

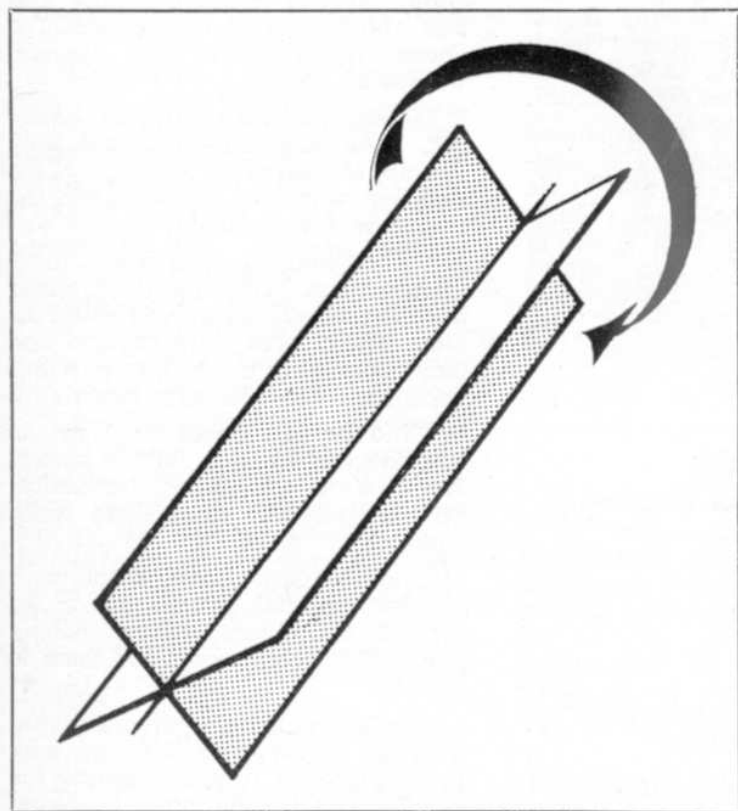
Of course one could object that possibly not even the CIA could afford to keep the majority of the best brains away from such important facts, especially if there

should be the slightest indication of hostility. That could be quite a risky game.

THE FLYING SPINDLE

A. M. Richmond

ON a summer's day in the year 1930 in the town of Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa, I was working in my garden when suddenly I heard Comprehend, our native servant, call out in wonder. I looked up to see him pointing at a shining object in the sky.



The "Flying Spindle" seen over Pietermaritzburg.

It was a particularly clear day, so clear that every detail of this giant object was visible. It appeared to me to be a massive sheet of shining metal, revolving on a spindle so leisurely that I expected it to stop rotating at any moment. With each turn a great flash was thrown off each side of the "sheet" section of the spindle machine which hovered over a heavily wooded area beyond the boundary of my property.

My first reaction was to run into the house and call the rest of the family out to see this unusual craft. In those days, it was indeed rare to even observe aircraft in that area, and when an aeroplane was heard we used to run into the garden to gaze up at the vibrating intruder. My fear that I might lose sight of the spindle-machine overcame my initial intention, so I continued to watch with Comprehend who expressed his opinion, one which I did not share, that it was a visitation from the land of the spirits.

The machine stayed roughly in the same area for some forty minutes rotating at an even speed. Suddenly, at the time I was beginning to despair of a change in the situation, the rotations increased, the machine lifted upwards at incredible speed as if plucked by some giant hand, the flashes melting into each other giving a star-like appearance to the spindle-machine. Soon it was lost to sight on its way no doubt to the place (was it another planet?) from whence it came.

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World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ENGLAND

UFO over Southampton Water

The Isle of Wight *Chronicle* & *Guardian* of January 29, 1970, told of an object seen on Monday, January 26. (The incident was also confirmed by Mr. C. Jeanes of Frost-lane, Hythe, and his letter was published in the *Southern Evening Echo* of February 5, 1970.)

The report ran as follows:

"A flame-smothered 'unidentified flying object' was reported seen hovering over Southampton Water and the Isle of Wight on Monday night.

