place in the same area of Haute-Marne and in the same year, 1956. Between 7.15 and 7.30 p.m., local time, on September 27, 1956, at Darmannes, Monsieur Pierre C—, resident at Chaumont, was travelling along the Route Nationale No. 65, when he was paralysed with astonishment at the sight of an enormous blue disc-shaped UFO with a dome and portholes emitting a bluish light of the brightness of magnesium. The eyewitness experienced a number of physi-

cal effects: he felt as though being immersed in a "bath of frying oil," and his hair stood on end. The engine of his car cut out and his lights failed.

A little earlier on the same evening, a carpenter returning home to Chaumont in Haute-Marne along Route Nationale 67, saw an enormous luminous mass which took off and flew away, terrifying him.

Recently there has been a certain recrudescence of UFO phenomena around Nogent-en-Bassigny.

# World round-up

Republic of China (Tibet)

"Saturn" UFO changes rotation

From the *Mainichi Daily News* of Friday, August 7, 1981, we learn that—

"An unidentified flying object (UFO) was sighted on July 24 in the northern part of the sky over Tibet, Peking's Xinhua news agency reported Wednesday.

"Quoting a meteorological official in the region, it said a bright object which appeared to be about the size of a table tennis ball, [apparent size to observers, not actual size? — EDITOR], surrounded by a ring of blue-white light of variable brightness, moved from east to west at an estimated speed of 120 kilometers per minute for seven minutes.

"As it moved, he said, the center of the object brightened and began rotating in the opposite direction to the movements of its surrounding rings, which began to dim and widen at the same time.

"He observed six rings during the first three to four minutes and the outermost ring grew to between 20 meters and 30 meters in diameter.

"As the center dimmed, the rings faded but then the brightness of the ring of blue-white light around the object increased, the official said.

"He added that the object emitted no sound."

Credit: Yusuke J. Matsumura of Yokohama, Japan.

## India

# University lecturer blames it all on UFOs!

The following item is taken from an un-named English-language newspaper (possibly the *Times of India*)

and is datelined "New Delhi, December 11th" [1981]—

"If you live in Delhi you should know that you have been a victim of the havoc wrought by what scientists term unidentified flying objects (UFO). Meet Mr. Swadesh Kumar Trikha, physics lecturer, Delhi University.

"You produce a disaster, any disaster — from tidal waves to train accidents, to power failures or even floods — and the lecturer will produce a UFO.

"Mr. Trikha has been chasing a UFO which unleashed a tornado in 1978 in the capital and was first 'sighted' by Mr. Shatrughan Shukla of model town.

"Mr. Trikha, working on the premise that the object ejected radio-active waste, investigated the path of the university tornado with a geiger counter and 'discovered that the areas of maximum destruction registered 50 to 55 per cent higher radioactivity than the surrounding areas.' The Miranda house library wall displayed a large black patch previously unnoticed by the librarian, apparently caused by a concentrated energy burst form the UFO.

"Excessively high radioactivity had been recorded in other parts of the country visited by disasters: the trans-Yamuna colonies cyclone in 1979, the ensuing destructive hailstorms, the Machu dam burst, Ganga Yamuna floods, the Andhra Pradesh cyclone and tidal wave, the U. P. mass power breakdown and even the June 1981 train disaster in Bihar where the carriages fell into the Bagmati.

"Addressing a national seminar on the UFO mystery yesterday at the department of physics and astrophysics, Mr. Trikha said in hushed tones that UFOs were being used by foreign

## of news and comment about recent sightings

countries (and even other planets) for 'environmental warfare' and 'international spying.' The device is reputedly 'very clear,' as on one occasion it skipped over a three-storey building. 'Had it hit the building we would have caught it,' he said."

Credit Jal N. D. Tata of Colabar, Bombay, India.

#### Brazil

### Did UFOs kill four hunters?

The American tabloid, the National Enquirer, carried a sensational story in its issue of December 29, 1981, in which claims were made that four Brazilian hunters from the town of Parnarama (p. 3000) in the northern part of the country, had separately suffered violent death meted out by a UFO, or UFOs. The local police chief, Geraldo dos Santos Magela, told Enquirer staff writers Muldoon and Richman, that—

"'As police chief it's my job to verify these reports, to determine if the deaths were caused by a UFO or if the reports were products of the imagination. Imagination... no. It was a UFO.

