

○ Oval or spherical objects.    ◐ Comet or meteor-like objects with tails.    ◌ Cigar or torpedo-shaped objects

## THE GREAT CIRCLE ROUTE — Circa 1954

**P**IONEER Ufologist John Philip Bessor studied the UFO reports of 1954 and drew up a rough map illustrating the distribution factors. This map was published in the Harrisburg (Pa.) *Sun-Telegraph*, February 27, 1955.

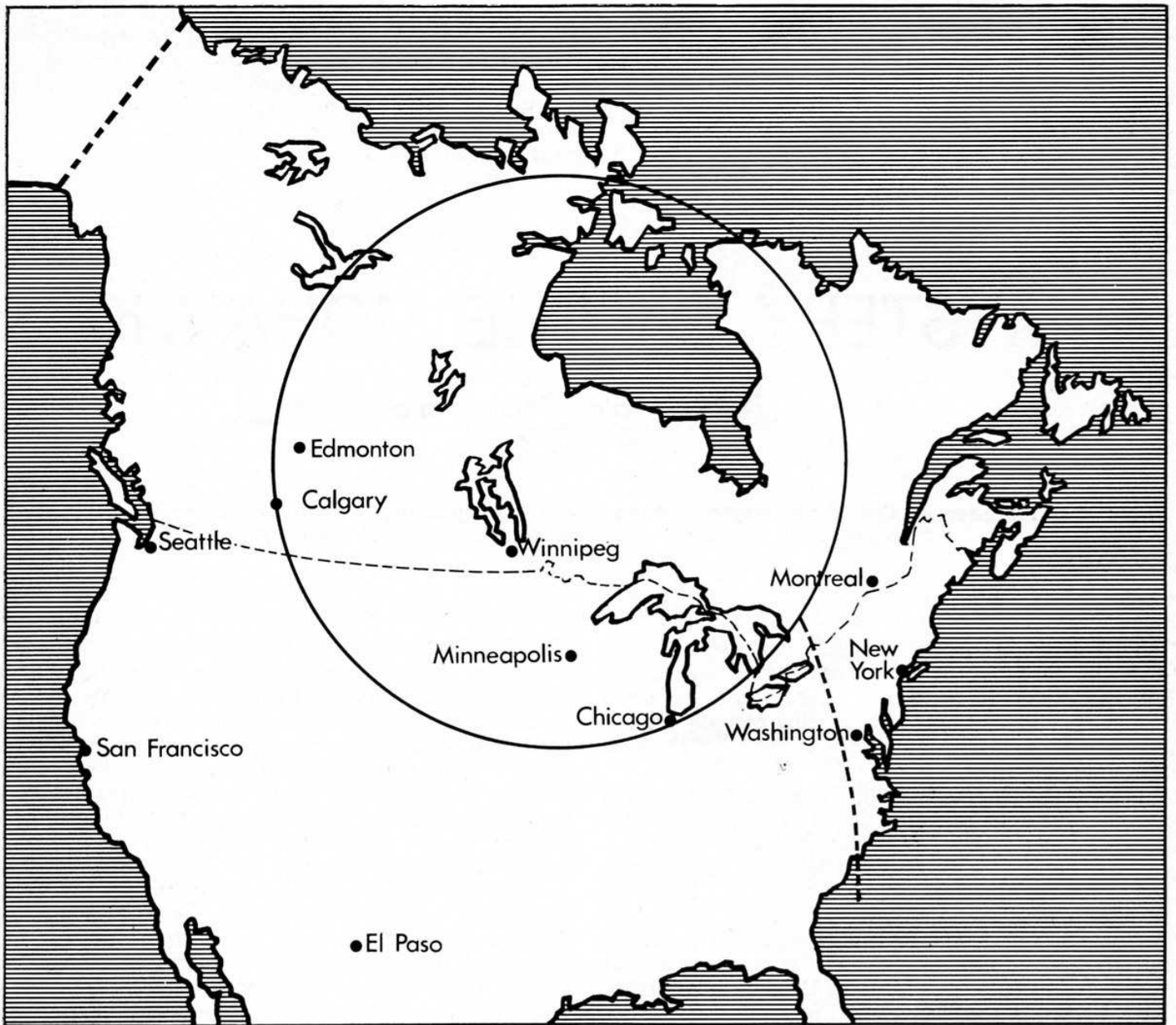
Mr. Bessor noted: "Oddly, the flying saucers adhere to certain 'zones' or 'belts' reaching from British Columbia, Oregon and Washington, through Idaho, Indiana, southern Ohio and into West Virginia."

Although he was dealing with random reports (distribution of information was far from adequate in those days), Mr. Bessor plainly discovered the factors which were still prevalent 12 years later in 1966. Then, as now, the objects were apparently pursuing pre-designated flight paths from the northwest into the

middle west and then back again into the northeast.

