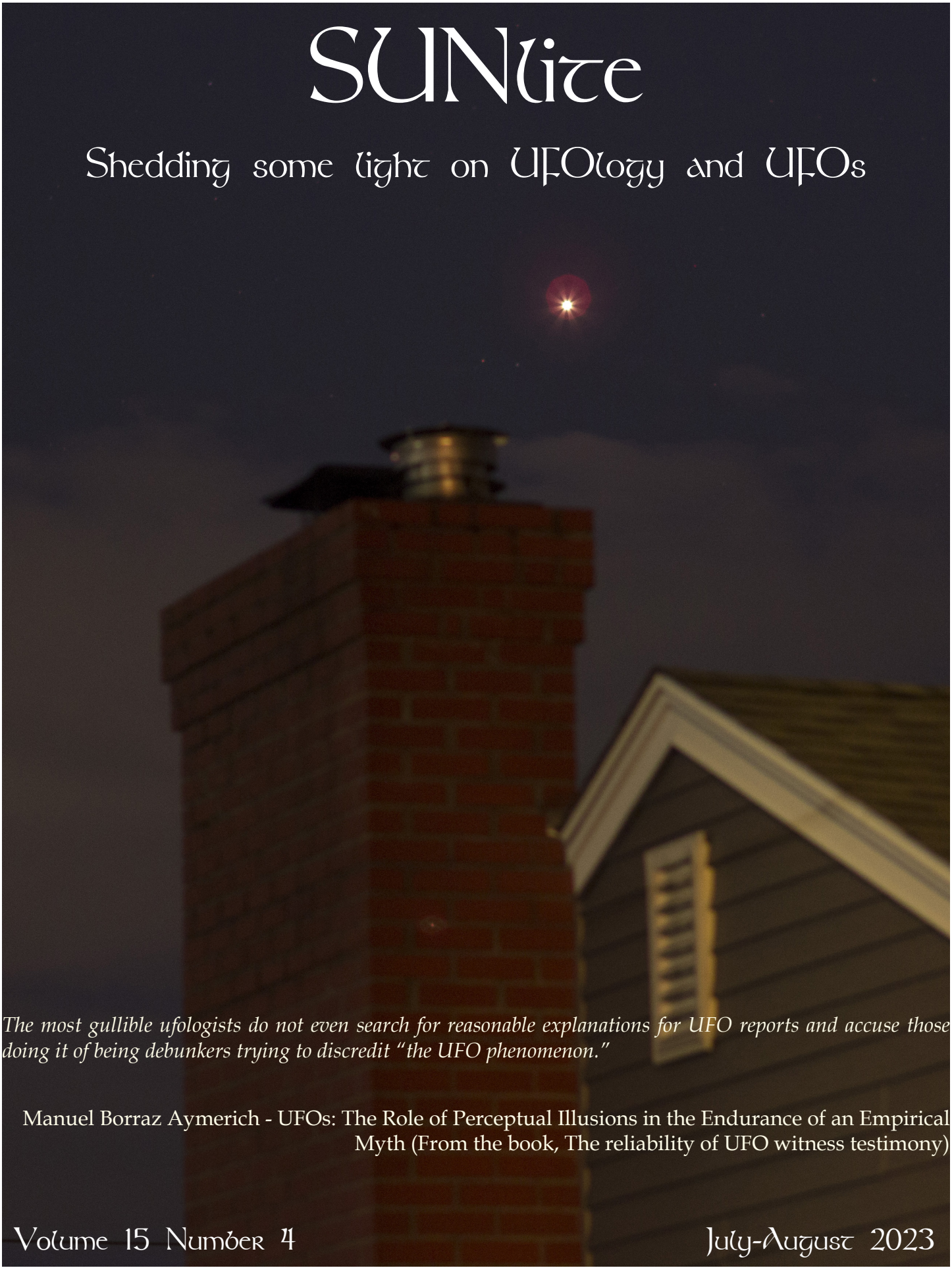
SUNlite

Shedding some light on UFOlogy and UFOs



The most gullible ufologists do not even search for reasonable explanations for UFO reports and accuse those doing it of being debunkers trying to discredit "the UFO phenomenon."

Manuel Borraz Aymerich - UFOs: The Role of Perceptual Illusions in the Endurance of an Empirical Myth (From the book, The reliability of UFO witness testimony)

Volume 15 Number 4 July-August 2023

Cover: Venus is bright in the evening sky and will produce UFO reports. The UFO evidence under review this issue involves a case, where a pilot and tower operator mistook Venus for a UFO. The pilot even wanted to take off without lights because he did not want the UFO to follow him.

Left: My wife and I saw this light in the sky while we were driving on the highway. It was obvious that it was just an airplane coming in for a landing at Manchester, NH airport. The landing lights and lighting on the aircraft made for and interesting appearance. The low quality of the image makes it look like a classic flying saucer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The more things change.....

Blue Book 3.0 (NASA's scientific panel) had their presentation and, as expected, the results were the standard scientific answer about UFOs. They could explain some cases but could not explain others. There wasn't much new. Astronaut Scott Kelly described his UAP encounter when he was a pilot. He was flying an F-14 and his radar intercept officer, stated that he had seen a strange object. They turned around, and according to Kelly, it turned out to be a toy Bart Simpson balloon. A video they presented showed three lights bouncing around and in a line. It turns out they were distant aircraft in an air corridor. They strange motion was due to the camera operator. The bottom line is they are just repeating what the Condon study did over 50 years ago.

Adding to the hype of UAPs, we now have David Grusch claiming that high profile former military/government personnel have reported the recovery of alien debris and craft. Grusch has an impressive resume'. Apparently, he is a war veteran and worked at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the National Reconnaissance Office. He also worked on the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force. Assuming this is not an inflated resume', one would think he would be highly credible. If that is the case, one has to wonder why NASA and AARO do not find these claims very convincing and mention them. Why is it that people like Grusch, show up in the media making claims with nothing more than, "because I said so"? My guess is these mysterious unnamed individuals, who he claims are reliable, have names that have appeared in UFOlogical stories in the past. About a decade ago, at the Citizen's hearing on UFO disclosure (See SUNlite 5-4), there were plenty of individuals (like this former CIA agent), who were high profile witnesses from various government agencies, telling all sorts of stories about aliens, alien bodies, crashed/landed UFOs and government cover-ups. Most, if not all, of them were just tall story tellers that got gullible UFO promoters to present them as credible witnesses. Is this the same situation here?

In my opinion, there are three possibilities:

1. Grusch is making some, or a lot, of this information up in order to promote himself for monetary/personal gain.

2. Grusch believes his sources based on the positions/ranks they once held but he did not bother to verify their stories. This makes him another gullible UFO believer, who readily accepted these tales as factual. He then quickly ran to the media to make headlines instead of verifying the stories with indisputable evidence.

3. These sources are reliable. It is important to note that in the over 75 years of research no such claim has ever been proven to be true.

Grusch's claims are all based on statements made by individuals that can be considered suspect. If a crashed spaceship were recovered, one would think that there would be plenty of documentation surrounding the retrieval, transport, storage, and analysis of the materials. Instead we get, "so-and-so, who is a credible witness, told me that he saw or heard that somebody saw such events". People have been telling these fables for decades and individuals, who want to believe, accept them as fact. Expect to see this guy at upcoming UFO conferences, UFO television programs, and other media outlets making a name for himself.

