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NEWSLETTER #8 - CONFIDENTIAL

In the April-May issue of SAUCER NEWS (Page 18), we commented briefly on George Williamson's extraordinary luck while on a series of lectures in Southern California last winter: Flying saucers were seen immediately after at least four of these lectures, according to the newspaper account on which we based our comments. Now it appears from a recent issue of Max Miller's "Saucers" Magazine (P. O. Box 35034, Los Angeles) that these sightings were nothing more than hoaxes. Miller states: "An unfortunate series of childish hoaxes was perpetrated at a number of flying saucer lectures in the Southern California area last December through January. Unknown to the lecturer himself (sic), two local aviation engineers used approximately this modus operandi: One would attend the lectures equipped with a miniature radio transmitter. At the conclusion of the talk, this engineer would contact his accomplice who would be located a block or two away. This engineer would then release a helium or hydrogen filled balloon with one or more red emergency flares affixed thereto. As the crowds left the meetings, these dangling and mysterious blobs of weaving lights would immediately attract attention, whereupon engineer #1 would circulate among the group recording astonished comments on a concealed wire recorder." - It seems that some people will do almost anything for publicity!

Which brings us directly to our next topic: APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization) of Alamogordo, New Mexico, has just made the claim that they have obtained physical proof that flying saucers are from another planet. It is known, incidentally, that APRO is badly in need of funds and new members, and this new claim smells very much like a publicity stunt to us. We hereby repeat our offer, first made over two years ago, of \$1,000 in cash to anyone who can produce irrefutable physical proof of space visitations. Although as of this writing APRO has not yet stated what their "proof" consists of, we are hereby calling their bluff, and offering in advance to give them our reward, if their new evidence really amounts to proof - which we of course seriously doubt.

Special "inside information" from sources we are not at liberty to name gives us the following two items of interest to all saucer fans: First, Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York has completed an investigation of George Adamski's infamous State Department letter (allegedly from R.E. Straith of the Cultural Exchange Committee) and compared it with two other hoax letters that were also sent out in December of last year. CSI has reached the conclusion that these letters, and possibly others as well, match up with a typewriter in the possession of a well-known saucer researcher living in Clarksburg, West Virginia. These facts, with details, will be made public in the next CSI Newsletter. - Finally, we are reliably informed that Washington D.C.'s NICAP will fold up before the end of this year. Lack of funds and public apathy are said to be the main reasons that Major Keyhoe will give up his two-year struggle at the helm of NICAP. Refunds will be given to all members, if possible.