

One of the things that commends a number of their accounts to us is the strangeness and often the very pointlessness of the activities of the reported creatures. We feel that a hoaxer would be more inclined to give the story a beginning and an end.

Another noticeable aspect of the stories is the way the creatures or occupants appear in a multitude of shapes and forms—a characteristic of the UFOs as well. There are current theories that this may in some way be due to the environment of the witnesses: that the UFOs and their occupants are in the eyes of the beholder. If there is any truth in this then we may be forced to re-examine certain of the contactee claims, claims on which this REVIEW

has never slammed the door without good cause. That, however, is not our purpose in this issue. Instead, we devote our efforts to the presentation and study of reports of landings and the "humanoid" occupants.

We are well aware that the word "humanoid" is not in the dictionary; that it was coined somewhere along the line by a writer or researcher. Nevertheless, it seems to suit our purpose far more than those other words of anthropology like *hominid*, which means "man and kin of man" (Neanderthal man was one of these), and *hominoid*, which means man-like ape.

Italy

The Villa Santina Case

On June 24, 1947, airman Kenneth Arnold startled the world with his claim to have seen nine disc-shaped objects travelling in line ahead, and at fantastic speed, through the skies over Mount Rainier. Arnold likened the objects, and their movements, to "saucers skimming over water". The era of the flying saucer was upon us.

Seven weeks later, according to Italian artist R. L. Johannis, there took place what was probably the first post-Arnold "landing with entities" case in Europe. The story has been recorded in the May 1964 edition of *Clypeus* (organ of *Centro Studi Clipeologici* of Turin), and by Antonio Ribera in his book *El Gran Enigma de los Platillos Volantes*.

Signor Johannis was out painting near the Chiarso creek, at Villa Santina, close by Carnia (Friuli), on August 14, 1947. The time was about 9 a.m. Suddenly he noticed a 30 ft. disc-shaped object that had alighted some little distance from him. Next, Signor Johannis saw two child-sized beings standing alongside the object. The artist said that they were about 3 feet tall, and were wearing dark blue coveralls with a bright red collar and belt. They also wore spherical helmets on heads that seemed larger than normal, but their faces were not covered. Their faces had a greenish colour, their eyes were large and plum coloured with a vertical line (the pupil?) in the centre, and they had no eyelashes or eyebrows. Each had a straight and rather large nose. Their hands were claw-like, greenish in colour, and with eight fingers on each, four opposed to four in the same way that our thumbs are opposed to our fingers.

With his paint brushes still in his hand, the artist hailed the creatures. It is possible that this was interpreted as a hostile gesture, for one of the beings touched the centre of its belt and projected a thin vapour which caused the artist to fall dazed onto his back. The creatures then approached to within two yards of the prostrate artist and stood examining his easel. Although weak, the artist contrived to roll over, and saw the beings pick up the easel which had been knocked down; he perceived that it was taller than both of them. He also noticed that they were panting heavily. They then returned to the disc-shaped object and entered it, whereupon it rose from the ground, hovered and, according to the account, disappeared.

When the unfortunate artist had sufficiently recovered his strength to be able to stand, he saw that his easel had disappeared.

There has been some criticism that the artist saw rather a lot, particularly the colours, in a very short time. Surely, however, this is where artists have a great advantage over ordinary mortals: an artist's eye is quicker than a camera, and I do not find it surprising that Signor Johannis's brain could record such a mass of detail.

The description of the belts is interesting, and it calls to mind the belts of the entities in the Antonio Villas Boas case—see Gordon Creighton's article. Also intriguing is the account of the *gas* or *vapour*, heralding as it does the incident of Cisco Grove which Mrs. Lorenzen describes elsewhere in this issue.

[We are indebted to Jacques Vallée and Donald Hanlon for their translation (paraphrased) from Antonio Ribera's version of the incident—EDITOR.]

Few and Far Between

Landing and occupant reports a rarity in the British Isles

BY CHARLES BOWEN

A survey of the global landings and contact records invariably forces one to wonder why so few of these cases are reported in the British Isles.

