

immediate access to all State secrets, and that *absolutely everybody* is just as capable of being the President of a great nation as Ronald Reagan is! (No wonder that the hardbitten and experienced bunch of professional administrators who run the Soviet Police Empire are doing so well with their plans for world conquest).

The archives of these British gentry to whom we refer have never been inspected or divulged or published; have never been threatened by any "Freedom of Information Acts" or Court Orders (such as we have recently heard of in America) nor will they ever be, so long as Britain stands.

Where the question of UFOs is concerned, matters are no different elsewhere, be it in Moscow, or Washington, or Paris. (Only in Peking — of all places! — is there nowadays a curious whiff of freedom in the air where the discussion of UFOs is concerned — and one may suspect that this is strictly temporary and due simply to the fact that the Chinese authorities themselves have been too engrossed in their task of committing abominations against their fellow-men and have only just woken up now to the perception of the UFO Problem, and probably they know no more about it than do their thousand million strictly regulated and disciplined robots).

"THE LITTLE ORIENTAL AIRMAN": ANOTHER REMARKABLE C.E.III CASE IN ITALY

Antonio Chiumiento

Signor Chiumiento, who lives in Pordenone in north-eastern Italy, is a member of the Board of Directors of C.U.N. (Centro Ufologico Nazionale, the Italian National UFO Research Centre). Pordenone is only a few miles distant from the scene of this extraordinary claimed happening, which he has been able to investigate thoroughly.

(Translation from Italian)

THE local daily paper *Gazzettino* of February 4, 1979, carried an account of an alleged happening which seemed so extraordinary that it called for immediate investigation.

The report, accompanied by a photograph of the eyewitness in the affair, described the observation, some 4½ months before, and in broad daylight, of a landed object of unknown provenance, and even of one of its occupants.

The affair was said to have occurred on Monday, September 18, 1978 at about 3.30 p.m. (local daylight-saving time) at the spot known as Malaria, in the district of Porto Nogaro. It is a hamlet pertaining to San Giorgio di Nogaro, a town in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region in the Province of Udine.

The eyewitness, a railway employee named Giorgio Filiputti, born in 1931 and now residing in San Giorgio di Nogaro, at Via Isonzo No. 18, a married man and father of a family, is keen on hunting and angling, and as it was a fine, bright day, with very few clouds in the sky, he had decided to go fishing in the river Corno near the point where the Zumiel irrigation canal runs into it. Suddenly, as he was sitting there, the silence was broken by a sharp, piercing whistle which he later told the investigators resembled the noise of a helicopter engine in neutral or of 'something scything the air.' His first thought was that it

was due to machinery in a nearby steel-plant on the Aussa-Corno road, or from some instrument located in the vicinity (N.B.-the usual escalation in hypotheses, whereby the individual starts by trying to explain in natural terms what he perceives or sees). To the 'pseudo-whistle' there was instantly added a sort of spiral movement of the air, coming from behind him, which caused ripples on the water at the spot where he was fishing and set the surrounding vegetation rustling. Other than this, he heard nothing except, simultaneously and far off, the howling of a dog. It was about three minutes or so before he began to suspect that all this was not due to any familiar type of apparatus. So that he began to reflect: "The machinery in the steel-plant can't be making that noise!" and: "Is it the wind that is causing the ripples on the water?"

By now quite a strong wind had started up, he felt, which, if it persisted, would in any case make it impossible to continue to fish. So Filiputti decided to climb up the small embankment and take a look to see where the unaccustomed whistle and the air displacement were coming from. At this point however we will let the eyewitness give it in his own words, as it appears on the taped recording of our first interview with him, made in February 1979. (The second interview with him, given on November 18, 1979, has also

been used to put the finishing touches to the 'identikit' record of both the 'object' and its presumed 'operator'.)

Taped Recording

Filiputti: "No sooner had I reached the top of the embankment than I was terrified — literally terrified — at the sight of an exceedingly unusual object standing on a small dry mudflat covered with short vegetation, no more than 20 meters or so from where I was. From my position I had a side view of it. It was like a sort of egg, or, on the whole, like something disc-shaped. It was four or five metres wide and it had a cupola on top. It was supported on three thick legs about 1½ m. high. These latter seemed to be divided into two parts, almost cylindrical in shape, the upper part having a greater diameter than the lower. In a word, I had the impression that they consisted of two tubes, one sliding into the other, like the legs of some kinds of telescope. Another point that I must mention is that, down at the ground, they terminated in flat 'plates'. The object was totally smooth, without windows or portholes.

