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Report of Trip to Los Alamos, 16 Feb 49 (Cont.)

18 February 1949

3. Dr. LaPaz stated that he had been assisting the Military for the past two months at their request in the investigation of the subject problem, and went on with the general discussion of phenomena attending normal meteorite fall, postulating the following important characteristics:

- a. Random path of fall.
- b. Color and intensity variations in light emitted.
- c. Sound.
- d. Frightened animals.

4. Dr. LaPaz then went on to discuss the number of observers reporting the subject phenomena and the diversity of their backgrounds, including commercial airlines' pilots, military pilots, special intelligence agents, Los Alamos personnel (Mr. Hoyt), and himself, as well as various and sundry previously uninformed citizens.

5. Dr. LaPaz then described the "Starvation Peak Incident" which he observed himself, detailing the following characteristics which indicate that the phenomenon can not be classified as a normal meteorite fall:

- a. Initial bright light (no period of intensity increase) and constant intensity during the duration of the phenomenon.
- b. Yellow-green color (about 5,200 angstroms).
- c. Essentially horizontal path.
- d. Trajectory traversed at constant angular velocity.
- e. Duration about two seconds.
- f. No accompanying noise.

6. Since about 5 December 1948, there have been more than ten incidents analogous to the "green fireball" described, and some twenty more presenting minor deviations to the above, which should be considered in connection with them. In addition, there have been a number of normal shooting stars and meteors observed.

7. There ensued a general discussion in which it was brought up that the majority of the observers whose reports were here under consideration were not subject to previous psychological influences or prior knowledge as to what they should look for. Furthermore, "seeing" conditions for meteor observation throughout the continental United States were at least

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