

THE ANTHROPOMORPHIC PHENOMENA AT SANTA ISABEL-PART 2

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EPISODE TWO in this series of anthropomorphic phenomena of an unknown nature occurred six days after the Merlo experience, which — and we emphasise this — was only made public after this other happening had taken place.

In our opinion, the experience of the protagonist in this case (Sr. Enrique Moreno) is perhaps the most important of all, inasmuch as it presents a number of significant features which put it right at the top of the catalogue of Argentinian cases of manifestations of unidentified anthropomorphic creatures.

1. Personal details concerning the witness

Sr. Enrique Moreno is a young man aged 19, who has done two years of technical study and also two years at the Escuela de Suboficiales (Junior Officers' School) in Córdoba. He is an administrative employee of the Ika-Renault firm, in their plant at Santa Isabel. He works until 11.30 p.m. in the Teleprinting Department and does the internal document distribution of the firm on a motorcycle-runabout (Photo 4) with which he covers the distance between the various parts of the industrial complex. In accordance with express instructions from the office he carries with him a diary in which he notes down the time at which he completes each errand.

He is short, thin, and of introvert type. When we interviewed him for the first time, on October 14, 1972, he was still badly shaken by his experiences.

2. Circumstances of the Sighting

On the night of September 27, 1972, young Moreno set out from the Security Office at about 10.30 p.m. and went to distribute the documents destined for the Engineering Office (see Fig.4). Accustomed to routine, he did not switch on the light, and simply put the blueprints in question on a table, in the dark. Then suddenly, the two rows of fluorescent tube lights of the main room of the Engineering Office came on and went off, and this happened three times, the lights going straight on and off without the least flickering. When they went off for the last time (the whole thing had scarcely lasted 15 seconds), he heard, for a few seconds, a sound like the noise of a turbine. This hum, on top of the inexplicable business of the lights, caught his attention, because no machinery was running in this sector of the plant. And, even if there had been any machinery running, he is emphatic that there is no machine there capable of reproducing the features of the sound that he heard.



Photograph 4. Enrique Moreno on his firm's motorcycle runabout

He was quite frightened. He mounted his motorcycle again and made for the Stores Department, along an internal road some 200 metres in length (Fig. 4). Then, having done his job there, he started out again at 11.13 p.m. from the Stores Department, intending to do the same trip in reverse, which would take him back again to Security.

To his surprise, he saw, off to his right, fairly far and almost beyond the outskirts of the Plant, a sort of rainbow very near to the ground.

He did not pay overmuch heed to it however, and put on speed to do the run back to his starting point. It was at this juncture that he noticed, at a distance of some 100 metres or so, on the right hand side of the road and about ten metres from the kerb, a

