

FOUR FACES OF OUR VISITORS

While the general descriptions that appear time and again in UFO reports - such as "it kept changing color" or "it looked like two plates pressed together" - all serve to establish that we are being visited by alien vehicles of a real though mysterious nature, it is the less obvious, more unusual matching details that carry the most impact. When two widely separated cases have small points in common, their credibility is impressive.

Following are four examples of cases with matching details which we think are particularly credible, with particularly unusual points involved. Also their details are distinctive in that they provide some insight into the personality and techniques of our visitors.

The cases are not new. Those chosen for one side of the match-making have all been reported before in these pages, the source in one instance being the informative *BULLETIN* published by the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization of Tucson, Arizona. Those on the other side have appeared in Britain's *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* or in France's *PHENOMENES SPATIAUX*.* This is not by any special arrangement. It simply happens we have noticed articles in these outstanding overseas publications that dovetail in a unique way with reports in *CUFOR*. However, in naming our outside sources, we wish also to express appreciation for the material they provide.

*See footnote inside back cover.

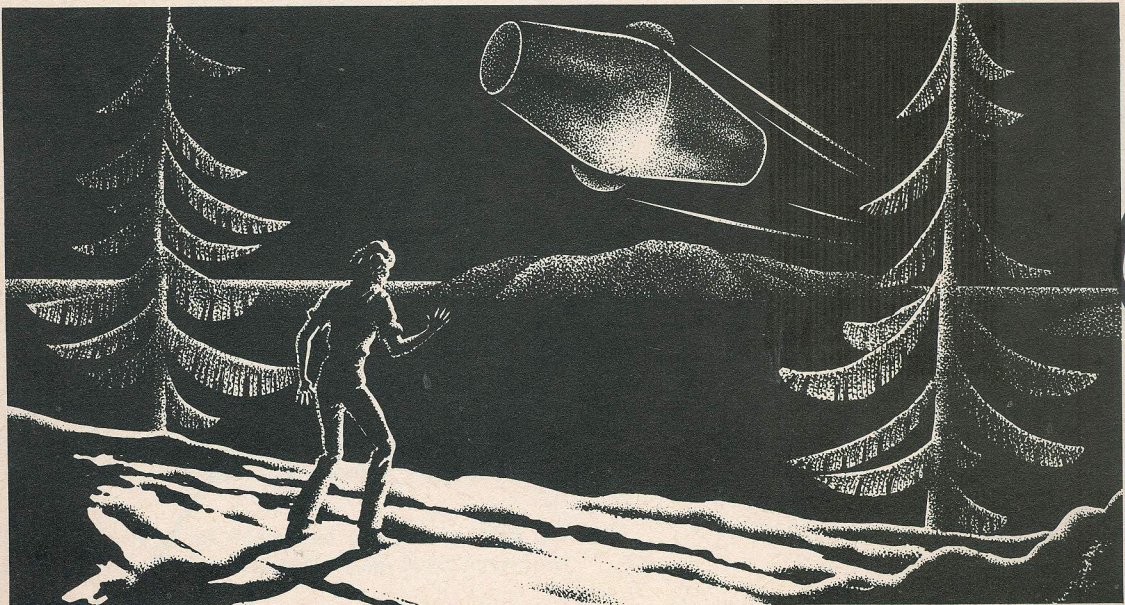
EXAMPLE ONE

Of all the flying-saucer encounters we have studied and reported, one of the most remarkable was the case of Bernice Niblett who in 1967 made her home on a small island near Vancouver, B.C., only to discover she had moved into a nest of UFOs (vol. 2, no. 5). In this strange, often frightening retreat she saw various types of odd flying objects, among them being one shaped like a barrel that she came to call the "red flasher" because of its blinking light.

Barrel-shaped objects are not new in UFO literature - in fact, readers will recall one was reported by four boys in New Hampshire at the very time we were describing Miss Niblett's experience - but the account of this witness was so vivid that we made a mental note to look out for other instances involving this type of UFO.

