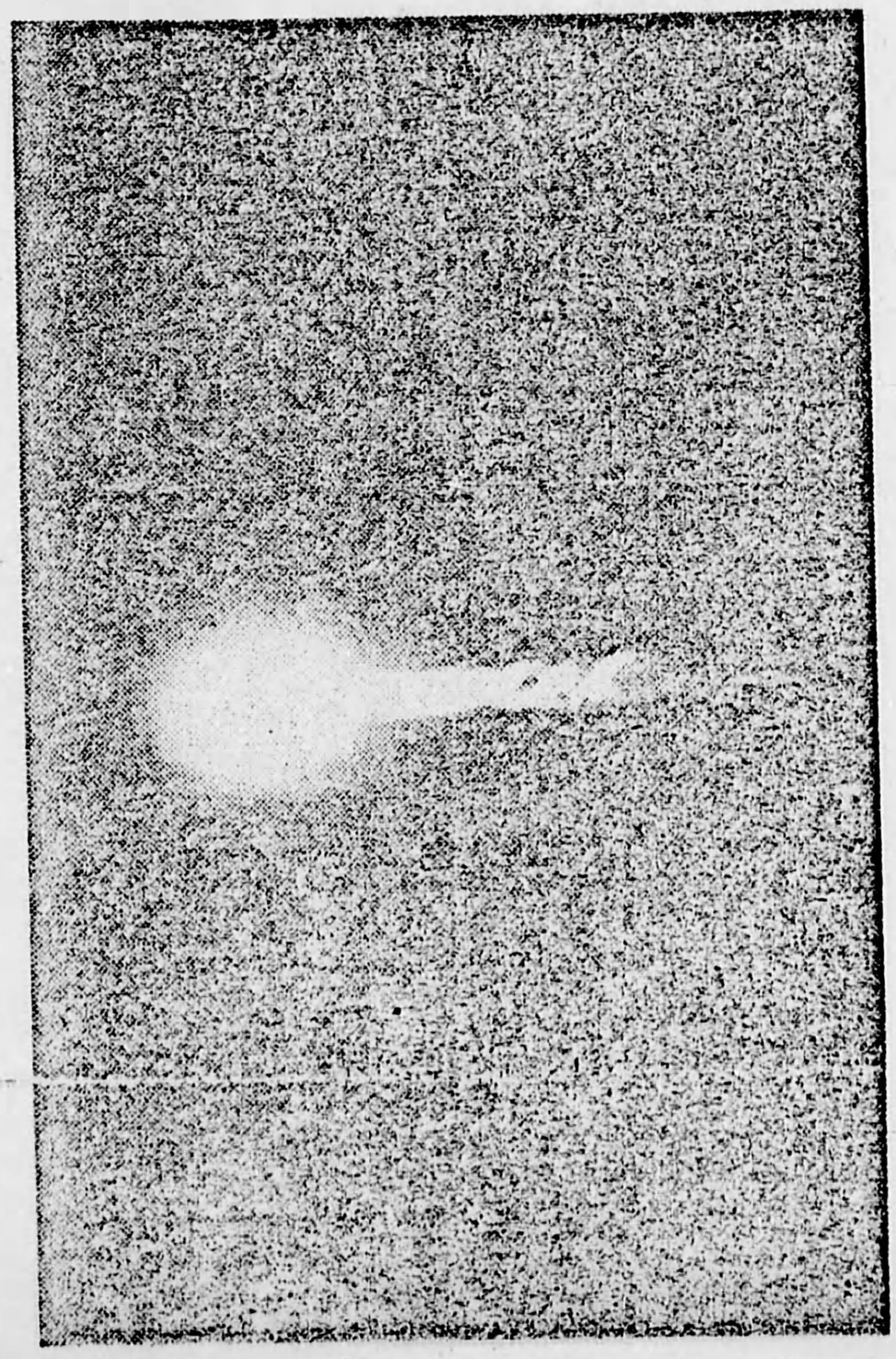
**IT ALL STARTED** last night when Dana, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph DeGeorge of 1200 Greenview Drive, and his buddy, Vincent Femia, 14, of 1609 Crouse St., were working on their scrapbook of UFO newspaper clippings.

Both boys want to be astronomers and have geared their studies toward science.

Dana and Vincent went outside to hang around when "Vincent nudged me," Dana said.

"Dana, look over there," Vincent recalled telling Dana. Vincent said he saw the fireball pass roughly from south to north.

"It first started to come in like a small star. Then it got



**DANA'S PHOTO — This is the picture of the meteor that Dana DeGeorge took last night with a 35mm camera. He used Plus-X film, black and white, at 1/25 second and f. 2.8 to 4. The Associated Press transmitted the picture nationally.**

green and traveled in a north-northwest direction, perhaps as high as 40 to 80 miles above the earth. A path of fluorescent

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Dana and Vincent went outside to hang around when "Vincent nudged me," Dana said.

"Dana, look over there," Vincent recalled telling Dana. Vincent said he saw the fireball pass roughly from south to north.

"It first started to come in like a small star. Then it got bigger. It seemed like it was burning and traveling pretty fast, faster than the speed of sound. It was greenish-blue, more on the greenish side," Vincent recalled.

Vincent supports Dana's stand that what they saw might be a UFO.

"I'm taking all points of view," Vincent said.

Both boys said the fireball was in sight longer than any meteorites that they had seen before, and that the spectacle was reported over too widespread an area to be just a meteor.

**"A meteor would have disappeared in a short time," Dana said.**

• • •

**SCIENTISTS,** Air Force spokesmen and others explained the fireball as a meteor, a falling satellite or a bolide, a type of meteor that burns itself out more slowly.

The thousands who flooded police and newspaper switchboards, described it variously as a jet airplane crash, a fireball, or flying saucers.

Dr. Thomas C. Nicholson, chairman of the Hayden Planetarium, called the object an exceptionally bright meteor that left a multicolored, glowing vapor trail. He said it was probably 10,000 times brighter than the brightest star at night.

"One of the unusual things about it is that it appeared over a large city," he said, "and therefore a lot of people saw it."

**Dr. Nicholson explained that similar meteors appear every day but aren't reported because "very little of the world actually is populated."**

A 1956 report estimated that 200 million visible meteors zip into the earth's atmosphere every day. Most, however, are not nearly so bright as last night's fireball.

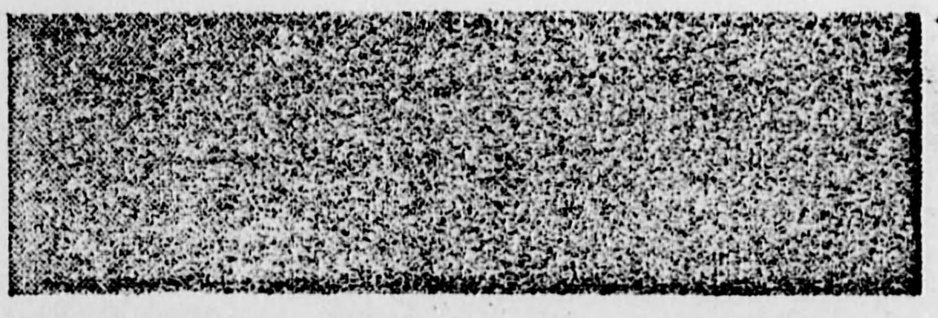
The astronomer, who said the fireball probably was moving at an angle of 75 to 80 degrees to the earth in the western sky, estimated that it weighed "perhaps several hundred pounds."

But Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., said: "It was a meteor which must have been less than the size of a football."

**A spokesman for the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington said the object probably was not a man-made satellite, as some believed, because none was scheduled to re-enter the atmosphere at that time.**

• • •

**MOST REPORTS** said the object turned from white to green and traveled in a north-northwest direction, perhaps as high as 40 to 80 miles above the earth. A path of fluorescent gases trailing the object was reported visible for as long as 10 minutes in some areas.



**DANA'S PHOTO — This is the picture of the meteor that Dana DeGeorge took last night with a 35mm camera. He used Plus-X film, black and white, at 1/25 second and f. 2.8 to 4. The Associated Press transmitted the picture nationally.**

The fireball, estimated to be going about 35 miles a second, was reported to have exploded or disintegrated on the north horizon.

**A General Electric Co. electrical engineer, J. Russell Clark of 3 Norris Drive, Whitesboro, said he and his son, Don, 15, saw the object break up "within 50 miles." The father said, "I'm sure it wasn't a meteorite. It was too low with too flat a trajectory." He estimated its altitude at 1,000 to 5,000 feet.**

Russell said it might have been some "space hardware" reentering the atmosphere.