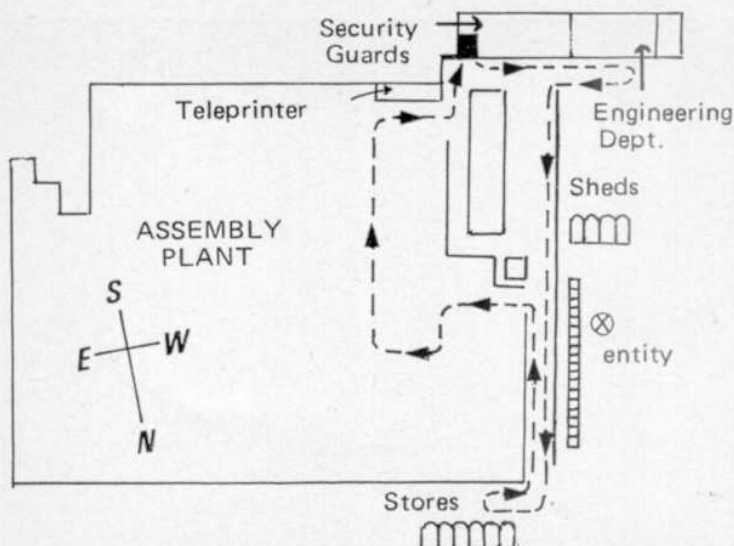


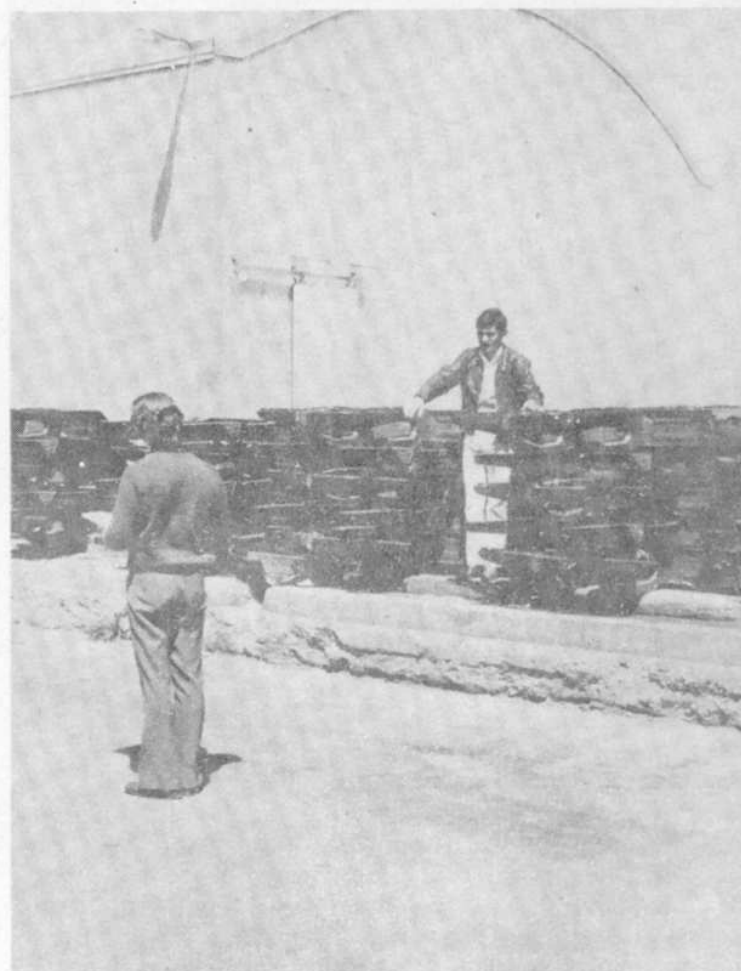
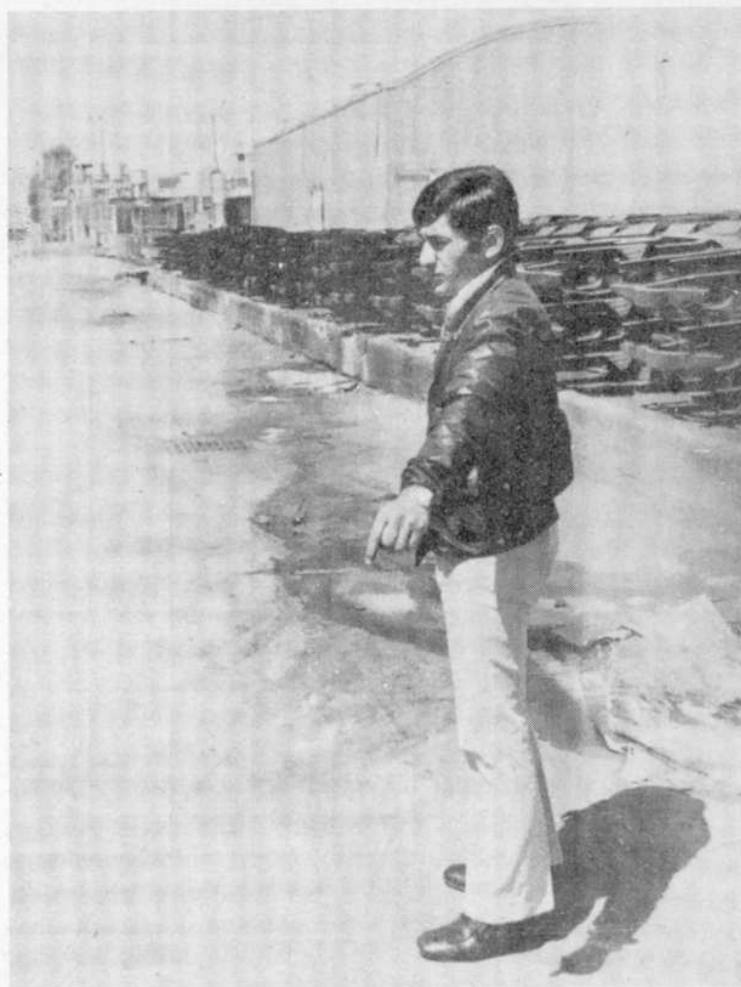
Figure 4. Diagram to show Moreno's route through the Ika-Renault works on the night of Sept.27, 1972

