

# A CE-III ENCOUNTER IN FIRENZE IN SUMMER 1985?

(Translation from Italian)

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We are much indebted to Dr Roberto Pinotti, Director of the Italian National Ufological Centre (C.U.N.) for sending us the Italian text of this case and we are delighted to welcome Dr Pinotti, an old friend of FSR, onto our masthead as an FSR Consultant! — G.C.

IN the early hours of August 8, 1985, in Firenze, Signora Domenica Cantone, unable to sleep owing to the heat, went out on to the balcony of her sixth-floor apartment.

It was about 3.30 a.m. when she saw an object slowly and silently approaching from her left-hand side, from the direction of the Cascine. Arriving at a certain point, the strange thing halted, on a level with her balcony and a few metres from her, and directly above a little football-pitch right beside the building. Viewing the object closely, the lady was able to observe a central egg-shaped body of a luminous silvery hue, surmounted by a transparent, glassy, cupola (through which she was able to see the houses on the other side of the cupola).

But her surprise did not end there. For, inside the cupola she beheld two "men" who "were talking together" and who now and then broke off their conversation in order to gaze fixedly at her. All she could see of them was their heads, each of which seemed to be surmounted by two great "ears" (which also appeared as though they might be part of the "caps" in which their heads were swathed).

Suddenly, from the base of the object, three "legs" slowly began to emerge. (The lady called them "arms", as the daily newspaper *La Città* of August 24, 1985, later reported.) They were of the same colour and luminosity as the central body of the object. The strange object appeared to be desirous of landing. At that point the lady, seized with panic (for she thought the two men were bent on abducting her) ran back into the room to awaken her husband and tell him there was a UFO. But her husband did not awaken. The lady ran back on to the balcony, only a moment later, and saw that the UFO had already started to draw up its "legs". The two men meanwhile still remained where they were, gazing fixedly at her. A few moments later, the legs now drawn in, the object departed silently and at lightning speed in the direction of Monte Morello, emitting as it went an even more vivid light than it had before — so intense that "it hurt my eyes to look at it".

The time was now 4.00 a.m. Half an hour had elapsed since she caught sight of it. The lady, still terrified, then went back to bed, having first carefully shut all the windows and drawn all the blinds. She

was unable to close her eyes and sleep again that night.

Today, that lady is still terrified, and ever since that night she sleeps with all the windows barred, and in order to endure the heat of summer nights, her only thought now is to get herself a ventilator.

Two days after her sighting, some boys found marks on the sportsfield beside the building: three circular imprints with a deeper central area containing rubble and fragments of compressed carbon (at least that is what they looked like to the witness), and an outer area where there was a greyish powder.

As, during the interval since the affair, the rumour of her having experienced a ufological event spread through the neighbourhood, the marks discovered were considered to have been made by the object seen. In that case, it must have *landed* there. (The lady did not *see* it land there, but she does not exclude the possibility that the strange machine might have returned to the spot after she was back in bed. For it is virtually certain that we can rule out any theory that the object might have landed while the lady went to call her husband, since, as we have already stated, it all happened in an instant.) Subsequently, during the days after the discovery of the marks, many people have, out of curiosity, visited the site of this presumed landing, and have gathered up and taken away numerous bits of the detritus. Journalists from the Florence (Firenze) daily paper "*La Città*", were among them. But "*La Città*" denies this.

But unfortunately nobody else was a witness of the event on that night of August 8, 1985. This does seem a bit strange, as the lady lives in a large building and there are so many other buildings around about, with many families living in them. Moreover, that night many apartments had their windows open owing to the heat (as the witness has told us.) However, the fact remains that no other witness has come forward.

Those who have investigated the case have found the witness to be well balanced and perfectly normal, and anything but inclined to fantasy. (Her husband is a Police Inspector, in the Carabinieri.)

As for the marks found on the ground, it is impossible for us to express a definite opinion. And heavy summer rains have since removed the last traces of them.

