

Gallio (Vincenza) is in the northeast corner of Italy. The CE-III encounter occurred Nov. 24, 1978, at 11:45 a.m. in clear, sunny weather.

quarter past twelve [thus one-half hour later than the D'Ambros sighting] on that same day, on her way from the hospital where she is a pharmaceutical assistant, observed in the clear sky an object with the features of a big oval balloon, but without protruding points. It was moving slowly "at a half hill's height." The lower part was dark and had a metallic appearance while the upper part presented an intense orange, nearly red, color, similar to that of the rear reflector of a car. It also had a band of a lighter color which clearly divided the two differently colored bands. It seemed to the witness to be longer and higher than helicopters she had observed on other occasions. It moved without noise, continuously skirting the hills and continuing northward, into the valley of Santa Caterina of Lusiana. The observation lasted about five minutes.

[The full account by Mr. Chiumiento also contained very brief accounts, largely from newsclips, of reported UFO events in that general area of Italy during the period surrounding the Gallio event. These are of very limited value and have not been included here. The full report by Mr. Chiumiento, in both English and Italian, is available at the Center for UFO Studies. We are grateful to Mr. Chiumiento for this study, and the one to be presented in a forthcoming issue, but we regret only that there is no opportunity for personal corroboration of foreign UFO reports as there is, of course, in the case of domestic reported UFO events.] □

Kenneth C. Schellhase

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan continues to be a hot area for UFO reports in the United States [Ed. note: It is often a question of whether a given area is "hot" or whether it is fortunate in having an active and well known ufologist in the area who is alert to such activity and to whom people turn just because he is well known in the area. There can be no doubt, however, that there has been significant UFO activity in the Upper Peninsula in the past two years or more.] Reports of sightings over the past six years have yielded thirty Close Encounters of the First Kind, two or three of the Second Kind, and one of the Third Kind, plus a dozen or so Daylight Discs and a great many Nocturnal Lights. I have investigated these reports, some accounts of which have appeared in this Journal over the past year or so although the majority remain unpublished.

Here is a recent example of a CE-I:

TYPE:	CE-I
DATE:	Jan. 27, 1983
TIME:	7:00 P.M. EST
DURATION:	5 minutes + 2 minutes + 1 minute
WITNESSES:	1 principal, 1 secondary

Mrs. Peggy Iery, a new mother in her mid-twenties and her husband, Steve, a student, live two miles north of Marquette, Mich., down a winding side road just off CR 550. Returning from the grocery store, a two mile drive from home (X-1), she suddenly saw what she first thought was an airplane coming directly at her on a crash landing course: a large central white light, two small flanking lights—the largest "like a beam of light but not shining down." (Drawing 1). But quickly surmising that it was coming no closer, and that there was no lateral movement either, and, especially, that there was no noise, it gradually but quickly dawned on her that they were extraordinary, perhaps a UFO (on the subject of which she is moderately informed).

The total spread of lights appeared as the size of a dime at 8 inches. They appeared over a rack of a dozen power lines (from a power plant 1½ miles away) and over a tree-covered bluff 2/3-mile away.

