

# Encounter between Pudasjärvi and Kipinä

This report of an incident, which is stated to have taken place in 1967, has been kept on our files since 1969 when it was translated and submitted to *Flying Saucer Review* by ELIS W. GRAHN.

**B**ETWEEN 3.30 and 4.30 a.m. on November 13, 1967, Mrs. Arja Achren and her brother Hannu Pelkonen were on their way by car from Kuusamo to Oulu. They were driving along the main road.

Between Pudasjärvi and Kipinä they suddenly noticed a strange object hanging above the skyline. It was shaped like a helmet and, to start with, appeared to be motionless, but they soon realised that it was "flying" over the forest bordering the road, and approaching the car.

The object was shining with a bright white light. Travelling in the opposite direction it passed over the car, which meant that, coming out of the south, it was moving towards the North East. Mrs. Achren and her brother were quite astounded by what they saw, but they managed to stop the car to take a better look at the UFO. Their astonishment was increased still further when they saw that the object had stopped as well. The enormous white helmet shape had two dark marks of the same shape which, to the witnesses, seemed like openings. Whatever they were, they appeared quite clear in the middle of the bright light. By now quite alarmed, the witnesses drove off as quickly as they could, continuing in the same direction as before.

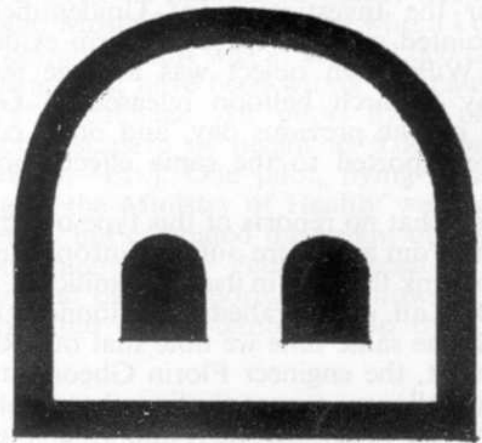
Mrs. Achren and Hannu Pelkonen had not travelled far before they realised that the object was following them. They saw the light grow brighter as the object started to rise, and then, with the brightening of the light, the dark openings suddenly disappeared. By now the object, moving over the trees, was keeping pace with the car. The witnesses thought they could hear a

strange noise from the car's engine, but whatever was the cause, it did not seem to affect the performance in any way. The speedometer was registering 110 km/H.

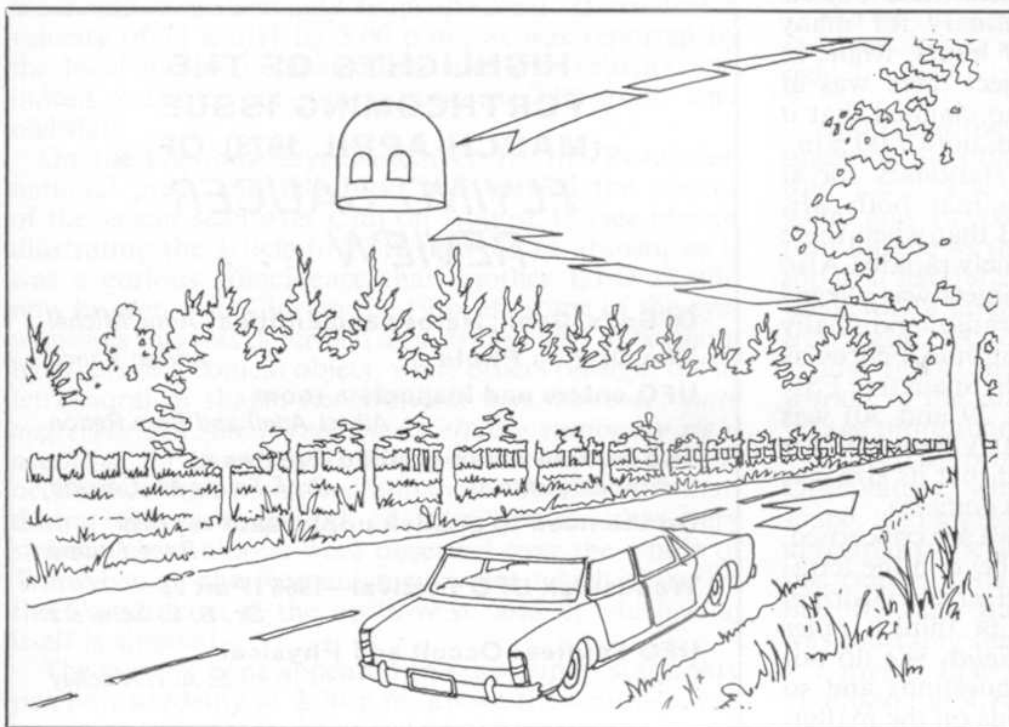
Before long the object either disappeared, or rose up quickly until it was out of sight.

