

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA

1536 Connecticut Avenue N. W.

No. 7-9434 Washington 6, D. C.

Read FEB 1, 1966

REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT(S)

This form includes questions asked by the United States Air Force and by other Armed Forces investigating agencies, and additional questions to which answers are needed for full evaluation by NICAP.

After all the information has been fully studied, the conclusion of our Evaluation Panel will be published by NICAP in its regularly issued magazine or in another publication. Please try to answer as many questions as possible. Should you need additional room, please use another sheet of paper. Please print or typewrite. Your assistance is of great value and is genuinely appreciated. Thank you.

1. Name Lenora E. Lindberg (Mrs. Hilmer) Place of Employment Housewife

Address Battle Lake, Minn 56515 RR#2 Occupation Home Making Education Eight Grade
Special Training Telephone 826-2097-Underwood Military Service

2. Date of Observation Oct. 23 - 1965 Time 9:30 AM PM Time Zone Central.

3. Locality of Observation Southern Horizon

4. How long did you see the object? Hours Minutes 1 1/2 Seconds

5. Please describe weather conditions and the type of sky; i.e., bright daylight, nighttime, dusk, etc. Clear Calm

6. Position of the Sun or Moon in relation to the object and to you.

7. If seen at night, twilight, or dawn, were the stars or moon visible? yes

8. Were there more than one object? No If so, please tell how many, and draw a sketch of what you saw, indicating direction of movement, if any.

9. Please describe the object(s) in detail. For instance, did It (they) appear solid, or only as a source of light; was it revolving, etc? Please use additional sheets of paper, if necessary.

10. Was the object(s) brighter than the background of the sky? yes

11. If so, compare the brightness with the Sun, Moon, headlights, etc.

Color of moon but could look at it without dark glasses

12. Did the object –

a. Appear to stand still at any time? No

b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? No it was moving

c. Break up into parts or explode? No

d. Give off smoke? No

Appeared in South went W. N. W.

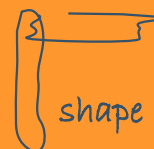
e. Leave any visible trail? No

f. Drop anything? No


g. Change brightness? No it sort of changed brightness

h. Change shape? No

i. Change color? No



13. Did the object(s) at any time pass in front of, or behind of, anything? If so, please elaborate giving distance, size, etc, if possible. behind trees

14. Was there any wind? If so, please give direction and speed.
15. Did you observe the object(s) through an optical instrument or other aid, windshield, windowpane, storm window, screening, etc? *First through window pane, then from outside*
16. Did the object(s) have any sound? *yes* What kind? *Hissing* How loud? *Medium Low*
17. Please tell if the object(s) was (were) –
- a. Fuzzy or blurred.
 - b. Like a bright star.
 - c. *Sharply outlined. All Aiglow*
18. Was the object
- a. *Self-luminous? yes*
 - b. Dull finish?
 - c. Reflecting?
 - d. Transparent?
19. Did the object(s) rise or fall while in motion?
20. Tell the apparent size of the object(s) when compared with the following held at arm's length:
- | | | |
|------------|------------------|---|
| a. Pinhead | d. Nickel | g. Orange |
| b. Pea | e. Half dollar | h. Grapefruit |
| | |  |
| c. Dime | f. Silver dollar | i. Larger |
- Or, if easier, give apparent size in inches on a ruler held at arm's length
- 25 feet long*
21. How did you happen to notice the object(s)? *Glanced out window while sitting in living room*
22. Where were you and what were you doing at the time? *Watching T. V.*
23. How did the object(s) disappear from view? *Went over Deer Lake and disappeared*
Children were afraid so we sent inside before it completely disappeared
24. Compare the speed of the object(s) with a piston or jet aircraft at the same apparent altitude. *Much slower ~~gt.~~ Noise -*
25. Were there any conventional aircraft in the location at the time or immediately afterward-s? If so, please elaborate. *No*
26. Please estimate the distance of the object(s). *Appeared about 30ft above trees*
27. What was the elevation of the object(s) in the sky? Please mark on this hemisphere sketch:
- Just about 30ft above trees tops*
28. Names and addresses of other witnesses, if any.
- My husband and 2 children*
29. Please draw a map of the locality of the observation showing North; your position; the direction from which the object(s) appeared and disappeared from view; the direction of Its course over the area; roads, towns, villages, railroads, and other landmarks within a mile.
- No important roads or railroads in locality*
30. Is there an airport, military, governmental, or research installation in the area? *No*
31. Have you seen other objects of an unidentified nature? If so, please describe these observations, using a separate sheet of paper. *No*

32. Please enclose photographs, motion pictures, news clippings, notes of radio or television programs (include time, station and date, if possible) regarding this or similar observations, or any other background material. We will return the material to you.

33. Were you interrogated by Air Force investigators? By any other federal, state, county, or local officials? If so, please state the name and rank or title of the agent, his office, and details as to where and when the questioning took place. *No*

Were you asked or told not to reveal or discuss the incident? If so, were any reasons or official orders mentioned? Please elaborate carefully. *No*

34. We should like permission to quote your name in connection with this report. This action will encourage other responsible citizens to report similar observations to NICAP. However, If you prefer, we will keep your name confidential. Please note your choice by checking the proper statement below. In any case, please fill in all parts of the form, for our own confidential files. Thank you for your cooperation.

You may use my name. ☒ (X)

Please keep my name confidential. ☐ ()

35. Date of filling out this report: *Feb, 8 - 1966* Signature: *Lenor E. Lindberg (Hilmer)*

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RECEIVED OCT 26, 1965

Ree Heights, S. Dak. Oct. 25, 1965

Nat'l Investigating Committee Aerial Phenomenon
1536 Connecticut Ave. N. W. Washington, D. C.

Att: Mrs. June Larson, Chairman



Dear Mrs. Larson:

While listening to our favorite morning news broadcast this morning over station WNAX, Yankton, S. Dak., my husband and I heard another interesting account of a sighting of an unidentified flying object near Long Prairie, Minn, last night.

Jim Townsend, 23, a radio sports announcer, was reported to be driving from Little Falls, Minn., to Long Prairie, Minn., when upon rounding a curve in a hilly, wooded area of the highway, his motor suddenly stopped, although his headlights remained on.

