

Stop The Presses

By LANI PRESSWOOD
If you haven't seen a mysterious light in the skies lately that hovers silently, glows three different colors, and then tears off at Mach II speed, then you're just not looking.

Because the UFO is most definitely with us again. From Australia to Alaska the sightings have been pouring in the last few weeks. The official term for the phenomenon is unidentified flying object, the popular one is flying saucer.

And whether your view is official or un-official this UFO thing has got to be the mystery of the century.

Have you ever explored behind the covers of one of the serious "flying saucer books" on the paperback stand? If you want to keep a completely skeptical outlook on UFO's, free from any doubts whatever . . . don't go past the covers.

The one that hooked me was written by a retired Air Force major who seems to be pretty wrapped up in the subject now. He throws out a lot of facts in the book and proceeds from there to some pretty rank speculation about the origin of these things.

Even if you ignore the speculation though, those cold hard facts are still staring at you. And they make the author's charge that the Air Force hasn't been playing fair with the public seem valid. The Air Force has an official bureau called Project Blue Book which has been exclusively concerned with investigating UFO's for nearly 15 years now. The author, a gentleman named Keyhoe, says the Air Force knows a lot more about these babies than they're telling and that their alibi for their secrecy is the fear of a national panic.

Now these are pretty strong words but a few incidents which are virtually part of the public domain by now make you wonder what all really is in the Blue Book files.

The famous Captain Mantell case occurred in 1948. An unknown object was sighted by observers at Godman AFB in Louisville and Mantell was dispatched to investigate. He maintained radio contact with the base, said something was up ahead and that he was moving in closer.

These were Mantell's last words. His plane suddenly crashed and the wreckage was widely scattered. The Air Force said he was chasing Venus.

Then there was the time that UFO's buzzed Washington D.C., back in 1952. People all over the capital city reported seeing a group of strange glowing objects which hovered and maneuvered in the night sky.

Perplexed radar operators on the scene watched the blips in amazement. Finally it was decided to find out what in the Sam Hill was up there. The nearest air base was notified and within a few minutes F-94's were streaking over the Potomac. When the jets approached, the objects accelerated up to tremendous speeds, and hurtled out of sight and off the radar screens, leaving the jets pathetically behind.

And there was the Lake Superior thing a few years ago that to me is even more ominous. Once again, an unidentified flying object was sighted as a blip on a radar screen.

The thing was cruising over Lake Superior. A jet was scrambled and sent up to investigate. As he steadily gained on the object, the pilot kept up a steady radio contact with the radar operator. On his screen the operator watched the two blips, as he gradually moved up behind the other.

Then the pilot saw the object. He said it looked metallic and was glowing and he was going in for a closer look. The radar operator watched his screen with horror at what followed. The trailing blip caught up with the other one and then two blips became one.

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CONSOLIDATED'S BENGAL BELLES

The Bengal Belles, composed of junior and senior girls at A&M Consolidated High School, have returned from a drill team school at SMU where they won a third place trophy in competition. The group will soon begin two-day practice sessions in preparation for the coming football season's halftime activities. Linda Isbel (center) is the drill team's captain.

Governor's Pecan Wager Covered By A&M Prof

If Texas Gov. John Connally loses his bet with Pennsylvania Gov. William Scranton on the Texas-Pennsylvania High School All-Star football game Saturday the Keystone State official will receive the finest pecans the Lone Star State has to offer.

Scranton recently wagered 1,061 apples—one for every Pennsylvania player recruited by out-of-state colleges—that the all-stars from his state would defeat their counterparts from Texas. Connally accepted the challenge and doubled the bet by putting up 2,122 Texas-grown pecans.

Dr. J. B. Storey of Texas A&M, secretary-treasurer of the Texas Pecan Growers Association, read about the bet. He wrote the governor and offered 2,122 pecans to be selected from winning entries in the 1965 Texas State Pecan Show Dec. 15-16 at A&M. Connally accepted.

Storey is an associate professor of horticulture. His letter to the governor read in part:

"We are confident that you will have plenty of apples this fall and that there is little likelihood that it will be necessary for you to supply Gov. Scranton

with the Texas Pecans. However, in the event that Pennsylvania were to win through some accident, the Texas Pecan Growers Association would be more than happy to furnish the choice Texas pecans . . .

"The Texas State Pecan Show is not only the largest pecan show in the world, but is well recognized by the industry as containing the highest quality pecans. The 840 entries in the 1964 show came from about 350 Texans throughout many of the state's 180 pecan producing counties.

"We would even be willing to ship Gov. Scranton a sample of Texas pecans as a consolation no matter how badly the Texas All-Stars defeat his team."

In his letter of acceptance to Storey, Connally wrote:

"It is possible, but not likely, that Pennsylvania will win the game, so I greatly appreciate your offer to furnish the 2,122 pecans from those entered in the 1965 Texas State Pecan Show at A&M. Frankly, it might be worth a defeat in order to introduce Texas pecans to our less fortunate neighbors in Pennsylvania. Perhaps your offer of a consolation shipment to Gov. Scranton would serve this purpose."

