

# Readers' Reports

## Dorset Multi-shape UFO

Dear Sir,—On November 5, 1969, while working in the Portland, Weymouth area, I saw a curious object. What it was I do not know, but I decided to write and tell you about it.

The time was about 2.55 p.m. and I first saw the object whilst travelling towards Wyke Regis, from Portland. The day was fine with a few clouds about, and there was little wind. At first I thought the object was a helicopter, as there are a few at Portland, but this was so bright that it couldn't have been one. This bright light appeared to be about 1,000-2,000ft. above the ground over Charlestown, or in that area. I say "above ground" because when I first saw it it appeared thus, but because of our movement, it later appeared to be over the coast.

The funny thing was that it kept changing shape and colour, but never seemed to move.

As we went through into Wyke Regis, both my driver and I were curious to see what it was, and so we stopped the van on the highest part of Wyke Road, and watched it for about 13 minutes.

From alignment with certain features on the ground, I saw that it moved neither up, nor down, nor sideways.

At first sighting it looked sausage-shaped and very bright, but from our new position on Wyke Road, it changed to a cross, still brilliant white, but with hazy edges, and dark spots at the ends of each arm of the cross.

It changed once again, and all that could be seen were the dark spots on the ends of each "arm".

Next, quite suddenly, it seemed to change to a dog-bone shape, except that the bottom was very black, and the top had two lumps at each end, which, glowing brightly and with hazy edges, still had the dark spots in the centre of them. This time there were two dark spots at the ends, instead of the three that were there before in the cross shape.

Once again the aspect changed. The bottom appeared in a "bowed" section, black as before, but the top seemed to be "squared off"—at first a greyish haze, and shortly afterwards with a distinct outline, still greyish. Then, out of the black bottom there seemed to come two "teeth", as when the undercarriage is let down from an aircraft. These were of the same blackness as the bottom of the thing.

As more work had to be done, we could not stay, and so left the position from which we had observed the object. It was still there and I was very disappointed at having to leave.

Although it was bonfire night, I can assure you that it was neither a firework of any kind, nor was it military—at least I don't think it was. I have never seen anything stay quite so still, and change its shape without appearing to move.

My hobby is aircraft, and during my Army service I was a radar operator. I have received your excellent *Flying Saucer Review* for some years, but in no way has it influenced my letter to you.

Alan Christopher, Parkstone, Dorset.  
May 6, 1970.

## Dividing UFO

Dear Sir,—On May 4, 1970, we interviewed a Mrs. Christine Powell of Hall Green, Birmingham, concerning the sighting of an object, which she had made the previous evening.

On Sunday, May 3, Mrs. Powell was in bed at her home, and, being unable to sleep, was looking at the sky through her bedroom window. After a while, at approximately 11.30 p.m., she noticed in the sky a bright round object which appeared to be growing larger. The object grew until it was about the size of a cricket ball held at arm's length, then it divided into two objects of a similar size as the original one. These objects then remained motionless for some time. The witness became frightened and did not leave her bed to investigate further. She eventually fell asleep with both objects still in view.

Mrs. Powell's dog, which was with her in the bedroom, was apparently aware of something unusual, as he appeared restless, barked and eventually left the room altogether.

The weather on that particular night was warm and dry with no wind. There was intermittent cloud but many stars were visible. There was no moon.

Mrs. Powell described the object/s as sharply outlined, self-luminous and "... glowing as if they were white hot." She heard no sounds during the time of observation.

