Sir Francis Chichester June 10, 1931

Sir
(A) Primary witness: $\qquad$ Francis Chichestor
crew: P, CP, $\qquad$
(B) Second witness: $\qquad$ crew: P, CP, $\qquad$
(C) Thind witness: $\qquad$ cren: $\qquad$
(D) Other witnesses \& circunstances:
$\qquad$
Case No,
Date: 6-10-31 Time: /500 < $\mathrm{N}=$ $\qquad$ observ. Allitude (ft) $\qquad$ $K_{1}$
$\qquad$ IFR, VFR


2.1 oria. bearing: NW cieg. Changed to: (Type:Abs., Ind., Press. True)
3.1 Alt. Ehg. due to sighting? yes, no (if yes, cont. 3.2)
3.2 A/C ascent, descend
3.3 Eate of 3.2: $\qquad$ ft/sec accurate, approx.
2. A/C Attitude: $\qquad$
$\square$
$\square$
$\qquad$ Elustelai 1.1 Sighting (initial) Iocation: $\qquad$
 $\qquad$ 2. Did $4 / C$ change fit. beering due to sighting? res, no
○ (if yes, cont. 2.1) 2.1 Orig. bearinz: NW cies. $\qquad$
$\qquad$ eg.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 5. Jther } \dot{A} / \mathrm{c} \text { involv. ves, no (betails in 5.1) } \\
& \therefore .1
\end{aligned}
$$

$\qquad$
$\qquad$ Raracteristios
9.' TAS: $\qquad$
70. GIT; $\qquad$ $1500 L$ $\qquad$
33.2 accel: $\qquad$
12. -oca Suartins /500 Lunane: $\qquad$
34.1
35. Iuninosity: Dull-Grey White
35. Sin ololoug pearl.
37. Became tramporcht
 38.1 Phot.os ( 38.2 (38.1 details) $\qquad$
39. No. UFOs: one 40. Atmosph. traces: $\qquad$ 41. Uru: Ariendly, hostile,none 41.1 (41 details) $\qquad$
(c): $\qquad$
(C) : $\qquad$
(3):
(C):
suddenly varished fom direct Vrew
43. Altitude:
14. Misc. "Dis3ling flashes"
aleo seen. Decreaed In size ces it appacieluod

1931: June 10, afternoon, Tasman Sea. Sir Francis Chichester
"A flashing airship" seen from Chichester's converted "Gypsy Moth" aircraft.
Chichester first published his account in 1932.
A/C Code: P
GXE codes: _ _ E
(Converted "Gypsy Moth")
Sources:
The OZ Files, William Chalker (Duffy \& Snellgrove, Australia, 1996) page 34

THE LONELY SEA AND THE SKY, Sir Francis Chichester

For $85 \mathrm{sec} B \& \omega$ video interview with urtuen see.:

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\text { www. youtube. com/watch ? } V=\varnothing C A Z H E K 5 r V \& \text { feature }= \\
\text { email }
\end{array}
$$

Just as a rider was passing by, out of that graveyard came the biggest Jack-O'-Lantern in Australia!" The old Min-Min 'pub' and "main-change" station, used to stand at the boundary of two big stations in the Boulia district. Sightings of the light were not entirely the stuff of colourful legend for, even up until today, sightings continue. Various explanations have been bandied about, but none have succeeded in completety dispelling the procession of peculiar tales that have come out of the area (16).

During 1925, a young English migrant, Thomas Green, was working on a farm, north of Perth, Western Australia, in the vicinity of Moors. One day, Green claims he was out riding with the son of the owner of the farm. They came upon an object resting in a paddock. It was like two saucers placed edge on edge. Around the outside were oval shaped windows. The object was resting on four legs splayed outwards. It was not of "any colour of the spectrum" and appeared to be shimmering as if seen through a heat haze. There was no sound in evidence and the object appeared to be deserted. The farmer's son declared that they should make a hasty retreat and not tell anyone of their find. Several days later, the two returned to the site to find the object was gone. Where it had rested, the earth had been scuffed about (17).

That truly remarkable man, the late Sir Francis Chichester, encountered an inexplacable aerial phenomena, while making the first solo plane flight across the Tasman Sea, between New Zealand and Australia, in 1931. From his beautiful book, "The Lonely Sea and the Sky", we follow his encounter. At 3.00 p.m., on June 10 , just after seeing the S.S. Kurow battling its way through heavy seas below him, Chichester decided to fly north-west, to avoid facing a storm that lay in his path: 'Round the storm we flew into calm air under a weak lazy sun. I took out the sextant and got two shots. It took me thirty minutes to work them out, for the engine kept back firing, and my attention wandered every time it did... Suddenly, ahead and thirty degrees to the left, there were bright flashes in several places, like the dazzle of a heliograph. I saw a dull grey-white airship coming towards me. It seemed impossible, but I could have sworn that it was an airship, nosing towards me like an oblong pearl.

