

certainly one of sincerity.

The high degree of strangeness of the events described bears the hallmark of the genuine UFO phenomenon, as will be recognised by experienced ufologists. Once again a whole series of encounters, and indeed, two abductions, are targetted on a particular individual. Nevertheless the reality of his experiences is not a purely subjective matter, as is amply evidenced by the testimony of others who were associated with him, and also others he did not know, who lived in Gulf Breeze. All of us struggle to rationalise the bizarre happenings which the Walters describe, and, if we accept that these did in fact occur, interpretation is no easy matter. An extraterrestrial explanation is undoubtedly that which is most favoured by U.S. ufologists, but despite that, the overall impression we are left with is not that of "nuts-and-bolts" flying saucers.

Ed Walters' UFOs have a distinctly ghost-like and insubstantial quality. They appear from nowhere and they blink out like lights being turned off. Despite their craft-like structure and apparent "port-holes", these elusive objects seem to have no more than a transient existence within our dimensions. Stereo camera measurements show they are smaller (25 ft diameter or less) than one might suppose, and appear much closer to the observer, say within 500 ft, than is usually thought. Nevertheless they are capable of leaving lasting images on photographic film, or, as happened here, traces in the form of ground markings, or swirled circles, like the English Crop Circles, in grass.

The key feature of Ed Walters' encounters is the psychic interaction between whatever non-human intelligence is "out there" and his mind. Once this link is established, the UFO may appear to him, and sometimes to others with him, and any subsequent developments of this transient manifestation then take place. Without denying the reality of what occurs, this seems to be far more something of a paranormal nature than the arrival of a solid spacecraft from Outer Space.

One reason that UFO events have consistently eluded understanding is that they are simply not explainable in terms with which we are currently familiar. For this reason the Gulf Breeze case will most probably in the long run be held to have been discredited by the skeptics, who will never allow such matters to become generally accepted. No doubt they will refer to the "Gulf Breeze Hoax", saying that the photos were all faked using model UFOs, and this may eventually become the general perception of the Ed Walters case.

A balanced appraisal of the facts shows that the truth is very different. The reader will judge for himself and I strongly urge everyone who is interested in the subject to read this very important book, which gives a better insight into the UFO phenomenon than almost any other. Meanwhile, although Ed Walters' UFO encounters may have temporarily ceased, the inhabitants of Gulf Breeze, Florida, still report sightings of strange luminous objects in their skies.

October 1990

A PLEASANT ENCOUNTER IN BRAZIL WITH "HUMAN-LOOKING" LITTLE PEOPLE

By Irene Granchi (President of C.I.S.N.E., Brazil). FSR Consultant

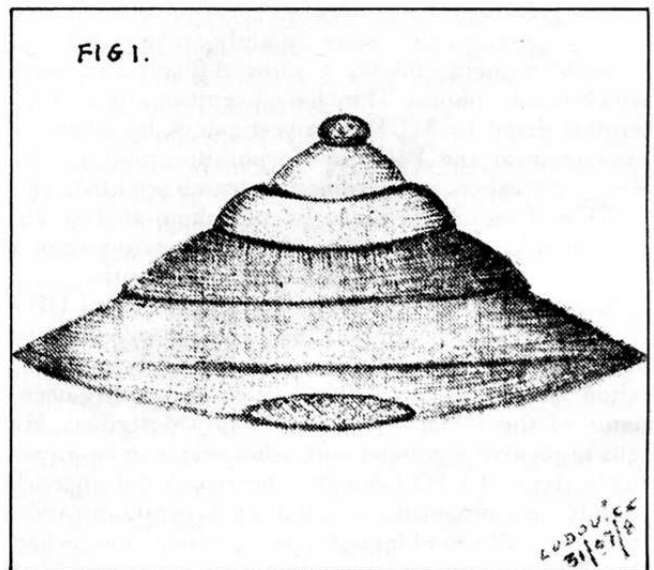
It happened on Sunday, July 31, 1988, in the neighbourhood of Itacuruçá, a place lying about 100 kms. from Rio de Janeiro, along the coast.

The witness was awakened by the barking of his four dogs. He looked at his watch: it showed 4.00 a.m. Then he looked at his compass. It was spinning around wildly.

