

ments have been known to say and to do the most foolish things. There could be some doltish American official who thinks that the saucers are Russian: he could have an inept Russian counterpart who is convinced that they are American. On the other hand, it could be a combination of all the reasons we have suggested.

A much more profitable exercise is to ask why the U.S. Air Force should go on repeating its denials. Why do they have to deny something every three or four years? In answer to this question, we would say that the United States Government is under pressure and it can be coming from only two sources. The sightings over America may have become so frequent that some form of government response could no longer be avoided. Or it may have been that Major Keyhoe and his National Investigations Committee of Washington have applied the pressure and have threatened open Congressional hearings on the subject. If it was pressure from NICAP then we must once more deplore its tactics. To provoke such a statement from such a source is to invite a rebuff. However much we may admire David, it is Goliath who has won this particular round. Flying saucers are a global problem and what the American Air Force thinks (or does not think) is not necessarily final. The trouble is that it appears to be final to the majority of the people in the free world. Flying saucers have been seen elsewhere than in the United States of America. Why then invite a purely American denial? Why should Mr. Wild-

man, for instance, who recently saw a flying saucer in England, look to the American Government for an explanation? The U.S. Air Force release, incidentally, had been made the day before the sighting, but Mr. Wildman's saucer apparently hadn't read it. What on earth have Mars or Venus or the distant stars to do with Washington alone?

Fear, greed, apathy and ignorance could well account for a government's reluctance to speak openly on the most important topic of our time, but the weakness of conceit is probably the overriding reason. How could a department of one solitary government admit that its territory was being overflowed at will and with impunity? How can one expect the military to concede that the country is defenceless against an alien and a superior technology? And while America and Russia live in mutual fear, they will both hesitate to introduce a complicating factor which might produce an incalculable reaction. It is better by far, the argument may run, to keep silent for as long as possible. Whether this policy is wise or not is another matter: a course of action imposed by fear is often unwise and wisdom and government seldom march together.

The moral is quite clear. Those who believe in an unfashionable truth must look to themselves for salvation. No government will help us until we have prepared the ground. There is no short cut: if the majority is to learn it is the minority that will have to do the teaching.

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## PHOTOGRAPHS

We often receive requests for photographs and even films of flying saucers. Apart from the collection which we advertise in these columns, the copyright of most of the photographs which have appeared in the *Flying Saucer Review* do not belong to us and positives have been lent to us merely for the purpose of reproduction and for illustration of an

accompanying article. We regret, therefore, that very often we are unable to help our readers beyond referring them to the owner of a particular photograph. We hope it will be realised that we have no photographic library and, in any case, we are unable to supply negatives which are invariably retained by the owners of the copyrights.

# The Campinas Sighting

by Professor Charles A. Maney

The Campinas sighting and its residual tin has for several years led to controversy among students of the flying saucer mystery. In our November-December, 1960, issue, for instance, Dr. Rolf Weber asked why nothing further had been heard of the metal or its analysis in spite of the fact that research might have produced the most convincing proof of all the saucer incidents. Professor Maney has now written the most authoritative summary of this mystery yet to appear. Professor Maney (of Defiance College, Akron, Ohio, U.S.A.) is co-author of the recently published book, *The Challenge of the Unidentified Flying Objects*, which was reviewed in our previous issue.

THE confusion associated with early accounts of the Campinas, Brazil, sighting of December 13, 1954, is due in large measure to the faulty character of news sources of the incidents from which the UFO investigators first secured their information. The writer himself, who has depended upon these first news reports for his previous interpretation of aspects of this sighting, finds it necessary to admit that as a result of having since secured more accurate and complete information on the details, he must to some extent modify his original stand. While it is true that some of the statements, in particular those pertaining to the analyses of the metal samples supposedly associated with the sighting have need for correction, let it be said, however, that the more complete and accurate later information received about the incident as a whole serves only more firmly to establish its reality.

The writer is especially indebted to three estimable and sincere UFO investigators from Brazil, Dr. Olavo Fontes, Mr. Escobar Faria and Mr. Auriphebo B. Simoes, and Mr. Alexander Mebane, chemist and official of Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York City, a dedicated scientist of sound judgment, for his sources of information.

Dr. Olavo Fontes has supplied the writer with the most recent account of details of this incident, which account reflects the splendid talent for UFO research possessed by this man of scientific background. In generous manner, Dr. Fontes has given the writer permission to use material quoted below.

I first quote from Dr. Fontes's two testimonies

in regard to the sighting secured at the time of the incident, from two persons of excellent reputation, Professor Benedito G. Nascimento (retired), the neighbour and friend of the lady who saw the phenomenon, and Mr. Luso Ventura, chief editor of the newspaper *Correio Popular*.

