SAUCER NEWS

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WE REGRET TO ANNOUNCE the recent death of Manon Darlaine of Hollywood, California. Born in France, Madam Darlaine was a long-time researcher into flying saucers, psychic phenomena, and other related mysteries. Her voluminous files go back for many years, and she was keenly interested in the mysterious goings-on in the Los Angeles area in the early 1950's, notably the disappearance of saucer researchers Hunrath and Wilkinson. Her interest in UFOs continued, though her health failed in recent years, and she was seen regularly at the annual Giant Rock conventions. Your Editor met her several times, corresponded regularly, and considered her a close personal friend.

NEW "CONTACTEE" STORY: On February 11th, a Watsonville, California television repairman named Sid Padrick told newspaper reporters that he took a ride in a flying saucer at 2 a.m. one night the previous month. Padrick claimed that he was invited aboard with assurances that the nine-man crew was "absolutely not hostile," and that he found the craft perched on a hillside near his home. The contactee was vague about some aspects of his trip, but did say that the crew looked like normal human beings of average height, and that the ship's motive power came from "energy transferred through a light source known to them," i.e., known to the space people. The commander of the craft also told him that they have been here before and that they are visiting us on an exploratory trip of some sort, though Padrick feels that they have other peaceful motives, as well.

Padrick claimed that the Air Force had asked him not to discuss the incident in detail. His report of the adventure was made to Major D. B. Reeder at Hamilton Air Force Base, and the data was forwarded to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, as is the routine procedure in UFO cases. More details on this incident will appear in our forthcoming June issue of SAUCER NEWS.

SAUCER FLAP IN VIRGINIA CONTINUES: Clippings are still pouring into our office regarding the saucer flap which began in Virginia last December, and which extended at least through the end of January.

On the night of January 25th, several people watched a twinkling object, shaped like a pie plate and looking like a spinning top, which bobbed up and down at very low altitude over the Rappahanneck River, at Fredericksburg, Va. The object was observed for a period of ten minutes.

Another sighting was made the same night at the foot of a mountain near Marion, Va. This UFO had sparks flying from it, and was heard to explode with a "cracking sound." A few seconds later, something rose up from the explosion and headed toward Marion. A small fire resulting from the explosion was put out by forestry officials, but apparently no physical evidence was found. At Wallops Station, Va., one of America's NASA rocket launching facilities, a NASA engineer and others observed a UFO on January 5th, at 6 p.m. The engineer, named Dempsey Burton, described it as a bright object shooting up from the southwestern horizon. It appeared about one fourth the size of the moon; was yellowish-orange in color; and traveled from the horizon to directly overhead in just a few seconds. Burton added that the mysterious object looked "like an oversized comet without a tail." The Air Force is investigating the incident as well as another previously unpublished UFO sighting which took place at Wallops Station back in October of 1964.

Finally, we have a report from Staunton - scene of several previous UFO incidents - which tells of a group of seven teenagers who saw and later photographed little men from outer space. This story has all the earmarks of a hoax to us, but we give it to you for what it is worth: Steven Houffer, 16, was driving on U.S. Route 250 with several friends when he saw a suspicious-looking man near the side of the road. He stopped the car and chased the individual until the man was joined by two others, all about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in stature. They were allegedly wearing one-piece, skin-tight garmets that were silver in color. Later Houffer went to a nearby barn with a photographer, where a color picture of one little man was taken. Just how they knew the creature was in the barn is not clear, nor had the picture been developed at last report.

SAUCER FLAP IN ALASKA: On the night of January 27th, dozens of residents of Anchorage, Alaska, contacted local police and newspapers in concern over a multicolored flickering UFO which hovered near the city. Dr. William C. Langworthy, assistant professor of chemistry at Alaska Methodist University, trained a 100-power telescope on the object and concluded that it was "odder than anything I've seen before." The professor stated that although smaller than Jupiter in apparent size, the unknown object cast off more light than does that planet. Whatever the object was, it apparently stayed beyond the range of our radar, according to an Air Force spokesman, who said the incident was under investigation.

Many other sightings were made the previous night, including one by Mrs. Ed Ray of Anchorage. She was sitting in her living room with the family when she saw an extremely bright light "with the intensity of an arc light" shining through one of the house's large windows. The frightening event was accompanied by a buzzing sound, which turned into an explosion a few seconds later. The whole family observed that the light was coming down through the trees from above, and for a few moments, just before the explosion, it shined into the living room with blinding intensity.

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These Newsletters are non-scheduled, and are issued only as often as worthwhile material is available. The present one is intended as a supplement to SAUCER NEWS #59, dated March, 1965.

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