

JUST



CAUSE

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Citizens Against UFO Secrecy

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EDITORIAL

Two matters at hand:

Recently Secretary of Energy, Hazel O'Leary, had a folder classified "Secret" cross her desk. In the folder was an analysis of a television news broadcast. A chagrined O'Leary recalled feeling, "This is no secret. I saw this on television!" (Boston Globe, 12-31-93)

In many ways the Cold War still has not ended as the American public is continuously exposed to revelation after revelation of long-withheld facts dating back decades. The most recent is the shocking disclosure in the U.S. press of radiation experiments having been conducted on citizens without their knowledge. Frequently those victims were hospitalized patients or mentally-infirm children who, even if they knew what was being done to them, could not comprehend the situation.

When one reads some of the more credible UFO literature of the past, there were numerous stories of military encounters with unidentified flying objects, details of which had never surfaced except for belated testimony from those involved. Gun camera films of UFO encounters in the public domain now total two - a 1953 Luke AFB, Arizona film and a 1952 Osceola, Wisconsin film, both courtesy of the National Archives Project Blue Book holdings. There were many more stories about such encounters on the record. Where are these sequences now? Documents which have been released on UFO-related matters make reference to other documents which haven't been released. Where are they? There is still plenty of information which we believe exists in government coffers, never having seen the light of day since their production.

The second matter has become increasingly apparent in European UFOlogists' newsletters. It seems that American UFO research is becoming more stereotyped with each passing day. One newsletter observed that the amount of attention given to close encounters is proportional to the increasing numerical count of the CE, with close encounters of the 6th and 7th kinds probably not looming too far off in the future. The absolute reality of even the 1st kind has yet to be established but this does not self-appointed authorities in UFOlogy from traveling the lecture circuit or talk show panorama with definitive declarations as to UFO origin or purpose. The fact is that few arguments in this subject have been conclusively decided and, until the percentages get better,

restraint is in order. However, we do realize that we are talking into the wind and such a situation is not likely to improve. The culture does reward sensationalism at the expense of truth, as virtually all Americans are aware. It prefers junk food, junk television and junk entertainment. Why not junk UFOlogy? A recent national talk show presented a new-comer to UFO research as having photographed a structured alien space ship at Groom Lake, Nevada (the notorious "Area 51"), when it was clear to the knowledgeable that it was an out-of-focus light source - the "structure" being the silhouetted internal optics of the video camera. One skeptic on the same show believed that attacking a person's character and background is the preferred way to determine the quality of information. When asked about his experience in the subject, the skeptic responded "two years"! Yet all of these people were presented as authorities.

Junk UFOlogy! It is here to stay.

DOCUMENT HINTS AT EXPLANATION FOR RUSSIAN UFO WAVE

The Department of State has released a cable making a remarkable claim. Dated June 30, 1987, the message reads as follows:

"(Deleted) reports that the Soviet authorities have constructed an SDI research station near the Radio-Physics Institute in the area of Stavropol. The research station apparently is focusing its work on electromagnetic methods of shooting down satellites. When tests are run, the resulting microwaves can be detected by scientists working at the Radiophysics Institute. Perhaps of equal interest is that this area has the largest number of UFO sightings reported in the USSR. A phenomenon which our contact says is due to the various SDI experiments conducted there."

The message is not detailed enough to evaluate the statements made. If true, the story has large implications. Depending upon the nature of the experiments, since the U.S. was heavily engaged in SDI testing during the Reagan administration, it is conceivable that some of our testing was responsible as well for UFO reports here. We could then see the theory of passive manipulation in effect, much like that which might have been behind the press coverage of the July 1952 UFO wave (Just Cause, June 1993, Pg.1). In other words, it is better to allow the population to believe that they are seeing flying saucers instead of knowing the true nature of what is responsible for whatever aerial phenomenon is detected -- secret SDI experiments.

And again, if true, the above emphasizes the point of restraint about which we are constantly reminding our readers. Any sort of strange aerial activity is almost instantly determined to be alien-oriented by a large percentage of the UFO community. There may be other causes for the visually peculiar but Earth-based events being viewed.

NEW UFO SECRECY BOOK IN SPANISH RELEASED

A new, large-format book, in Spanish, summarizing some of the various UFO secrecy controversies over the last fifty years has been published. Titled, "OVNI: Toda La Verdad!", the authors, Harry Lebelson and Bette Rush, take the reader on a magical mystery tour of the secrecy side of UFO research. While we do not necessarily endorse all of the stories related, the authors' intent seems to be to cover a broad spectrum of discussion. It is a visual delight and reproduces much unusual and little-seen material. Contact: Oficinas Editoriales; 6355 N.W. 36th St.;

Virginia Gardens, Florida 33166.