On December 23, 1954, he (Professor Nascimento) was interviewed personally by a reporter from the newspaper *O Globo*, who was in the city to make a full investigation of the incident. He made the following report (transcribed verbatim):

"Ten days ago (on December 13, 1954), when several flying saucers were sighted over the city, I was called by an old friend, a lady, who invited me to go at once to her home to see an amazing thing. After arriving at the place, she told me that she was in her backyard when she spotted the approach of three flying saucers, crossing the skies. Then one of the craft, round-shaped, dull-grey in colour and resembling two plates turned upside down and put together, dived suddenly over her house; one of the plates was fixed, but the other was spinning like a top. The object came very low over her roof, emitting a strong light—which illuminated the house for a few moments, like daylight. A liquid substance dropped from it and was falling toward the ground—like a kind of 'silver rain.' After the first moments of stupefaction she ran to the spot where the 'silver rain' had fallen and saw something shining—a brilliant glowing stain, spread over the cement near the washing-tank. She even tried to touch it, but stopped when she felt the heat it irradiated. Then she called me. After

collecting the material apparently dropped from the saucer, I delivered it personally to the office of the newspaper *Correio Popular*. Later I left that place, together with a reporter, and we delivered the material to a chemist, to be analysed."

The other witness is Mr. Luso Ventura, chief editor of the newspaper *Correio Popular*. He was interviewed by the correspondent of the newspaper *Tribuna Da Imprensa* on December 23, 1954. He made the following statement (transcribed verbatim):

"A lady of proved identity who expressly asked us to keep her name unknown (for personal reasons) was in the backyard of her residence, at Major Solon Street, in Campinas, days ago—when she sighted a formation of three flying saucers in the sky. Flying at high speed, the three rounded cone-shaped craft were entirely different from any ordinary aircraft and she rapidly understood that they showed the characteristics of the so-called flying saucers. Amazed, she watched the objects manoeuvring in the sky. Then in one of these evolutions, she noticed that a liquid substance had dropped from one of the saucers. Part of this material fell in her backyard; the rest probably had fallen over the nearby houses. Approaching, she saw a boiling, incandescent substance spread on the cement near the washing-tank. The glowing stain appeared to have about 10 centimetres in diameter. Frightened, she called one of her neighbours, the Professor Benedito Goncalves Nascimento, a man of solid reputation in the town, who has had some articles on financial matters already published in the

*Correio Popular*. He waited for the material to cool off gradually and collected it. Afterwards, he reported the case to the radio stations in the town and to the *Correio Popular*. The newspaper took the charge of delivering the already solid material to the chemists of the Young Laboratories to be analysed. One of the technicians, after sighting the sample, said the following: 'This substance presents all the characteristics of tin, at naked-eye. I am going to analyse it carefully and, in a few hours, I shall report the results of the chemical tests.' I will give later to the *Tribuna Da Imprensa* more precise information about the sighting, the name of the chemist and the results of the chemical analyses. To finish, I would like to stress that Mr. Benedito Goncalves Nascimento is a truthful and reliable witness, a citizen of very good reputation. I have accepted his report of the facts in this case as the expression of truth."

According to Dr. Fontes, while Professor Nascimento waited for the hot molten metal to cool off, he phoned some friends to come to the scene at once. Before a number of witnesses who had gathered at the place the material was collected and brought to the office of *Correio Popular*. (See the accompanying photo of this material as loaned to the writer by Mr. Auriphebo B. Simoes.) From the newspaper office, the material was taken to the Young Laboratories, 584 Francisco Deodoro Street, Campinas, to be analysed.

The metallic sample was analysed by the chief chemist, Dr. Visvaldo Maffei, before several