"Its height, from the ground to the top of the cupola — that is to say, at its thickest part — was about 3 to 4 m. I should likewise mention that it seemed to be made of a metal of a brassy or yellowish colour which shone in the sunlight and gave off golden-silvery reflections. The same was true of the under-parts on which it stood, though these seemed to be of a slightly darker metal than the aforesaid upper portion, but very probably I got this impression because they weren't directly exposed to the rays of the sun. Then, almost immediately, I saw someone appear, from right behind the cupola, who was walking on the rim of the disc."

Question: "Describe his appearance."

Filiputti: "My first thought for a moment was of the physical appearance of the inhabitants of certain Asian countries. Well, his external appearance was pretty comparable to that of someone originating from those distant regions. His height was maybe about 1 m. 30 — in any case it certainly wasn't more than 1 m. 40 — and he was wearing a completely tightly-fitting overall, of the colour and brightness of silver, which flashed and sparkled vividly in the sunlight, and which left only the front part of

the head, from the forehead to the chin, exposed.

"On his feet he had boots of the height of those worn by paratroopers and of a smoky black colour. His face, dark-bronzed, had almond-shaped eyes extending back towards where his ears would be — which I did not see because that part of the head was covered by the overall. Nose and mouth were quite normal. From the moment that I observed him, particularly his eyes, I could see that these were wide open, with pupils that appeared to me to be a bit bigger and a bit more protruding than those of certain inhabitants of the Orient that I had had the opportunity to see on television. I must also tell you that the single-piece garment that this being was wearing looked as though fashioned entirely of fish-scales, and that he was wearing, approximately at waist-level, two containers of the same colour as his boots and measuring about 15 cms. high by about 8 cms. in width, which looked like cartridge-cases and gave the definite impression of being held up by something.

"His hands were clad in white gloves.

"Returning now to the features of the face, to put it briefly, I have given as many details of the head as anyone might remember after seeing someone wearing a frogman's suit. When I caught sight of that 'sort of Asian pygmy' I was overcome by a profound emotional disturbance due partly to stupefaction and partly to fear, for the thing had taken me totally by surprise. And furthermore, as I continued to watch him, I found it absolutely impossible to figure out this complicated situation in which I now found myself. However, it must also be said that, from the moment that he glanced in my direction he too appeared to be gripped either by surprise and bewilderment or a bit of unease at seeing me, as if it had also been completely unexpected for him. Maybe he had felt convinced that there was nobody in the vicinity at that time. This contributed to my decision to abandon the idea that had first come to my mind to beat a hasty retreat and, swimming the river, escape into the countryside on the other bank. And so I continued to stand still where I was, at about 20 m. from the craft."

Question: "Then what happened after that?"

Filiputti: "When he became aware of my presence he halted for a few moments, probably reassured by the fact that I was displaying

ungovernable fear. Then the nimble-figured little 'Oriental' continued to walk on round the rim of the saucer, with great agility and quickness of movement, till finally he halted and stooped down slightly, to touch something that was sticking out of the machine near the base of the cupola."

Question: "What did that 'something' look like?"

Filiputti: "The fact is it isn't easy for me to describe what it was that he had put his hand on. At any rate the gadget looked like a sort of half-moon or a horse-shoe. So, in short, it looked like something semi-circular. I only noticed it because it was protruding from the completely closed wall of the craft. The individual kept on touching it with his hands for about three or four minutes, and all the while that he was doing this he kept repeatedly fixing his gaze on me. In other words he kept his eyes on me pretty well the whole time, maybe to make sure that, while he was carrying out his task, I hadn't managed to get closer to the craft. I must emphasise that in my opinion there was almost certainly something wrong with the craft, and this operation was being carried out by him to repair it."

Question: "Were the 'whistling' and the rapid air movement that had particularly caught your attention still detectable?"

Filiputti: "The wind had stopped after I caught sight of the machine, whereas on the other hand I still heard the sound; though its note was much less deep, it was still steady."

Question: "Carry on describing what happened."

