ordinary Earth men selected from the human species just like lavender plants in a field; this bred product has perhaps been scientifically superhumanized in order to play a part in the history of our relations with the entities—unknown and invisible—who are the real ones responsible for the ufological manifestations. The numerous descriptions of "little men" collected over the past fifteen years strongly remind one of our own domestic breeding of animals, though this idea is repugnant to our dignity and to the respect that we have for the human person (without however extending that respect to the animals).

The "little men" put one in mind of human basset-hounds, selected in view of their utilisation within the framework of a superior technology.

There would be much that we could say about these little men, but one detail strikes me particularly: all who have approached them—so far as I know—and M. Masse has affirmed it to me forcibly, several times—believe invincibly in their benevolence towards ourselves: "They are good. They have only good intentions towards us, of that I am sure."

"But how do you know that?" I asked.

"I can't tell you. I don't know how I know. But I am sure of it."

Is this a psychological conditioning connected with the effect of the weapon? Or, more simply, is it the truth? On this too there would be much that one could say.

Comment on Valensole

Is it possible that the whole truth of the incident at Valensole still eludes us? That it was in fact another A.V.B. ("Adhemar") type of contact case? At least that is what Gordon Creighton wondered as he was completing his translation.

Speculative, maybe, but when one considers M. Masse's embarrassed reluctance to tell the full story, not to mention his fear of possible genetic effects, and the strange revelation that he eventually broke down and told his family *everything*, it seems that such a solution of the mystery is 'on the cards'.

As soon as space permits, we will retell the Antonio Villas Boás (Adhemar) story of "interplanetary procreation", for many additional details have come to light in the *O Cruzeiro* account.

Two policemen see saucer on main road

By Philipp Human

Practically the whole of the front page of the September 16 issue of the Johannesburg daily newspaper DIE VADERLAND was devoted to accounts, reports, and comment on this new UFO case. Mr. Human, who is the REVIEW's representative in South Africa, has sent us his translation from the Afrikaans, and has 'filled us in' on further details.

UNDER the page-wide headline Polisie Sien Vlieg-Piering, Die Vaderland told the following story: "A strange object, described as a 'flying saucer' was seen last night on the national road between Silverton (near Pretoria) and Bronkhorstspruit by two constables. The police consider this episode as 'highly mysterious' and it is being investigated by them as well as by the C.S.I.R. [Council for Scientific and Industrial Research].

"This occurrence was witnessed by two Silverton policemen, Constable Koos de Klerk and Constable John Lockem, while they were out on patrol. According to the constables the saucer ascended and vanished from sight at enormous speed when

they came across it.

"This morning the C.S.I.R. was requested by the police to investigate the nature of a charred patch in the road, and scientists were at the scene shortly afterwards to take samples of the charred tar and stone where the saucer had landed. A black patch roughly six feet in diameter was burnt into the tar.

"The two constables said that they had been to a farm last night on an investigation when a call from their office summoned them back. 'About three miles from Silverton we all of a sudden saw a sea of flame in the centre of the tar road ahead of us. We stopped immediately, and for about ten seconds the object was clearly visible before it rose from the road as tongues of flames seemed to pour from underneath,' said Constable Lockem. There was no sound. He was emphatic that the object had not been there when they had passed the spot the first time. There was a lapse of about five minutes before they were at that place again.

"Constable de Klerk said that the object was typically saucer-shaped. It was copper-coloured and shone, and was clearly visible in their headlamps and in the light of the flames surrounding it. The object closely resembled a gigantic singing

top. It was about 30 ft. in diameter.

"'For a few seconds it stood on the road and then, faster than I had ever seen in my life, it shot straight up and vanished in a north-westerly direction. Only after the saucer-shaped object was in the air did it appear that flames were pouring from two portals underneath it,' said Constable Lockem. There was no sound. This prompted a spokesman for the C.S.I.R. to comment that it therefore could not have been propelled by conventional motors.

"Long after the object had vanished the tar on the road was still burning. The flames leapt to a height of three feet. Constable Lockem made a sketch of the object as seen by him which strongly resembled a child's toy top and a form which was commonly associated with flying saucers. 'I have always considered reports of flying saucers as stuff and nonsense, but after this I shall be the first to acknowledge that these things are real,' he said.

"He and his colleague added that they were so stupified and shaken that they could only stare at the object. They saw no sign of life, however, nor

did they see any portholes.

"This morning, early, they were at the scene once again and could not find any strange marks to indicate that something unusual had operated at that spot. No strange impressions were noticed other than the charred patch in the road. This was to be expected as the flames had melted the tar to such an extent that any other marks would have been obliterated. The flames and heat must have been tremendous because everything had been buckled. Both constables stated emphatically that they have not the slightest doubt that this object was 'out of this world'. 'It was more or less 30 ft. in diameter and of a copper-colour which was clearly visible in the light,' they said.'

In another report, the Pretoria Representative,

Andre Verster, tells how . . .

