

## THE OPINION OF MR. PERCY HENNELL ON THE PLAYA SANGRILÁ PHOTOGRAPHS

I TOOK these prints to Mr. Percy Hennell on August 25, 1971, and he subjected them to prolonged study and scrutiny, including examination with a powerful glass.

Although the original negatives (not sent to us by Sr. Walter Fernández Luna) are evidently in a very poor and scratched condition through much unskilful handling, Mr. Hennell stated most emphatically that in his view there is no question of the prints not being genuine photographs of some unknown airborne object, and that he can find absolutely no sign whatever of faking or tampering.

In his professional opinion, the dark object shown cannot have been at a distance of less than 100 yards from the camera—and might have been up to 150 yards. And he states that all the technical details furnished in Sr. Luna's article above\* are fully consistent with the story as told and consistent with the photos now produced, and would therefore appear to be correct.

As Mr. Hennell reminded me, he expressed the view

last year that, as time went by, we would gradually accumulate quite a stock of poor, out-of-focus amateurish (as is only natural) but seemingly genuine pictures of this particular "classic" type of disc which appears "domed" or "hat-shaped" in profile. Not one of these pictures might be good enough to be conclusive, and yet, with time, and given enough of them, as in this particular case at Sangrilá, we would end up by having a pretty good idea of some of the external features of this particular type of object, for some would inevitably be slightly clearer on one feature and some slightly clearer on another. All these pieces of evidence would mount up and would constitute very strong testimony that, among the objects described as "UFOs", there is at least one type that consistently displays the domed, hat-shaped form.

GORDON CREIGHTON.

\* A discourse, with technical details, has been held back as I wish to obtain checks on the calculations involved—EDITOR.

## A widely-reported "UFO"

*Omar Fowler*

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THE cloud of light widely reported throughout the U.K. on the night of September 7, 1971, has now definitely been identified as a Barium Thermite Cloud.

The launching rocket, a *Petrel*, was fired from South Uist and was observed by a BUFORA member at Glasgow climbing skyward. The exact time of the cloud formation was timed at 21.16 by Duncan Hogg, who also obtained a series of excellent photographs of the high altitude cloud, after the rocket had fired the experiment.

The cloud formed as a globe in the first instance, with a whitish blue colour. The size of the cloud was given as having a diameter of  $1\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  and observed at an angle of  $35^\circ$  in the North-West, later reported as moving North-West at an elevation of  $30^\circ$  and changing shape to that of a Rugby football and fading finally at approximately 21.50.

The Glasgow Weather Centre gave out the story that the cloud was a high altitude weather experiment conducted by the Sussex University. This statement was not supported by the Weather Centre at Bracknell who commented that no weather rockets had been fired since last Winter. The Sussex University denied that they were responsible, as also did Surrey University at Guildford, as they were not currently carrying out this type of experiment.

It did appear at one stage that the Ministry of Defence were involved, and this fact was later confirmed when it was found that the experiment was



being carried out by a Government Research Establishment. The Rocket reached a height of 80km. and fired a barium Thermite Experiment.

# Contact in Helsinki

*Timo Pyhälä*

This interesting account is taken from *Vimana*, the journal of the Finnish "Interplanetarians" Society, issue No. 2, of 1971. Mr. Pyhälä is chairman of the Society. Fortunately an English translation was also sent, and a carefully edited version of this appears below. Readers will appreciate that we are unable to check the claims of this witness, and we do not suggest that they are accepted uncritically although we feel they should go on record in view of their interesting content.

THE contactee "N.N." who is featured in this report is a 47-year-old Helsinki man. The incident related below occurred on the evening of October 17, 1969. N.N. states that he had just come home, and was squeezing fruit juice at the sink when something pulled him forwards, at first lightly, but then so vigorously that he was forced to take a few steps backwards. At the same time he passed his hand closely in front of himself and says he saw a streak of light that came from underneath his armpit and coiled around his chest. It measured about 6 cms. by 2 cms. The streak was not transparent, but clearly defined. On a blackish base bright golden-yellow spots of light were rippling symmetrically lengthwise, and close to one another. The black base was visible only when examined closely.

N.N. tried to wipe the ray away from his chest, but in vain; it could not be felt by the hand. N.N. turned around and saw behind him at a distance of four metres, and about half a metre above the floor, a bright, colourless light, which was not clearly defined. This light dimmed at its edges at about 10 cms. width. The streak of light had its origin in the left lower edge of the dim part of this light.

Suddenly, says N.N., he heard quietly spoken words from the direction of the ceiling above the light:

"We are from another solar system and we have something to tell you."

N.N. walked past the light to open the window to see who was playing jokes outside. He saw no one. The voice said:

"You open in vain, for you do not see anything there."

N.N. thought this to be a joke too, and went behind the table to sit down. He was about three metres from the light.

"Well, let me say 'welcome'," he said, and added, "Now . . . what gives?"

"We have tried many times. Finally you are alone." (N.N. really was alone for the first time for over a month.) "We have arrived here on a big craft and at the moment it is behind the planet Mars. For the present we cannot bring it nearer to Earth, for we know that the Earth scientists would observe it with their telescopes, and this would create fear and panic among the people here. At the moment we are in the Earth's atmosphere, having come here in a smaller device."

"What is there on the planet Mars?" asked N.N.

"You will know later," was the reply.

At this stage N.N. began to believe that this was not a joke, and he asked:

"Why do you contact just me?"

"Because you are one of those men of Earth who are not afraid of us."

"What makes you think so?"

"Because we know you. We have followed you for a long time, although you do not know it yourself. Do not be surprised, for you are not the only one; by now we have many acquaintances among the men of Earth."

"Who, for example? Do I know one? For instance, is there anyone in Finland?"

"You will know later. All we ask is that as soon as you have the opportunity, you spread information about us. Tell them about us this way: we exist and we wish the people well, and we wish that they would stick to the facts regarding us, making neither religions and legends, nor campaigns of fear about us. Do not force them to 'believe' in us."

"Is there nothing else that I could tell?"

"This time we will not tell you anything else, but you will learn more next time."

"I would like to see you in the same way as you know and see me: come to the courtyard."

"It is not possible."

"Come to that rock."

"Not even that is possible."

"There is a lot of space on the sports ground."

The voice did not reply and N.N. says he went behind the skating rink where he waited for 10 minutes but nobody joined him, whereupon he thought: "Is it like this when one goes mad?"

He then walked very slowly back home, and after about an hour the same light fell on the same spot and rippled in a way resembling the rippling of air in sunshine. N.N. switched off the ceiling lamp and sat down. At the same time, so he says, the streak of light approached him slowly and coiled around his shoulders. The feeling was like a pressure on the shoulders which, however, was not enough to pull him.

"You did not go out there," said N.N.

"We could not come, as there are so many dogs in Töölö."

"What on earth have the dogs of Töölö to do with where we meet?"

"We investigated the situation there. It has something to do with it. The device with which we are moving can be made soundless and, if need be, invisible also, but it is emitting such a high-pitched noise that it can be heard by animals, especially dogs, and we cannot eliminate this sound. Dogs become furious on hearing