Filiputti: "About five minutes had elapsed from the time when the being appeared. Then, having finished his task, he glanced again in my direction for the umpteenth time and, following the same route as before, vanished from my sight behind the cupola and into the cabin, which no doubt was contained in the main body of the craft though not visible to me. A few seconds later I heard a very loud rumbling noise, like a deafening clap of thunder, and then a very piercing whistle — both coming from beneath the object — which began to rise vertically. It went straight up, and slowly. As it rose vertically, I was in a position to see its under-part. It was hemispherical and its external surface looked like a sort of grating constructed of crossed bars, or, to be more precise, it was like a lozenge-patterned grid. The landing gear was withdrawn into the craft almost immediately after the take-off — and this strengthened the conviction that I had had from the out-

set that the 'aircraft' had stood on retractable supports.

"Underneath it I saw a bluish glow. This was a tongue of flame about 60 cms. long, of the same colour as burning kitchen gas.

"Then, when it had got to a height of about ten metres, the contraption quickly turned on edge, so that for roughly a few seconds I was able to observe it in narrow profile. It went off towards the south-west at a tremendous speed — not even comparable to the speed of missiles — and very rapidly appeared like a glowing ball. It was totally out of sight in a few seconds. The entire duration of the observation, from when I had reached the top of the river-bank till then, had been about six minutes."

Marks found

After the disappearance of the object, Filiputti, still very shaken by the episode, examined the place where it had stood, but without finding any signs of heat effect, nor of any changes in the soil, *except for three imprints in the terrain of dry mud and sand, where the landing-gear legs had evidently been set down.* This reinforced the fact that the 'thing' had seemed to him to be solid, metallic, and extremely substantial. These marks were not superficial, and were circular in shape, some 50 cms. in diameter, just about like the marks that one can make (naturally on a far smaller scale) by pressing into, for example, soft ground, certain sorts of metal caps (i.e. such as those used on beer-bottles).

The witness did not actually measure the distance between the marks nor their depth, but he estimated visually that they were between 2 and 3 m. apart, and about 3 cms. deep. In connexion with what has been related so far, it will be well understood that the witness's hair stood on end with fright at what he beheld. In other words, he had never before in his life seen such a thing — and yet here were these marks on the ground to convince him that he had not been dreaming. But, so far as he knew, nobody else had seen the object. So he determined to look for someone to whom he could talk about it, merely in order to un-bosom himself.

The Second Fisherman

Then he made off towards the mouth of the river with this in mind, and confided to the first fisherman that he met — though the man was not known to him — the dreadful fright that he had just had at the presence of that 'thing'. After listening to his exposition of the facts, the other fisherman whom he thus addressed reacted with total incredulity. In fact Filiputti failed to make him believe him either by words, or, having taken him to the spot, even by showing him the marks



Filiputti at the landing site

impressed on the ground. On the contrary, as regards the marks, the man asserted that they had been made by something perfectly ordinary with a round base, and certainly not by the landing gear of an unknown aerial device, and as he said this, he trampled repeatedly on the marks and destroyed them. Furthermore the man went on to explain that in his opinion the episode could not possibly have happened, being assuredly a hallucination caused by sunstroke or poor digestion.

As Filiputti was still visibly perturbed, the fisherman persuaded him to go with him to have a drink in a bar close to the Aussa-Corno highway which passes near by. After entering the bar, they both heard an unknown man saying that, just before, he had seen a very unusual shining 'thing' moving at an incredible speed through the sky. This statement by the unknown party led the fisherman to whom Filiputti had confided his story, to exclaim: "*But then it's true, is it!*"

Witness Tells No-one

For all that, Filiputti decided that he would never again tell anybody about the episode, so as to avoid further ridicule. At first, he did not even speak of it to members of his own family. Moreover he remained so upset by the experience that he stopped going fishing at all, only leaving his house to go to work. And this state of affairs lasted for some weeks. During the days

after the episode he searched the newspapers, to see whether anybody else had seen the landed object, but there was no mention of it. One more reason then for keeping his mouth well shut! From then on he did nothing but just rack his brains in silence. In what country, he asked himself, had such a machine been constructed? He was quite certain that he had seen it. In fact, after he had made his main statement to me, he declared:—

"I might have believed I had dreamt it all, if, after the craft vanished, I had not gone to the spot where it had been standing and found there the three marks of which I have already told you, evidently freshly made and of the same shape as the bottom ends of the landing gear. Moreover, there weren't any other similar marks anywhere else over a wide area all around. It was that, above all, that convinced me I hadn't been dreaming. When I saw the object I immediately thought it was a new military machine of some Great Power or other, and to tell you the truth I was terrified, because whoever had built it assuredly didn't want anyone else to know what they were planning! I can assure everyone that when they have seen a machine like that from so close and for roughly speaking at least six minutes, the image remains indelible in the mind for ever!"