Another on-looker was Deborah Jones, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jones, Morgan Road, Marcy, who saw the "bright light" of the fireball through window curtains and watched it "explode" and leave a trail of sparks.

A Griffiss Air Force Base spokesman said it definitely was not a plane. "It was either a meteorite or a satellite re-entering the atmosphere and burning up as it did."

**Among the calls last night to Utica newspapers were residents who described the fireball as "sheer beauty . . . beautiful turquoise . . . magnificent."**

• • •

**ANOTHER CALLER** was Dana, who told a jubilant news staff he had snapped the fireball's picture.

Dana, a photographer for about two years, was brought to the newspaper where technicians developed the picture. The picture then was sent nationwide by the AP.

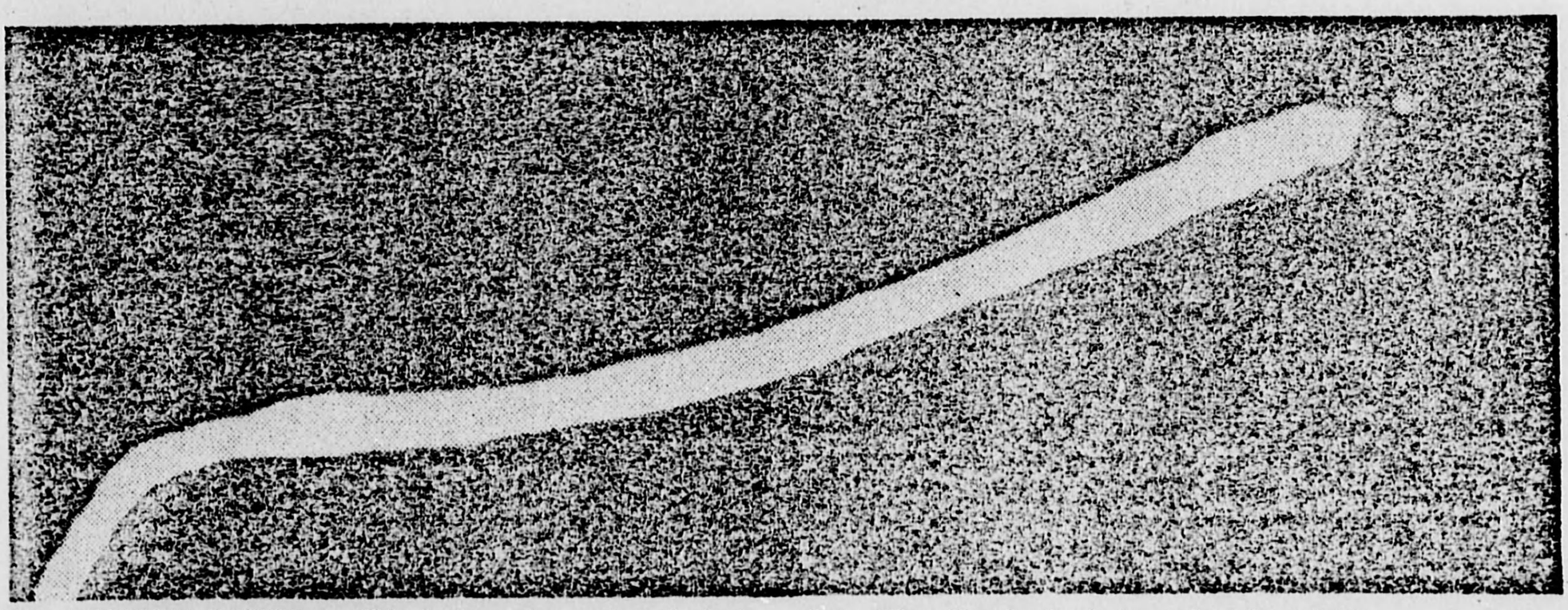
Dana, who came up with one of the few known shots of the fireball, said he would hang on to the negative.

Dana left the Utica newspapers' office about 11 and stayed up a while telling his parents all about events of the night.

About 1 a.m., a New York Times reporter phoned the boy for his account of the "meteor" and how he got the snapshot.

**"He said the photo was pretty good," Dana said of the Times reporter. "He congratulated me and told me it was for a Page One story. I couldn't sleep after that."**

Whatever the fireball was — a meteor's dying farewell, a satellite's unscheduled trip back to earth or forbidding UFOs, Dana said he's sending in his membership application Friday to UFO organization, NICAP.



**AND SECONDS LATER — This is how the meteor looked over Canadian skies, seconds after it had passed over the Utica area. Jack French, staff photographer of the Kingston, Ont., Whog-Standard, photographed it at 8:15, seconds before it disintegrated. The fireball was followed by a blue-green tail as it hurtled through the earth's atmosphere. (AP)**

**GAFB Airman Dies After**

*More Support Received for Mandanti Plan*

*Geffen Urges*

Sidney Geffen, a candidate for a seat on the Utica Board of

Syracuse Herald-Journal - 26 Apr 66

# Sparkler in the sky called meteor

By ROBIN PEARLBERG

"It was just gorgeous . . . . a huge sparkler moving across the sky."

This was just one of scores of calls that flooded The Herald-Journal switchboard between 8:15 and 9:30 last night. The calls started pouring in after thousands of Syracusans, like others in northeastern states, witnessed the dazzling celestial phenomenon which immediately set off a mass display of wonderment.

Scientists said it was probably a tiny meteor, disintegrating as it entered the atmosphere on a plunge toward earth.

From the Carolinas to Canada and as far inland as Ohio, the celestial object thrilled and astonished thousands as it soared on a northwesterly path with a bright multi-colored vapor trail in view for several seconds.

Police, weather bureau and aviation agencies, were deluged with reports that varied in description and in interpretation which ranged from a glowing spaceship to a plane on fire.

But most knowledgeable sources came to the same conclusion as Dr. Fred L. Whipple of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Cambridge, Mass. He said: "On the basis of information I now have I would have to say it was a meteor that must have been smaller than a football.

"It was probably one meteor that started to break up, and it was all in the same trajectory. I doubt that there could be more than one."

At times both of this newspaper's switchboards were completely lighted. The calls jammed all lines. And it was the same at the police department, sheriff's office, Hancock Field, and State Police offices.

The reactions ranged from fear to amazement, from curiosity to speculation.

In general, Syracuse area residents were in agreement as to what they saw. Most said it was a fiery object that appeared to be light green and then fade into an orangish-reddish glow. A vapor trail behind the object also was reported by most persons who saw it.

Among the first to call this newspaper was George Graff, of 120 Gordon Pkwy., Fairmount, who said he thought he saw a small plane swerve to avoid contact with the object.

"It was a bright green object," Graff said. "It sounded like a jet over Hancock Field and appeared to be a skyrocket. I saw it west of the city, and it was traveling from south to north."

John Garrow, of 113 Brookley Drive, and Bob Bostley and Frank Werbeck, both of Liverpool, were among the many who reported brilliant sparks from the object and a clear contrail.

An amateur astronomer, William Pelrine, of Baldwinsville, said he watched the object through his telescope at home. He said the object was 30 degrees above the horizon and gave off a magnesium flare with sparks.

"It had no trajectory," he said.

A Lafayette women said, "It was quite a scary feeling. It was just a trail of fire," according to Mrs. Clifford Wheeler, 6961 Cherry Valley Road.

Her husband said it was a green ball. "It started to disintegrate," he said, "but it wasn't dropping. It was just going horizontally, almost like a skyrocket."

Besides being called a skyrocket, Syracusans also reported seeing a Roman candle, a manmade missle, flying saucer, from an airplane, booster rocket and UFO.

George Dominick, of 810 W. Brighton Ave., said it was a beautiful sight. "It went from south to north over the city and seemed to fade into a light orange color and then disintegrate."

But to some persons it wasn't beautiful.

One Syracuse University coed who refused to give her name said, "You better come up here quickly. I just saw a flying saucer over the university."

How fast was the object traveling?

Reports varied from 150 m.p.h. to supersonic speeds.

Donald Lyman, of 6824 North Manlius Road, said whatever it was, "it broke into three pieces."

No two reports were identical. Mrs. Nettie Mancino, of 701 Molloy Road, Mattydale, described it as "beautiful but frightening."

Nearly 500 Tompkins County

(Concluded on Page 5, Col. 6)

# 'UFO' Was Meteor, U. S. Officials Agree

## District Police Swamped With Calls As Thousands See Flaming, Greenish Object

*[Fiery object spotted across East, Page 4.]*

About that unidentified flying object (UFO) . . . that "greenish-pink," "silver-green," "green-blue," "cigar-shaped," "boomerang-shaped," "tad-pole-like," "huge balloon-shaped" object that shot across the Eastern skies . . .