He got out to investigate, then noticed a rocket-shaped vehicle on the highway in front of him, which he described as being about six feet in diameter, and about 30 feet high. He said three small "beings" about six inches tall came around into view, stayed there a short time, then went to the bottom of the rocket and got in, then the ship, making a terrific noise, took off.

After the ship was a ways off the ground, his motor started running again, he claimed without his having to use the starter. He then went on into town, and brought the sheriff out to investigate the area, where they found a few oil spots, which didn't seem ordinary, but nothing else.

We heard a tape-recorded account of this around noon today, over the same radio station. He said at that time that he had received several calls from people in the area who had also seen this, also from a man and his wife who had had a similar experience about a month before, but kept quiet, fearing ridicule.

I thought you might like to look into this, though I'm sure you have people in that area who would inform you of this sighting. Our newspapers printed virtually nothing on the numerous sightings in the WNAX area around August 3, where again We heard quite a bit about them over the radio. There was mention in our local daily, the Huron Dally Plainsman, about Minnesota sightings at that time, but never a line about the southeast state sightings, reported by radio to have been seen by hundreds.

I've always been tremendously interested in UFO's since reading Donald Keyhoe's book, and also one of Ruppelt's. The suppression of news reports on these really irks me.

I think Jim Townsend's address was given as Long Prairie.

Yours truly

Mrs. Wayne McGee

OCTOBER 25, 1965 INCIDENT IN THE PRESS

1

DAYTON JOURNAL

date: Monday, October 25, 1965

UFO Is Sighted

By 2 Hunters

ALEXANDER CITY, Ala. - (UPI) - A pair of dove hunters said yesterday they saw a tubular silver-colored object move silently across the sky Saturday.

Jack Osborn and his son, Ozzie, said the unidentified flying object appeared to be moving as fast, or faster, than a jet aircraft.

"We both agreed it was a tubular-shaped object slightly larger at the bottom than at the top and had a rocking motion in its flight, moving left to right, up and down," the elder Osborne said."

It seemed to have an antenna projecting downward from the base of the craft. It was so high that clouds would temporarily block our view,» the son said.

[illegible]

2

ST. CLOUD DAILY TIMES

date: Monday, October 25, 1965

UFO SEEN IN AREA

Not Real? - Who's Going To Ask?

Three Sauk Rapids persons reported seeing an unidentified flying object (UFO) about 9:15 p.m. Saturday as they were returning home from Milaca. They were traveling southwest near the Popple Creek Store when they sighted the UFO.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bystrom, 200 Second avenue north, Sauk Rapids, passengers in a car driven by her father, John Lepinski, 609 Second avenue north, all reported seeing the object.

"It appeared as a bright light, shaded from orange to white in color," Bystrom said today. "We couldn't distinguish a shape, just a bright light."

“At first we thought it was the landing lights on an air plane, but it was too low for an airplane. As we watched it sometimes the trees got in the way,” Bystrom said, explaining how low the UFO was.

"It was moving from north east to southwest and we watched it for about five minutes before it just disappeared," Bysrom said.

* * *

A Gilman area resident and his wife said they observed an object in the sky for several minutes Saturday night while they were going towards Milaca about 10 p.m.

"I wasn't concerned," he said, because there are so many of these satellites crossing the sky, but these lights were unusual because of the colors, which were mostly red and gold. They resembled revolving lights."

* * *

The reports here followed a report from a Long Prairie, Minn., radio announcer who reported he saw an unidentified flying object and three little creatures on a highway near there Saturday night as he was on his way to work.

BRAINERD DAILY DISPATCH (Minn.)

Date: Tuesday, February 1, 1966

Each had three legs, were about size of water glass

**Long Prairie Man Tells Kiwanians
Of Seeing 'Little Figures' On Road**

By Les Sellnow

Members of the Brainerd Kiwanis club listened soberly yesterday as a Long Prairie radio disc jockey told them how he had seen a rocket ship and some little figures on Highway 27 about four miles east of Long Prairie last October.

The speaker was Jim Townsend and he was one of four panelists who presented the second in a series of three programs on unidentified flying objects.

The other panel members were Leonard Loken and his son, Jim, who were in the same area as Townsend on the same night and who saw a bright light moving across the area at a low level, and Kent Johnson, Jr., Brainerd, who saw a similar light near Brainerd at about the same time. Townsend said the incident happened on the pitch black night of Oct. 23, 1965. He said he was traveling from Little Falls to Long Prairie on the narrow, winding Highway 27 when he rounded a curve and saw what appeared to be a rocket standing upright in the middle of the road.

At the same time, Townsend said, his car stopped running, the headlights went off and the radio stopped playing. He said, the car coasted to within about 20 feet of the rocket before he braked it to a stop.

Townsend said that he got out of the car to examine the ship – which he estimated to be 40 feet high and about 10 feet in diameter. Just as he got to the front of his car, he went on, three little figures appeared from behind the ship.

They were about the size of a water glass he said, and had three legs. However, he said, he could see no features such as eyes or ears.

Townsend said that at this point he lost all interest in going closer to the ship and just stood and looked. He said the three figures then walked beneath the ship – which was resting on three fins – and moments later it took off.

He said that a bright light came on beneath the ship and there was a loud hum and then it lifted off the ground. After rising about a half mile into the air, he said, the light suddenly went out and there was absolute silence. Then, Townsend said, he realized that his car motor was running again, the headlights were on and the radio was again playing.

Townsend said that he reported the incident to the Todd County sheriff and the two of them and another officer went back out to the spot.

He said they found three oil like strips on the tarvia unlike anything else on the road. Townsend said that he has been suffering some ridicule and abuse in Long Prairie since telling his story, but that more and more persons are believing him. He said he does not drink and that he saw the ship and the little figures shortly after 7 p.m. Leading credence to the story was Leonard Loken who lives in the same general area. Loken said that he and his son, Jim, were out hunting raccoon with dogs on the same night

When the dogs hit the trail of a raccoon, Loken said, he told his son to go back to the road and move the pick-up to another spot while he followed the dogs through the cornfield. Suddenly, he said, there was a bright light shining on him and he thought it was a game warden with a spotlight on the

The announcer's 1956 car skidded to a halt 20 feet in front of the craft. The motor, lights and radio of his car all quit at the same time. However, the scene remained illuminated by a bright light which emanated from the bottom of the rocket.