bluish-green figure which was moving slowly and gave the impression of being about to cross the road. (On this right-hand side of the road the terrain is completely unobstructed, though it is 50 cm. higher than the road. Beside the road, over an extent of about 100 metres, there were however some car chassis that were going to be exported to Chile.) Sr. Moreno thought at first that it must be one of the workers (they use green overalls) and was thinking that the figure's seeming brightness was perhaps due to a nearby mercury gas light. But he was struck by the excessive height of the individual, and indeed so much so that he felt it must be somebody walking on stilts for a joke.

When Moreno was about 30 metres from it (see photo No.5) the figure swung its body around to face him, seeming as it did so to jerk the head and arms as though they were inanimate objects firmly fixed to it. Simultaneously his exhaust backfired and his motorcycle immediately started to shake, the engine revolutions dropped and it began to falter. He changed into second gear, but the machine only moved forward slowly and then, inexplicably, stopped when level with the entity, which was now among the car chassis. Consequently it was visible only from the waist upwards. Photo No. 6 shows the spot where the runabout stopped (indicated by the position of the author of the present article), while Sr. Moreno himself is standing where the entity was.

3. Description of the Entity

Of robust build, and over two metres in height. (In the course of our reconstruction of the episode we established it at from 2.30 m. to 2.40 m. Face angular, showing incised planes, and white or very light green. (The witness is unable to say whether this green colour of the features was real or whether it



Photograph 5 (above right). Moreno stands where his motorcycle began to falter

Photograph 6 (bottom right). Moreno stands where the entity was, and the author of this article stands where the motorcycle stopped