Then again coincidence played a hand. In going through several copies of *Flying Saucer Review* that arrived just about that time after a mail delay, we came across the extraordinary story (FSR vol. 18, no. 5 Sept.-Oct. 1972) of Rose Lotti nei Dainelli as translated by Gordon Creighton from *Il Giornale dei Misteri*, an Italian monthly devoted to the supernatural.

Occurring near a small Italian town, in 1954, this case also involved a woman's alarming solitary



Bernice Niblett heard laughter from barrel-shaped UFO.

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encounter with an object we might more mundanely describe as barrel-shaped but which Rosa Lotti said looked like a "spindle". One newspaper rephrased that to read "like two bells joined together at their bases," which sounds quite similar to what Bernice Niblett saw. As in the case of Miss Niblett, who had several such sightings, Rosa Lotti, a 40-year-old peasant woman, was alone in a wooded area when she had her strange experience. In her instance, however, the events were even more bizarre.

When Rosa first saw the object, measuring over two metres in length, it was standing vertically on the ground. As she stopped and watched in amazement, two little beings emerged from behind the device.

"Almost like men, but the size of children," was her description.

About one metre in height, they were wearing a sort of gray overall, all in one piece, including the feet. On their backs they had short cloaks of a gray material, and over their overalls they wore doublets fastened right up to the collar, with little buttons "like shining stars." Their trousers were tight-fitting "like the long underpants that our men wear in the winter." Their faces, crowned by helmets, were normal but small. Both were no taller than a five-year-old child, but their bodies were in proportion.

"It would have taken two of those things to make a man," Rosa said, "but they were fine looking, even though rather old."

Vigorous, lively, they were talking away "as though they were Chinese. They kept saying 'liu,' 'loi,' 'lau,' 'loi,' 'lai,' 'liu.'" (Creighton's comment:



Artist's impression of the incident, from *La Comenica del Corriere*.

"Rosa Lotti's comparison is good. These are all very typical sounds in Chinese.") Rosa recalled they had magnificent eyes, full of intelligence.

While the two little creatures looked friendly, and the older one of the two was laughing as if to show his pleasure, their actions were strangely aggressive. They grabbed a bunch of flowers and one of two black stockings Rosa was carrying and threw them into the "spindle" through a small opening. But then they stepped back and removed two white circular packages from the machine which they apparently meant to present to her as a gift.

Rosa, however, thought only of escape. As the two beings turned toward her again, she fled on through the woods. After running for several seconds, she looked back. Everything had vanished.

Later she gave this description of the object: "In the thickened part of the spindle, it had two portholes on opposite sides to each other, and in the centre between them there was a little door, enabling me to see, inside, two little kiddie-chairs set back to back, each of them facing towards one of the portholes."

She had the impression the outside was covered by leather, or at any rate by a metal resembling leather.

Turning back to the experience of Bernice Niblett on her lonely island, we wonder now if there were two little men inside those "red flashers" she saw. It sounds as if they were similar in appearance to the object seen by Rosa Lotti. Obviously they were intelligently controlled and at one point she thought one came in for a landing.

There is one other detail common to both cases that may be the key one in establishing they are related - that of laughter.

Rosa Lotti's remark that one of the two little men she met was laughing reminded us of an incident described by Bernice Niblett that we did not mention in our story. She said that one night as she watched a "red flasher" it swooped down close to where she stood and emitted what distinctly sounded like a burst of laughter before speeding away without another sound. She said it scared her almost out of her wits.

When she wrote after the story appeared asking why we had not mentioned the incident, we could only reply lamely that it was not in her written account. But perhaps the truth was it sounded too incredible in a report that was already strange enough.

We plead guilty there to a little self censorship. While not doubting Miss Niblett in any respect, we

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found it difficult to include that small but extraordinary detail without making the whole story unacceptable to those who did not have the opportunity we did to hear the witness and question her. In light of the Italian incident, however, it is important we now mention it. This matter of laughter in both cases is totally unexpected and so makes it a most significant detail.

Now the question is, what's the joke?

EXAMPLE TWO

Many aspects of ufology are so elusive (such as seeing a UFO for one's own satisfaction) that at times it seems we are dealing with something completely devoid of substance. But then two random bits of the puzzle seem to fall into place, and all at once it again looks very real indeed.