Looking out through the window, he saw a bright light, so strong that everything appeared to be in daylight. He opened the living room window, and then saw a large UFO, about 30 m. wide, flying to and fro, quite slowly, above his house, swinging from one side to the other as it moved.

Once again it flew over the house and back; and then stopped at a height of about 200 m.

The disc — or maybe not actually the UFO itself, but a vapour-like aura surrounding it — displayed some very bright and colourful blue and orange lights. In its base was a large circular opening from which, as the object passed closer to the house, he was able to see that there was a white vapour coming out, like the vapour produced by a refrigerator when there is too much ice in it. Other than that, he saw no other openings on the object. He said the UFO itself seemed metallic-looking, and leaden grey in colour. He said it looked "something like a wasp's nest", or also a bit like the "June balloons" that are traditionally let off into the air during festival days in Brazil. (See his sketch, fig. No. 1.)



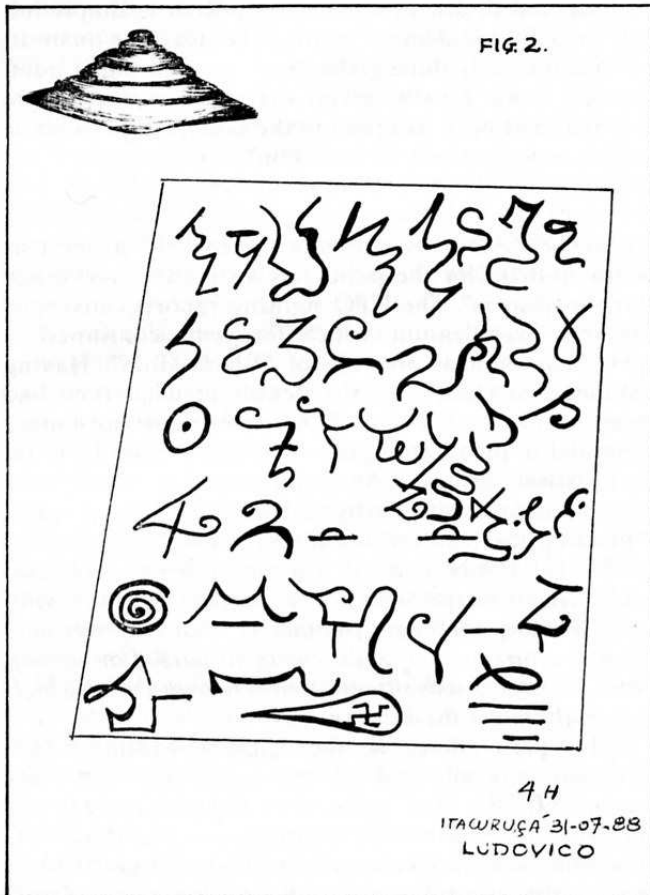
He said: "I continued to watch it, and, as it passed over the house for the third time, I saw it stop, and it suddenly emitted a brightly lit white panel with writing in black letters on it. The borders of the panel were also black."

"On impulse, I ran to fetch a pad and pen, and I started to copy down what I saw. This phase must have lasted for about ten minutes, during which time I

did my best to copy faithfully what I was seeing, and as if guided by an invisible hand to take down the message. I cannot tell whether my copy was a faithful one. I was in a panic. It was a strange sensation. It was as if the world were about to end."

To this day, the witness has not discovered the meaning of what he copied, and has not been able to decipher the signs. (See fig. No. 2.) As soon as he had finished copying the signs, the light on the panel went out, and the UFO departed with a strange sound, "like that of a rusty handle being turned around and around".

(The above statement was written down by the witness on the day of the episode, July 31, 1988.)



An Encounter with the "Little People"

At this point we should add that the witness had already experienced other episodes and encounters, including one in which he met "Little People". This was when he was about ten years old. (From photographs, the witness appears to be now about 35—40. ED.)

He and his small brother and sister were out in their garden near a bird-house. It was noon, and a large UFO came right down towards the children, just above the bird-house. It seemed to cover the place, "like a roof". The children began calling to their mother, who was indoors: "Mummy — come out quickly! Come and see the flying saucer!"

