

including living occupants, would suddenly materialise!

But such explanations will be unacceptable to established physics whilst Einstein's theories hold sway. Unfortunately the physicists in cosmology are not yet ready to dismiss Einstein, since most of the work they have been doing for 70 years will have to go on the scrap heap as soon as the demise of relativity is accepted. This is probably why the Open University still puts out programs about rela-

tivity as if it were incontestable. It could also explain why Silvertooth's work has not yet achieved prominence. But the truth is steadily leaking out, and this September there is to be an International Scientific Conference in Leningrad to discuss the issues raised.

*Pearson, R.D. *Intelligence Behind the Universe*. Available from Michael Roll, 28 Westerleigh Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6AH, £9.95 inc. p&p within the UK (520 grams). ■

CATALUNYA ENCOUNTER

By Omar Fowler, FSR
Consultant

This incident took place on the night of the 3rd of January 1991 on a lonely country road near Olivella, a small village in the province of Barcelona, Catalunya, North-Eastern Spain.

The unsuspecting witness was Andrew Burton, an English schoolteacher. He had just completed his evening night school tuition at the small school in Villafranca and was on his usual journey home to the village of Sant Pere de Ribes, a distance of some 15 km.

The journey took him along the road that passes through the foothills of the Garraf Mountains. The narrow road meanders through heavily wooded pine forest and has numerous treacherous corners.

The time was 10.20 pm. and it was a clear moonlit night as the small *Seat* car trundled along the country road. It was then that Andrew saw what he thought were the lights of another vehicle in the distance, shining through the trees. It was probably a French car he thought, as the light appeared to be yellow in colour rather than the normal white of a Spanish car's lights.

The light was still distant and it appeared to be only a couple of bends ahead. As he approached, he began to slow down. It seemed that the other car might have gone off the road (not an unusual occurrence along this particular stretch) as the light was shining through the trees.

He had passed around the first bend and was about 25 metres from the second bend when his engine cut out, at the same time his lights flickered and went out. Fortunately he had been driving very slowly, as he had expected to find an accident, and

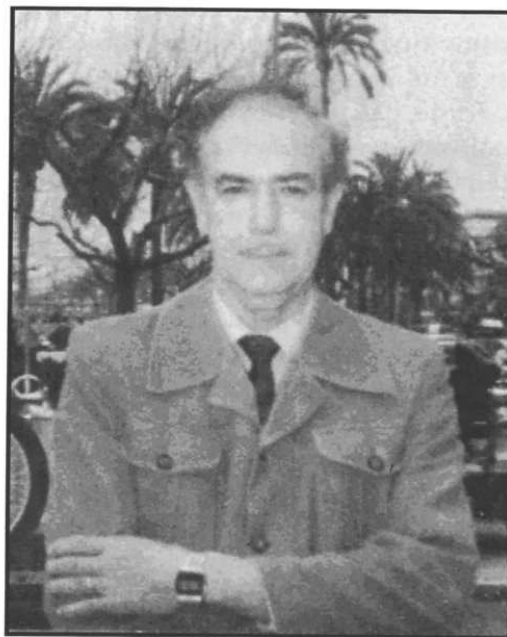
his vehicle stopped easily.

Andrew sat in the car peering at the yellow light shining through the trees. "needless to say, I did not get out" he commented later. He sat there for what seemed to be a minute, when suddenly the light went out, and at the same time his own ignition and lights came on again.

He started up again without any trouble and drove off. As he drove around the bend he slowed down and peered into the trees, but could see nothing unusual at all.

The following morning when he went out to his car, he found that the digital clock on the dashboard had stopped, and he was unable to start it again. This unit has its own battery and is independent of the car's electrical system. He replaced the battery in the clock and it worked perfect. Later that morning Andrew returned to the point on the road where the incident had taken place, and walked along both sides of the road, but he could find nothing unusual. He did notice that 50 metres further down the road a line of power cables crossed the road.

He suffered no headaches or other effects and as far as he recollects, the car journey took only the normal time. ■



MESSAGES WHICH TRAVEL FASTER THAN LIGHT

If a message is assumed to travel faster than light and is sent off from a point moving at very high speed relative to an observer, then, as a result of Einstein's initial assumptions, it would appear to travel backwards in time. If it could be reflected back to the sender, then the message would arrive before it was sent out! Hence, *par absurdum*, no message can travel faster than light.

The new theory infers the existence of an invisible computing grid which permeates the entire Universe. This grid throws off so called "virtual particles". These are sub-atomic parts of very short lifespan and so need continual regeneration. They form an invisible seething mass of fluid able to flow through the open grid structure with apparent independence. From a tiny fraction of this fluid, matter is organised. Whether light propagates relative to the grid or to fluid space, messages travelling faster than light can no longer appear to travel backwards in time whatever the relative speed of any observer.