**It's not so "unidentified" after all.**

The Air Force, Federal Aviation Agency, U. S. Weather Bureau and Greater Pittsburgh Airport control tower all report the object was apparently a meteor burning itself out.

Because of the recent UFO sightings, however, the streaking object touched off thousands of calls last night to police and fire stations and news agencies in the East.

**The Pittsburgh district was no exception.**

Calls started about 8:14 p. m. here. One of the first was received at the McKeesport Police radio center.

**Flying Saucer**

Desk Sgt. Joseph Mulac accepted the initial call from Joseph Mihalvic, 47, of 320 Beckman Dr., McKeesport.

**"You won't believe me," the hesitant Mr. Mihalvic said, "but I just saw a flying saucer."**

Sergeant Mulac relayed the call over the air to a cruiser in Mr. Mihalvic's area.

**It's Really There**

But before the desk sergeant could finish broadcasting, he got several reports from police that they also had spotted the object from their cars.

**Lt. Hugh O'Neill, driving along Lysle Boulevard, declared, "It looks like a roman candle. It's got a red tail."**

Then the switchboard at the

(Cont'd on Page 4, Column 5)



### Thousands Here See It

# Flying Object Was Meteor, Officials Agree

*(Continued from Page One)*

communications center became jammed with calls.

**Frantic Operator**

"We must have had at least fifty calls, all within a few minutes. How many more couldn't get through, I couldn't tell," said switchboard operator Mrs. Margaret Ochoa.

**Each caller was leery about making known what he had seen, Mrs. Ochoa said.**

"They all preceded their reports with something like 'Honest—you may think I'm crazy—but I'm not,'" she said.

**Pie-Shaped**

Most reported that it was greenish-flourescent in color and triangular or pie-shaped.

**Sent to investigate the first call from Mr. Mihalvic was Patrolman Robert Hickman.**

"When I got to his home, Mr. Mihalvic walked into the yard holding his hands up in the air, saying 'Officer, I'm 47-years-old—I'm not a drinking man—I've got a good family. But now I'm a believer—I just saw a UFO'" Officer Hickman reported.

**Pilot Sees It**

Another spotter was Michael Smyrnes, 40, a laundry operator, who lives at 211 Thomas Dr., North Huntingdon Twp., some 10 miles southeast of McKeesport.

**Mr. Smyrnes is a licenced pilot who said he has seen many meteorites and fireballs since his World War II flying days.**

"But I never saw anything like this—if it was a meteor," said Mr. Smyrnes.

**Light On Horizon**

He said he was facing McKeesport when he noticed a light on the horizon. "It was visible for three to five seconds and at times looked like two objects. It was brilliant in color like the tail of a June bug," he added.

**"It was coming down in a 15 degree pattern like a meteorite would, but its shape was not that of anything I've ever seen before."**

Mr. Smyrnes said he was skeptical it was a meteor because its form was not typical of astral bodies.

**Supersonic Speed**

"This was traveling at about five times the rate of speed of any plane on a landing approach—I would say it was in the supersonic range," he stated.

**Many residents in the Elizabeth Twp. area got the impression that the object was landing in the vicinity of the Youghiogheny Country Club, about five miles south of McKeesport.**

The closest reported observation was made by two West Elizabeth youths, Thomas Kempert, 18, and Michael Plauchak, 17.

**Oblong Shape**

They said they were fishing from a barge on the Monongahela River in West Elizabeth, when they spotted it coming across the hills from the south in the vicinity of Elizabeth.

**Both said the object was "oblong in shape—comparable to a DC-6 airliner."**

As it came over the river, it went downstream towards McKeesport, about 500 feet off the ground, then veered over towards the Youghiogheny River, the youths reported.

Calls also came from Mt. Lebanon, Lincoln Place, Morningside, Tarentum, Carrick, Monroeville, Homewood-Brushton and Harrisville, Butler County.

Adding to the list of spotters were most of the 9000-plus fans who attended the Pirate-Phillies game in Forbes Field.

**One fan's description of the object was "shapeless, and chartreuse in color with red flames."**

It seemed to descend, glider-like, from the skies above centerfield over the scoreboard in left, just before the start of the game.

CALLED METEORITE

Utica Daily Press - 26 Apr 66

# Fiery Ball Seen In Utica Skies

Shades of Orson Wells' in-asion by Martians hit the east-rn seaboard and midwest about :30 last night when thousands f people spotted a fiery greenish-blue ball and "color-ess vapor trail" termed by one super-spectacular."

It all began at about 8:15. Scores of calls came into the news room at the Utica Daily Press. "I've just seen the most spectacular thing, a greenish ball—with a long, tail. It exploded in midair. It was beautiful," said one excited Utica resident.

Most excited was 14-year-old Dana DeGeorge of 1200 Greenview Drive, who with his 35mm camera, snapped four pictures of the object from his backyard. (See above).

DeGeorge, who with friend, Vincent Femia, 14, of 1609 Crouse St., has been studying UFO's, (unidentified flying objects), quickly called The Press and said "We have, we believe, photographed it with a 35mm camera."

The two Proctor High School pupils were brought to the newspaper office by a reporter, while calls continued to flood the five general-news lines of the Press.

Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) authorities at about 10:45 said the object, definitely identified by officials as a meteorite, landed in New Haven, Conn.

The director of the Smithsonian Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., said "that it was definitely a meteor that had gone into the earth's orbit.

"That's the story of last night's light in the sky," the director said.

Dr. Thomas D. Nicholson, chairman of the Hayden Planetarium, said the fireball was an exceptionally bright meteor, probably 10,000 times brighter than the sky's brightest star.

"I would estimate the magnitude to be minus 10 to minus 12 which would mean it was at least 100 times brighter than Venus, when the planet is at its greatest brilliance," he said.

A spokesman at the U. S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D. C. said the event was unexpected and the observatory did not have any tracking equipment turned on.

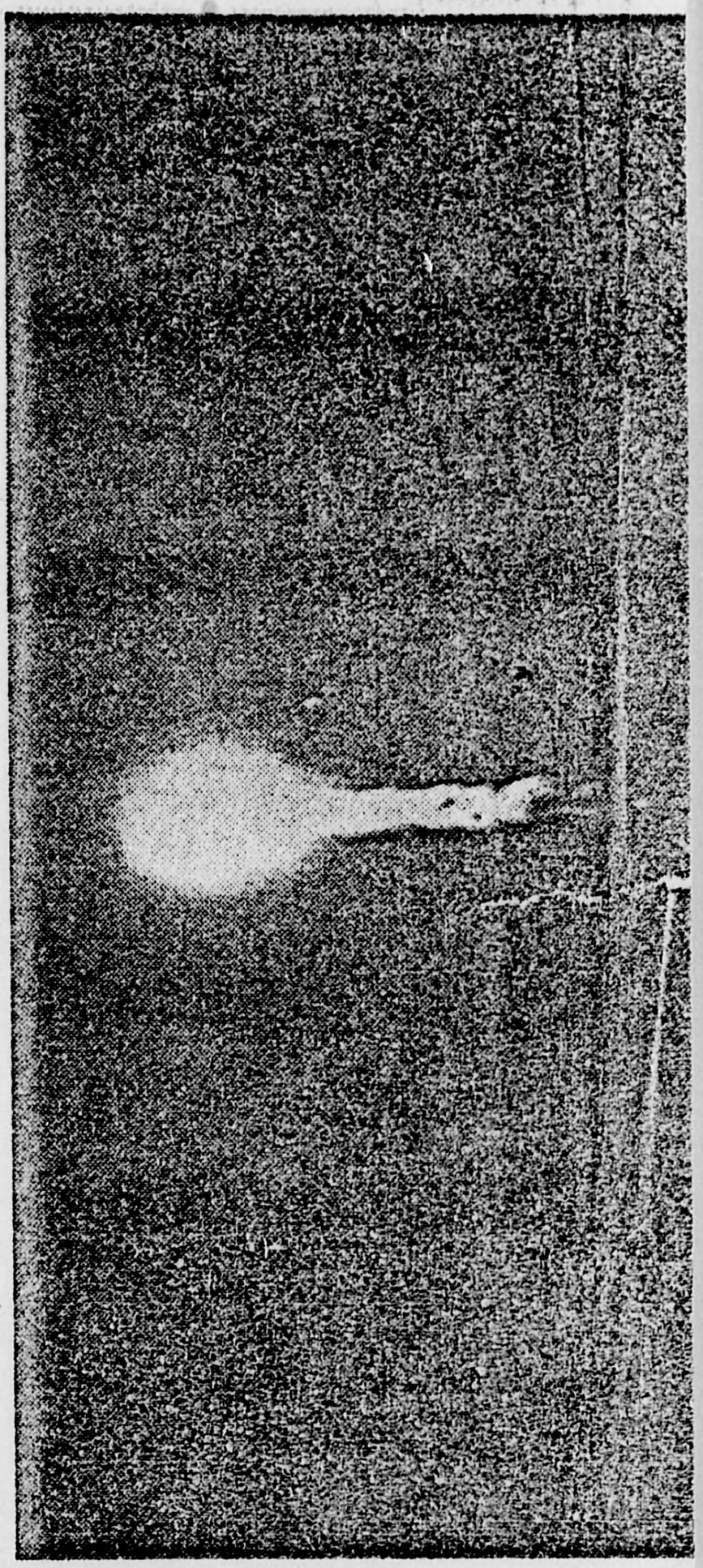
Paul Patterson of the Yale University Observatory said the object could have been a "bolide," a type of meteor which enters the atmosphere at a slower speed and therefore burns itself out more slowly.

