

# FINNISH ENCOUNTER IN THE SNOW

*Sven-Olof Fredrickson*

More about the post-UFO-experience illnesses of the two skiers

SINCE I posted my first report of the strange events of January 7, 1970, near Heinola, to *Flying Saucer Review* [included in the World Round-up feature of our May/June issue—EDITOR] we have received more information from the two Finns. One of them, Mr. Esko Viljo, seems to have misunderstood some of our questions, so we haven't received much new information from him. Mr. Arno Heinonen, on the other hand, has done a lot to help us. He tells us in the letter: "We were not scared. We didn't talk. We just did nothing. We found ourselves in a sort of mist that paralysed us. The next day we did not remember much of what had happened. Not until now has it become clear to us what really happened."

This explains why Mr. Heinonen has a lot more to tell this time. He wrote it down some time between April 10 and 15. Some parts of his letter are not included in this text because they are the same as in our previous report (see Fig. 1).

## From the latest Heinonen letter

"As usual we were skiing at Imjarvi. It was cold,  $-17^{\circ}$  Celcius. We took a pause and then, after a while, I heard a sound far away which gradually became stronger and stronger. I looked up against the sky and saw a light grey object coming towards us. It was round and, on its underside, there were three balls, or half-balls. In the middle there was something like a round tube or ring from whence came a weak light (see Fig. 2). Out of this came a red-grey mist or something of that kind. You had to turn your eyes away. The object halted about 4 metres above the ground. (Readers will observe that it is now called an *object*. The object must be the thing that Mr. Viljo previously called a *phenomenon*, and described like a cloud—

S-O.F.) The diameter was about 1.30-1.50 metres. From the tube came a lightball, which came down and spread out above the snow. (It is here described as in our previous report—S-O.F.) The colours of the sparks were firelike, green and purple.

"This phenomenon was seen in front of us for some 3-4 seconds. Then it started to rise in the middle and shrink from the edges. About one metre above the ground it appeared like a ball (Mr. Viljo described it as more like a disc—S-O.F.), then it rose up to the object hovering some 4 metres above. I looked for my friend Viljo, but at first I couldn't see him because of the red-grey mist. After a short while, however, I did see him, standing there hanging on his ski-sticks about one metre from the ground. He seemed very small, maybe no taller than 90 cm., unrecognisable, and with a very strong light coming from him. I felt sick and turned away. When, after a while, I looked again, he was as usual."

It should be noted that neither Mr. Heinonen nor Mr. Viljo have stated how the object departed.

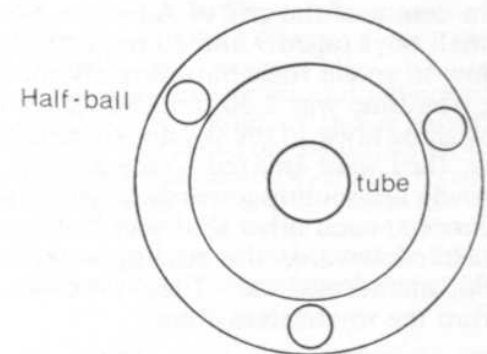
## Continuing symptoms of illness

Mr. Heinonen hasn't visited a doctor since January 14, and he here records what has happened to him up to the time of writing:

"My right arm is painful and I can't work. Also my back still hurts. I feel like there is warm water in my stomach going round and round the whole time. My memory is poor, and so is my balance. I have a headache the whole of the time, and my ears have begun to hurt. My nerves are badly affected, which is something I haven't suffered before. My eyes are highly sensitive to all light, and my eyelids have become swollen. Even worse is that I dream at night. I see the object falling down on me,

and I also dream about my friend Esko. I see him as he looked when it happened. He looks old, and small in size, and a strong light is coming from him. I'm afraid of him, and haven't the courage to visit him any longer. I feel as if he is following me and will hurt me, and this even during the daytime.

"I don't feel well, but I can't go to the doctor because Dr. Ihamäki is becoming nervous of me, and Dr. Kajanoja is away. Now I am very nervous, but I will not go to any doctor in Heinola because they



don't believe me. They say there is nothing wrong with me. I can hardly believe it is true that I have so much pain and no one will, or can, help me."

Mr. Esko Viljo says in his letter:

"My eyes are very sensitive to light. I feel bad mostly in the evenings. My face and my hands become red, and I get a headache. Sometimes I feel cold, and my hands become blue in colour. I have problems with my balance."