"It was spotted by four men working at Hythe at 11.20 p.m.

"Said one of the men, Mr. G. A. Jolliffe: 'We followed it for about 15 minutes while it hovered in the sky, travelling downstream from Hythe about 1,000ft. above ground level. It moved in a strange manner, up and down and sideways. Eventually it broke in two and terrific flames came off it. It then disappeared altogether somewhere over the Isle of Wight.'"

Tate and Lyle Cigar

The *Stratford and Newham Express* of Friday, February 13, 1970 carried a remarkable story (by reporter Rod Gilchrist):

"Two teenage girls collapsed in tears this week—only minutes after they were 'hypnotised' by a strange night sky 'air ship'."

"They spotted a 'bright shiny object' with flashing lights while walking down Silvertown-way, Canning Town.

"The flying machine was cigar-shaped and quite small. It was about 600 feet in the air and hovering near the Tate and Lyle building.

"It happened at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday. For more than a minute the girls—Gillian Turpin, 15, Christine Francis, 14, and Sharon O'Brian, 13, stood hypnotised while the 'space machine' hovered in the air. Then it disappeared almost as suddenly as it had arrived.

"For seconds the girls stood

stunned. Then they ran to Christine's home in nearby Camel-road and burst into tears.

"Said Christine's father, Mr. Herbert Francis, a policeman with the Port of London Authority: 'The girls had certainly seen something that gave them a real fright. When I asked my daughter what the matter was and she told me I cracked a joke. But she was quite serious. Whatever those girls saw should be taken seriously. I am convinced this isn't a case of imagination. It was quite a job to calm them down.'"

"This week Gillian, who lives in Parker-close, Canning Town, said: 'I don't know what attracted my attention to this thing in the sky. I think it was the flashing lights. It looked a bit like what I think a flying saucer would look like. It was sort of silvery and cigar-shaped.

"It just seemed to be suspended in the air. Then suddenly it hovered above the Tate and Lyle building and was gone. I was really scared. I have never seen anything like it in my life. I'm almost frightened to tell people about this in case they think I'm 'nutty.'"

Credit: J. Hall of Bethnal Green.

CANADA

Humanoids visit hospital

A strange "UFO and Occupants" story comes to us in the following item from the *Cowichan Leader* (Duncan, B.C.) kindly sent to us by Mrs. O. Beaton of Vancouver. (We are grateful, too, to the Rev. H. D. L. Thomas of Oxford for sending the same cutting.)

The account, signed by Sharon Currie, runs:

"Fortunately Mrs. Doreen Kendall, a registered nurse at Cowichan District Hospital, is not a nervous person.

"Because what she saw at 5 a.m. New Year's Day might have been the most unnerving sight she will ever experience in her entire life.

"What Mrs. Kendall saw was a brilliantly lighted, circular object with a glass dome, occupied by two human-like men, which was

stationary in the air about 60 feet away from CDH, above the second floor where she was working in the extended care unit.

"Mrs. Kendall, a nurse for the past nine years, who commutes from Nanaimo, said she was checking on an elderly patient in the extended care unit wing on the second floor and went to draw back the curtains.

"I was so taken with the flying saucer that I didn't call anyone. I felt mummified and fascinated, and stood there for about five minutes, watching, before I called another nurse, Mrs. Freda Wilson."

"The craft, which was slightly tipped downwards toward her, was about 60 feet off the ground and was about 50 feet in diameter, 'or about the width of five hospital windows.'

"While the ship hovered above her, Mrs. Kendall could see only the upper halves of the figures inside, but when the vehicle tilted she saw their full profiles.

"They had nice physiques, more than six-feet tall, and their hands were the same colour and shape as ours. Their faces were covered and they wore dark suits, like a pilot's uniform, of soft-looking material.

"Maybe its because I'm so mechanically-minded, but I suspect they were having mechanical trouble and had stopped to make repairs."

"She said one 'man' stood over an instrumental panel, made of chrome, and the other stood behind him. There were stools for them to sit on.

"She described the saucer-shaped craft as silvery, metallic and with a 'necklace of lights' around the middle. The vehicle made no sound while it hovered above her or later when it took off towards the south-east.