WEEDING OUT THE WEINSTEIN CATALOG

Indiana, Illinois, Ohio July 12, 1952[1]

52.07.12	20:04LT	USA	Buckley, Illinois	A	An Ozark Airlines aircraft crew (3) (flight 305)	one white light moving very fast from east to west across the nose of the aircraft.					13.11
52.07.12	20:05LT	USA	near Rennsalear, Indiana	A	an Eastern Airlines DC-3 pilot (flight 177)	one very bright object off the right wing on a level trajectory.					13.11
52.07.12	20:05LT	USA	15 miles northeast of Indianapolis, Indiana	P	a Cessna (N1777V) pilot	one object travelled in front of the aircraft, the light diminished, a black object visible.					13.11
52.07.12	21:04LT	USA	Arlington, Illinois	M	a USAF F-86 (62nd FIS) pilot	one oblong-shaped yellowish lighted object followed by a trail flying in a straight flight.					13.11
52.07.12	21:05LT	USA	near Greenfield, Indiana	A	an American Airlines Convair pilot + co-pilot	one object flying parallel to the aircraft, seemed to head down.					13.11
52.07.12	21:13LT	USA	Dayton, Ohio	M	two USAF F-86 two pilots (97th FIS)	two round briliant white lights hovering at 21,000 ft, then disappeared					13.11

The source of the information is from the Blue Book files. There are 6 entries in the Weinstein catalog that cover this sighting. Since the event crossed two time zones and daylight savings time was in effect in some locations and not others, the times being off an hour can be explained.

Source material

Loren Gross' history has a casual mention of the sighting but gives no specifics.[2] The newspaper archive contains many Illinois newspaper articles describing the object.[3,4] Two are presented below.

While the newspaper stories have sightings from various locations, the Blue Book files contain the most information.[5,6] They placed most of these sightings in one case file labeled Illinois-Indiana with the exception of the Dayton sighting, which had its own case file. In addition to the pilots, there were many ground based observers, who saw the same event. This table describes those observations listed by Weinstein.

BRILLIANT OBJECT BELIEVED METEOR STARTLES CENTRALIA

A brilliant ojbect hurtling through the air startled Centralians at dusk Saturday.

The "what-is-it" appeared from the southeast and in a few seconds had passed from sight to the northwest according to witnesses.

Assistant Police Chief Henry Carlyle said he and State Patrolman Nelson Paige saw it approaching as they sat beside the city hall. But the time those inside the building had been summoned to "come and look" it was just a speck in the northwest.

Carlyle said the ball of fire apparently was a meteor but it appeared to be travelling parallel to the ground rather than plunging downward due to the pull of gravity.

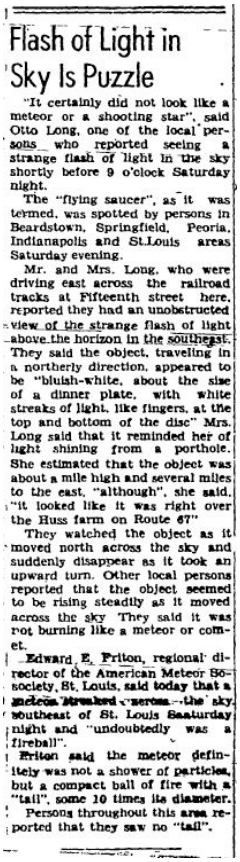
Robert Frazier said it came over his house, southeast of the city.

ST. LOUIS AP — A very bright meteor flashed across the sky Saturday night, exciting hundreds of St. Louisans who saw it.

They swamped newspaper and police switchboards with reports on it.

The color descriptions ranged from white, blue-white, green-white, and orange to red. Most agreed the object had a tail which trailed off into what appeared to be smoke.

It traveled from the southeast to the northwest.



Flash of Light in Sky Is Puzzle

"It certainly did not look like a meteor or a shooting star", said Otto Long, one of the local persons who reported seeing a strange flash of light in the sky shortly before 9 o'clock Saturday night.

The "flying saucer", as it was termed, was spotted by persons in Beardstown, Springfield, Peoria, Indianapolis and St.Louis areas Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Long, who were driving east across the railroad tracks at Fifteenth street here, reported they had an unobstructed view of the strange flash of light above the horizon in the southeast. They said the object, traveling in a northerly direction, appeared to be "bluish-white, about the size of a dinner plate, with white streaks of light, like fingers, at the top and bottom of the disc" Mrs. Long said that it reminded her of light shining from a porthole. She estimated that the object was about a mile high and several miles to the east, "although", she said, "it looked like it was right over the Huss farm on Route 67"

They watched the object as it moved north across the sky and suddenly disappear as it took an upward turn. Other local persons reported that the object seemed to be rising steadily as it moved across the sky They said it was not burning like a meteor or comet.

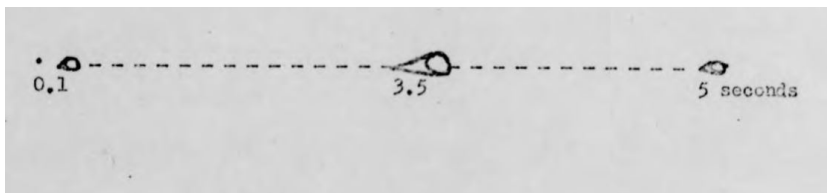
Edward E. Friton, regional director of the American Meteor Society, St. Louis, said today that a [redacted] streaked across the sky southeast of St. Louis Saturday night and "undoubtedly was a fireball".

Friton said the meteor definitely was not a shower of particles, but a compact ball of fire with a "tail", some 10 times its diameter.

Persons throughout this area reported that they saw no "tail".

Observer	Time	Direction of travel
Ozark Airlines FLT 305 over Buckley, IL	2004 CST	WNW
Aircraft N of Dayton, OH	2105 CDT	NW
F-86 over Arlington Heights, IL	2104 CDT	SW. F-86 attempted to pursue.
AA FLT 395 over Greenfield, IN	2105 CDT	WNW
Cessna Aircraft 15 mi. NE of Indianapolis	2005 CST	NW
Eastern Airlines FLT 177 over Rennsalear, IN	2005 CST	NW
Two F-86s over Dayton, OH	2113 EST	Two Brilliant lights disappeared after 20 seconds. Direction was at 2 O'clock position for aircraft on 180 degree heading (WSW).

Several sketches exist in the file from ground observers. They indicate a straight or curved path. Their observations are consistent with those of the pilots and look like sketches of a meteor.



Analysis

The times all seem to revolve around 0205Z (2005 CST or 2105 CDT/EST) and they all stated the object was moving in a westerly direction. This indicates all the observers saw the same object and it was at a significant altitude above them. These are the characteristics of a bright fireball meteor. It probably was very bright since it was seen only 30 minutes after sunset (2026CDT/1926 CST).

Further research reveals the scientific literature mentioning this meteor in a scientific paper about anomalous sounds and electro-magnetic effects produced by fireball meteors.[7]

Conclusion

There is little doubt that this was a bright fireball. There is no reason to include these six sightings on the Weinstein list and they should be removed.

