

describes the object seen as "a toy balloon". The article was also accompanied by three photographs from the case, published exclusively by the weekly.

Following upon the appearance of that article, we lodged a further request with the Ministry of Defence on April 22, 1985, asking for copies of the three above-mentioned photos so that we might be able to verify their authenticity and draw the correct conclusions.

Then finally, on June 21, 1985, the Ministry of Defence sent us copies of the three photos published by "EPOCA", as we had requested.

Evident Discrepancies

During our examination of the photos released by the Ministry of Defence, *we have detected evident anomalies, which are bolstered by the fact that in the course of our investigations we had been able to have sight of a photo from the series of eighty photograms that were taken.* The appearance and the shape of the object which is shown in the photos now published by the magazine and sent to us subsequently by the Ministry of Defence ARE REMARKABLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OBSERVED BY US IN THE ORIGINAL PHOTO.

A statement by Cecconi asserts that the object photographed by him presented itself always in the same position, and was consequently always photographed from the side. *Which is not shown by the changes of position in relation to the ground and to the horizon found in the photographs released by the Ministry of Defence.* A further important point is that in the photo seen by us during our earlier investigations a part of the Sant'

Angelo di Treviso military airfield was clearly visible, some of the hangars being detectable.

But while we may well dwell upon the incongruities in the photos issued by the Ministry, which we are at present in no position to confront with the one originally seen by us, the considerations and therefore the conclusions adduced in the case AROUSE CONSIDERABLE ASTONISHMENT. The fact that "the balloon made of plastic bags" should have driven the airfield's radar crazy with its sudden disappearances and reappearances *immediately suggests some totally anomalous sort of behaviour.* The very presence of the balloon, the lightness of which should have offered no resistance to the air currents that occur at high altitudes, and the very air displacements caused by the turns executed by the aircraft would surely have produced numerous oscillations and disordered movements by the "balloon", whereas the object seen by Cecconi maintained a perfect stability while continuing on its almost imperceptible upward course.

But the case is not finished with, for the facts are even more confused by what has now been said about it in the "Summary of UFO Sightings From March 1979 to April 1985" put out by the General Staff of the Italian Air Force, for, in it, the Cecconi Case of June 18, 1979 (No. 1 in the List) carries the wording: "UNIDENTIFIED".

* * * * *

*NOTE BY EDFTOR, FSR

At the date in question, August 1984, Signor Antonio Chiumiento was the Vice-President of the Italian National UFO Research Centre (C.U.N.). Since then, however, another Italian group has been established by him. This is the C.I.S.U. (Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici).

UFO REPORTS FROM POLAND

Bronislaw Rzepecki

Founder and Co-ordinator of the Groupe de Recherche OVNI (Kraków UFO Research Group), P.O. Box 71, 30-529, KRAKÓW-14, Poland). (Established in 1985).

(Translation from French and from Polish)

This most interesting report from Poland has just been published in our splendid French contemporary, *Lumières Dans La Nuit* (No. 271/272, January-February 1987; and No. 273/274, March-April 1987), and we have translated it and hereby express our indebtedness and thanks to Monsieur Veillith, Monsieur Lagarde, and their Editorial Committee.

A part of the Report, namely that section relating to the extraordinary sighting at Chalupy, was already sent to us a year or two ago from an entirely different source in Poland, namely Mr Henryk Kowalski of Torun. Our belated thanks, therefore, also to Mr Kowalski. Incidentally his version (in Polish) contained some elements that are absent from Mr Rzepecki's. I have therefore rendered these into English from Polish, with the help of Mr Marek Dabczak, to whom we likewise tender our thanks. — EDITOR

I THE UFO OVER THE ZAKOPANE POWER PLANT

Date: January 17, 1979

Investigator: Nikodem Butrymowicz (OVNI VIDEO Investigation Group. Warsaw.)

POLICE Officer Anton Szredler was on his way to work, at about 06.05 a.m., when suddenly his attention was caught by a brightness over the Tatra Mountains. There were two lights, one over the meteorological station, at 30° above the horizon, and a second identical bright light immediately beneath the first one. Suddenly the upper object moved downwards at great speed, then passed over some recently erected buildings and paused briefly above Mt. Swidnica. Arriving at the Police Station, he got a camera from the office, and took a series of photographs, from the sec-

ond floor balcony, between 6.20 and 7.10 a.m. During this time the object (he is now speaking of only one object, not two) seemed to have moved further away, westwards, and now looked smaller, its original size having been about a quarter of that of the full Moon.

The matter does not end there however, for there was another witness, Jozef Kojs, an employee of the Zakopane Power Plant. There is a hydroelectrical installation located about 200 metres to the south of the station of the funicular railway for Mts. Kasprowy and Koznice. On the day in question, Jozef Kojs was just about to finish his shift, and was awaiting his relief, at about 6.00 a.m. Suddenly, at about 06 07, the strength of the 24 V accumulators dropped, and shortly after that the 220 V accumulators failed too. Even his pocket torch no longer worked. The turbo-generators were whistling furiously, but producing no power.

