

AN EXTRAORDINARILY INTERESTING STORY

NOTE BY EDITOR: The following report was received by me in March 1994 from a man who has been a student of "our subject" and a reader of FSR for many years. It concerns something that had been related to him in confidence when he was an undergraduate at Cambridge University, and the person from whom he received it was another Cambridge student and one of his own best friends.

I have discussed the matter several times with the writer, and we have reached the reluctant conclusion that it would be unwise for me to reveal any names. My communicant himself would be very easily identifiable, and the original conveyor of the report even more so, as I understand that he is today a gentleman of some eminence in his profession. I think we can accept that this is a very "hot" story, well deserving of our most careful consideration.

I. UFO LANDINGS IN ENGLAND

One evening in 1955, when I was a student at Cambridge University, a friend of mine—himself a fellow-student at Cambridge—told me of an extraordinary conversation which he had overheard, on or about April 18, 1955, while sitting with a girl friend in a café at Halstead in Essex.

As the subject of UFOs had already interested me since my schooldays — I particularly remember the famous incident of the 'Flying Saucers Over Mount Kilimanjaro' in East Africa — I immediately made some written notes, at the time, of what my friend had said, particularly including the fact that one of the two speakers appeared to be from the British Naval Intelligence while the other was a physicist.

Apparently the UFOs were capable of speeds of from "almost nil to that of light" with "terrific acceleration", and they were thought to have come from another solar system. The method of almost soundless propulsion — something to do with centrifugal forces (I am totally ignorant of such matters) — was not yet known to our scientists but was gradually dawning on them.

During World War II both sides had thought that the "saucers" they had been observing were a new secret weapon of the enemy. These had all been small craft sent from a parent-ship orbiting out of sight.

It was said that five UFOs had landed in England in the six weeks prior to that conversa-

tion in mid-April 1955. Some were unmanned, but others had occupants looking much like us. Contact had been established with the visitors, who were scientists, and intensely curious. It was thought that some of these scientists might have mingled with our population generally.

It was said that there was a U.S. network to check on "saucers". One aircraft sent up to investigate had been blown up (Mantell case?). Every piece of wreckage recovered was riddled with holes — and a body mutilated — but details had not been revealed even at "top secret" level. The wreckage of the *Comet* aircraft that crashed in an electric storm at Dum Dum Airport, Calcutta, was similarly riddled with small holes.

One of the speakers suggested that a full-scale peaceful invasion was expected by those in-the-know within two years. It was furthermore suggested that the visitors might have come to investigate the A- and H-bomb explosions which it seems are having far more effect in Outer Space than we, enclosed in our atmosphere, realise.

II. UFO REPORTS FROM AFRICA

These details so far are compiled from the notes that I made in 1955, but my interest has continued and there were many reports, of unidentified flying objects, from East Africa, where I was working, during the later part of that same decade. One of the strangest was recounted to me by an elderly missionary doctor as it had been told him by a mining engineer in Western Uganda.

So far as I remember the engineer was a Greek. There are many mines in that part of Uganda bordering on Rwanda. Generally the mine-entrance is at the foot of the valley where the hills slope steeply upwards. The mine offices are higher up the hills and residential areas higher still.

One day the manager was in his office when there were surprised calls for him to come out quickly, a most unusual occurrence. When he appeared there was nothing to see but the Africans all insisted that a strange circular saucer-shaped object had flown along the valley below and had then zoomed up and away over the hill-top. Aeroplanes and helicopters were virtually unknown in the area, so the manager drew pictures of them but the African miners said they had not seen these. No, they said, it was "more like a saucer." I cannot remember the details. What puzzled the manager greatly was that most of the Africans were of the Bilokali or newly converted

A MESSAGE FROM THE UKRAINE

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RIAP Bulletin (RB) is the official newsletter of the Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena (RIAP), established in 1992 by the Kharkov-based Aerospace Company "Vertical". The Institute aims at scientific studies in the fields of the UFO problem and non-classical SETI. (See: FSR, Vol.38, No. 3, p.19). RIAP has started its newsletter "RIAP Bulletin" (RB), published in English. The first two issues of RB have already been issued. The first one contains the papers "*Astrodynamical Aspects of Palaeovisitorology*" by A.V. Arkhipov and "*UFOs as objects of study by Terrestrial Physics*", by V.A. Buerakov. In following issues there will appear, in particular, a survey of the problem of the famous 1908 Tunguska explosion, written by the leading Russian specialist on it, Dr. Nikolay V. Vasiliev, Member of Academy; a series of papers by A.V. Arkhipov, dealing with the search for artificial ET objects on the Moon; a paper by A.V. Beletsky on the current state of affairs in post-Soviet Ufology; a report on examination of the "Kassimov Ball" — a supposed ET artifact found in the former Soviet Union a few years ago, and many other materials.

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African Christians, who would have preferred martyrdom to telling a lie, and the manner of their disturbance of him in his office had also been most extraordinary. Anyhow there the matter rested for some months until one evening a Science Fiction film was shown in the compound. As soon as "saucers" appeared on the screen the people leapt to their feet shouting, in the local language, "*That's what we saw!*".

It was about this time that a Canadian family saw and photographed a cluster of disc-shaped objects above Kabale in Western Uganda, near where the mining incident had taken place. Apparently there were so many reports of UFOs in the area at the time that the press showed little interest ■