Notes and references

1. Weinstein, Dominique F. Unidentified Aerial Phenomena: Eighty years of pilot sightings. NARCAP. February 2001. P. 19

2. Gross, Loren. UFOS: A history 1952 June - July 20th. Freemont, California. 1988. P. 48

3. "Brilliant object believed meteor startles Centralia". Centralia Evening Sentinel. Centralia, Illinois. July 14, 1952. P. 1

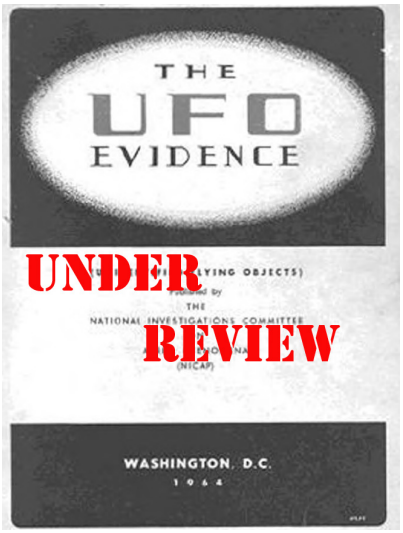
4. "Flash of light in sky is puzzle". Beardstown Illinoian Star. Beardstown, Illinois. July 14, 1952. P. 1

5. "Case file - Illinois-Indiana 12 July 1952". Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: https://www.fold3.com/image/7481848/indiana-illinois-illegible-page-1-project-blue-book-ufo-investigations

6. "Case file - Dayton, Ohio 12 July 1952". Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: https://www.fold3.com/image/7476614/illegible-illegible-page-906-project-blue-book-ufo-investigations

7. Lamar, Donald L. and Mary F. Romig. "Anomalous sounds and electromagnetic effects associated with fireball entry." Meteoritics. Volume 2 Number 2. February 1964. Available WWW: https://articles.adsabs.harvard.edu//full/1964Metic...2..127L/0000131.000.html

July 14, 1959 - Pampulha, Belo Horizonte, Brazil



July 14, 1959--Pampulha, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais State. Luminous object followed FAB (Brazilian Air Force) B-26, hovered near airport. [X].[1]

Section X provides us with more information.

July 14, 1959. A Brazilian Air Force pilot checked on a hovering light observed from the control tower at Pampulha, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais State at the request of the tower operator. After landing, the pilot reported that the unidentified light had followed him for about an hour while he was enroute from Pico do Couto. The control tower operator then fired some flares in the direction of the UFO, and it changed color from white to amber to intense green. Then it turned white again, and darted upwards, disappearing in the darkness. [22][2]

The source of this information comes came from a NICAP Advisor in Sao Paulo, who obtained the official report from the Brazilian Air Force.

Additional Sources

The summary in the UFO evidence document is not very clear so I decided to look elsewhere about this case for additional information. Loren Gross had an entry in his UFO history about this case that provided specifics:

14 July Pampulha airport, Brazil. (7-8:25 p.m.)

The bomber and the UFO.

This report was recorded on the Pampulha airport logs and then transmitted to the Brazilian Air Force. A Commander Hulvic Brant Aleixo passed the information on to J. Escobar Fario, co-editor of the UFO Critical Bulletin:

"On July 14, 1959, at about 8:25 p.m. the tower controller at the airport of Pampulha saw a light hovering in the sky, azimuth 270 degrees. In order to be sure it wasn't a balloon, he phoned the Meteorological Institute, which answered that no balloons were up. Then he radioed to the commander of a military plane who was asking permission to land:

" 'Please make a 180 degree turn, and then put the nose of your plane at 270 degrees. Please confirm or disconfirm the appearance of a luminous object on that course.'

"The commander, an officer piloting a Brazilian Air Force B-26 north toward his base at Natal, immediately did what was requested. Then he landed quickly and confirmed the sighting.

"The controller was disappointed that he had landed so promptly. Taking a signal pistol, the controller aimed in the direction of the Light and gave intermittent signals in green, yellow and red. Just at that moment, the UFO began to change color from amber to intense green, then back to its original white. Then it darted up and disappeared in the darkness of the night. This startled the controller even more, and he decided to phone the pilot who was already in the canteen. He told the pilot he was surprised by his indifference about the strange phenomenon, and his avoidance of a closer investigation. The officer replied that he didn't want to get closer to the UFO, but on the contrary he wanted to escape from the aerial object which had followed his plane for almost an hour from the vicinity of Pico do Couto.

"Twenty minutes later the officer asked the controller for permission to take off without any lights on his medium bomber, to avoid pursuit by the UFO. The B-26 was heavily armed and carried a crew of five." (48)[3]

Reference 48 is the UFO-Critical Bulletin. Vol. III, #4. July-August 1959. pp.7-8. J. Escobar Faria, the NICAP advisor in the UFO evidence document, was editor for this newsletter. Therefore, this description of the event in Gross' history is from the same source as found in the NICAP document with additional details clarifying what transpired.

There was no project Blue Book file on this incident.

Analysis

My usual rule of thumb in these types of cases involving an apparently stationary light at night is to check for an astronomical solution. I was not disappointed to see that the planet Venus was setting in the west at the time and date in question. At 2025 (2325 UTC), the Planet Venus at magnitude -4.6 was at azimuth 281 degrees and 3.5 degrees elevation. It set at 2045 LT (2345 UTC) at azimuth 279 degrees.

In the stories about the case, the witnesses never mention comparing the object to Venus or stating that the object was there in addition to Venus. In the Best Evidence account, the pilot had stated it had followed him for about an hour while he was flying from Pico Do Couto. This was about 200 miles to the south of the airport. Since a B-26 had a cruise speed of around 200 mph[4], this implies that the pilot had seen it through most, if not all, of his flight. Stating it followed him, could easily be interpreted that it was in the same position as he flew north. In the case of Venus, it would have been off his port side.

The sky looking west at 8:30 PM Brazilian time

Conclusion

There is no good reason to dismiss the possibility that the source of the sighting was the planet Venus. It was in the direction reported and the observer and pilot never mentioned Venus. They only mentioned a single bright light. This should be classified as Venus and removed from the "best evidence" category. This was also in the Weinstein catalog and should be removed from that list as well.

Notes and references

1. Hall, Richard M. (Ed.) The UFO evidence. The National Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP). New York: Barnes and Noble.1997. P. 138
2. ibid. P. 120
3. Gross, Loren. UFOS: A history 1959 July-September. Freemont, California. 1988. P. 29
4. B-26 Marauder. Wikipedia. Available WWW: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_B-26_Marauder

THE 701 CLUB: CASE 1708: MCCHORD AFB, WASHINGTON 28 JULY 1952

Don Berlinner describes the case as follows:

July 28, 1952; McChord AFB, Washington. 2:15 a.m. Witnesses: T/Sgt. Walstead, S/Sgt. Calkins of the 635th AC&W Squadron. One dull, glowing, blue-green ball,.the size of a dime at arms' length, flew very fast, straight and level.[1]

Sparks' entry is basically a repeat of Berlinner's and adds little. He does make a suggestion this might be a radar-visual sighting. I believe this is just speculation because the witnesses were part of the 635th AC&W squadron. There is no mention of radar tracking the UFO in the case file.

The Blue Book file[3]

The case file was hard to locate since it was most illegible. The file simply contains a record card and a teletype report with no follow-up. The teletype highlights were:

- The two witnesses were T/SGT Walstead and S/SGT Calkins.
- Object was described as a "dull, bluish-green,ball of light" with an estimated altitude of 20,000 feet.
- Speed described as "Very Fast". The only thing the witnesses had seen before that had that speed were "shooting stars". They reported that the object did not like a shooting star.
- Size estimated at half the size of a 10-cent piece at arm's length.
- The course was straight.
- The sky was clear.
- There is mention of a second sighting in the file but it was unrelated to this sighting and appears to have been a star.

