

Flying Disc 'Bigger Than Automobile' Photographed By Youth Who Is Amazed Because No One Else Saw It

By GEORGE HEBERT

The flying disc "was lots bigger than an automobile," and 15-year-old Bill Turrentine, of 410 West Fourteenth Street, doesn't understand why almost everybody in Norfolk didn't see it.

In fact, when he came to the Ledger-Dispatch with a photograph he had taken of the object, he wanted to know why the newspapers hadn't already taken a picture of it. "I thought your photographers were fast," he told a reporter.

few seconds later didn't look anything like saucers."

Looked Like Football

The boy stuck to his football comparison, explaining that the object was sort of rounded, more oval than disc-like, and that though it wobbled in its northeastward flight it was traveling very rapidly, about 600 miles an hour.

He guessed that the altitude of the thing was about 5,000 feet, just below the clouds. In color it was "gray, almost black," and looked like a "burned crisp," or



(Editor's Note: Although the Ledger-Dispatch has had many reports of flying discs and saucers in recent days, no other person reported seeing the object which Turrentine photographed.)

However, Bill said he had done some fast moving himself shortly before noon Tuesday, when he stood on his front porch and saw the large gray object, "rocking and spinning like a football" and coming from the southwest.

He had just returned from Summer school classes at Maury, he said, and with all the talk about "flying saucers," had gone out with his camera to see if he could see anything.

"I don't see why they call them flying saucers," he said. "The big one I took a picture of and the two little ones that came behind it a

maybe a rock or stone. The edges glittered, he said, and seemed to be trailing dust. Neither it nor the two which followed made any sound.

Bill said he wasn't very surprised when he saw the object, but "almost killed myself" getting shots of it with his camera, set at 1/100th of a second.

He called his 18-year-old sister, Josephine, to come and look, but apparently she didn't believe him.

As the "flying football" passed over, Bill said he took three shots of it, but when he hurriedly developed the film, after legging it to Olney Road for a vial of developer, only one negative came out well enough for reproduction.

He showed a reporter a contact print he had made himself, and the picture reproduced here is an



NORFOLK BOY AND PHOTO OF DISC—Bill Turrentine, 15, (right) tells Ledger-Dispatch reporter George Herbert (left) of the "lucky" circumstances which enabled him to take the photograph at far right of a flying disc. However, the boy said the object pictured here looked and moved more like a football, being rounded and oval, rather than disc-like. Bill took this picture from the porch of his home at 410 West Fourteenth Street between 11 o'clock and noon Tuesday, using an old camera, with the shutter set at 1/100th of a second. He said the "flying football" shown here was followed by two smaller ones, all moving at about 600 miles an hour and he guessed they were about 5,000 feet high, just below the clouds. The photograph reproduced here is an enlargement made by Photo Craftsmen. In the foreground of young Turrentine's picture is the porch rail of his home.

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Photo experts of this firm are convinced that the boy did a fine job with the old camera he was using. Having closely examined the negative, they said the only flaw was in the kind of film, which perhaps didn't bring out enough detail. They pointed out, however, that this wasn't really a flaw, in view of the fact that Bill's photograph, with the comparison afforded by the front porch rail and the trees, was certainly the best one taken since the mysterious discs were first reported.

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