Then suddenly, amid the darkness, as he related it, "I saw a great yellow light come shooting in through the window, so powerful that you could have seen a needle on the floor... The whistling noise seemed to be coming from the generators, but also from outside: it sounded like a jet aircraft taking off from a runway. I went out to look and although, at that time of the night, it ought to have been perfectly dark, I saw a ball of light passing over the generating-station and emitting a shaft of yellow light, illuminating an area on the snow-covered ground some 50-70 metres in diameter. And the entire generating-station was also lit up by it. The ball of light and its yellow shaft were moving slowly, at about a man's walking speed. The noise was like that of a jet aircraft, and it disappeared beyond Klatowski. The ball of light did not seem to me to be very large — maybe say somewhat smaller than the apparent size of the Moon. It did not shake or tremble, and its contours were slightly misty..."

After the disappearance of the object, the power of the various generators returned. The incident had lasted for between three and five minutes.

II FLYING OBJECT OVER TOWN OF PIASTOW Date: May 22, 1979

Investigator: Krzysztof Piechota (ACS Contact Group). The eyewitness Waldemar R— was going from his home to a café situated in the park of the town of Piastow. It was a clear, fresh evening; he was walking quickly, and reached the park about 10 p.m. Suddenly, vivid shining lights appeared in front of him. Astonished, he perceived that, floating at a height of a few score centimetres above the concrete path and quite near to him, was a dark object from the upper part of which two bright beams of light were emitted. And beneath the object, and slightly to the rear of it, a third luminous beam was visible, about 15 cms. in length. The dark object, illuminated as it was by the yellow beams, seemed to have a shape something like an ice-hockey *puck*, and its size covered almost the entire width of the cement path, which was 3 m. wide.

Not knowing exactly why, the witness carried on walking towards the object, and halted when he was three metres from it. Then, suddenly, all around the periphery of the object, green geometrical shapes began to glow: triangles, squares, trapezoids, circles, all constantly flashing on and off, on various parts of the surface of the object.

The next development was that red lights began to appear on its upper side, forming as it were the letter "H" and taking up most of its surface area. And then came a flashing red light.

Next, the whole object started to glow a bluish white colour and a most remarkable aureole appeared around it. The witness felt heat and a burning sensation on his face, so he turned and fled back home.

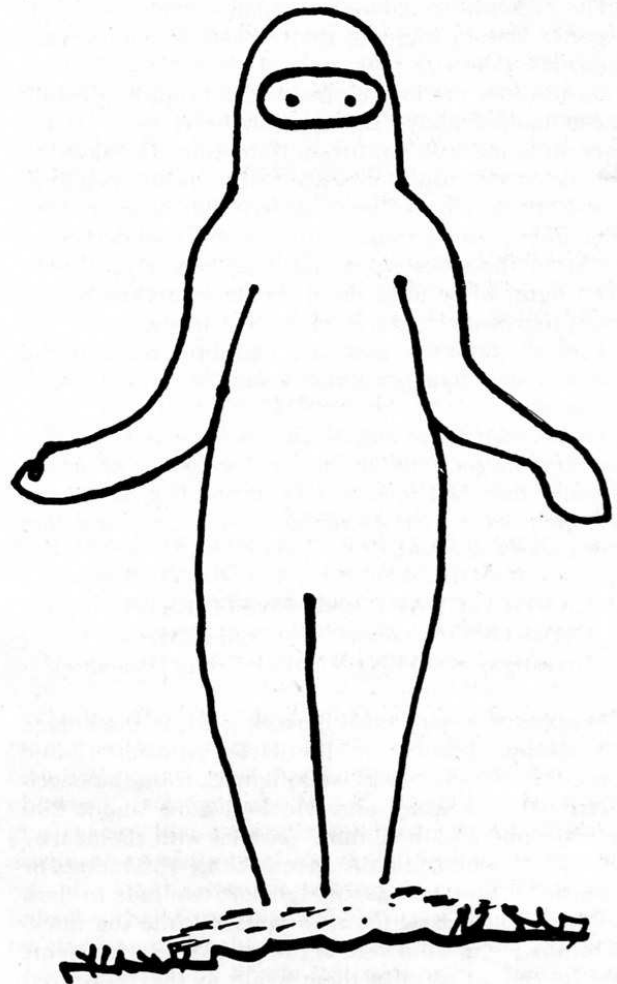
When he got out of bed next morning, he had the sensation as though something heavy was pressing down upon his head.

About two weeks later, burns appeared upon his face: painful small abscesses exuding a purulence that seemed to contain hardened drops of blood. No other traces were left by the incident.