Analysis

This sounds like a fireball meteor. Fireball meteors are different than normal meteors in that they are very bright and usually last longer. Many observers often make the remark that it was not like shooting stars they had seen in the past and, therefore, it was not a meteor. Despite this claim by the witnesses, all of the characteristics are there for a fireball meteor and there is no evidence to suggest that it wasn't.

Conclusion

There really is no reason to eliminate the fireball meteor explanation for this sighting and I would classify it as probable fireball. It should be removed from the list of Blue Book unknowns.

Notes and references

1. Berlinner, Don. "The Bluebook Unknowns". NICAP Available WWW: http://www.nicap.org/bluebook/unknowns.htm
2. Sparks, Brad. Comprehensive Catalog of 1,700 Project Blue Book UFO Unknowns: Database Catalog Not a Best Evidence List –NEW: List of Projects & Blue Book Chiefs Work in Progress Version 1.30. Jan. 26, 2020. P. 193
3. "Case file - McChord AFB, Washington 28 July 1952 ". Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: https://www.fold3.com/image/6986868/illegible-illegible-page-308-project-blue-book-ufo-investigations

Project Blue Book case review: August-December 1967

This is the latest edition of the Project Blue Book case review covering August through December 1967. Like the previous evaluations, I tried to examine each case to see if the conclusion had merit. I added comments to help clarify the explanation or if I felt it was not correct or adequate. Items marked with red highlighting had photographs in the case file.

August 1967

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
Aug	Grand Bank RD & I-75, MI	Insufficient data	Agreed. No specific date. Could have been a meteor.
Aug	Boonville, MS	Insufficient data	Agreed. 14-year old supposedly took a photograph of UFO. Request sent for photograph but nothing was returned.
1	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Cosmos 54
2	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Arcturus
2	Las Vegas, NV	Insufficient data	Agreed. Teletype message missing positional data and time start/stop. Visible for 90 minutes. Could be astronomical.
2	Omaha, NE	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
3	Milbank, SD	Barium Cloud	Agreed
4	Dayton, OH	Meteor	**NO CASE FILE**
5	New York, NY	Insufficient data	Agreed. Report was a letter sent in November 1967. Insufficient data was in the letter and form was never returned.
7	West New York, NJ	V: Hoax P: Small Man-made object	Agreed. Mother stated her 13-year old son hoaxed the photograph to "see how far it would go".
8	Santa Fe, NM	V: Psychological P: Air bell/break in emulsion	Agreed. Witness' letter indicated they were not exactly stable (Hynek's initial indicated he agreed with this).
9	Dallas, TX	V: Kite P: Insufficient data	Agreed. According to record card, witness admitted to object being a kite.
10	Bronx, NY	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
11	Baudette, MN	Aircraft	Possible meteor
12	Westcliffe, CO	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness made report in October of landed UFO. Witness did not see object the object flying but only saw object on the ground for an hour. Left due to thunderstorm. Three others witnesses supposedly saw object but were not listed/contacted. Witness did not return form.
12	Churchville, NY	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness saw landed object with little men. Reported in February 1968.
12	Crystal Beach, TX	Insufficient data	Agreed. Report is a letter with not enough specific information for analysis. Form not returned.
15	Fairborn, OH	Meteor	Agreed
16	Louisville, KY	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
16	Greenup, KY	Insufficient data	Agreed. 16-year old witness reported to duty officer they saw UFO but did not return form when asked for more information.
17	Beach Haven, NJ	Aircraft	Agreed
19	Lake Huron, MI	Processing irregularity	Agreed
20	Clyde, NY	V: Conflicting data P: Insufficient clarity	Agreed. Witness stated police officer saw his object but officer denied it. Photographs are underexposed with scratches, specks, and blemishes. No distinct object visible.

20	Thousand Hill St. Park, MO	Conflicting data	Agreed. The two witnesses appeared to describe two different events as far as number of objects, duration, and shapes.
20	Philadelphia, PA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness wrote letter. In the letter, the witness stated it zipped by so fast he could not tell its shape. However, the witness also stated it was visible for 4 minutes.
20	Norwalk, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. Report is a letter with minimal information and no specifics.
21	Dayton, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. 12-year old
22	Washington DC	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
22	Moose Lake, MN	Capella	Agreed
22	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Capella
23	Colorado Springs, CO	Aircraft	Agreed
23	Price, UT	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
25	Florida Keys	Coke	Agreed. Material submitted as potential meteorite/space debris.
25	Rochester, NY	Aircraft	Agreed. 15-year old
25	Jacksonville, FL	Satellite	Agreed. Pageos A
25	St. Vrain, NM	1. Missile re-entry 2. Balloon	1. Agreed. This was an Athena missile re-entry test fired from Green River, Utah towards White Sands. 2. This was also probably part of the re-entry test. White Sands Observers stated there were three objects as part of the test.
26	N. Highland, CA	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
28	Dayton, OH	Aircraft	Agreed.
28	Milwaukee, WI	Aircraft	**NO CASE FILE**
29	Lake Erie	Ground lights	Agreed. Lighting from search and rescue efforts on Lake Erie.
29	Kettering, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
29	New Matamoras, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. 15-year old.
31	Richland Center, WI	Insufficient data	Possible star/planet. Witness did not provide direction of observation but object exhibited characteristics of scintillating star/planet.

September 1967

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
Sep	Los Angeles, CA	1. Slag 2. Unalloyed Iron	Agreed. Witness heard noise and found material on ground.
Sep	Baytown, TX	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
Sep	Fayetteville, NC	Insufficient data	Agreed. Letter written in October. Witness could not remember date and gave no positional data on form. 12-year old.
Sep	Houtsdale, PA	Satellite	Agreed. Witness wrote long and extensive letters about various sightings he and others have seen. Various dates and times were given. Most of the individuals sightings could be linked to the Echo 1 and 2 satellites. No photographs were in file but witness and letter to witness indicated the photographs submitted were underexposed and showed nothing significant.
Sep	Cowlesville, NY	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness submitted letter in May of 1968. Letter stated witness had over 40 sightings. The information in the letter was no specific enough to analyze any of them.
1	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**

2	Detroit, MI	Aircraft	Possibly Arcturus. Witness saw stationary lights to NW in same directions as Arcturus. Witness stated there were five lights but then stated lights were flickering on an off in sequence and only. No more than two lights were visible at once based on his description. This effect could have been produced by scintillation.
2	Boulder, CO	Saturn	Agreed
3	Plaquemine, LA	V. Hoax P. Processing blemish	Agreed. Image shows shutter vibration and object is blurry.
3	Centerville, OH	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
4	Hunter, NY	Satellite	Agreed. Possible glint of satellite. Briefly seen for 12 seconds and varied in brightness.
5	Lafayette, CA	Insufficient data	Agreed. No positional data. This sounds like an astronomical object.
5	Brainerd, MN	Insufficient data	Agreed. File contains just a letter from a 14-year old wanting information on UFOS and stating they saw one on this date with no specifics other than time.
6	Indianapolis, IN	Aircraft	Agreed
6	Cincinnati, OH	Insufficient data	Vega
7	Lorin, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. Letter from individual stating another individual had seen a UFO. Form sent but not returned.
7	Wakarusa, IN	Satellite	Agreed. Pageos A
7	New York, NY	Conflicting data	Pageos A. Witness gave conflicting information of USAF craft pursuing UFO. Information about UFO appears to be Pageos A.
8	New York, NY	Aircraft	Agreed
9	Corpus Christi, TX	Meteor	Agreed
9	Corpus Christi, TX	Meteor	Agreed. Probably the same meteor as previous event (Times listed were 0130Z and 0150Z).
10	Zephyrhills, FL	Insufficient data	Possibly Echo or Pegasus 3 satellites. Both made passes that might during the time period the witness observed the event.
10	Collingdale, PA	Insufficient data	Agreed. The file contains no information other than record card and a letter to the witness requesting more information. Record card only has a date and nothing else.
10	Henrietta, NY	Unreliable report	Possible balloon. Witness described a motionless object in daytime visible for 30 minutes. Witness' letter mentioned other UFO sightings, which probably resulted in this being labeled unreliable. 15-year old
10	Ann Arbor, MI	Satellite decay	Meteor
11	Kinchloe AFB, MI	Anomalous Propagation	Agreed
11-15	Sullivan City, TX	Satellites	Agreed. Cosmos 156 was possibly the first object and Pageos 1 was second object
11	Wellsburg, WV	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness reported seeing object for 90 minutes but gave no positional data.
11	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Capella
11 or 12	Lachine, MI	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
12	Dayton, OH	Capella	Agreed
13	Stevens Point, WI	Radar Chaff	Agreed. Witness submitted physical specimen.

