

THE RETURN OF THE “CYCLOPES”?

Gordon Creighton

INVESTIGATORS Chionetti and Agostinelli of the Argentinian UFO Investigation Group CEFANC (Buenos Aires) report that they have made an on-the-spot probe of a curious encounter case said to have occurred in the early hours of June 14, 1980, at the house of a rural blacksmith living somewhere near the town of Libertad in the Departamento of San José, some 90 kilometres north-west of Montevideo, Capital of the Republic of Uruguay.

The protagonist in the story, 63-year old Juan Froche Jiaciola, a married man with two children, was in bed listening to the radio when his wife, who was dozing beside him, was aroused by sounds from outside the building. At first she was not much concerned at the noise, for they had some Charqui (Sun-dried beef) hanging out there, and they knew that it often attracted animals. Juan Froche however got out of bed, put on the bedroom light and then went to the kitchen and switched on the powerful overhead light outside over the front door. Then he went to the dining room and peered out through the window on the left side of the door.

Two strange-looking tall young people, as they seemed to him, were standing out there, looking up with what seemed to be curiosity at the light which he had just turned on. Their faces, he thought, seemed well proportioned, indeed “extremely beautiful.” One of them appeared to be a male and the other a female. They looked to him to be about 16 or 17 years old, but unusually tall. Their hair was short and curly and very black, and the skin of their faces and their hands was pale, and he thought their necks maybe a little longer and thinner than is normal. The two beings resembled each other closely “. . . as though they were brother and sister.” And they were clad in matt, leaden-grey, closely-fitting garments from wrists to neck, so closely-fitting indeed that, as he subsequently told the investigators: “They looked as if they were naked, and the clothing was *painted* on.” He also remarked: “It could have been a very fine short downy sort of *hair*, like the hair of a cat.”

He said the musculature of both persons was more developed than the normal. The female was very curvaceous as befitted her sex, and he said the nipples of her breasts showed very clearly. He said she “looked very good!”

But now I come to the most extraordinary part of Froche’s story. He said that on their foreheads, both beings bore what looked like a big deep red cicatrized wound running up vertically from between the eyes to as far as the hair line. This mark was about a centimetre wide, like an old healed wound “. . . as though they had been operated on.” (This would have pleased old

“Lobsang Rampa,” the recently deceased son of a plumber from Plympton, Devon, who achieved notoriety for his stories about Tibet, and about operations performed there on the “Third Eye” in the forehead to stimulate the development of psychic powers!)

The male being had now come right up to the front door, which was not locked. He pushed it open and put a hand round it. Froche struggled to close the door, and grabbed the back of the intruding hand instantly feeling the whole of his own hand (the left) “terribly burned, as though by fire.” This heat effect was instantaneous and he had no time for judging the feel of texture or solidity of the intruding hand. At last he managed to slam the door shut. The curious thing, he said, was that after that they seemed maybe “satisfied that they had burnt me,” for they showed no further desire to get in, and were soon gone.

Señora Ana Parodi de Froche told the investigators that she had remained in bed, waiting for her husband to drive off the animals from the dried meat, when suddenly she heard him shouting: “No! No! You shan’t come in here!” and then she heard the door slam. She got out of bed and ran out to the front door, to find her husband doubled up with pain, with his left hand under the armpit of the right arm. “Those chaps were trying to get in here and rob us!” he yelled. She examined his left hand and found it covered with vivid red stab-like spots. Then she peered out round the door, but found nobody there.

They spent a sleepless night and then went next day to the Police, who sent them on to the local hospital. There the hand was examined by Dr. Ramón Nuñez, who told the press: “I looked at the hand. He had a series of light burns distributed over the palm of the left hand. Evidently this had been caused by contact with something very hot, but the condition was not serious.”

The two Argentinian investigators reported that, by the time they got to see Sr. Froche, two months later (having heard his story reported in an Uruguayan TV programme on current local events, *Monica Reporting* . . . on June 19, 1980) the wounds were healing, but were still visible. They counted a total of 42 of the marks. The photograph taken by Enrique Bianco which accompanies the CEFANC report shows the dark stab-like or pricked marks very clearly indeed, distributed at random over the hand.