III OBJECT AND OCCUPANTS SEEN AT CZLUCHOW Date: August 10, 1979

Investigator: Krzysztof Piechota (ACS Contact Group)

It was a fine evening, and a resident of Czluchow was putting out his boat on to the local lake, when he



Czluchow August 10th, 1979

suddenly noticed "a long, dark object" moving over the surface of the water. At first it looked somewhat like a fishing-boat, but was moving very fast, in complete silence, and producing no waves. A few seconds later it vanished behind a small promontory.

A second eyewitness, who was on the shore, observed the same object, at the same time, travelling over the water, and watched it vanish behind the vegetation on the shore.

This second eyewitness called his dogs, and went with them towards the spot where the "craft" had reached the bank. But he had taken no more than twenty paces when he beheld, at a spot some 20 m. from the bank, two beings clad in black who were walking towards the forest. The dogs, smelling strangers, ran forward towards them. Whereupon the two beings swung round and faced the dogs and at once these stopped barking and turned back, while the two beings continued on their way towards the forest.

In the meantime the eyewitness had been able to note the following features: the beings were, he thought, 1 m. 50 in height, hermetically garbed in what resembled divers' overalls. At the level where the eyes would be, they had a kind of glass panel (see eyewitness's sketch). Their hips were most disproportionately wide. Each had a sort of hump on the back of his neck, beneath the base of the head. From the knees downward, their legs were indistinct. And they were walking in a fashion very strange for bipeds: gliding along over the ground as though over a perfectly flat surface, even in places where the terrain in front of them was very uneven and irregular. They were walking with their hands on their hips and their fore-arms were curved.

The eyewitness shouted to them to halt, but their response was to increase their speed, and they vanished. He followed in search of them and glancing again towards the forest, observed a brightly glowing object floating above the tops of the trees, at a distance of some 100 m. or so from him. He saw the glowing object stop. It now seemed to be at a height of only 30 m. or so, and he could see that its shape was rectangular, with a smooth surface and rounded corners. From the sides it was flashing beams of bluish-green light, while towards the central part the beams were progressively nearer to a vivid white.

Then the craft was gone. He found no marks in the area where it had presumably landed, and no foot-prints.

To be noted is the very strange behaviour of the two dogs. Having got to within two or three metres of the humanoids, they had then fled in terror. For six months thereafter, their front paws were paralyzed, and they were under treatment.

IV LANDED CRAFT AND ENTITIES AT CHALUPY Date: August 8, 1981. Investigators: OVNI VIDEO Group (Warsaw).

At about 6.30 p.m. on August 8, 1981, in the village of Chalupy, situated on the Hel Peninsula (Baltic Coast), Mr. R— K— was walking back from the beach towards the camping site. He had gone about 200 metres, along a path running parallel with the nearby railway line when, at a distance of some 150 metres or so ahead of him, he caught sight of "two lads in dark clothing" who ran across and vanished into the thickets on the right-hand side of the path. A few moments later he caught sight of them again as they appeared in view on the path ahead of him. They were slimly built, about 1 metre 50 cms. in height, and dressed in green. Their faces also were green, and their eyes large and almond-shaped. They had no noses, but little lumps where they should be. For mouths they just had little slits, without lips. From the abdomen down to as far as the mid-thigh, the details of their body were hidden by a sort of mist. Hanging from their belts they had something like black boxes with violet-coloured and yellow cables, and spiral ribbons or wires.

"At the same moment", said the witness, "I caught sight of their craft, fairly far off on my right. It was silvery. And I received a telepathic message in my head from them. (*'Don't be afraid.'*) And I understood that they had no hostile intentions.

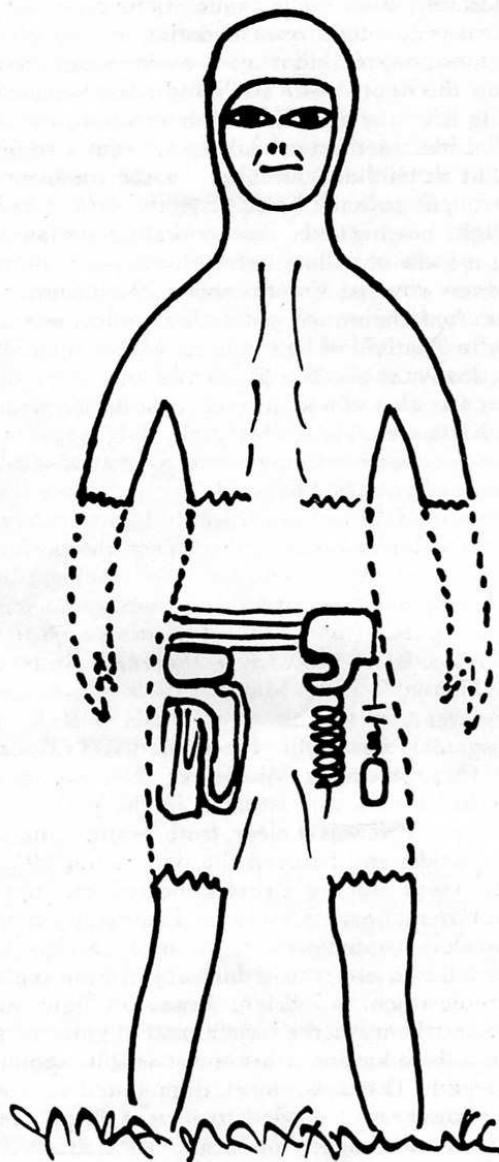
The two beings stepped off the path, leaving room for R.K. to pass. He carried on, walking slowly towards them, and when he was only 1.8 m. from them, he received another message. (*'Pass. Don't stop...'*)