"I asked myself later did it have mechanical trouble and is that why they had all those lights on?"

"While she stood watching, one man turned and looked directly at her and then put his hand on the back of the man sitting down. Mrs. Kendall said the headgear covered his face.

"The other man then pulled back 'a joy stick' similar to those in a big airplane, going from first, into second and then into third gear, and the object tilted sideways giving Mrs. Kendall an even better view of the instrumental panel and interior.

"She then noticed that the dome seemed to be lit from below rather than above.

"When it started to pull away I realized no one would believe me and I ran and called Mrs. Wilson to come and look."

"She asked what on earth was it, and I said it's a flying saucer. By this time five other nurses ran to the window and watched."

"They watched the craft circle about five times and then slowly disappear towards the south-east.

"I was completely oblivious to anything else and felt no fear. In fact I would have loved to have gone for a ride and if the men had spoken to me I would have answered quite naturally."

"The reason I was so terrifically interested was because I always believed there were unidentified flying objects, but now I am absolutely convinced."

"Mrs. Kendall said the saucer almost touched the patio outside the hospital and added, 'if I could have got out on to the patio I would have talked to them.'"

"It was pitch black outside when she pulled the curtains.

"Later she entered her experience in a hospital working schedule which stated: 'At 5 a.m. I saw a flying saucer as low as the third floor of the hospital when I pulled the curtains. There were two men or figures in the dome flying towards Victoria way. The bottom of the saucer was brilliantly lit and also the dome . . . New Year's morning.'"

"Monday, Mrs. Kendall said the experience had left her with a placid feeling, but, regardless of what people said, she would never change her story about what she saw."

Another New Year's UFO

In the same issue of the *Cowichan Leader* (January 7, 1970) we find the following item:

"On New Year's Day, Jim Drummond, 22, and his wife Dianne, 18, reported they studied a bright light

in the sky at Mill Bay, through a telescope.

"It was brighter in the middle and I could see four distinct lights of the same colour that looked like tips of candles only a bit bigger," he said.

"The couple said they observed the object for about five minutes before it disappeared.

"Drummond said he had no idea what the object could have been but he believed it was not an aircraft because there were no coloured navigation lights.

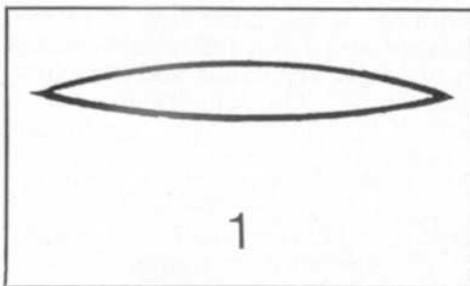
"I have never heard of anything that could manoeuvre that slow and that fast without making some sort of noise," he said."

FINLAND

Strange events in the snow

The following report has been sent to FSR by **Sven-Olof Fredrikson**, a member of a Gothenburg, Sweden, group called GICOFF. The aim of this group is to do follow-up investigations of cases reported in the press, by letter if there is no member of the group living in the vicinity of the alleged UFO incident. Mr. Fredrikson is a university student, reading physics.

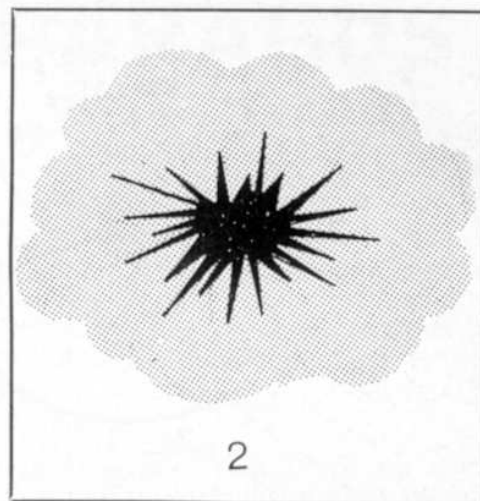
"In the middle of January 1970 we came across an observation in



The long narrow light.

