

not heard a sound. On reflection, he found this rather strange. "You hear frogs, crickets and all sorts of sounds if you stop in the bush at night," he said. Dr. Zeck asked if he had heard his own heartbeats; Mr. Spargo said no.

He estimated that the whole episode must have lasted about five minutes. He wears an Omega Chronometer watch which is very reliable and keeps excellent time, but when he checked the time on arrival at Boyup Brook, he found it unaccountably five minutes slow. It seemed likely that the watch had stopped when the car stopped.

A report of this sighting appeared in *The West Australian* of November 1, 1967. A few days later, testing out reactions of local folk to the newspaper report, without letting them know that he was the

person concerned, Mr. Spargo asked the owners of a garage in Kojonup what they thought of the fellow who had seen the object in the sky a few nights earlier.

"My son saw it too," was the reply. "He was out working for a farmer that night."

The garage owner said that two local farmers in the Muradup district had also seen the object, and another young farmer and wool classer had seen an object in the sky. They had watched it for a while, but thought it was a satellite. These sightings were about the same time that Mr. Spargo had his strange experience.

NOTE

* In the *West Australian* for November 1, 1967, the report told of the sighting "last night". This would have made the date of the incident October 31. However Mr. Spargo's sketch, made on the day of his interview with Dr. Zeck, bears the date "October 30", but it must be remembered that during his interview he stated that he had forgotten the precise date.

ANDEAN ENCOUNTER

Translation and presentation by Gordon Creighton from Bulletins No. 8 (July/August 1967) and No. 9 (October/December 1967) of the UFO Investigation Section (DIOVNI) of the Research Centre on Rocketry and Astronomy, Santiago, Chile.

THE SCENE of this alleged experience is right on the Chilean-Argentine frontier, among the snowy peaks of the Andes, at about Latitude 27 degrees South and Longitude 69 degrees West. Incahuasi and Las Tres Cruces are two of the great local peaks, both about 6,620 metres (more than 21,500ft.) high.

It is interesting to note that this region lies only a short distance to the south of the lofty Atacama desert region where, as so many Argentine UFO reports have suggested, alien beings are thought to have established bases.

This account is taken from Bulletins 8 and 9 issued by the Chilean UFO Investigation Group. Bulletins 4 and 7, which have not yet been received, also have material on this case, but it seems that the essential experience itself, as allegedly recovered under hypnosis, is all here.

Introduction

The witness, Señor Manuel Muñoz Carvajal, aged 25, a chauffeur of the Regional Hospital La Serena, had apparently driven a party to a school high in the Andean Cordillera. He was badly affected by the altitude, and the incident is supposed to have occurred while he was being returned from a visit to a doctor at a station lower down the mountains.

After his "experience" Manuel was treated under hypnosis by Dr. Darwin Arriagada L. (The letter L after the name of the Doctor is quite correct. It is a South American custom.) Here follows the translation of the transcript of the recorded questioning . . .

From Bulletin No. 8

Dr. Manuel, you will now tell me with complete exactness about that occasion on which you saw the "flying saucers". Tell me, what was the date?

M. It was June.

Dr. You told me one of your party was ill, didn't you? Who was it that was ill?

M. I was.

Dr. You were ill. Tell me . . . and then they took you to Incahuasi?

M. I spoke to Señor Leiva (*who stayed overnight in the school, up on top of the Cordillera crest.*) He authorised me to go to Desvío Norte, to see the doctor at Incahuasi. On the way back from Incahuasi, there was a dense thick mist. We got to Tres Cruces. We began to climb the steepest bit of the whole route. As we were arriving at the top and the mist was beginning to disperse, a ball of fire flew across the sky in front of us. It went from left to right, that is to say, from the mountains towards the ocean. Then one of our party said it was a shooting star. I said it couldn't be a shooting star because when they fall they disintegrate and this seemed to be propelled by a light and then it went out. We went on up and we reached a ridge, and then my companions said there was a truck coming down the road. I saw that it wasn't a truck. The noise from it was tremendous. We stopped. We stopped our van and we got out and walked forward. I had the wind up, as my nerves were bad, and being already affected, as I was, by mountain-sickness due to the altitude, it gave me quite a shock.

Dr. Yes? Tell me all you saw?

M. It was a big ball, like . . . at the distance it was, it looked like a paper balloon—one of those that they let off and that come down again. But when we stopped there and with our lights out, there was a very lovely Moon . . . it was shining brightly and began to blaze with light, and then I said to my companion that we ought to go back, for I was scared and I could see it wasn't a balloon. We were close to the ground and there was nowhere to turn round, so we went on. And

when I started the engine up . . . I . . . my companion told me to dip the lights. We went on a bit further and this machine came closer and the light it gave out, that great ball, lit up the inside of the cab of our vehicle more brightly than the moonlight, and it hurt our eyes to look at it much. (*Silence*).

