

Strange Objects in the Sky: Visitors From Space?

John Nunes, 15 Years Prize Winner

For years flying saucers and other kinds of mysterious objects have been sighted streaking across the sky. They have stumped many scientists. I had a neighbor who told me that she had seen a flying saucer streak across the sky. I didn't know whether or not to believe her, for it's hard to believe that there really are flying saucers.

When I was 6 years old, I was staying overnight with my grandfather and grandmother. They lived in Castro Valley. Their house was big and old. There were stairs that led up into different rooms. Instead of using electric lights, they used

coal oil lamps. At night the lamps would cast large shadows on the walls and the ceiling.

My grandfather went outside when it was dark to get some wood to burn in the stove. In five minutes he came back with an armful of firewood and set it on the floor. He told my grandmother that he saw something red up in the dark sky. My brother, grandmother, and I looked out of the window. Up in the sky there was something that looked like a ball of fire moving slowly across the sky.

My grandmother said it looked like an airplane on fire. If it was an airplane, it probably

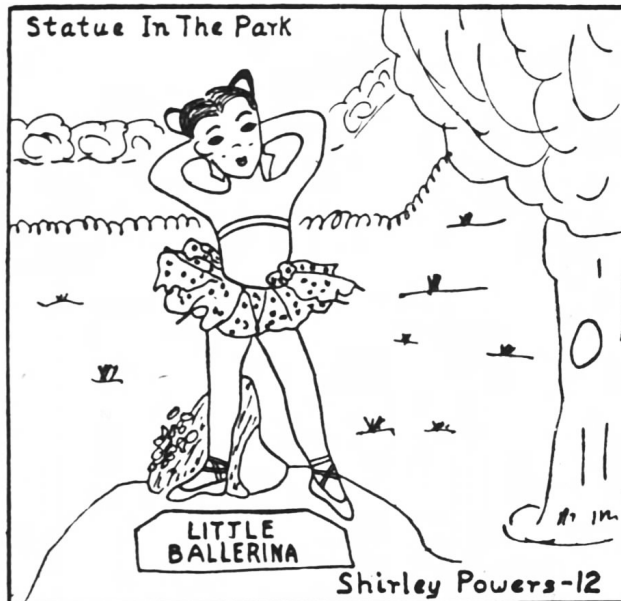
wouldn't be moving in a straight line. My grandfather said was probably a meteor, but it was going much too slow to be a meteor. When it went over the house, I was afraid it would fall on us, but it went past the house. If it wasn't an airplane that had caught on fire, and it wasn't a meteor, then what was it? We didn't know. In the days that followed we didn't hear of anyone else seeing it.

When I was 11 years old, my two cousins, uncle, and aunt were visiting us one day in Walnut Creek. It had rained the day before and the ground was muddy. My cousin was playing basketball with me while my brother went for a ride on his bicycle. In a little while my brother came back into our yard and said that there was a streak of red light moving through the sky. He told my mother and father. No one thought much about it, but when we went in front of our house and looked up into the sky, we were surprised to see a red cigar-shaped object moving with the speed of an airplane. We watched it until it was out of sight.

Early the next morning I was getting ready for school. My father was listening to the news on radio as he does every morning. Then the news announcer was talking about the cigar-shaped object that we had seen. He said that it was last sighted going over Richmond, and that no one knew for sure what it really was.

Lately I heard on television, when they were talking about flying saucers, that the cigar-shaped object had an opening on both ends and flying saucers came out of them. Whether that's true or not, I don't know. If there were people from other planets who came to earth in flying saucers, they would be further advanced in civilization than we are. They would probably be coming to Earth to explore it, as we would do if we could fly to Mars or any other planet in flying saucers.

Statue In The Park



Shirley Powers-12

AN AFTERNOON IN THE WOODS

Barbara Bales, 12 Years

It was a gay, sunny day when Jill woke up. She wanted to stay in bed just a little while longer, but decided against it, for today she was going sailing in her father's sailboat with her older brother Bob, her girl friend Judy, and Bill, Bob's boy

a gun in the man's pocket. They took him to the boat and put him in, and then got in themselves. By the time they got home, Bill had the man in the mood for talking and took him to the police. They found that the man was a dangerous es-