Except for a cloud or two, there was mothing else in the sky. I looked around, sometimes catching a flash or a glint, and turning again to look at the airship 1 found that it had disappeared. I screwed up my eyes, unable to believe them, and twisted the seaplane this way and that, thinking that the airship must be hidden by a blind spot. Dazzling flashes continued in four or five different places, but 1 still could not pick out any planes. Then, out of some clouds to my right front, I saw another, or the same, airship advancing. T watched it intently, determined not to look away for a fraction of a second: lid see what happened to this one, if I had to chase it. It drew steadily closer, until perhaps a mile away, when suddenly it vanished. Then it reappeared, close to where it had vanished: I watched with angry intentness. It drew closer, and 1 could see the dull gleam of light on its nose and back. It came on, but instead of increasing in size. it dim- $e t$ inished as it approached. When quite near, $k$ it suddenly became its own ghost - one second I could see through it, and the next it had vanished. I decided that it could only be a diminutive cloud, perfectly shaped like an airship and then dissolving, but it was uncanny that it should exactly resume the same shape after it once vanished. I turned towards the flashes, but those too had vanished. All this was many years before anyone spoke of flying saucers. Whatever it was I saw, it seems to have been very much like what people have since claimed to be flying saucers" (18).

A fifty year old man recounted, in 1974, the story of his encounter with a mini-UFO back in 1932 or 1933, near the town of Nambour, in Northern Queensland. He was 8 or 9 at the time and, at about 2 p.m. one afternoon, in about late March or early April, he was playing with some local childrem. He strayed from them and went over to a nearby hillock, which was surrounded by a small body of water: "...l put both hands up in front of me and parted this tall grass to look through. I heard a low humming sound and saw a round object directly in front of me, about four feet away. It looked the same shape as if two ordinary saucers were placed face to face and then turned on their sides... The colour of the object was the same shade of silver grey as a Canberra bomber looks on a dull, rainy, overcast day... The size of the object was 12 inches

## AIRCRAFT/UFO ENCUUNIERS

1. SERIAL NUMBER: 310610-001 INITIAL X FOLLOW UP
$\qquad$
2. DATE: 31.06.10
3. COUNTRY: Btn Austr \& NZ
4. AIRCRAFT CODE: $P$
5. TYPE OF PLANE/WITNESS(ES): -------/Sir Francis Chinchester
6. UFO DESCRIPTION: "dull grey-white airship" seen in the distance.
7. RADAR CODE: 10. GXE CODES:
8. SOURCES: THE OZ FILES, by Bill Chalker (Duffy \& Snellgrove 1996)

ADDITIONAL DATA.
12. COMPANY/FLIGHT NUMBER:
13. AIRCRAFT ALTITUDE:
14. AIRCRAFT HEADING: Northwest
15. FOLLOW UP: I have Chinchester's book which give type of aircraft he flew and a diagram of his flight that day. I will send a copy when I locate the book.
16. REMARKS:

Copies to: Barry Greenwook $\quad \mathrm{X}$ Loren Gross $X$
Dr. Richard Haines $X$
Richar: Hall $X$ Jeff Lindell Ed Stewart X

# Sighting Over Tasman In 1931 

The youth of Britain had inuched rock-brotom six or nine months ago, but Chichester said he could sense a change of attitude.
'If we can only get a leader -it would have to be a political leader-ue can become a virile country again." he said. Al the moment, the British people were robbed of all inConnive to make a big effort.
"Yo use penalised so much
SIR Francis Chichester - aviator, navigator, ocean racer, author-is also a pioneer in another field: the sighting of unidentified flying objects.
Britain's sprightly old man, Sir Francis is looking as fit of thee sea, in Wellington for as a man of 67 could possibly the first time in 30 years, told be. He is tanned, and although "The Post" last night of anihis figure is slight, he has experience he had well before shoulders which would do a tying saucers came into vogue. prizefighter credit.
Flying the Tasman to Aus-1 An aspect of his appearance tralia in 1931. Chichester gazed one would not expect to find out of the cockpit of his Gypsy on a man of Chichester. dis. Moth aircraft in sere what he inaction are tong side arms. Last night (hichester suggestdescribed as a "Grey-uhite dir- [messed in a natily-taitured who "How to has Fit, by One ship shaped like an oblong:light-gres suit. Chichester Doing so
pearl." $\quad$ aired views at last night's
There was nothing else in Press conference which underthe sky. Chichester says he lined his individualistic nature. saw several of the mysterious When asked how he thought objects. Wellington had changed during
"At the time. I was quite his 30 -year absence, Chichester prepared to swear that several said he disapproved of the airships were approaching city's sprawling growth.
me, " said Sir Francis He made a comparison with
Chichester had never heard Sydney. which he said had of anything fire tee shat ne grown naturally. On his return witnessed. Flying saucers had to Sydney he had found little no i been sighted at that time difference because that city and the expression hadn't even had been able to grow nature been thought up. all
"But the sight seemed to, Wellington had grown "un tally with many things people naturally:" Wellington's es. have seen since," said Chiches- pension had meant spreading ter.

## No 'Invaders'

However, after many years into the fut Valley and "fill ing in half the harbour." He hat had trouble finding his way.
Britain's Welfare State syr in which to ponder the unusual Britain's welfare state sss sighting, Chichester is firmly from Chichester. British convinced that the visions did youth's imitative and natures! not contain an advance party love of adventure was "ry") of "The Invaders," or anything nearly as exciting.