The governors also bet on the game last year, and the Texans were thumped 12 to 6. Connally paid off with a pair of silver spurs. Scranton had put up a miner's helmet.

The game will be played at Hershey, Penn., and will pit some of the top high school graduate football talent from both states.

Contract For \$3.25 Million USDA Laboratory Awarded

A contract to design a \$3.25 million toxicology laboratory at Texas A&M has been awarded to Matthews and Associates Architects and Engineers of Bryan.

Rep. Olin E. Teague of College Station notified University officials Tuesday.

The toxicology facility is one of three USDA laboratories costing \$4.25 million to be built on A&M property. The other structures are a \$700,000 cotton pathology unit on the university campus

and a \$300,000 cotton ginning lab planned for A&M's South Plains Research and Extension Center, Lubbock.

Byron T. Shaw, USDA agricultural research administrator, said the toxicology laboratory will be the largest of its kind in the nation. Most of its research activities will be devoted to pesticides and insects affecting livestock, he said.

Charles E. Estes, partner in the Matthews firm, said the con-

Tax Testimony In Consolidated Trial Continues

Testimony continued Thursday in 85th District Court in the civil jury trial pitting the A&M Consolidated School District against complaining property owners.

The suit, styled Roy W. Kelly and others vs. A&M Consolidated School District, contends that the 1965 tax roll omits many items of personal property which they consider taxable such as bank deposits. It also contends that the new assessments made by the district are inequitable.

A jury of nine men and three women was selected Monday as the trial began. Prospects are likely for the trial to continue through next week.

On Monday Tax Assessor William Miller testified that automobiles have been entered on the 1965 tax roll. In Tuesday's proceedings, Dr. Harold Redmond, one of the complaining property owners, volunteered his bank deposits for tax assessment purposes.

Miller agreed to assess the deposits furnished by Redmond, which amounted to slightly over \$5,000. It was the first time that the school district has ever rendered a specific bank deposit.

The property owners who are filing suit claim that the \$32 million valuation recently approved by the district would be nearly doubled if all personal property were rendered.

The plaintiffs have issued subpoenas for the appearance in court of representatives of local firms involved in finance, such as banks and savings and loans

institutions. The subpoenas require them to bring into court individual account statements.

Counter motions requesting nullification of the subpoenas have been filed by attorneys representing the financial firms.

The controversy flared up when the school district revalued from a total valuation of less than \$14 million to slightly more than \$32 million. The tax rate

of \$1.98 per \$100 valuation was lowered to \$1.15 but the assessment was raised from 40 per cent market value to 80 per cent, thus increasing the total valuation.

District Judge John Barron is presiding over the trial. Frank Harmon is representing the school district in court while Mac Bennett is the attorney for the property owners.

Expansion Planned For Civil Defense Program At A&M

Texas A&M's Civil Defense Training Division of the Engineering Extension Service has been awarded a \$105,000 grant by the U. S. Office of Civil Defense to expand its 1965-66 program.

Dr. Willis R. Bodine, chief instructor for civil defense training at A&M, said the grant basically provides for addition of a full-time staff member, additional staff travel for personal contact with local government officials, and two new courses.

"The continuing importance of civil defense is indicated by the increases we have received for our program," Dr. Bodine commented. "The first year we received \$70,000, the second \$80,000."

Gus F. White, formerly with the Texas Department of Health, has been hired as the fifth staff member. He will direct the conference program for public officials and teach Civil Defense Management, one of the new courses.

The other new course is designed for radiological defense officers.

"People tend to think of civil defense as a little-bitty thing," Dr. Bodine continued. "The importance of civil defense has ranked in the top three protective measures in the event of nuclear war by Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara. Only strategic offensive forces and

strategic defensive forces are listed before civil defense."

Basic goal of civil defense is the survival of the American population in the event of nuclear attack on the United States.

Dr. Bodine said emphasis during the year will be on fallout shelters.

"Our target is every elected and appointed public official in Texas," he said. "In turn, we hope they will organize at the local level for disaster preparedness."

A&M's program gives training support to the State Office of Defense and Disaster Relief, affiliated with the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Dr. Bodine noted that local government officials are legally charged with emergency responsibilities.

"This means any emergency which threatens lives of people—tornadoes, nuclear explosions, fires and so on," he stressed.

"Numerous shelters have been located and stocked, but we have few trained managers and have made no practice runs," he added. "We need to find more people to do this sort of thing."

In addition to the new courses offered by A&M's training staff, the curriculum includes shelter management, civil defense planning and operations, industrial civil defense management and civil defense adult education.



W. J. ROBINSON

Psychologist Joins Faculty

An educational psychologist who helped devise some of the psychological tests used in the nation's schools, will join the Texas A&M faculty Sept. 1.

Appointment of Dr. William J. Robinson as an associate professor in the Department of Education and Psychology was announced Thursday by Dr. Paul Hensarling, department head.

Dr. Robinson comes to Texas A&M from the graduate faculty of the University of Tennessee.

"We are fortunate in securing a person of Dr. Robinson's reputation," Dr. Hensarling said. "His services will provide support for our new Ph.D. program in education."