Finland which we think may be of interest to you, or to your readers. We wrote to the two witnesses, and below you can see how they experienced the phenomenon and what happened concerning their health after the observation.

"The occurrence took part at a place in a forest, 16 km. north of the town Heinola, 130 km. north-east of Helsinki. It was January 7, 1970, and the time 4.45 p.m. The two witnesses, Mr. Heinonen, 36 years old, and Mr. E. Viljo, 38 years old, are both down-to-earth



The phenomenon 'exploded' into a cloud

workers and have never experienced anything like this before.

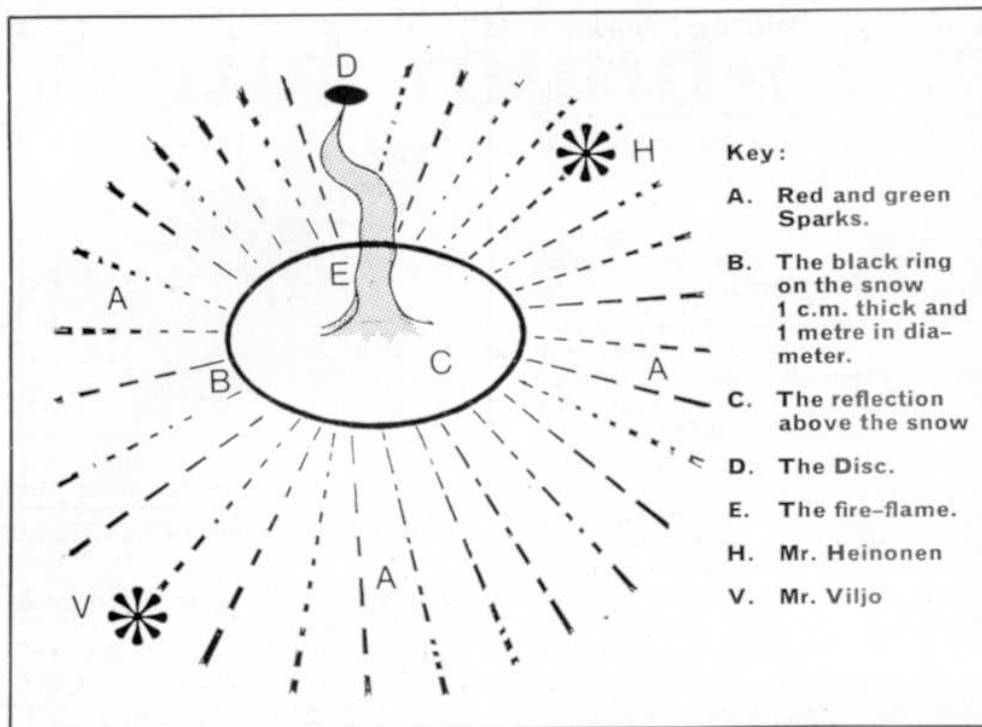
"This is Mr. Heinonen's story:

"The sky at the time was clear, and a few stars were visible; sunset was beginning. I halted when I heard a weak buzz, and then came a light above the snow which became stronger. I saw red and green sparks which were about 10 cm. in length around the phenomenon. The phenomenon created a ring on the snow about one metre in diameter. It was red like fire in the middle, and black at the edges, and seemed to be a solid body, for its outlines were sharp, and it wasn't transparent. It was self-luminous.

"The phenomenon began to shrink, starting from the edges, and at the same time it rose up about 50 cm. Its size was then 20 cm. It was standing still for 1 to 2 seconds, changing magnitude, then went upwards, increased its speed and disappeared quickly. When the phenomenon was just above the snow, my position was about half a metre from it."