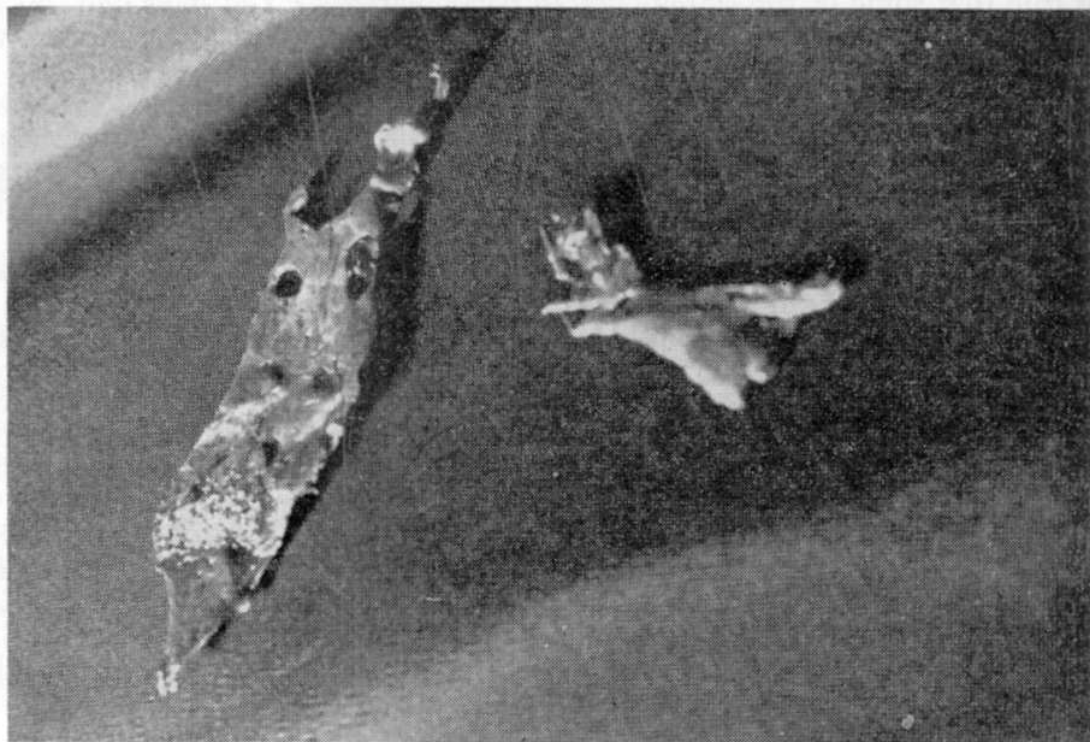


Fig. 1. Photograph of Campinas metal loaned to Professor Charles A. Maney by Auriphebo B. Simoes.