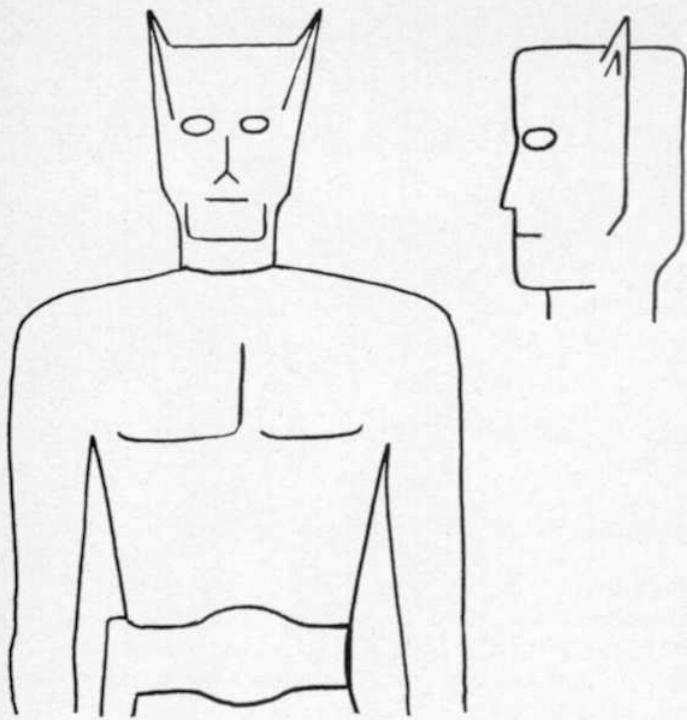


Figure 5: The entity, as described by the witness, Moreno

was due to a reflection from the colour of the clothing.) There was no hair, and the ears extended beyond the top of the cranium. The eyes were round and sparkling, like two yellow light bulbs. There were no eyelids, eyelashes, or eyebrows; the mouth was like a straight thin line; the nose was a perfect pyramid, with no fleshy areas, just as though it had been modelled. It gave the impression of not being a living entity, but mechanical.

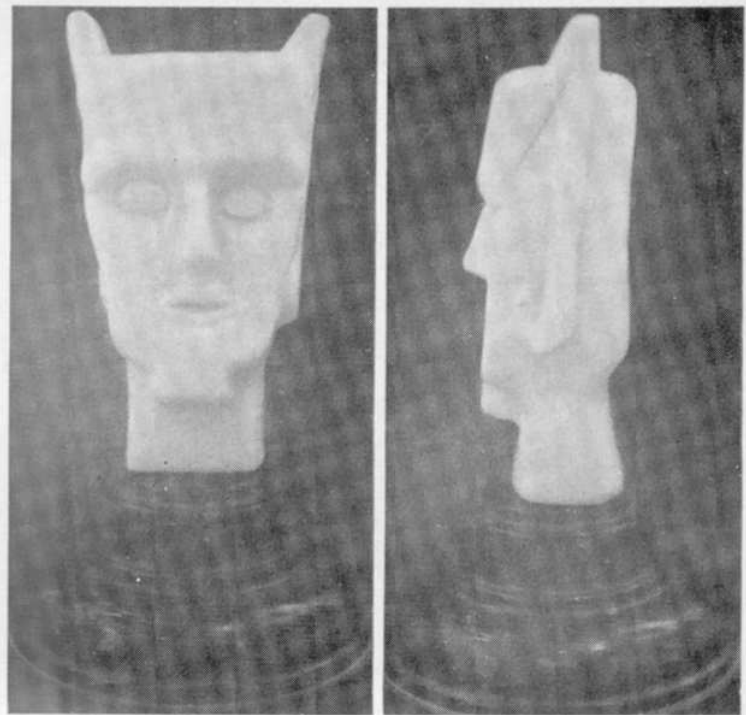
The clothing consisted of a one-piece bluish-green overall, seemingly plastic, and with a luminescent appearance. It had a broad silvery belt, with a large oval buckle of the same colour. On the right-hand part of the belt there was a small protuberance, like a cartridge-pouch. The car chassis prevented the witness from seeing the details of the lower extremities. (See Fig. 5, and photos 7 and 8, which reproduce the front view and profile of the entity, as modelled by Don Luis E. Galindez, a brother of the author.)

4. Accompanying features of the sighting

a) From the moment that he had arrived at a distance of 30 metres or so from the phenomenon, and as the motorcycle-runabout approached the spot where the entity was, Sr. Moreno began to experience an unbearable *hum* in his ears, so that they felt as though they were covered up, or had a fist thrust into them, and this effect persisted until he had left the scene of the phenomenon.

b) Simultaneously with the preceding effect, Sr. Moreno felt a strange *itching sensation* throughout the whole body, and this too persisted until he had left the scene of these happenings.

c) He suffered a *spastic paralysis* in his upper and lower limbs, all of which (except for his head) became immovable, as though suddenly he had



Photographs 7 and 8. Bust of the entity, modelled by Don Luis E. Galindez

entirely lost his usual vitality. Nevertheless he was able to maintain his position on his motorcycle without any difficulty.

d) The area where the phenomenon took place was very *hot* despite the fact that it was quite a cool night.

e) There was a smell of *burning oil* around about the place.

f) Subsequently, he experienced a sensation of *dryness in the mouth* and a feeling of *nausea*, which lasted for 24 hours.

