

WAS THIS A NEW TELEPORTATION IN BRAZIL?

Gordon Creighton

WE are indebted to Dr. Walter Buhler of Rio de Janeiro for the following report, which appeared in the Brazilian newspaper *O Dia* (Rio de Janeiro) of April 26, 1981.

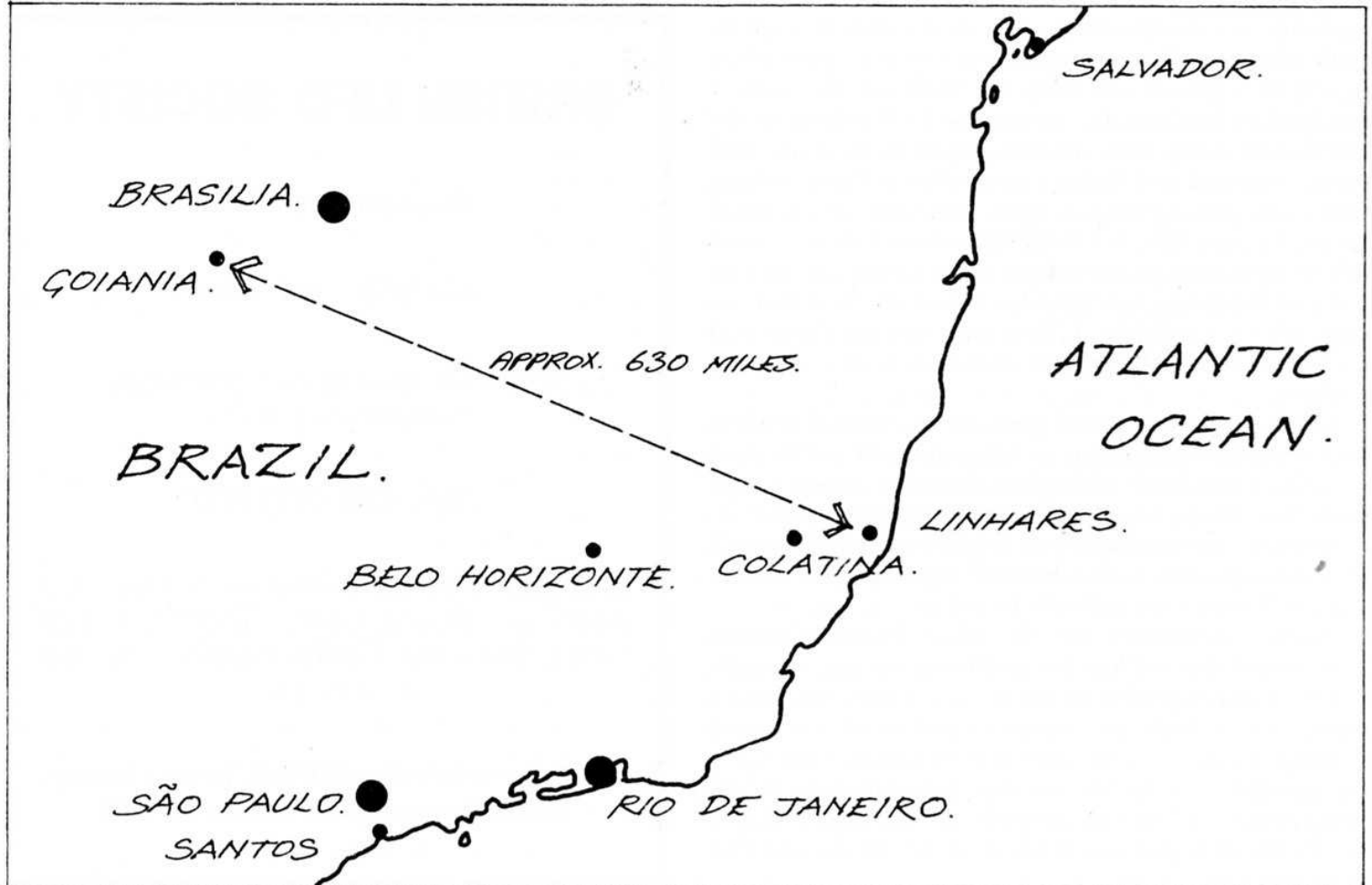
A man named Jorge de Souza Ramos, resident on the Avenida Guaçuí, Bairro Shell, in the town of Linhares in the State of Espírito Santo, and employed by a pharmaceutical laboratory as a representative, left his home at about 6.00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, with the intention of going to the office of a friend of his in the district known as Corrego d'Água. When about twenty kilometres from the centre of Linhares, and when driving along the national highway BR-101 NORTE, he seemed to lose consciousness.

