

zero. Our flying magnet is so large compared with any piece of susceptible material it is likely to encounter, that its field would not vary significantly over the piece. It would, therefore, be spared the embarrassment of acquiring an unwanted collection of scrap iron.

Although direct magnetic forces are unlikely to be pronounced, the tendency for susceptible material to align itself with the local direction of the machine's field could produce marked movements. For this to happen the material must already possess some magnetism or be magnetised by the presence of the machine. It would endeavour to rotate until it was parallel to the machine's lines of force. The turning moment would vary as the machine pulsed, so that a flexibly mounted material would experience a pulsating turning effect which, in many circumstances,

could cause it to oscillate. The period or frequency of vibration would coincide with the machine's pulsations. The amplitude of movements would be expected to be small in most situations but could rise to large values if resonance occurred. It is to be noted that the natural frequency of many ordinary elastically supported ferromagnetic objects, e.g. motor cars, bridge structures, is of the same order as the natural frequency of the machine. Vigorous resonant oscillation of the whole or part of such an object in the vicinity of a machine in aerodynamic hover could therefore occur. There would be no such vibration associated with ground-effect hover.

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[Mr. Winder's article will be concluded in our next issue]

Attempted Abduction by UFO Entity?

by Gordon Creighton

IN a postscript to my article *Teleportations* in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for March/April 1965, it was stated that I had recently received from Persia the full newspaper account about a man who seemingly had a narrow escape from abduction in 1954, and that it was hoped that this could be published at some future date. I have now had the item translated. As will be seen, the report also contains several other Iranian sightings of the same period. The newspaper from which the account is taken is *Ettela'at*, Tehran's leading daily paper, for October 15, 1954.

The French wave of 1954 was then at its peak, and it is therefore interesting to have these contemporary reports from a country lying some 2,000 miles towards the south-east from France.

Flying Saucer in the sky over Tehran

"A few days ago, one of our correspondents reported from Mahallat² that a marvellously luminous object had landed near there and that many farmers had been impressed by its strange and colourful appearance. It was hemispherical in form, and emitted multi-coloured beams of light.

"It only landed for a brief period, and in the meantime more and more of the country folk were crowding near to look at it, but nobody would go too close to it, so great was their fear.

"The central part of the object was of metal and was less bright than the rest.

"While the crowd of people was growing larger and larger, the object suddenly shot straight upwards into the sky and vanished. The affair has provoked great discussion among the populace.

"Following upon this report, we then received another one from a resident of Shamsabad³ who walked into our editorial offices this morning and stated that at 6.30 a.m. yesterday, just as he was coming out of his house, he saw a luminous object resembling a brightly shining star. It was at a distance of about 100 metres from him, and he estimated its length as about five metres. He had already heard of flying saucers, and at once realised that this was one. Approaching more closely, he perceived a 'short young man' standing on a circular piece of metal in the middle of the radiant object and looking around him searchingly.

"The witness was now only twenty metres from the saucer and could see that the pilot was laughing at the terrified expression on his face. Suddenly however the machine shot up into the air at an unbelievable speed and vanished.

Attempted abduction

"The following episode occurred in Amireah Street, here in Tehran.

"A Mr. Ghaseme Fili, who lives in that street, informs us that at 2.30 a.m. last Friday, he being at that time on the second floor of his house, he saw a luminous white flying object which became stationary at a distance of about twenty metres from him. Lights were shining from the rear end of the object and from its sides.

"Inside the object he could see what appeared to be a small man dressed in black clothing and wearing on his head a strange mask shaped like the trunk of an elephant.⁴ Said Mr. Fili: 'I was standing, with both hands on the bar of my bal-

cony, looking with astonishment at this strange object, when I suddenly felt as though I were being drawn up towards the object as though by a magnet.'

"Mr. Fili cried out in terror and awakened the neighbours. Meanwhile, the luminous object shot straight up into the sky and vanished in the twinkling of an eye. It emitted sparks as it rose up.

Another case in Tehran

"While the foregoing reports were being assembled, we received a visit this morning from a resident of Salsabil Street, also in this Capital. Very worried and frightened, this man told us that this morning, as he opened his front door, he saw a pale-coloured cigar-shaped object moving slowly through the sky. As it changed direction, he saw multi-coloured flashes of light come from both sides of it."

NOTES

¹ In the Iranian language *poshghabe parandeh* : "flying

dish", or "bird-dish".

² This place lies at 33/55 N, 50/30 E, and lies due south of Tehran.

³ Shamsabad, near Tehran, is at 35/14 N, 51/44 E.

⁴ There are several cases on record in which witnesses speak of "faces or masks like elephant's trunks", and one's immediate reaction is to assume that this relates in fact to some sort of "gas mask" or breathing device. See, for example, pp. 191/192 of Keyhoe's *Flying Saucer Conspiracy* (British edition) for an Italian report of **this same period**. A disc landed one night, in the early part of November 1954, on a sports field in Italy. By its bright glow the Italian witnesses could see around the craft three or four small entities wearing transparent helmets, and several said that they had had a clear view of the face of one of them, **which looked like a little elephant**. When the villagers charged down upon the entities, the latter quickly got into the saucer and took off.

These two reports, from Italy and Iran respectively, and within a fortnight of each other, are clearly part of the great "French Wave" of 1954. It would be interesting to know whether any of the still undiscovered French cases also contain references to an "elephant's trunk"!

A LONG, COOL LOOK AT ALIEN INTELLIGENCES

Part I—The Non-uniqueness of Man

by C. Maxwell Cade

IT has taken approximately 2500 million years for biological life to evolve upon Earth and to attain a state of technological development where it is possible to break away from the gravitational pull of our planet and to visit other worlds. Admittedly, we have so far been restricted to the use of unmanned vehicles, but in the present state of space-technology even the most conservative estimates suggest that within a decade man will have explored the Moon, and possibly the nearer planets.

These possibilities of interplanetary flight have only been known to us for about 30 years, and the possibilities of communication between worlds have only been known for about 60. Out of the vast time of 2500 million years, required for intelligent beings to evolve from inorganic elements, the time required to develop from a condition where we had no knowledge at all of communication by means of electromagnetic radiation to the condition where we can transmit television pictures from Mars to the Earth, is less than 100 years. The same brief period has also covered the transition from no knowledge of powered flight, to the launching of highly-sophisticated inter-

planetary probes; and also the transition from no knowledge of electronics to the development of electronic computers which begin to approach human thinking ability.

We are still a long way from having control of our environment, but with current progress with rain-making by chemical "seeding" of clouds, and the successful French work on the induction of artificial thunderstorms and tornadoes, it is improbable that the final attainment will take more than a century or so. After that, unless irresponsibility on the part of our leaders hurls us into a final fratricidal war, it seems reasonable to look forward to a long period during which we enjoy the mastery of ourselves and our environment. Earth will remain habitable for many thousands of millions of years yet, so that, looking from the distant past to the distant future, it seems that the change-over from a non-technological society to one with complete control of its home planet is a process which occupies the merest twinkling of an eye on the time-scale of evolving life.

The consequence of all this is that the possibility of our ever discovering—or being discovered by—a race of extraterrestrial beings in a similar