13	Kittanning, PA	Unreliable report	Agreed. Witness stated they saw a conical shaped object hovering over field with red and green lights for 15-20 minutes. Time is confusing because the witness implied that they saw it from a moving car but it was visible for a long period of time hovering. Witness also wrote in his report form the object was at a high elevation angle and moved from SE to NE.
14	Barstow, CA	Aircraft	Agreed. 15-year old.
14	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Capella.
14	Ohio, Indiana area	1. Satellite decay 2. Meteor 3. Satellite	1. Meteor 2. Agreed 3. Agreed. Probably Echo 2.
15	Hazelton, PA	Conflicting data	Agreed. Witnesses appear to be a 12 and 13-year old. They could not agree on which direction the UFO went.
15-16	Toledo, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
15	Cincinnati, OH	Confusing data	Possibly Vega
16	Columbia Falls, MT	Insufficient data	Agreed. The only time listed is 14440Z. No apparent follow-up investigation was conducted by local AFS despite several letters and messages being sent to AFS requesting they do so.
16	Johnstown, PA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness reported in May of 1968 and gave no time of event. 15-year old
17	Waterloo, IA	Balloon	Agreed
17	Taftville, CT	Insufficient data	Possible Echo 1 satellite. Report made in June 1968. 12-year old.
17	Kileen, TX	Satellite	Agreed. Echo 1 (time on record card is wrong actual time was 0110-0130Z). 13-year old.
19	Upper Darby, PA	V: Unreliable report P: Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness reports multiple UFOs. One returns every night. 14-year old. Photograph just shows blobs of light against dark background.
20	Cincinnati, OH	V: Insufficient data P: Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness did not provide information about photo-graph. The only information was a brief letter. Object looks a lot like a Frisbee
20	Tipp City, OH	Aircraft	Agreed
21	Van Nuys, CA	Missile	Agreed. Minuteman rocket launch from Vandenberg.
21	Nashville, TN	Satellite	Agreed. Possibly Echo 1 and Cosmos 156.
22	Youngstown, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
22	Lebanon, OH	Venus	Agreed
22	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
22	Cincinnati, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
22	Mountain Lakes, NJ	Venus	**NO CASE FILE**
22	Fort Collins, CO	Birds	Agreed
23	Dayton, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. 13-year old
23	Janesville, IA	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
24	San Angelo, TX	Insufficient data	Possibly Arcturus. Time on record card is wrong. MSG states time was 0230-0330Z.
24	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
25	Elmhurst, NY	Conflicting data	**NO CASE FILE**
25	Garfield, NJ	Conflicting data	**NO CASE FILE**
25	Teller, AK	Arcturus	Agreed
25	Salt Lake City, UT	Aircraft	Possibly Echo 1. Time on record card did not account for DST for Zulu calculation. 15-year old.

26	Fairborn, OH	Aircraft	**NO CASE FILE**
27	Coast of SC and GA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Seen by two different pilots but no positional data available. No report forms filled out. Possible flare activity.
28	Crestview, Milton, FL	Insufficient data	Agreed. Reported in April of 1968. Witness claimed 6 objects surrounded/circled his vehicle.
28	Nelson, NV	Conflicting data	Agreed. Witnesses gave conflicting information in form and letter. Moon did not rise until early morning (sighting was at 8PM at night) but they claimed it rose shortly after sighting. Witness also stated they were facing west but then indicated they were looking east on form. It is possible they saw an Agena test launch but the time does not match and the direction in the letter was wrong.
29	Dayton, OH	Aircraft w/afterburner	Agreed on aircraft. Disagree on afterburner. Witness just stated it was a bright light like a sparkler. Landing lights could produce this effect.
30	Lakewood, CO	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
30	Ithaca, NY	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.

October 1967

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
Oct	Newfield, NY	Unreliable report	Agreed. A meeting was attended where many sightings over the past month were described. Most of the information was very suspect.
Oct	Pipp City, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
1	Queens, NY	Aircraft w/advertising sign	Agreed.
2	Cold Springs, NY	Reflection	**NO CASE FILE**
2	Xenia, OH	Aircraft	Agreed
3	Eastern United States	Barium Cloud	Agreed. Barium cloud release from Wallops Island
4	New York, NY	Satellite	**NO CASE FILE**
4	Carmel, WA	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
4	Morgantown, WV	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
4	Lawrenceburg, IN	Satellite	Agreed. Echo 1. 14-year old.
4	Windsor, CT	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
5	Liverpool, NY	Conflicting data	**NO CASE FILE**
5	Diluth AFB, MN	Star/Planet	Agreed. Venus and Jupiter in direction reported. Venus is more likely as the source.
6	Denver, CO	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloons
6	Cincinnati, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon
6-7	Cincinnati, OH	Insufficient data	Two sightings. 1. Possibly Cosmos 54 2. Possibly Pageos 1. Witness made report to duty officer but did not return form.
6	Middlesex, NJ	Aircraft	Agreed
6	Vandenburg AFB, CA	V: Mirage R: 1. Birds 2. Anomalous Propagation	Agreed. This was addressed in Condon Study. Case#35
7	Omaha, NE	V: Aircraft P: Insufficient data	Agreed. 14-year old. Photograph appears to show a light streak and may be the result of shutter vibration or time exposure from point source of light.
9	Denver, CO	Birds	Agreed