EBOLs (Expanding Balls of Light)

In our last number we had briefly touched upon a type of report which has repeatedly surfaced in our historical searches for odd aerial phenomena. Great expanding balls of light, resembling nuclear explosions, have been seen over a wide spread of years, usually by ship personnel or pilots. A few more of these reports follow:

Marine Observer

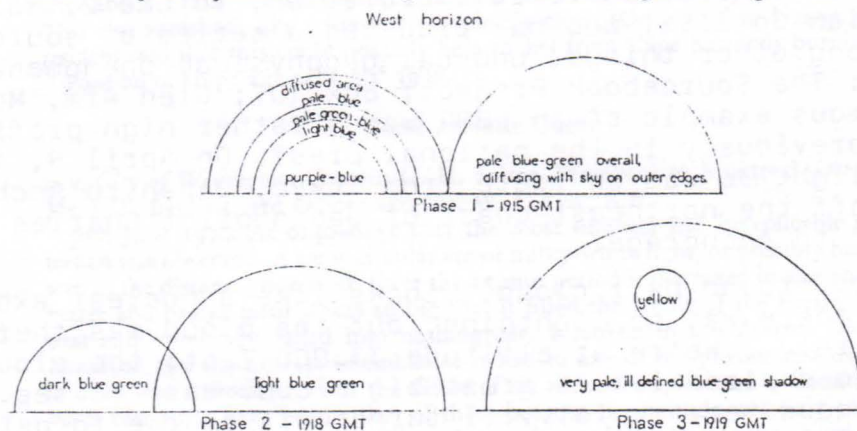
July 1965

UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON

Mediterranean Sea

m.v. *Great City*. Captain J. Vaughan. Houston (Texas) to India. Observers, Mr. P. D. Haworth, 3rd Officer and Mr. A. McGrady, Carpenter.

6th July 1964. At 1915 GMT approx., but definitely after sunset, the rings shown in the sketches appeared on the western horizon in the direction where the sun had set. They were distinct and the colour differentiation was well defined, but the shadow to the right was less so, though plainly seen. Within a short space of time the whole complex expanded, became lighter in colour and began to merge. With



no apparent warning a yellow disc appeared superimposed upon the very light shadow. It is stressed that the disc appeared and did not rise from the horizon. It rapidly diffused, increasing in size and becoming pale in colour until it finally merged with the now rapidly dispersing blue green shadow. All traces disappeared by 1925. This disc was estimated to be about 32' in diameter and was seen at an altitude of 10°-15°. Sky cloudless. Air temp. 74.3°F, wet bulb 70.8°, sea 76°. Pressure (corrected) 1014.6 mb. Wind WNW force 2-3.

Position of ship: 34° 28' N, 20° 53' E.

Marine Observer

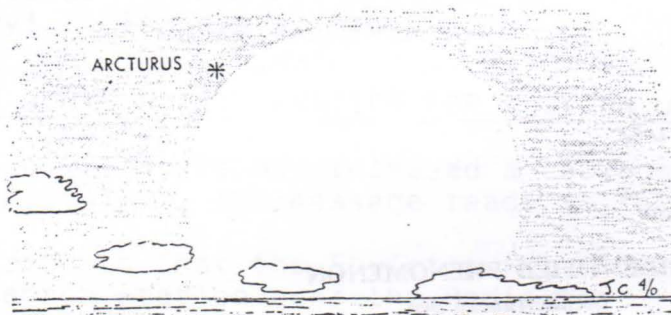
July 1973

UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON
Western North Atlantic

m.v. *Adelaide Star*. Captain H. K. Dyer. Panama to Liverpool. Observer, Mr. J. E. Clayton, 4th Officer.

25th September 1972. At 2245 GMT a large luminous area, the centre bearing of which was 310° , was seen above the horizon (as shown in sketch). It increased in size and altitude from about 20° to 80° within 10 minutes after which it could no longer be distinguished. Although the sky was rapidly becoming darker (nautical twilight at 1841), the sky in the enclosed area was noticeably lighter, pale blue/grey. The moon had not yet risen. Course 056°T at 15 kt.

Position of ship: $21^{\circ}03'\text{N}$, $63^{\circ}42'\text{W}$.