Here is an example. In an earlier issue (vol. 2, no. 4) we discussed a case at Rosedale, Alberta, in which three witnesses observed a strange squarish object that disappeared before they could examine it more closely next day. However, it did leave behind a procession of equally strange single-file tracks that resembled those of an earlier case in Texas, and both sets in turn were reminiscent of the case in Devonshire, England, in the winter of 1855 when similar tracks were found in the snow across a large area of the countryside. (The spacing between imprints in the Texas and Devonshire cases was identical, making it a remarkable piece of the puzzle all by itself.)

"Since in the two contemporary cases the tracks led from an observed object," we noted, "it would appear they were made by a secondary device for maybe just the same exploratory purpose that Apollo crews drive their rovers on the moon. Stretching our imagination a bit, we can picture the device as a single wheel with traction-giving pads projecting from its rim and its balance maintained by gyroscopic effect. In motion it might resemble a flying saucer rolling along on its edge."

Then coincidence played a hand, as it sometimes does when you are looking for it. Soon after publication of that issue we received a new issue (vol. 18, no. 4, July-August 1972) of Britain's excellent *Flying Saucer Review* containing an article on a strange object, evidently remotely controlled, seen rolling along a German road. It was a most unusual incident but what particularly caught our attention was a footnote by Gordon Creighton referring to a piece titled *Cross-Country Cog Wheels* by editor Charles Bowen in a 1966 edition of FSR.

Answering our request, Bowen kindly sent us one of his few back-copies on hand. Among other details his article carried a quote from the *France-Soir* concerning an incident at the Vosges on March 26, 1966, which said in part:

"On Saturday at 13.30 hours," said the shepherd (Jean Voilquin) "I was watching the sheep at a place about two kilometres from the farm. Suddenly I saw a sort of vertical wheel coming towards me. It approached rapidly at a speed of 25-30 km. p.h. . . Its circumference was red and had cogs. It followed the terrain perfectly: each time a cog touched the ground there was a slight sound . . . My two dogs set off after it, but its speed was absolutely constant and did not vary when it crossed a slight dip in the ground. It was about 200 metres from me when it disappeared."

As Bowen had expected, the fine UFO magazine *Phenomenes Spatiaux*, published by GEPA, carried a more detailed account of the incident soon after the newspaper story appeared. So he added:

"From the report of the GEPA investigator we learn that in the Vosges, March 26 was a very windy day. Furthermore, as it approached M. Voilquin, the 'cog wheel' was seen to be 'milky white in color, not dazzling white,' and it was rolling over a ploughed field. As it approached the sheep, the animals huddled in fear of it. It was about the size of an 80 centimetre tyre, about 15-20 cms. thick and it had a small bulge in its central part.' We learn too that the cog teeth were vivid red, and that there were probably ten or twelve of them.

"Once the object had passed him, M. Voilquin could see that it did not seem to be really running on the ground as a proper wheel would do, but was brushing the ground or contouring it. Later when checking with his employer, the shepherd calculated that he had watched the wheel over a distance of at least 700 metres (about half a mile) and that in all that distance there was not the slightest wobble or deviation. It should be noted too that it was running towards the north, across the path of the gusty south westerly wind."

Despite wet muddy ground, the device left no tracks.

Bowen noted there had been another somewhat similar case in France in 1955. Resembling a wheel standing just above the grass, the object in that case was also white, hot dazzling, and it also had projections on its rim. However, the projections were of "varying length" and were "white, or yellowish or blue, and were in movement around the rim of the wheel."