When he was close to them he suddenly had the impression that he was passing through a sort of 'ball'. He said: "It was indescribable, I was receiving messages directly, all the time".

When he had gone some 20 metres past them, he looked back, but the beings had vanished.

Over on his right, their craft was poised above the grassy dune. It was a flattened, oblong disc, hanging in the air about 80 cms. from the ground. It was 5 or 6 m. long and 2 m. high, and the colour of pure silver, but misty. He could see no door, no markings, no antenna.

When he had walked on about a further 200 metres, R— K— encountered a middle-aged couple with their dog. It was very strange, for R— K— and other eyewitnesses have confirmed that this couple arrived from the beach a few minutes later than



Chalupy August 8th, 1981.

R— K—, coming along the same path as he but behind him, and yet the couple claimed to have seen nothing, and to have seen nobody on the path.

At the spot where the craft had been, seven marks, strangely distributed, were found. They could have represented two ovals some 2.5 m. to 2.7 m. in diameter, but irregular. Likewise, the distances between the marks were irregular. The marks were holes in the ground, 30 cms. in diameter and 15 cms. deep. There were no signs of burning or of any sort of abnormal heating of the soil.

Another strange thing was also noticed: It turned out that, when a reconstruction of the affair was carried out on the spot, R— K— had been on the path for some 12-15 minutes longer than he should have been. Where did he lose this time? And how? After a thorough examination of the facts one might suggest the following hypothesis: namely that R— K— might have taken a trip lasting about fifteen minutes — and which he no longer remembered — aboard a UFO.

Which are the features that might tend to confirm this theory? They are:—

- (1) The elderly couple had left the beach after him and appeared later ahead of him. But they had

seen neither R— K—, nor the humanoids, nor the craft, as they came along the path.

- (2) The witness had said himself that he had *“felt as though inside a ball”*. This might have been the UFO.
- (3) The marks on the ground show that a double landing might have taken place there, on four supports each time, in which case one of the seven holes in the ground could have been “common” to both the landings.
- (4) Another witness, who had been on the beach at the time, said he had seen a pink glowing shape fly away from the spot where, according to the statements of R— K—, the object had been when he was on the path. The other witness had paid no particular attention to this pink thing, and consequently he might not have noticed it taking off a second time had it done so.

[Mr Henryk Kowalski's Version of the Chalupy Story

This agrees almost word for word with the version by Mr Rzepecki which we have translated from French. However, it does also contain a little additional material.

Mr R— K—, the witness, was, he tells us, a sculptor and an artist, and accordingly well qualified to memorize the strange features of the two green-complexioned beings.

Describing the moment when he passed close by the two beings, the Kowalski version adds this: “I went past them with a shudder, not of fear but of emotion. When approaching them, there was one moment, which I cannot explain in words, as if I had penetrated into some sort of *sphere*. I cannot explain it. Something began to happen. Some sort of messages began to reach my conscious mind, as it were like some sort of *command*. Until now, I still have the strange feeling that I know some facts about something regarding which I know very little, but which I have already encountered before. These facts are already inside me, like a sort of skill (i.e., facts about the Universe, and about Cosmology, about which I have never been told, but which are now inside my consciousness, and I don't know from where they come.)”

Concerning the marks left on the ground by the craft, the Kowalski version has this additional material:—

“The marks formed an irregular oval shape some 2.5 m. × 2.7 m. There was no regularity concerning the spacing of the marks. They were bowl-shaped holes of diameter 30 cms. and depth 15 cms. In the inside of each hole it seemed that all the grass, sticks, leaves, etc. had been blown away. And the soil inside the holes seemed very hard. It seemed as though the holes had been formed by a powerful blast of air and radiation. There was no sign of combustion or charring of vegetation, or of fusion of sand under heat.

An hour after the incident, five photographs were taken of the site, but these turned out to be curiously *“under-exposed, as though something had interfered with the exposure of the film”*.

Mr R— K— also says that after the incident, the left hemisphere of his head felt numb. This numbness lasted for several days, but finally left him.