On Saturday, April 25, he found himself in the centre of the town of Goiânia, which is approximately 980 kms. to the north-west of Linhares as the crow flies. According to the press report, which was telegraphed to the head office of *O Dia* by their own correspondent in Goiânia, Souza Ramos could give no

explanation whatever for what had happened to him. He said he could remember nothing, except that he had been at the wheel of his VW *Passat* car, registration number BS-3806, when he felt himself blinded and paralysed by an intensely bright, vivid light. After that, he said, it had all been "like a dream". He could recall nothing whatever of what had happened until he "woke up" and found himself here in Goiânia, in a completely strange and unknown place.

Disappearance reported to Police

His wife, Noêmia Brando Ramos, had sat up all night anxiously awaiting his return, and when there was no sign of him she went next morning to the Police Headquarters in Linhares and reported him missing. Fearing that her husband might have been murdered, she emphasised that it was highly unusual for him to spend a night away from home, and that he had never before done so without informing her in



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advance.

A search was at once started, and it was not long before the Police found his car on a lateral road leading off the BR-101 NORTE, at a spot some kilometres from the Linhares town centre. His key was in the ignition, all his documents appeared intact, in the glove compartments or on the seat, along with various objects of personal use, sample medicines from the pharmaceutical company, etc. There were no signs indicating that any violence had occurred.

The Police accordingly formed the conclusion that the wife might well be right in fearing that he had been murdered, and the search for clues continued, but needless to say, none were found. His car was brought to Police Headquarters and subjected to a thorough examination by their experts, who however found "nothing abnormal" to report. As for the friend whom Jorge de Souza Ramos had planned to visit on the evening of April 20, the Linhares Police interviewed him and he assured them that Souza Ramos had never turned up.

Phone call from Goiânia

And so matters remained, with no clues to follow up, when, on the morning of April 25, almost a whole week after the disappearance, his wife was astonished to receive a phone call from her husband. He said: "I am here in Goiânia. It's as though I fell asleep at the wheel and have only awoken again now. I am still pretty stunned and I don't remember a thing, except that I was driving the car, quite normally, at a normal speed, up the BR-101 NORTE, when I saw a vivid bright light that paralysed me. I have pains in various parts of the body, but have been to a chemist and am now taking medicine. I have not lost anything and still have the small amount of money that was in my pockets."

The newspaper report goes on to remind readers that a similar case came to light in 1974 at Colatina — also in the State of Espírito Santo — when a man from São Paulo, Onilson Patero, was "kidnapped" in mysterious circumstances at a place called Guarantã, and subsequently found himself high up on a mountain, in a spot very difficult to get to.

When questioned by the local Police, Onilson Patero said that he had been driving his car, at night, when a light appeared in the sky and threw him into a panic. He said this had occurred just as he was about to drive across a bridge, and indeed that was precisely the position where his car was subsequently found. When Onilson Patero eventually turned up, he was in the fields of a plantation ranch at Colatina, and five days had elapsed.

Onilson Patero spent two days at the Colatina Police Headquarters being interrogated. He stuck to the same story throughout, without any discrepancy, and affirmed categorically that he had been carried off by a flying saucer, though he was unable to give much in the way of details about his captors or their craft.

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Translator's Note: I cannot trace any account of the Onilson Patero affair among the numerous teleportation cases that we have already published in FSR, and I seem to recall that, while we had heard of the case, and knew the name of the victim, we did not get any details about it at the time. I cannot locate Guarantã. But I assume (the press report is a bit confusing) that it is somewhere in the State of São Paulo. I also assume that the mountain on top of which he eventually found himself was somewhere near Colatina, in the State of Espírito Santo, and that he must have managed to get down from where they had put him up there, and was wandering about in a dazed condition on the plantation near Colatina when finally found.

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FSR BOOKSHELF — 10

New UFO books reviewed by . . .

