

CONFRONTATION AT LINS

Gordon Creighton

ACCORDING to press cuttings which I have received from Brazil (an unspecified newspaper of September 14, and *O Dia* of Rio de Janeiro for October 5), the strange woman encountered by Maria José Cintra at the sanatorium near Lins on August 27, 1968,* is described as having a friendly face, and as wearing "a hood (*capuz*) over her head and silvery-coloured clothing, like a spacesuit".

Sr. Aurélio Galo and his wife, Dona Itália Galo, stated to the press that the object seen by them at 6.45 a.m. on August 27 was very clearly visible, and was flying from north to south. It was emitting flashes of silvery light, and its under part was of a silvery opaque colour. They could also see, very clearly, two objects like antennae protruding from it.

A number of other residents of the Vila Junqueira suburb also told the press that they had seen it, but were unwilling to give their names as they "knew that few would believe them".

UFO confronts excavator

Meanwhile, according to *O Dia* of October 5, there has been yet another very interesting happening at Lins.

At 6.20 a.m. on October 2, a 41-year-old employee of the Lins Municipality named Doribio Pereira was about to start his morning work driving a caterpillar-type mechanical excavator. As he was standing on the caterpillar tread, engaged in putting oil and water in the engine, he was astonished to behold suddenly, right in front of him, at a distance of only a few feet and no more than a foot or so from the ground, a strange cigar-shaped craft, of a most beautiful golden colour. The next minute he caught sight of a strange person who drew from his sleeve a weapon shaped something like an electric drill. He pointed this weapon at Doribio Pereira and it emitted a strang

bright flash "just like when you take a picture at night". The flash totally immobilised the witness, who felt himself glued as it were to the spot where he was standing on his excavator, unable to shout or speak.

He was however able to watch the strange beings and their craft. On the under part of the "cigar" there was a platform, on which three of the crew were standing, and he was also able to see into the machine, "as its roof was of glass". Inside he could see one being operating a sort of typewriter, using both hands. Of the beings on the platform outside, one, in front of him, was looking at the engine of the excavator while another, on the right from where he stood, was using a conch-shaped object to remove a sample of soil from the cut where the excavator had been working, and he was doing this without leaving the platform. They were working as though automatically, without gestures and, so far as he could detect, without speaking to each other, and from time to time they were entering into the cigar through a doorway in its front part, through which the witness was able to see four backless stools, set separately from each other.

The craft was now making ready to leave, and flashed a very vivid light three times. The platform below was taken in, as well as another cone-shaped part, and there appeared, underneath, a thing "like a sort of electric polisher, revolving at great speed." The machine then took off, making a very slight sound, in the direction of Guaiçara. "Its flight was like that of a duck: very smooth and low at first, and then putting on great speed." Climbing rapidly, it was soon lost to sight in the sky.

A state of shock

Doribio Pereira now felt himself able to move. But he found it impossible to run, as he wished, so

he had to walk as far as the nearest road, where he was soon picked up by a passing motorist friend named Ezequiel, who took him straight home.

Doribio's wife was shocked by his shaken appearance and pallor and at once gave him a cup of mint-tea to drink. Then, still in a very nervous state, he went to the Town Council offices. The Municipal Prefect, Sr. Rubens Furquim, hearing from his staff about the case, came out of his office and, seeing him in such a condition, ordered that he be given a glass of milk and a sedative, for he was "whiter than a corpse".

Returning to the place where his excavator was, he found that the soil there had been moved by someone. Five of his workmates (all named in the *O Dia* report) had seen some marks left there by the cigar-shaped craft, but these marks were now no longer visible. (They were scrape marks on the face of the hillock of earth that he had been removing.)

Entities described

When questioned by the police as to the sort of clothing that the strange beings were wearing, Doribio Pereira said that they "had clothing like a saint, down to the knees, and on their heads a hood (*capuz*); the sleeves were loose, and the colour of the clothing was blue with sparkling reddish reflections." On their feet he said "they wore sandals open at the front so that their toes were visible. The colour of the sandals was dark brown, and they had narrow bands tied round their legs up as far as the knees, like the ancient Romans."

He said the beings had eyes, noses and mouths. He did not see whether they possessed teeth, as they were working in total silence and did not open their mouths.

* See Nigel Rimes' article *Another Hospital Visited* on page 4.

Their height was around 1 metre 65 cms. (5ft. 5in.) and they were more or less of lean build.