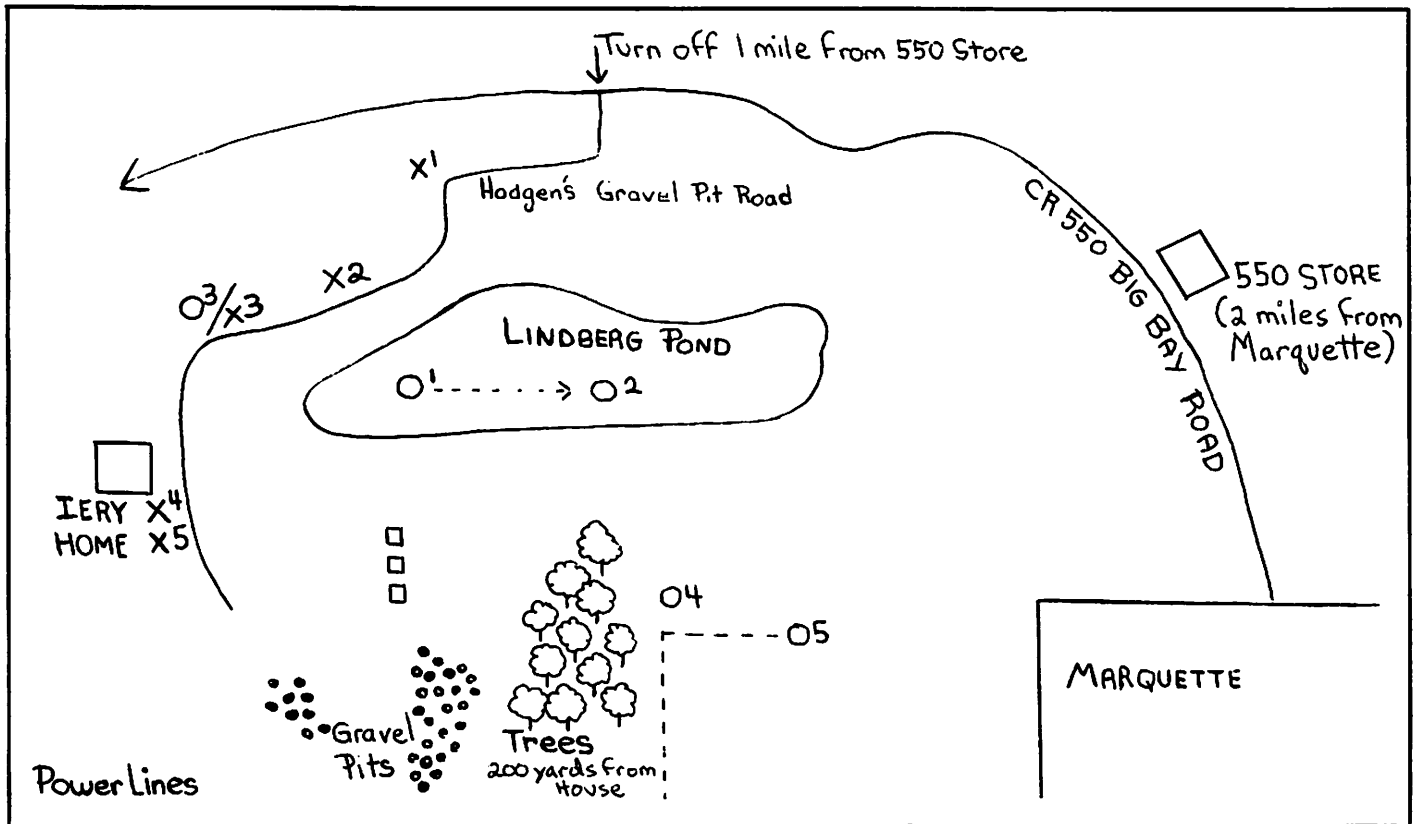
As she continued in the direction of the lights she then saw that they were indeed attached to an object, which now slowly rose and went to Peggy's left (east) over a small pond (O-1). Making the right turn the road dictated, she strained her head increasingly backward in an attempt to get a view from inside the driver's window. In the next tenth of a mile she gradually lost sight of the object. But suddenly it was directly over her car (X-3, O-3) and appeared so huge that it "blocked out the sky, like it was going to wrap right around the car and suck me up."

Described as being bigger than a boxcar or a house, it appeared to her as a perfect pentagon with a small white light at each of the corners; the bottom was silvery and flat. (Drawing 3).

She remembered all the UFO movies and "my mind went crazy." She stepped on the gas and drove the final tenth of a mile home crying, screaming, and cursing. She related how embarrassed she was to think later of all the bad language she discovered she had in her. Steve, who was just sitting down at exactly 7:00 p.m. to take a self-timed test, heard his wife driving up to the house screaming (the car is old and loud and the car windows were up yet he still heard her). Steve ran out the door as Peggy ran up to him shouting about the UFO. Steve tried to calm her down insisting it must have been an airplane.

But then Peggy and Steve both saw four lights (X-4, O-4), but not an object itself (still mainly white but Steve recalls some red and green also) with no hint as to any shape. (The four white lights of Drawing 4 compare indirectly with those of Drawing 1. The

(Continued on Page 12)



KEY TO MAP POSITIONS

- X-1: Peggy first sees UFO.
- X-2: Peggy loses sight of UFO as she drives W/SW and the UFO continues E.
- X-3: UFO is directly over Peggy.
- X-4: Peggy and Steve watch UFO recede.
- X-5: Peggy and Steve watch as UFO approaches, turns quickly S., then W. over the power lines.
- O-1: UFO, at about 10-degrees elevation over the pond, lifts up and moves E. to O-2 between 7:00-7:01 p.m.
- O-3: The UFO is directly over Peggy's car.
- O-4: Stationary between 7:02-7:05, the UFO recedes slowly.
- O-5: UFO approaches from E., veers S., then W. between 7:10-7:12 p.m.