Note. It is possible that a rocket experiment carried out from either Florida or Puerto Rico may account for the phenomenon described. Reports of a similar phenomenon were published in the April 1971 edition of *The Marine Observer*.

The EBOLs as a coherent phenomenon were first discussed by Dr. Richard Haines (*Journal of Scientific Exploration*, Volume 2, No. 1 1988) and by William Corliss, who has produced a series of sourcebooks systematizing, among other things, unusual geophysical phenomena (for info contact: The Sourcebook Project; Box 107; Glen Arm, Md. 21057).

The most famous example of an EBOL was a rather high-profile report appearing previously in the national press. On April 9, 1984, Japan Air Lines Flight 36 was en route from Tokyo, Japan to Anchorage, Alaska when just off the northeast coast of Japan pilot Charles McDade radioed a "Mayday" to Anchorage:

"We have a ... round ball cloud...looks like a nuclear explosion, only there was no lightning, but the cloud was there very definitely...We're at altitude 33,000 feet; the cloud continues to explode like a great big cloud, easy to see... and it expanded very rapidly...I turned off course to get away from it as much as possible...We are on hundred percent oxygen just as a precaution." (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, January 16, 1985)

Four other pilots saw the cloud expand to a height of 60,000 feet in a two minute period. Several explanations were offered - none stuck. One pair of researchers, Andre Chang and James Burnett of Teledyne Geotech in Alexandria, Virginia, proposed that the EBOL occurred when a meteor hit a cloud deck and disintegrated into a shower of fragments. The kinetic energy of the particles would have generated enough heat to cause a rising plume of air visible to the pilots. However, according to Dr. Daniel Walker of the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics, who had spent months studying flight crew data, the meteor could not explain the mushroom shape or the energy needed to force a cloud upward at 500 MPH. (*Cleveland OH. Plain Dealer*, March 28, 1985)

Explanations offered for the EBOL phenomenon have been numerous.

Besides meteors, undersea volcanic activity would seem at first glance to be the most obvious explanation. In the JAL 36 incident, no volcanic activity was reported. Seismically-released methane which spontaneously combusted was another attempt to resolve EBOLs. Soviet SDI beam weapon experiments were added to the list.

Whatever the explanation might have been, the EBOL phenomenon was quite frightening to witnesses as their resemblance to nuclear blasts was striking. Yet in these cases, there was no heat flash, no shock wave, no other evidence that an explosion of large proportions had taken place in the area. The duration of the phenomenon, up to 32 minutes in one of a list of 15 cases compiled by Dr. Haines in his JSE article, would also seem to rule out most conventional explosive events.

Similar reports in a few other cases suggested another possibility:

UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON

Caribbean Sea

Marine Observer

April 1971

m.v. Port Phillip. Captain D. M. Kissane. Panama to Curaçao. Observers, the Master, Mr. J. Brennan, 4th Officer and Mr. R. Phillips, Chief Engineer.

30th June 1970. At 0140 GMT a small semicircle of light appeared on the horizon, bearing 360°. It rapidly expanded upwards and outwards until it reached an approx. altitude of 75°, blotting out all stars. The whole incident lasted about 9 min whereupon it slowly faded.

Position of ship: 11° 36'N, 74° 19'W.

N.W. Providence Channel

m.v. Orita. Captain T. F. J. Leddra. Bermuda to Nassau. Observers, Mr. R. G. Pym, 3rd Officer, Mr. C. Gamwell, Radio Officer and others.

30th June 1970. (Time not stated.) An expanding halo was observed in the sky, altitude approx. 90°, white in colour, expanding rapidly from nothing. It vanished after about 5 min. There appeared to be a comet or similar object at the centre. This also vanished. Sky otherwise completely clear. (On arrival in Nassau a local resident said that this could possibly be a rocket from Cape Kennedy burning up.)

Position of ship: 25° 44'N, 77° 39'W.

North Atlantic Ocean

m.v. City of Wellington. Captain G. H. Salter. Mombasa to Montreal. Observers, Mr. J. T. Bennett, 3rd Officer and Mr. W. J. Pyle, A.B.