"The thought suddenly struck me that I should knock the ship over for evidence," Mr. Townsend said.

He attempted to restart his car but the motor would not turn over. Although the rocket looked like stainless steel and stood 30 or 40 feet high, looming above the road side trees, it's relatively small diameter, possibly 10 feet, suggested to Townsend that he might upset the craft by hand. Impulsively, he jumped out of the car to try.

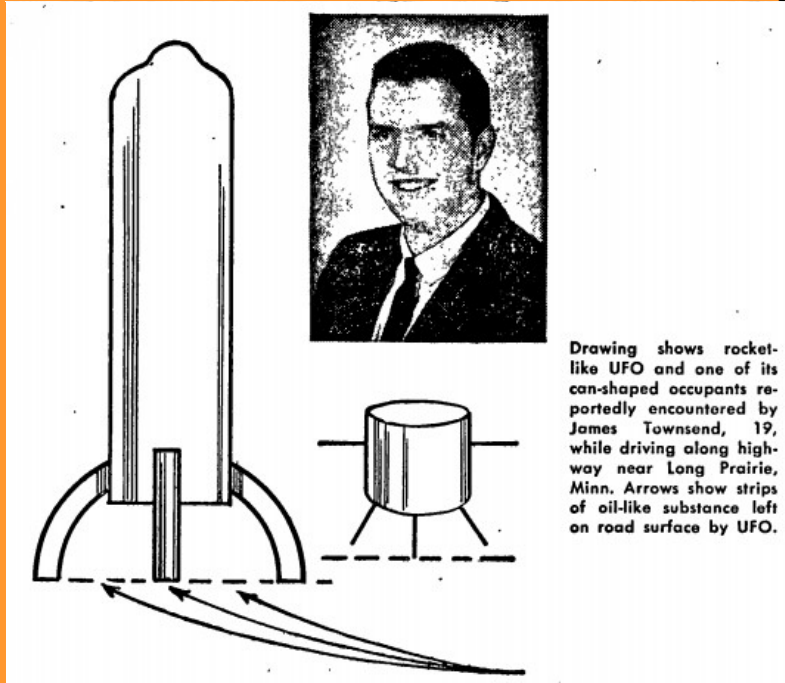
As he cautiously approached the deserted ship, he noticed two things. The surface bore neither markings nor opening. The nose of the rocket tapered peculiarly.

"It resembled the top of a ball point pen – the kind you trigger from the top," He said.

Suddenly, Townsend's way was blocked by three incredible objects. "They may have been robots," he says, "but they acted like creatures."

They were the size of 303 cans, without features, brownish black in color, with "limbs" as thick as pencils or matchsticks. They probably came from behind the ship and appeared to be defending it.

"I can't explain it because they didn't have eyes but they were looking right at me," Townsend says. "It seemed like forever that we stared at each other in dead silence. Then, I got scared and started



back towards the car."

The things "scurried" into the light under the rocket. The light built up and a humming noise developed that hurt Mr. Townsend's ear drums. The ship resembled a glowing flashlight as it took off, lighting up the area "as bright as day." When it was airborne the light in the bottom shut off.

Now a remarkable thing happened to Townsend's car. Not only did the radio and lights come back on by themselves, the motor started itself. Upon examining his car (which has an automatic transmission) the announcer found that he had left the stick in *Park* and the ignition key *On* when he had unsuccessfully tried to restart his car earlier.

"I never touched the starter. I'm absolutely sure of that," Mr. Townsend said.

Townsend floorboarded it back to Long Prairie.

"I almost flew into town," he said. "My heart was pounding and my legs were rubber."

He went directly to the sheriff's office, arriving there at approximately 7:30 P.M. Todd county sheriff James Bain verifies Townsend's description of himself upon arrival.

"The boy was very excited, nervous and shaky," the sheriff said.

Police Officer Luverne Lubitz of Long Prairie was present, also. The officer reports that Mr. Townsend was "nervous and scared; he was not his natural color."

Townsend says the first thing he said to the men was: "I am not crazy nor am I drunk; neither am I ignorant."

The officials agree. The sheriff considers the announcer "reliable and level headed;" the officer knows him as a "hard working, well behaved boy who never drinks."

The officials drove Townsend back to the spot of the sighting. "Townsend went reluctantly," Officer Lubitz said. "He was scared but he went back."

While the three men were on the spot, they simultaneously observed a distant, strange "orange" light. Officer Lubitz describes it as northerly, "more yellow-white than orange, flicking off and on and leaving a sort of yellow tail."

On the ground, the men discovered three strips of a substance like oil. The markings were three feet long by four inches wide, parallel to the black top road. Officer Lubitz says he never before saw anything like them.

Both officers took Townsend's report seriously.

* * *

WHEN THE STORY hit the wires, reaction ranged from praise to ridicule. Although Townsend was attacked by some people, others defended him; his story was presented in a straight forward manner by several news media.

Many Minnesotans were in no hurry to discount the story without examining it. UFO sightings were numerous in that state all fall, especially during August. The Minneapolis Star reported on the night of August 2, 1965, "nearly every one of more than 50 (local) police and sheriff squad cars on the road between 12:20 and 2:30 A.M. called in to report seeing (unexplained) objects." One officer reported to the dispatcher that he hoped no one would think he was "nuts," but he had "just been passed by a star".

This was the same night that eight other states reported UFO's complete with radar sightings. Near Justin and Ponder, Texas residents claimed a flying saucer had landed.

Regarding Townsend's experience, the St. Paul Pioneer Press (which is rapidly gaining a local reputation among UFO buffs for fairness on the subject) printed a meticulously accurate interview with the principals involved. On television, the "Late Don Dahl Show" permitted Mr. Townsend to tell his story with dignity and seriousness. Not all media and individuals were so kind.

Someone described the three robots or creatures as the size of beer cans and the joke was on. Crank mail arrived. In person and by letter, Townsend was accused of drinking or lying. Television announcers smiled knowingly as they read the description of the unusual objects. A letter to the editor in a Minneapolis newspaper advised Townsend to go to Hollywood where he could best use his ability to make up a story. Most media garbled the story. One newspaper claimed Townsend had been "studying a lengthy article on the UFO's in a current issue of a national magazine" on the day of the sighting. (Townsend says he read the article when people referred him to it after his experience.) The obvious implication had been made.