"'The men died while the UFO was directly above them, and the other hunters with them were terrified. They came to me asking for help.

"'At first I didn't take the reports seriously. But by early November, when the entire region was in a panic, I had to take them seriously.'"

Details of the gruesome deaths followed.

"The first hunter was killed on October 17. The victim, Abel Boro, went hunting with a friend, Ribamar Ferreira. They saw what appeared to be a bright star — but then it descended and hovered over the two terrified men, focusing its light on Boro.

"'When it descended it was so bright that night became day,' Ferreira told *The Enquirer*. 'I got frightened and climbed down from the tree I was in — my favourite hunting spot.

"The UFO cruised around us and stopped right above the tree Abel was in. It was like a giant truck tire, all lit up and spinning around and doing something bad to Abel, because he

was shaking with fear.

"'I decided to run for help, but then I heard the screams from Abel. I turned around and saw all that light from the UFO was surrounding him and his body was all glittering.

"'I don't know how I managed to run, but I got home and passed out. The next morning I went to Abel's house and he hadn't come home. His family and I went to the spot (where he had last seen Abel) and there he was — dead. His body was all white. He didn't have a drop of blood in him. The UFO — it sucked Abel's life, like a space vampire."

The next report told how Anastacio Barbosa stated that he and his friend Raimundo Souza ran for their lives when a large object dropped from the sky and beamed a light at them in the woodlands. Raimundo tripped and fell, and before he could rise the light focussed on him. Barbosa prayed, and ran. Raimundo's body was found next morning: it was totally white.

The third victim was José Vitorio, who was lying in a hammock in the woods, with his hunting companion nearby. Suddenly a flying object descended over the hammock and shone brightly. The companion ran for help, but when they returned Vitorio was found to be dead.

The witness to the fourth killing was José dos Santos who fired five shots at a UFO which, he alleged, was chasing him. He contrived to escape.

Dos Santos had seen a friend working at the top of a hill when an object appeared and shone a beam of light at him. Said Santos: "He received a shock and came rolling down the hill. He went crazy for three days. He was terrorised. Then he died."

Credit: Gerald Garces of Rialto, California.

[Our only wish is that responsible local investigators could double-check such a seemingly crazy story. There is evidence in the "Enquirer" account of much hysteria in the town, and among its officials, and we are left with a suspicion that the police chief supports the UFO theory either as a cover for his actual line of enquiry, or because he has no other ideas. The main difficulty, of course, is that enormous distances are involved, even for Brazilian investigators who, if they were based in Rio de Janeiro, would be faced with a journey of about 1200 miles each way, and into some pretty wild country, - EDITOR.]

# MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's fullname and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

UFO flap in Turkey

Dear Mr. Bowen, — Since mid-December 1981 a major UFO-flap has been occurring over Turkey. As this phenomenon is still continuing with most interesting sightings being reported from certain regions of Turkey nearly every day, I have not been able as yet to finalise its documentation. Therefore for the present I can

only give you an outline of the said flap in the form of a list of sightings.

Although the UFO-flap has stirred much excitement among the Turkish people, and the state officials at Aksaray, Niğde called for a thorough scientific investigation at the site, on January 14 two scientists tried to deny the phenomenon on TV without even taking the trouble to visit the locations. And just before the scientists'

TV interview began, a UFO appeared over Havsa, Edirne, and next day, as listed above, three sightings occurred one after another in central, western and north-western Turkey. In the long run I hope to document the Turkish flap in detail, and send you a copy of my report.

This UFO-flap is certainly related to the Supreme Function Turkey is going to carry out in the very near

Date	Location	Time	Brief Info
from 15 Dec '81 till 9 Jan '82	Aksaray, Niğde	mostly around 7.30 pm	mostly a bright egg-shaped object
late Dec '81	Mugla	?	
1 Jan '82	Adana airport	7.00 pm	Saucer-shaped
4 Jan '82	Istanbul	11.30 pm	Alt: 100 m. — Green
6 Jan '82	Eceabat, Canakkale	?	Bright objects
10 Jan '82 and 14 Jan '82	Havsa, Edirne	around 9.30 pm	Egg-shaped at 500 m. Mushroom shaped
15 Jan '82	a-) Niğde b-) Havsa c-) Izmir	7.30 pm 9.30 pm 11.30 pm	Elliptical Two bright objects Flaming object