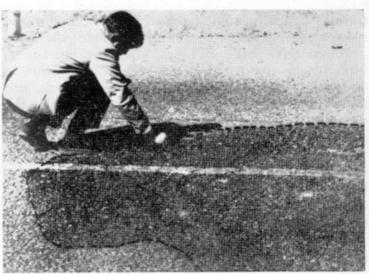
Tar burnt to the gravel base

"This morning I visited the section of the tar road where the flying saucer of Pretoria had purportedly landed. I must admit that the tar surface was badly scorched. A large black patch, some 6 ft. in diameter, was charred in the road where, according to the two eye witnesses who came across it in their police car, the object had stood astride the white line in the middle of the road. It obstructed the entire road, according to

their report.

"In the patch where the flames coming from beneath this strange object had hit the tar road, the tar surface had completely disintegrated. The white paint of the traffic line was completely charred, and the tar was so scorched that the gravel could be dislodged with two fingers. An experienced road worker who had been with the Provincial Administration for many years in their roads department, said this morning that if petrol was poured over a road and set alight it could not cause such extensive damage. He was amazed to learn how badly the road had been charred.

"I was at the scene myself and without any trouble managed to dislodge small stones from the



Photograph by courtesy of Die Vaderland, Johannesburg
Outlined—the burnt tarmac patch

tar. I found this to be the case with most of the gravel in that patch. Scientists from the National Chemical Research Laboratory of the C.S.I.R. took samples of the scorched and charred section of the road for further analysis. The police had summoned their aid in an attempt to try to establish the cause of the burnt patch."

High Level Investigation

Another item stated that: "Lt. Col. J. B. Britz, district Commander of Pretoria North, in whose area the flying saucer had purportedly landed, stated at the time of going to press, that the police considered this occurrence as highly mysterious and that a secret investigation is being conducted from a high level."

Explanations

The above incident was widely reported in our national newspapers, but soon the "explanations" were forthcoming under the headlines like C.S.I.R. says it was not a Flying Saucer and The Saucer story has fallen flat, and Cold water poured on Saucer' story. The Rand Daily Mail (Johannesburg's daily morning newspaper) had this to say the next morning:—

"While hundreds of motorists caused traffic jams around a small burnt patch of tarmac on the Pretoria-Bronkhorstspruit road yesterday, scientists in Pretoria decided South Africa had not been visited by extra-terrestrial beings in a flaming

spacecraft after all.

"Last night Mr. Douglas Maude, the C.S.I.R.'s public relations officer, said the scientists who investigated the reports had come to the conclusion the most likely explanation was that somebody had inadvertently or purposefully poured petrol or a similar liquid on the road surface. When this ignited it would have produced a fireball which shot skywards, leaving a pall of smoke and a circle of burning tar.

"Three members of the C.S.I.R., including Dr. E. G. Halliday, head of the air pollution division, inspected the road surface yesterday after two Silverton policemen reported they had seen a "flaming object" take off from the road while they were patrolling the area shortly after midnight. Yesterday only a patch of badly burnt tarmac showed that the road surface where the two policemen reported seeing the "flying saucer" had been subjected to great heat.

"Despite the commotion on the national road a few hundred yards from their homes, residents in the area were for the most part unruffled by reports that a flying saucer had landed in Silverton. None of the residents had seen or heard anything resembling a craft from outer space on Wednesday

night.

"According to an official at the Department of Civil Aviation in Pretoria, nothing suspicious was reported from any of the radar stations controlling air traffic at the major airfields in the Johannesburg and Pretoria areas."

Vital Evidence

The two constables were understandably mad when they were made out to be liars. On Thursday night (September 17) they were interviewed on the radio at 9 p.m. and Constable Lockem said that the press had omitted to report a fact which they considered to be of tremendous importance, namely that their car's engine had stalled when they came across this object blocking their way. They had no option but to stop. It was then that the object suddenly rose from the ground. In a letter dated September 22, Mr. Peter Grobler of

Pretoria, one of my correspondents, said: "The scientific people are out to ridicule the saucer story, but I can assure you that the Military people take it seriously.

"I know someone from that district who was present at the inspection and said that they poured a quantity of petrol out near the site and set it alight. The result was negative—no disintegration of the foundation at all, and no disturbance was visible.

"The two police officers swear that what they reported is the gospel truth and no amount of questioning can deviate them from their story."

East Rand Fly-Over

Now, by way of a postscript, a final item from Die Vaderland of September 16, reported by the East

Rand Representative:

Two strange objects were seen over Boksburg last night [same night as the police constables' sighting]. A friend and I were travelling by car at about 10.15 p.m., when we observed an enormous white light travelling at a reasonable speed and which appeared from a north-westerly direction passing over Boksburg. The object was visible for five minutes at least before it disappeared over the southern horizon.

At about 12 o'clock last night several people phoned the East Rand offices of *Die Vaderland* after seeing a "red ball" in the sky. According to them the object travelled from south to north in the direction of Pretoria. They watched it through binoculars and could see it distinctly. It was not an aircraft.

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January 29th LES EXTRATERRESTRES by Gavin Gibbons, M.A.

February 26th THE NIGHT SKY, STARS AND SAUCERS by Norman T. Oliver

March 26th HIGHLIGHTS OF EDITING THE REVIEW by Charles Bowen

April 30th CURRENT TRENDS IN U.F.O. RESEARCH by John Cleary-Baker, PhD.

May 21st SAUCERS IN ANTIQUITY by John Michell, B.A.

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