In conclusion the CEFANC investigators report that they find it impossible to conclude whether this case is genuine or not, and they offer it without comment to their readers’ judgement. For, as they explain, they have heard confidentially from an Uruguayan UFO Study group (no names given) that Dr. Ramón

Nuñez is Froche's own family doctor. He therefore knows the man well and he says Froche has in the past displayed "certain tendencies to hallucination," when complaining to the doctor about imaginary swellings in his armpits which the doctor said he himself was unable to find. The doctor had concluded that Froche (who is right-handed) had probably inflicted the wounds upon himself. The CEFANC investigators add that an experienced Police officer in the San José area, who had participated in the preliminary questioning of Froche at the Police Station, described the wounds as looking "like the results of a hot metal tube-shaped like a soft-drink straw being pressed into the palm of the hand."

Froche also showed the investigators some holes in the ground some 80 metres from his house. There has been a lot of dispute about these holes, as the Uruguayan ufologists maintain that a journalist had visited Froche some three or four months before the dissemination of his story about the two entities, and that on that occasion Froche had said nothing to the journalist about the two entities. Froche however explained that this was because he had found the marks *before* the date of his close encounter with the entities.

Another point of dispute concerns Froche's claim that on the night of his close encounter his electricity meter showed that he had used 600 kilowatts in that single night — more than he used in a whole month normally. He explained this by saying the entities had stolen the electricity. But the CEFANC investigators say their contacts in Montevideo looked into this and found the claim unfounded, as Froche had no unusual consumption of energy that night.

Froche said that after that night, there had been a very strange and unidentifiable smell in his smithy, which is in the ground floor of the building. When the CEFANC investigators were there, it was no longer detectable, but they admit that the other investigators from Montevideo told them that when they had visited Froche they too had smelt it and were unable to identify it.

In conclusion the CEFANC investigators admit however that Froche's story has been coherent and consistent throughout, and agrees with what he had told other investigators and reporters.

In the light of the scores and scores of UFO reports from all over the world which I have read, in at least a dozen languages over the past 34 years, I can only say that the Froche story strikes me as far more likely to be genuine than not. For one thing, it has all the usual absurdity and "pointlessness." So I think we ought to put it on record.

For it so happens that we do already have an extremely similar case reported to have occurred at Torrent, near Santo Tomé in the nearby Argentinian Province of Corrientes, in the first week of February 1965, when tall "Martians," nearly two metres high, and *"each having only one eye, in the centre of the forehead,"*

It is a matter of some interest that this Uruguayan CE-III is reported to have occurred on June 14, 1980. That date was also notable for the rocket launching of Cosmos 1188 from the Cosmodrome at Plesetsk in the Soviet Union which, due to lack of information among the Soviet public in general, and Soviet ufologists in particular, was misidentified as a UFO (see Dr. Teerikorpi's article in FSR Vol. 27 No. 6). It is understood that the launch vehicle's trajectory took it over Argentina (and adjoining countries?). At the time of this vehicle's passage over Russia, there were reports of landings of small craft with, allegedly, sightings of humanoid entities. Was it purely by coincidence that there was also this CE-III in Uruguay, just across the river from Buenos Aires? If there are visitations, or projections, controlled by alien interlopers, devilish deceivers, or what-have-you, are some of the visitations timed to coincide with spectacular man-made heavenly displays; inner space coverings-up distracting our attention from the true purpose behind the landings — whatever that can be?

EDITOR

entered a farmhouse and tried to seize a man but were driven off. On February 6 however, they returned and were seen by many people, and once again they tried to catch a man and failed. He escaped and gave the alarm, and the villagers turned out in strength and fired their shotguns at the "Martians" — though seemingly without inflicting any damage on these.

This case at Torrent is No. 41 in my article, "The Humanoids in Latin America," which forms part of the larger compilation, *The Humanoids*, first published by FSR in 1966 and subsequently re-issued, first as a hard-cover book and then as a paperback.

Let us now return to our 1980 South American "Cyclopes" with their "one eye" in the middle of the forehead. The Argentinian Province of Corrientes lies due north of the home of blacksmith Froche, and the two areas are not too far apart if one judges the matter on the continental scale of South America.

Were I a betting man — to use one of my favourite phrases — I think I would be inclined to view the strange tale of Señor Juan Froche Jiaciola as very likely true. I doubt whether we need pay too much attention to the views of Dr. Ramón Nuñez, who is extremely unlikely to have an expert knowledge of the UFO problem — and what, pray, does a doctor stand more in need of when he finds a UFO victim in his consulting room?

