

# LANDING AT SAN PEDRO DE LOS ALTOS

A multi-witness case from Venezuela

*Horacio Gonzalez Ganteaume*

Señor Ganteaume is the veteran and doyen of all UFO investigators in South America, and is well known for the high quality of his work, and for the important enquiries he has conducted. He is President of the Sociedad Venezolana Investigadora del OVNI of Caracas, Venezuela, and representative of APRO in that country. His article was written in English, and sub-edited by Gordon Creighton who prepared the notes and comments.

THIS incident, which occurred on the late afternoon of August 7, 1965, was never published in any Venezuelan newspaper, due to the high reputations, in social and economic circles, of the three witnesses involved, one of whom is a well-known gynaecologist, while the other two are owners and administrators of a long-established concern engaged in the manufacture of gold and silver trophies.

Two most important points to be noted are that, unlike so many cases in which there is only one witness, we here have *three*, and that the incidents described are stated to have occurred in bright daylight, namely at 4.00 p.m. on the day in question.

I personally conducted the investigation of this case, and I interviewed the three witnesses, whose names however I must withhold. I regard this as an almost incredible report. Had I not spoken personally with the witnesses, I would have discarded it. However, at the present time of writing (August, 1968) one of the three witnesses is still suffering a psychological traumatic shock due to his experience. He is in mortal fear that they will return to "speak" to him, and he is constantly watching the skies apprehensively. (And, by the way, I might add that UFOs are constantly being seen, all over Venezuela.)

This case was the very first, in my 18 years of investigation and research, in which any Venezuelan citizen had declared that he had spoken with beings from outer space. I know my fellow-countrymen, and their general attitude towards the "UFO phenomenon", and when three of them, men of good reputation, of ample economic means, well known in Venezuelan society (and one of them a professional man of high standing to boot), all admit and lay claim to such an experience as this, then I believe that their claims must be granted the fullest consideration and be made available for study.

The original report on the case, based on my personal interviews with the three witnesses, was written by Senor José Rolas under my instructions and was forwarded to Mrs. Coral Lorenzen, Director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) in Tucson, Arizona. The full details of the case are as follows:

The two industrialists and the gynaecologist were visiting the thorough-bred horse-breeding establishment

owned by friends of theirs at San Pedro de los Altos, a place in the district of Los Teques<sup>1</sup> and distant some 50 or 60 kilometres from the Venezuelan capital, Caracas.

They were out inspecting the grounds, pastures, and surrounding terrain, and had arrived on a low-lying plateau. Their conversation was concentrated entirely on economic and financial matters, investments, and thorough-bred horses, and on the beauty of the surrounding countryside. As already mentioned, the time was 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Suddenly a brilliant flash of light in the sky attracted their attention. Then this flash of light resolved itself into a ball which began to increase in size as it slowly descended and moved towards them. They thought at first that it must be an aircraft or a helicopter, but they could hear no sound.

The object continued to descend, and when it was at a height of approximately 300ft. they could see that it was a huge discoid apparatus, emitting a brilliant yellowish glow, with a round dark patch underneath (see sketches by one of the witnesses). They could still hear no sound of the kind made by aircraft but were aware of a peculiar humming, almost inaudible, which penetrated their ears.

At this point the youngest of the three men turned with the intention of running away, but the gynaecologist seized him by the arm, saying: "Don't run away, man! Let us all three stay here and see what this object is going to do."

The huge disc was now swaying slowly downwards, until it became stationary at a height of hardly 5ft. from the surface of the ground.

By this time they knew they were witnessing something extremely unusual. They were frightened, but as the disc was still at a distance of some 100ft. or so from them, they wanted to see what it was going to do.

Suddenly, from the underside of the apparatus (which they estimated to be about 90ft. in diameter) a shaft of light shot out, and it seemed to them that in this light, which contacted the ground, two beings were descending.<sup>2</sup> These beings were about 7 or 8ft. in height. They had long yellow hair which fell to their shoulders, large penetrating eyes, and were dressed in a type of one-piece

suit which showed no seams and shone with a metallic lustre.<sup>3</sup>

Still standing their ground, but trembling with fear, the three witnesses now watched the two tall beings approach to a distance of some 10ft. from them. Here the two beings halted and simultaneously all three witnesses heard a voice telling them: "Do not be afraid; calm yourselves."