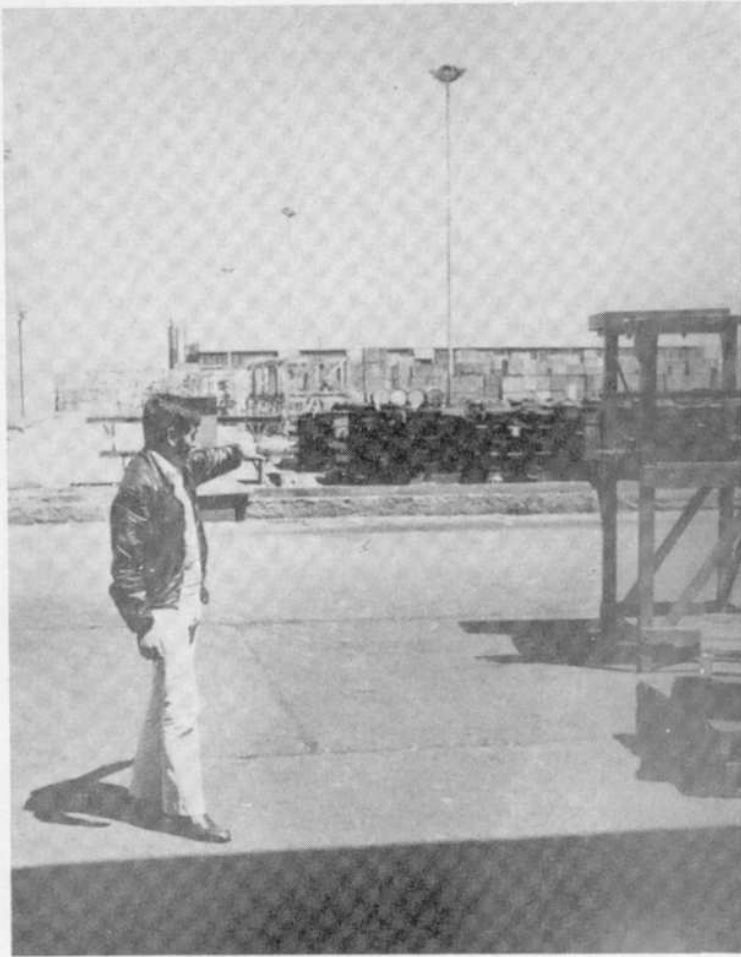
g) He had *pain* in the nape of the neck, in the arms and back, and these effects were still persisting at the time of our first interview.

h) He had a *burning sensation* in the eyes, which was followed by an intermittent watering. (This lasted for three days).

5. Changes following this sighting

i) Sr. Moreno thinks that he was not face to face with the entity for longer than 30 seconds or so, and he observed no movement on the part of the entity during that time. (Apart, that is, from the 45° turn of the body, already mentioned.) Suddenly the motorcycle now shot off towards the left, out of his control, and as though driven by an unknown force. (If one studies Figure 4 it will be seen that on the left of the little road is located the Assembly Plant, one of the doors of which is precisely only seven metres from the spot where Moreno was. Photo No.9 shows his standing at the entrance to the building and pointing towards the spot where the phenomenon occurred.)

