

# MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name 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.

## Carlo Rossi: sketch correction

Dear Sir,—I notice that you have recently published (FSR, Vol. 21, No. 5) an account of the very important case of Carlo Rossi at San Pietro a Vico. I find however that the accompanying sketch given in Mary Boyd's article is not the correct one. The sketch which you have published is one that was issued at the time by the local newspaper. However, it was very different from the original drawing which had been made by Carlo Rossi himself.

This case is one that I am very well acquainted with. It is one of the few really "strong" Italian cases which I investigated personally for my book about UFOs, and I am therefore enclosing herewith a copy of the sketch giving the correct shape of the UFO, as supplied by the son (Sergio Rossi) and grandson (Maurizio Rossi) of the witness, who as Mrs. Boyd correctly reported, died about ten years ago.

As can be seen, this sketch has no sort of "rotor blades" on top. That roto-like effect was simply a piece of imagination supplied by the local newspaper's journalist!

The correct sketch shows the very important feature of the tube beneath the craft which — as was stated in your report — was apparently taking up water from the river Serchio. (We all know how important this relationship between UFOs and water is!)

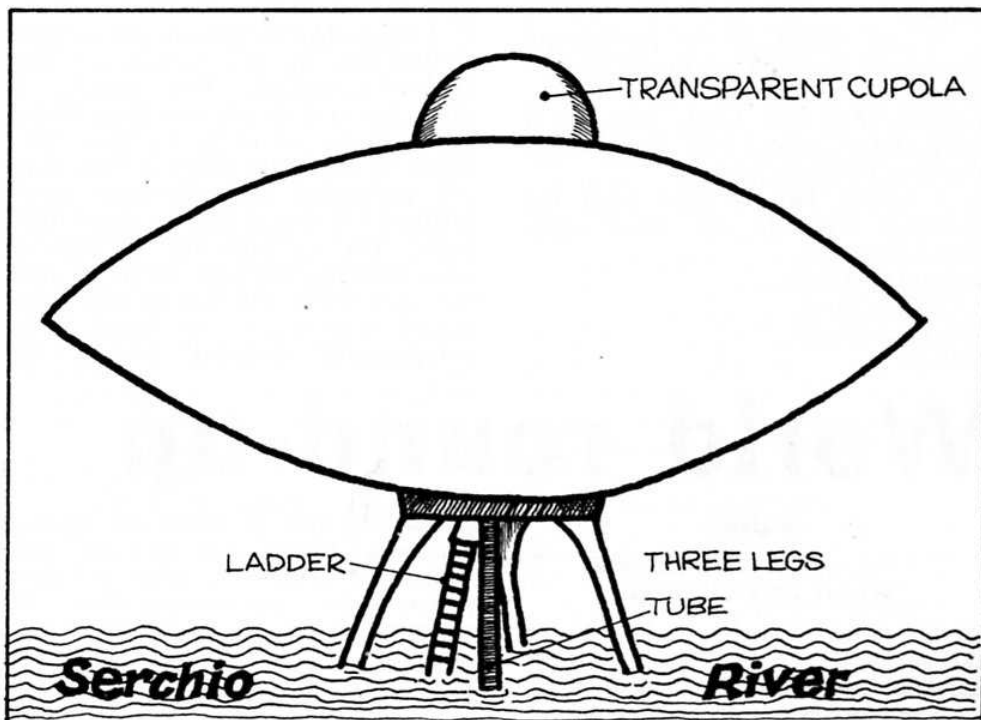
Although Carlo Rossi was certainly quite shaken by the spectacle of the UFO, the thing that upset him far more was the episode, some weeks later, when a mysterious "stranger" offered him a "bad" cigarette. Carlo Rossi was pretty worried about it all, and he used to say: "I wonder if they want to do me harm, maybe, because I saw the thing in the river?"

When he died subsequently, the circumstances of the case were mysterious and very suspicious. He was returning home on his bicycle when he was knocked down by a car. The car and driver were never identified.

Here is the correct description of the appearance of the UFO, as given by Rossi's grandson:—

"The cupola was completely transparent, while the rest of the disc, including its legs and the ladder, were of a shining white metal.

"When the people aboard the craft caught sight of my grandfather, a red light came on in the cupola, and at once beams of light were flashed at



him, but he managed to avoid them by throwing himself down into the ditch at the foot of the embankment on which he was standing and observing the UFO.

"Immediately after the UFO had risen up from the river, where it seemed to be drawing in water, the ladder, and the legs, which were standing on the bed of the river, were at once taken in and, spinning at immense speed on its own axis, it shot up into the sky and vanished.

"As the disc was rising, my grandfather noticed that either the transparent cupola or the upper part of the disc, made of darker metal, seemed to be motionless, while on the other hand the rest of the disc was spinning extremely fast, as though around a central pivot."

All these details are from my forthcoming book (not yet finished)  
Yours sincerely,  
Marco Marianti (Dr.)  
Via Cino da Pistoia 7  
40136 Bologna, Italy.

Note: As we all know, the "traffic accident" is an extremely handy way of liquidating people, and those who have made a study of the "MIB problem" are aware of a number of cases of this sort which seem extremely suspicious. We are most grateful to Dr. Marco Marianti for these important further details.

The sketch accompanying Mary Boyd's article was of course the one given in the book *UFO In Italia* whose publishers (Corrado Tedeschi, of Firenze, 1974) evidently did not realise that the drawing used in the local newspaper was only a journalist's imaginative contribution and not the work of the eyewitness himself.

There is also one other important point of variance between the version given in that book and Dr. Marianti's version. The book gave the date of the encounter with the UFO (Carlo Rossi's first experience) as 3.00 a.m. on July 25, 1952. Dr. Marianti says that it was not July 25, but April 25.

Gordon Creighton

## Moon spires

Dear Sir,—While looking through a book I bought recently, *Astronomy Today* by Fred Hoyle (Heinemann, 1976), I came across a very interesting photograph on page 43.

The caption reads, "An object at left center has rolled downhill on the Moon, leaving a series of marks like prints in a snowfield." The unusual thing about this "object" is that it is casting a very noticeable long, triangular shadow. This immediately jogged my memory and sure enough on p. 32 of FSR Sept/Oct 1968 was a photograph showing similar "spires"