The peculiar feature of this voice was that the witnesses did not perceive any movement of the lips or of any other part of the bodies of the two strange beings. *They heard the message inside their heads—or, rather, inside their brains.*<sup>4</sup> This confused them, and the two blond creatures seemed to perceive their confusion, because they now began to hear a second voice saying: "We are speaking to you *directly*." The three witnesses then understood that they were receiving a telepathic communication.

The following are the replies which the three men heard inside their own brains in reply to questions asked by the gynaecologist. (He had recovered his composure more quickly than the other two, who simply stood there passively watching the proceedings.)

Q. Who are you? Where do you come from? What do you want here?

A. We are from Orion. Our mission on this planet is one of peace. We are studying the psyches<sup>5</sup> of the humans, to adapt them to our species. There are seven<sup>6</sup> inhabited planets: namely Earth; two satellites of Saturn; Epsilon; Kristofix (of which none of you know); Kelpis; Orion; and a small planet in the Outer Dipper<sup>7</sup> (*Ursa Extrema*)<sup>8</sup>

Q. Can you tell us how your flying saucers<sup>9</sup> operate?

A. (In an imperative tone of voice as though irritated.)<sup>10</sup> They are **not** "flying saucers". They are *Gravitelides* and operate by means of a nucleus of concentrated solar energy which produces an enormous magnetic force.

Q. Have you managed to master gravity?

A. Undoubtedly.

Q. By whom are these ships piloted?

A. Some are piloted by *Espacitomeles*<sup>11</sup> and others by *Mecanisoteles*.<sup>12</sup>

Q. What do these names mean?

A. Beings from Outer Space, and *Mechanical Automata*.<sup>13</sup>

Q. Are the inhabitants of all seven planets equal or alike?

A. No. There are the *Morphous* and the *Amorphous*.<sup>14</sup> We, the *Morphous*, possess greater similarity among ourselves, with the exception of those that originate in the Outer Dipper, who are diminutive beings approximately 35in. in height.<sup>15</sup>

Q. Have you bases on Earth?

A. Each planet that sends an expedition to investigate the Earth has a ship almost half the size of your Moon, which they leave behind<sup>16</sup> the planet Mars. This is the reason why more of us are seen when this planet is near to Earth.<sup>17</sup>

Q. Are there any beings like you living among us?

A. Yes. Two million, four hundred and seventeen thousand, eight hundred and five (2,417,805).<sup>18</sup>

Q. Have you undertaken interbreeding with us?

A. No.<sup>19</sup> But we are studying the possibility, which will

create a *New Species*.

Q. Have you interbred among yourselves?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you carried any beings from Earth away with you?

A. No. Only animals. On Kristofix there exists the *Fitozooloplanetologeico*<sup>20, 21</sup> which is the richest in the Galaxy, and in which there are species of animals totally unknown to you.

Q. What do you use for food?

A. Prepared artificial elements.

Q. What did you mean to say when you mentioned *Amorphous* beings?

A. You will not understand this form of life.

(The gynaecologist insisted at this point on some further explanation, and the following reply was given):

They are entities, *living* by means of crisostelic ascending neural evolution.

(Due to the fact that this explanation was also not understood by the witnesses, no further question was asked on this.)

Q. What do you think of our achievements as regards Space-flight?

A. They are primitive experiments.

Q. Have you any powerful weapons?

A. Yes. We possess a wave-compressor capable of disintegrating the Moon with only one discharge.

Q. Have you brought this compressor with you?

A. No. We repeat that our mission is one of peace; but we have brought diminutive portable ones powerful enough to halt a plutonium explosion.<sup>22</sup>

At that point the general conversation ceased, but the witnesses remember snatches of other things that the beings said, such as:

(i) That we (here on Earth) are *their beginning*, and that they in turn are the beginning of the *Amorphous*.<sup>23</sup>

(ii) That outside of the Galaxy, *the Life of Contrasts exists*.<sup>24</sup>

(iii) That they will continue to leave evidence of their presence in various parts of the world.

#### Notes and Comments by Gordon Creighton

<sup>1</sup> Due south of Caracas.

<sup>2</sup> There are several other cases on record in which it is alleged that entities from hovering UFOs have descended and ascended on shafts of light. See for example, *The Humanoids in Latin America*, case 30 (THE HUMANOIDS), and the recent case of the "bald-headed dwarfs of Mendoza", described by Charles Bowen in *One Day in Mendoza*, FSR, Vol. 14, No. 6, November/December 1968.