In fact, he doesn't believe in flying saucers.
Chichester is in Wellington to discuss business matters with his partner since 1919, Mr Geoffrey Goodwin. He is especially keen to ser a large stand of trees which he helped plant at Silverstream. The trees are a testimonial to the infrequency of Chichester's visits to New Zealand. The last time he was here they hard just been planted-yet many of them have been milled in the last 12 years. if you succeed in business that you plan l to be literally unsuccessful.'

## New Book

Typical of the drive and vigour of Chichester is his latest effort in the ilterary field
After writing hooks on flying, ocean racing and navigation. he is sous in present to the public a book on physical fitness
ed "How to heep Fit. by One
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
 The civentug lost

Wellington PGTON)
Circulation approx. 94,500


# By the Seats of their Pants 

more great Australian air stories

## TERRY GWYNN-JONES

of flying saucers and other UFOs. He wrote: "I felt stranded in solitude. It was intolerable."
Having gone well off course to avoid further storms, Madame Elijah made landfall near Jervis Bay, well south of Sydney. The jubilant airman landed in the water close to a group of Australian naval ships and was eventually hoisted on board the aircraft carrier HMAS Albatross. There he was made an honoured guest of the Royal Australian Navy.

Six weeks later, Chichester took off from Sydney Harbour to continue his around-the-world flight. He had reached Japan when a crash put an end to his pioneer flying career.
Madame Elijah had just got airborne at Katsura when it collided with telegraph wires stretching between two hills flanking the harbour. The stricken aircraft fell several hundred metres before crashing into the sea wall. Chichester was terribly injured, but miraculously survived the crash, and surgeons managed to save his sight. He did a little flying some years later, but by then he had tumed his attention to sailing.
In 1967 he finally accomplished the dream that had eluded him for thirty-six years - the solo circumnavigation of the world. But instead of his Gipsy Moth aircraft Madame Elijah, Chichester circled the world singlehanded in his yacht he lovingly named Gipsy Moth. His voyage captured the imagination of the world and he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth on the deck of his boat. Newspapers called him "a new Elizabethan", "truly the old man of the sea". But a part of him always remained in the air. Before his death in 1972 he said, "I found flying more exciting than sailing, particularly that flight across the Tasman Sea. Evolving a new method of navigation and knowing if it failed you would finish up in the drink. That sort of challenge is what life is made of."
Those words hold the key to Chichester the man. He not only met the challenge of distance, but gambled on the ac-

## Flying Saucers in 193I?

FRANCIS CHICHESTER is known to many as an expert navizator. He is also known as the author of wion very good books of ", Nying adventurc, "Solo to Sydncy" imd "Scaplane Solo." published by Fabce and Faber. The liatmentioned, which was published in 1933, recounts his trip from New Zealand to Australia across the Tasman Sca in his Moth "Madame Elijah "-converted for the occasion into a noatplane. During that flight he had some great adventures and sufered sivere strain. Some of his observations at the time seemed impossible to explain, except that they were hallucinations induced by fatiguc. But some people reading the record to-dav nlay think differently.
However, readers must judge for themselves.
The complete passage which follows is part of Chichester's account of his night over the last lap, from Lord Howe Wlinci to Australia. When the passage begins he has been nying for five hours.
"Always, I New on west; I had always becn nying west and I always should be. I sighted land ahead and somewhat to the right. Purple-coloured lowland on two sides of a great estuary. The water of the estuary gleamed in the sunlight. Ahead in a roll of white weak clouds a bright light nashed. What was that? Nothing could glitici alid fash in a cloud but an aeroplane. I watched the spot piane
"Turning to the land, I found that had disappsconto Antaze a ione purple-hucd cloud lay on the sea at a ercat
Another illusion! It thrust me down into the decpest
depression. When I looked back at the llashing light, that ino had disappeared. There was not a sign of it. Yes, suddenly it caught mi: eye 30 degrecs to the left front. Then vivid flashes in several places like the dazzle of a heliograph. That, it could nor be, "


Then I saw advancing- great heavens!-the dull grey-whic shape of an airship. Airship! Impossiblel However, there was no doubt about it, and indecd how should I be mistaken in in airship? It nosed towards me like an oblong pearl. Nothing bui: a cloud or two was visible in the sky for miles. I loutinud left. sometimes catching a flash or a glint there. Turning akain to the airship, I found it had complectely vanished.
" I screwed up my cyes, unable to believe them, and ti plane this way and that, thinking the airship must be hiciuc: by a blind spot. There was scarcely a wisp of a cloud anywhere near - Heavens.' I thought, 'am I seeing things? ' Or was 1 tantalized? Dazzling flashes continued in four or five different places to the left, but still I could pick out no planes.