Mr. Townsend was not amused. He is six foot four, well built, and not used to being the butt of jokes. He has religious convictions against drinking; he was a counselor last summer in a Bible camp. One week after the sighting, he refused any more interviews.

"I am sorry I ever reported the incident," he said. He permitted himself to be interviewed for Fate only after being persuaded that his story would be presented accurately.

Independent of Townsend, men were asking questions and rallying to his support. A reporter from as far away as San Francisco interviewed him seriously by telephone; two other reporters tried

unsuccessfully to buy Townsend's life story. A local businessman sent Townsend NICAP's 10 photographs of UFO's to show him that he was not alone in seeing unusual things. An aerial research group (believed to be NICAP) contacted Townsend to arrange an investigation. The same edition of the newspaper carrying the Hollywood letter printed an other next to it accusing the air force of covering up on UFO's.

Among the men who took Mr. Townsend seriously was Frank Blessing, 1707 East 31st St., Minneapolis, a businessman. On the night of October 23, Blessing's 14- year-old son Ray was studying the stars with his 200-power, three-inch reflector-type telescope.. Ray, a ninth grader at Fowell Junior High, is active in CAP and interested in astronomy.

At 7:00 P.M., 15 minutes before Townsend's experience, Ray saw a "Buck Rogers like thing" pass in front of his telescope. He studied it carefully as it slowly crossed -the sky from northwest to southeast and disappeared behind some trees. The object resembled an inverted sombrero with an unusually wide brim and a deeply rounded crown. It appeared to be illuminated from within by a white light, had hard lines and was bigger than any star.

The boy immediately reported the sighting to his parents who did nothing about it until Townsend's story came out.

"When I heard Townsend on TV willing to tell about his experience, I told Ray to call the station and report his sighting," Mr. Blessing said. "I figured we had an obligation to back up anyone with Townsend's courage."

In Long Prairie, Mr. Townsend was not alone in having seen some thing unusual. Sheriff Bain report ed that three boys who were coon hunting in the area saw a strange light in the sky at the time Townsend claimed the rocket ship took off. Several people told Lubitz that "they have seen strange things around here" but they do not want their names made public.

"I know what I saw and I know it was real," Townsend says. "I am telling the truth."

The two officials closest to Townsend immediately after the alleged sighting agree. A week after the incident, both Sheriff Bain and Officer Lubitz stick to their original convictions and each man says flatly and repeatedly, "I believe him."

[illegible]

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW yr 12 # 3

Date: issue month of May/June, 1966

The Greatest Flap Yet?— Part III

By Jerome Clark

IN the first two parts of this account of the UFO events which Hooded North America during the late summer months of 1965, I surveyed the scene to the end of August. Before we examine the incidents of September and October, I would like to remind readers that I am citing only those cases which I feel are of outstanding importance, having ignored numerous mundane reports – including my own humble sighting.

The case of Deputy Goode

Within 24 hours of each other were to occur the two most startling single encounters of the flap. The first, the Exeter, New Hampshire, incident, has already been described in these pages. The second, taking place halfway across the country, actually eclipses its counterpart both in detail and in implication. In fact, if it is what it appears to be, it could well be one of the most significant UFO cases on record.

Early in the evening of September 3, Patrol Deputy Robert Goode of the Brazoria County, Texas, Sheriff's Department was helping his son move an alligator when the animal bit him on the left index finger. The wound, quite painful, swelled rapidly and bled freely. It was still bothering Goode when later he went on duty with Chief Deputy Billy McCoy.

The night was apparently a quiet one, and the two officers drove undisturbed down Highway 36 south of Damon. Suddenly, shortly after mid night, they sighted a huge craft—about 200 feet long and 50 feet thick in the middle, tapering off toward the ends—hovering silently in the sky. The UFO carried a purple light on its left side and a blue light on its right. Watching through binoculars, Goode and McCoy were horrified to see the object was moving toward them at a not inconsiderable speed. Panicking, they fled, but not before the saucer and flashed a brilliant light on the car. When its beams fell on Goode's left arm, which hung out the window, the officer felt a "warm" sensation. This only added to their excitement, and the two raced back to Damon at over 100 miles an hour.

Not too long afterwards, Goode and McCoy decided to return. When they did, the UFO made as if to approach them again, and they left once again at a comparable speed. They did not come back for a third time. But, even though they did not see the saucer again, the story was far from over. Goode was to notice, shortly after the first encounter, that his finger was no longer bleeding or swelling. The pain was gone, and the wound was curing unnaturally fast—all this on the arm that had been exposed to the UFO's rays.

Strange as all this was, the oddest part of all did not come until slightly later. Two strangers appeared at the Sheriff's Office looking for Deputy Goode, who was not in. When they found him at a West Columbia area restaurant, they immediately began to describe in detail how the UFO looked—even before Goode had an opportunity to tell them. The ship, they continued, operated on magnetic rays. They suggested that in the future, should he encounter a similar machine, he should co-operate with its occupants and keep to himself any conversation that might ensue.

Major Laurence R. Leach, Jr., of Ellington Air Force Base, investigated the affair. "Both officers appeared to be intelligent, mature, level headed and capable of sound judgment and reasoning. Chief Deputy Sheriff McCoy holds a responsible position in the department requiring the supervision of over 42 personnel." He admitted that he had no explanation for the incident.

Mexican cases

While sightings in the United States slackened off during the last three weeks of September, they increased spectacularly in neighboring Mexico. The writer has not been able to obtain many details of this visitation, but the few newspaper accounts available describe rather generally a spate of rumors involving alleged landings and contacts—many of them frankly dubious. Others seem to merit more serious consideration. Among them is a report made by four men who saw a UFO flashing lights near Tijuana on the U.S.-Mexican border, and on impulse signalled back with a flash light. When the UFO began moving toward them, they ran away. Another group of people claimed to have seen a living saucer land near the national Polytechnic Institute in Mexico City, and news papers later carried pictures of rocks supposedly scorched by the UFO's exhaust.