<sup>3</sup> For alleged beings resembling these, see the claims of Eugenio Siragusa of Sicily in the early 1960s. Also the case of Professor Guimarães in Brazil (case No. 19 of *The Humanoids in Latin America*); the case of Resistencia (case No. 31 of *The Humanoids in Latin America*); the case at Mexico City (case No. 54 of *The Humanoids in Latin America*). Others can also be quoted.

<sup>4</sup> The alleged "hearing" of a message "*inside the head*" is now familiar to us from a number of cases. The total would be found impressive.

<sup>5</sup> "Psiquis" is the word used by Señor Ganteaume, since of course the Venezuelan witnesses allegedly "heard" in their own language, Spanish.

<sup>6</sup> This seems to me to make a total of not seven but *eight*—unless we are to count the "two satellites of Saturn" as one unit? There is reference later to our Galaxy, but

nothing whatever is said about other galaxies, nor about any intelligent life in them. If all this has any meaning, perhaps we should take it to mean that there is a total of seven (or eight) inhabited planets in our Galaxy, nothing being said about other galaxies since these might very likely be entirely and for ever beyond the reach of even the most advanced of creatures, and inter-galactic travel therefore totally unattainable. The question of whether or not other galaxies might contain advanced life is consequently disregarded as irrelevant. Such would naturally be the view of all astronomers.

<sup>7</sup> "Big Dipper" or "Great Dipper" are popular names for a group of seven stars in the circumpolar constellation of Ursa Major in the Northern Hemisphere. The two end stars of the dipper's "bowl",  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , are called the Pointers. An imaginary line drawn through them and extended about five times toward the North Pole will pass approximately through *Polaris*, the Pole Star.

<sup>8</sup> *Osa Extrema* as given by Sr. Ganteaume. (*Osa*, Spanish for female bear = Latin *Ursa*.)

<sup>9</sup> The usual Spanish term, which the gynaecologist no doubt used, is *plato volador* (flying plate), or *platillo volante* (flying saucer).

<sup>10</sup> There are on record one or two other seemingly ridiculous episodes like this, in which alleged "Space entities" are described as having taken strong objection to the term "flying saucer". (Evidently our terrestrial critics have some powerful allies on this knotty point!)

<sup>11</sup> Here again, it must be remembered that the alleged communication is said to have been heard inside the brain, in Spanish. Speakers of Spanish find difficulty in pronouncing "sp" without an *e* in front of it. Consequently the Spanish words for space and spatial are *espacio* and *espacial* respectively, and the word *Espacitomeles* also comes through with an initial *e*. The nearest English rendering for *Espacitomeles* would, I think, be "*Spacitomeles*" (whatever that means).

<sup>12</sup> Likewise the English equivalent here would be "*Mechanoteles*" (whatever that means).

<sup>13</sup> Here we have a claim that the "Space beings" use mechanical robots. See in this connection C. Maxwell Cade's articles, *A Long Cool Look At Alien Intelligence*, in FSR for November/December 1967 and March/April 1968. Also Ivan T. Sanderson's book *Uninvited Visitors*, as well as a few cases in the literature, particularly the famous *Cisco Grove incident*, which is described in detail in Mrs. Coral Lorenzen's *UFO Occupants in United States Reports* (FSR Special Issue, THE HUMANOID).

<sup>14</sup> The concept that there could be, or are, intelligent beings that are literally "without form" is certainly a bizarre one for the usual Western mind. The Sanskrit terms *rupa* रूप and *arupa* अरूप form and non-form, are however fundamental in certain religious, spiritual and cosmophilosophical systems of India, in which it is taught that the "planetary chains" (containing twelve spheres or globes) each have five higher spheres or globes which are *a-rupa*, formless (not, however, as it turns out, because they actually possess no material form, but only because they would appear to be formless—and therefore non-existent—to our physical senses, but not to those of beings of that particular kind of matter. On the other hand the seven lower globes or spheres of a "planetary-chain" are called *rupa* worlds because their bodies are of substantial natures more akin to our own and hence perceptible to us. (He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.)

<sup>15</sup> Whether or not it be mere coincidence, it may be noted here that many investigators, including myself, seem to have reached the conclusion that there are perhaps roughly eight or nine main categories of entities reported by witnesses. This number is thus very close to the number of "inhabited planets" allegedly mentioned in this Venezuelan case. Furthermore, the height of the tiny creatures, 35in., is very near indeed to what has been reported by witnesses in a very considerable number of cases, especially in the great French Wave of 1954 and the South American Wave of 1965.