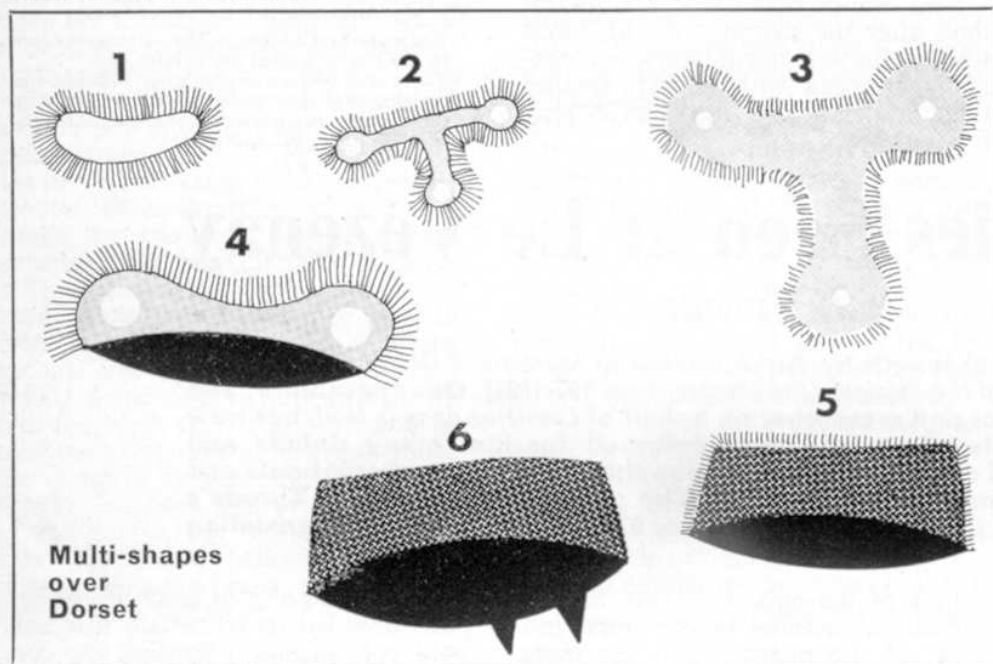
Mrs. Powell is in her early twenties and has one young child. She is employed as a secretary in Birmingham. She had no prior knowledge of UFOs or flying saucers, and has never read any books or magazines concerning them. After talking to her we were satisfied that she had given an accurate account of something very unusual which she had seen on the evening of May 3. She herself could suggest no logical explanation for what she had seen, but was emphatic that she had not fallen asleep and dreamt the whole episode. Her bedroom is at the rear of the house and overlooks open playing fields. This seems to rule out the possibility of street-lamp or car headlight reflections.

This part of Hall Green is a busy area even at night time, but to date no further reports have been received and nothing has appeared in the local press.

Birmingham UFO Investigation Group,  
511 Warwick Road, Birmingham 11.  
May 8, 1970.

## Space Ships?

Dear Sir,—The following may be of interest. Should I awake at night, my view is unrestricted over the water and across towards the Snowdon National Park of which many peaks are over 3,000ft.



Multi-shapes  
over  
Dorset

Twice during this last winter, in December and January, instead of closing my eyes to regain sleep, or switching on the light to read, I have instead observed the stars and the easily-seen panorama.

Most times there is nothing much to see, so eventually sleep returns. However, on the above-mentioned nights I saw a yellow object pass over, going from south to north. It was visible only for a very brief time, perhaps three seconds. No noise, no trail, and height impossible to estimate.

It could have been anything, and its altitude ten thousand feet or ten miles, but obviously the speed was beyond our present known abilities for a flat trajectory.

Not a descending, almost vertical, golden piece of meteorite, which quickly burns out.

Not a widespread electrical flash which are usually white or blue.

How could it be a man-made object like a missile? The missile take-off, and descent to a pre-arranged target would be very public, and moreover all the seas from Scotland to Iceland hold thousands of trawlers.

Also "Notices to Airmen" have to be given out as air lines are now converging from all directions, and anything below 40,000ft. is a prohibited area.

So what were these things? Not a sputnik or imilar, as they are quite steady and slow, golden in the sun's rays, and very easy to observe.

If it was a large "spaceship," very high, very fast, it would also reflect the sun's rays and this could very well be the explanation.

Yours truly,

Charles M. Needham, Menai Bridge, Anglesey, North Wales.  
June 22, 1970.

#### Tower view

The following report is taken from a collection made by M. J. Matson, B.Ed., and forwarded for publication

by Arthur Shuttlewood, of Warminster.

On December 5, 1969, at 07.40-07.50, B.S.T., Mrs. Ethel Smith of Arthur Punshon Tower, Oliver Close, Leyton, London E10, was looking from the window of her fifteenth floor flat. She noticed an object which appeared to be about three miles away in a west-north-westerly direction. The object was about 400ft. above the ground and was estimated to be as large as several airliners.

The object was observed through binoculars. After remaining stationary for some time it suddenly moved off towards the south-west "at an incredible speed; much faster than any aircraft." It then vanished "in thin air".

The object was described as being a row of powerful lights: no outline of a solid object was noticed. From the position of the lights, however, the witness thought that the object was circular. It was like "a ballroom" in the sky. The lights were white. The object appeared solid.