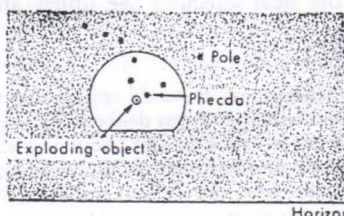
30th June 1970. At 0140-0155 GMT the most unusual and inexplicable phenomenon was observed. A semi-circular arc of milky-white light, or possibly haze, was seen in the distance, due west. Over the 15 min period it increased in size and came nearer and nearer until it was so big that it filled the whole of the horizon to the west and eventually faded into nothingness. I looked in the *Marine Observer's Handbook* and the nearest resemblance it had to any of the phenomena described in there was a cross between the Glow of an auroral display and a Counterglow, but it could not have been either of these because the latitude was only 30°N and sunset was at 2200 on the 29th. The only conclusion I can draw is that it was a freak Glow auroral display. If not, the whole thing remains a mystery to me!

Position of ship: 30° 05'N, 44° 58'W.

Western North Atlantic

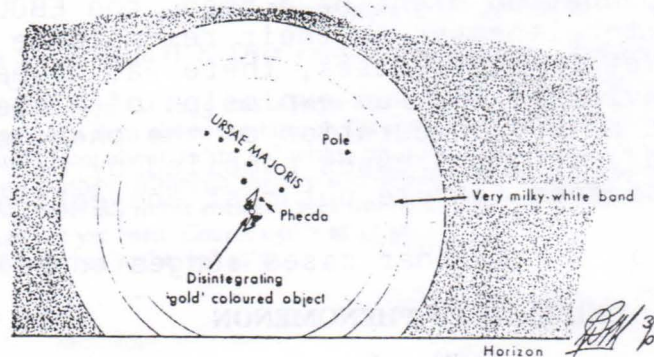
m.v. Crystal Gem. Captain B. E. Evans. Salt River, Jamaica to London. Observers, the Master, Mr. R. D. Mearns, 3rd Officer and all other officers.

30th June 1970. At 0135 GMT the look-out reported an unusual occurrence. This turned out to be a football-sized (relatively), mushroom-shaped, halo-like object



which was rapidly expanding. It had, during its life, a milky-white, slightly in candescent and gaseous appearance.

This object continued expanding to a maximum of about 60° , the lower edge being on or slightly below the horizon. The centre of the object was in line with Phecda, a star in the constellation Ursæ Majoris, bearing 320° approx. at the time. In this centre spot was seen a gold-coloured object which was shooting erratically over the sky within a circle radius approx. $15'$. It seemed to be disintegrating.



The halo stopped expanding at about 0140 and then dissipated very quickly, completely vanishing at 0142. This happened uniformly to the whole halo and without any noticeable diminishing in radius. Although extremely large and bright it had shed no light on the vessel. Air temp. 27.1°C , wet bulb 24.7° , sea 27.9° . Cloud, small amounts of Cs and Fs. Wind E'ly, force 2-3. Slight sea, low swell. Course 053° at 11.6 kt.

Position of ship: $22^\circ 45'\text{N}$, $71^\circ 33'\text{W}$.

m.v. *Beaverpine*. Captain T. Parker. San Juan, Puerto Rico to Chandler. Observers, the Master and Mrs. T. Parker, Mr. I. C. Samples, Extra 2nd Officer and Mr. M. J. Corry, Radio Officer.

30th June 1970. At 0140 GMT a brilliant pearly-white light was observed on a bearing of approx. 290° , expanding rapidly from near the horizon near the constellation of Leo. The light was very intense when first sighted, like a brilliantly floodlit cloud, and was almost perfectly circular in shape, the bottom segment of the circle being below the horizon. The edges of the part above the horizon were very sharply defined and the whole phenomenon seemed to be brighter at the edges. It was a dark night with no moon and virtually no cloud. The impression the observers got was that of watching a vast, expanding bubble or explosion, the centre of which appeared to remain in about the same position just above the horizon with an astronomical position of very approx. S.H.A. 220° and dec. 30°N (taken from star charts in *The Nautical Almanac*). It faded as it got larger and the rate of expansion appeared to decrease. However, it was discernible until it almost reached our zenith but finally disappeared some 2 min after first sighting it. A message was sent to AMVER New York.

Position of ship: $24^\circ 15'\text{N}$, $64^\circ 50'\text{W}$.

m.v. *Trefusis*. Captain W. J. Perkins. Wilmington to North Charleston. Observers, the Master, Mr. A. J. Bettles, Chief Officer and Mr. A. Murray, 3rd Officer.