Then out of some clouds to $m y$ right front I saw ano:her: or the same, airship advancing. I fixed my gaze on it, de:ermined not to look away for the fraction uf a secend. I'd see what hap. pened to this one if I had to chase it.
"It drew steadily closer until perhaps a mile away wien. riph: under my gaze as it were, it suddenly vanished. I was astomblice

But it reappeared close to where it had vanished. I walcheit it angrily with fixed intentness. It drew closer. I couh: sec ihe dull gleam of light on nose and back. It came on, hil:
of increasing in size, it diminished as it approachod! Wi, wit of increasing in size, it diminished as it approachod!' Wi,ctil witite
near, it suddenly became its own ghost. For one second । could see clear through it and the next, so quickly as a fame cill wianish. it had vanished. A diminutive cloud formed perfectly to il., siane of an airship and then dissolving. I turned to the flashes: had now vanishod. I felt stranded in solitude; it was intoli,

## Interplanetary Journals

YET ANOTHER interplanetary journal has been this time in France. The first number of "L"A dated September, i950, has been published by Nouvelis Editions Latines, I Rue Palatine, Paris 6, at 125 francs. It will appear quarterly, at an annual subscription for forcigners of 650 francs, including postage.
From Germany the fifth number of "Weltraumfahrt" brink: messages from many countries welcoming the first Interaniowi.... Astronautical Congress recently held in Paris; also a lolis article by the Editor, Dipl.-Ing. Heinz Gartman, comparing threc methods of cooling a rocket-combustion chambe:
Capacitative cooling, as he calls it, demands a chaniier wall capable of absorbing a great amount of heat; howeser. is it would eventually melt, this sets a limit to the burnin! time The limit is about 50 seconds for solid fuel, but oniy ?s in: liquid fucl, though this might be extended to 45 seconth, by using molybdenum or wolfram, which have high melting-points. in the wall.

After discussing the well-tried method of "regenerative cooling" by a circulating nuid outside the chamber wall, the author describes another alternative, "film cooling" bv at titin layer of nuid covering the inner surface. He does not approve of the method of creating this laver by drawing the outer cooling fuid through a porous chamber wall (" sweat cooling "). but prefers using up to 45 per cent. of the fuel for this purnosc. injeoting it round the edge of the combustion chamber. Some 90 per cent. of this "film" is eventually burnt, and the chamber wall keaps cool enough for Dural to be used in its construction.

In the September "Journal of the British Interplancte: Socticty," Mr. A. C. Clarke, discussing "Space Traved in Fa,
and Fiction," attributes the invention of the ram-jel to Cyari, and riction," attributes the invention of the ram-jet to Ciran,
de Bergerac. Cyrano's last idea for a flying machine larp:e, light box, quite airtight except for a hole at citric: and built of convex burning-glasses to focus the suniigh its interior. As a result, the heated air in the chamber w, expand and escape through onc nozalc, continually te: replenished through the other. More receritly professor Sim Newcombe, a famous astronomer of the last century, piois a doubly false prophet whell he wrote a scientific pratici? "proving " that heavier-than-air night was impossible, and :ixc produced a novel showing that the acroplanc could bc a mestil of abolishing war.
Mathematicians still disagree about the best trajectory for $\mathrm{z}:$ interplanetary voyage. In the March issue of the J.i.i.i. G. F. Forbes had claimed to show that fuel could be sithe. and navigation simplified on a voyage to Mars by followin: logarithmic spiral from the Earth, instead of an cllipticai puiz which grazes both orbits; but in the present issuc D. F. Lawden claims to prove him wrong. Samuel Herrick, in another aitici., finds that the direction of take-off, vertical or otherwise, is "almost immaterial" for great distances, assuming that tinc thrust is tangential to the trajectory.-a.E.S.

## Baling-out at 40,000 ft.

## 

 for use in high-altitude conditions, but the reluctance i:1 som. quarters over here to employ "live" tests that first becair.e evident in the sonic flight research programine, is once afatia shown by the fact that Major Willans was not allowcd :0 is above $25,000 \mathrm{ft}$. during his tests of the Irvin baronetric re'cuásNo details of the construction of the American dev.ce sie obtainable, but 14 descents are said to have been made with tis use by Can: R. V. Wheeler, the highest from no less ti:s +2.449 ft . This is considerably higher than any figure achewio :i Lurone, although some years ago, a static jump with immic diate opening was made in the U.S.A. from a $8-17$ at abou: 40.000 ft . Heights attribuied to other personnel in the extens.id live descent programme include $42,213 \mathrm{ft}$. and $41,586 \mathrm{ft}$.
No cieluiis are available of the actual de;ivyment height be that, of course, is immaterial once sufficientiy oxyonated atmesphere is reached at, say. 15:000 ft., and the terminal veloci: is reduced to its $175 \mathrm{ft} / \mathrm{sec}$. The eveniual target for th: rescarch programme is $60,000 \mathrm{ft}$. It will be of inierest to sio what aircraft will be used for these experiments.


XMAS UP-TO-DATE.-Forsaking the traditional reindecrpowered sledge, Welwyn Garden City's Father Christmas arrived for his annual stay at the local Stores by this Westiand s - 5 helicopter chartered from Pest Control Ltd. of Cambridge.