Mr. Viljo hasn't been to a doctor since January 17, when he saw Dr. Ihamäki.

## Comment

This case is becoming more and more interesting [and disturbing, too, in view of the reported plight of the two witnesses—EDITOR]. The description given by Mr. Heinonen

could indicate the presence of an object as commonly reported in UFO cases. It should be noted too that on the night of March 2-3, 1970, several witnesses saw an object over Falkenburg, Sweden, which they described as having a couple of half-balls under it. We are at this moment carrying out an investigation into this case, and hope to keep you informed. We will also try to find out more from Finland, and we will follow developments regarding the health of

Messrs. Heinonen and Viljo as far as is possible.

I wonder if any FSR readers know of any other cases where witnesses have acted similarly, and where the after-effects are the same. If so, maybe we can find out whether this is due only to shock, or whether some dangerous radiation has hit them. It would also be interesting to know whether any mist or lightball has been observed coming from an object like this on other occasions.

**Editor's Note:** Mr. Fredrickson, a university student who is studying physics, is a member of a Gothenburg group (known by the initials GICOFF) dedicated to conducting follow-up investigations of newspaper reports of unusual phenomena. We are grateful to him for preparing his contributions in English, and I hasten to add that only a minimal amount of editing was necessary. The results of further investigations will be presented in our next issue.

---

# THE PLYMPTON STORY

*Colin McCarthy*

**I**N the early Spring of 1963, in the quiet, respectable suburb of Plympton, situated some three miles from the centre of the city of Adelaide, South Australia, two small boys (aged 9 and 10 respectively) were wondering how to spend their Saturday afternoon.

The time was 2.30 p.m. Suddenly they heard a faint swishing noise in the sky above their heads, and, looking up, they were amazed to see a glowing disc-like object slowly descending towards a nearby field. With a quick glance at each other that said "adventure", they quietly sneaked towards the landing area, and hid behind an old, abandoned car. They were no more than 200ft. from the mysterious object.

## UFO Occupant

According to their report, they hardly dared to breathe as they watched a door on the side of the great disc open noiselessly. Stooping to avoid the top of the door, an occupant of the craft stepped out on to the green grass. He was tall (later estimates put him around 7ft.), and was wearing a tight-fitting blue-black tunic, with a purple cape attached. On his head he wore a leather-like cap fastened under his chin, and his hands were covered by large, silver-studded gauntlets, from which sprouted a long tube that went around the back of his head, and finally up one nostril of his nose. His skin was copper red in colour—like a person with fresh sun-burn, and around his waist he wore a large belt, fitted in the front with a small panel on which his fingers were playing continuously.

The two lads were by this time so enthralled that they forgot to remain hidden, and the "visitor" saw them. With a quick movement, he turned and faced the craft, looking at one of the large windows or port-holes surrounding the upper part of the bell-shaped disc. He must have made some signal, because another identically-dressed figure appeared for a brief second at the window, and then was gone.

The craft began to make a small humming sound, and

the outer rim began to glow. By this time, the first "visitor" had walked quickly back, and stepped through the opened doorway. With a slight fluttering motion—like a leaf falling from a tree—the object lifted slightly, and then, tilting to an angle of around 10°, arrowed into the sky at high speed.

The two boys ran home and blurted out their story to their parents, who called the police. The constabulary could find no fault in the lads' story, and were convinced that they were telling the truth. To verify the incident, there were twenty other witnesses who saw the object as it sped away from the field.

\* \* \* \* \*

Further verification of the "craft" and its occupants came in a roundabout way from a story told to UFO investigators some months before the Plympton incident. Unlike the boys' story, the second account received no publicity whatever, and was known only to a few people. Here is the story:

One dark night, around 2.00 a.m., the wife of a farmer of a small farm some 100 miles north of Adelaide was awakened by a bright light shining into the bedroom window. Very curious, the woman looked out and saw a circular object hovering about 200ft. above her large front garden. The UFO was emitting an intense white light, which illuminated the garden and surroundings.

## Entity with box

Recovering from her initial shock, the woman stated that she was amazed to see a person standing no more than 30ft. from her bedroom window. Her description of the visitor agreed exactly with that given by the two Plympton boys. While the woman stared, she noticed that the "visitor" was holding a box-like contraption about the size of a large cake tin, through which he was gazing intently.

*Continued on Page 34*