This was not the first time that Mrs. Smith had seen something of this kind. On two occasions previously (dates not known) she had experienced an identical sighting; same time, description, movement, and so on. On the first occasion the object was visible for 5 minutes, on the second occasion for 2 minutes and on the last occasion for 10 or 11 minutes.

Mrs. Smith is accustomed to watching aircraft approaching London Airport (Heathrow), and she says that there is no chance that what she saw could have been an aircraft. On the third occasion she called her 11-year-old son, and he arrived in time to see the thing move off at high speed and then disappear "somewhere towards the West End". He too emphasised the immensity of the object.

Mrs. Smith noted that for several days after the sightings the air-space towards the west-north-west was abnormally crowded with aircraft smaller than airliners, "as if they were looking for the object."

#### Wanstead school report

Michael V. Matson also reports that on February 6, 1970, at 07.40 hrs. B.S.T., a schoolboy, R. W. Allingham, of Wanstead, London E11, in company with another boy, saw what he described as a "reddish-yellow-white oval-shaped" object to the south-west. The object was hovering behind some bare trees: the witness believed it to be about 500 yards away over Hollow Ponds. The object was slightly larger than a pea held at arm's length, and "too large to be Venus."

Young Allingham is interested in the problem of unidentified aerial phenomena, and spends a good deal of his spare time sky-watching. For this reason Mr. Matson thinks he would be experienced in identifying natural phenomena as well as conventional aerial craft.

#### Yellow bell-shaped UFO

Again, from Mr. Matson's collection, we learn how, on February 6, 1970, at 07.45 hrs. B.S.T., a middle-aged clerical worker<sup>1</sup> of Villiers Close, Leyton, London E10, was taking his motor cycle from the garage. To the west-north-west, at a distance of approximately two miles, the witness saw a pale yellow object which had the appearance (in outline) of a flattened bell. The upper part of the object had a distinct outline but there was no distinct outline at its base. The UFO was close to the skyline but its top was above the tallest buildings.

The width of the object was greater than the width of several tower blocks. The witness saw an object identical in appearance at the same time of day and in the same location on an occasion about ten days earlier.<sup>2</sup>

#### Mr. Matson's notes:

<sup>1</sup> The name and address of the witness is known to me but he wishes anonymity.

<sup>2</sup> There is a degree of similarity between this sighting and that of Mrs. Ethel Smith. Also there may be some correlation with the sighting of R. W. Allingham.

# The Entities Seen at Le Vézenay

J. Tyrode

This case was reported at length by Aimé Michel in *Mystérieux Objets Célèstes* (pp. 239-241) [*Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery* (pp. 197-198)]. Our contributor, and indefatigable investigator and researcher on behalf of *Lumières dans la Nuit*, has now traced the witness, Mlle. Bourriot, who confirmed for him many details and emphasised a number of others, on the condition that her present whereabouts and her name (she is now married) be withheld. The edited report, with M. Tyrode's comments, appeared in *Lumières dans la Nuit* No. 97 of December 1968. Translation by Gordon Creighton.

AFTER a lapse of fourteen years, Mme. Z, as she is now, was found to have retained a vivid memory of all

details of the episode. There are no substantial changes in her story, but some of the nuances and the more

subtle aspects of it as described by her have now led us to certain new and bold conclusions, regarding the cor-

rectness of which readers must of course decide for themselves.

The date was October 18, 1954. Mlle. Bourriot was living at Montperreux, and was returning home on her motor-scooter from Malbuisson, where she worked. It was 10.45 p.m.

As she was travelling along National Highway 437 towards the village of Le Vézenay (Doubs) she saw a bright red light ahead of her, shining on the road and on the first houses of the village. Thinking it must be caused by a car ahead of her, she drove on. The light vanished suddenly, and she passed through Le Vézenay without noticing anything abnormal.

It was only after she had gone about a hundred yards beyond the last houses of the village that she noticed something very strange. Standing on the left-hand side of the road, and facing her, about 60 cms. or so from the footpath, motionless as a statue, there was a man of average height. Her lights showed him up clearly. He was about 1 m. 50 or 1 m. 60 in height and wearing a darkish overcoat or raincoat. (Aimé Michel wrote that he was wearing "light-coloured overalls," but Mlle. Bourriot insists it was a coat, and neither very dark nor very light in colouring.)

