

# AN UNPREPOSSESSING CREATURE SEEN IN CANADA

Gordon Creighton

AS I have often said, I yield place to nobody in my enthusiasm for benevolent tall beings of Nordic type with long hair and no dental caries, provided that due account is also taken of the clear evidence that there are certain other creatures around whose physical proportions and appearance scarcely accord with the classical Greek ideal of human beauty and whose motives may be anything but nice.

I give below a translation of a recent report about this sort of creature from French Canada. The case was investigated by M. Henri Bordeleau, who visited the site, interviewed all the witnesses, and concluded that they certainly were not hoaxing or lying. The story was first printed under the name of M. Jacques Hébert in the Montreal paper *La Presse* for August 7, 1968, and was subsequently reprinted in the G.E.P.A. Bulletin *Phénomènes Spatiaux* (Paris) for December 1968. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is indebted to M. René Fouéré, Editor of *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, for permission to reproduce it here.

At 9.00 p.m. on the evening of Sunday, July 28, 1968, at Saint-Stanislas de Kostka, a small place located in Beauharnois County and about 45 miles (72 km.) to the south-west of Montreal, five teenagers or children were together, in the house of a family named Sauvé. They were three boys, Paul Sauvé (20), Régent Léger (15), Denis Léger (12) and two girls, Nicole Sauvé (14) and Joanne Sauvé (9).

Paul Sauvé and Denis Léger were upstairs. It was almost completely dark outside. Denis Léger happened to glance out through the window, towards the extensive fields of wheat and oats, and glimpsed what he afterwards described to the investigators as "a sort of circle surrounded by a bright red halo", by which he is assumed to have meant "a globe with a halo around it."<sup>1</sup> He called Paul and the others, and all came rushing to the window in time to observe the arrival of a second object of similar appearance. This one came to a halt in the sky, while the first one was settling down gently in one of the fields of oats, at a point about 300 metres from the house.

At no time did any of the party think that what they were seeing were not "flying saucers", particularly as Denis Léger at once began to remind them of an experience that he himself had had one afternoon in the summer of 1967 and that was known to them. It had been at just about the same time of the year. He had been riding his bicycle, and a silent shining saucer had followed him for about five minutes, flying at a height of some 6 or 7 metres from the ground and at a distance of about 150 metres from him. The upper part of the craft, transparent, appeared to be made of a sort of thick glass, and inside it he could see three small dark beings, two sitting on one side and one sitting on the

other side. The boy had been extremely frightened, as his father subsequently confirmed to M. Henri Bordeleau. As far as the father was concerned, there was no possibility that the boy had invented the story.

By now one of the two machines outside had vanished from sight, while the other one still stood there in the field. The young people trooped off down into the yard, led by Denis, the boldest, flashlight in hand.

Suddenly the beam of his torch caught the silhouette of a creature, at a distance of less than 15 metres from them, behind a wooden fence. The creature raised its right hand to the level of its face and opened and closed the hand, "like a baby trying to salute", as Denis put it.

Instant panic ensued, the whole party fleeing back into the house, while the creature, moving with short strides, withdrew towards one of the barns.

All the young people seem to have had a very good view of the creature, except for its lower extremities, and describe it as follows:

Height: about 1 metre 20 cms.

Shoulders: broad.

Head: black or brown, somewhat bigger than a human head, and, as it were "imbedded in the shoulders", there seeming to be no neck.

Eyes: round, with wrinkled skin around them.

Ears: surrounded by fuzzy black hair.

Mouth and chin: "seemed normal".

The skin of the creature's face was "furrowed, rough, with knobs on it." The hands (with five fingers) were "very wide, black, knobbly and rough like the skin of a toad."

Once back in the house, Paul Sauvé and Denis Léger ran upstairs again to keep watch. The luminous saucer was still standing there in the field.

Nicole Sauvé dashed to the telephone to call her parents, who were absent from the house, while the youngest, 9-year-old Joanne Sauvé, fled to the bathroom and locked herself in there.

The 15-year-old boy Régent Léger had remained downstairs, at one of the windows, and now suddenly he found "the same ugly black face peering at him and the knobbly hand knocking on the glass." Emanating from the creature was a sound which he described as "like the mooing of a cow." Paralysed with terror, the boy stood there, quite unable to shout or move, until, a few moments later, the creature withdrew from the window and disappeared from his view.

Shortly afterwards, watching from upstairs, the whole party saw the UFO, still surrounded by its "red halo", rise slowly and vertically into the air and vanish in the night sky. It made no sound so far as they could tell.

Henri Bordeleau and a number of his fellow-investigators questioned the witnesses exhaustively and were unable to find any grounds for rejecting their story.

The Sauvé and Léger parents, although understandably finding it difficult to believe that their children had seen a "monster", were nevertheless convinced that they must have seen *something very extraordinary*, so great and so marked were their fear and anxiety.

At the spot where the witnesses said they had seen the luminous craft standing, the light of dawn showed eloquent proof. Over a circular area 5 metres wide, the oats had been crushed and flattened "with a circular motion, as though by a whirlwind." Extending outwards from this area into the standing oats was one long "arm-like" mark, 20 metres in extent and some 10 centimetres wide.