Their Mother came out, but by then the UFO had flown off, so all that she saw was a speck in the sky.

According to the children, the UFO had heated up the whole area around them, but their Mother thought this was merely the heat of the Sun at noon.

Nevertheless, these three children have never forgotten that experience. All three remain deeply impressed by it, although all this happened almost forty years ago.

And it is perhaps noteworthy that, as all three children grew up, they developed considerable "paranormal abilities".

On September 2, 1988, the young man, who was the principal witness in these two episodes just related, had another strange encounter. After night-fall, he noticed many "strange little lights, like those given off by glow-worms, only larger", in the woods close by his house. He felt impelled to go and investigate. As he did so, the lights gathered together, and he heard a sound like the chirping of crickets or of grasshoppers. Then suddenly he found himself surrounded by five "little men", who resembled twelve-year old human children. They were 1 metre 20 cms. in height, and wearing light beige-coloured uniforms with a thick vest that looked like fibre-glass, as did their boots. These vests looked very thick, and, he thought, might have been armour.

The little fellows walked about quite normally in front of him, and he noted that they were all carrying little "wands" which were emitting, from their tips, the "lights" that had first caught his attention. These "lights" kept flashing on and off — pulsating — and very bright — but they did not hurt his eyes. They lit the whole place up, like daylight.

One of the little beings took him very gently by the arm and led him into a nearby cave. This cave was a large, brightly lit chamber, and in it there was a long rectangular white stone, like a bed, on which he was made to lie. Then they all began to examine him with their "wands". They paid very special attention to a large and deep festering wound half-way down on the front of one of his legs, caused by an accident a few days before when he had fallen upon a rusty nail beside a railway line.

Immediately after this experience with the "little men", the wound healed up.

All the time that he was with the "little men", they were talking away to each other, "chirping like crickets".

This gave him the idea of asking whether they knew what his name was? It proved to have been a good idea, for one of them instantly replied in perfect Portuguese, giving the witness's name correctly, his voice sounding like that of a small child, in a shrill treble.

He describes his little captors as being white-skinned, with thin arms, and dark-green eyes. Their hair was short, and ash-blond in colour.

Their attitude towards him was kind and friendly throughout. They gave him a fruit to eat. It was smooth and red on the outside, and of a lighter colour inside. It smelled and tasted good, and the taste was that of a plum. The actual texture of the fruit was however rather like that of an apple. It contained no stone or seeds.

Before the witness left the cave where this examination of him had taken place, he picked up a stone from the floor of the cave. He gave this stone to me, and I still have it.

Following upon his experience with "the little people", the witness felt confused and troubled for several days. He also said he felt as though he was "floating in thin air" for some time afterwards.

When we interviewed him on September 9, 1988, just a week after this last episode, he was looking very pale — quite different from his healthy, normal, sunburnt self.

I have not yet given you his name. He is my son, Ludovico Granchi. And the other two children mentioned are of course also my children.

THE TRUTH ABOUT G.E.P.A.N.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Petit

Senior Scientific Officer with the C.N.R.S. (French National Commission for Scientific Research), and FSR Consultant.

(Translation from French. — G.C.)

We have published a number of important articles by Dr Jean-Pierre Petit, the last being *GEPA* = *CONDON*, on page 21 of *FSR* 33/2 (June 1988). — EDITOR

G.E.P.A.N. (Groupe d'Etude des Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non Identifiés), a body created in France in 1977 by the C.N.E.S. (Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales — French National Centre for Space Studies) was officially terminated at the end of 1988. At the same time as they did this, the C.N.E.S. created a new organization, the S.E.P.R.A. (Service d'Expertise des Phénomènes de Rentrées Atmosphériques, Dept. of Expertise on Atmospheric Re-Entry Phenomena).

Today, if anyone telephones to the C.N.E.S. and asks for G.E.P.A.N., they are put through to S.E.P.R.A., and with a bit of luck they might get Jean-Jacques Velasco, formerly responsible for G.E.P.A.N., and now responsible for S.E.P.R.A.! If the caller expresses astonishment, he will be told that G.E.P.A.N. still exists, but that it has simply changed its name.

The truth is more complex than that. And we are in a position to give it.