A bollide seems to travel at a level altitude, he said.

But the small, "double the size of a beach ball" object, caused more excitement here than all other recent UFO sightings.

A Griffiss Air Force Base spokesman said it definitely was not a plane. "It was either a meteorite or a satellite reentering the atmosphere and burning up as it did. It could have been seen for a radius of

*(Continued on Page 5)*



*Oneida Sightings*

# 'UFO May Be Huge Meteorite

ONEIDA — One of the largest meteorites to cross Central New York skies in recent years may have landed somewhere in the Adirondacks.

The sky show set telephones at state police, Troop D. the Oneida Police Station, Griffiss Air Force switchboard and many othr police agencies ringing.

Sgt. Bruce Payne of Trooop D. received 25 telephone calls about the fire ball. It was first reported to state police here from DeRuyter. The last call was from North of Taberg.

State police at New Hartford, Zone 2, station checked with Griffiss AFB and were told the fire ball was a meteorite burning out in a south to north course. It appeared to have a more flat projectory than the usual shooting star.

At Oneida Police Station, Lt. Elsworth Yeman received more than 15 telephone calls. The meteor was described as an ice cream cone-shaped object shooting orange and blue fire.

Police here believe the flying object was an unusually large meteorite.

Fair and Cool Tonight, Tomorrow
U.S. Weather Bureau
Expected Temperatures
Low Tonight .....34°
High Tomorrow .....56°
Details on Page 38

# The Evening Bulletin

Metropolitan Edition

VOLUME CIV. NO. 98. | 40 PAGES | PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1966 | 45 Cents Per Week Delivered by Carrier | PRICE TEN CENTS

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By GEORGE POPKIN

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Said Professor Smiley, "He said he saw a very small red object move across the sky, stopping from time to time. It was very bright but tiny."

"I asked him how close this was to a research center. It turned out there was one nearby. What he had seen was a laser being used in an experiment. It is a strong beam of light and very thin. But you need clouds or dust for it to be seen. If it had been clear, he wouldn't have picked it up. All the conditions added up to a logical explanation when checked out."

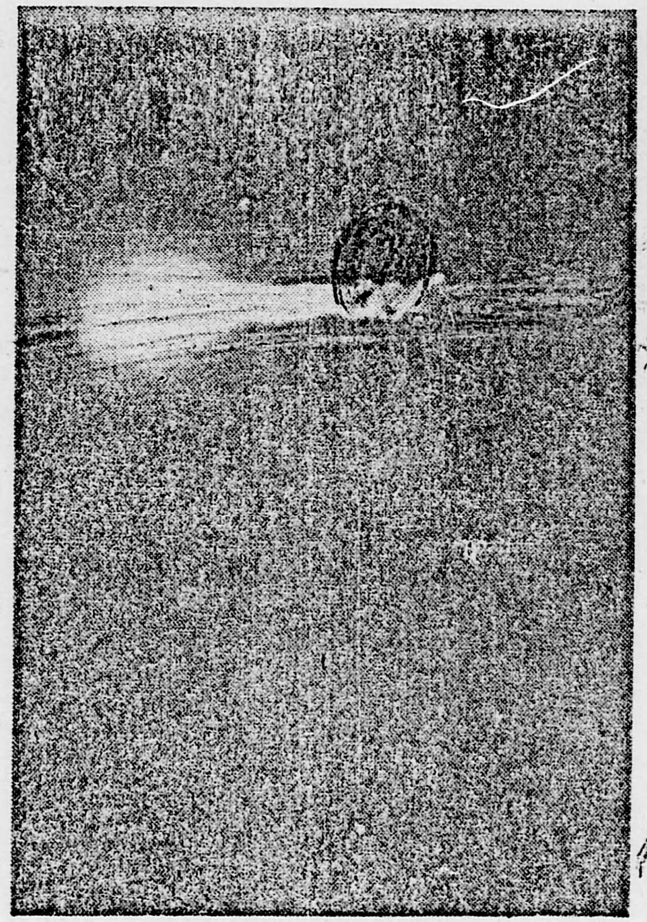
Professor Smiley smiled the smile which only men who have demolished a flying saucer smile.

"As a scientist I'm inclined to say there has been no evidence they come from anywhere outside the earth," he asserted. "All I've seen and heard about are natural phenomena not understood by the public."

Blame for the continued sightings was placed by the astronomer in a lot of places —press and TV publicity and the human desire for recognition among them.

"Flying saucers give a per-

Turn to Page 6, Col. 1
Saucers



—Associated Press Wirephoto

**Quick with his camera** was 14-year-old Dana De-George of Utica, N.Y., who made this photo of meteor.

## *Flaming Meteors, Yes*

# Rhode Islanders Tell UFO Tale

By VINCENT G. MOLONEY

A meteor that flashed across the eastern seaboard last night was an object lesson in how unidentified flying objects are created.

The first sighting in Rhode Island apparently took place about 8:12 p.m. Minutes later the two telephones on the Journal-Bulletin city desk started ringing. They were still ringing 35 minutes later.

All of the callers were excited and all described something different.

The object they had seen was variously described as green, bright red, flashing red, flashing white and yellow.

One caller said it was about 3,000 feet high. Another said it was a helicopter. Another insisted that it had wings. And others saw it crash into the Scituate Reservoir or into a pond in Attleboro.

Even after the Air Force, the U.S. Weather Bureau and well-known astronomers had identified the object as a meteor, the callers remained skeptical. "That was no meteor," said a woman from Warwick. "I've seen a lot of meteors. I wonder what the Russians are up to."

Reports from the citizenry still were coming to these newspapers this morning and were growing more detailed and more interesting.

A Riverside woman said she found about 10 cinders in her yard about two inches in diameter after hearing a banging on her roof last night at the time the meteor whizzed past. "It sounded like someone pounding with his fists," she said.

The pebble-like objects were discovered by her children. No one could immediately find any damage to the roof.

A Cranston woman described an object she saw in the sky as "a ship of some kind made of metal with six portholes."

"It lit up and disintegrated in a puff of smoke," she recounted. "The front part went on, while the middle section fell down somewhere near Scituate."

Dr. Charles H. Smiley, Brown University astronomer, did not see the object but, on the basis of descrip-

Turn to Page 6, Col. 4
Meteor

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Flying Saucers? No

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Shattered flying saucers covered the earth as Dr. Charles H. Smiley, Brown University astronomer kept shaking the strangest tale of our times.

Namely, the theory that intelligent life from outer space is skipping about our planet usually in oval shaped objects with blinking lights.

For a gentle and cultivated man, the director of Ladd Observatory is a Tamerlane when it comes to destroying what he feels are delusions.

A Rhode Island lady phoned him not too long ago, he said, and informed him that she had seen a flying saucer and that one of the people in it had spoken to her.

Professor Smiley asked whether the visitor spoke English. When she related this was so, the astronomer remarked, "Well, he's not from Venus—no English is spoken there."