UFO CHRONICLES OF THE SOVIET UNION: A COSMIC SAMIZAT

By Dr. Jacques Vallée, PhD

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MAILBAG

"Gigantic Birds" and "Bedroom Visitors"

Dear Mr. Creighton, — In FSR 36/4 considerable coverage was given to reports of "gigantic birds" seen on the Island of Puerto Rico.

This immediately jolted my memory back to 1987. It was about 7.00 a.m. and I was standing, alone, one Saturday, at the usual street-corner, awaiting the arrival of the company's coach to pick me up.

I distinctly recall that everything appeared peculiarly "quiet". (The so-called 'Oz Factor?'). There seemed to be no traffic at all on the roads, and nobody in sight. I felt disoriented and apprehensive.

I glanced up to my left, and there, passing slowly some ten feet or so above the adjacent buildings was a horrendous wing-flapping 'contraption' travelling at maybe 10 m.p.h. or so. I was absolutely flummoxed.

In the U.S. Air Force I had served as an observer, so I knew that I was not seeing anything 'normal'! Far from it!

I estimated the wing-span of the thing (I term it an 'artificial contraption') to have been about 30 ft.

The thing had a head, which it kept turning this way and that. It had a beak, like the beak of an eagle, and I can only describe its eyes as having shown evil intent.

I stood there transfixed, and never took my eyes off the 'bird' until, after about two minutes, it had passed out of my field of vision.

The coach arrived five minutes later, and I recall the driver asking me: "Are you going to stand there for ever?"

I have never forgotten that incident, and recall getting very drunk that night. I only wish I had had a camera with me at the time.

I have followed the "UFO scene" for years, starting with the accounts of George Adamski in my own country

(U.S.A.).

I have observed UFOs in flight, and indeed sometimes I have the vague feeling that, away back in the United States, I may have been abducted, but I cannot recall anything definite. Yet that vague impression still persists.

A year ago, and lasting for about a week, I had nightly 'visitations' here. To describe it briefly, I would awaken suddenly and always there would be a blindingly globe there, next to me oaken walk-in wardrobe, and a little humanoid figure would be cavorting around the bottom of my bed. The light of the globe was as bright as the light of the Sun, so that it seemed as though it were mid-morning, and not 2-3 a.m. in the night.

I was completely paralyzed. I could not look directly at the globe, for fear of being blinded by it. But the overall impression of the experience seemed to be to be benign. Nothing of a nightmare nature.

The 'globe' and the creature left me by simply diminishing in light intensity, and the room darkened again, and I felt that I could move once more and read the numerals on my clock-radio.

What was the purpose of it all? I'd naturally like to *know*. (Perhaps my subconscious knows?).

Yours most sincerely,

D.G. Smith,
259 London Road,
Leicester, LE2 3BE.
January 7, 1992.

NOTE BY EDITOR

Anyone who produces a publication about so 'controversial' a subject as UFOs inevitably receives a huge quantity of mail of a decidedly lunatic or 'way-out' type, and FSR's NUT CASE FILES make interesting reading. However, just as my many years of study of Chinese ceramics and Chinese paintings have given me a pretty good 'feeling' for what is genuine and what is

fake, my 45 years of familiarity with the weird world of Ufology have provided me with some sort of similar 'hunch'. And I must say frankly that, while I have never met the writer of this letter, I don't think he is pulling our legs. As our readers will know, there have been, for years past, countless tales of brief glimpses of gigantic birds, just as there have been "Yeti" or "Sasquatch" reports from every part of the world. And it is my guess that all these critters most probably exist in another dimensional set-up which is quite near to us, and that, for some peculiar reason, humans frequently get brief bursts of clairvoyance during which they are able to perceive them. Probably the same is true of the briefly glimpsed aliens.

Australian Crop Circles

Dear Editor, — Re. FSR 36/4, page 10. O.K. - So could *we* too see a reproduction of this famous photo of 400 crop circles from 7,500 ft. over Victoria, Australia? In the next issue perhaps?"

I used to subscribe to *Spaceflight News*, a small but professional newsstand magazine, but following the general policy of apathy towards Space exploration, and both the USA's and USSR's lack of funds for research, the magazine recently went bankrupt, with loss of subscribers' subscriptions. Even an attempt to team up with a similar German production failed, as it too folded.

But FSR - which deals - not with "The Greatest Conquest of Mankind", but with a subject that does not even exist, continues happily into its 37th. year! WELL DONE!

There must be "a moral" here somewhere!

All the best!

John Hitchens,
The Old School,
Byworth, Petworth,
Sussex GU28 0HN.
January 1992.