With regard to the presumed 'operator' of the machine, Filiputti did not think, even for an instant, that he had seen someone who in reality did not exist. Rather, he made every effort to identify the 'Asian country' of origin. To put it briefly, his whole behaviour changed altogether from what it had usually been, for all the time from now on he did nothing but think about the happening; that he was convinced he had experienced, never revealing to anybody (except to his wife — but even that was not on the same day as the happening) the thoughts which now absorbed him.

Brother's Concern

By the end of January 1979 all this was causing deep concern to his brother Angiolino, who tried repeatedly to find out the real reason for Giorgio's strange behaviour. The result was that the brother did finally find out all that he wanted to know, and also managed to convince Giorgio that it would be right to approach some organ of information, so that people might know about what had happened. At first the witness hesitated a great deal about this, but finally he made up his mind and consented. His strong feelings of unwillingness to have his experience revealed and his name published in the press had been finally overcome. The brother Angiolino Filiputti expressed himself as follows during the investigation: "I had no great personal desire myself to see my brother's story published in the papers, but I *am* convinced that it is high time the authorities and the ordinary citizenry should be better informed every time something unknown is encountered. In fact the dissemination of proper information about very strange happenings predisposes the human mind to be ready to accept further new phenomena in due course, and to react to them in the proper fashion."

The Story Published

So a local amateur journalist, called in by the brother Angiolino, wrote a very concise account of the affair which, as stated, was published in *Il Gazzettino* under the title: "I Saw A UFO! And I'm Not Crazy." The witness Giorgio Filiputti holds an important and very responsible local railway job, since he is the man in charge of the level-crossing at Galli, near San Giorgio di Nogaro. He is in excellent health and has never been known to be otherwise, or to have ever been in any way unbalanced mentally or neurotic (and this was vouched for to us by Anna Maria del Bianco, the local social worker at San Giorgio, who knows him well).

The only physical — though temporary — effect that he claims he felt after the experience was that on the following day he had pains in his legs. His doctor diagnosed it as rheumatism.

At no moment has Giorgio Filiputti ever imagined that what he had seen was a craft or an entity of non-

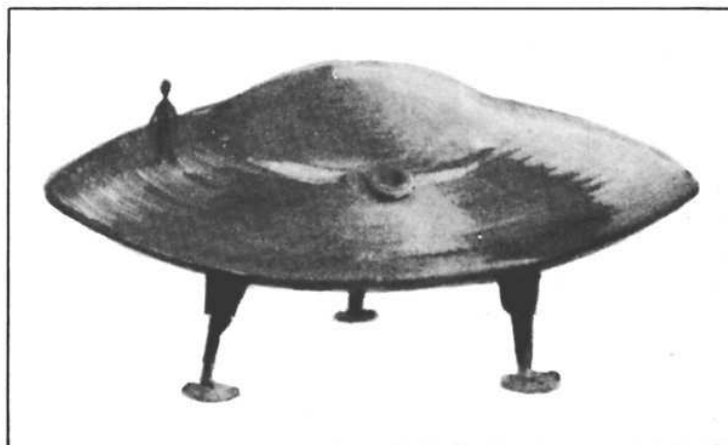
human origin. (He has in fact an excellent general knowledge of aeroplanes, model aircraft being one of his hobbies). He consequently was quite convinced that what he had seen was some immensely sophisticated and advanced secret craft built by an Asian power, and he even speculated that this power might have constructed a secret base somewhere on Italian territory.

* * * * *

COMMENT

We have not yet heard whether CSICOP (the *American Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal*) have reported on this case, but we shall not be surprised if we learn in due course that the little chap and his machine came from Plesetsk in the USSR.