Janet & Colin Bord

“THE ideal UFO witness, in order to be believed, would have to be someone who was never in trouble, never saw anything mystifying before, never thought of UFOs, never spoke of them, never even heard of them at all. Maybe, just maybe, he’d be believed.” These are the words of Travis Walton, and they indicate the problems he faced after his UFO abduction in November 1975. This case remains controversial; but despite valiant efforts the sceptics have been unable to prove that it was a hoax, or even to present any convincing evidence against it. According to **Bill Barry’s** account of the affair, **Ultimate Encounter** (Corgi, £1.25, 206-page paperback), everything happened as claimed by Travis and his six fellow forestry workers, who were close by when he was struck by a shaft of blue-green light from a hovering UFO. Barry gives the full story of Travis’s abduction and the aftermath, with all the claims and counter-claims, and it makes fascinating reading. Unfortunately the end of the book is padded out with general information on UFOs, the search for extraterrestrial life, and so on, but the first three-quarters presents a useful insight into people’s reactions to a reported UFO abduction.

Ronald Story, author of two books demolishing the case for “ancient astronauts,” confesses himself to be “a very cautious UFO ‘proponent’” in the Introduction to his new book, **UFOs and the Limits of Science** (New English Library, £5.95, 245-page hardback, illustrated with photographs and drawings; has source notes but no index!). In this down-to-earth study of ufology, Story gives a history of the subject from the controversial UFO shapes found among prehistoric cave paintings through to the 20th century, followed by his opinion of the ‘hard data’ — physical trace cases and UFO photographs. Part III contains his ten ‘best’ cases, each detailed and with the author’s reasons for believing them to be still unexplainable. Finally the data is evaluated, special attention being paid to the subject’s suitability for scientific study. Although we recommend this book to all ufologists, we also have some criticisms of it. There are too many printer’s and spelling errors in the text, including some surprising ones like “Alan” (instead of Allan) Hendry. And surely it should have been pointed out (not just in the Acknowledgements) that Chapter 16 was written by J. Richard Greenwell, or at least adapted from his article in *The Encyclopedia of UFOs*. Finally, Bruce Murray’s sceptical appendix, “The Limits of Science,” reads strangely after Story’s appar-

ently open-minded approach to his subject. Murray cannot possibly know enough to pontificate on so many strange phenomena in the way he does, and Story’s decision to conclude with this negative piece makes us begin to wonder whether after all Story himself is a debunker wearing the clever disguise of a “proponent.”

The UFO Encyclopedia by **Margaret Sachs** will inevitably be compared with Ronald Story’s *Encyclopedia of UFOs* which we reviewed in Bookshelf 8. Although both books deal with the same phenomenon, their editors’ approaches and attitudes are very different. Whereas Sachs’ book attempts to cover the widest possible area with a great number of short entries, Story has been more rigorously selective with fewer but larger and factually based entries, often written by acknowledged UFO authorities. In her attempt to be completely comprehensive Sachs sometimes lapses into the ridiculous. Thus she gives us a six-line entry for POLICE which says that police often see UFOs because it is their job to patrol and observe. And another entry for Elvis Presley, complete with photograph, because he said he had seen a UFO.

Regrettably, some of the entries for magazines relate to publications that do not meet the most basic standards of literacy, which shows a lack of critical awareness in the compilation of this encyclopedia. This is in one sense an advantage as lesser-known groups and individuals sometimes gain an entry in Sachs, while they fail to make an appearance in Story. But since the data is often supplied by the individual or group, it is not always objective and can be positively misleading. If we compare the entries in both books for some well-known cases and people, we find that J. Allen Hynek merits three quarters of a page in Sachs and a whole page of Story’s larger format, giving perhaps 50% more information. Likewise Allan Hendry gets half a page with a photograph in Story, but no entry in Sachs. Other prominent serious ufologists are also missing, while relatively unknown “personalities” are included.

The reasons for Sachs’ decisions on whom to include or omit are unclear. The Travis Walton abduction receives two and a half pages in Sachs (cross-referenced as Travis Walter (!) — and there are other careless errors), but under one and a half pages in Story. Under CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND Sachs gives two entries. First, a three-line definition of Hynek’s classification and then a quarter-page