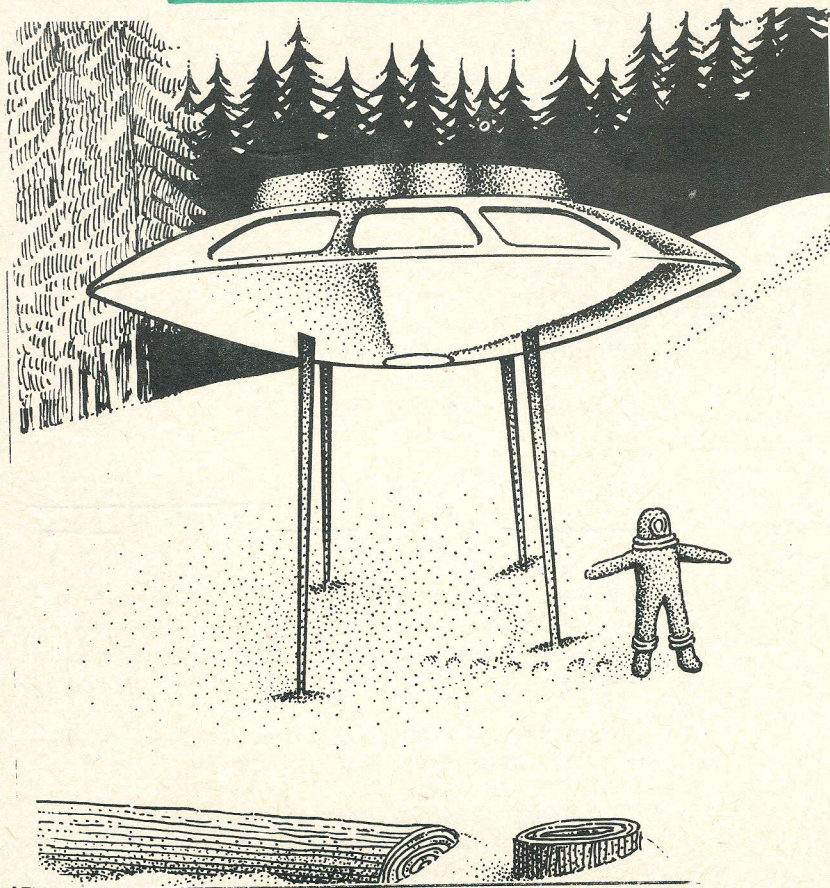
Then came the point that reminded us with a jolt of our own words. To quote Bowen:

"So much for the present day cases, and now let us indulge in a little speculation. What if the ground at Tranqueville-Graux (scene of the shepherd's

sighting) had been covered with snow on March 26? It is conceivable that there might have been some marks left by the vivid red cog teeth. This is what Jean Latappy (who sent the *France-Soir* clipping) had in mind when he asked in his letter if this could be the explanation of the 'Beast of Devonshire.'"

Apparently for more than 100 years - and probably far beyond that - our space visitors have been engaged in measuring the contents of this planet with an enormously sophisticated instrument we might clumsily compare to some sort of mobile remotely controlled geiger counter. In the case of the wheel seen at the Vosges, the sound given off each time a cog touched the ground was presumably received and recorded in some distant skylab. In other cases we have noted how flying objects follow contours of the terrain below, presumably for the same purpose, and the mind boggles at the thought of the immense knowledge that some civilization has out there of the earth we like to think of as our own.

But perhaps the real significance of these cases is the number of clues pointing to the apparent fact that the wheel described here does indeed exist. It seems to add up to another small piece falling into place in this infinitely complex puzzle.



EXAMPLE THREE 7-777

For the third set of matching cases, let's turn first to a carefully researched article on levitation experiences prepared for us by W.K. Allan of Kelowna, B.C. (also in vol. 2, no. 5). From his extensive files Allan produced a case reported in the *APRO Bulletin* of Sept. - Oct. 1971 concerning an incident in Brazil. After describing how a man named Silveira was pulled from his car one September night in 1971 by the influence of two beams of light and dragged toward a large central light, the *Bulletin* report continued:



"He then became aware of three objects, man-shaped and about 50 centimeters (about 20 inches) tall, which moved toward him. (At no time does Silveira refer to these objects as beings.) They moved mechanically, holding their arms at right angles to their 'bodies' . . . Once inside the UFO (or central light), Silveira says, he saw three beings, all of whom were dressed the same; in blue 'siren suits' with a smooth covering on their heads which reminded him of Roman helmets. Their hands and faces were gray but he could discern no features. The hands, he said, appeared to be transparent."

