

dull black face. Furthermore, inside the bulb it is not a vacuum, but a gas of light pressure, and this gas will become heated only before the black faces, and not before the shiny faces, when light (or another form of e.m. waves) falls on them. The heated gas expands, and presses the black faces away, which causes the rotation. The speed of rotation is a measure for the intensity of the radiation. Therefore when calibrated the thing can serve as a meter for radiation-intensity.

I have been very much amused by the article by Mr. Gordon Creighton commencing on page 23, and at first I didn't know if it had to be taken

seriously or not. But your comment at the end put me wise!

Is any more data known about the Pascagoula case? I only read about it in my regional paper and in the German "UFO-Nachrichter," that was in October. But I didn't receive any UFO-Investigators either since October. I am intrigued. It sounds rather like the Betty and Barney Hill case, the book of which is published in Dutch.

I got a nice letter from Mr. Rho Sigma (of course it was easy to see through his pseudonym, access to Product Engineering did the trick), telling me he had completed the M/S of the English version of his

book and was looking for an editor. It will be very much more extensive than the German version, in fact he called the latter a "pilot"-publication. I hope it will appear soon.

In fact UFO-interest appears to be very unhealthy, Ruppelt, Edwards, MacDonald dead, Rho Sigma and K. Veit coronaries, etc. All of us here have to take care of ourselves!*

Yours sincerely,
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ROUND-UP OF THE FRENCH WAVE

Preliminary reports of some of the events of the Autumn and Winter months of 1973-1974

BELOW are listed brief accounts summarised from newspaper reports of a few of the events that have recently caused a stir in North-Western Europe, particularly France. We have entitled this the "French" Wave, but it will be seen that reports also emanate from Belgium; others, from Italy, will be recorded separately. The signs are that these are part of a new global wave of UFO reports.

We are indebted to Messieurs J. Bastide, of Aix-en-Provence, and Aimé Michel, for their kind assistance in sending us the news clippings — therefore from sources mostly in the South of France — from which this preliminary report is made. M. Michel has gone so far as to suggest that the number of accounts eventually may be comparable in volume with those of the famous 1954 wave. At first sight, however, there do not yet appear to be the same high percentage of spectacular landing and low-level events, but maybe these are early days.

Translations have been made, as usual, by Gordon Creighton.

Maubeuge, September 3, 1973: Two objects seen over the area of Maubeuge, which is in the north, near the Belgian frontier. The first thing that was seen was a luminous red cylinder, flying at about 4 metres from the ground, silently, at times rising vertically. Seen by two witnesses, the UFO was like a cylinder 4 metres x 2 metres with rounded ends and surrounded by a reddish halo.

Le Méridional of September 11, 1973

Bagnoles, November 28(?), 1973: A silvery ball with a long trail of the same colour was seen over Bagnoles.

Midi Libre of November 29, 1973

Valensole, November 29, 1973: Sighting of 28 UFOs from Valensole, six of them headed for Draguignan. (At Draguignan, on October 19, three entities 2 metres in height were seen. The case is being investigated for *Lumières dans la Nuit* by Monsieur Chasseigne.)

Radio report of November 29, 1973

Saint Hypolite Amach, November 30, 1973: It was reported that at 7.00 p.m. on November 30, two people at Sainte Hypolite Amach (name as reported may be corrupt?) saw a ball, or circle, travelling on an elliptical course which fell rapidly after reaching the peak of its curve. It was flying from North to South. The colour was a pronounced "bluish" and it had a sort of "hairy tail" like a comet. The speed was described as high, and witnesses said that it seemed to be quite far off. [This sighting seems to have been at almost the same time as a spectacular case at Torino (Turin), Italy, where the echo of an unidentified object said to be the size of a DC-8 was recorded on the radar screen at the airport control tower. A civilian pilot who picked up the control tower's report said he saw a luminous globe, purple, blue and red in colour, coming towards him at an estimated distance of 3 km. Then it turned away and made off at approximately 900 km.p.h. The pilot and passengers aboard an Alitalia airliner also observed the departure of the object at a staggering speed.]