9	Tucson, AZ	Hoax	Agreed. Witness claimed UFO landing, analysis/testing demonstrated marks in ground were probably produced by an individual rotating a vertically aligned flat plate in the sand.
10	Davenport, Des Moines, IA	Star/Planet	Agreed. Probably Venus
10	Oelwein, IA	Aircraft	Agreed
10	Lakewood, CO	Unreliable report	Agreed. Witness claimed to have talked to being that came out of craft.
10	Webly, CO	Aircraft	Agreed
11	Rocky Mountain National Park, CO	Insufficient data	Possibly Echo 1 satellite
11	Islip Terrace, NY	Insufficient data	Agreed. Report consists of a letter written by young person, who reported seeing many UFOs over a period of time that was not defined. They appeared to be afraid of the UFOs.
11	Lubbock, TX	Aircraft	Agreed. 16-year old.
12	Ft. Walton Beach, FL	Aircraft	Insufficient data. Witness gave minimal positional information and gave a ? when asked to complete the positional data on the form.
12	Joliet, IL	Aircraft	Agreed. 14-year old.
13	Lake Charles, LA	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
15	Tripoli, IA	Insufficient data	Pageos 1
15-20	Thirodaux, LA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness did not remember date. Reported submitted until February 1968. 15-year old.
17	Gulf Breeze, FL	Balloon	Agreed
18	Oelwein, IA	1. Saturn 2. Aircraft	Agreed. Photographs show points of light against dark background and appear to be stars.
18	Lake Charles, LA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Corpus Christi, TX	Insufficient data	Hoax. Witness claimed object landed and destroyed vegetation. Investigation revealed no radiation and insects as cause of certain vegetation dying.
18-19	Corpus Christi-Robstown, TX	Unreliable report	Agreed. Witness reporting multiple sightings of UFOs.
20	Parkersburg, WV	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
20	Fairborn, OH	Conflicting data	Agreed. In phone call, witness reported one object but then indicated it was two different objects. Witness did not return report form. Object could have been Arcturus. 13-year old
20	Brooklyn, NY	Foreign material on film	Agreed
20-21	Marblehead, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloons.
21	Blytheville AFB, AR	R: Ground targets V: Meteor	Agreed
22	Dayton, OH	Balloons	Agreed. Many multi-colored objects, which looked like a fish with a tail. Possibly balloons released from Circus, which was in town. Moved in direction of wind.
22	Bellerose, NY	Aircraft w/advertising sign	Agreed
22	Milledgeville, GA	V: Hoax P: Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness was 13-year old, who went "UFO hunting" and took pictures of UFO. Photograph looks like a model.
23	Covington, KY	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**

24	Blytheville AFB, AR	Burning barn	Possibly Arcturus setting. Witnesses saw object low in sky. A barn was burning in the direction and BB suspected an inversion made it appear in the sky. Arcturus, which was in the area of the sky mentioned is more likely.
24	Greenville, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. Second hand report from letter. No form returned.
25	Southern MS	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
25	Jasper, AL	Aircraft	Agreed
26	Fairfax, VA	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
26	Pottstown, PA	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
28	Fort Ancient, OH	Conflicting data	Possibly Cosmos 54.16-year old. Time difference between officer recording data from phone call and report submitted by witness.
28	Dayton, OH	Aircraft	**NO CASE FILE**
28	Desota, MO	Satellite	Agreed. Possibly Cosmos 54
28	Desota, MO	Satellite	Agreed. Cosmos 44 Rocket Body
28	Daly City, CA	Birds	Agreed
29	Spotsylvania, VA	Bird	Agreed
29-30	Farmersville, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. Witness reported seeing same object four times over two nights.
30	Garwood, NJ	Aircraft	Agreed. 10 and 12-year olds.
31	Denver, CO	Aircraft	Agreed

November 1967

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
Nov	Aiken, SC	Insufficient data	Agreed. No date/time
Nov	Langley, SC	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
Nov	Nashville, GA	Insufficient data	Agreed. No date/time
Nov	Freeport, IL	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
Nov	Kittanning, PA	Deneb	Agreed. Deneb or Vega. 15-year old.
2	Dayton, OH	Star/planet	Agreed. No direction given making it not possible what star. Possibly Arcturus setting. 11-year old.
3	Geneva, AL	Aircraft	Agreed. Helicopter activity reported in vicinity and time of sighting.
3	Miamisburg, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. 18-year old.
3	Wilberforce, OH	Aircraft	Agreed
4	Hanover, NH	Insufficient data	Possible bird. Witness saw black object pass rapidly over car they were driving.
4	Myrtle Beach, SC	Insufficient data	Agreed. No duration given. Witness made phone call to base from motel and could not be contacted for follow-up. Possibly formations of birds.
4	Tallahassee, FL	Aircraft	Possibly Cosmos 44. 16-year old.
4	Davenport, IA	Insufficient data	Capella
5	Farmersville, OH	Moon	Agreed
6	Garwood, NJ	Conflicting data	Unreliable report. Witness stated object landed and took off. Witness also report two UFOs passed overhead. Witness said one other saw it but, when contacted, the witness denied seeing anything. 12-year old.
6	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**

7	Pottstown, PA	Unreliable report	Agreed. Witness has stated he had seen many UFOs previously. In this instance, his mother refused to come look at the UFO because he felt it was just a joke. 18-year old.
7	Ardmore, AL	Aircraft	Agreed
8	California	Insufficient data	**NO CASE FILE**
8	Omaha, NE	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness reported unidentified radar contacts during a mission in military aircraft. Blue Book attempted to contact individual multiple times for Colorado project but witness/investigating officer never submitted report.
8	Blytheville AFB, AR	Satellite	Agreed. Echo 2
8	Cincinnati, OH	Aircraft	Agreed
9	Miamisburg, OH	Aircraft	Agreed
9	Minster, OH	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft. 13-year old.
10	Collingdale, PA	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft. 10-year old
11	North Olmsted, OH	Balloon	Agreed
12	Parsippany, NJ	V: Hoax P: Small man-made object	Agreed. 13-year old. Parents denied seeing the UFO even though witness stated they did.
13	Springfield, OH	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
13	Cape Vincent, NY	Gunnery flares	Agreed
13	Aiken, SC	Aircraft	Agreed
14	Petersburg, MI	Confusing data	Stars. Probably Capella, Aldebaran, and Betelgeuse.
14-22	Bristol, IN	Confusing data	**NO CASE FILE**
15	Dayton, OH	Stars/Planets	Agreed. Witness reported seeing bright light for an hour and stopped watching. Form sent but not returned. They probably saw Jupiter.
15	Kettering, OH	Rigel	**NO CASE FILE**
16	Ucon, ID	Meteor	Agreed
16	Hazard, KY	Venus	Agreed
16	West Palm Beach, FL	Insufficient data	Agreed. Notes by officer of the day were confusing and contained no useful data. Witness did not return observation form.
18	Walcott, IA	Meteor	Agreed. 11-year old.
18	Covington, IN	V: Insufficient data P: Light source	V: Possibly birds P: Agreed but not clear what the light source was from the photograph.
19	Duluth, MN	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness made report but could not be contacted for further information. Dr. Hynek attempted to contact but was told the witness had moved.
20	Superior, WI	Insufficient data	Possibly Venus and Sirius
20	Massachusetts	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft contrail
20	Athens, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
21	Milton, WI	Insufficient data	Agreed. No time given. Witness sent report forms but were not returned.
21	San Angelo, TX	Aircraft	Satellite. Pageos 1 or Echo 2 rocket body. 17-year old.
21	Farmington, WI	Venus	Agreed. The date was wrong. It was actually March 21 and Venus fit the explanation.
23	Dayton, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
24	Dayton, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloons.
26	Dayton, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. 14-year old

27	Las Vegas, NV	Aircraft	Agreed
27	Mason, TX	1. Satellite 2. Star	1. Agreed. Satellites were Pegasus 1 and Centaur RB. Later observation was probably Echo 1. 2. Agreed. Description appears to be of Vega but could be Arcturus.
28	Ashland, KY	Aircraft	Agreed
28	Kettering, OH	Sirius	Agreed
30	Syracuse, NY	Betelgeuse	Agreed
30	Burnettown, SC	Sirius	Agreed