As G.E.P.A. Editor René Fouéré observes, this story at once calls to mind Mrs. Coral Lorenzen's famous Venezuelan cases of 1954<sup>2</sup>—in which witnesses were set upon and injured by hairy creatures—or the (seemingly less bellicose?) hairy and bewhiskered "Martians"<sup>3</sup> encountered by children at 6.30 p.m. on October 9, 1954 at Pournoy-la-Chétive, in France, and by M. Roger Barrault at Lavoux only half an hour later—hirsute fauna which, thanks to the hilarious comments of the French press, now have their assured place in the literature of "Ufology".

On the other hand, as M. Fouéré points out, the shape

of the actual craft, the size of the creature itself, and its close approach to the window to peer in at the occupants, inevitably puts us in mind of the famous hobgoblins of Kelly-Hopkinsville.<sup>4</sup>

Monsieur Fouéré hopes to secure more details of this remarkable Canadian case, and we await his further report with interest.

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> The Editor of *Phénomènes Spatiaux* points out that there are considerable differences between the French spoken in France and that spoken in Canada, words often being used differently or having slightly different meanings.

<sup>2</sup> See Mrs. Lorenzen's *The Great Flying Saucer Hoax*, 1962, and chapter VI of the same work, expanded and amended, with title: *Flying Saucers: The Startling Evidence of the Invasion from Outer Space* (Signet Books, N.Y., 1966.)

See also Cases 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18 of my *Humanoids in Latin America* (FSR Special Issue THE HUMANOIDS); also Brian Stross's *The Ihk'als* and my *Middle American Creature Reports* (both in FSR for May/June 1968).

<sup>3</sup> Aimé Michel: *A Propos des Soucoupes Volantes* (Editions Planète: 4th revised edition), pages 191/192. (The same two cases appear as Nos. 80 and 81 of Jacques Vallée's *The Pattern Behind the UFO Landings*, in FSR Special Issue THE HUMANOIDS.

<sup>4</sup> See Jacques Vallée: *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*. Also his *A Descriptive Study of the Entities Associated with the Type I Sighting*, in FSR, January/February 1964. Also Donald B. Hanlon: *Questions On The Occupants*, in FSR Special Issue THE HUMANOIDS. Finally, I think that careful perusal of the literature of ghostly apparitions and psychism might reveal that there are already other cases on record in which these creatures with dark, knobbly, and furrowed or warted skin ("like a toad") have been reported.

## ANOTHER FLOATING PLATFORM

Jonathan M. Caplan

GORDON CREIGHTON'S report on the floating platform at Aldeburgh (FSR for January/February 1969, p. 23) strongly resembles a case which I investigated a few years ago, and which I feel deserves more serious attention if only because it comprises a less familiar category of UFO.

The Reverend Pitt-Kethly of West London, needless to say a lifelong teetotaler, who assures me that he does "not doubt the evidence of his own optics", witnessed his floating platform on Tuesday, October 18, 1955, at 4.10 p.m.

He was travelling on an Uxbridge line train to East Harrow, London. Visibility was clear, so that when the train was halted by a signal at a West Hampstead viaduct, Reverend Pitt-Kethly immediately noticed the strange craft as it sailed effortlessly into view. As in the Aldeburgh case, the platform was travelling on a perfectly straight course at a speed of about 20 m.p.h. The craft was reddish-brown and grey, quite soundless, the size of a small bus, and at a height of approximately 120ft. (It is curious that the Reverend, like Mrs. Whiteland at Aldeburgh, was reminded of a German troop carrier—though, of course, he realised that he was observing something quite different).

During the three to four minutes that the object was in view, Reverend Pitt-Kethly noticed about 30 immobile helmeted figures with human faces—all apparently dressed in khaki uniforms—some of whom were seated and staring fixedly forward. Reverend Pitt-Kethly was so amazed and puzzled that he wondered how such an object with its low trajectory could possibly clear London.

Perhaps the most vital parts of Mrs. Whiteland's and the reverend gentleman's recollections are, that the former noted that the occupants were "staring", and the latter that they were "looking forward like robots". It requires very little deduction to conclude that the craft were engaged primarily in observation, and here perhaps is their motive and, indeed, their advantage.

The more conventional saucer, cigar or sphere, with their usual lack of wide apertures, are usually totally ill-equipped for close ground observation, at low altitude, by large groups of ufonauts. The floating platform would appear to rectify this deficiency admirably, even being more unobtrusive than the more sophisticated UFO, and even giving the impression of being more translucent and "fourth-dimensional" than most UFOs—perhaps they are even a projected image to selected individuals, which would account for the apparent lack of witnesses in both cases.

Whatever their structure, and I feel it to be a more physical and tangible one than I might have implied, it must be agreed that an evaluation of those areas over which such platforms have been sighted could well be enlightening upon the entire UFO enigma, for those selected areas must surely warrant the close scrutiny they would appear to receive.

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