Immediately after this wild burst of speed, his machine performed a sudden leap, and the engine began to run normally again. Nevertheless, Sr. Moreno maintains that he was still not completely in control



Photograph 9. Moreno stands at the entrance of the Assembly Plant building, pointing to the spot where the phenomenon occurred.

of the machine, for he himself was still stupefied by the effects of the phenomenon. He has no recollection of manipulating the controls or steering it, and so he thinks that either he did this instinctively, or that the machine negotiated the four curves of the inner road (Fig. 4) under the influence of an unknown force. The speed limit for that stretch (there are signs there to this effect) is 5 km.p.h. But he swore to us that the machine did 50 km.p.h. and indeed nearly capsized when taking the last turn. When he reached the Security post he almost collided with the gate, which earned him an immediate oral reprimand from one of the watchmen on duty.

Just as he arrived there he heard the knocking-off siren, which is sounded at 11.30 p.m. precisely. His wristwatch however showed 11.13 p.m., and had stopped. His astonishment was even greater therefore when he checked at the Security and found that the time was indeed 11.30 p.m. He is quite unable to understand how he could have been *face to face with the phenomenon for 17 minutes*, as he is absolutely certain that he had never lost consciousness at any moment.

(In our re-enactment of the affair we established that if Sr. Moreno really did leave the Stores Department at 11.13 p.m. then the distance he had to cover from there to Security — inclusive of 30 seconds face to face with the entity — would have taken no more than three minutes. This means that his arrival at

the Security should have occurred at about 11.16 p.m.) On this particular point, there remains consequently a serious question as to the possibility that this witness may have undergone a period of 17 minutes of amnesia, and this could probably be recoverable to his general consciousness if, at some time in the future, he is put into hypnotic regression.

(ii) The Security people, when informed of the incident, at once went to the scene where the entity had been observed, but found no traces of it. Neither did they detect the smell which Moreno had noticed nor did they corroborate the existence of an increased degree of heat anywhere in the area.

However, behind the car chassis — at a spot corresponding almost precisely to where the entity had allegedly been standing — Sr. Moreno says that he found two rectangular footprints in the ground, measuring some 20 cm. by 40 cm. Photo No. 10 shows the eyewitness indicating the spot where he found these footprints. The soil there was hot! The marks were impressed to a depth of 2 cm. into the ground (which is fairly consistent, being mixed with oil). Inside these depressions there were luminescent particles, resembling mica. When the Security men were called to confirm this discovery, one of them denied that the matter was of any importance, accused Moreno of seeing visions, and with his right foot erased the outlines of the marks, remarking that



Photograph 10. Moreno indicates the spot where he found rectangular footprints.

it is very common to find particles of mica in that soil.

iii) Moreno at once became the target for taunts from those around him and they cast doubts upon the reliability of his story. But in the meantime Moreno himself began to notice that his state of nausea was getting worse and that the pains in the nape of his neck, his arms, and his back were increasing. And his temples were throbbing.

After his experience he was quickly taken to the first-aid room inside the plant, where it was found that his blood had dropped to 7. [?] And there he lost consciousness.

When he came to again, and had to some extent got over the effect of the sedative injection, he was sent home in an ambulance. In this border-state, almost a condition of semi-consciousness, he found passing through his mind — and with suggestive repetition — a series of words and numbers, but afterwards he was unable to remember these precisely. But certain expressions he had not forgotten — such as “co-ordinates”, “latitude”, “longitude”, and “18.” He is unable to say whether these have any connection with the experience he had undergone.

iv) When they were on the outskirts of Córdoba, Sr. Moreno asked the ambulance crew to take him to his fiancée's home. (Moreno himself subsequently kept reiterating to us that he was astonished by this behaviour on his part.)