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**Editor's comment:** There is a paucity of real detail in this account, which is the main reason why we kept it on file for so long. However, the shape of the object, as described, is of interest, and it is felt that the report should go on record in case comparisons may be made. Again, it should be noted that a number of "flying" objects of unusual shape were reported in the same district during the 1970 flap (see *FSR Case Histories, Suppl. 2, December 1970*).



Above: Based on the witnesses' sketch—a bright helmet shape, with two dark marks which appeared like openings



Our cover drawing is our artist's impression of the strange scene in the small hours of a Finnish morning: reproduced here in outline to show the reported movements of the object

# Geometrically Shaped Balloons, or UFOs?

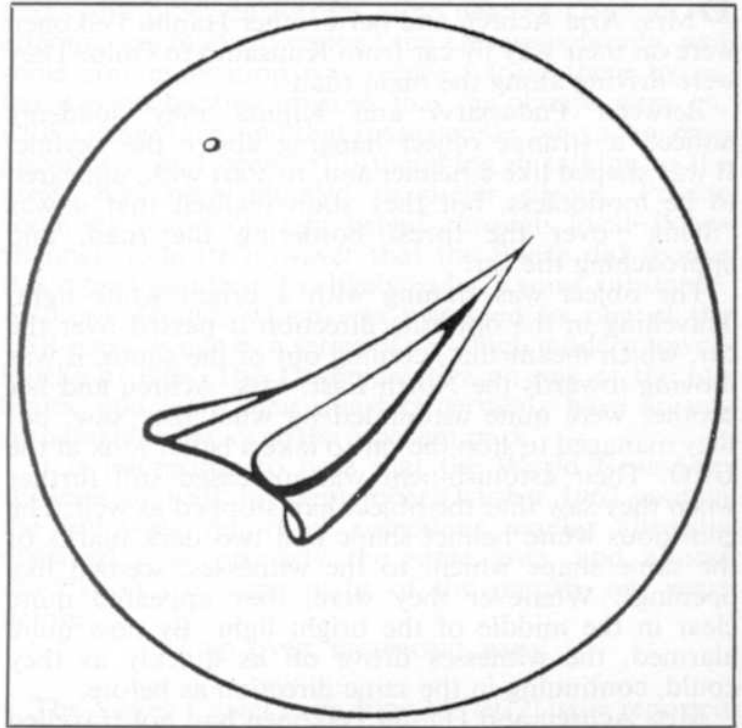
*Charles Bowen*

OVER the years since 1963, when in our issue for November/December (pages 26 and 29) we published photographs taken in the south-east of England on July 31 and August 1, 1963 respectively by R. Spier of Chatham, Kent, and Jan W. D. Willemstyn, FRAS, of Watford Heath, Herts, we have received a considerable number of reports of "Deltavolant" or triangular, or tetrahedral objects from various parts of the world, sometimes accompanied by photographs. A few of these we have published, but others we have preferred to ignore, in view of the great uncertainty prevailing about objects with these particular features or shape.

In the "Mail Bag" column of the issue of *Flying Saucer Review* for March/April 1966, Robin H. Sadler, one-time Hon. Secretary of the Cambridge University Group for the Investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects pointed out that there was firm evidence that the Spier/Willemstyn object was a large tetrahedral cosmic ray research balloon released at Göttingen, Germany, on the previous day, and other correspondents have reported to the same effect about other cases.

We notice that no reports of this type of object seem to originate from anywhere outside Europe, and we are inclined to think that this in itself is significant, and may confirm that all are tetrahedral balloons released in Europe. At the same time we note that our Romanian correspondent, the engineer Florin Gheorghita (in the article that follows—a contribution that we have had on file for more than two years) and others, have been impressed by (1) the manner in which these objects remained apparently absolutely stationary for many hours (in the Romanian case for four hours, while, in the case of the Spier/Willemstyn object there was at least one witness in Hertfordshire who claimed that it was stationary overhead from 2.00 p.m. until 7.00 p.m., and others who claimed that it was stationary for at least "several hours"). We note (2) that both Mr. Gheorghita, and others, have reported that when these objects depart finally they do so extremely rapidly. Also (3) that in one town in Romania the object was alleged to have affected reception of TV and radio, and finally (4) that the object reported by Fr. Antonio Felices as having been observed over Valladolid in Spain (see FSR for November/December 1965, pages 29 and 30) was registered by airfield instruments at Villanubla Air Base as being at about 76,000 feet, and that its size was computed as being about one square kilometre.

The problem is, of course, so far as we are concerned, merely of knowing whether, over and beyond the tetrahedral stratospheric research balloons of terrestrial origin there may not be, as Mr. Gheorghita thinks, *other tetrahedral objects of quite different origins*. We do not claim to know the answers to these questions and so shall continue not to make up our minds on the matter.



Sketch of the object over Valladolid on September 16, 1965, based on a watercolour by Father Felices who observed it through a telescope. Jet aircraft scrambled to investigate the object failed to get close enough to identify it.

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