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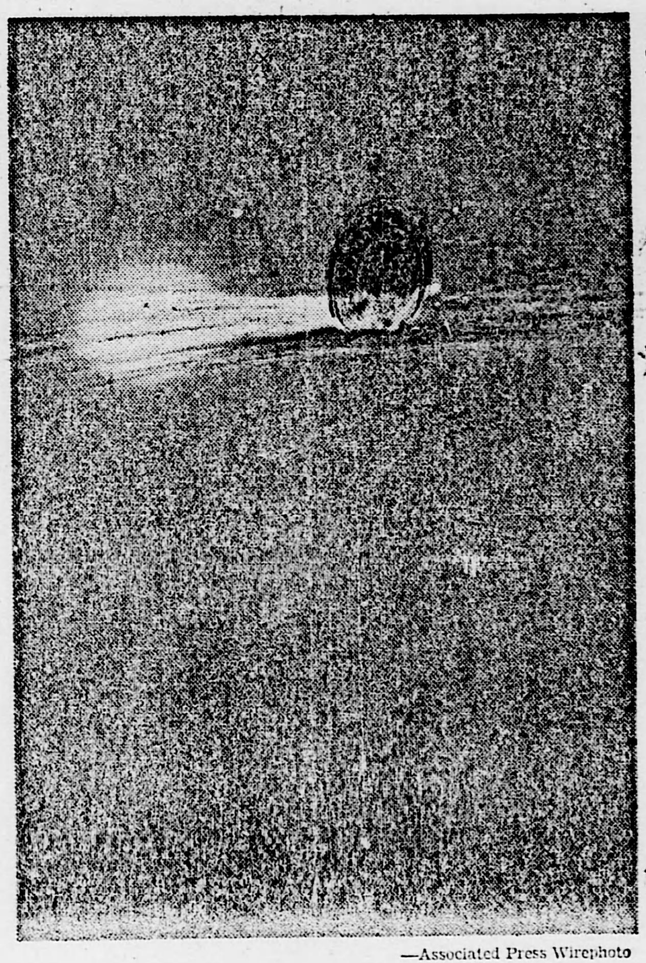

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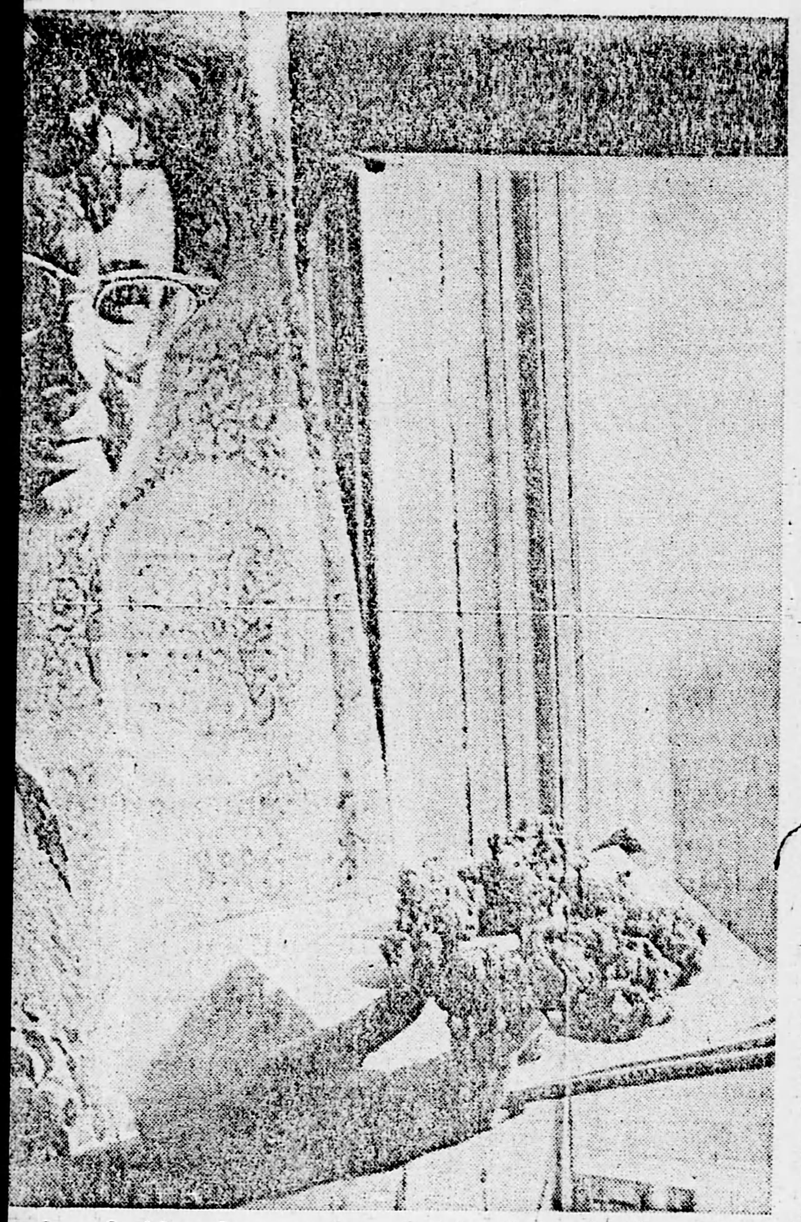
# It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's—Another UFO Tale



**n Space?** Mrs. Grace braham Road, Riverside, tted fragments near her home and heard them hit the roof as the meteor flashed by.

—Jou

## Meteor

Continued from Page One

tions given him, identified it as a meteor.

He said that although Lyrids, a type of meteor originating from the constellation Lyra, often are visible about April 20, this was not a Lyrid. "If it was part of a Lyrid shower," he remarked, "it would be moving in another direction."

Regarding where the meteor might have crashed, the astronomer asserted it is very common for people to think a meteor falls a lot closer than it actually does.

The first call at the Journal-Bulletin, ironically, was the most accurate. Roughly paraphrased, here is how it and succeeding calls went.

"I'd like to report an object that I just saw headed from south to north over the East Side. It was green, had a long vapor trail and appeared to be a meteor. I'm calling from Benefit Street. Three adults saw it."

The next few calls said about the same thing. Then they got wilder.

"Hello. I'm in Warwick Neck and I just saw a flying saucer headed toward Providence. There were two planes chasing it."

"I'm near Slater Park. I just saw the fastest helicopter I've ever seen. You better call the Navy and find out what they are doing."

"My husband and I

gruntled city editor. "Oh, really. Well, we'll go over and see if we can find it."

Do you know how big a meteor is lady? "Oh, about as big as a basketball I guess."

Another woman called from North Kingstown to report the object. "I just called the Navy at Quonset and they told me they had sent jets up to intercept it," she said.

A man called from Scituate and said that customers at a restaurant there had seen the object crash into the reservoir. Informed that the object had also been seen in Syracuse, N.Y., and in Maryland, he said: "Well you better call the restaurant. They saw it go down."

About 8:20, the Weather Bureau had confirmed that the object was a meteor, and the city editor had an answer for the callers. But they refused to believe him.

"You must have seen something different," a woman said. "My daughter and I saw it and it had wings."

But the perfect ending came about 10:30 when a man called from Foster and said: "I just thought you'd like to know. My wife saw a UFO here about 8 o'clock. It was shaped like a cigar and had rotating red lights."

HELP WANTED
Wig Consultant
For Well Known Wig Co.
Salary For 40 Hours
Plus Commission
CALL EL 1-6600, EXT. 5
For Appointment

**Souvenirs From Space?** Mrs. Grace Hughes of Abraham Road, Riverside, found these pitted fragments near her home and heard them hit the roof as the meteor flashed by.

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# It's a Bird, It's a P
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# Catholic L
# Plan Demo

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Father Ho, leader of the Cath-

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# The Evening Bulletin

COLLEGE CW. NO. 33. 40 PAGES PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1958 3 Cents Delivered

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By GORDON GRAY

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[illegible] to Page 6, Col. 1

## Meteor

—Associated Press Wirephoto

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By YANK

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# He Has Study In The Stars

Continued from Page One

son with exhibitionist tendencies a chance to talk and gain attention," he said.

"These cases have a rational explanation," declared Professor Smiley. "Take the recent business in Michigan where a lot of people said they saw flying saucers. It was a case of a superior mirage. As they looked across a cold swamp they saw the effects of spring thawing, what is called looming."

Marsh gas also causes this sort of mirage, he said, more likely in warm weather. What happens then is that methane, a natural gas produced by decomposed organic matter buried for millennia, sends up something like steam from the ground.