Shots at Rio Vista

Two Rio Vista, California, boys fired on a UFO on September 21. About 8.30 p.m., said Danny Bland, 18, "I was down on Riverview Road when it appeared and I ran home and then called my chum, Tom Springs. I grabbed a 22 rifle and Tom took a 22 pistol. It was then about 260 feet off the ground and moving toward the mesa of the city. The brilliance changed to a kind of smoggy red, and we were scared. Both of us fired several shots at it. It became brighter when the bullets struck. We knew we had hit it because the object gave off a metallic ring. The light flooded our car just as if the sun was shining."

The next night several hundred residents of Rio Vista waited near a water tower five miles from town where the object had allegedly appeared on a number of occasions. It did not disappoint its audience, passing silently over the area in full view of everyone.

Unusual "Ufonaut" reports

Sightings continued to decline during October as the flap, if not really dying, was becoming less intense. Yet those incidents that were recorded—the three of any significance—were among the most interesting of the entire wave.

October 4, Rio Vista, California. During the evening Mrs. Betty Valine was sitting outside with her 12-year-old son Robbie when they sighted a large plate-shaped machine with a dome on top. Inside this dome stood three "people", plainly visible.

October 13, Minto, North Dakota. Two 15-yearold high school girls, Marg Gudajtes and Judy Norlock, watched a huge UFO land in a park on the edge of town, and later described it as a metallic oval, with bluish lights. It was still there when they left but had gone when they returned with help. All that remained of the visitation was an oval ring of crushed grass.

October 23, Long Prairie, Minnesota. In one of the most unusual ufonaut encounter reports of recent years, a 19-year-old radio announcer named James Townsend was driving down Highway 27 near Long Prairie—the time was 7.15 p.m.—when, as he rounded a curve, "all of a sudden my engine stopped, my lights went out and my radio stopped playing. I let the car coast and then I put on the brakes because I saw this thing in the center of the highway.

"It was like a rocket ship. It was about 30 feet tall and about 10 feet in diameter. It was sitting on fins. Then I saw them. They were standing in a big circle of light under the ship.

"I jumped out of my car and was going to try to knock one over but then they came at me. They came right up to the car. There were three of them."

"They 'looked like 303 cans'. They had no eyes or anything. Just those tripod legs and those matchstick arms", extending from their bottoms and sides. Their color was a kind of brownishblack. Townsend thought they had come from behind the because he had not seen them step out of it.

"They may have been robots", he told Clarke John Jansen of *Fate magazine*, "but they acted like creatures".

"I can't explain it because they didn't have eyes", he went on, "but they were looking right at me". For some moments Townsend and the beings "stared" at each other, the witness becoming increasingly frightened;" then they turned around and scooted under the ship. The light was so bright I didn't see where they went.

"Then there was a high-pitched humming sound and the ship took off straight up. It went up about a quarter of a mile, stopped for a moment and then disappeared. After it left, my lights on the car came back on and the engine started running. And I didn't touch it, either. I just can't explain that. Then I heard my radio playing again.

"I got out of there fast"

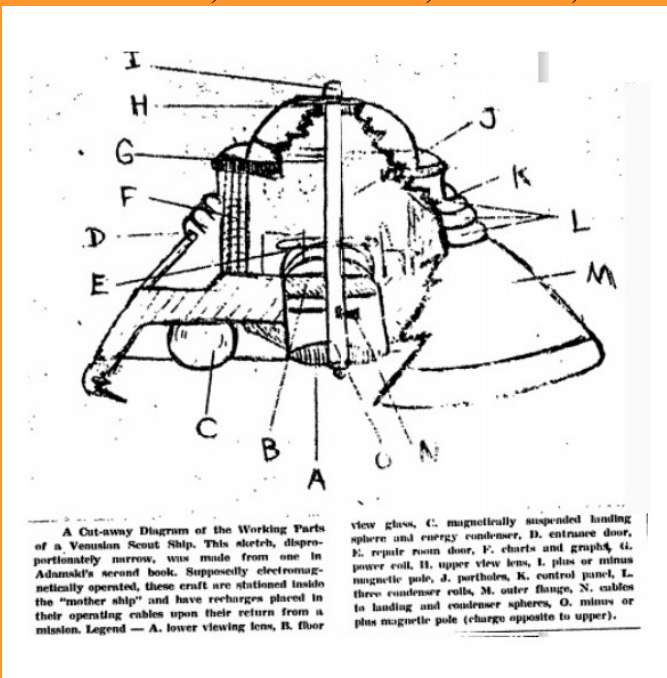
Townsend immediately reported the incident to Todd County Sheriff James Bain and Long Prairie policeman Luverne Lubitz, whom he assured he was not "crazy, drunk, or ignorant". He was obviously shaken, according to Lubitz, who knew him as "reliable and level-headed"—a hardworking, well behaved boy who never drinks". (Townsend, who the summer before had served as a counselor at a Bible camp, has religious convictions against drinking).

The officers drove Townsend back to the scene of the purported landing, even though the young man, still badly frightened, seemed reluctant. Once there, the men looked up and to their amazement sighted a strange yellow light moving across the sky.

Although one newspaper announced contemptuously that "they couldn't find any trace of the 'space visitor'," such was not the case. On the ground the officers and Townsend discovered three strips, three feet long by four inches wide, composed of an oil-like material. It was like nothing they had ever seen before, said officer Lubitz. The two men were convinced that Townsend was telling the truth.