The fiancée, Señora Elba del Valle Celiz, aged 18, confirmed to us that at about 0.30 a.m. Moreno had arrived at her home, repeating over and over and over again that he had seen an entity of mechanical appearance, like a robot, in the Ika-Renault Works. She said that she noticed that Moreno was very nervous and very pale, and she was scared to see him in such a state. Describing his strange behaviour, she said he asked if he could rest for a few minutes in an armchair, and they agreed he should do so. He quickly fell asleep. She saw that he was trembling in his sleep and moving to and fro nervously as though having powerful convulsions. Worried, she woke him up. He drank a glass of water, uttered his excuses for what had happened, and took his leave of her.

v) The next day (September 28), back at work on the night-shift at the factory, he had another, similar experience. He described this to us as follows:

At 10.30 p.m., after completing an errand in one

of the departments adjacent to the Teleprinting Section, he went to the latter to pick up some work tools. As he was doing so, he suddenly had the impression that he was being watched by someone. He glanced quickly towards a window that looks out over an open piece of ground (see sector no.1 in Fig.6) and saw that, facing him, and only three metres from the window, was the same entity whom he had seen the night before. Simultaneously the fluorescent tubular lights flashed on and off just as had happened in the Engineering Dept. The whole area around about was permeated with a soft hum. The teleprinters started up. Seized with an access of sudden dread, Moreno ran to the Security and tried to get over the barrier, shouting for somebody to come back with him to corroborate the presence of the intruder (see sector 2 on Fig. 6). One of the guards took him by the arm and spoke to him gravely of the need to calm down, for his obsessive drive to prove his alleged experience was now causing him to see visions that would end up by making him mad. He asked Moreno to come and have some coffee with him and the other guards. The latter all assured him that — for his own peace of mind — they would not report this second supposed experience of his, since, if the Management got to know of it, it might cast even more doubt on the question of his sanity. (An internal office report to the Management had already been started, giving details of his experience of the night before.)

vi) On October 16, 1972, the well-known-Córdoban psychometrist Enrique Marchesini (unquestionably Argentina's greatest paragnost) told us, after merely touching with his finger-tips something that belonged to Moreno, that the patient to whom it belonged was a person who had suffered a heavy nervous shock as a result of a strange experience that had made a deep impression upon him. He gave no details as to the nature of the experience.) Marchesini advised that Moreno have plenty of rest and quiet, and added that Moreno was “a man who spoke the truth.” He gave no further details about the affair. (It goes without saying that no information whatever had been given to Marchesini as to the reason why we had consulted him.)

vii) The examination of Moreno's wristwatch (an “Orient”) revealed that it was highly magnetized. The technician who had the job of demagnetizing it (without knowing where it had come from) was indignant that such a valuable watch should have been subjected in this fashion to reckless experimentation by some curiosity-seeker.

6. Comparative Analysis

a) **Villa Santina Case:** Sr. Moreno saw no resemblance. (It should be remembered that for Sr. Merlo, there was a resemblance in the lips.)

b) **Kelly-Hopkinsville Case:** He thought the ears a little similar, especially as regards their size. The rest of the body of the Kelly-Hopkinsville type of entity had no similarity, he felt, to the Santa Isabel phenomenon.

c) **The Moais of Easter Island:** The witness found a surprising resemblance between the entity of the

