

Spectacular Landing at Dinan

J. Cresson

A hitherto untold story which is reported to have taken place in the Cotes-du-Nord, France, in 1955. From *Lumières dans la Nuit* No. 106 of June, 1970. Translation by Gordon Creighton.

ONE Saturday in May 1955, Monsieur Droguet was returning from the cinema at about 11.45 p.m. He was living at the time in quarters on the premises of the College for Girls in Dinan (Translator's Note: 48° 28N., 2° 02 W.).

He interrupted his journey to see a friend at the Place du Clos, and got back home at about fifteen minutes after midnight.

He opened the small door leading into one of the courtyards of the College. This door, being of metal, made a certain amount of noise as it slammed, and he had scarcely had the time to lock it again and take a few steps when he was flooded with light. A sort of bluish-green beam was directed at him, blinding him so completely that momentarily he was quite unable to see anything. He felt extreme fear, his knees were knocking, and he felt the hairs on his head standing erect.

A few seconds after this harsh flash of light, his eyes now growing accustomed to it, M. Droguet was able to make out an enormous object which was hanging totally immobile at a height of about 1½ metres above the ground in the courtyard. He was amazed that such a machine could stay in the air like this. He heard no sound, but merely felt a sort of continuous vibration.

Suddenly he became aware that there were two beings near the machine. They were wearing a sort of outfit which made it likely that they could not have heard him enter the courtyard. At least this is what he thought, for the two beings seemed to disregard him.

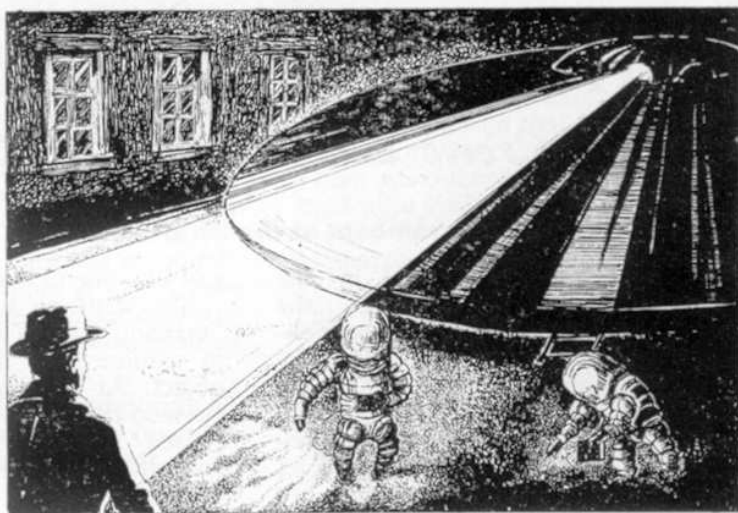
He felt his terror mounting, and would gladly have fled, but he was literally "nailed to the spot," and so quite incapable of crossing the distance of six metres separating him from the door through which lay his way out of the courtyard. Later, he was unable to say precisely whether it was his fear that had paralysed him, or the effect of the bluish-green beam thrown on him.

The two beings were dressed in a sort of metallic one-piece grey overalls, and somewhat resembled the "little men" in the advertisement for Michelin tyres. (See *Contact Casualty On Réunion*, in FSR for January/February 1969.) He was unable to see their heads, which were encased in bulky helmets. Their hands were not bare, but covered with gloves of a kind. On the abdomen each had a black box with many leads coming from it. One of the beings was engaged in picking up something here and there from the ground (probably pebbles). The other one was inspecting the surroundings and at one point he stooped to look into a window behind which there was a disused furnace.

The witness had the very clear impression that somebody was watching him from inside the machine and was responsible for shining the beam of light on him. At

the time it had all seemed quite long-drawn out to him, but in retrospect he estimated that at the very most the sighting had lasted but a few minutes, and in any case not more than a quarter of an hour.

At the conclusion of this interval of time, the two beings walked towards the machine, and he saw that on the under-part of the craft there was a black hole from



Impression of the Dinan landing by J.-L. Boncoeur

which there hung a metallic ladder of just a few rungs. The two entities were not very big—about 1.60 m. he estimated. They walked with difficulty, like divers with their leaden soles. Movement was hard for them.

Just as they were entering the craft, M. Droguet distinctly heard a metallic sound emanating from their feet as they trod. When they had entered the craft, the ladder was drawn in and there was a sound like the intake of air. He felt a displacement of the air, a sensation of suction. The machine, still lit up, rose vertically to above treetop height, without any sound. He was now able to see the black hole in the centre of the underpart of the craft, and to perceive that the hole was circular. The craft was rotating very rapidly, but the black hole did not seem to be moving.

When the machine had reached treetop height, its lights went out. Recovering his faculties, M. Droguet dashed straight for his quarters. For several days his nerves were very much on edge as a result of the experience, which had given him the greatest fright he had ever had in his life.

Realising that nobody would want to believe his story, he told it only to his wife and to some very

trustworthy friends. The Headmistress of the Girls' College was informed about it at the time, and she advised Monsieur Droguet not to let the affair become known lest it cause a "scandal".