30th June 1970. At about 0140 GMT something was observed in the sky bearing south at an altitude of approx. 33° , mid-way between Spica and Antares. It had the appearance of a circular cloud about the same size of a full moon and very light in

colour. It appeared to be travelling towards the vessel at a great speed, and, as it approached, it got larger and took the form of a halo. The centre looked like a comet but with two tails opposite one another. The 'comet' appeared to burst into three separate pieces and disappeared very quickly and the halo gradually disintegrated. Nothing more was seen. I would be interested to hear any explanation. My own theory is that it was probably a large meteor which, on entering the Earth's atmosphere, became so heated that it virtually exploded. The circular cloud and halo effect was probably caused by the heat affecting the upper atmosphere and causing a type of cirrocumulus cloud.

Position of ship: 37°N , 74°W (approx.).

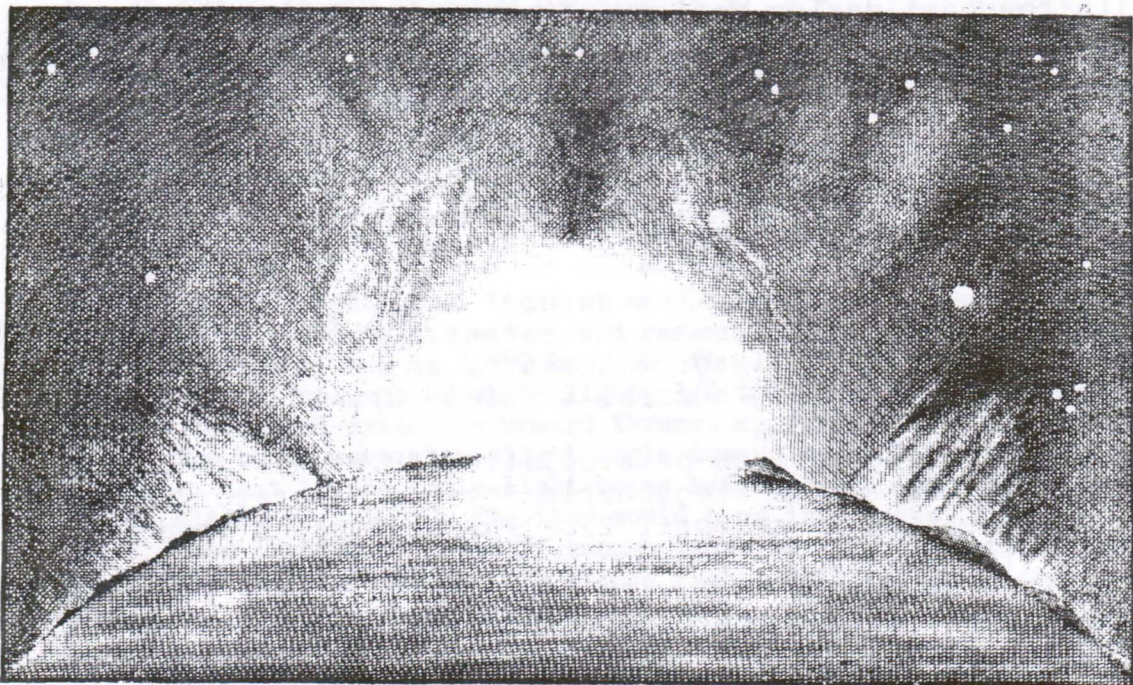
Note. These six reports are of the same phenomenon. It would appear that a fault occurred in a recently-launched American space rocket and that it was deliberately (and spectacularly) blown up several hundreds of miles out in space above a point about 400 miles ESE of Cape Kennedy. Similar sightings have occurred in the past few years. At times the apparent approach of the illuminated area (indicated in the reports from the *Trefusis* and the *City of Wellington*) has been so dramatic that it has alarmed the observers.

In the June 1970 reports, a small central object was seen as the cause of the expanding ball. Some observers (City of Wellington) reported just the ball with no central object, clearly resembling the mysterious reports. But we know from the conclusion of this series of sightings that the cause was an exploding rocket. That would seem to settle this matter once and for all - prematurely-destroyed rockets.

Not so fast! In the book Majestic Lights by Robert Eather (American Geophysical Union, 1980), another possible EBOL appeared, seen from Venice, Italy on December 16.....1737! (see figure one) Though we have no detailed description of the observation, the resemblance of this report to modern-day EBOLs is striking once again - and a rocket detonation can certainly be ruled out.