"This is what Mr. E. Viljo told us in his letter:

"From the high point in the forest I caught sight of a long narrow light coming from the south. When it travelled towards me, the narrow light was broken into parts now and then, and its colour was red like fire. The phenomenon halted high above me, and seemed to explode into a cloud which was brighter than the moon and the stars. After that there was a buzzing sound and a reflexion on the snow was seen. The reflexion or the phenomenon itself had a diameter of about one metre. Around the phenomenon there was a dark ring, or edge, about one centimetre thick, and outside it there were



red and green sparks. I was standing right among the sparks. The phenomenon was about one metre from me. Its colour varied. Above the snow the circular phenomenon started to decrease, the sparks began to wane and so did the fire-flame, and before it disappeared I could see at the top of the fire-flame a disc as big as the flat of the hand. The phenomenon was at a standstill for 1-2 seconds, and then there was a sharp click and an upwards rush, and it disappeared. There were no signs in the snow. The whole observation lasted only about 5 seconds. The phenomenon and the sparks covered an area with a diameter of about 6 metres.

Symptoms of disease

“Mr. Heinonen: ‘Immediately after the light phenomenon disappeared, my right side, which had been towards it, felt hot. My body went numb, and I became sick. Ten minutes later every limb became sore, and it was difficult for me to breathe. The same day I went to a doctor at the hospital in Heinola, where I arrived at 8.00 p.m. The doctor looked at me and prescribed sleeping pills. The pills didn’t help and the symptoms continued. On January the 8th I visited the same doctor once again, and he told me the symptoms should be gone in 10 days. The doctor prescribed a sedative, but the symptoms continued. My limbs are sore and I have problems with my bal-

ance. I feel cold, but haven’t any fever. On January the 14th I once again visited the doctor, who then prescribed medicine for the blood-circulation. He told me there was nothing wrong with me. The symptoms continue; I can’t work and I can’t do anything else either.’

“Mr. E. Viljo: ‘About one hour after the observation my face became swollen and reddish in colour. According to other people, I walked in an unbalanced way. At 8.00 p.m. I went to the hospital in Heinola. I got two sleeping pills from the doctor. On January the 8th, in the morning, I had difficulties with my balance and I felt light, particularly in my legs. My hands and my chest became red. On January the 9th I visited the doctor once again. He thought an electrical explosion was the cause. He gave me a sedative. I had a headache for a couple of days. On January the 12th I visited an eye specialist in Lahtis, because I had pain in my eyes. There I was given eye-drops. On January the 14th I visited the doctor in Heinola, who gave me medicine for the blood-circulation. On January the 17th I visited the same doctor once again. He could not find anything wrong. I have now and then problems with my left foot concerning the circulation and the nerves. When I have my sauna bath, my body becomes more reddish in colour than normal.’

“The answers to our questions were written down by the two Finns around about February 10, 1970. We have not yet completed our

investigation of this case, and we hope to receive more facts from Finland soon.

“According to a specialist at the Chalmers Institute of Technology, it could not have been an electrical discharge in the atmosphere. One theory is that it was a fireball, but the green sparks do not fit into that theory, or any other theory.”

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Occupant enters car

We are indebted to *Canadian UFO Report* (Editor: John Magor, Box 758, Duncan, B.C.) for permission to quote the following extract from an article in the November/December 1969 issue dealing with the 1967 “Cariboo Flap”:

“The locale was Idaho which, with sections of Washington and Oregon, might be considered the U.S. continuation of Canada’s Cariboo country. As reported by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, which gave considerable attention to the case, it was about 9.30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, 1967, when two Navajo Indian youths, Will Begay and Guy Tossie, were blinded by a sudden brilliant flash as they were driving on Highway 26 outside Ririe. Although Begay, driving, did not apply the brakes, their car stopped and a small domed UFO appeared just above the highway ahead of them. Flashing green and orange lights seemed to be revolving around its rim, and through the transparent dome the startled young men saw two small humanoid figures.

“After a moment the dome swung open, and one of the creatures drifted lightly to the ground. Then, to quote NICAP: ‘His height was a little over three feet. His face had a rough look—like scars, deep scars, as one of the Indians said. He had large high ears; his eyes were round, and his mouth was a slit with very thin lips or none at all. No nose could be seen in the roughness of the face.’