# Lt. Colonel Peter Grunnet 

## and

Lt. Tage Anderson 1932

Royal Danish Air Force


## Flight Details: (Temporal)

7. IAS: $\quad \mathrm{mph}$, knots
8. Accel: yes, no (if yes, cont. 8.1)
8.1 accel: ___ ft/sec accurate, approx.
9. TAS: ___ mph, its.
10. GMT; ——— hrs.
11. Local Time:


Flight Details: (Aircraft)
17. Jet, rod rocket
18. Commercial: Airline:
18.1 Flt. No.:
$18.2 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{C}$ model: _H rE:-8
18.3
19. Window through which UFO first obs.: (A)
19.1 Est. visibility of 19:
19.2 Other windows used:
19.3 cont. 19.2 (_)
20. Radar contact: yes, (10 (if yes, cont. 20.1)
20.1 Details: $h(a$

Observer Details:
24. Age: (A):
(B):
(C):
25. Flt. Hrs. ( $\bar{A}$ ): ( 3 ): (C):
26. Med. Certif. (A): ( $\bar{\square}$ ): (三): (c):
27. Prev. UFO exper. (A): $\qquad$ (C):
28. Vas formal rept. filed on sighting? yes, no
28.1 (If no, why not?):
28.2 Rept. Submitted to whom?
28.3 any known follow up:

UFO Characteristics (Only (A 32. Mag. Bearing: ___ de 33. Vel. mph, kt
33.1 vel. (how dot.): $\qquad$ 33.2 accel:
34. Ang. size:
34.1 (34. how det)
35. Luminosity:
36. Shape Hexagonal Flat 37. Structural Details: metallic - smooth sunken
38. Sketch made? yes, no 38.1 Photos ( )obtain 38.2 (38.1 details) $\qquad$
39. No. UFOs: One
40. Atmosph. traces:
41. UFO: friendly 41.1 (41 details)
42. UFO disappearance detai:
page 34
THE LONELY SEA AND THE SKY, Sir Francis Chichester (Pan, London, 1964,), page 185.

1932: \#Daytime, East Coast of Greenland
LTC Peter Grunnet and LT Tage Anderson, Royal Danish Air Force.
THE SAGA UFO REPORT for October 1977 carried an article entitled "UFO Crisis over Greenland" by Rufus Drake. (SAGA magazine like many other magazines in the late 1960s and 1970s, also had a UFO magazine with the same title. Barry Greenwood wrote to several and found that many of the stories originated from letters the magazines received. He had no luck in getting the magazines to show him their material.)

Here is a very interesting - if true - report from the article:
The earliest UFO sighting by Danish fliers occurred in 1932 when three H. E. 8 seaplanes were dispatched to the east coast of Greenland to conduct a photogrammetric survey.
"In those days, manned aircraft had no heaters, insulation or pressure suits. Only the daring and hardy ventured into the glacier zone in wood and canvas planes, and many failed to return. The pilot during this particular UFO incident was Lt. Col. Peter Grunnet, a supremely rugged figure who lives quietly in retirement today. His copilot was Lt. Tage Anderson, who in later years became Commander-in-Chief of R. D. A. F., and died in 1961.
"We had many adventures flying under primitive conditions in the frozen north," says Grunnet. "But none compared with this."

Huddled under body-length parkas and numbed by the cold, their breath forming clouds of condensation in front of them, Grunnet and Anderson coaxed the trouble-prone H. E. 8 over a mirror like section of sprawling glacier. Suddenly, the copilot spotted a second shadow pursuing the shadow of their seaplane across the ice.
> "I looked back and saw something that didn't make sense," Anderson was quoted.

About a mile behind their plane partly obscured by the glare of sun against snow, a flying object was following their flight course. Grunnet eased his throttle forward. The engines of his H. E. 8 gnashed and vibrated noisily as he forced the plane into a shallow turn, to get a better view of the alien object.
"It was nothing like flying machines of that period," Grunnet,
recalling the UFO sighting recently during a visit to the U. S. "It was hexagonal, flat, and seemingly made of aluminum or some other metal, with no breaks in the surface and no rivets."
"At the time, I had a spooky feeling. I can't explain it. It was as if I 'felt' the presence of whoever was inside that craft-and the feeling was hostile. In the years since, I've realized that the craft was 'saucer' shaped, and I believe it really was a flying saucer."

Do our Scandinavian colleagues know anything about this story? Was it made up by the SAGA writer?
[A sighting report in the same article tells of an encounter near Thule. A B-17 bomber being ferried to England in 1942 encountered "incandescent flying objects" thought to be from a German aircraft carrier....of course, there were no German aircraft carriers.]
"We had many adventures fly ing under primitive conditions in the frozen north, but none compared with this." "I looked back and saw something that didn't make sense," "It was nothing like flying machines of that period," "It was hexagonal, flat, and seemingly made of aluminum or some other metal, with no breaks in the surface and no rivets." "At the time, I had a spooky feeling. I can't explain it. It was as if I 'felt' the presence of whoever was inside that craft--and the feeling was hostile."

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Grunnet-Royal Danish Air force, describing incident in H. E. 8 seaplane over Greenland, 1932.