# A LINK BETWEEN UFOS AND POLTERGEISTS?

REFERENCE has already been made many times to certain "poltergeistic" aspects of our subject, and there is no need to recapitulate these. Likewise there have been a considerable number of UFO reports in which entities have allegedly been seen which did not appear to consist of the same sort of matter as ourselves, being sometimes *more dense, more solid* than we are, and sometimes *less dense, less solid*, indeed at times *transparent*. In fact, it seems impossible to say where "psychic phenomena" end and "UFO phenomena" begin.

Elsie Dubugras, one of Brazil's principal parapsychological researchers, whom we had the pleasure of meeting when she visited England some years ago, has recorded a strange experience which she says befell a party of six people who were travelling in an estate car along the highway between the new Brazilian Capital, Brasília, and Belo Horizonte, one day during the late 1960s or early 1970s.

Finding that there seemed to be something wrong with the radiator, they pulled up and got out to have a look. And no sooner had they stopped than they were bombarded with rocks and stones (a typical "poltergeist" phenomenon).

The driver of the car caught sight of what seemed to be several "shadowy figures" near by, so he promptly reached for his revolver and fired four shots at them, but the shots had no effect and the stones kept falling around the travellers.

Two miles further along the road, they came to a police post, where they promptly reported the incident. The police thereupon sent a patrol car to the

spot where the incident had occurred, and when they arrived there the police too found themselves bombarded with stones. By this stage it had evidently grown dark, for the police threw a floodlight over the area from whence the stones appeared to be coming, but there was nothing to be seen, and their search was fruitless. The police took some of the stones back to their station as evidence, and when they arrived there the stones disintegrated into sand.

Meanwhile, the ordeal of the six travellers was not over, for no sooner had they started out again on their journey than renewed assaults on them began. One of the doors of the car flew open, and two passengers struggled in vain to try to close it and keep it closed.

Then one of the party observed a figure "running at very fast speed beside the car". He too took out his revolver and attempted to pull the trigger, but nothing happened!

With enormous relief the party finally reached their destination at 2.30 a.m.

When examining their car next morning, they found to their vast astonishment that, although they had seen it repeatedly struck by flying rocks and stones throughout the entire journey, *the paintwork of the vehicle was in perfect condition, and there was not a scratch or a dent to be seen.*

The Brazilian Police admitted that they were baffled, but, as Elsie Dubugras remarked, this was just one of the hundreds of anomalous and inexplicable events that are reported daily in Brazil, a country which seems to teem with paranormal phenomena of every conceivable kind. — G.C.

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## A UFO ENTITY SEEN IN MALAYSIA (1986)

In a letter dated August 13, 1986, to FSR from Mr L. Blundell, c/o The Malaysian Helicopter Services, Kerten Airport, Kemaman, Terengganu, Malaysia, we learn that at about 9 p.m. on July 27, 1986, several local people saw a "ball of fire", approximately from 3 ft. to 4 ft. in diameter, descend from the sky and then hover over a large field directly in front of their houses.

The witnesses also state that an entity came out of the object and began to walk around the field. The height of the entity was about 3 ft.

Apart from these details, nobody seems to have reported any other features.

They say that a few minutes later the entity returned to the object, which then took off. A small white ball seemed to be following it. No sound was reported.

Mr Blundell heard of the affair on the following day, and also heard that many footprints had been left in the field.

He therefore went to the field, but succeeded in finding only three prints there, in soft sand. However, the distances between the three prints did not seem to make any sense, as they were very far apart, i.e., approximately 6 ft. between the first two (see photograph No. 1) and a distance of about 10 ft. before the next single print (see photos nos. 2 and 3).

Mr Blundell heard that the UFO returned again to the area on the following two evenings, but that no entity was seen on those occasions.

(Mr Blundell sent us 3 interesting coloured photographs of the footprints, but unfortunately they are not clear enough for publication.)