“To the horror of the witnesses, the creature approached the car, opened the driver’s door without apparent difficulty and climbed in as the frightened Indians huddled towards the other side. Whether the humanoid then actually drove the

Continued page iii of cover

ON UNIPEDS AND ASPARAGUS

and not to mention penguins

Gordon Creighton

WHILE researching recently in the library of the Royal Geographical Society in London on the early Irish and Norse voyages, and settlements in North America, I came across a peculiar little item which may be thought of some interest.

The Icelandic collection of Sagas known as the *Flateyrbók*¹ contains various accounts of these voyages. The best known of them is of course the Saga of *Eirík the Red*, who sailed to, and explored, parts of the New World around the year 1,000 A.D. Less well known perhaps is the *Saga of Thorfinn Karlsefni*, an Icelfander who in 1010 carried out a voyage of exploration from Iceland to the shores of what are now Greenland, Baffinland, Labrador, Newfoundland, and New England. (The last-named three regions, or parts of them, constitute in the opinion of many scholars the famous *Vinland* of the Norsemen. However there are still considerable differences of view as to the precise extent of *Vinland* and the actual spots where the Norse landed, brought their cattle, and where, for a very long period of time probably, as many as several thousands of them had their dairy farms and their settlements in America, centuries before the arrival of Columbus.)

These Greenlandic and Icelandic Sagas contain detailed accounts of the Norsemen's frequent encounters and fights with both the kinds of native peoples who were already in what we today call Greenland, Canada, and the USA, namely the Eskimos and the Red Indians. The Norsemen were entirely familiar with them and invariably described them by the same somewhat derogatory term *Skraelings*.²

The Uniped

On one occasion, however, in the *Saga of Thorfinn Karlsefni*, we read that, as the Vikings were sailing along a part of the North American coast, they met a mysterious *something else*, and it is to this that I now wish to draw attention:

"One morning . . . , they saw something glittering in a clearing above them, and they shouted at it. As it moved, they saw it was a Uniped. It darted down towards them. Thorvald Eiríksson was at the helm. The Uniped then ran back northward, having shot an arrow³ into Thorvald's vitals. He drew out the arrow, saying: 'There is fat about my entrails. We have found a good land, but we shall hardly be able to make use of it'. A little later he died of his wound.

"The others ran after the Uniped, catching occasional glimpses of him, but at last he jumped into a pool⁴ and vanished. They returned, and sailed back northward, thinking they had come to the Land of the Unipeds and being unwilling to risk losing more men."

For this puzzling passage which crops up right in the middle of a perfectly straightforward factual account of a Norse voyage to North America, geographers and Old Norse experts, understandably embarrassed, generally clutch at the handy explanation that it is a piece of mythology which has somehow crept in here through a scribe's error. There was of course already a well diffused belief in a (mythical) single-horned animal, the *Unicorn*, so that the emergence of a parallel set of beliefs about a *Uniped*, a mythical creature with only one foot, might no doubt be quite understandable. On the other hand, while we do know today precisely which existing animal it was that gave rise to the idea of the *Unicorn*,⁵ however hard we search in the existing or recent fauna of the North American Continent it is not a bit easy to theorize as to what on earth the Norsemen could possibly have had in mind when they talked of a *Uniped*!

What caught my attention in this story was the statement that the Norsemen, coasting along in their longboat, saw "*something glittering* in a clearing above them." In our investigations into the mysteries of the UFO Phenomenon, we are quite used to hearing about "*something glittering*" which is also in the habit of landing in clearings. And the strange name *Uniped* inevitably at once recalled to mind an extraordinary account of a meeting with *one-legged UFO entities* given in one of the recent books by Coral and James Lorenzen.⁶

Described by the Lorenzens as "a flesh-crawler"—and it certainly is—the affair is alleged to have occurred in Peru between 4.00 and 5.00 p.m. one afternoon in February or March of 1949, at a spot called Lomo de Ballena, about six miles south of Lima, Capital of Peru, and beside the Pan-American Highway which in this region runs in a north-south direction roughly parallel with the shore of the Pacific Ocean.

For quite understandable reasons the percipient in this case, Señor C. A. V., a Peruvian (at the time aged 30) employed by a large oil corporation,

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