## Capt. Nigel and

## Lt. Bruce H. Thomas

$$
\text { July 5, } 1933
$$

Royal Air Force
(A) Primary witness: N/GEL TOMPKINS crew: ©S CP, Engurf
(B) Second witness: BRUCE It. THomAScrew: CD CP, burned.
(C) Third witness: $\qquad$ crew:
(D) Other witnesses \& circumstances:

Date: 7-5-33 Time: NIGHT $N=$ $\qquad$ observ. Altitude (ft) $\qquad$
iveather:
IER, VAR
Comm'l, Private, Military
USA, foreign

Reference: History at the III Epkter Sícrn PAE London PRES 5,1247
.


```
Flight Details: (Spatial) Lat. [. 0 ! "'N S] Long.[_0._'"E W ]
    l. Location (flt. path): Origin:
        ______ Dest.
    1.1 Sighting (initial) location: SUSSEX, U.K.
    2. Did A/C change flt. bearing due to sighting? yes, no (if yes, cont. 2.1)
    2.1 Orig, bearing: _____deg. Changed to: ___ deg. Chg to:____deg.
```

    Signature
    
## Flight Details: (Temporal)

7. IAS: _mph, knots
8. Accel: yes, no (if yes, cont. 8.1)
8.1 accel: ___ ft/sec accurate, approx.
9. TAS: - mph, ats.
10. GMT; ——— hrs.
11. Local Time:
12. UFO Sighting duration: (zone:_())

Flight Details: (Aircraft)
17. Jet, Prob, rocket
18. Commercial: Airline:
18.1 Flt. No.:
18.2 A/C :NOel: FAWKER FURY 1 BIPLANES
18.3
19. Nindow through which UFO first obs.: (A)
19.1 Est. visibility of 19 :
19.2 Other windows used: (T)
19.3 cont. 19.2 (
20. Radar contact: yes, no (if yes, cont. 20.1)
20.1 Details:

Observer Details:
24. Age: (A):
(B):
(छ):
(C):
25. Flt. Hrs. (A):
26. Med. Certif. (A):
27. Prev. UFO exper. ( $\bar{A}$ ):
(可):
28. Vas formal rept. filed on sighting? yes, no
28.1 (If no, why not?):
28.2 Rept. Submitted to whom?
28.3 Any known follow up:

UFO Characteristics] (Only (A)
32. Mag. Bearing: __ deg 33. Vel. mph, ks 33.1 vel. (how let.):
33. 2 accel:
34. Ang. size: $\neq \cup G た$
34.1 (34. how det)
35. Luminosity: K/GHT
36. Shape_CIRCULAR 37. Structural Details:
38. Sketch made? yes, no 38.1 Photos ( )obtains 38.2 ( 38.1 details)
39. No. UFOs: $\qquad$
40. Atmosph, traces
41. UFO:friendly, hostile,n 41.1 (41 details)
42. UFO disappearance detai:
43. Altitude:
44. Misc.

## 1933: \# July 5, Sussex, England.

On July 5th 1933, during a night cross country training flight over Sussex, England a flight of four Hawker Fury I biplane fighters was broken up by a "huge" circular light that "dropped down from above their formation, into its very centre." RAF Capt. Nigel
Tompkins was forced to land after his engine quit. Lt. Bruce H. Thomas suffered burns to his face and hands after passing close to the light while trying to land his aircraft after his engine quit...

A/C Code: M
(Hawker Furies)

Source:
History of the III Fighter Squadron, RAF
Printed by London Press, 1947.
[From: Wayne Thompson. Submitted: 12 Feb 94 to "Fido UFO" BBS Network.]

AIRCRAFT UFO ENCOUNTERS I ELECTRO-MAGNETIC EFFECTS CASES ${ }^{2} 1933$
330705 E
M/E/X


| AIRCRAFT INFORMATIONS |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 07 Type of Aircraft | four Hawker Fury fighters | 08 Aitine / Air Force | RAF |
| 09. Flight origin |  | 10.Flight destination |  |
| 11 Flight N\% AF Unit |  | 12: Heading |  |
| 13.Speed |  | 14.4 litude |  |
| 15. Weather |  |  |  |


|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 16. Nimber of objects | one | 17. Shapie | circular / light | A8S12\% | huge |
| 19. Color |  | 20.Altitude |  | 21. Speed |  |
| 22.course |  |  | 23. Frajectory |  |  |
| 24. Clock position |  |  | 25, Distance |  |  |

(*)

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 28.Radar set number. | 27. Radar lomation | 28.rarget number: |  |
| 29, Target size. | 30, Jayeet distance | 31, Jarget trafoctory |  |
| 32. Target altitude | 33. Speed | 34, Duration |  |


|  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Affectard emminment 11 avel 21 | - |  | ¢ Codes |
| 35 Mutopilat symbon 4st | (A) Aftitude-hold mode of operation |  |  |  |
|  | (H) Heading mode of operation. |  |  |  |
|  | (i, Mocalisel VOM, mode of operation. |  |  |  |
| 36 Electical sy:ten (genetal eategory) | (A) Atmeter system (all yjpes). |  |  |  |
|  | CBj Bank tum incterter |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| स |  |  |  |  |
|  | (1) Distarce measuitig equipment |  |  |  |
|  | (G) Cyio compastiystem |  |  |  |
|  | OUACHIa, navigation system |  |  |  |
|  | (4, krghts |  |  |  |
|  | (M) Magretic compase syster. |  |  |  |
|  | (N) Miltary Weapom |  |  |  |
|  | P. Power grenerator, alternator\%. ./ |  |  |  |
|  | (Q4Auxitayy power system. |  |  |  |
|  | TRMPadio system. |  |  |  |
|  | Whansponcier system |  |  |  |
|  | V VhF Omnutirectional hamge $V$ OR |  |  |  |
|  | Wh Wiring, connectors. |  |  |  |
|  | (0) S OHACH |  |  |  |
|  | (P) Rectarochtimg engimas. | $\bullet$ | engine quit, pilot was forced to land | PPS |
| Pİ | Whturboyde emgine. |  |  |  |
|  | (6)\% OHe, wamy |  |  |  |
| 38\%RACAN |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 30.Ahscellateous | C1/ Eamerals sensing Sytem |  |  |  |
| (M) |  |  |  |  |
| armorardelfeck |  |  |  |  |
| Ofexperiemied | S S haceotertive changes |  |  |  |
| Symptink | W, Heat experiensed |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | P1 A M Mreesure change. |  |  |  |
|  | S S Smoke in cockiticatitiother |  |  |  |
|  | W Whatitom tones, herad |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