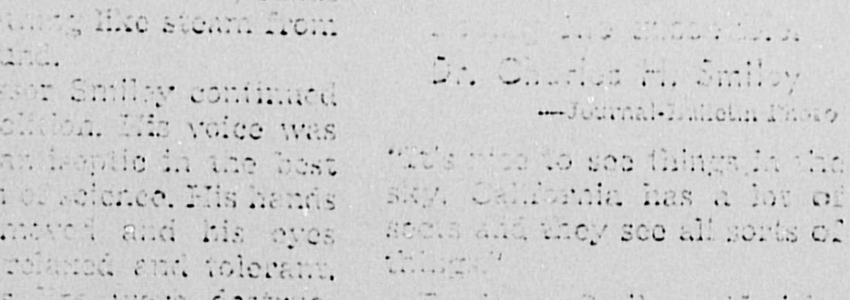
Professor Smiley continued his demolition. His voice was quietly antiseptic in the best tradition of science. His hands hardly moved and his eyes seemed relaxed and tolerant. Only his lips were destructive—to non-scientific conclusions.

"A great many of the flying saucers are seen in the Southwest," he said. "I feel sure they are dust devils. They rush against rocks and whirl up like small tornadoes."

He shrugged wearily. "Jupiter and Venus," he declared. "You know, they're quite visible on a clear day with a blue sky. Clouds go by and people think they're moving."

The astronomer went on recounting all the things citizens see in the sky which are not flying saucers.

Then he got a little mean about leisure-time activity. "Out in Los Angeles the older people don't have much to occupy their minds," he said.



Dr. Charles H. Smiley

—Journal-Bulletin Photo

"It's nice to see things in the sky. California has a lot of nuts and they see all sorts of things."

Professor Smiley said visits from intelligent beings from outer space cannot be scientifically dismissed. But, he added, we are not very scientific about our thoughts on the subject.

"We expect such people to be something like us," he said. "They might be tiny, very tiny. Maybe we ought to try to communicate with bacteria. Perhaps some of them are around here now, under our noses, small as a molecule."

The tremendous distances from which their vehicles would have to come, the great time such trips would take, the remarkable abilities in metallurgy and the intelligence needed were listed.

By this time the doors of imagination had been flung wide open and Professor Smiley was on a track dear to his heart.

"It is a very rare and important property of human beings — this imagination. It is most important to scientific inquiry and discovery. You can't discover something impossible to imagine, usually."

The astronomer let imagination lead him into the field of space communications. He had done a little figuring, taking telephone company rates for distance calls as a base.

"It would cost $100,000 for a six-minute conversation with Mars, three minutes talk on each side. Taking into account the length of time necessary to send the message and to get the reply."

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As long as the crystal ball was on the table, Professor Smiley took another look. On a clear day he can almost see the unthinkable. This is no difficulty if you can think the unthinkable, he believed.

"One of the greatest developments of our time will come from controlled nuclear reactors using inexpensive hydrogen," he said. "With an engine so that we can go deep in space. Hydrogen could be picked up everywhere."

The future so dazzled the professor that he unconsciously shaded his eyes against the wan New England spring light seeping through the windows of Richardson Hall.

It will be a different world then, he said.

"No one will have to fight over water," the astronomer mused. "There will be fresh water from nuclear power everywhere. Oil ... it won't be needed. An endless supply of cheap nuclear energy, think of it!

"We'll have control of climate. Storms will be diverted...."

Professor Smiley grew mischievous. "Not everyone will like it," he said. "We'll chase the storms out to sea because of a jazz festival or the World Series. But seamen's union may object. They'll say, 'You're sending all the storms our way', and ask for higher rates."

Thayer Street began to look unreal under pressure of the astronomer's vision of 2,000 A.D. "There won't be much physical labor," he predicted. "Most work will be of a higher order requiring considerable intelligence."

As for our exploration of outer space, Professor Smiley thinks we will slow down after a fly-around Jupiter. Yes, there will be an observatory on the moon and some of those unknown worlds out there may come into view.

Flying saucers? They looked a little primitive after the astronomer's thought flight through the vale of tomorrow's tomorrow.


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## Music Hopkins PTA To Hit School Issue

A school board action to allow high school students of Our Lady of Providence Seminary use of the third floor at Hosk Hopkins Junior High School will be discussed in an open meeting at the school Fri-

# He Ties 'Nots' In an Eerie Tale

## Saucers

Continued from Page One

son with exhibitionist tendencies a chance to talk and gain attention," he said.

"These cases have a rational explanation," declared Professor Smiley. "Take the recent business in Michigan where a lot of people said they saw flying saucers. It was a case of a superior mirage. As they looked across a cold swamp they saw the effects of spring thawing, what is called looming."

Marsh gas also causes this sort of mirage, he said, more likely in warm weather. What happens then is that methane, a natural gas produced by decomposed organic matter buried for millenniums, sends up something like steam from the ground.

Professor Smiley continued his demolition. His voice was quietly antiseptic in the best tradition of science. His hands hardly moved and his eyes seemed relaxed and tolerant. Only his lips were destructive—to non-scientific conclusions.

"A great many of the flying saucers are seen in the Southwest," he said. "I feel sure they are dust devils. They rush against rocks and whirl up like small tornadoes."

He shrugged wearily. "Jupiter and Venus," he declared. "You know, they're quite visible on a clear day with a blue sky. Clouds go by and people think they're moving."

The astronomer went on recounting all the things citizens see in the sky which are not flying saucers.

Then he got a little mean about leisure-time activity. "Out in Los Angeles the older people don't have much to occupy their minds," he said.

**Seeing the unseeable.**
Dr. Charles H. Smiley
—Journal-Bulletin Photo

"It's nice to see things in the sky. California has a lot of sects and they see all sorts of things."

Professor Smiley said visits from intelligent beings from outer space cannot be scientifically dismissed. But, he added, we are not very scientific about our thoughts on the subject.

"We expect such people to be something like us," he said. "They might be tiny, very tiny. Maybe we ought to try to communicate with bacteria. Perhaps some of them are around here now, under our noses, small as a molecule."

The tremendous distances from which their vehicles would have to come, the great time such trips would take, the remarkable abilities in metallurgy and the intelligence needed were listed.

By this time the doors of imagination had been flung wide open and Professor Smiley was on a track dear to his heart.

"It is a very rare and important property of human beings — this imagination. It is most important to scientific inquiry and discovery. You can't discover something impossible to imagine, usually."

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Natural

# Sparkler called meteor

From Page One

area residents described seeing meteors, flying saucers and even a large airplane on fire. One person reported seeing the UFO land with "10 little green men" getting out.

Only one detailed description of the "inhabitants of saucers" from a man who refused to give his name. He simply said, "They're running all over my backyard. Get the heck out here and chase them away."

In Cortland 76 calls were received at police headquarters between 8:15 and 9:30. Police said observers reported the object maneuvering, standing still, moving slowly and streaking at ultra-sonic speed.

Among those who reported seeing the object in Cortland was Detective John Morgia's son who asked his father to come out of their home and "see the largest, brightest flying star of all time."

Several persons in the Central New York area who reported the object last night also said they saw a UFO Sunday evening.

John Povero, veteran pilot who is a school bus driver in Seneca Falls, said he saw a UFO early Sunday evening in South Seneca County. "It just seemed to burn itself out," he said.

Four Maple Bay boys, fishing on the Oneida Lake front, thought the object made a noise.

Danny Emerson, Edward and Michael Mahar and Jon Cooley saw it disappear over the lake.

David Ridley, of 120 Cashin Dr., Fayetteville, said he was fishing on Chittenango Creek when the object went overhead.

Cashin said it was a brilliant blue and he was sure it was no more than 1,000 feet off the ground.

Utica Daily Press - 23 Apr 66

# Bright Object in Sky Startles Area People

A bright green light in the sky, which startled scores of Utica area persons last evening, was reported seen over much of the northeastern United States.

A spokesman at Griffiss Air Force Base said after checking with officials of the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) the bright object was determined to be a meteorite burning up in the Earth's atmosphere.

Scores of phone calls poured into police and newspaper switchboards on the celestial sighting.

• • •

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ervin, 162 Main St., Whitesboro, said they saw "a bright green object with sparks of fire shooting out the back" as they were driving on Route 287 between Barneveld and Prospect, shortly after 7 p. m.

"It just disintegrated in the sky—whoosh," Mrs. Ervin related, "but the whole sight left you with your mouth open."

• • •

THE GAFB spokesman explained that meteorites, commonly known as "shooting stars," disappear as quickly as they are spotted in the Earth's atmosphere.

State police at the East Herkimer station said their phones were ringing constantly early last night on the sighting. A person who identified himself as a high school science teacher told troopers the object appeared to be a meteorite.

The Associated Press Albany bureau reported that state and local police from Essex County near the Vermont-Canadian border to Wyoming County, southeast of Buffalo, reported rashes of calls from persons reporting the bright object.