December 1967

Date	Location	BB Explanation	My evaluation
1	Perth Amboy, NJ	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon. 17-year old.
2	Dallas, TX	Clouds	Agreed
3	Buckley ANG Base, CO	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness reported seeing a bright blinding flash but this apparently happened while witness was inside.
3	Lemoore, CA	Satellite	Agreed. Echo 1
4	Aiken AFS, SC	Stars/planets	Agreed. Lack of positional data prevents identification of which star but it probably was Capella, Rigel, Sirius, or Procyon.
4	Franklin, IN	Unreliable report	Witness reported seeing UFO previously in November 1966. Possible aircraft/helicopter.
6	North Culter, ME	Insufficient data	Possible meteor. 16-year old.
6	Richmond, IN	Insufficient data	Agreed. Second hand report. Primary witness did not file report.
7	Bellevue, OH	Aircraft	Agreed. 17-year old
7	Amanda, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. Letter to Blue Book with very few details regarding directions, flight path, and duration.
7	Honolulu, HI	Aircraft	Possibly Pegasus 1
8	Springfield, OH	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon. 14-year old.
10	Bucks Harbor AFS, ME	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
10	Valley Station, KY	Balloon	Agreed
11	Springfield, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness called base and gave details of UFO passing overhead. Did not leave address or phone number to be contacted for follow-up.
12	Tyler, TX	Aircraft	Agreed. 8-year old
12	Suffield, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. This was a letter from a young individual and had the characteristics of a meteor. However, the witness also stated it lasted a minute. Witness did not return observation form.
12	Dayton, OH	Meteor	Agreed
13	Duluth, MN	Star/planet	Agreed. Probably Capella.
14	Bradford, MA	Confusing data	Possibly Cosmos 44. Witness rambled on about their sighting and included a photograph of a glass swan that supposedly showed the shape of the object. This made the report confusing. However, the data in the report form indicates it is possible that the passage of Cosmos 44 might have been the source.
14	Dayton, OH	Searchlight	Agreed
14	Aiken, SC	Balloon	**NO CASE FILE**
17	Dayton, OH	Venus	Agreed

19	Mahomet, IL	Unreliable report	Possibly Arcturus. Witness' report could not be verified, which is why it was listed as "unreliable". Witness described it as red with pods and hovering for 20 minutes before disappearing. Direction was towards NE. Sky conditions were broken indicating the object disappearing may had been due to clouds.
19	Artesia, NM	Insufficient data	Possibly Sirius. Object seen while driving and it was visible for an hour is same general location. Witness claimed to have recorded it with movie camera. Witness did not return report form or send copy of film.
20	Ventnor, NJ	P: Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness found strange formation of lights on photograph of stars but did not see it while he was taking photographs. 14-year old. Negatives not received.
23	Edwards AFB, CA	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon or balloon with light.
24	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness could not remember specific direction and gave a description that sounded like it was visible for some time but told the officer on the phone that the event lasted only 3-4 seconds. Witness did not return report form. This could have been Capella.
26	Crossville, TN	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness wrote letter describing object visible for 20 minutes but never filled out form. Information in letter insufficient for analysis (witness stated object was visible at 130 degree angle which is confusing).
28	Richardson, TX	Balloon	Agreed. Possible prank fire balloon.
29	Aiken, SC	Insufficient data	Agreed. Original report gave a duration of 6 minutes. One of the witnesses filled out form in June of 1968 and stated it lasted 1-2 hours. Primary witness never submitted their report. Witness also reported to have recorded it on movie film but never submitted it.
29	Cynthiana, KY	V: Hoax P: Small man-made object	V: Agreed. 14-year old. Object looks like a balloon of some kind. P: Agreed.
31	Stamford, CT	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
31	Honaker, VA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Report submitted in May of 1968. Witness stated object moved across multiple states (including Canada) following his car. Claims it came from outer space and that it had a super computer brain.

Reclassification

I evaluated 231 cases in the Blue Book files from August through December 1967. In my opinion, 50 were improperly classified (about 22%). 31 (about 13% of the total number of cases/62% of the reclassifications) of these were listed as "insufficient information". This table describes these cases and how I felt they should have been classified.

Date	Location	Reclassification	Reason
8/1	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Cosmos 54
8/2	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Arcturus
8/2	Omaha, NE	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
8/11	Baudette, MN	Aircraft	Possible meteor
8/22	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Capella
8/25	St. Vrain, NM	1. Missile re-entry 2. Balloon	1. Agreed. This was an Athena missile re-entry test fired from Green River, Utah towards White Sands. 2. This was also probably part of the re-entry test. White Sands Observers stated there were three objects as part of the test.

8/31	Richland Center, WI	Insufficient data	Possible star/planet. Witness did not provide direction of observation but object exhibited characteristics of scintillating star/planet.
9/2	Detroit, MI	Aircraft	Possibly Arcturus. Witness saw stationary lights to NW in same directions as Arcturus. Witness stated there were five lights but then stated lights were flickering on an off in sequence and only. No more than two lights were visible at once based on his description. This effect could have been produced by scintillation.
9/3	Centerville, OH	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
9/6	Cincinnati, OH	Insufficient data	Vega
9/7	New York, NY	Conflicting data	Pageos A. Witness gave conflicting information of USAF craft pursuing UFO. Information about UFO appears to be Pageos A.
9/10	Zephyrhills, FL	Insufficient data	Possibly Echo or Pegasus 3 satellites. Both made passes that might during the time period the witness observed the event.
9/10	Henrietta, NY	Unreliable report	Possible balloon. Witness described a motionless object in daytime visible for 30 minutes. Witness' letter mentioned other UFO sightings, which probably resulted in this being labeled unreliable. 15-year old
9/10	Ann Arbor, MI	Satellite decay	Meteor
9/11	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Capella
9/11 or 12	Lachine, MI	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
9/14	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possibly Capella.
9/14	Ohio, Indiana area	1. Satellite decay 2. Meteor 3. Satellite	1. Meteor 2. Agreed 3. Agreed. Probably Echo 2.
9/15	Cincinnati, OH	Confusing data	Possibly Vega
9/17	Taftville, CT	Insufficient data	Possible Echo 1 satellite. Report made in June 1968. 12-year old.
9/24	San Angelo, TX	Insufficient data	Possibly Arcturus. Time on record card is wrong. MSG states time was 0230-0330Z.
9/25	Salt Lake City, UT	Aircraft	Possibly Echo 1. Time on record card did not account for DST for Zulu calculation. 15-year old.
10/4	Carmel, WA	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
10/6-7	Cincinnati, OH	Insufficient data	Two sightings. 1. Possibly Cosmos 54 2. Possibly Pageos 1. Witness made report to duty officer but did not return form.
10/11	Rocky Mountain National Park, CO	Insufficient data	Possibly Echo 1 satellite
10/12	Ft. Walton Beach, FL	Aircraft	Insufficient data. Witness gave minimal positional information and gave a ? when asked to complete the positional data on the form.
10/15	Tripoli, IA	Insufficient data	Pageos 1
10/18	Corpus Christi, TX	Insufficient data	Hoax. Witness claimed object landed and destroyed vegetation. Investigation revealed no radiation and insects as cause of certain vegetation dying.
10/20	Parkersburg, WV	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
10/24	Blytheville AFB, AR	Burning barn	Possibly Arcturus setting. Witnesses saw object low in sky. A barn was burning in the direction and BB suspected an inversion made it appear in the sky. Arcturus, which was in the area of the sky mentioned is more likely.