Medical tests and solitary confinement

At the request of the Chief of Police, Doribio was sent for a medical examination by a physician, Dr. Antônio Geris. The doctor talked to him for a long time, asked questions and gave him various

tests, and concluded that he was entirely normal.

In the meantime the Police authorities had been in touch with the Brazilian Air Force, and by the time Doribio got back to Police Headquarters from the doctor's surgery, orders had been received to hold him in solitary confinement until two military men arrived.

The report concludes by saying that at the time of writing Doribio

Pereira was still being held incomunicado somewhere in Lins. Meanwhile, the whole of Lins is agog with talk of UFOs and meetings with entities, and the public remembers the case of Maria José Cintra who, only a few weeks previously, had been asked for water by a strange woman, strangely garbed and speaking an incomprehensible language, and also *wearing a hood (capuz)*.

THE ALDEBURGH PLATFORM

THE *Daily Mirror* of August 8, 1968, contained an interesting short letter from a Mr. A. E. Whiteland of Saxmundham, Suffolk, about an extraordinary phenomenon seen by his mother some time about the middle of the First World War, i.e. 1916 or 1917, writes Gordon Creighton.

I at once got in touch with Mr. Whiteland, and the following is the remarkable account which he has sent me—an account of something that must surely have been a brief glimpse of another sort of reality or of something from another world or time, and very like the American happenings of 1897:

"My mother (now aged 84) has often told the following story over the years, and I would like to find out for her who these mystery men were and what they were doing.

"This is the story. It was about the middle of World War I, and on a weekday. Mother was living then at Aldeburgh, Suffolk. She had gone upstairs just before the midday dinner, and opened a casement window and looked out to see who might be on the road. Having looked both ways and noticed that nobody was in sight, she was about to step back when something urged her to look again (see sketch).

"A little above the level of the house, at a height of about 30ft., eight to twelve men appeared, on what seemed to be a round platform with a handrail around it. This they were gripping tightly.

"She could see them so clearly. They were wearing blue uniforms and little round hats, not unlike sailors' hats.

"She heard no sound from the machine as it came off the nearby marshes. It turned a bit, and went over the railway yard, to disappear behind some houses.

"My mother is unable to give a date, month or year, as it is now such a long time back. All she can say is that it was on a bright day, and on a Thursday, because Thursday has been her day for "doing out" the bedrooms for all her married life.

"The time was close to 12 o'clock noon. When she first caught sight of this platform with men on it coming towards her, it was about 100 yards distant, at about roof-height, and seemed to have come over the Marsh Gate. This was a five-barred gate with a smaller one beside it for the footpath, and a few railings with a fairly large house on the left as seen from where Mother was at the bedroom window.

"The thing came straight along the road, and then when she thought it was going to pass her house (one of a terraced block of six), it suddenly turned away at right angles from her and went between the Railway Hotel and the sheds on either side of the railway yard. The shed opposite the house was maybe 23 to 25ft. high; it was two-storeyed, and hay was stored in the upper part, and the thing just cleared its roof, from what Mother said.

"She says the number of men was between 8 and 12, and she is certain it was nearer 12, as they stood around on this circular platform, holding tightly on to the handrail. The rail was of brass, and a second rail, also of

brass, was at the height of the men's knees. As she was trying so hard to take it all in, she cannot say of what material the platform seemed to be made. She says: 'It made me think of a bathing-raft'. These were the type of rafts used in the sea at that time, about 12 feet across and six-sided, so that people could dive off them. (This is not to say that the 'platform' was six-sided, but just to give an idea of its size). Mother thought that the thickness or depth of the 'platform' was about 12 to 12in.

"The men were dressed in blue, with round blue hats (round without any stiffening) pulled tightly on to their heads. They stood shoulder to shoulder looking straight outwards, with ordinary faces like us, but staring straight ahead.

"Mother says that she kept wondering what was making the thing move, and looked up in the sky and then at the men and then in between their legs to see if there was an engine there in the middle, but she could see nothing there. There was nothing in the middle, just a hollow, with the men around the sides.

"I asked her about noise, or anything that she might have heard. She says there was no sound at all. 'It just came along straight, not up or down or anything, till it turned away and over the top of the roof of the shed and away over the railway-station yard and straight towards Aldeburgh Lodge and the trees, $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile away. It kept getting smaller, and went behind the trees or the house. If they had not been in the way, I would have seen it go right out to sea.

"The whole occurrence lasted