Newspaper coverage has improved since 1954, and more witnesses are reporting, so we are now able to chart these courses more precisely. Ultimately we should be able to triangulate the exact point of origin through a careful examination of these "window" areas and the flight paths of the objects.

UFO activity in 1954-55 was concentrated in the same areas which were later affected by the November 1957 "flap" and the "flaps" of 1966. There were sightings in Ravenna, Ohio, in 1955, for example, and that city was the starting point of the famed "police chase" of 1966. The northern part of New York state, particularly the area around Plattsburgh, N.Y., and Au Sable Forks, N.Y., was the site of considerable UFO activity throughout the 1950s.



MAP OF "GREAT CIRCLE ROUTE"

Solid circle shows approximate course of UFO sightings along this route in 1966

Dotted line shows approximate course of "meteor" of April 25, 1966. Note that this course would lead it into the "Bermuda Triangle" sector northeast of Florida. If line were continued northwards it would extend into the upper perimeter of the "Great Circle Route"

ADVERTISEMENT

**JOURNAL OF PARAPHYSICS**

International reputation.

Articles on parapsychics and ufology by world's leading scientists, Russian, U.S.A., Czech, etc.

Parcel of back numbers sent for 30s. (\$5.00).

**Paraphysical Laboratory (UFO Observatory),  
Downton, Wiltshire, England.**

ADVERTISEMENT

**UFO DETECTOR**

Compass-needle principle with SCR latching circuit and two-tone audio oscillator. Battery operated, fully transistorised. Mahogany case.

Price in U.K. £5 5s. (including packing and postage—overseas extra).

R. Adams, 44 Lewis Flats, Amherst Park,  
London N16. Phone 01-£00 0502.

# MYSTERY ON THE MOHAWK

*Jennifer Stevens*

**Founder of the Extraterrestrial Phenomena Investigating Committee, Jennifer Stevens is the editor and publisher of *UFO—Skywatch* magazine.**

**O**VER a period of approximately two years an area on the banks of the New York State Barge Canal (Mohawk River) in Scotia, N.Y., has been the scene of some very strange activities. During periods ranging from several days to several weeks, residents of the area have observed UFOs.

In April of 1967, a woman living in the area was walking a visitor to her car at about 11 o'clock at night. The two women stopped to watch what appeared to be a very large bright star. As they watched, the "star" began to descend. In a matter of moments it was hovering above the trees across the street from them. They were "fascinated" and a little fearful. Suddenly, a baseball-sized projectile, that one of them later described as "an ugly red colour", shot from the UFO, went whizzing over their heads and disappeared into the trees across the street from where they were standing. The starlike UFO then sped away.

One of the women, whom I shall call Peggy G., was still puzzling over the experience the next morning when a neighbour dropped in, remarking: "The strangest thing happened last night. Johnny (her 12-year-old) got up to go to the bathroom about 11 o'clock and rushed into my room all upset. He said he saw a ball of fire go by the bathroom window!" Her home is directly opposite Peggy's driveway.

When Peggy first called me, one evening after our "Skywatch" programme had just gone off the air, she was reluctant to even give me her name. She was, however, deeply troubled and told me a bit about her sighting. It was not until six weeks later that she called me again and gave me her name and consented to an interview. What she told me was strange indeed.

It seems that there had been a great many sightings in the immediate vicinity of Peggy's home. Several of her neighbours had reported dogs missing. One of these neighbours had told several people that "little men" had taken her dog. She became obsessed with the idea

that she should report this to the government. When she attempted to do so, her family was advised that she was suffering from a nervous breakdown. She was confined to a mental hospital for a period of observation and treatment. She refuses to discuss the matter now, but those who are close to her state that she still swears her original story of "little men" is true. People who have known her for many years attest to the fact that she has nothing in her past emotional history that would indicate she was in any way unstable.<sup>1</sup>

Peggy also told me that she had experienced "poltergeist" activity in her home since the time of her sighting. She had seen the shadow of a man "materialize and then disappear" on several occasions and had also seen objects in the house moving, apparently by themselves. Her cat, she said, had taken to suddenly hissing and spitting, arching its back at NOTHING.

All during the time of our interviews Peggy begged me not to reveal her identity due to the fact that she held (and still holds) a responsible position with the U.S. Government. I assured her that it was our policy to guarantee anonymity to those who wished it.

In February of this year (1968) I received a call one evening from a 15-year-old boy who lived in the same area as Peggy. It seems that he and a friend had been packing snow on the river bank to make a slide so their toboggan could zoom out on to the then frozen river. Darkness was approaching, and as the boys turned to go home they saw rising from behind some bushes on an island in the river, a glowing fireball (they described it as "about the size of a basketball") which hovered for some moments before disappearing. One of the boys thought he could distinguish a white-suited "human" form behind one of the bushes. They ran home and told their parents, who in turn called local authorities and were referred to me.

The next morning, approximately 300 yards from where the fireball was sighted, a 16-year-old boy was