Two other sightings in the area the night of the 23rd added credibility to the tale. Over Minneapolis, at 7.00 p.m.—15 minutes before Townsend's experience—a 14-year-old boy, Ray

George Adamski George Adamski, of Palomar Gardens, Mount Palomar, California, owned a restaurant at the base of the mount. He was a flying saucer enthusiast and experimented in attempts to photograph these mysterious objects. On November 20, 1952, he claims to have met the pilot of One of these saucers which landed in the Arizona desert Adamski was urged to the spot beforehand by mental telepathy. The pilot, with the build and features similar to an Earthling, claimed he came from the planet Venus. In his first book, "Flying Saucers Have Landed", which Adamski wrote in conjunction with Desmond Leslie, the clothing, mannerisms, and communication methods are described. The flying saucer, a scout ship, took away one of his photographic plates and re turned it on December 18. The original impression had been removed and replaced with a diagram



and some "hieroglyphics" which purported to tell how the ships operate. Adamski had offered a \$10,000 prize to anyone who could decipher the message. A woman, watching Adamski's contact through binoculars, later drew a sketch of the Venusian. Strange sandal prints were found at the spot and made into casts. They show more hieroglyphic-type markings. In his second book, "Inside the Space Ships", Adamski tells of people from other planets, Saturn, Mars, etc., and being taken in the scout ship to a "mother ship" which was orbiting the Earth. (A photo of a mother ship with its scouts being launched was printed in last week's Argus series). The author tells of the foods eaten, the liquids drunk, and many details of the crafts interior. (There is a copy of a sketch of such a ship printed along with this section.) On the "mother ship" Adamski met a Master, who explained why the saucers were observing Earth and who interpreted some cosmology.

At a later date another scout ship took him to a large craft shaped like a mother ship, which was a huge traveling space laboratory. A typical mother ship is cigar-shaped, about 2,000 feet long, 150 feet in diameter, and carries a compliment of usually over 100 persons. The crew of the lab ship contained both men and women who were what we would call "advanced scientists".

Adamski had been on several television programs, radio shows, and special lecture tours. His photographs have been well published, and, so far as I know, no one has been able to prove they are faked. I have a personal letter from him in which he tells of being taken around the moon in a scout ship, and to have seen cities there through the wonderful optic viewer in the bottom center of the ship.

I, personally, will be most happy when one of the Earth's space programs puts explorers on the moon's surface and they deny or verify some of the astounding claims made by this unique author.

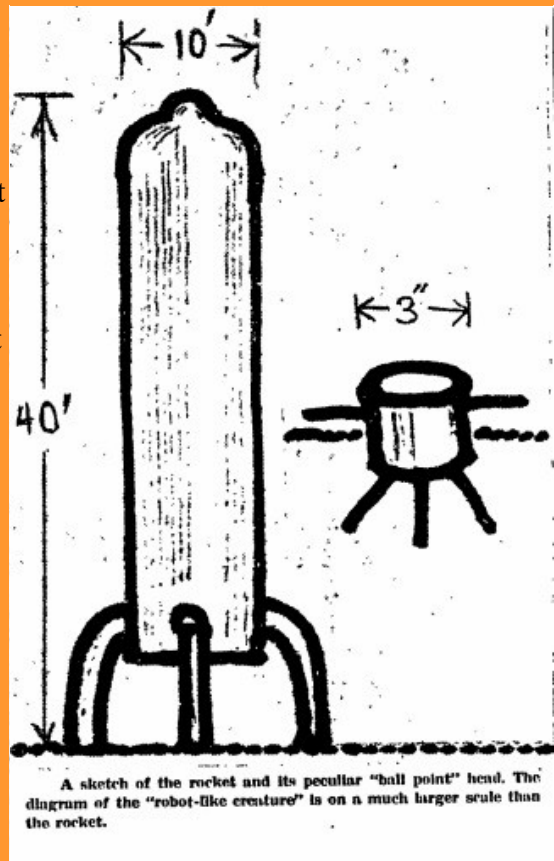
George Adamski died recently. His final book was "Flying Saucers Farewell".

James Townsend

At 7:15 p.m. on October 23, 1965, James Townsend, 19-year-old announcer for radio station KEYL of Long Prairie, Minnesota, about 120 miles NW of Minneapolis, was driving west on Highway 27 about 4 miles east of Long Prairie when he rounded a curve. He slammed on his brakes to avoid hitting a rocket-like object in the road. It was about 30-40 feet high and 10 feet in diameter. The motor, lights, and radio of his car had suddenly quit. The scene was brightly illuminated by a light coming from the bottom of the rocket. Townsend got out of the car, which had stopped about 20 feet from the object, with the idea he might push it over to hold as "possible evidence". He had tried unsuccessfully to restart his car to push with it. On his cautious approach, he noticed the ship had a peculiar nose-shape, no markings, and no opening. Suddenly his way was blocked by three incredible objects. "They may have been robots", he said, "but they acted like creatures". They were the size of No. 303 cans, (this is a 16 oz. size) without features, brownish black, and with two arms and three legs, all the size of pencils or matchsticks. He believed they came from behind the ship, and appeared to be defending it. He "felt" they were looking right at him, even though they had no apparent eyes. After staring at each other for some time, Townsend became frightened, and started back to his car. The things scurried under the light of the rocket. This light built up in intensity. A humming noise developed which hurt his ears. The ship resembled a glowing flashlight as it took off, lighting up the area as bright as day. The light in the bottom then shut off.

A remarkable thing now occurred to the car. The radio went on. The headlights flashed on. The car motor started itself. He raced breathlessly back to town to report his experience to the sheriff's office. Later in the month he went on TV and several radio shows recounting his experiences. Now, as frequently happens, the controversy started. Townsend was both attacked and defended. Sheriff Bain and Officer Lubitz claim, "I believe him". Someone made a joke about the "robots" as beer cans, which led to ridicule. He was accused in person and in letter, of drinking and lying. However, the police knew him as a level-headed, hard-working boy who never drinks. This last is against his religious convictions.

On the night of the sighting, the officers had driven him, reluctantly on his part, back to the scene. They simultaneously observed a distant orange, or yellow-orange light flickering on and off, and leaving a yellow tail. On the ground they discovered three strips of a substance like oil. The markings were three feet long by four inches wide, and parallel to the black-top road. Officer Lubitz said he had never seen anything like it before. With the ensuing publicity, other points now became known. On the night of August 2, nearly nil of fifty police and squad cars on the road from 12:20 to 2:30 a.m. reported that they saw unexplained objects. One officer hoped the dispatcher wouldn't think he was "nuts", but



he had "just been passed by a star". That same night eight other states reported visual and radar sightings. Texas residences reported a saucer had landed.