Finally, Mr Kowalski's version has this additional passage relating to the strange new subliminal “knowledge” acquired by R— K—:—

“Not until a long time afterwards did Mr R— K— realize a part of the information he had received: He said: It seems as though I could hear someone complaining as follows:—

“People! You have developed mentally at a great pace; during a period of a few thousands of years you have become intelligent, and you are putting much effort into technology and its uses. But you are paying too much heed to forces which you cannot control. You are playing with fire, which can destroy not only you and your civilization, but will also have a noticeable effect on the laws controlling your Galaxy”.

(R— K— said he felt that this might be a reference to *atomic energy*.)

Finally, says Mr Kowalski's version, R— K— stresses that he has no desire whatever to be regarded as a ‘chosen one’, or as ‘somebody special’. He says that psychologically he feels intensely tired. He would like to forget the whole incident. But, he cannot ...

G.C.]

V PHENOMENON OBSERVED AT LAKE RYCHNOWSKIE, NEAR CZLUCHOW

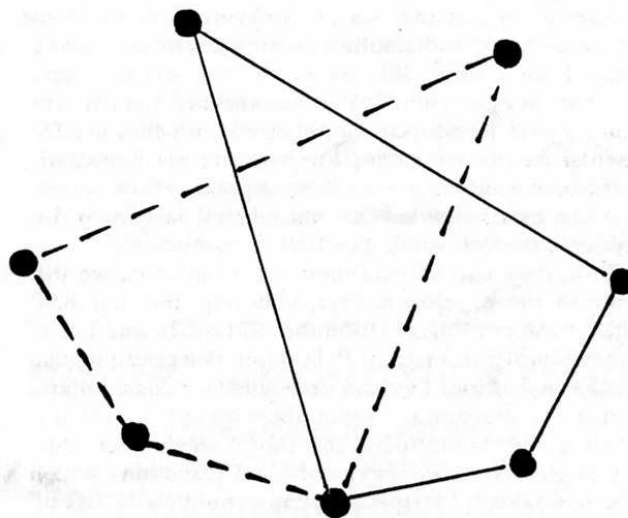
Date: early in May 1983

Investigator: Krzysztof Piechota (ACS Contact Group)

During the first days of May 1983, at approximately an hour after sunset, Mr Maciej Staszak was on a sailing boat on Lake Rychnowskie. Suddenly, he observed a strange cone of light, of no detectable origin, shaped like a trapezoid with its small side upwards, at an altitude of about 200 metres. Its colour was of a vivid yellowish, tending to white. When the light vanished from sight behind an island in the lake, he started to turn his craft, and during the few seconds following, he finally lost sight of the light. Subsequently it was calculated that the base of the trapezoidal cone of light could have been about 50 metres long and the smaller (upper) end about twenty metres. The sky was dark, with low clouds.

VI AN IMPORTANT SIGHTING OVER SOUTHERN POLAND ON DECEMBER 2, 1983

On December 2, 1983, at Zebrzydowice, six “lights” were seen at 7.30 p.m. by Krzysztof Klimek, some of them being bright yellow in colour, and the others bright red. They were moving very fast, and the sighting lasted some thirty seconds. Three of the “lights” left trails, the largest trail being like a great flaming torch ending in “ribbons”.



The marks on the ground.

At about 7.45 p.m., in the town of Brzeg, three separate witnesses saw four "lights" at a height estimated at somewhere around 1,500 metres. One of the witnesses said the "lights" he saw were square, one of them leaving luminous "spirals" or "whorls". Yet another witness said he saw four "lights", but noted no trails. These sightings at Brzeg lasted some 40-50 seconds. No sounds were reported.

Another report came from Roman Krempleski, who was riding his bicycle along the road from Piotrkow Kujawski to Opatowice when he observed twelve "lights", and mentioned the colours white, blue, red, and green. *He felt that it was a single object, shaped "like a ballpoint-pen"*, and that it was quite near, flying at a height of about 300 metres, and more slowly than an aircraft would do. This sighting lasted for several minutes. The object was totally silent, and he noticed that its "lights" seemed to leave four smoke-trails.

At another place, 2 kms, from there, Jan Grawleski and his son Krzysztof also observed "lights", some twenty in all, moving at about the speed of an aircraft and at a height of about 100 metres. They likewise noted four luminous "spirals" or "whorls" left by the "lights", and they too said that no sound was heard.

Another observer of these strange "lights" in the skies was Tadeusz Jasak of Piotrkow Trybunalski. He was driving home in his car, when he spotted three "lights" which he thought were at a height of 500-1,000 metres or so, and leaving luminous trails behind them. The sighting lasted one minute.