Assuming that the times of sightings of EBOLs can be correlated to the premature destruction of missiles, some of the sightings are readily explained. Haines offered yet another possibility - dome-shaped auroras, but felt that several characteristics of EBOLs mitigated against that: 1) Duration of incidents, 2) Expansion into a sphere rather than the concentric arcs of domed auroras, 3) Absence of solar activity during the events and 4) The more southerly locations of some of the reports.

Can domed auroras appear as uniform globes or hemispheres of expanding light without auroral beams or concentric layering, and occur in extreme southern locations? Six cases of Haines's list of 15 occurred in places like the Indian Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iran and the Canary Islands. Most auroral frequency maps indicate that auroras will occur perhaps once each ten years as far south as Italy or the southern U.S. So the further south in northern latitudes one goes, the less likely auroras can be responsible for EBOLs.



*Aurora Boreale veduta da Venezia il di 16 Dicembre dell'anno 1737.
siccome comparve alle 3 ore della notte.*

Southern domed auroras might be considered a rarity within a rarity, with only a couple of examples found in Eather's book of hundreds of aurora illustrations.

Many examples of EBOLs can be found in William Corliss's Lightning, Auroras, Nocturnal Lights and Related Phenomena (Source-book Project, 1982). Called "Luminous Horizon Patches," EBOLs are contained in some of Corliss's 19 cases dating back to 1892. As an anomaly, Corliss rates EBOLs rather low due to the multiple possible explanations for sky glows, especially those after 1950 with the advent of rocket launches. Potential explanations depend greatly on the visual description of the EBOL. Formations beginning above the horizon, such as the example in the June 1993 Just Cause, tend to rule out most sub-horizon causes like ship explosions and perhaps refractive effects like intense mirages. Rocket-era sightings of exploding missiles can't be ruled out unless it is conclusively shown that a missile detonation did not occur. An aurora can't be ruled out either, though more about the dynamics of a globular or dome-shaped aurora need to be known, especially for the more southerly reports.

A relatively new phenomena may have some relationship to EBOLs. Haines in his JSE paper cited an article in Science (Vol.234, 1986, pg.412) suggesting that EBOLs can take form after the appearance of towering cumulus-like clouds, inferring a weather relationship. A report in the Washington Post (September 24, 1993) titled, "NASA Captures Image of Mysterious 'Jellyfish' Flash," tells of the sighting of light shooting from the tops of storm clouds. The scintillations are described as 25 miles tall, 6 miles wide and 240 cubic miles in volume. The shapes resemble jellyfish, brightest at the top with trailing tentacles below. The great difference between this phenomenon and the EBOLs is that the jellyfish flash occurs in less than 1/30th of a second. Could an interactive glow discharge between cloud and upper atmosphere have a connection to EBOLs as well?

With the bewildering variety of possibilities to explain the EBOL effect, our systemization of them seems to leave the pre-1950, southerly latitude reports as the most difficult to deal with in an easy manner.

Within the last year and a half, U.S. Air Force Intelligence released a classified file titled, "Phenomenon - Bermuda 1949." The basics of the report are on pages 9 and 10. A follow-up story in the Bermuda newspapers reported a most unusual auroral display on both January 24 and 25, 1949. There seems to be little doubt that the red glow was somehow connected to the auroral activity. What is most extraordinary about this incident is the fact that the red mass was seen below the aircraft on the water's surface, and extended to 3000 feet, something perhaps unique in auroral studies. Or, if not auroral, what else might it have been?

After exploring various possibilities, P.H. Wyckoff, Chief of the Air Materiel Command's Atmospheric Physics Laboratory in Cambridge, Massachusetts, stated in an April 29, 1949 analysis of the report,

"Due to the auroral activity in the area at the time it is natural to assume that the phenomenon is in some way related to the aurora, however the fact that this has been observed on the surface of the water rather than high in the atmosphere is difficult."

"In conclusion, no valid explanation, either natural or man made can be found for a logical explanation of this phenomenon."

(cont. on pg. 11)

By Q/B NARA, Date Aug. 4, 1992.~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS
373D RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, VERY LONG RANGE WEATHER
APO 856 c/o PM, N. Y., N. Y.
(Kindley AFB, Bermuda)

373D WEA 350.05

Feb 9 1949

SUBJECT: Semi-Monthly Intelligence Report

TO: Commanding Officer
2108th Air Weather Group
Westover Air Force Base
Westover Field, Mass

1. In compliance with 308th Reconnaissance Group (Weather) letter, subject,; "Semi-Monthly Intelligence Summary", file 308th WEA 350.05, dated 29 July 1947, the following report is submitted for the period ending 31 January 1949.