One week after his contact, James Townsend was so Irritated by the attitude of some of the people that he refused any more interviews. "I am sorry. I ever reported the incident" he said. A Minneapolis businessman said his 14-year-old junior high son was studying the stars with his 200X three Inch reflector telescope, when a "Buck Rogers like thing" passed through his viewing field. He studied it carefully as It crossed slowly from NE to SE until it disappeared behind some trees. It resembled an inverted sombrero with an extra wide brim. It seemed to be illuminated from within by a white light, had hard lines, and was bigger than any star. The lad had told his parents about it, but they said nothing until the Townsend story broke. The telescope sighting occurred about a quarter hour before the Townsend incident. Sheriff! Bain said three boys coon hunting that night in the contact area reported seeing a strange light in the sky at the time the rocket took off.

"I know what I saw, and I know it was real," Townsend says. "I am telling the truth". Retold from FATE, February 1960.

Alexander Hamilton Story

"The Farmers' Advocate" of Yates Center, Kansas, printed a strange account as related to Its reporter by Alexander Hamilton of Vernon, Kansas, in the April 23, 1897 issue. There had been a number of reports of "airship" sightings around that year. For example, two farm hands reported a conversation they had with the crew of an "airship" on April 15, 1897 at Springfield, Illinois. The initial sightings of the ship came from California in November and December of 1896.

Our Mr. Hamilton was a settler from the early days, a former member of the Legislature, and well known in surrounding counties. At 10:00 p.m. on the previous night he had been awakened by a noise in the cow pen. Thinking that perhaps his bulldog was loose, he arose and looked out the door amazed. A giant airship was descending over the cattle about 40 rods from the house. He called his tenant, Gid Heslip and his own son. They approached to within 50 yards of the ship which had gently descended to within 30 feet of the ground. It consisted of a great cigar-shaped portion estimated at 300 feet long with a carriage and underneath. The carriage had some transparent panels alternating with narrow strips of some other material. Everything within was visible from the brilliant lighting. There were three lights, one like an immense searchlight, and two smaller, one red and one green. The large one could be swiveled.

It was occupied by 6 of the strangest beings he ever saw. There were two men, a woman, and three children. They were jabbering together, but the Hamilton party could not understand anything. The opaque part of the vessel was a dark reddish color. A noise caused the inmates to shine the light on the mute and frightened watchers. A great 30 foot turbine wheel, which had been slowly revolving below the craft began to buzz like a cylinder separator, and the craft rose lightly. About 30 feet over them it paused over a 3 year old struggling heifer which was apparently caught in the fence, but was actually tangled in a reddish material rope from the craft. Being unsuccessful in loosening the half-inch cable, the Hamiltons cut it off (probably with the axes they had brought). They were amazed to see ship, cow, and all rise slowly and sail off into the northwest. Unable to sleep, he arose early the next morning and set out on horse back in search of his cow. That evening he found that Lank Thomas, who lived in Coffee County about 3 miles west of Le-Roy had found the hide, head, and legs in his field that day. Lank thought someone had stolen and butchered the beast, but was unable to find any tracks in the soft ground.

Hamilton continued with his story. "I went home last night, but every time I would drop to sleep, I would see the cursed thing with its big lights and hideous people. I don't know whether they were devils or angels, or what, but we all saw them, and my family saw the ship, and I don't want any more to do with them."

The paper included an affidavit signed by 11 prominent men who knew Mr. Hamilton, and testified as to his truthfulness. Needless to say there were many comments about the story. One paper published a short poem about It. The "Colony Free Press" of May 7, 1897 said, "The Free Press, having turned the 'Nocturnal Aerial visitor' over in its mind is now of the opinion that the airship is not of this world, but is probably operated by a party of scientists from the planet Mars, who are out, either on a lark, or a tour of inspection of the solar system in the cause of science."

Who said, "Many a truth is spoken in jest."?

I wonder if there is any similarity, or connection, between this incident and the Oliver Larch mystery, described in the Argus of February 24, 1966, page 6. column 3, "Enigma of Science," item 4? (Extracted from FATE)

- (Continued next week) -

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THE PRESS (St. Paul, Minn)
Date: Monday October 25, 1965

‘IT’S THE TRUTH ‘ **Radioman Meets Space ‘Creatures’**

By Donald J. Giese
Staff writer

Jokes about flying saucers must number in the thousands but the humor in them would be totally lost today on 19-year-old Long Prairie radio announcer James Townsend – he said he nearly ran one down.

Townsend said Sunday his meeting with a spaceship and three “creatures” took place about 7:15 p. m. Saturday on a blacktop road about four miles east of Long Prairie as he was driving his 1956 model car around a curve in the road.

The 1964 Anoka high school graduate and announcer for radio station KEYL said that he came around the curve he saw an upright, rocket-like object straddling the road.

It was about 30 or 40 feet high and about 10 feet in diameter “and seemed to be resting on legs or fins,” he said.

“My car engine, lights and radio went out and I slammed on my brakes,” Townsend said. “I stopped about 30 feet in front of it.

“My first thought was to knock it over with the car so I could have some evidence, but the car was dead. Then I got out with the idea of trying to push it over by hand.

“When I got to the front of my car three creatures that looked like individual tin cans on tripods, and were about six inches tall, came from behind the rocket.

“They didn’t have eyes that I could see but I knew they were looking at me. I stopped. I didn’t have any desire to get closer.

“There was no sound – just dead silence. It seemed like ages as we looked at each other.

“Then they went up into the rocket, which had a bright colorless light glowing out of the bottom. There was a loud hum. The rocket went up and disappeared.

“When the light on the bottom went out after it was in the air my car radio and lights came on – and my engine started without having to touch the starter.” Townsend said his car has an automatic transmission and he had placed the selector lever in “park.”

MINNEAPOLIS STAR (Minn.)

Date: Monday October 25, 1965

Space 'Things' Stop His Car Looked Like Cans, Youth Says

By Paul Presbrey

Staff Writer

LONG PRAIRIE, Minn. - "I was going to knock one over and try to grab it, but then I got scared."

That's why James Townsend, 19, radio announcer for radio station KEYL in Long Prairie, didn't bring back one of the "things" he says he encountered on a highway near here Saturday night.

Townsend said the creatures resembled tin cans, stood on tripod legs and had two "arms" about the size of matchsticks projecting from their sides. Three of the "things" were standing under a "rocket ship" when he first spotted them, Townsend said.