Dr. Robinson will teach courses leading to the certification of school counselors on the master's level and have charge of course work in educational psychology.

Rocket fuel, improved surgical techniques and better steelmaking are a few of the benefits man already has gained from chilling gases to temperatures of minus 296 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

Basic research which may field the secrets for even greater benefits is underway at Texas A&M. The "space race" is a powerful impetus.

Dr. C. F. Squire who helped pioneer the field of low temperature physics heads the Texas A&M project. His studies date to 1935. Two years later he was working intensively with liquefied hydrogen.

"In 1937, I guess, a handful and I were the only scientists in the world fooling with liquid hydrogen," the A&M professor and associate dean said. Now the National Aeronautics and Space Administration almost routinely orders \$75 million worth of liquid hydrogen for rocket fuel.

Liquefied gases are a \$1.5 billion industry expected to double within 10 years.

"Out of the basic research laboratories has emerged this giant worldwide industry," Dr. Squire said. A basic researcher, he stresses, produces new facts and these are the "raw materials" used by the applied sciences in

meeting human needs.

The world of liquefied gases is a strange one, Dr. Squire emphasized.

"Among the fascinating things we find at these low temperatures is the fact that metals lose all resistance to electricity," he continued. Industrial laboratories are exploring ways to use this fact.

"The hope that many of us have is that by studying the gross properties of these materials, we might reach a better understanding of the giant molecules in the life processes," Dr. Squires said. "These giant molecules are almost life itself and they behave according to quantum laws."

The extreme cold slows the motions of the atoms. This allows better study of their properties and interesting quantum laws are followed.

"A fortunate tie-in" of low temperature physics and NASA's programs was noted by Dr. Squire. The liquefied gases are to be used as a fuel source to supply energy within the space vehicle on long duration flights.

Supporting basic low temperature physics research at Texas A&M are The Robert A. Welch Foundation of Houston and a NASA institutional grant. Na-

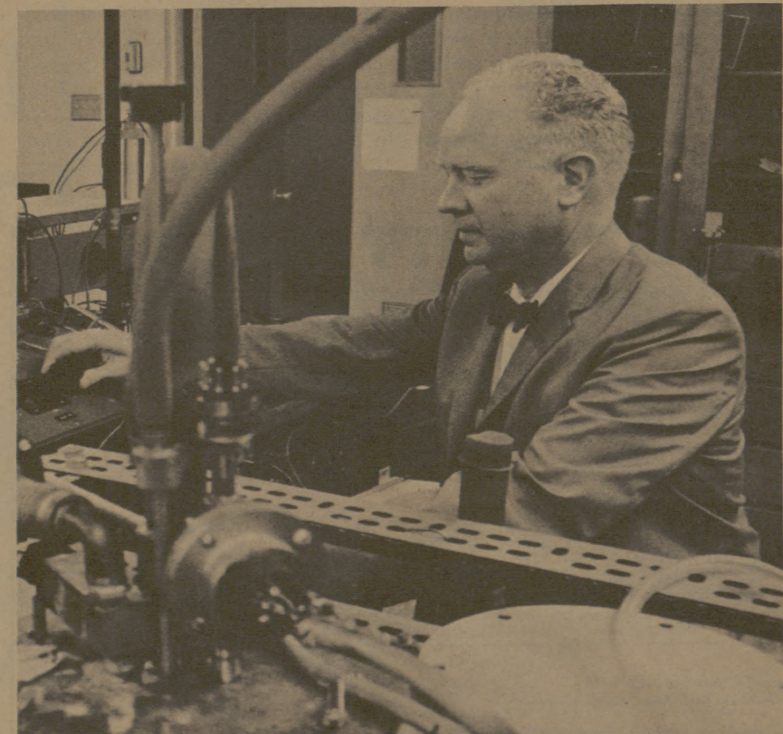
tional Science Foundation funds are sought.

Graduate students working under Dr. Squire speak casually of temperatures of minus 300 degrees Fahrenheit. Atmospheric gases liquefy at temperatures of minus 296 to 320 degrees Fahrenheit.

Absolute zero is calculated at minus 459 degrees and researchers have gotten temperatures as low as 1/1000th of one degree. Dr. Squire has reached within three one-thousandth of a degree—on a different scale—of absolute zero. The world record low is one-ten thousandth of a degree on the same scale. Researchers at Oxford University set this record.

A&M graduate students know liquefied gases can be dangerous although nitrogen is quite stable. Liquid oxygen is the most dangerous.

Among those A&M graduate students involved in the project this summer are: Edward Zamecki, Baltimore, Md.; Donald Naugle, Fort Worth; Robert Kasowski, Houston; Herbert Moeller, Norwalk, Conn.; James Miller, Pasadena; Edward Sharp, Uniontown, Pa.; Dr. Thomas Adair III, Houston; and Donald Avery, Prescott, Ark.



BASIC KNOWLEDGE FROM INTENSE COLD
Texas A&M Professor C. F. Squires uses gases liquefied at temperatures hundreds of degrees below zero to probe the secrets of matter. He is a pioneer in the field of low temperature physics, doing his first work 30 years ago. Liquefied gases now are a \$1.5 billion annually business.