2. On 24 January 1949 crew of B-29 aircraft, number 44-87750, returning from a special search mission for BOAC Tudor IV, Star Aerial, observed the following described atmospheric phenomena:

a. At 2400Z, 24 Jan 49, from position $29^{\circ}30' N - 67^{\circ}29' W$, on a true course of 050° , altitude 1,500 ft., Captain Marsden W. Mattatall, Aircraft Commander, first saw a red glow off the left wing which at first resembled the moon rising and which the crew later believed to be a burning ship.

b. At 0025Z the pilot turned the aircraft in direction of the light, 350° true course, and within fifteen minutes the aircraft was so close to the red light object that a sharp bank was executed in order to avoid flying into the red light mass.

c. On approaching the red light it was observed as a dark red glow, 1 to 1-1/2 miles wide, based on the water, and resembling burning oil with a phosphorescent red light rising to 2,500 to 3,000 ft altitude. Also from heading of 350° and 180° two columns of white light, 1/4 to 1/2 mile apart, resembling search light beams and extending upward through approximately 3/4 of the red light mass. The beams were at a slight angle toward each other. Capt Mattatall estimates that if the white light beams had extended above the red light mass to an altitude of 10,000 ft. they would have intersected. It was observed that the red light mass gave off enough light to illuminate the surface of the water and the bases of surrounding clouds with a dull red glow (see inclosure #5)

d. Aircraft position above the red light mass, 6,000 ft. altitude, at 0040Z, 25 Jan 49, was $31^{\circ}24' N - 67^{\circ}08' W$

e. Wind at 6,000 ft was from 025° with velocity at 25 knots.

f. Clouds were present, two to four tenths coverage, with bases at 3,800 ft and tops to 5,000 ft.

By 2/B NARA, Date Aug. 4, 1992.

~~SECRET~~

Basic: Semi-Monthly Intelligence Report, 373d Rcn Sq (VLR, Wea, dtd 9 Feb 49
file 350.05

- g. At time of observation the moon was not visible.
- h. Communications were reported good at that time.
- i. Capt Mattatall reports the aircraft as staying in the area approximately 45 minutes and completely circling and surveying the red light mass from all angles.
- j. Photographer aboard special mission aircraft reported attempting to photograph the phenomena with a K-20 camera at shutter setting of 1/125 second and lens setting of 4.5. Due to fast shutter speed no results were obtained even though 15 prints were overdeveloped in an attempt to bring out detail.
- k. Last observation made at 0124Z, 25 Jan 49, looking down from an altitude of 6,000 ft., true course of 045°. The red mass seemed to move away from aircraft and spread out and had reached position 31° 35' N - 67° 10' W.
- l. (deleted)
- m. Aurora Borealis, normally not seen in this area, was very noticeable on the evening the above described light was seen (see incls 2 and 3). However, Aircraft Commander, Capt. Mattatall, has just returned from 90 days TDY in Alaska and Navigator, Lt Austin, presently TDY this organization from 375th Rcn Sq (VLR) Wea, state that no Northern Lights they had ever witnessed reacted in this manner as to color, shape, position, or intensity.
- 3. The above described phenomena was witnessed from all parts of Bermuda as a red mushroom shaped glow with two pillars of white light rising up through, but not extending above the red light mass.
- 4. At 2245Z, 25 Jan 49, B-29 aircraft, number 45-21790 was dispatched.*** The crew reported that on arrival at destination the red light mass could not be located ***

EVALUATED B-2

- 5. In accordance with paragraph 4.b., Air Weather Service letter, Subj: "Semi-Monthly Intelligence Summary", dated 23 July 1947, the inclosures are evaluated as follows:
 - a. Incl No. 1 - News article: "Dr. Gordon Quits, Charges Slight". B-2
 - b. Incl No. 2 - News article: "Northern Lights Are Seen Here". A-1
 - c. Incl No. 3 - News article: "Northern Lights Are Seen Here for Second Time". A-1
 - d. Incl No. 4 - News article: "Record Imports of Over 17 Million last Year; U. K. Takes Second Place B-2
 - e. Incl No. 5 - Sketch of atmospheric Phenomena Witnessed by Capt Mattatall and Crew B-2

CLYDE A. RAY, Lt. Col. USAF
Commanding

5 Incls: As listed in Par 5

A follow-up report on the matter by Wyckoff on June 15, 1949, indicates that he entertained the possibility that the glow was caused indirectly by a stream of "solar particles" ejected from an intense flare from a spot on the sun's surface. But he added, "The mechanism of actual production of the red glow with white beams is still unknown and of great interest..."