10/28	Fort Ancient, OH	Conflicting data	Possibly Cosmos 54.16-year old. Time difference between officer recording data from phone call and report submitted by witness.
11/4	Hanover, NH	Insufficient data	Possible bird. Witness saw black object pass rapidly over car they were driving.
11/4	Tallahassee, FL	Aircraft	Possibly Cosmos 44. 16-year old.
11/4	Davenport, IA	Insufficient data	Capella
11/6	Garwood, NJ	Conflicting data	Unreliable report. Witness stated object landed and took off. Witness also report two UFOs passed overhead. Witness said one other saw it but, when contacted, the witness denied seeing anything. 12-year old.
11/9	Minster, OH	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft. 13-year old.
11/10	Collingdale, PA	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft. 10-year old
11/13	Springfield, OH	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
11/14	Petersburg, MI	Confusing data	Stars. Probably Capella, Aldebaran, and Betelgeuse.
11/18	Covington, IN	V: Insufficient data P: Light source	V: Possibly birds P: Agreed but not clear what the light source was from the photograph.
11/20	Superior, WI	Insufficient data	Possibly Venus and Sirius
11/20	Massachusetts	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft contrail
11/21	San Angelo, TX	Aircraft	Satellite. Pageos 1 or Echo 2 rocket body. 17-year old.
12/4	Franklin, IN	Unreliable report	Witness reported seeing UFO previously in November 1966. Possible aircraft/helicopter.
12/6	North Culter, ME	Insufficient data	Possible meteor. 16-year old.
12/7	Honolulu, HI	Aircraft	Possibly Pegasus 1
12/10	Bucks Harbor AFS, ME	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
12/14	Bradford, MA	Confusing data	Possibly Cosmos 44. Witness rambled on about their sighting and included a photograph of a glass swan that supposedly showed the shape of the object. This made the report confusing. However, the data in the report form indicates it is possible that the passage of Cosmos 44 might have been the source.
12/19	Mahomet, IL	Unreliable report	Possibly Arcturus. Witness' report could not be verified, which is why it was listed as "unreliable". Witness described it as red with pods and hovering for 20 minutes before disappearing. Direction was towards NE. Sky conditions were broken indicating the object disappearing may had been due to clouds.
12/19	Artesia, NM	Insufficient data	Possibly Sirius. Object seen while driving and it was visible for an hour is same general location. Witness claimed to have recorded it with movie camera. Witness did not return report form or send copy of film.
12/31	Stamford, CT	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft

Summary

There were a lot of missing case files during this time period. I had 34 cases out of 265 missing or unable to locate (about 13%). It may have been the case, that the files were sent to the Condon committee or it might have been the case that Dr. McDonald or Hynek might have borrowed them when they were rummaging through the system and never returned them. Others are hard to find because of legibility issues related to the microfilm process. In any case, they were unavailable for evaluation, which is frustrating.

The teenager factor was not as significant this period. Only 40 of the 231 cases were known to come from those 17 years or younger. That is about 17%. One of the cases was from an 8-year old. Most of them came from 12-14 year olds.

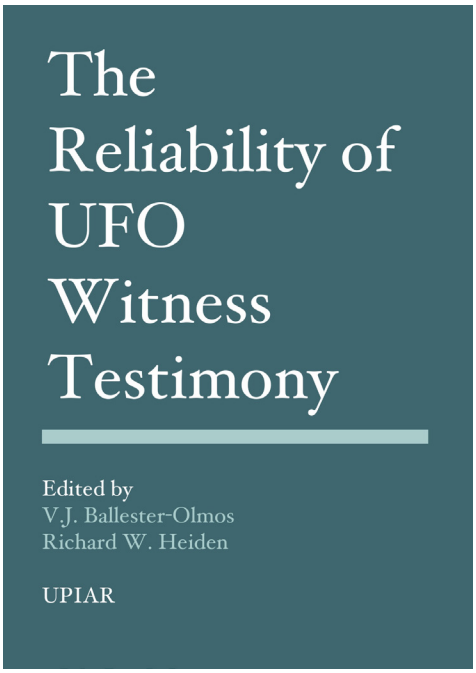
Photographs continue to be submitted with most, if not all, looking like blobs of light or potential hoaxes. I saw no photographs that were compelling to the point they deserved closer examination.

Satellites did produce UFO reports but not as many as the previous time period. Only 26 were identified as satellites. That is 11% of the total. Once again, the placement of the brighter satellites over the United States, during the early evening, played a role in how many satellites were reported as UFOs.

Next issue, I will be covering the time period of January-September of 1968. By the end of the year, I should be done with the last files in the system. If the reader would recall, I started with the year 1953. After 1969 is completed, I intend to go back to 1947 and move through 1952. I expect to be finished sometime in 2025. When that is completed, I intend to produce a summary of the entire Blue Book review.

References

1. "Project Blue Book investigations." Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: https://www.fold3.com/title/461/project-blue-book-ufo-investigations
2. Project Blue Book archive. Available WWW:http://bluebookarchive.org/ (Note: This website is no longer active but some of my files come from this location. It may become active again in the future.)
3. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA/ESRL Radiosonde Database. Available WWW: https://ruc.noaa.gov/raobs/
4. "Stratospheric balloons: Chronological lists of launches worldwide since 1947" StratoCat. Available WWW: http://stratocat.com.ar/globos/indexe.html
5. "Space History Chronology". Astronautix. Available WWW: http://www.astronautix.com/s/spacehistorychronology.html
6. Condon, E. U., et al., eds. Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects. New York: Bantam 1968.
7. McDowell, Jonathan. Historical TLE Elements. Available WWW: https://www.planet4589.org/space/ele.ht
8. Molczan, Ted. Visually Observed Natural Re-entries of Earth Satellites. December 18, 2015



The reliability of UFO witness testimony: A book review

In April 2021, I was approached by Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos to present an article for a book he was writing about UFO witness testimony. I was hesitant to do so since I felt my qualifications fell short of what was required for such a contribution. He convinced me that my participation would be valuable and suggested that my work on the Weinstein catalog would be a good topic. Therefore, I accepted the invitation and wrote an article summarizing my views of the Weinstein catalog cases and UFO lists in general. Recently, the book has been published and was available for download on the net. What follows is my review of the book.

The book is over 700 pages long and jumps from topic to topic. It is a tough read for one sitting and just skimming through the chapters gave my brain an overload. There are 57 articles from multiple authors discussing eyewitness testimony. Each author gave their own views on the subject and each had a lot to say. Eventually, it all blurs together. It is akin to reading the encyclopedia. I suggest the reader stick to reading one or two chapters per session to fully appreciate what is written.

While some of the presentations are written by UFO proponents. The bulk appear to come from agnostics and skeptics. As a result, the initial response from some appear to be that this is a "debunker book". They may have a point but it is important that people understand that the biggest problem with UFO reports is that the bulk of the information comes from eyewitness testimony. As a result, one has to appreciate the problems associated with this data.

The book is broken up into seven different sections, each containing multiple chapters written by various authors. It is not surprising that the largest section involved "case studies". It is also not surprising that the psychological section devotes most of the articles to alien abductions. Other sections contain topics associated with other approaches on the subject. There is such a wealth of information and opinion, that is difficult to cover it all here.

Some will not agree with all the authors but that is the nature of the topic. However, if you don't read the other side of the coin, you can't understand the point they are trying to make. Both sides are guilty of not looking at the arguments to see if they have merit. While it may seem like am overly dismissive in my writings, I do attempt to see if the evidence presented supports the claims. I would hope readers on the other side do attempt to make a similar effort.

The book is a wonderful reference that should be in any UFOlogical library. I am not saying this because I am contributor. I am saying this because the wealth of opinions inside this tome makes it worthwhile resource.