Dr. Then what? Then what did you do?

M. Well then we continued on up, and this machine, I reckoned that we had passed under it about a kilometre or so back down the road. I looked at the mileometer and I could in fact see we had gone more than a kilometre and the machine was following us, keeping at the same distance. When we saw it it was about 4.40 a.m. . . . (*Silence*).

Dr. Describe to me this machine that you saw. What was the shape of this ball of fire?

M. It was . . . it wasn't round . . . it wasn't a really round clearly defined circumference, but it was a . . . like a walnut, something like a walnut I think.

Dr. Did it have a light shining from it?

M. Yes, beams of light, and there was a shining light, and then it turned orange-coloured . . . of a strong medium yellowish colour, and it had some long "horns" sticking out on top, like antennae. There were two of them, only two. The machine kept changing the colour of its light every half hour—sorry—I mean every half minute . . .

(During the experience the patient fell asleep as a result of the drugs he had been given—so we [Diovni-Ed] learnt—and during this interval he dreamed of some strange "beings". We shall give this part in a future issue of our Bulletin).

Dr. Now, after you woke up from your dream, you were still frightened?

M. Yes.

Dr. Well then, what did you all do next?

M. We drove on. And the disc continued to move along ahead of us. When we had stopped there at that place, before I fell asleep, I saw the other small objects that were around that big one. There were six of the small objects. They were in pairs. And underneath the big thing you could see a sort of cabin, and there were three motionless heads.

Dr. Three motionless heads. Of what shape were they?

M. Well, you could see three black things, that's all . . . nothing else.

(As the account is given with a number of gaps in it, due perhaps to the nervousness of the witness, we [Diovni-Ed] have added a few words here and there—in parentheses—which without affecting the narrative, will be of help to investigators in other countries. We have cut out one or two questions by Dr. Arriagada where he was trying to get the witness to continue his narrative but where it led to nothing conclusive).

From Bulletin No. 9

Dr. Well now . . . did you feel a shock at that moment?

M. Very much. I tried to walk forward, but could not move.

Dr. Why not?

M. No. I can't explain.

Dr. Had your strength gone?

M. I just couldn't make any movement at all.

Dr. Tell me, didn't you fall asleep at this point?

M. Yes.

Dr. During your sleep, what did you dream about? You told me you fell asleep. What was your dream like? (*said with emphasis*).

M. I fell asleep. On the left hand side was the crest of the Cordillera. I dreamt that there were a number of men walking about, who had come out of the disc.

Dr. Tell me your dream. What did those men look like?

M. They were green . . . they had round faces.

Dr. Round faces. And what were their eyes like?

M. They were big.

Dr. Were they long, or not?

M. They were round, fairly protuberant.

Dr. What did those men say to you in your dream?

M. I saw them moving from one side to the other. There were two of them . . . I awoke with the fright, and looked out to see if I could see anything there. I locked the van door as I was scared.

Dr. Right. What else did those men do? What height were they?

M. They were about 1 metre or 1 metre 20 cms.

Dr. They were small?

M. Yes. With very big heads . . . round heads, long necks.

Dr. Did they have feet?

M. Yes.

Dr. Did they have hands?

M. Yes.

Dr. Were they similar to men?

M. They had very broad chests and narrow waists. Their bodies had the same skin as their clothing. The coverings on their bodies were shaped like clothes. Their legs were thin, as though they had no knees.

Dr. Did you talk to your companions? (*Let us remember that the witness was dreaming*).

M. No. They walked round and round the van, as though keeping watch on us . . . I had woken up, and I was driving now. At the bend in the road I saw . . .

Dr. The disc?

M. No. This little man. (*He is now speaking about the following day, when, on the way back, he pointed him out to Inspector Leiva. The occurrence is authentic*).

Dr. Right. But you were already awake.

M. Yes I was awake.

Dr. And you saw him again?

M. Yes, I saw him again. I told my companion, and I told Sr. Leiva too, that at that bend in the road I had seen a man. And so we went there again next day and located the place, but we found nothing.

Dr. Was this man the same man whom you had seen in your dream?

M. Yes, the same man.

Dr. Didn't he make any gestures? Didn't he try to speak to you either?

M. No. Not at all.

Dr. What was the shape of his ears?

M. Like a dog's ears.

Dr. Like a dog's ears, pointed?