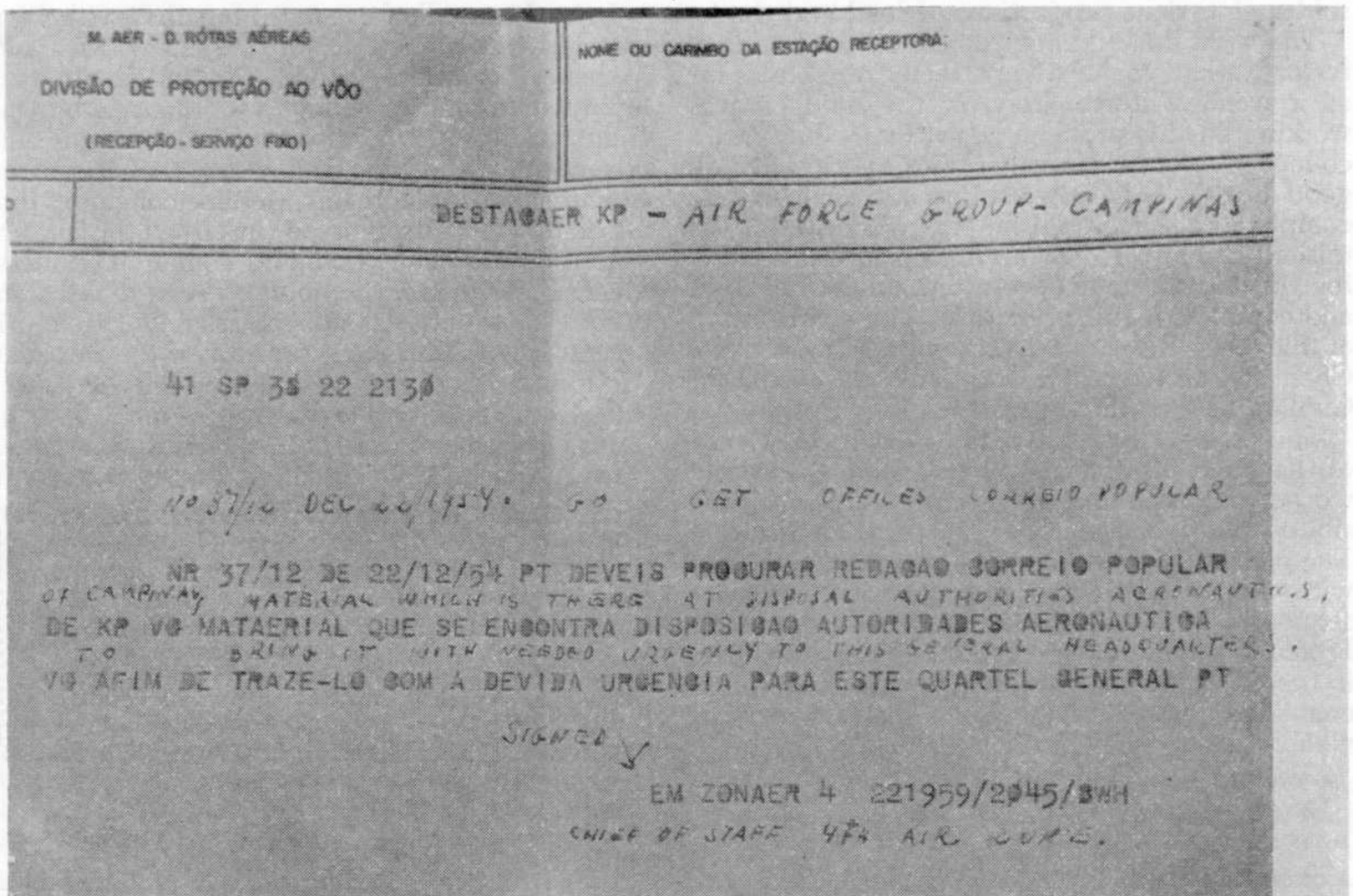


Fig. 2. Photograph of Brazilian Air Force directive to collect material seen to fall from a UFO on December 13, 1954, at Campinas, Brazil. Photograph loaned to Professor Charles A. Maney by Auriphebo B. Simoes.

witnesses. Six hours later, Dr. Maffei released to the press the following report (transcribed verbatim):

“The sample analysed is a combination of chemically pure tin—88.91 per cent.—and oxygen—11.09 per cent., as oxide. No other element or impurity of any kind was found in the material in question. In other words, the analysis proved the substance to be really a metal, which is definitely tin—in high concentration and exceptionally pure; and with no impurities or trace elements, excepting oxygen which came from the oxidation in contact with the atmosphere.

“Observation: The results above refer only to the sample received, which weighed 1.30 grams.”

According to Dr. Fones, the incident made headlines all over Brazil. The report of Dr. Maffei was published by Rio de Janeiro’s newspapers on December 22, 23, 24, 1954.

The Air Defence Command at Rio de Janeiro (on December 22) sent immediately an emissary to get the sample of metal at Campinas (see the accompanying photo of the directive of Chief of Staff, E. M. Zonaer, 4th Air Zone, with English

translation written in, loaned to the writer by Mr. Auriphebo B. Simoes). He (the emissary) was the 3rd Sergeant RTTE Nelson Bandeira da Silva, who left a receipt in the office of the *Correio Popular*, where the material was deposited. The results of the analysis made by the Air Force, however, were kept secret. An official statement was promised, but never released. I was informed that exhaustive tests performed by the Air Force chemists only confirmed the results obtained by Dr. Maffei.

A considerable number of samples of metal were collected from the vicinity of the fall at later dates by persons unknown and brought to the offices of the *Correio Popular*. A few of these samples, very small in size, were acquired by members of the Brazilian UFO research group, Centro De Pesquisa Dos Discos Voadores, in October, 1956, some twenty-two months after the actual date of the sighting. There is no way of proving that these samples collected at a later date were metals which had fallen from the UFO. All of the *completed* tests on these various samples showed the metals to be antimony-free

solder of various proportions of lead and tin.

The work done on one sample by the late Professor Nathan Meltz was perfectly reliable as far as it went. Unfortunately, at the time he was working on this problem he was very busy with college classes and, furthermore, he was not in good health. Somehow, before his analysis was completed the material he was working on was mislaid and lost. However, Professor Meltz's tests for tin and antimony were carefully conducted and completed, and his findings agree with those of the Oak Ridge scientists, and Lex Mebane, Chemist of New York City and an official of Civilian Saucer Intelligence.

The writer determined the density of a part of the small bit of material that Professor Meltz worked on and found it to correspond to the density of solder, considerably heavier than pure tin. The piece of metal which Professor Meltz worked with was no larger than a grape seed, and consequently its density was not readily apparent. Professor Meltz did comment at the time that if the substance he examined were solder and contained lead, it did not act like solder with which he was quite familiar.