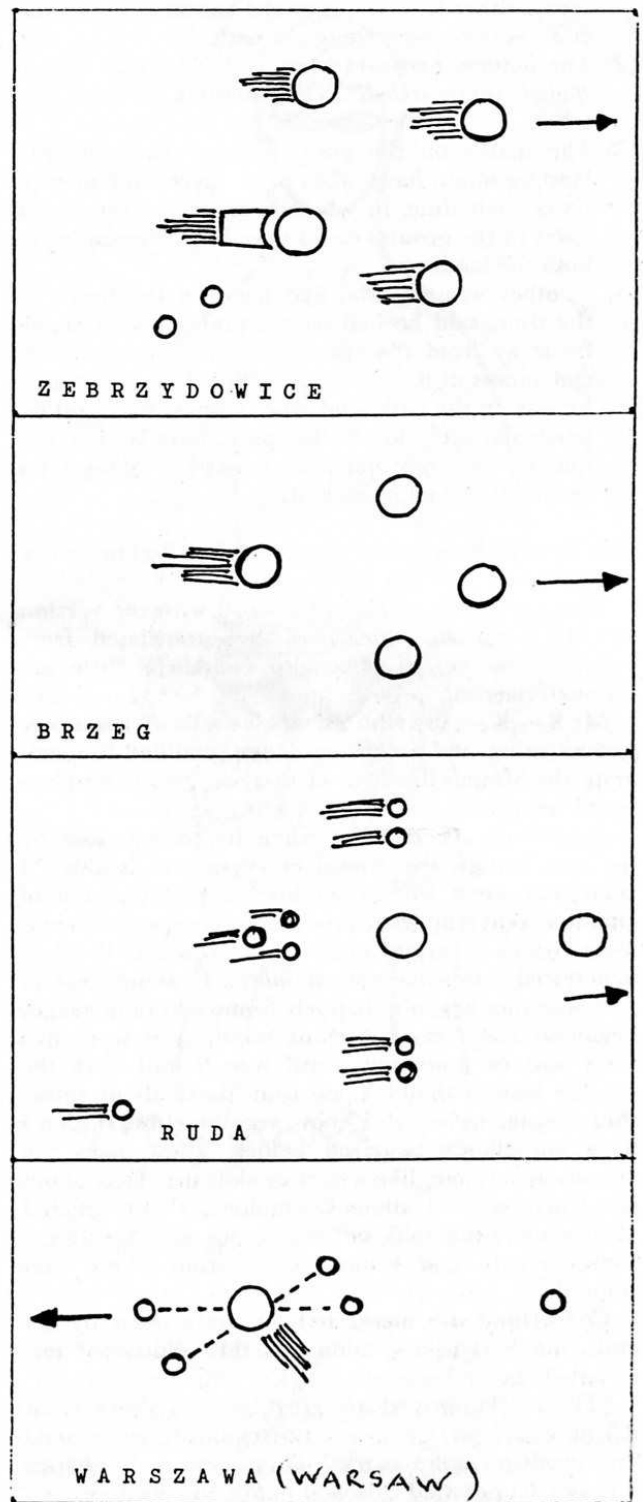
The next report was from Sieradz, where Grzegorz Domagalski saw ten "lights" followed by luminous "whorls". The sighting lasted one minute, and he thought they might have been at a height of 1,000 metres or so.

Next, in the village of Kolonia Ruda, a few kilometres from Skierniewice, at about 7.47 p.m., Marek Karczewski saw ten pulsating lights coming from the south-west. They changed colour, going from red to orange and then back to orange, with a frequency of about one *hertz* (i.e. about once per second.) They were moving slowly, leaving condensation trails. There was no sound, and the sighting lasted about 1½ minutes.

At 8.00 p.m. the "lights" were seen over the Capital, Warsaw, by the witness Witold Koczynski, who was out walking his dog. The lights passed from west to east above the street-lamps of Warsaw, and very low. There was one light at the front, followed by four more in formation, and in the centre of this formation there was one object emitting a powerful luminous beam. They were travelling slowly, at a speed of about 30 kms.p.h., he thought.

Another report also came from Warsaw, from a ten-year-old girl, Klaudia Allison, who was also out taking her dog for a walk. She saw the object pass over and then, on her way home, she met the last-named witness, Witold Koczynski, and chatted with him briefly. Then, a few minutes later, after having got home, she looked out of a window and saw a great yellow sphere standing motionless on the ground, and she saw it rise suddenly and move off slowly.

Now, if we compare all these sighting-times, we will come to the conclusion that, between 7.30 and 8.00 p.m. on the evening of December 2, 1983, a number of independent witnesses in Poland all observed the passage of mysterious "lights", and all the reports appear to relate to one and the same phenomenon, and that it was one object, and to suggest that it was seen at various angles and moving in various directions which would account for the varying number of "lights" noted and the varying combinations of those "lights". From the overall consideration of all the reports



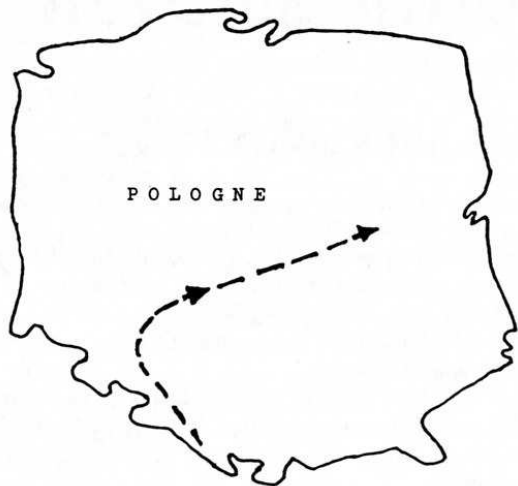
received, one can say that the object must have been "cross-shaped", possibly comparable to what was observed at Moigne Downs in England on October 26, 1967. (See Robert Chapman's *Flying Saucers Over Britain*, published by Mayflower Books Ltd., London, 1969.)