Now we have coincidence once more. In a *Flying Saucer Review* issue (Vol. 17, no. 5) of precisely

*A stiff little figure with outstretched arms seems to be another member of UFO fraternity. This drawing by Brian James, based on illustration in *Flying Saucer Review*, depicts an incident in Finland (p. 7) observed by two woodsmen. Figures like this also appeared in Brazilian incident.*

the same date as the APRO *Bulletin* (Sept.-Oct. 1971) there is an account of an incident in Finland that occurred April 4, 1971, just five months before the Brazilian episode.

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In the Finnish instance a young woodsman, Petter Aliranta, in company with another who at first did not see what was happening, watched a saucer-shaped vehicle land on the snow-covered ground and a small being emerge from it in a gliding manner.

The FSR report, written by Tapani Kuningas, chairman of the Interplanetarians Association at Helsinki, and translated by Elis W. Grahn, continued:

"After this, the being started approaching Aliranta. Its movements were very stiff and the steps short. The being looked like a space-man or robot, and was less than 1 metre tall, perhaps 90 cms. The body was covered with a one-piece suit of a green colour. The head had the same cover, and in the middle of it was a sort of lens facing forwards. The hands were round at the tips and no fingers could be seen. The 'boots' at the feet were a uniform part of the dress, and green as well.

"The humanoid seemed to move in a strange way on top of the snow surface; it did not go down into the deep snow as one would have expected . . . Within the saucer, other entities were now visible . . . and through one (window) on the right side three moving forms were visible, human like, although no features or details could be seen."

Outside, the figure approaching Aliranta suddenly reversed direction and started back toward the saucer. This encouraged the youth to make a grab for it, whereupon the figure simply rose in the air and reentered the saucer, which then flew off.

Without splitting hairs over blue or green uniforms and a slight difference in height (in both incidents the figures were no more than three feet tall), the similarities in these two cases are unmistakable. Some sort of levitating force was involved in each case, the uniforms were of the same style (in the FSR illustration of the Finnish case the headpiece closely resembles a "Roman helmet"), the figures' movement were stiff and mechanical (in the FSR drawing the arms are stretched out at right angles, exactly as described in the Brazilian case), and hands were either fingerless or transparent. Although it is not clear what total number of occupants was involved in each instance, there is mention of a group of three in both cases.

With matching details like these, we cannot overlook this stiff little figure with outstretched arms as another likely member of the UFO fraternity.

EXAMPLE FOUR

In contrast to the elfin types and the robot types who are distinctly strange to us are those ufoccupants who, for better or worse, seem very much like ourselves.

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One case involving such beings that we came to know particularly well occurred New Year's morning, 1970, outside the Cowichan District Hospital on Vancouver Island (vol. 1, no. 7). Readers may recall how Miss Doreen Kendall, a nurse in the elderly patients' ward, saw a strange bright light as she was opening the curtains of a window. Looking out, she saw a luminous circular object in mid-air with two human-like figures sitting inside under a transparent dome. As she watched, the object tilted so she could see most of the interior and was able to study an instrument panel facing the occupants.

In light of the matching case that follows, this quote from our report becomes especially significant:

"At this point, almost as if her thoughts were being read, she saw the figure in the rear (they were seated one behind the other) turn slowly and face squarely in her direction.

"He seemed to look right at me but I couldn't see his face. It was covered by a darkish material . . . I'm sure he saw me because then he touched the other man on the back."

"Miss Kendall said that what followed, possibly because of her interest in mechanics, made a sharper impression on her than anything else in the entire incident.

"When the man in back did this, the one in front reached down and took hold of something like a lever beside him. I'll never forget how deliberately he did it. He pushed it back and forth and the saucer, or whatever you'd call it, started to circle slowly . . ."

As other nurses came to the window, the object moved away and disappeared.

Now, for a striking example of similarity in occupants' behavior, let's look at a case reported in *Phenomenes Spatiaux*. While this fine publication is on our exchange list, so that in the normal course of events we would have read the article anyway, its director, Rene Fouere, kindly made a special note of the page for us because he too was impressed by the matching details.