M. Yes.

Dr. Did the men have anything in their hands? Were they carrying nothing in particular? Are you sure of that? Did you see how they came out of the disc? (*Silence*) You don't remember? Very well, let's proceed. When the flying objects had gone away next morning,

you were calmer, were you? What did you do next? (Silence)

M. I was asleep.

Dr. Yes? Did you have any more dreams?

M. Yes.

Dr. What did you dream? (Silence). Tell me. (Silence). Did you dream of the same men?

M. Yes. I dreamed that those men were walking about in the School where we were, and on the crest of the Cordillera, where the mine is.

Dr. What else? And what did they do to you? How many of them were there at this time? Several?

M. Five. They came right close to the School. In my dream I . . . (Silence) . . . as if they were transmitting to me the message that we should say nothing to anybody about it.

Dr. To say nothing about it?

M. Yes.

Dr. How was that? They transmitted to you . . . Because you couldn't hear their voices . . . how did they do it?

M. I dreamt somehow that they communicated it to me.

Dr. What was it that you weren't to tell anybody about?

M. That we weren't to tell anybody about it.

Dr. Not to tell it to whom?

M. To other people.

Dr. Why?

M. They didn't tell me.

Dr. Why didn't they tell you? They threatened you?

M. No.

Dr. Why? Tell me how they told you that? (Silence) Besides saying that you weren't to tell anything about it, what else did those beings instruct you to do?

M. No, that's all . . . There were three of them walking along together. You could see them, quite close to us . . . the one in the middle seemed to be a leader.

Dr. Right. Now, tell me one thing. Didn't you hear their voices? No? Then how did they give you that information?

M. I felt as though something was entering into my head, that's all.

Dr. Right. Then, after that, you woke up? Did you remember your dream?

M. Yes.

Dr. Why did you come to me about it, two days later?

M. We didn't want to tell anybody.

Dr. Why?

M. Because they would have laughed at us . . .

Dr. Tell me, why didn't you tell me that part about the dream, which was the only bit that you had not told me? (Silence) Why?

M. Because I thought you wouldn't believe me.

Dr. We wouldn't believe you? Well then, have you never had any more dreams about those men since then? (Silence) Or of those beings? Have you never had any more dreams in which you saw them?

M. No.

Dr. Never any more. Very good. Then you have remembered perfectly, everything that happened.

Hypnotised Policeman reports Encounter with Entity

The following account is extracted from items which appeared in NICAP's UFO Investigator for March, 1968.

AT 2.30 a.m. on December 3, 1967, Police Officer Schirmer, of Ashland, Nebraska, reportedly came upon a bright aluminium-coloured UFO hovering a few feet above the road. Schirmer stated he could see red lights inside the object, which was about 20 feet long.

As his car approached to within 40 feet of the unknown craft, Schirmer said the object's lights began to flash and the UFO rose to about 50 feet. Then it shot a red-orange beam towards the ground, emitted a shrill beeping noise and vanished straight up.

We learn that Officer Schirmer later was questioned, under hypnosis, at the Colorado Project. The account continues:

The first witness to be hypnotised under the auspices of the Colorado Project has reportedly described—while under hypnosis—a fantastic sighting said to involve an extraterrestrial being, communication with the "saucer" occupant, and a paralysing beam. The sessions were held on February 14 and 15.

Police Officer Herbert Schirmer was placed under hypnosis by Dr. Leo R. Sprinkle, psychologist at the

University of Wyoming, who is a NICAP member.

The Colorado Project has confirmed that the patrolman was brought to the UFO Study Group at Boulder and hypnotised to recount his story. No conclusions have been released by the Project, but a detailed story was given to the Omaha *World Herald* by a police officer who was present during the sessions.

During hypnosis, Schirmer told Dr. Sprinkle and the Project officials he saw the object . . . as it hovered close to a road.

"I tried to radio in . . ." the policeman stated. "I had one hand on the mike and the other on my gun . . . but the beam of light that came from the underside of the object kept me from doing anything."

According to notes taken by Ashland Police Chief William Wlaschin during the hypnotic experiment, Schirmer said that as the beam flooded his cruiser with light, a small human form, four or five feet tall, came from beneath the craft and approached him. He also said that the figure "in some manner" communicated with him. There were also other beings aboard the craft, Schirmer stated while in a deep trance.

"They are not from any planet we are familiar with . . ." Schirmer reported during the hypnotic session. "They came from a neighbouring galaxy . . . though they have bases on Jupiter and Mars . . . They told me that this was the first of three meetings I would have with them . . . The next two are supposed to come about before the end of 1968."