What would a country blacksmith have to gain by

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EXTRATERRESTRIAL DWARVES ATTACK FARM WORKER

Violent encounter near Serra do Mouro, Santa Catarina, Brazil.

Dr. Walter Buhler, M.D.

Translation by Gordon Creighton from Portuguese text in SBEDV Bulletin No. 136/145 (September 1981 — April 1982), Rio de Janeiro.

IN SBEDV Bulletin No. 116/120 (July 1977-February 1978) I reported the case of Paulo Coutinho and his meeting with extraterrestrial dwarves¹ at Pirassununga, (State of São Paulo). Some time later Sr. Coutinho informed me of another and similar case, also involving dwarves, which took place on September 3, 1976, near Serra do Mouro, Novo Trento, in the district of Brusque, in the South Brazilian State of Santa Catarina.

He reported that a lady of his acquaintance who knows of our UFO investigation work with the SBEDV, and takes an interest in it, had advised him of the case. She added that fuller details might be secured from a Sr. Airton Bestiani, resident at No. 145, rua São Leopoldo, Bairro São Luiz, Brusque, S.C. The following account is based on information furnished by Sr. Airton Bestiani and by a number of other persons and, of course, by the man who experienced the encounter with the entities.

At the time when we received the first report of the case I was about to take a trip abroad and was consequently unable to conduct the enquiry myself. I therefore asked Sr. Marcelino Edmundo Claudino to do it on my behalf, and he did so, together with Clênio Tadeu Paz who, like him, is a member of the Santa Catarina UFO Investigation Group.

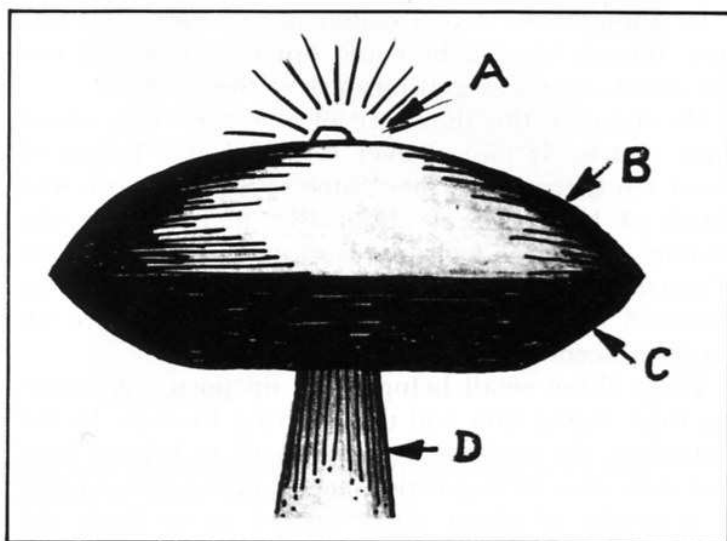
Sr. Marcelino Edmundo Claudino has been known to us since his own sighting in 1975, when he and three companions saw and photographed two UFOs near Lages in Santa Catarina.

The investigation

Sr. Marcelino Claudino made two trips to interview the witness. The first time, on November 29, 1977, he failed to see the witness, as the latter had married and moved to another district. However, he did manage to see the man's mother, who had helped to restore and comfort her son immediately after his experience, and

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dishing up a bogus story of this sort? And why does he select as his model for the story a very little known,



Sketch of the craft by Investigator Marcelino Claudino

A. Upper light, red or changing.

B. Upper part — rotating.

C. Lower part — stationary.

D. Red shaft of light.

B & C contradict the text; we assume the drawings are correct.

she supplied a detailed account of what happened.

On his second trip, Sr. Claudino was more fortunate, and he was able to interview the witness and get a full account from him. This was duly reported to us in a letter dated May 7, 1979 from Sr. Claudino.

The encounter

The witness, Sr. João Romeu Klein,² a farm worker, was 19 years old at the time of the event on September 3, 1976. The affair took place at a spot only some 400 metres from his mother's house. He was just returning home from a visit to a friend, and the time was about 7.00 p.m.

He suddenly observed a disc-shaped object in the

and long-forgotten, set of rather similar events involving "creatures with a central eye" which happened so much as seventeen years ago?