Who has not asked himself, ever since 1977, why it was that G.E.P.A.N. had been formed in the first place? Here I can supply two answers. The first answer is by quoting a phrase of Monsieur Meslée, Director of Public Relations at the C.N.E.S., during a press conference given for the FRANCE-INTER Radio Chain in 1980. To a journalist who had asked him this question, Meslée replied:

"In 1976-77 there was a certain degree of inquietude among the public regarding the UFO phenomenon. It therefore seemed essential that we should establish an organization able to reassure people and set their minds at rest regarding that phenomenon."

SO — IN PLAIN LANGUAGE — G.E.P.A.N. WAS A SORT OF TRANQUILISER FOR THE PUBLIC.

The second part of the reply comes from a conversation that I had in 1987 with Monsieur Roger Lesgard, at the present time the Director of the Musée de la Villette in Paris. We were in Quebec together at a scientific gathering. I had recognized Lesgard at once, but he had clearly totally forgotten me since 1977.

Adopting the attitude of a quite conservative sort of scientist, I engaged him in conversation as follows:—

Q: "Monsieur Lesgard, weren't you with the C.N.E.S. in the '70s?"

A: "Yes, I was the Secretary-General of the C.N.E.S. at that period."

Q: "Then maybe you will be able to give the answer for me to a question that I have often asked myself. What was that, eh, that strange group that was set up at that time, at the end of the '70s, and that was thought to be concerning itself with UFOs?"

A: "You mean G.E.P.A.N., which was set up in 1977. It was I myself, in my capacity as Secretary-General of the C.N.E.S., who did all the administrative work in establishing that body."

Q: "Ah — good. Did that organisation really deal with UFOs?"

A: "We had created the department in order to calm things down a bit about the UFOs, but, *rest assured*, no serious research was truly undertaken on that phenomenon."

Q: "Does the organization still exist? I have heard that it was going to be terminated."

A: "Well, you know, when an organization of that sort has fulfilled its role, I suppose it is simply left to die. But Alain Esterle, who was the man in charge of it during the "hot" period, did a good job there. Finally, given the pretty negative role that had been assigned to the body, I'd go so far as to concede that you are right."

* * * *

So G.E.P.A.N. was indeed set up in 1977 to serve as a tranquilizer for the public; as a "fixation anchorage for the abscess". The UFO sighting reports converged on that organization, which for years continued to play marvellously its role of "Black Hole". Having confided to G.E.P.A.N. the details of what they had seen, eyewitnesses of UFOs were then no longer tempted to turn to the press or to the private UFO investigation groups. And, incidentally, they were always expressly told by G.E.P.A.N. to keep quiet, "pending the result of the investigation".

But G.E.P.A.N. also had a second function: collector of information and what's-what, on behalf of the Military. *In fact, one might consider it, with its pretty derisory structure, as simply the emergent part of an iceberg. And the iceberg was situated somewhere at the very highest level among the Military.*

The motivations of the various Military Men charged with the task of overseeing the files were several. In the first place, they desired to reap the maximum amount of information on the UFO phenomenon, and eventually to extract from it some exploitable scientific profit. All this shows very clearly in a report compiled in 1976 by the I.H.E.D.N. (Institute of Higher Studies on the National Defence), regarding which several of us received communications. The report mentioned possible "spin-offs" from the UFO report files, and potentially interesting applications, notably in the domain of MHD (*Magneto-hydrodynamics*).

I tried, myself, over many years, to develop some concrete research on this matter of MHD.* From 1979 to 1981 I was in contact with G.E.P.A.N. And the people there — principally the engineers Esterle and Zappoli — having had the main ideas of it explained to them, then attempted (rather clumsily) to set up some experimental research on MHD at a centre working closely with the Army. This was C.E.R.T. (The Centre for Study and Technical Research), in Toulouse. This complex (C.E.R.T.) which comprised several research units, had all the necessary blowers and other means and resources *ad hoc*. But they failed at first because they lacked the necessary ability in the subject.

When I found out about this operation of theirs (because they had made the attempt without my knowing about it), I broke off my contacts with G.E.P.A.N. *And at that point in time there happened something very important: the business of the UFO landing at Trans-En-Provence.***