Schirmer also said the UFO "was operated against gravity" and was extracting electricity from a nearby power line to set up a force field that "could stop anything from interfering with them at this time."

The UFO Investigator editor then carefully re-states the NICAP position:

NICAP is investigating the case as thoroughly as possible. We hope to obtain a full account of the hypnotic experiments, even though the Colorado conclusions probably cannot be released until Dr. Condon's final public report. . .

It is NICAP's position that any alleged "contact" case must be fully authenticated before we can accept

it as true. Otherwise, we would be criticised—and rightly—as departing from our long-standing policy of careful, factual investigation. So far, we know of no contact case which has met the test. Most of the alleged witnesses have been obviously unreliable or unstable. There have been a few exceptions, mainly in so-called "encounter" cases (no communication claimed) where witnesses of good reputation have reported seeing supposedly extraterrestrial beings near or aboard UFOs. Even here, honest errors of identification are quite possible. We know of no case proved beyond all reasonable doubt, though we feel that a distinction should be made between such reported "encounters" and the majority of unacceptable "contactee" tales.

Postscript:

The UFO Investigator is the journal of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, 1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington D.C. 20036 U.S.A.

MAIL BAG

From Jacques Vallée

Sir,—With reference to John Keel's article *A New Approach to UFO Witnesses* (FSR, May/June 1968), I would like to convince John that precisely because "the truth about UFOs is infinitely more complex than the extraterrestrial type of conclusion" it will take the combined efforts of several researchers to solve it. This team should include professional scientists working within their field of competence; otherwise it will never get adequate tools to support its hypotheses and test them. It will soon find itself sitting on a shapeless mountain of disorganised "evidence" — a situation which is typical of all the amateur groups today.

Clearly we need quantitative data here. When John says "Look at the growing number of close sightings around schools" I want to ask: How do we know this category is growing faster than other categories? The term "close sighting" is not even defined! And how could it be defined if we ignore the witness's description of the object, its apparent size, its manoeuvres and general behaviour?

It is precisely to eliminate the most obvious biases of this kind that we need computers. Now, to assume that the computer can save us the effort to make field investigations would be entirely childish—here I emphatically agree with John. The statistics are a by-product, not the main purpose of the reduction of the files. What is the main purpose, then?

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

There are five meaningful tasks a computer can perform for us in the field of UFO research: (1) to assist field investigators by providing background information such as names of witnesses and previous sightings in a given area, (2) to guide in the formulation and testing of hypotheses by recalling those details which human memory is unable to retain, (3) to help in detecting global trends and geographic patterns, (4) to assign quantitative values to interpretations formulated loosely in qualitative terms, (5) to monitor abusive manipulations of the files by officials in charge of the evaluation and to provide information on selection effects.

Finally I would take issue with John's statement about the scientific method. He misses the obvious point that the scientific method has *never* been applied to this problem. Jacques Vallée, June 25, 1968.

Not Extraterrestrial

Sir,—As one who has studied the UFO phenomenon intensively for several years, during which time I have researched scores of books and periodicals, let me say that John Keel needs to explain far more than "Phase 3" and "Odd 'March pattern'" referred to in your note following his article in your January/February 1968 issue.

My research has failed to reveal even one solid indication of contact by outer space creatures. The more impressive landing stories—Socorro, New Mexico, South Hill, Virginia and

Valensole, France—are all based on the testimony of *one* witness. Moreover, both of the U.S. cases have strange loopholes which cast grave doubt that an extraterrestrial visitation took place.*

In accounts about the mysterious "men in black", pregnant women and strange telephone calls, no incontrovertible evidence is ever given. In my opinion, there is a credibility gap in such stories as wide as the Atlantic!

A few months ago I attended a meeting in which Mr. Keel was guest speaker. During the talk he noted that a strange chemical (mecnacide) is starting to show up in our water supplies, and that if taken in sufficient quantities it could cause mental confusion and even death. The implication was that outer space creatures were responsible. Under questioning by the audience, however, Mr. Keel admitted that this chemical is found in trace amounts of compounds in fluorine. In other words, UFO occupants are not putting it in the water — *we are!* (through our fluoridation of water).

F. D. Marrow Lazybrook Road, RD No. 1, Flemington, N.J. 08822 March 4 1968

* For a complete analysis of the Socorro sighting, see a new book, *UFOs-Identified*, by Philip J. Klass, published by Random House, New York, N.Y.

[I suggest that the fact that "outer space creatures were responsible" was the inference drawn by our correspondent when he attended Mr. Keel's