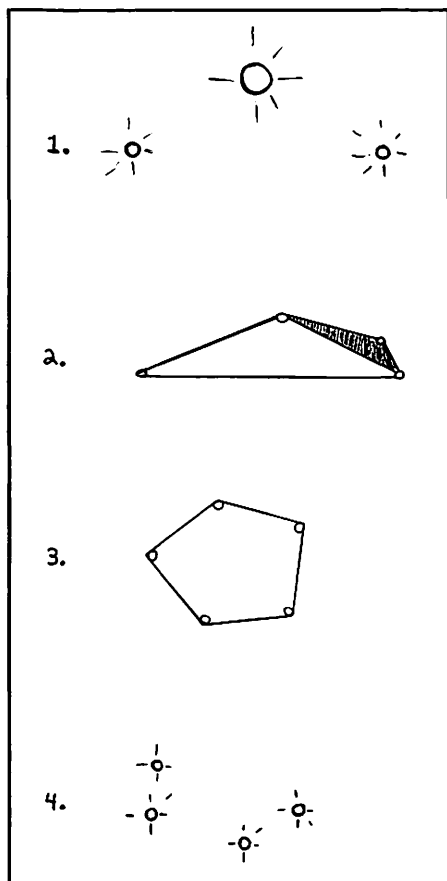
angular size in each case was estimated as that of a dime at ten inches; the elevation above the horizon was only 5 degrees, just over a tree line some distance away, azimuth 125°. At this moment both witnesses may have been observing the star Sirius, altitude 6°, azimuth 122° at that time.)

They watched it for a few minutes (Steve now admitting that "it was definitely no airplane") until it receded out of sight beyond the trees. Immediately thereafter (between 7:05 and 7:10) Peggy talked to her father by phone, telling him of their experience. Since he lives in Marquette also, he went out to drive to a high part of the town to observe it if possible. He took his daughter quite seriously because some three years earlier, and just a few miles from Marquette, both he and his wife observed and reported a "daylight disk," estimated to be some 50 feet in diameter and relatively close.

No sooner had Peggy hung up the

Report from Argentina

(Continued from Page 7)



Argentina of the Russian satellite KOSMOS 1317, as Oberg has correctly pointed out. The entire incident thus can be attributed to hysteria produced by that stimulus.

EVENTS IN LA AURORA:

Carlos Villegas and Adolfo di Lorenzo

La Aurora is a large ranch in Uruguay where many strange things have been rumored to have occurred since 1977. This paper was an extended audio-visual presentation relating the many events at La Aurora. Although the initial incident may have been related to a UFO, it seems clear that many of the later events may have had purely mundane causes; the ranch appears to be becoming a cultist center, and miraculous cures have been reported. The evidence presented in this paper was hardly convincing.

Dr. Willy Smith presented two papers, one informing the South American listeners of the methods of image enhancement as applied to purported UFO photos and the other informing them of the details of the Cash-Landrum case near Houston, Tex. Dr. Hynek likewise presented two review papers, to inform our South American

friends of some of the thinking about UFOs going on north of the equator.

Irene Granchi, Brazilian ufologist well known to many American ufologists, reviewed recent Close Encounter cases in Brazil and their consequences. One case in particular involved the "duplication" of "beings" and another the purported tape recording of a "being" that contacted a young man.

The great difficulty in assessing the final credibility of some of the papers presented at the Rosario conference is our lack of knowledge of the extent and nature of the research in support of the statements and conclusions of those papers.

In a panel discussion, a very significant proposal was made and resolution passed, urging the formation of a "UFOLOGICAL WORLD ASSOCIATION." A commission was appointed to study the matter and to formulate definite plans for the establishment of such an organization. The members of the committee are: Mr. Eduardo A. Ficarotti, Mrs. Irene Granchi, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Mr. Carlos R. Jacks, Mr. Antonio Ribera and Mr. Jesus R. Rovere. □

phone than both she and Steve saw the object approach from exactly the same place it had disappeared (O-5). But this time, they reported, it veered off to the south and then turned west to speed off swiftly over the power lines located to the south of their house. This, obviously, does not fit the Sirius theory. Furthermore, the National Weather Service confirmed Peggy's statement that the weather was cloudy, with clouds at 10,000 and 25,000 feet. The two then talked over their entire experience for about an hour and they then decided to call the Michigan State Police and the Marquette Police. The latter were especially friendly and advised her to call the Air Police at the K. I. Sawyer Air Force Base, about 20 miles south of Marquette.