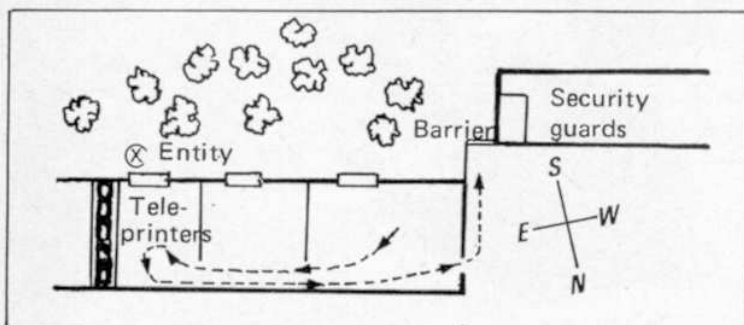
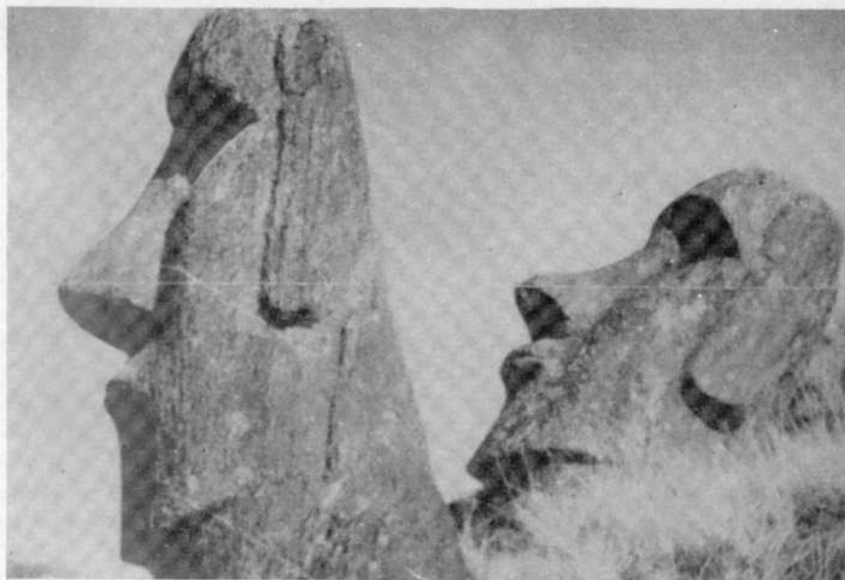


Figure 6. Plan of the site where Moreno made his second observation

Photograph 11

The giant stone heads on Easter Island.

It is interesting to compare them with the head of the entity represented in Photographs 7 and 8.



manifestations at Santa Isabel and a photograph of one of the "moais" (giant stone heads) of Easter Island. (See photo No. 11, and compare it with photos 7 and 8.)

7. General consideration of the Moreno incident

A) In connection with the EM Effect produced on Sr. Moreno's motorcycle-runabout, it is opportune to emphasise that the University of Colorado, when a probable explanation of the phenomenon was proposed, ruled out the possibility that UFOs might ionize the air in any way and so stop the normal internal combustion of a vehicle. Roy Craig concluded in the Condon Report: "This is considered improbable, because no concomitant physiological or physical effects are reported such as could be caused by such ionization."⁷

The effects reported by Sr. Moreno in our opinion are an open challenge to the Colorado verdict, and open up an interesting possibility for the interpretation of the EM Effect as indeed being a result of the ionization of the scene of the UFO phenomenon.

But, still within the framework of the hypothesis that would place the manifestation of these EM effects within the action if magnetic fields linked with the UFOs, we would refer — in view of their great importance — to two works by Dr. Bernard E. Finch on the subject of the psycho-physiological effects of the exposure of the human body to a force-field.⁸ In our view, the effects reported by Moreno fit with both theories.

B) The sudden leap of the runabout as it was going towards the workshop, followed by the sudden return of the engine to normal running, suggests the possibility that some of the component materials of the carrier (reinforced concrete and zinc plating) might have served as insulators against the force-field generated by the phenomenon.

C) The sudden lighting up and extinction of the fluorescent tubes in the Engineering Department and the Teleprinter Department — simultaneously, without intermissions, and without the normal electrical contact — lead one to think that a high degree of ambiental electricity is present in areas where these phenomena occur.

Four hours after the first Moreno incident another anthropomorphic phenomenon was reported from elsewhere in the Ika-Renault plant. Details of this will be given in the third and final part of this article.

References

7. *Scientific Study of UFOs*, Bantam Books, New York, 1969, p.101.
8. Finch, Dr. Bernard E., *Beware the Saucers*, in FSR, Jan./Feb. 1966, p.4. *Comment on the Valensole Affair*, *idem.*, p.14.

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