The reason, I suggest, is not that Britons go around with their heads in the clouds, not that they are too engrossed in mere earthly matters, but that the British Isles are for the most part densely populated. It has been noticeable throughout the twenty years of interest in this subject that UFO visitations generally have been scant over the world's built-up areas: it is only in recent months, for example, that observations of the alien aerofoms have been recorded in any numbers over the cities and townships of the United States. Maps of the locations of landings in France during the 1954 wave underline this shyness of areas of dense population.

When one considers the hundreds of landings so far known to us, one cannot help but remark that in only a small percentage of cases have the grounded craft or their occupants shown any desire to stay in the vicinity of humans. So, in view of the general reluctance on the part of the "operators" to have any truck with men or women, and in view of an apparent desire, when alarmed on or near the ground by humans, that their activities remain unobserved, it is not surprising that incidents are rarely reported in or near thickly populated areas.

Again, one should remember that UFOs come mostly like thieves in the night, or in the small hours around dawn when relatively few people are abroad to observe them. Accordingly the few good British cases in both the "airborne" and in the "landing" categories, have been reported from rural areas, from wild hilly regions like the Lake District, from the Pennine Moors, and from the Scottish Highlands.

Coniston

Although we are primarily engaged in a study of landed objects, and the creature or human-like occupants of these objects, mention must be made of an incident which took place on February 15, 1954, and which was only a *probable* landing. Two boys, Stephen Darbishire and his cousin Adrian Myer saw a circular domed object hovering very close to the slopes of Coniston Old Man in the Lake District of Lancashire.¹ The object was described as being metallic and manufactured in appearance, and possessing an upper turret with what were alleged to be "portholes". Two snapshots were taken with a simple camera, one of the hovering object, and the other of the device as it sped away past the witnesses. The somewhat diffuse images on the film seem to confirm that something was present

which was strikingly similar to the object in the first Adamski photographs. In fact, one researcher has demonstrated by means of orthographic projections that the Darbishire and Adamski photographs could be of identical objects.²

Lossiemouth

Three days after the Coniston incident, writer, amateur astronomer and ornithologist Cedric Allingham claims that he saw a flying saucer land near Lossiemouth on the north-eastern coast of Scotland. A "man" some six feet tall emerged from the craft and approached Allingham. This being was said to be human-like in most respects, and appeared to differ only in that he had a very high forehead. He wore a one-piece garb with footwear incorporated, but no helmet. He also had tiny tubes running up into his nostrils, and the witness considered these to be part of a breathing aid. According to the witness in his published account,³ he and the "man" contrived to converse by signs, and it is claimed that the visitor indicated that he came from Mars. Photographs of both the saucer and the "Martian" were taken and published in support of this claim.

Bruton

The next British landing case in our list did not involve operators or creatures. The witness was Nigel Frapple, who, according to the *Sunday Dispatch* of June 13, 1954, was cycling home from a dance at Wincanton in Somerset. The time was 2 a.m.; the date, May 20, 1954. Three miles from Bruton, at Redlynch crossroads, Frapple saw a terrific light in a field, and he dismounted and watched from the cover of a hedge. He saw a huge object about 80 or 100 feet away from him, hovering not more than 20 feet from the ground. After about a minute the object, which despite its brightness seemed to be metallic, moved off towards the north-west, accelerating and climbing at a great speed.

On the same night Miss Doreen Heffer, of Shobley, near Ringwood, in Hampshire, had seen a bright object overhead. Her description tallied with that given by Nigel Frapple. Both stated that they saw a circular thing some 50 feet across, emitting a brilliant flame-coloured light from a central cockpit. Apart from a slight "swishing", each hovered silently for more than a minute. Each had a lesser light associated with it, some little distance from the main body of the object.

Eleven years later, in a reply to a letter from my friend Gordon Creighton, Mr. Frapple said he was attracted not only by the orange glow, but also by