There will however be many who will recall something else that allegedly happened in that same north-eastern part of Italy so long ago as August 14, 1947, when Professor R. L. Johannis claimed to have had his strange experience near Villa Santina, just a few miles distant. (See *The Villa Santina Case*, in *The Humanoids*). Careful thought should also be given to the reported claims of the Italian engineer Giampiero Monguzzi, who said that he and his wife had taken a series of seven photographs of a landed disc, and of a

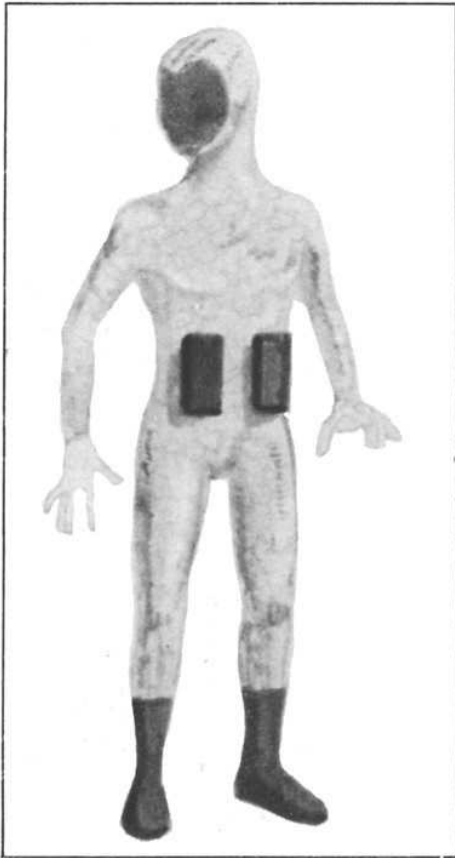


The Craft

small being who was walking round it and inspecting it, on the ice and snow of the Bernina Glacier (Swiss-Italian frontier) at 9.30 a.m. on July 31, 1952. (See FSR Vol. 4, No. 5 of September/October 1958 for Lou Zinsstag's report and the seven photographs.) Before the howling starts, let me add at once that I know all about the debunking and unmasking of Monguzzi which took place in Italy later, and about the "models of his saucer and of his little man", which were widely publicized in the Italian press and in ufological research journals. I saw these photographs of the "Monguzzi models" at the time when they were published,

and, while I always had a nasty lingering feeling that the models of the "little man" were not quite the same as what was shown in Monguzzi's photographs, I ended up, like everyone else, by accepting the story about the fake. Today, in the light of what we have learnt about various matters (such as Frank Scully's book), and in the light of this new claim made by Filiputti, I begin to have my doubts again about the vociferous and eager condemnation of Monguzzi who, as I recall it, was an engineer, and was hounded out of his membership in the Edison Society because of the scandal over his alleged hoax.

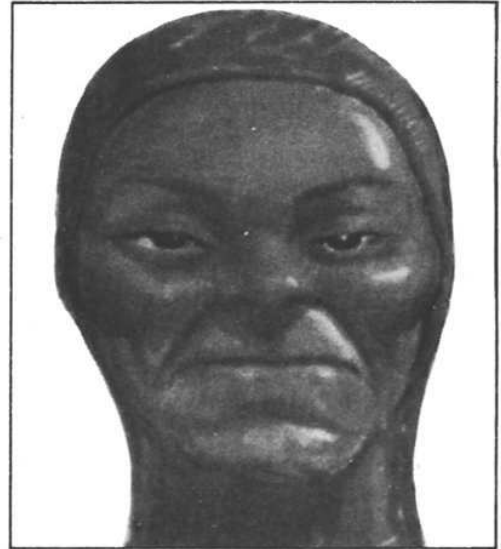
In view of the enormous similarity between a num-



The Entity

ber of features in the Filiputti case, the Villa Santina case, and the Monguzzi case, I vehemently hope that C.U.N. (the Italian National UFO Research Centre) will take another very careful look at the Monguzzi photos of 1952 and make quite sure that they really were fakes. We must always bear in mind the strength of the forces that are arrayed against us. And we must always remember that, given enough time, these forces will probably be able to produce convincing proof that every UFO sighting ever reported, and every UFO photograph ever taken, is a fake. Once that charge has been uttered or endorsed by someone who is an authority in one field or another, it will stick. And that is all that is needed.

G.C.



Face of entity

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THIRD INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS, 27-29 August 1983. Venue: Lorch Foundation, near High Wycombe, Bucks. Speakers: Dr Susan Blackmore, Dr Stanton Friedman, Dr Allen Hynck, Dr Alex Kuel (Austria), Bertil Kuhlemann (Sweden), Per Anderson (Denmark) plus UK researchers. Please send stamp for details to: BUFORA, 5 Vardens Road, London SW11 1RQ.