Another cross-over element we have noted is that possible hard evidence for EBOLs could be found in the data collected by Vela satellites.

Vela satellites were first launched in 1963 by the United States in an attempt to keep track of nuclear testing, making sure countries were adhering to the 1963 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Covered with optical sensors, the satellite could identify the tell-tale flash of an exploding nuclear weapon.

We had discussed the Vela story in CLEAR INTENT (pgs 97-98). of particular interest was the fact that Vela sensors were triggered several hundred times by unknown signals, or "zoo events" as a 1980 White House report called them. The White House's "Ad Hoc Panel Report on the September 22 Event" (a reference to the detection of a nuclear-like burst of light on Vela sensors off the coast of South Africa in 1978), released in 1980, indicated that "a few of the zoo events had some of the characteristics associated with signals from nuclear explosions, although they could be distinguished clearly from nuclear explosion signals upon examination of their complete time histories."

Compare this to Charles McDade's observation on page 4 of this issue -- a nuclear-like outburst but with none of the other consequences.

Are a percentage of the Vela satellite "zoo events" detections of EBOLs? Based upon the various descriptions of the phenomenon, it's an entirely reasonable suggestion. Unfortunately, Vela satellite data is classified so that we cannot confirm any EBOL event as having been detected by Vela.

A point we have tried to make for years is how aerial phenomena reports of high strangeness were not merely classified at the time of the event but remained classified for many decades, for example the Bermuda report having been out of sight for 43 years. We continue to maintain that reports of strange aerial phenomena, flying saucers, UFOs, or whatever one wishes to call them, still remain classified and do have a positive potential for contributing to scientific knowledge.

FINAL NOTES

We remain committed to uncovering unreleased government information on UFO phenomena. Many new projects have been launched to this effect. We expect to be exploring the issue of gun camera films much more this year after hearing about the serious problem of film deterioration that has plagued the film industry in recent times. It seems that silver nitrate-based films eventually turn to dust over many decades, meaning that there is the potential for stored gun camera footage of UFOs to self-destruct. We know these exist and will explain in an upcoming issue. Also, we had thought we had identified the earliest evidence of government interest in strange aerial phenomena as occurring in 1915 (see Just Cause, June 1992, pgs 5-6). Wrong! We have pushed this back a good deal more as you will see coming up this year.

Continued support by subscribers and exchange magazines is appreciated. We remind Exchanges once again (because we keep getting ignored) that the exchange address is: Box 176; Stoneham, Mass. 02180. We can not keep track of you otherwise.

Luís António Tapia Godinho, Civil Eng. (U.P.)
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3800 AVEIRO - PORTUGAL
Tel/Fax: 351 034 29068

To the
Editor of
"JUST CAUSE"
Mr. Barry Greenwood
Connecticut, U.S.A.

I found very interesting the report in your last issue of Just Cause about the peculiar sighting of a huge ball of light in the North Atlantic observed by a crew in a ship. The characteristics of the phenomenon reminded me another one I had been aware before.

After a little search in my files I found amazingly the same phenomenon had occurred, indeed, at the Canary Islands (Spain) some hundred miles north of the position of the ship in that day - June 22, 1976 - precisely, at the beginning of night.

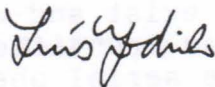
In fact some, perhaps, thousand of ^{witnesses} ~~whiteness~~ had seen basically the same phenomenon plus the appearance of UFOs from the center of the light ball (with a spiral within, like it was reported). It happened, also, in the same night a fantastic CE3 to a few people in one of the islands.

The only minor drawback on the similarity of the different reports (in the islands and in the ship) was the direction of the sightings.

I don't doubt on the reality of the phenomenon in that peculiar night after this corroboration of details. I think it will be interesting to file a FOIA to the services in the USA responsible for satellite monitoring (VELA sat, for instance), because such huge display was not, decidedly, missed by the satellite surveillance system. I remember the widespread announcement on the VELA detection of an anomalous double flash over the ocean south of South Africa at 1978, suspected to be a secret nuclear experience performed by that country, jointly with Israel.

I will be at your disposal for more details about the records in my files, if you want to.

Hoping to be somewhat useful in your search, sincerely yours,



Luís A. T. Godinho
Aveiro, November 9, 1993