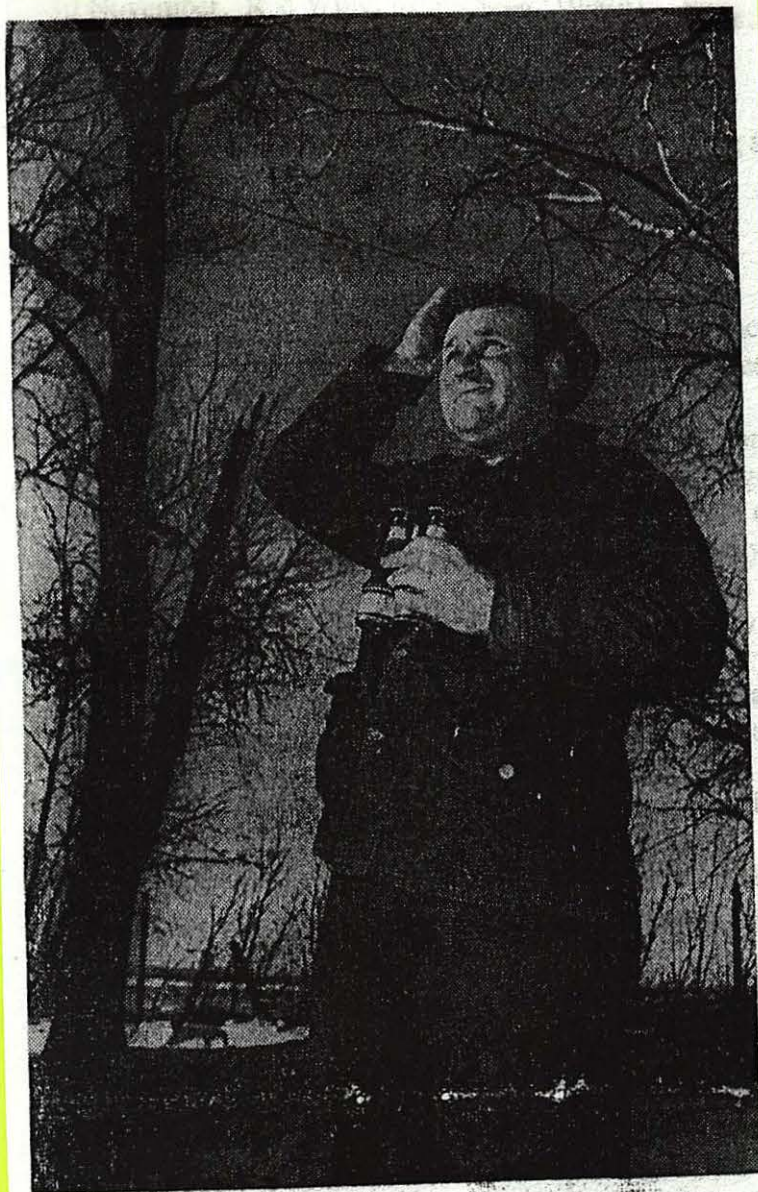


1956: Cottonwood Co., MN

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Harold Thompson, Cottonwood county farmer, saw a flying saucer in the vicinity of Storden last night that "changed from light red to cherry red" and had "several small windows in it." Thompson studied the object for four minutes through binoculars. (Daily Globe photo)

WORTHINGTON, MINN., GLOBE  
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## Area Farmer Spots Saucer in Farmyard

WESTBROOK — Flying saucers which have been reported in South Dakota for the past week have finally come to Southwestern Minnesota.

A 38-year-old Cottonwood county farmer, Harold Thompson, told the Globe he saw what appeared to be a flying saucer at 10 p.m. Thursday and studied the aerial phenomenon through binoculars for about four minutes.

"I just finished chores in the barn and was walking to the house when I saw this thing hovering about three to four hundred feet off the ground."

"At first, I thought it was an airplane," Thompson said, "but then it shot straight up in the air and hovered there for a while."

Thompson rushed into the farmhouse and got his binoculars.

He said he watched the saucer-shaped object change from a light red to a cherry red as the object gained altitude rapidly. At other times, it appeared to be purple and green.

"Then all of a sudden, it disappeared!" Thompson said.

Through binoculars, the saucer appeared to have a number of little windows.

Thompson, who farms four miles south and three east of Westbrook

and who was a student pilot shortly after World War II, said "my wife and I were laughing about all these reports of flying saucers in South Dakota.

"I'm not laughing now. I believe them."



C. 1 week later, a 2<sup>nd</sup> object  
is seen (multiple witnesses)  
from same farm:

8 December. Westbrook, Minnesota. (9:15 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.)

Second saucer sighting at Harold Thompson's farm.

"The latest report on flying saucers is that of witnesses Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thompson, Mrs. Thompson's father, Charles Grinager, who lives with them on their farm 19 miles northwest of Windom, and the two boys, Maton, 9, and Charles 7. This marks the second time this family has seen strange objects in the sky. Last week's *Citizen* carried an account of the first phenomena in the skies witnessed from this farm.

"This group watched an object flit about for one-half hour, from 9:15 to 9:45 Saturday night. Mrs. Thompson called Mrs. Ann Peterson, who lives 7 miles northwest of the Thompson farm, and the latter reported that she could see 'something unnatural' in the direction indicated, but failed to see anything.

"She checked with the boys, Malon and Charles, several times... [words missing] they saw something and that it wasn't just their parents imagination. 'We sure did see it,' they replied.

"It was hard to say just how far southeast of the farm the object was or how high it was or what size because, naturally, there was no standard of comparison. But it was constantly changing colors, Mrs. Thompson said, as it went up it turned a very bright red and as it descended it turned to shades of blue, purple and green. It moved sideways, up and down, sometimes in an oval and other directions, always in about the same area, then it disappeared.

"Mr. Thompson, who has flown airplanes, reported that the object seemed to bank as it turned, as does a plane. He thought he could make out windows once or twice, but wouldn't swear to it. It was maybe a trifle farther away than the object he had seen the week before, and it was more cloudy Saturday than when he saw the other one.

"Mrs. Thompson, said she used to laugh when she heard others report seeing the objects but she doesn't any more. "It seemed to appear from nowhere and disappear to nowhere,' she said.

"When asked what she thought it was she said it must be something being 'perfected for the defense of our country, a deep dark secret, which won't be revealed until it is ready.' (xx.)

(xx.) Windom, Minnesota. *Cottonwood Citizen*. 12 December 56.