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THE UFO CRASH/RETRIEVAL SYNDROME STATUS REPORT II: NEW SOURCES, NEW DATA. PART III: STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF UFO CRASH/RETRIEVAL EVENTS

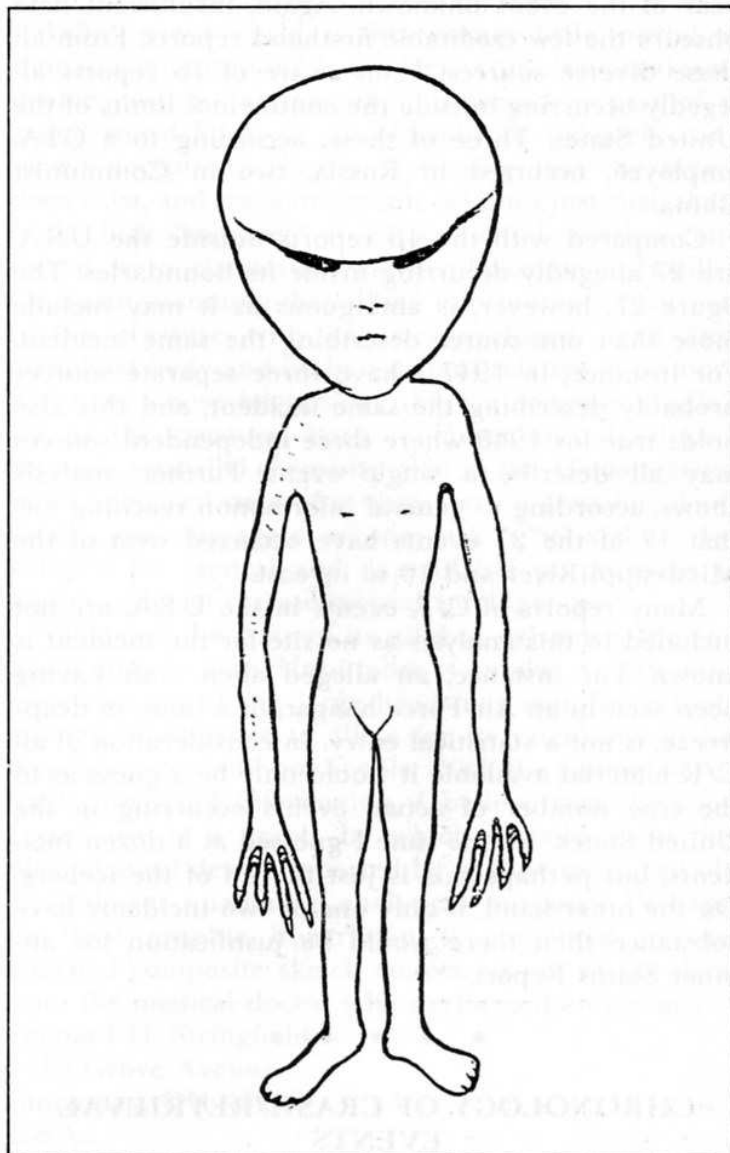
Leonard H. Stringfield

1. Chronology of UFO Crash/Retrieval Events Known By Year

Statistics, it must be emphasized, about reported UFO crash/retrieval events are inadequate and perhaps misleading. In the main, for this analysis, I have used only the sources who can identify the year of the event. Informants in this category range from the first-hand source to those less creditable. There are also many reports, even from good sources, with no year affixed to the event and thus are not included in this report. The total number of reported events for any one year may describe a single event rather than isolated events. A breakdown by years follows:

Year	Number of Reports
Prehistoric	1
WWII	1
1947	3
1948	3
1950	3
1952	8
1953	7
1957	1
1962	2
1964	3
1965	1
1965-68	3
1973	1
1974	1
1975	2
1977	3
1978	4
1979	2
TOTAL	49

The most interesting feature is that the preponderance of reported UFO crash/retrieval events out of a total of 49 occurred in the 1950s, a total of 19 reports, followed by 9 in the 1970s, 8 in the 1960s, and 7 in the 1940s. These figures indicate that there were more UFO crash/retrieval events in the 1950s, which suggests that in each of the two decades following, the



Attachment 1. — Drawing of humanoid based on information received from doctor who performed autopsy. Data, concerning relative size of head, torso and limbs, and other details, were gathered over a period of several months in 1979, during which time four separate drawings were submitted for comment. On my first drawing he drew a heavy ridge of brow over the eyes, and indicated less length of neck and less drooping shoulders. After third drawing he commented, "Check a 5-month fetus to get proportionate size of head and body." For the final rendition, above, he said, "The proportions are right." October 29, 1979