Although suddenly seeing a silent stationary man at this hour of the night was a bit strange, Mlle. Bourriot had no reason for alarm. The man did not look at her, but was gazing across the road, i.e., towards her right.

However, as she was just about to pass him, she suddenly perceived that, standing beside this man, on his left, there were two small completely black beings, also motionless.

As she approached, these two little beings walked across the road, passing at a distance of less than ten metres from her scooter and heading towards a small bus passenger-shelter standing on the right-hand side of the road. The normal-sized man meanwhile remained motionless, and showed no sign of being aware either of the presence of the two small beings or of the passing scooter. Mlle. Bourriot was suddenly struck by the eerie nature of the situation, and she accelerated in panic.

Three kilometres further along, the road climbs, and she stopped there to look back and see whether anything peculiar was to be seen behind her. She beheld a red object rising straight up into the night sky. It appeared to be oval and to be more or less right above the village of Le Vézenay.

Mlle. Bourriot told of the incident in due course, but found few in the area who would believe her. Most thought she was a crank, but she never budged from her story.

She told me that those two small beings stood out as clearly as ever in her memory, as though it had all been yesterday and not fourteen years ago.

Folk told her that the man and the two little beings must have been a scoutmaster and two scouts—because of the shape of the hats worn by the two small beings. She rejected this as nonsense.

She said that next day several people examined the spot and found very clear small footprints leading from the road towards the shelter and making a right-angle turn behind it. (Aimé Michel wrote that the prints were visible in the field from which the small beings had come. Mlle. Bourriot says however that this is incorrect.)

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In my opinion, the red light seen beforehand and the rising object seen afterwards are good evidence that a UFO landing took place. As for the boy scout theory, firstly, boy scouts are all at school at that season of the year, and secondly, they are certainly not out at 11 o'clock on a Monday night.

As for the man, it seems clear that he was a man—a terrestrial. Mlle. Bourriot says that everybody living in the region knows everybody else, and that he was therefore from elsewhere, a stranger. Was he a tourist? There were very few tourists in 1954, and there were even less likely to be any tourists facing the asperities of the weather in the Jura during October. The nearest hotels (at Malbuisson) were closed at that time of the year.

Even if we do accept that the man was a tourist, it would still be odd that he should be out there so late at night and that he should have shown no curiosity, made no movement of any sort, no gesture or look in the direction of the scooter as its light shone on him as it advanced towards him out of the darkness on that deserted road.

It would be an odd sort of scoutmaster who would remain so passive and so immobile at the moment just when two of his "scouts" were about to cross the road right in front of a vehicle that was only a few metres from them. Even if there was no danger for the boys, one would expect that he would at least have looked about him to take in and sum up the situation.

In my opinion the event did occur as Mme. Z, the former Mlle. Bourriot has described it to me, confirming in every detail her account of fourteen years before and confirming Aimé Michel's report made at the time.

I must emphasise that when I visited her first, Mme. Z refused at the outset

to talk about the event which for her had had such unpleasant repercussions owing to the widespread publicity given to it. It was only at her husband's request that she finally agreed to discuss the case with me. In each of our several interviews, I was struck by her affability, her lucidity, and the great willingness with which she answered my questions (on the sole condition that my report should not be communicated to the newspapers).

At present my own opinion is that the man seen by her was a terrestrial man and that his behaviour rules out his having been some night prowler or his having been in charge of the smaller beings. Nobody resembling him was ever seen subsequently in the district.

Moreover, he and the two small beings were *together*, and must therefore have been known to each other. They were side by side, and neither the larger one nor the two smaller ones seemed to react at the sight of the other. It is improbable that the man and the two beings should not have been in some kind of relationship to each other prior to Mlle. Bourriot's arrival on the scene.

In fact, to have remained thus so unresponsive to the events occurring around him, the man must have been under the influence of a drug or some sort of "power".

Given their strange behaviour, the two small personages do not seem to have been human.

More and more do I have the conviction that the red light, the man, the two small beings, and the red object rising, are all facts that are closely related.

Did a UFO land and put down its occupants—occupants accompanied by an Earthman—perhaps their prisoner? This would be entirely possible.

Needless to say, we found that the inevitable geological fault-line was present—as is most usually the case in our investigations—in this case being not far from the spot.

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[The sketch on the cover of LDLN No. 97 from which this is taken shows the "terrestrial" as hatless, but in fact M. Tyrode ascertained from Mme. Z that he was wearing a hat—G.C.]

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#### Note:

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