[^0]
## 4. ©ASE SUMMAFNK DESCRIFTON

(From Project 1947- quoting « History of the III Fighter Squadron RAF »
On July 5, 1933 four Hawker Fury biplane fighters were flying in formation above Sussex during an RAF crosscountry training flight. Suddenly a huge circular light dropped down from above in the center of the aircraft formation. One of the four pilots, Captain Nigel Tompkins was forced to land after his engine quit. Lt Bruce Thomas also experienced engine failure and suffered burns to his face and hands after passing close to the object while trying to land his airplane.

| 41. Minessies\% | four RAF pilots including Capt. Nigel Tompkins and Lt. Bruce H. Thomas. |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |



| Rank Oriter Retatior imporiance | Fictor | Raling Ciftertis | Numeric: Rating |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Pifor lobseryer Fiying keperiences. | not mentioned | 0 |
| 2. | Alumber of Allicrev Witiresses | four pilots in four planes (two experienced E-M effects) | 3 |
| 3. | Aircraf Alitude | not mentioned | 0 |
|  | OFS alltuds | not mentioned |  |
| 4 | Alicrath and lro Separation Distance | not mentioned | 0 |
| 5. | Ambientilimination | darkness | 1 |
| ${ }^{6}$ | EMM Fffoct Dutation | 2 planes among 4 forced to land, it is not mentioned if they could take off again. | 2 |
| 6. | E*M Effeat severity | engines quit on two airplanes | 3 |
| 7\% | Stghtimg Dumation | not mentioned | 0 |
| 8 | Alicrafl ground speed | not mentioned | 0 |
| ${ }^{8}$. | OFO ground spear | not specified | 0 |
| 10. | UFO Mareive ability relative to aircratit | other | 3 |
| 05/07/1933 |  | FHA MATHACSCARE | 12/40 |



## UFO Research Coalition

# From Airships to Arnold: 



# A Preliminary Catalogue of UFO Reports in the Early 20th Century (1900-1946) 

Bv Richard H. Hall

1933: Discovery Well, Western Australia. (CE-IY/G) Aboriginal woman and tribe members saw a "large shiny egg" descend from the sky and strange gray-skinned beings emerged. She was stunned by a hand-held device and carried on board, strapped to a shiny table, and experimented on. (Chalker, 1996, p. 20, and Chalker, Project 1947 web site, from an account by writer Rex Gilroy)

1933, Summer: Cherryville, Pa. 2:30 a.m. (CE-I/G) While repairing a flat tire on a clear night with no moon, an 18 -year-old motorist noticed a violet-purple light in a nearby field and went to investigate. He saw on the ground a bell-shaped object about 10 feet in diameter and 6 feet tall. The light was emanating from a one-foot diameter circular door opening into the object. The witness pushed the door open and stuck his head inside, but the light was blinding. He could see some sort of tubing and dials, and a kind of console. He noticed an odor like ammonia and felt cold air. The witness then walked around the object to inspect it; its outside surface was smooth, metallic in texture and cold to the touch. There was no sign of life at any time. After about 10 minutes, he walked back to the car, fixed the flat tire, and drove home. (Allentown, Pa., Sunday Call-Chronicle, Feb. 16, 1964)

1933, July 5: Sussex, Bngland. Night. (CE-II/F) During an RAF cross-country training flight of four Hawker Fury I biplane fighters, a "huge" circular light "dropped down from above their formation, into its very centre." Capt. Nigel Tompkins was forced to land when his engine quit. Lt. Bruce H. Thomas also experienced engine failure and suffered burns to his face and hands after passing close to the object while trying to land his airplane. ("History of the III Fighter Squadron, RAF," London Press, 1947; credit: John Stepkowski)

1934, March 2: Gornitak, Norway. 10:00 p.m. (ND) A light approached from a southerly direction over Varangerfjorden and circled above the fjord. It appeared oval from a front view, but from the side looked like three lights, two stronger ones toward the front. (Ole Jonny Braenne, INFO Journal, Summer 1995)

1934, July 14: New Forest, Bngland. Late evening. (CE-I/F) A French tourist saw the ground around him brightly illuminated, and observed a "perfectly circular disc" of vivid white so bright he could not look at it directly. The object stopped and hovered above him for about two minutes. Then a blue halo formed around it for about a minute, and the brilliant white light turned yellow, orange, and red before taking off at high speed and disappearing in seconds. (Clark, 1992, p. 378)

