

Dear Jim, After Mitchell, a quick dip and before supper and the evening news, a few comments on your fascinating observations about a possible UFO and ionization. I have no trouble with either. Some of these things that have in the past seemed wild have been confirmed. I remember my one bit of science fiction was - forty years later. JUL 14 1973

My late brother-in-law, he of the wayward son, was a natural mechanic, almost entirely uneducated (something like 3rd grade). After he kicked the drinking habit - he was an alcoholic - he settled down into a job at the Navy Ordnance Labs, in suburban Washington. His work was classified. Much has not yet been reported. "like missiles that are inflatable, those that take off from the surface of the water, etc. Well, once there was a flurry of consistent reports about the sighting of what were called UFOs a little north of Rockville, in Montgomery County. These, however, all seemed to be low-flying and hoverers. We discussed this. I had by then met Marty Singer, editor of Saga, and Sylvia Meagher, both convinced there are such things. Brother-in-law said don't laugh and we got 'em, too.

I have not seen any comets recently, shooting stars, etc., but they were common in my youth. I'd assume they leave an ionized trail. And I know that life is sensitive to electrical charges in the air, if I do not know the nature of these charges. I've seen it in both mammals and chickens when I farmed. I remember once when I was milking a heifer during a lightning storm her milk actually did curdle in the bucket, before I got it to the house. Chickens in particular were sensitive and made uneasy. Perhaps you have seen it in dogs and cats, as I have (we had plenty of both). I can't imagine that there could be enough voltage to cause any of these things. Nor do I think the change in air pressure could be enough to account for the observations, the very uneasy behavior. Is there much else except ionization that could be causative? I don't know the cause, save that it occurred with a weather change.

The Russians developed a negative-ion machine of some kind, I think for Sholakov, who had crippling asthma. It helped. Room size and he had to stay in the room with the gadget.

It is probable that you could get no perspective on your observation. It could have been higher and going faster, for example. It could have been circling.

Perhaps not relevant, but something I remember very well. When the new dental drills came out, I think they are called ultra-~~static~~ sonic - not orthodox drills - and my dentist used it on me for the first time, there was a sensation I'll never forget. It was of intolerable sound, and not in the ears. In the head, and I think in the center, back of the forehead. Odd thing is that it was associated with one of four upper front teeth where he was getting read to fill because of erosion of the gums. But there was no actual noise, although I heard it.

We tend not to want to recall that which we can't comprehend. I think this explains your friends. It is common with Lil, who has blocked from her mind, without deliberate intent, most of her unpleasant reactions to the helicopters. Nor is there any doubt that she has no recollection at all. Your friends were probably well educated. If so, their egos were affronted by what they knew they were expected not to believe and could not explain.

On Hunt and hypnotism: Lesar says he heard that inside CIA, Hunt is supposed to have had this interest...Remember the Copenhagen case, where a man was programmed to react to an object, the basis for The Billiken Courier? That case was authenticated in medicine and in court. Now I won't take time for my science fiction, but it was based on thinking. It was a primitive art in those days, but in 1919 I was interested in short-wave radio. The staff of the High school paper I edited went to the Columbia convention, where the paper I edited that year won All-American. One of my staff edited the literary magazine. I had promised him a piece and hadn't done it. So, I tore off a sheaf of the railroad ads you may remember, if they had excursions in Missouri, and on the trip back wrote on them this thing on the natural wave-length of the human body. That man is not a Star editor. He remembered, as did I, when we both saw a story saying this, from General Electric's labs. I think it fits the RHIC concept. HW 7/10/73