VII SIGHTING NEAR DABROWA GORNICZA

The next incident which I have to report in this series was tape-recorded by me.

The eyewitness, Elzbieta Pala, stated that, on a dark, moonless night, January 30, 1983, she was driving in her car from Czestochowa to Craców, with three other women as passengers.

At a spot about three kilometres after passing through Dabrowa Gornicza, the four women suddenly



Probable flight of the UFO of 2nd December 1983.

beheld a "cylindrical shaft of light of the colour of glowing coal" about 100 metres high and 10 metres wide. It seemed to be at about 600-700 metres from their car, and at an altitude of about 100 metres or so in the air, on the right-hand side of the E22 Highway. The thing was visible for a few seconds, and then gave place to a huge red ball with two horizontal brown bands. This ball came down to a height of some 70-80 metres above the highway, and then veered away leftwards over the forest, at a height of what they thought was 100 metres or so. A few seconds later, as their car came nearer — at a point about 300 or 400 metres from the red ball — the thing rose up into the sky and grew less bright and changed shape, becoming now oval, with a bluish mist around it. And then it was gone from sight...

The women were still engaged in a lively discussion of the affair when, as they were approaching the Commune of Olkusz, they again caught sight of something red, which they observed over a period of several minutes. It was stationary in the sky. They stopped and got out of the car to get a better view, but by then it was partly hidden by a hill. Seeking a better vantage point from which to see it, they drove on. They caught sight of it again and stopped to observe, but once more it turned into an oval surrounded by a misty halo and vanished again, this time for good.

*What is interesting in this case concerns the accompanying effect on the four women. About a quarter of an hour before the sighting began, all four suddenly felt very tired. Elzbieta Pala, the driver, pulled in at the side of the road suddenly for she no longer recognized the surrounding scenery, which was extremely familiar to her inasmuch as over a period of some weeks she had passed through there several times. This sensation lasted for a few minutes, and then vanished. It is difficult to say whether this effect might have been due to the object, which could have already been exercising an unknown influence upon them even while it was still invisible to them. Or again, of course, it might have had nothing whatever to do with the phenomenon.**

Finally, running through the records of our Craców Research Group (*Groupe de Recherche OVNI, P.O. 30-529, KRAKÓW-14*) we find a number of other strangely shaped objects sighted by eyewitnesses: such as (1) "a TV screen" (seen at Ruda, near Opoczno, summer of 1981); (2) "a cigar" (Lubomierz, August 14, 1983); (3) "a flashing cylinder" (C) Gnojno, near Kielce, October 1975), etc., etc.

I will, however, conclude this Report with an item

which came to us not from Poland, but from the neighbouring republic of Lithuania, now occupied by Soviet Russia, and is now recorded in our archives at Kraków:—

VIII SIGHTING AT MACIULISZKI, LITHUANIA, ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1985

At about 10.10 p.m. on September 12, 1985, in the village of Maciuliszki, 17 kms. from the Lithuanian Capital, Vilnius,** the eyewitness, Mr. T— W—, stepped out of the house to get some potatoes. Looking up into the air suddenly (*he says he had felt an impulsion to stop what he was doing and go out and look up*) he saw a glowing ball ejecting a beam of light towards the ground. This beam was moving about in different directions, as though "seeking something", sometimes growing narrow, and sometimes broad again, and so on... Though beamed down towards the ground, the light did not seem to be actually reaching the ground, but seemed to come to an end in the air. Then, a few moments later, the "ball" rose higher into the air and the beam grew shorter. Then the "ball" became misty and finally just a bright point of light in the sky before vanishing.

The witness said the phenomenon was above the forest which lies about 2½ kms. from the village. While the thing was to be seen, the dogs in the village were barking, and the witness noticed that his own dog also seemed to be disturbed.

Comments by Editor, FSR

**Oh yes! I think we can say it did! There is plenty of evidence now of this sort of thing. There is no reference in this report to time, or to "time-loss". However, I think that, from what we know already about the UFO Phenomenon, we can take it as quite certain that these four women did experience a "time-loss", and that they were almost certainly taken aboard a UFO and "processed".*

What the word "processed" means, we already know. And we are justified if we take it as absolutely certain that, by now, huge numbers of humans have already been subjected to this process. And in future articles we shall discuss some of the possible results of this process of general conditioning or programming, or even substitution, which is now under way.