"It was about 7:15 p.m. and I was coming back from Little Falls on Hwy 27 when I rounded a bend," Townsend related Sunday.

"All of a sudden my engine stopped, my lights went out and my radio stopped playing. I let the car coast and then I put on the brakes because I saw this thing in the center of the highway."

"It was like a rocket ship. It was about 30 feet tall and about 10 feet in diameter. It was sitting on fins, then I saw them. They were standing in a big circle of light under the ship.

"I jumped out of my car and was going to try to knock one over but then they came at me. They came right up to the car. There were three of them.

"They had no eyes or anything. Just those tripod legs and those matchstick arms. They were like tin cans. The size of a beer can.

"I was going to try to grab one but then I figured that if they could stop my car and put out my lights they could do something awful to me. So we just stood there looking at each other and then they turned around and scooted under the ship. The light was so bright I didn't see where they went.

"Then there was a high pitched humming sound and the ship took off straight up. It went up about a quarter of a mile, stopped for a moment and then disappeared. After it left, my lights on the car came back on and the engine started running. And I didn't touch it, either. I just can't explain that. Then I heard my radio playing again.

**Townsend**

"I got out of there fast."

Townsend said Sunday his meeting with a spaceship and three “creatures” took place about 7:15 p. m. Saturday on a blacktop road about four miles east of Long Prairie as he was driving his 1956 model car around a curve in the road.

The 1964 Anoka high school graduate and announcer for radio station KEYL said that he came around the curve he saw an upright, rocket-like object straddling the road.

It was about 30 or 40 feet high and about 10 feet in diameter “and seemed to be resting on legs or fins,” he said.

“My car engine, lights and radio went out and I slammed on my brakes,” Townsend said. “I stopped about 30 feet in front of it.

“My first thought was to knock it over with the car so I could have some evidence, but the car was dead. Then I got out with the idea of trying to push it over by hand.

“When I got to the front of my car three creatures that looked like individual tin cans on tripods, and were about six inches tall, came from behind the rocket.

“They didn’t have eyes that I could see but I knew they were looking at me. I stopped. I didn’t have any desire to get closer.

“There was no sound – just dead silence. It seemed like ages as we looked at each other.

“Then they went up into the rocket, which had a bright colorless light glowing out of the bottom. There was a loud hum. The rocket went up and disappeared from my sight.

“When the light on the bottom went out after it was in the air my car radio and lights came on – and my engine started without having to touch the starter.” Townsend said his car has an automatic transmission and he had placed the selector lever in “park.”

Townsend, a non-drinker (“I don’t believe in it as a Christian”), said his heart was pounding and his legs “were like rubber.”

“I drove 90 miles an hour back to Long Prairie to report what I saw, but I wondered if people would believe me,” he said.

“I was sure of two things – the rocket (it towered above the trees along the road, he said) was a spaceship of some kind and the three objects that came out of it were creatures like nothing else in the animal world I have ever seen,” he said.

“They definitely were not people as I know them.”

Townsend said the rocket ship took off, looking “just like a flashlight that is turned on and then lifted up from the table with the light at the bottom.”

The regional air traffic control center at Farmington, Minn., reported it had no radar sightings of fast-moving objects Saturday night in the Long Prairie area, about 125 miles northwest of the Twin Cities. A center spokesman said, however, that not all low-flying objects would show up on its screens.

When Townsend arrived at the Todd county Sheriff’s office he was met by Sheriff Jim Bain and Long Prairie police officer Lavern Lubitz.

“The first thing I told them was that I was not crazy and not drunk,” he said, “and then I told them what I saw.”

Sheriff Bain said Sunday no concrete evidence was found at the spot where Townsend said he saw the rocket, but added that he knows Townsend to be “reliable and level-headed and I believe he told us the truth.”

Bain said Sunday that three youths who had been hunting coons in the same area reported seeing “a light in the sky” at the same time Townsend said the object took off.

Lubitz, who accompanied Bain and Townsend back to the scene of the reported encounter, said he also believes Townsend was reporting what he had seen.

“He was scared and nervous and when we asked him if he wanted to show us the spot he said ‘not if I don’t have to,’ but he went with us,” Lubitz said. “I know he didn’t want to but he did.”

Lubitz said Sunday he talked with “several people who have seen strange things around here but they don’t want their names mentioned.”

stared at them. Then they got into the object from underneath, apparently, and the object left, streaming white light from its underside and making a high-pitched sound which hurt Townsend's ears.

Three coon hunters in a nearby field who were returning after the hunt allegedly saw the object leave, and we have information that a salesman on the same road and a farm woman in a car also saw it – but when, we don't know yet. We have a Bearing Company executive on the trail of the witnesses and have already got out inquiries about Townsend's reputation. Townsend seems very cooperative and when I told him that we were submitting certain . cases to scientists for study and evaluation he said, "Hallelujah", and when asked if he was interested in UFOs or belonged to a club, he said he read about them in the papers, he had an open mind, but didn't know groups such as APRO even existed. I talked to him about 10 minutes via telephone.

I also talked to the Sheriff to whom Townsend reported the incident upon arriving in Long Prairie, and he was not too anxious to talk about it and seemed miffed that no one "official" had come around to look into the report. He did admit, however, that he went out to the site with Townsend and found "oil streaks" on the pavement, and he gave me one of the names of the coon hunters. He said he would talk to one of our investigators, however, so perhaps he was wary of talking too much on the phone. That's the gist of it. If everything turns out good, this may be one of our cases. I expect the tape on the Red Bluff incident shortly, and will send that transcript, plus the Angleton case plus the Gill (Mew Guinea) Case. If you have any suggestions, please pass them on and be assured that we are not "talking". Incidentally, we have a social psychologist working on the Colorado (mainly Denver) sightings of August 1 and 2, and an ex-British Intelligence Agent (now a rancher) on the Wyoming cases. Our best to Mimi and the children.

ps: Daniel Townsend – his parents in Coon Rapids 612-555-1212

VALUATION: LOW

Mr. Townsend was a radio announcer and, if you remember well, there was a previous famous broadcasting hoax in USA. I guess we better take two different sides to the situation: the first side concerning the report by Lenora E. Lindberg – Mrs. Hilmer family (which is true) – and the second concerning the report by Townsend (a very doubtful story).