Later I sent all of my notes together with what was left of the sample of metal to Mr. Lex Mebane, because I valued his judgment very highly. These notes included an analysis by Oak Ridge scientists, who also found the sample free of antimony and who concluded that the metal examined was solder. Lex Mebane concludes that all of the samples sent to us from Brazil are solder, a judgment in which I concur. The metal identified as the original portion seen to fall from the UFO, which was analysed by Dr. Maffei, is presumably still in the possession of the Brazilian Air Force.

### *The Flying Saucer Tie*

The first response to the suggestion published in our March-April issue has been encouraging and we hope to be able to make a further announcement in our next issue.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



The following photographs are available in half-plate size at 1s. 6d. each (post free). Complete set of 10 for 15s. (post free).

1. Venusian scout ship photographed by G. Adamski, December 13, 1952.
2. Venusian scout ship rising, showing underside details. Photographed by G. Adamski, December 13, 1952.
3. Flying saucer over New York. Photographed by August Roberts on July 28, 1952.
4. Mother ship releasing scout craft. One scout has begun to leave.
5. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Two scouts have taken off.
6. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Five scouts have left the ship.
7. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Six scouts are now to be seen.
8. Giant carrier ship photographed at 7.58 a.m., May 1, 1952, by G. Adamski.
9. Submarine type space ship, photographed March 9, 1951, by G. Adamski.
10. Space ships photographed near the moon, May 16, 1951, by G. Adamski.

When ordering please give numbers of photographs. Send order with remittance to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, 1 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, England.

# THE EGYPTIAN "AIR RAIDS"

## *A study in confusion*

by Waveney Girvan

IN the March-April World Round-Up feature the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW published the brief accounts of two incidents which occurred over Egypt on the nights of January 27 and 28. Unidentified planes had overflowed Egyptian territory, causing a two-hour blackout on the former occasion: on the latter, ack-ack guns had opened fire. On January 31, the unknowns returned and ack-ack guns opened fire once more. The "raids" were all over the Suez area.

The Press reports were very brief, though the *Daily Express* carried them at the foot of its front page. Most people, therefore, overlooked the item altogether, although the story was sensational enough: if Egypt was being regularly raided then the Middle East must surely be ablaze and the risk of a nuclear war imminent. But nobody seemed to care.

When does an air raid become an "air raid"? I felt that in this question might lie the clue to the mystery. I therefore telephoned the foreign news editor of the *Daily Express*, only to discover that his department was as mystified as I was. They had, I was told on the telephone, been trying to find out more about the news items which they had printed. Apparently, they drew a blank for, as far as I can discover, the *Daily Express* printed nothing more about the matter.

### **The official view**

Before I relate the next step in my inquiry, it should be mentioned that UFOs have not been known to visit Egypt. There is nothing on my files relating to Egypt, but I am open to correction on this point. I do not believe, however, that the Egyptians have heard very much about the flying saucers. One is, therefore, dealing with a virgin public opinion in that country and one is able to study the reaction to UFOs at a primitive stage. Public opinion in Egypt, as far as I can tell, is at the same stage as was the United States prior to 1947. I must also make it clear that I do not know what the objects were that flew over Egyptian territory. I suspect that they were fly-

ing saucers that were caught on radar and so precipitated a reaction on the part of the Egyptian Air Force. It seems, indeed, the likeliest solution to the mystery. What is really important, however, is the reaction of more than one government and it throws a light, I think, on the official point of view—wherever saucers appear.

My first move was to telephone the Egyptian Press Attaché in London. He told me that the objects were unidentified planes. I asked him if they could be Unidentified Flying Objects or UFOs, as they are officially referred to in America. He didn't altogether like the word "objects" and preferred the word "planes." Could they, I asked, have been flying saucers? Emphatically he denied this possibility: the objects, or planes, were solid. He wasn't prepared to admit that saucers could be solid, so for the remainder of our conversation I was obliged to refer to the unknowns as "planes."

### **The next step**

My next question was to ask the Egyptian Press Attaché whose "planes" he thought they were. Without hesitation he blamed the Israeli Government. The only other fact I was able to elicit was that no damage had been caused by any of the "raids" and the unknowns hadn't been hit by the ack-ack guns because they had been flying much too high. Apparently, the Egyptian Government had imposed a censorship.

I then rang the Israeli Press Attaché in London and repeated to him the Egyptian accusation. His reply was to the effect that the Egyptians were in a state of nervousness at the present time and ready to believe anything. I pointed out, however, that they seemed to believe that they had been overflowed by unidentified aircraft. The Israeli official assumed a very knowing tone of voice and after much hesitation told me that the Russians were becoming very interested in Egyptian territory. Israel, he went on, in any case would not be interested in the Suez area for reconnaissance. The part they would be interested