Many described it as light blue or green in color, elliptical in shape, and moving rapidly in a northerly direction.

• • •

CURTIS L. HEMENWAY, director of the Dudley Observatory in Albany, said the descriptions led him to believe it was meteorite.

Hemenway added, however, that "if I was an astronomer on Mars when Mariner IV went by and someone called me to ask about it, I'd probably have given the same [a]ne."

Another spokesman at Dud- said it was "reasonable" the same meteorite could been seen in Albany and Buffalo simultaneously.

However, to compound the confusion in the sky, persons near Plattsburgh reported seeing a silvery object giving off blue and red flames as late as 8:45 p. m.

• • •

LeROY SEAMAN of 3 Park St., New Hartford, said he was on Erie Street, Utica, near the West End Seafood, Inc. shortly after 7 p. m., when "a bright green light, like a skyrocket," suddenly appeared and disappeared. It was "high in the sky," Seaman added.

William C. White of Barneveld and James Brozinski of Utica, both said they spotted a "blue flash of light" shortly after 7 p. m.

However, Dana DiGeorge, 1200 Greenview Dr., and Rocco DeRocco, 748 Blandina St., said they spotted "a rotating white light" moving west and changing from red to white to green between 9 and 9:20 p. m.

• • •

LEE ABBOTT of Maynard Drive, Marcy, said the light he saw shortly after 7 p. m., was "bluish in color."

Sal Perritano of 744 Blandina St., said the bright light "revolved" and seemed to be red, white and green.

Sighting shortly after 7 also was reported in St. Lawrence and Chenango counties.

Rome Daily Sentinel - 26 Apr 66

# Thousands See Meteor's Flight; Authorities Besieged With Calls

Telephones jangled at Griffiss AFB, the Rome Police Station and the Sheriff's Department last night after hundreds of Rome and area residents reported seeing a fiery, greenish, ball-like object zoom across the skies.

Scientists generally agreed today it was a meteor that flashed across the sky about 8:15 and excited thousands from the eastern seaboard to Ohio.

A spokesman at Griffiss said the base received hundreds of calls between 8:20 and 11:30 from residents who had seen the object race across the sky and wondered what it was.

**Assumed a Meteor**

They were told that it was assumed that the object was either a meteor or a possibly a satellite re - entering the earth's atmosphere.

The spokesman said that the object did not trigger a scramble of fighter aircraft from the base. But, it was reported, planes from Griffiss were in the air at the time and one pilot said the object had passed in front of his plane which was about 50 miles east of the base.

Numerous calls were also received at the Rome Fire Department and Edward J. Tyler, deputy Civil Defense director, was kept informed.

**Verified**

Finally, later in the evening, the National Air Warning and Alert System (NAWAS), verified that the object had been verified as a meteor. Equipment at the local department is connected to NAWAS.

While there were many conflicting reports on the direction of the object, most residents said it took the general direction north to south.

Some said it also changed colors as they saw it but most reported seeing a predominantly "greenish ball," disintegrating as it fell in a rather flat-like trajectory.

**Busy Phone**

The Rome Police Department received numerous calls on the object — in one period 12 calls were received in 10 minutes.

The Sheriff's Department estimated it had received 25 to 35 calls also.

The Associated Press reported that Dr. Thomas C. Nicholson, chairman of the Hayden Planetarium, called the object an exceptionally bright meteor that left a multicolored, glowing vapor trail. He said it was probably 10,000 times brighter than the brightest star at night.

Astonished viewers reported sighting the flaming object from the Carolinas to Toronto and as far west as Ohio.

**Sensation**

The object touched off a sensation at the height of its journey as thousands scurried for telephones. Some of the callers seemed entertained while others appeared frightened.

Police switchboards in dozens of communities were swamped with reports of a jet airplane crash and flying saucers.

While there were unconfirmed reports that the object or parts of it had landed, most astronomers believe that it probably disintegrated during its flight.

There was no clear agreement on the size of the object.

**Not Big**

But Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass., said: "It was a meteor which must have been less than the size of a football."

A spokesman for the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington said the object was probably not a man-made satellite, as some believed, because none was scheduled to re - enter the atmosphere.

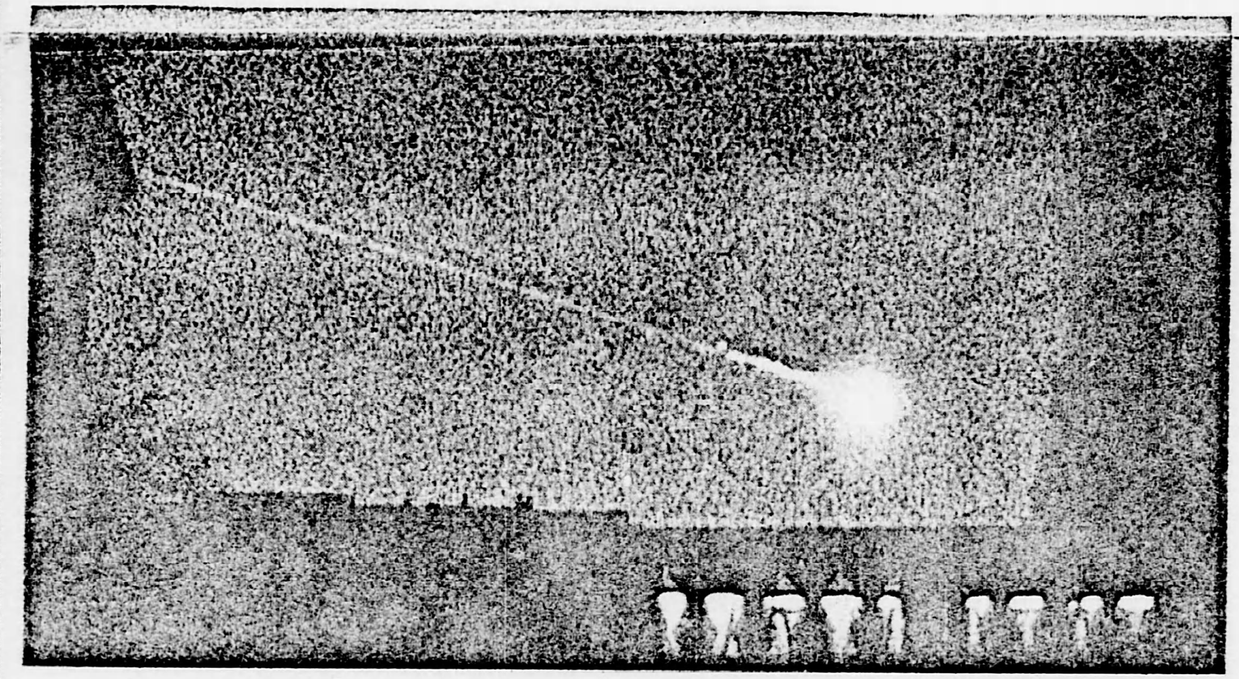
Some scientists speculated that the object may have been a bolide, which is a type of meteor that burns itself out more slowly than other meteors as it enters the atmosphere and makes a noise at the end of its trajectory.

The object prompted hundreds of calls to police, news media and Air Force installations in New York State.

At Plattsburgh Air Force Base, a spokesman said no aircraft were in difficulty and added:

"If one was flying that fast, it sure would be in trouble."