****The conventional English name for the Capital of the ill-fated Republic of Lithuania is Vilno. — G.C.**

Postscript

We should no doubt add that, in a separate report published in *Lumières Dans La Nuit* 271/272 (Jan-Feb. 1987), Bronislaw Rzepecki also gave a brief history of UFO research organisations in Poland, and described the country's six leading study groups, which are in Warsaw and various other cities. From the article, it seems evident that UFO investigation and study in Poland do not go back beyond 1970. — G.C.

BRITISH ABDUCTION CASES.

Please send details to:

Philip Mantle,
106 Lady Ann Road, Soothill,
Batley, West Yorkshire WF17 0PY.

RECENT REPORTS OF SIGHTINGS OVER POLAND

(From the *Chichester & West Sussex News*, June 30, 1987).

(Credit and thanks to Reader M. Rowson of Chichester.)

Polish Pilots see UFOs

Members of Poland's armed forces have sighted several unidentified flying objects in recent days, the official PAP News Agency said today.

An Army newspaper reported that an Air Force pilot flying his plane near the south-eastern city of Mielec spotted what appeared to be a mysterious aircraft which he could not identify.

"I saw the aircraft passing some 60 yards below me and with a plume of bright flames trailing behind, but I was surprised that I didn't hear the roar of a jet engine", the pilot was quoted as saying. "The aircraft

gave off no sound whatsoever".

Similar sightings have been reported in other parts of Poland, including Warsaw, where a group of Air Force pilots saw an object gliding silently past at an altitude of about 600 yards and trailing two jets of bright orange flame.

The hard-line, and generally down-to-earth Army daily newspaper commented: "It is difficult to suspect that a whole group of people could have suffered a hallucination".

The Polish State Television recently showed film clips of alleged UFOs which appeared to be white specks gliding through the sky.

MAINSTREAM SCIENCE AND THE STRANGENESS OF THE UNIVERSE

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A distinguished member of the large team of American PhDs and MDs whose names appear on FSR's List of Consultants, Dr James A. Harder, who is the Professor of Civil Engineering in the University of California at Berkeley, was for many years an active member of Mrs Coral Lorenzen's fine APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization), of Tucson, Arizona, the world's oldest UFO investigation group, and he has played a prominent role in American ufology, giving testimony before the Condon Committee and Congressional Committees on UFOs, and also (remarkable for an engineer!) specializing in the study of psychic phenomena and in the use of hypnotic time-regression of UFO percipients, etc.

His last articles in our journal were "A Smoking Gun at the National Security Agency (NSA)" and "The Ins And Outs of UFOs And Secrecy Since 1940" (both in FSR 29/6, published in 1984).

Readers will find the following article on the "Strangeness of the Universe" particularly valuable if read in conjunction with all the other reports recently given by our other Consultant, Paul Whitehead, on the same theme. —

EDITOR

A Cautionary Introduction

BEFORE discussing the strange aspects of conventional and unconventional science, a few words about the nature of perceptions, when humans are faced with unfamiliar data, are in order. Faced with the crisis of a poison reaction or a close escape from a tiger, human learning reactions are predictably appropriate. Most of our perceptions, including those of scientific data, are different, in so far as they have little apparent impact on survival and may even be neutral. If 99% of the time leaves are green, and once in a while one is purple, it is easy to overlook this fact if one is a cave-man intent on the development of a useful "average picture" of the environment. Rare and unimportant facts would only clog the mind of an animal intent on eating and not being eaten.

However, scientists, when working in their own field, are sensitive to unusual data; it may mean the discovery of new facts, maybe a new paper, and perhaps more pay. Thus physicists might be expected to be sensitive to the small anomalies indicative of non-conservation of parity, astronomers are on the lookout for unusual red-shifts in galactic spectra, and botanists are sure to see a species new to them when exploring a new environment. Otherwise, rare data are only a nuisance to minds already full of things that have to be done by Friday.

Data about UFOs and psychic matters, in addition to being orphans without a proper scientific home, are rare; and when really unusual items do turn up, they are the object of tabloid sensationalism. This tarnishes their image in the eyes of those who are governed, however unconsciously, by the guilt-by-association doctrine. UFO and psychic phenomena investigators are almost by definition able to pay attention to the unusual, but even there one sees a common picture: the rare item that is in someone else's field is easily overlooked or perhaps disdained. Another aspect is illustrated by my own conversation with a psychic researcher, who confided that he was indeed interested in UFO matters, but would never make that interest public for fear of reducing his credibility in his chosen field. I then confessed that I seldom mention an interest in matters psychic for fear of further reducing my effectiveness in UFO research, where my friends tell me I am already two steps ahead of credibility!

Thus even the open-minded attitudes of this readership may be strained by the strangeness elements discussed below. But may I remind all of us that wherever we find the unexpected we also find the greatest opportunity for finding new science.

The Strangeness of Conventional Science

Scientific discoveries have accelerated at such a