Prior to the experience Monsieur Droguet had not had any belief whatsoever in the existence of flying saucers and had been wont to laugh about them. He has certainly changed his opinion now.

It was only by a fortunate chance that, fifteen years after its occurrence, I got to hear of this sighting.

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Note by Editor of L.D.L.N.: It was not entirely *by chance*. Mons. Cresson was making enquiries and investigating, and as he moved around he learnt a lot of things of which we shall speak later. Even the most trivial enquiry, and even of events in the past, assists in the discovery of contacts, and these contacts can hold some staggering surprises for us . . . Our friend Tyrode once wrote to us that he had gone out to make two

investigations and brought back eight. People often write to tell us that nothing has been happening in their area. It just is not true; every time a keen investigator makes his rounds he comes back with a harvest of facts. The facts don't come looking for the investigator. *He* has to go and search for *them*.

Geology: An expert in this field, M. Cresson has sent us a detailed report, from which we give just a few passages.

The College is erected on a zone where different terrains converge. To the north-east, flaked granitic granulite. To the south-west, granulite.

All round about, there is a volcanic "chimney", or throat of basalt rocks. Some six kilometres to the south-east is silver-bearing quartz which has been exploited. This same region contains uranium-bearing deposits which have been investigated by Dr. Roptin of Dinan.

Dinan lies on an anticlinal undulation. There is no recognised fault shown on Geological Sheet No. 60. The soil is almost everywhere siliceous, and the landscape has little timber.

Mirror-Ball UFO seen at Stirchley

Alan K. Crewe and Malcolm H. Drew

Our contributors are members of the Birmingham UFO Investigation Group.*

AN item which appeared in the correspondence column of the Birmingham *Sunday Mercury* on February 15, 1970, led us to interview Mrs. J. Hayward, of Windsor Road, Stirchley, Birmingham, who told us how, at 6.25 a.m. on Tuesday, February 3, she saw a very unusual object from the front bedroom of her terraced house in a busy suburb of Birmingham. It was a cold, dry, moonless night, with intermittent cloud. Mrs. Hayward rises early to awaken her son and daughter-in-law who also live in the house.

Said Mrs. Hayward: "This started like a very tiny star, and it was very brilliant and then it gradually got bigger to the size of a golf-ball, then to a tennis ball, then it gradually grew and grew until it was the size of a football, then it grew massive (Mrs. Hayward described a large circle with her hands) and all the while it was buzzing."

While watching the object, she gave a running commentary to her husband who was in bed in the same room. Mr. Hayward, who is a semi-invalid, was unable to join his wife at the window, but was able to hear the continuous "buzzing" sound, clearly audible although the window was closed.

"You know the cuts on a diamond?" asked Mrs. Hayward. "Well, you could see those . . . you know those big lights they have in ballrooms which flash as they go round (mirror-ball?) . . .

just like one of those."

She went on to describe how the "buzzing" sound appeared to increase in volume with the approach of the object. At its largest Mrs. Hayward claimed that the object almost encompassed the width of her bedroom window. The window is approximately 4ft. wide. It then receded to its former star-like appearance, and vanished behind cloud which seemed to be illuminated by a "silvery light". By now, Mr. Hayward had raised himself up in bed and was able to witness this effect. The whole sighting had lasted approximately two minutes.

Mrs. Hayward was most emphatic that the object appeared to be solid and of a well-defined shape. She could suggest no logical explanation for what she had seen. Her son and daughter-in-law, who sleep at the rear of the house, saw and heard nothing, and Mrs. Hayward's dog did not, to her knowledge, react in any way during the sighting.

It was apparent to us that Mrs. Hayward was unfamiliar with the subject of UFOs, but it was established that some twenty years ago she had had a telepathic experience involving her husband, and a previous psychic experience when she was a young girl. These, together with her present UFO sighting appear to be her only experiences of unusual phenomena.

Mrs. Hayward also told us that on the evening prior to our visit she had

been interviewed by a man who claimed to be connected with the Ministry of Defence. After obtaining details of her sighting and her signature on an "official" form he said that this would be "chronicled".

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On February 22, 1970, the *Sunday Mercury* published another letter concerning a UFO sighting in which a Miss Ann Cottrell wrote as follows:

"I was interested to read Mrs. Hayward's letter about the UFO she saw on February 3. On the same day, but at 9.00 p.m., I too saw something unusual. I saw a 'star-like' object enlarge, then fall. When this happened, it left a red, glowing trail.

"It appeared to be travelling from Balsall Heath towards Five Ways. At first I thought it was a 'shooting star' but it was too large."

Miss Cottrell lives in the Balsall Heath area of Birmingham (approximately three miles N.N.E. from Mrs. Hayward's home) and from the details in her letter the object she sighted would appear to have been travelling in a north-westerly direction.

Unfortunately, at the time of writing, we have been unable to secure an interview with this witness but we are pursuing the matter.

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