

April 1964). However, as the very title of Waveney Girvan's article makes plain, that report (if true) related more probably to a brief touch-down and not to a crashed craft, for the Padre at the RAF Camp was

quoted as having said at the time that the two Royal Air Force recruits who were the witnesses in the case had "*fled in terror when they saw a trapdoor on the upper part of the craft begin to open.*" EDITOR

AN ENCOUNTER WITH "RAT-FACES" IN ITALY

(continued from Page 19)

focus lens, and also filmed it for a few seconds with his German ciné-camera. Unfortunately the spool was broken, so he got no photos, but the ciné film, in colour, turned out well.

Mystery Visitor Demands Negatives

After this sighting had been published in the *Giornale di Vicenza* for Saturday, November 25, 1978, a man describing himself as an Air Force Officer visited the witnesses and asked whether, in order to check up on certain points, he might have the film and also, if possible, the negatives of the photos taken of the two 'lights' seen on August 5, 1977 (referred to above), promising to return everything as quickly as possible. Whoever this individual really was (it should be borne in mind that he was in civilian clothes and that Pertile did not ask him to produce any identity papers) the fact remains that he did not respect his promise, for he was never seen again.

Another Photograph

Again, still on November 24, 1978, at about 4.00 p.m., Signor Giancarlo Ceccone, a photographer with the *Giornale di Vicenza*, took a series of photographs of the Sant' Eusebio Primary Schools, in an outlying section of Bassano del Grappa. The photos were to illustrate an article to be published on the following day, so he developed them immediately. As he told us, he noticed that in one of the photos something was visible that should not have been there. He at once made an enlargement of that part of the photo and obtained a somewhat curious image, which was published in the paper on November 25. For the moment let it suffice for us to say that Signor Ceccone has signed a declaration for us in which he states that the photograph in question is not the result of any photomontage or hoax perpetrated by himself.

Conclusions

Consequently the alleged episode at Gallio is bolstered

by numerous collateral testimonies which would tend to support the high degree of reliability and sincerity honestly accredited to Signor Angelo D'Ambros.

In particular, the fact must be remembered that, shortly after Signor D'Ambros had observed that strange 'object' and its two presumed occupants, a number of people telephoned to the *Giornale di Vicenza* — unfortunately without giving their names and addresses — to report things they had seen, and without knowing what Signor D'Ambros of Gallio said he had seen in the woods at Gastagh. Some of these eyewitnesses averred in fact that they had seen an 'object' emerge from the Gastagh woods, and go towards Marostica (to the south-east) and that it had the same features as were described by Signora Borsato Ksaus. Others affirmed that they had observed it stationary near the mountains close to Crosara, and that it had then vanished in the valley of Santa Caterina di Lusia.

Furthermore, we must bear in mind that the 'object' observed by Signora Ksaus had a shape and colours that, in substance, strikingly resemble those of the 'object' described by Signor D'Ambros. Consequently all the circumstances would serve to indicate that the alleged 'event' at Gallio was a "first-class UFO case", that is to say, a case to be set alongside those other happenings for which in actual fact there exists no possibility whatsoever of a traditional, conventional clarification. Owing to the prolonged duration of the encounter — four to five minutes — and the allegedly singular behaviour of the strange "beings", the case of Signor Angelo D'Ambros is destined to become one of the best-known and most enigmatic "Close Encounters of the Third Kind", just as has happened with the Kelly-Hopkinsville case.

The alleged event at Gallio presents features that are sharply at variance with the theory that would attribute the UFO Phenomenon — recognised as objectively real — either wholly or in part, to the carefully concealed presence of extremely modern and extremely complex terrestrial weapons and devices. On the contrary, it is evident that it would lend strong support to the theory which asserts the presence here of UFO occupants of unknown but in any case non-terrestrial origin.

MORE EARLY BRAZILIAN REPORTS

From Dr. W. Buhler's *SBEDV Bulletin* No. 5 (September 1958). (Translation from Portuguese.)

1. Huge UFO seen between Santos & São Paulo

According to a detailed report in the São Paulo paper *O Jornal* of August 12, 1958, a man named Arlindo Alves was driving in his car along the Via Anchieta Highway, from São Paulo to Santos, one of the closing days of June 1958. He had with him his wife and small daughter. The child suddenly cried out and drew their attention to a huge shining thing "like a big steel house there beside the road!" He pulled up and they all got out to take a look, and found that it was an enormous UFO, floating just a few feet above the ground.

He hailed various other passing motorists, and soon there was a tremendous traffic hold-up on this great

Brazilian highway. Large numbers of people observed the UFO, but it was impossible to approach it closely owing to the great heat emitted by it. It was no more than 2 ft. or so from the ground, and remained there for several hours.

The Traffic Police on duty on the Highway called the Highway Engineers Department in São Paulo who at once dispatched a team of engineers and technicians to the spot, which was only just outside the City (at kilometre 8 on the Highway).

One of the engineers calculated the width of the hovering UFO at 143 metres. Another engineer took an impressive photograph of the craft. This photograph, needless to say, remained in the possession of the authorities and was not published.

The great machine had windows, and beings were seen moving about behind the windows, but nobody was seen to emerge.

Suddenly, without warning, after having been there for several hours, the great craft began to rise rapidly and vanished behind the hills. Almost immediately after that a jet aircraft of the Brazilian Air Force appeared, flying at a low altitude of only 1,500 or 2,000 metres. Eyewitnesses concluded that the UFO had detected the approaching aircraft.

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