

### Editor's Comment

\*I think that the American investigator Budd Hopkins has already shown us, with his fine book *Missing Time*, what the probable answer to this question is, and that it may not be a very agreeable one. I have much respect for the work of our eminent Spanish colleague Antonio Ribera, but I am sorry to have to record that I have even more reservations about it all than he appears to have.

May we not suspect that perhaps, before very long, *everybody*, or *almost everybody*, will have been picked up and

processed and programmed? Then, if, ten years from now it is impossible to find any readers for FSR, we may take it for certain that the job will have been completed.'

Externally, things will no doubt still seem much as now, and this planet will still appear to be densely populated with various species and sub-species of the creature currently known as *Homo Sapiens*. The physical features of the body will remain the same. *But the inner content will have been radically changed and may no longer have any shred of human qualities left in it.* — G.C.

## UFO LIFTS WOMAN'S CAR

*T. Scott Crain Jr.*

Pennsylvania State Section Director for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network, Seguin, Texas)

AT 8.50 p.m. on the night of October 15, 1983, Catherine Burk, 67, was driving home from Altoona, Pennsylvania, after visiting her family, when she encountered an unusual object in the sky. As she approached her turn-off to Bellwood, travelling north on Route 220, she describes seeing out of the passenger side window a bright, silvery disc, that was flat on top, about 24 feet in diameter, coming towards her from the south-east. The object was approximately 30 feet off the ground and emitted a "fast hum", that was "sharp" like the sound of a "helicopter landing". As the object passed over the top of her car, it lifted her 1976 *Chevrolet Malibu* up on two wheels. The left side of her car was lifted approximately two to three feet off the road and was held there while she was still going down the road for nearly three seconds. As Mrs. Burk attempted to lean towards the passenger side of her automobile to bring it level again, the object moved away, dropping her vehicle back on the road with a terrific bounce. "I couldn't get control of the car. I was sliding over the seat," Mrs. Burk said, who ended up almost under the dashboard when the car came down. When Mrs. Burk regained control of her vehicle, she pulled off the highway. The object moved north-west towards Bellwood as it disappeared behind the ridge. It took her 20 to 25 minutes to re-start her vehicle, and every time she had to stop on the way home, it cut out.

### Reported to Police

Mrs. Burk's daughter telephoned to her later that evening to see if she had got home safely. When she discovered how upset her mother was, she called Bellwood Police. Bellwood Police Chief Gregory Ciaccio took down Mrs. Burk's account of the affair, and reported that she was "visibly shaking and . . . was not drinking". Ciaccio reported that he saw no visible damage to the car.



Catherine Burk describes UFO encounter (Photo courtesy of Larry G. McKee)

I was the principal investigator of this case, for the Mutual UFO Network. I interviewed Mrs. Burk first on the telephone on October 26, 1983 and then had a personal visit with her on November 5, 1983. The witness appeared to me to be sincere and honest, and not the type of person to concoct this type of story. She doesn't watch movies or read books about UFOs, and was inclined to think that what she had observed was

"something the Government had constructed". Although there may have been other witnesses to the object in the Bellwood area, I have not yet located any. However, Stan Gordon, MUFON's State Director for Pennsylvania, says similar type UFO reports have been made in this State over the past few months.

### Injuries to witness

As a result of being jarred around in her car, Mrs. Burk is still being treated at Mercy Hospital in Altoona for a number of ailments. She was still wearing a neck brace on November 5, her shoulder was sore, she may have suffered spinal problems, she may have chest injuries (X-Rays were taken) and her hearing is impaired in her right ear.

Mrs. Burk was employed as a telephone operator in a nursing home for 10 years, and currently works part time as a security guard for homes in the Sylvan Hills development in Altoona.

Mrs. Burk was frightened by her experience and now all she wants to do is to put the incident behind her.

This case has recently been examined in the MUFON JOURNAL, but I feel that it deserves a larger audience and will be of interest to readers of FSR.

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We might conclude that this was an abduction or tele-  
portation attempt which for some reason or other mis-  
fired. Is it, however, *certain* that no time-loss  
occurred? EDITOR

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## BOOK REVIEW

### A Catalogue of Humanoid Sightings in Spain and Portugal (In Portuguese only)

WE have recently received from C.N.I.F.O. (The Portuguese National Commission for the Investigation of the UFO Phenomenon, of Rua Sá da Bandeira 331 — 3° S/31, OPORTO) a copy of their excellent Catalogue listing 121 cases, all with accompanying sketches and résumés of pertinent details, published in 1983. (Mimeographed, 70 pages, foolscap).

The compiler of the Catalogue is C.N.I.F.O. member Cassiano José Monteiro, a student of Chemical Engineering, and collaborators with him in the work have been Sr. Joaquim Fernandes of C.N.I.F.O. (author of the excellent recent book on the phenomena at Fátima in 1917) and the Spanish investigators and researchers Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, Luis R. González, Joan A. Fernandez Peris, Iván Vázquez Sánchez, and Orlando Araujo Martín.

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**UFO WORKSHOP**, Oct. 27/28. Weekend seminar, film, talk, slides, sightings and discussions. Details S.A.E. (4 1/2" x 8 1/2") from Secretary, Hourne Farm, Steel Cross, Crowborough, Sussex TN6 2SQ.

**EDITOR OF FSR** would like to hear from any reader in or near the Ayrshire region of Scotland who can assist us with a simple local enquiry (NOT an investigation).

Spain and Portugal, the Catalogue also covers of course the outlying Balearic Islands, Canary Islands, and the Azores. The first case listed occurred at León in Spain in 1914, when two winged entities were reportedly seen.

It would be nice to see an English translation of this useful compilation. But, alas, while many of the Buddhas, Maitreyas, and Avalokiteśvaras that adorn the walls and shelves of my home are equipped with numerous arms, such physical provision is not available to the Editor of FSR, and we regret that we see no hope at present of a translation and no prospect of a way in which this might be done.

Meanwhile, our congratulations go to the compilers and to the Directive Committee of C.N.I.F.O., Portugal, on an excellent job! — G.C.