The conversation between Peggy and the Air Police merits notice. The man said he needed landmarks because the area of Peggy's home was

off his map. Peggy gave landmarks (Sugar Loaf Hill, the Tourist Park, the sand quarries, the power lines, etc.). The man then asked about how high the object was and Peggy estimated 200 feet. He said that was too low for the radar and added "in any case our radar does not go out that far (Soviet Air Force take note). He then asked her to hang on for a minute. Peggy heard him say "Blue Alert" and heard buzzers (she believed she wasn't meant to hear this because the phone was more distant or put down or as though under something). He returned and asked her more about the direction and size and height of the object. He asked her to hold on once again. Two minutes later he got back and said, "I believe you but they told me to tell you

that there's a flight of B-52s coming in from the North at 1,000 feet." End of call.

Neither Peggy nor Steve nor a half dozen neighbors I checked recall any such ear-blasting event occurring that evening. In fact, they hardly heard airplanes in the area. But Peggy and Steve do recall (but no neighbor does) that they heard jets "circling around" five or six times for a few minutes each time between 8:00 and 9:00 p.m.

After calling the Air Force at Sawyer three times over a week's period, and being assured my questions concerning flights over the area would be checked, "We'll get back to you," ... I'm still waiting. □

UFO? — Semantics on the Rampage

by J. Allen Hynek

Dr. Marcello Truzzi, editor of the *Zetetic Scholar*, asked me some time ago to comment on Michael Martin's article in that magazine [#9], "Defining UFO." Martin spent some 2,500 words wrestling with this problem. Jenny Randles and Hilary Evans have already published their comments, both very much to the point (issue #10). Since the matter of defining the term UFO may be of interest to our readers as well, I would like to present my comments to them as well as to the readers of the *Zetetic Scholar*.

Martin exhibits skill as a semantacist and perhaps as a scholastic as well, but it seems to me that he never faces squarely the basic problem: How can one define something that is admittedly "Unidentified" from the start; is this really possible in a realistic sense?

The definition of something is very much a function of what is already known about it. Take "star" for example: a definition can range from "a twinkling point of light on the vault of heaven" or "luminous source of light on the night sky" to "a celestial body whose self-luminosity is produced by nuclear fusion processes." The first definition was appropriate (and still is for poets and lovers) before we knew much about the physical nature of a star, while the latter might not be very satisfactory for all purposes, especially for someone who may never have seen a star. We could, of course, try "A star is a celestial object whose surface temperature is in the range from approximately 2000° K" or, "A celestial object which is similar to the sun," or once again, "A celestial object which results from the gravitational contraction of a large mass of gas and cosmic

dust, becoming self-luminous when its interior temperature and pressure becomes sufficient to initiate nuclear reactions." And those are definitions for something we know about?

Pity one who sets about to define UFO! I know; I tried two definitions in *The UFO Experience*, perhaps sufficient for the purposes thereof, but a dozen others would have been possible. However, perhaps we do need to adopt something so that we are not talking completely at cross purposes, but let us avoid splitting hairs to the point where any definition will resemble more a medieval theological disquisition than a pragmatic working definition.

One thing seems to have been accepted by all those who have attempted serious definitions: a working definition must not be based on an assumed origin of the UFO phenomenon. That could be like defining stars as "lights placed in the sky by angels after the sun goes down." So, to incorporate into the definition of UFO anything implying extra-terrestrial, extra-dimensional, purely psychological, or some even more exotic origin is non-productive, restrictive and can lead only to confusion and dead ends.

We all know what stars look like, yet note how many definitions are possible for them. To attempt a "complete" definition of stars would run to pages and would include equations of nuclear reactions, radiation transfer, etc. How much more difficult to attempt such a definition if one knew nothing about stars and had never seen one. Yet many who attempt a definition of a UFO have never had a

UFO experience to the best of my knowledge.

Yet all of us have (or could easily have) read many UFO reports. There is, then, some justification in attempting a definition in terms of UFO reports, (which I once attempted with partial success in the *UFO Experience*, pp 3-4, 10)). After all, we do not study UFOs; we study UFO reports, and if we must attempt any definition at all, it might as well be an operational definition (something like the operational definition of Science: Science is what scientists do). On this basis a UFO is what UFOs are described to be, and to do, in a UFO report.

Now, if a report is later discarded because a normal explanation has been found for it (a balloon, a meteor, etc.) the contents of the report are no longer unidentified and hence can play no part in the composite definition of UFO which must obviously apply only to things which remain unidentified.

There are many things in life and all around us that are unidentified in one sense or another, in science, in law, in medicine, and especially in the "borderland" regions of human experience: ESP, miracles, leprechauns, astral projection, etc., although there is an extensive literature on all of these subjects. To the extent that any of these enter into the current flow of UFO reports (say, in the responsible UFO journals over the past several years) then they must be included in the operational definition of UFO.

We cannot forget that we are fishing in unknown waters. If our nets

(Continued on Page 15)