

A "FLYING 'MAN' IN BLACK" IN RUSSIA

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This interesting item was part of an article which appeared in the Soviet popular-scientific journal *Tekhnika-Molodezhi* No. 10 of 1976. The translation from the Russian was by the author, our contributor.

FROM time to time I have the opportunity of reading the splendid and informative journal, *Flying Saucer Review*, and I would like to supplement a report which was published in your Volume 23, No. 6. This is the account of the "flying" humanoid in Puerto Rico.

Several years ago I was in Kislovodsk (U.S.S.R.) where I spoke with a witness of a similar case which she alleges took place in 1936 in Kazakhstan. She was a Mrs. E.E. Loznaya, and her report was recorded. It later formed part of an article of mine which appeared in *Tekhnika-Molodezhi* ("Technics for Youth") 1976 No. 10. Here is her account:

"This event took place in the winter of 1936 in sovkhos (state farm) 'Oktyabrskiy' in the Kazakhstan, Pavlodar region. I was then fifteen. Early in the morning I went to school by a lonely country road.

"It was already light, although the sun had not risen. The weather was fine and it was freezing. Suddenly I caught sight of a dark point moving rapidly in the sky on my left. It came closer, grew larger, and in a matter of seconds I saw a man-like figure dressed in black and seen in profile. The course of its flight formed an angle of about 60° with the road.

"This 'man' was, to my mind, of medium height

his black clothes covered him completely, like overalls. His head (more exactly—something like a helmet) and massive ('square') arms tightly fixed to his body were perfectly visible. I saw no hands and feet. I could see behind his back an oval thing like a rucksack.

"Looking with fright at the 'flying man' I noticed suddenly that he had changed his course and was now flying towards me. When he turned [I saw] his right arm was slightly bent at the elbow. Now the 'man' was seen full face, but I could not examine his features for in place of a face there was just an entirely black surface.

"At that instant I heard an increasing rumble as if it was a flying mechanism and not a living man. By now the distance between us had shortened to about 40 metres. My numb terror had passed and I had turned back in search of shelter but there was none on the snow-covered steppe. I then turned again towards the 'flying man' and ... saw nobody. Maybe he had made an abrupt change in his course, or maybe he had dived in a snowdrift ... but the next moment I was running towards my home.

"This sighting lasted about one minute, but I have remembered it for all these years. I can also add that I have seen no similar sighting, either before or after that occasion."

UFO LEAVES HOLE IN THE SKY

Ken Phillips, former BUFORA National Investigations Co-ordinator, kindly investigated this case for NUFON. It is quite an intriguing one.

OVER Christmas/New Year 1977-78, 62-year-old Edith Lane was staying with her son (36-year-old Derek) at his home in the village of Exhall, Warwickshire. At dusk on December 30, 1977, at about 4.30 pm — a cold day with a blustery breeze but no rain — the sky was quite full of cloud, some fairly low. Here and there were patches of blue.

Derek was just closing the curtains of a window that faces WNW over quite an expanse of open land. Suddenly he caught sight of a brilliant object approaching from the west through the gathering gloom. He called out and his mother, wife (Hazel) and their 14-year-old daughter, Kerrie, all came over to watch. The object was oval in shape and glowing a bright golden colour. It seemed to be about 20 feet in diameter, although it was

probably up to two miles distant. Around its extremities it seemed to shimmer

The object approached across the area of Newdigate Colliery and then stopped over a row of electricity pylons. Here it hovered for several minutes. The witnesses feel that it was in view about 5 minutes.

The object suddenly began to move and accelerated rapidly to a tremendous speed. It moved away westwards, climbing as it did so, and then turned to the north west and was lost to view among the clouds. The strangest thing is, however, that at the spot where it had been hovering there seemed to be a hole in the sky. All the clouds covering a roughly oval space, several times the diameter of the object, had dispersed. This condition remained for many minutes

after the object had gone, despite winds moving the clouds quite noticeably. Then all returned to normal once more.

Ball lightning could be a possible explanation, although there were no storms in the area, and the object seems to have been visible too long, and to have behaved in a manner contrary to known "habits" of this electrical phenomenon. However, the proximity of the power sources makes an electrical phenomenon quite feasible — perhaps a most unusual form of ball lightning? The hole seems attributable to electrostatic forces in the air in the immediate vicinity — in what seems to have been a radius of about 80 to 100 feet around the object. That may be interesting food for thought regarding cases with electromagnetic interference.