1935, April (early): Haza-Ancha, Aznalcazar, Sevilla, Spain. Sunset. (CE-III) A Mr. Mora observed a large, very bright round object that came down near Torres Mount. The object hovered a few meters above the ground, while "strange little beings" circled

## China Clipper 1938

In the late 1930s and into the mld-40s, the Boeing 314 flying boat was the queen of the skies as far as commercial overseas passenger service was concemed. These planes, Hying for Pan-American Alipoays, offered luxurious accomodations to the vocathy fraveler who wished to cross the Atlantlc or Pacific Oceans in style and comfort. There was no faster way to ge at the time.
 the duration, ferrying such luminaries as Sir Winston Churchill on their misslons around the world ly the end of the war, however, the era of the flying boat was over. New land
 range transports, from such as Lockheed, Douglas, and of course Boeing themselves, were capable of transcontinertal flight at speeds the flying boats could never compete voimb
Recently, while watching a historical documentary on the development of the great flying boate of the past, on speedrision, I noticed an anomatous object following one of the early model Boeng 314s as ninflew over the ocedn. This was exmemely rave COL R the plane, and it would necessarily have been filmed in 1938 or 1939, before the outbreak of war. in Europe in September 1939. We can narrow this time frame down because after The tivning of war, these "Yankee Clippors" as wey were cafled, were repainted wifl a giant American flag on the nose. This was to denote them as Neutrals in the European war zore, and hopefully prevent them from coming under attack.

Here we have a photo from that early WWII period when the Clippers had the "Stars \& siftpes" palated on esch side of the nose to show their Neutral statius in the war zope. Please noe the lange flog cimedred.
The time frame for this film clip makes it absolutely the EARLIEST U.F.O. video I've ever conse acrossh This incident even predstes the fanous Fee Flathers peponted by all sides in Whe Second World Want (Article in Eit \% on Foo Fighters \& a flight of Boeing B-17s) It was very lucky I was watching carefully. The clip used in the documentary only lasts THREE seconds.
 above the clouds as it flew along. Let's have a look now, at a couple still frames from this post amazing event, before going to the animated GIF.

This animation is composed of 12 still frames captured from the original three second clip. The first with the Boeing in the distance, and the last showing the old NACA (National Advisory Comittee for Aeronautics) research facility, are extended to illustrate what came before, and immediately after, the clip we are interested in here. NACA was the forerunner of NASA.
The object does appear to be following the airplane as it cruises over the ocean, at least to my eye. This is amongst the most amazing accidental U.F.O.s l've ever found in broadcast television. Due to its age, it must rank among the oldest, if not THE oldest, films of an U.F.O. AND it's in COLOR! What a treat! ! hope it intrigues you as much as it does me.

In the end, it's really up to YOU to decide for yourself what this was. What do YOU think? © 2005 Jeff Challender
photos saved:

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { 314-003m. JP9 }
\end{aligned}
$$

photo-overSF-B314-SF. irs

From: Richard Haines
To: Jeff Challenger
Subject: China Clipper Photo
Date: Wed, 2 Mar 2005 04:21:49 + 0000

Dear Jeff,


I have just read your article about the 1938-39 China Clipper color photo on your website and also on Filer's Files. This is a most interesting historical case. I downloaded the key photo that includes the UAP image and airplane and did a few preliminary measurements on the single frame. Here is what I found so far.

1) Numerous locations on the aircraft's metal surface posses maximum brightness (i.e., 0\%) on a relative scale of 0 to 100 using Adobe Photo-Shop's density tool. The C, M, Y, and K chromaticity values for each of the four fuselage locations I checked were all different, probably corresponding to different specular reflections of ambient light (sunlight).
2) The center of the UAP oval possessed $3 \%$ brightness ( $C=5 \%, M=2 \%$, $\mathrm{Y}=2 \%, \mathrm{~K}=0 \%$ ) meaning it is not quite as bright as the brightest part of the aircraft.
3) UAP relative length $=17$ units, relative thickness $=7$ units for a ratio of 2.43:1
4) Thresholding this UAP against the immediate background shows that the brightness falloff along the vertical meridian (through center of UAP) is slightly faster (steeper) than is the falloff in brightness along the horizontal meridian. It is not clear what this means without knowing the actual geometry (form) of the object or light source. Yet overall the UAP is quite symmetrical.
5) Sky brightness all around the UAP is relatively non-homogeneous with pixel values ranging from $93 \%$ to $60 \%(+/-)$. This is to be expected because I was working from a copy of a copy.....
6) While viewing the 3 second motion clip I discovered that the UAP does not move significantly far relative to the aircraft's fuselage. Only the passing of near-by clouds makes it seem to be flying. This strongly suggests that the UAP is at a great distance from the camera and perhaps even at the surface of the ocean. I realize that many folks will not like to hear this.

I would be interested in studying (privately and without any fanfare) the original film or at least a second generation copy. Can you help me?

## Dick Haines

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China Cliper - Proto



Expand JPY file to: 70 w $\times 46.667$ H (9) 72 dpi.



Chromaticity Cond (UAP)



[^0]:    ("**) Using Dr Richard F. Haines * Airplane E-M Effects Nomenclature Taxonomy List