French radio (*France-Inter*) report at 6.00 p.m. on December 2, 1973

Brussels, Belgium, December 1/2, 1973: Between midnight and 01.15 a UFO was over the Brussels area. It was described as a perfectly circular or disc-shaped object which emitted flashes of light. During the first fifteen minutes the colour changed from white to yellow and then to pale orange. Apparent changes of shape also took place. Later, when the point of light had dwindled and vanished, a faintly glowing disc seemed to have taken its place.

Le Soir (Bruxelles) of December 3, 1973

Bonneville-Carteret, December 2, 1973: Two fishermen of Bonneville-Carteret (opposite the Channel Islands), Georges Jean, aged 44, and his son Noël, aged 18, report that on Sunday December 2, at about 5.30 a.m., they watched for about 45 minutes a great stationary incandescent yellow mass on the beach at Carteret. They approached until about 150 metres from it, but then took fright when it began to revolve luminous beams. Retreating to a slope about 300 metres away, they were then able to see that the thing was about 1.5 metres by 1.5 metres. They saw it turn slowly

into a glowing ball the size of a balloon. Its yellow glow went out at about 6.05 a.m., but a bluish-green light still remained. Two hours later, returning to the beach, they found it was gone. No marks were found in the sand.

Courrier de l'Ouest of December 7, 1973

In a discussion of this same Bonneville-Carteret report one newspaper account revealed how the area was agog with rumour. It seems that anti-atomic protection equipment had since been found on the beach nearby, together with underwater signalling apparatus and inscriptions in *English!* An officer of the Gendarmerie explained that there was nothing extraordinary about such a find. "You expect lots of odd things washed up on beaches," he added. The Gendarmerie were investigating the report, but it seemed that fantastic rumours were abroad, such as "Invasion by the British," and "Espionage," etc. More speculation has been stirred up by a local radio ham's announcement that at the time the two fishermen were watching the thing on the beach there was a break in the reception of British radio stations.

Le Provençal of December 9, 1973

Franco-Italian border, December 5, 1973: According to a message relayed from the Marseille-Provence radio station, flying saucers were being observed "in profusion" over the Franco-Italian border — an item broadcast at 7.45 a.m. Again, at 12.40 on the same day, Marseille-Provence radio reported UFOs over the border area and also at Aigues-Mortes.

French radio (*France-Inter*) reports at the times stated on December 5, 1973

Cailar, Camargue, December 5, 1973: In a most mysterious fashion, during night of December 4/5, a valuable herd of bulls, in fields near Cailar, in the Camargue close to the River Vistre, panicked and hurled themselves from the 2-metre-high banks, and were drowned in the river. In all 65 animals were lost, and these formed part of the valuable herds owned by M. Aubanel, son-in-law of the Marquis de Baroncelli, great lover of bulls and bullfighting.

Le Provençal of December 7, 1973

In more discussion on the destruction of the herd of bulls, it was stated that the area was alive with speculation as to the cause. The stated official view was that a strong gust of the *Mistral* wind blew them into the river. But Norbert Giambasi, a young research engineer of the University of Montpellier, had suggested that a UFO was the more likely cause. And indeed, two inhabitants of Gallargues-le-Montieux (names not divulged) say they saw "...a queer red luminous wheel" that night over the bottomlands where the bulls were. At Perols, in the same area, there was also a local power blackout. Once again quoting the young research engineer, the newspaper says he mentions that there have been many cases of mystery effects on animals by UFOs. The work of Gordon Creighton, who had compiled a catalogue of these happenings for a specialized journal, was cited. It was pointed out that Creighton had shown that animals react instinctively to UFOs with fear since they know UFOs bring death and destruction.