# A METEOR IN FULL VIEW

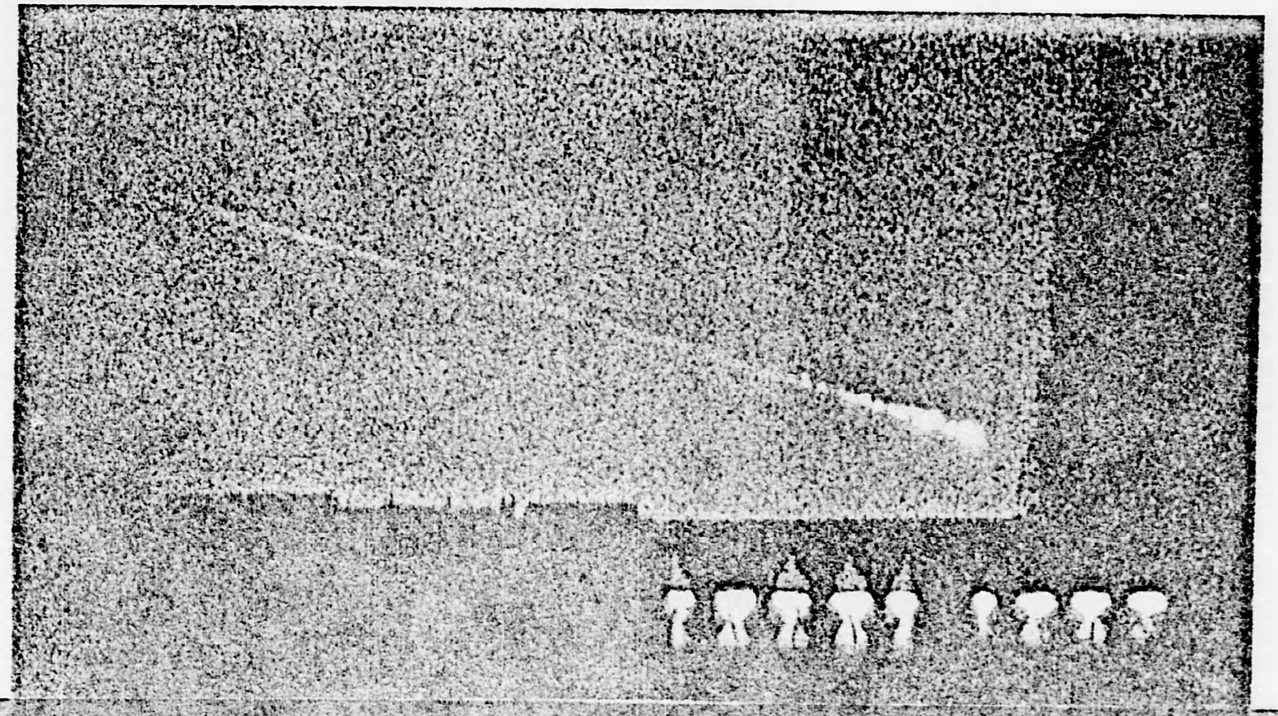


and hence observers there saw it traveling from right to left across the sky as a lowering ball of fire with a corkscrew tail. Dana DeGeorge, a high school freshman, took this picture from his front yard. "It looked like a ball that you'd put gasoline on and lit," he said. "And it appeared to break in two just before it went out of sight." Astronomers guessed that the meteor might have been as large as a suitcase and weighed as much as several hundred pounds.

## SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

George Gambino, a cameraman for Station WWLP-TV, was returning from an assignment when he spotted a brilliant light streaking between the buildings of downtown Springfield and shot these pictures. First (*above*) the meteor looked like a fiery sphere with a twisted tail but a few seconds later (*right*) it appeared to flicker and disintegrate into beads of light. Springfield, like New York City, was east of the meteor's path, hence the meteor traveled from left to right across the heavens.

NEWSFRONTS CONTINUED

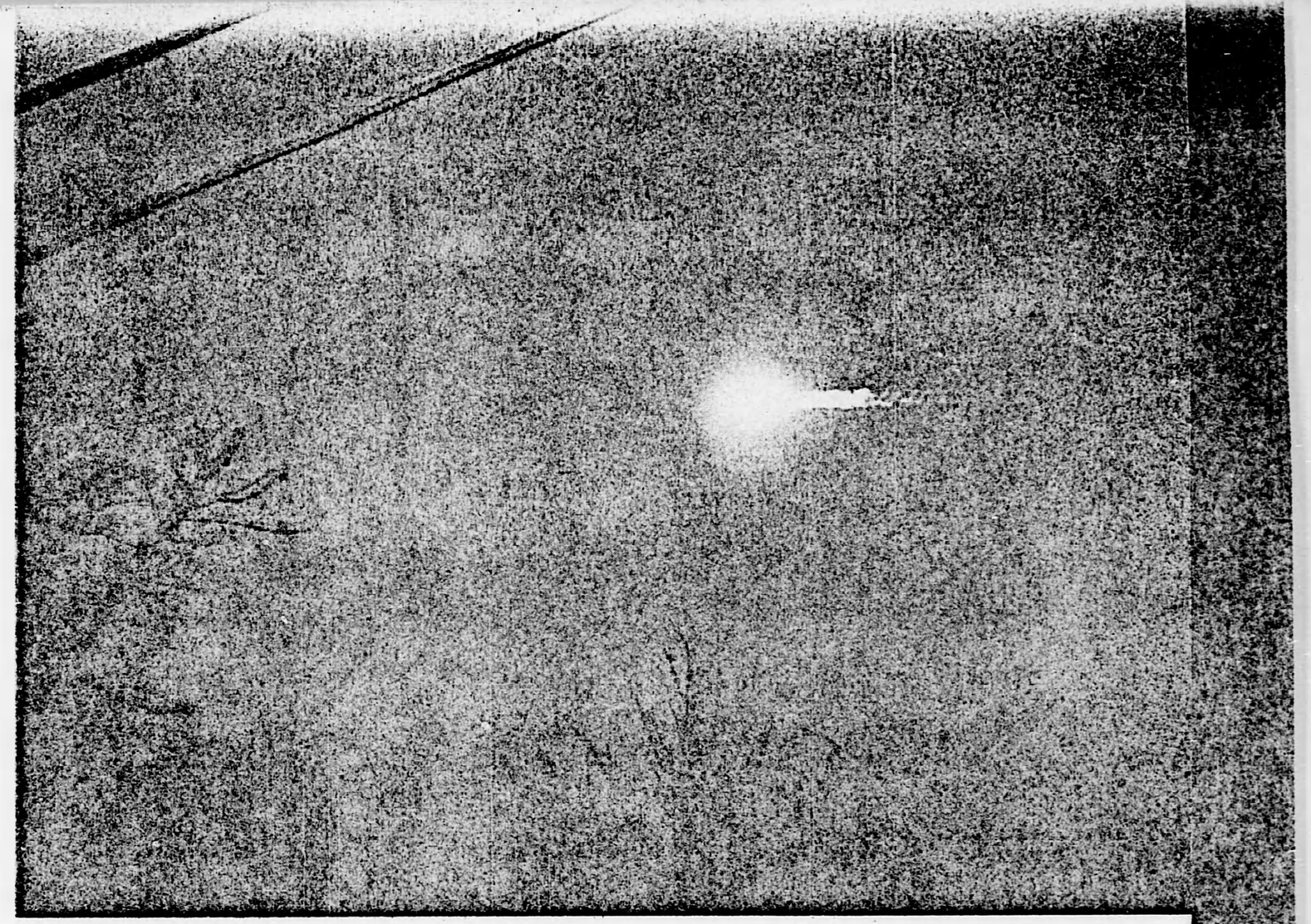


LIFE

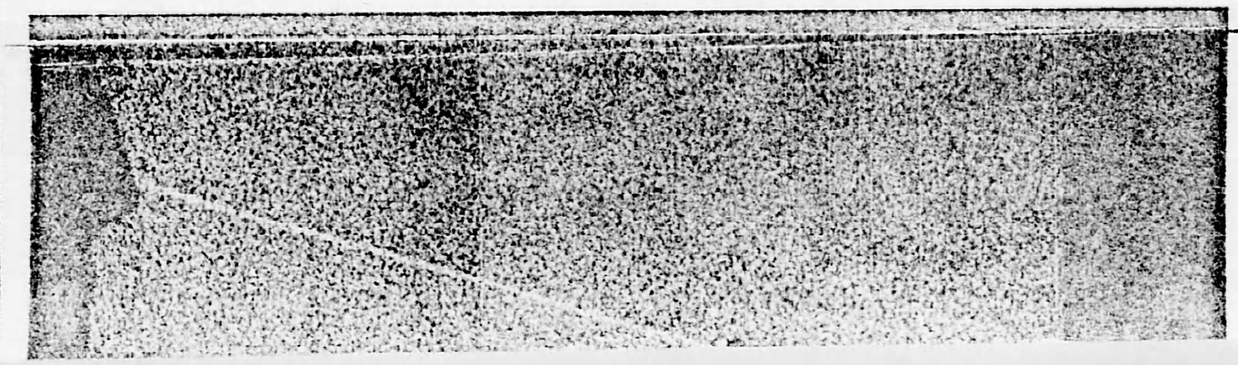
**On the Newsfronts of the World**

## NEW YORK CITY

Thousands of people across the northeastern U.S. were dazzled last week by a spectacularly bright object—which most authorities pronounced a meteor—that was seen at sunset along a 1,000-mile path from the Carolinas to Canada. In New York 19-year-old William Copeland, a college freshman and an amateur photographer, was prowling along the Brooklyn waterfront and caught the luminous meteor plummeting toward earth, its silvery trail etched against the orange sky over lower Manhattan.



# A Meteor in Full View



## UTICA, N.Y.

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