<sup>16</sup> This reminds us of the curious case of the American, Truman Bethurum, whom Desmond Leslie said he found, when he interviewed him, far too stolid and unimaginative ever to have invented his fantastic UFO contact story. It will be recalled that Bethurum said the fetching little lady-skipper of the landed "space-craft", encountered by him a dozen or so times, told him that they came from a "planet", unknown to us, called "Clarion", which, very conveniently, "lay behind the Moon", so that we could not see it.

If Bethurum's story was true it seems clear that, wherever they may have hailed from, his little space-crew men and their frisky little female "skipper" certainly did not pertain to our particular order of matter.

<sup>17</sup> The sceptic will argue that the Venezuelan witnesses would have had no difficulty in hearing of the famous "26-month Mars cycle" in UFO sightings.

<sup>18</sup> This precise figure of 2,417,805 "Space beings living among us" seems totally absurd. But, as Aimé Michel pointed out in his article in THE HUMANOID, we have many UFO reports that are veritable "festivals of absurdity"—a factor which, as he argues, we should expect to encounter in any meeting with truly alien or super-human beings.

<sup>19</sup> Evidently, then, the "A.V.B. Project" was carried out by one of the other groups. As this party of visitors did not seem to know about it, one must conclude that their "interplanetary liaison" is not too good on such details!

<sup>20</sup> Another composite Spanish word allegedly transmitted in Spanish. An English equivalent would perhaps be "*Phytzoological-Planeto-Logy*", which, if it means anything, would suggest a combined super-zoo and botanical gardens in which the phytozoology (*botany*) and the zoology of planets are studied. (Personally I take vast comfort from the thought that they have the dodo, the moa, and the sabretoothed tiger there.)

<sup>21</sup> Let us only pray that, in the event of our being taken over, this agglutinative type of vocabulary will not be made compulsory in our schools.

<sup>22</sup> A comforting thought for many, but unlikely to bring much cheer to the leaders of certain of our more "advanced" and "democratic" bully countries.

<sup>23</sup> In Spanish: *Nosotros somos el principio de ellos, y ellos son el principio de los Amorfos*. Horacio González Ganteaume comments: "This requires considerable thought, due to its implications." I concur. We may have here a faint clue to something important and quite extraordinary, but also quite beyond any grasping by our minds.

<sup>24</sup> Another nice poser.

#### Final comment

As readers will see, Señor Ganteaume is impressed, and I feel rightly so, with the truthfulness of the witnesses, three Venezuelan gentlemen of standing in their community, and

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IN OUR NEXT ISSUE . . . an exciting new hypothesis on UFO visitations is propounded by John A. Keel. The full impact of this will only be apparent to those who have studied BEYOND CONDON . . . (see p.2).

# MORE LIGHT ON THE HEFLIN UFO CASE

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THE last three years have seen much speculation and confusion concerning the Heflin UFO sighting of August 3, 1965. This situation is understandable since most of those pondering the various aspects of this case have had very little valid information on which to base conclusions. Inasmuch as the case has not, to my knowledge, been resolved (Project Blue Book's conclusion of "Hoax", notwithstanding), it might be appropriate to examine the technical elements and to dispel one or two misconceptions.

I wish to state at the outset that all references herein to the photograph, or "photo", pertain to Mr. Heflin's No. 1 photograph unless otherwise stated (for reprint of photo 1, see May/June 1968 edition of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, p. 20) (reproduced below).

The half hour's driving time between my residence

and the vicinity of the sighting has presented many opportunities for personal inspection of the area. This, coupled with my possession of an enlarged, uncropped copy of the photograph, was instrumental in uncovering significant evidence. Trigonometrical computations based on the conjunction of the measurements recorded at the site with those scaled on the enlarged print, revealed that: (1) The elevation and azimuth of the sun at the time of the sighting were  $72^{\circ} 46'$  and  $162^{\circ} 51'$ , respectively; (2) The time of the sighting was subsequently established as 12.38 p.m. P.D.T. (Pacific Daylight Time) as compared to 11.30 a.m. P.D.T. originally given by the witness; (3) The absence of any shadow cast by the aerial object or vehicle on to the pavement or left-hand road bed precludes the possibility of the object being in the diameter range of 10.5in. to 6ft. No

(Below) Slightly-cropped copy of the first Heflin photograph, August 3, 1965.

(Right) Detail from photo 1. Note round dome and reflection of sun above black areas