The article is reprinted in French from the Argentinian journal *La Voz del Pueblo*, with comments by ufologist Christian Vogt, and concerns an



Two ufoccupants seemed to know Miss Kendall was watching.

incident that happened about 10:30 p.m., Dec. 29 (coincidentally close to New Year's!) 1972, in the town of Tres Arroyos near Buenos Aires. There were two reported witnesses: a domestic servant, Ventura Maceiras, 73, and his nephew. However, the boy fled as soon as the object appeared and he did not join in the testimony.

1.972

According to Maceiras, he was close to the municipal park when he heard a loud humming and, looking up, saw a large, illuminated circular object apparently touching the tops of the eucalyptus trees about 50 feet in height. (See illustration in Letters section). It had a rotating ring around the bottom which was giving off sparks, and tubes underneath also throwing sparks. Through the windows on his side he could see numerous instruments and a blue curtain with yellow designs. (Note this description of the UFO does not tally closely with that of the Cowichan hospital incident where the interior was visible through a transparent dome. But was there a folding canopy to explain that major difference?)

Now for the witness' key words:

(H) "All at once as I was shouting and waving, the 'saucer' began to tip and I could see it held two persons dressed as if in diving suits. There was some sort of tube connected to a box on their backs (not mentioned in Cowichan). I saw them for just an instant, a minute or maybe less, but the light all around - it was like the middle of day - enabled me to see everything. There was a smell of sulphur or arsenic in the air. The 'saucer' hovered there for a while and the two inside were watching me and gave me the impression of communicating with each other and wanting me to have a good look at them and their machine which, in a moment, moved off very slowly toward the east."

The similarity of this performance to what Miss Kendall observed thousands miles farther north and three years earlier is so striking there can be little doubt the same species of visitors was involved in both cases. Moreover they are visitors who resemble us not only in appearance but, to judge from their apparent instinctive understanding of the witness' curiosity, in mental process as well.

As Rene Fouere so capably expresses it:

"To explain the reaction of the pilots, a telepathic phenomenon must be involved, as the occupants of the machine observed the witness and could understand, as if they knew how to interpret human behavior, that the witness wished to have a better look at them and their craft. This condition which enables them to understand the significance of our gestures, would lead us to believe that the occupants were biologically and psychologically and psychologically akin to ourselves."

Little Men

In Sweden

(H) Thanks to a translation by Mrs. Elin Graeper of Errington, B.C., we have the following account of "little men in green" reprinted in part from UFO INFORMATION published in Motala, Sweden. (We are indebted also to Christa Franke of Edmonton, Alberta, for keeping us advised of this publication.) While the story might be dismissed as just another leprechaun-type fantasy, note the reference to a chemical smell, a blue-violet light and a surrounding mistiness. These are all mentioned occasionally in modern UFO reports. It is thought occupants may have a chemical process, sometimes smelling like sulphur or iodine, to enable them to breathe our air.

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Late one night, just after the New Year 1931 the farm-worker Helge Erickson, now about 65 years of age, went home to his place of work after a visit with a friend on a neighboring farm.

(H) He wasn't far from home when he saw 10-12 very small men (about three feet tall) coming toward him. They talked among themselves very loudly in a strange language and, although they seemed nearly to float, it sounded as if a whole army was walking through the snow.

Although he had the feeling they observed him, close as he was to them, they didn't pay him any attention. They were about 50 metres away when he first saw them in the clear moonlit night. The little men all had beards and were wearing a kind of dark green uniform, and their heads seemed abnormally large in contrast to their bodies. There was a strong kind of chemical smell when they passed by. The snow was extremely hard (perhaps that is why there were no tracks) as they went in goose formation towards a blue-violet light that was surrounded by a misty cloud.

He heard a strange whining sound, then the light with the little men disappeared.

In contrast to this Swedish account of little men reportedly seen more than 40 years ago was an item in the Swedish newspaper *Aftonbladet*, also translated for us by Mrs. Graeper. Headed "Did people from Mars celebrate New Year's Eve (1972) over Scandinavia?" the item said:

The captain of a jet aircraft filled with vacationers was coming in for a landing over Bergen, Norway, when suddenly through the cockpit window he saw seven glaring white