Midi Libre of December 19, 1973

Saint Tropez, December 6/7, 1973: For what it is worth, note should be taken of two big, simultaneous forest fires in the Saint Tropez area.

Le Provençal and *Le Soir*, both of December 7, 1973

Fabrègues, Montpellier, December 6, 1973: It is now revealed that, on the evening of December 6, at about 6.45, two boys of the village of Fabrègues, Fernand Pérez (aged 14) and Jean-Paul Dazevedo (15), students of a Montpellier college, went on their mopeds to the very

ancient chapel of Saint-Baudile, on a hill 5 km. from their village, to test our their machines on the gradients. They found the chapel seemingly lit up by orange floodlights, and then, leaving their machines, they advanced on foot and came in sight of a circular, aluminium craft, standing on legs and with lights around it that flashed like the lights of aircraft, red and white alternately. On the top of the cupola there was a sort of "blister" more brightly lit than the rest. They could hear a faint hum from it, like that of an electric motor. They stood rooted with fear. After a few seconds of watching, a double sliding-door opened in its side and they saw a small ladder unroll. At this point they were so scared of what might come out next that they turned and fled back to their machines, and home. But the craft chased them, and as they dashed along there was this great orange glow above them. They were too scared to stop and see how high it was. Back in the village, they told three other lads, Thierry Castel, (15½), Jean Rodriguez (15) and Jean Yunta (15) who also set off for the chapel on their scooters. They did not see the saucer, but were so scared by the orange glow that they too fled.

Now a veritable *chasse à la soucoupe* began, with all the boys and their families joining in. Two carloads set out to seek the saucer. In the first, driven by M. Jean Rodriguez, a farmer, were his son and four boys aged 13 and 15½. The second car, driven by M. Antoine Bas, contained his two sons, his daughter, and son-in-law. M. Bas stopped his car 300 metres from the chapel, and all of them saw a round luminous object which seemed about to land just at the spot where the boys had first seen it. But it did not land, and made off towards Sète. He followed in the car, and once more they saw it. Many other motorists saw it and stopped. The time was just past 10.00 p.m.

The driver of the second car, M. Jean Rodriguez, farmer, said he and his party of boys examined the landing spot closely, by the light of the car headlights. They found freshly made marks, four holes about 30 cms. wide and 1.30 m. apart, set in a square. On one side of the square (the side facing towards where the first two boys had stood when they saw the UFO) there were also two smaller holes, a few centimetres deep and closer together. They looked precisely like the holes a *ladder* would make. And all around, the ground had a "swept" effect, as if by blast.

M. Bas went up there again last Saturday, at 11.00 p.m., and again they saw the great reddish light there.

The mother of one of the first boys was far less bold, and said all she can remember is how pale her son was when he came in that night (this is Fernand Pérez) and how he went off to bed without eating any supper, had nightmares all night, and kept shouting in his sleep "Quick, hurry, let's go!"

Midi Libre December 22, 1973

Gien, Loiret, December 13, 1973: Several people, including Gendarmes, saw a conical UFO, about 5 metres wide at the base, and 3.5 metres high, flying silently and fast, emitting a white light with flashing red lights set in a triangle. They watched it for 20 minutes. Then it rose to a height of 400–500 metres and flew off to the South East.

Le Soir of December 13, 1973

Languedoc, December 28, 1973: Many people see shining balls flying North-South at high speed over the Gard and Hérault areas. At Lunel-Viel, a M. Francis Vallette saw a crystal-blue thing like a handball, over the mayor's office. It had a tail 5 or 6 metres long and was flying slowly and silently. Then it speeded up and vanished towards the sea. Others also saw it. Many others saw a shining bluish crescent, thick in the centre, with short points, flying very fast and silently, North West — South East. At Montpellier a M. Huetter said he saw a long green thing fly overhead at terrifying speed. At Ceyras, a Mme. Servat and her husband (an aeronautical engineer) saw a very bright circular thing