

ITAPERUNA: 1970-1971

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WE have frequently drawn attention to the fact that UFOs seem to display a preference for certain towns or regions. One such town has been Itaperuna, located in the northern part of the State of Rio de Janeiro. In SBEDV Bulletin No. 72/73 (January/April 1970)* we gave some details regarding initial "flyovers" during the period 1968-69. We now propose to give the account of some of the happenings in and around Itaperuna during the years 1970 and 1971, taking them in chronological order (*see table below*).

The present study is nevertheless quite far from being complete, for the following reasons:

- a. Although Paulo Caetano, the principal witness, has in many respects collaborated fully with us, as is shown by our various interrogations and by the photos, he has not displayed the same spirit of co-operation with regard to reproduction of his UFO photographs,† for he has given us no "contact" copy (i.e. print of the same size as the original film) of any of the three series of photos he claims to have taken, but has only given us enlargements of the first two photos. However, time alone may tell us the reasons for his behaviour.
- b. There have also been discrepancies in Paulo's

descriptions of the shapes of the saucers he claims to have seen, for sketches drawn by him in October 1971 and on November 20, 1971, respectively show some differences.

- c. The third difficulty results from the strange mental reactions (state of amnesia) presented by those who have been in the most close contact with the saucer occupants at Itaperuna. This engenders a certain difficulty in establishing and defining the true facts. And it would only be possible to arrive at any real conclusion if the persons would all consent to submit themselves to interrogation under the influence of hypnosis, naturally within the framework of the strictest medical and moral ethics.

We will also mention the case of Benedito Miranda who, like Paulo Caetano, presents us with contradictions, which fact has induced us to reflect upon the degree to which the impact of their

* *Flying Saucer Review's* English translation of the whole of that report by Dr. Buhler appeared as "Brazilian Cases in 1968 and 1969" in FSR CASE HISTORIES, Supplements 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of 1970-1.

† These photographs show the usual luminous, hazy objects (egg-shaped). - G. C.

Episode	Date	Details	Eyewitnesses	SBEDV Bulletin ref.
1	Nov. 1970	Saucer follows car.	8 girls	81/84
2	Sept. 22, 1971	First contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
3	Sept. 22/23, 1971	First contact with entities.	Benedito Miranda	85/89 (This article)
4	Oct. 10/11, 1971	Saucer follows bus.	39 passengers	81/84
5	Oct. 11/12, 1971	Second contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
6	Oct. 20/21, 1971	Saucer follows car.	Judge and Professor	81/84
7	Nov. 15, 1971	First photo of UFO.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
8	Nov. 16, 1971	Second photo of UFO.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
9	Nov. 17, 1971	Third contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
10	Dec. 5, 1971	Fourth contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
11	Dec. 19, 1971	Levitation by beam of light.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
12	Dec. 19, 1971	Saucers over Itaperuna.	Virtually entire population	85/89 (This article)
13	Dec. 20, 1971	Entities seen.	Manuel da Silva e Souza	85/89 (This article)

experiences will have had an effect in throwing the behaviour of both of them off balance. We have been able to quote a number of cases which suggest that such things can happen. And maybe the technical resources of the extra-terrestrials, of a nature not only different from, but also superior to, our own, may also contribute towards this disequilibrium, which is entirely comprehensive on its own account and entirely independent of any link with metaphysical phenomena. This therefore will be the guideline pattern for our thinking.

My main purpose in the present article lies rather in the direction of highlighting the difficulties encountered in investigation and emphasising the discrepancies that are present, with a view to their correction in the future.

These accounts should therefore be regarded rather as an attempt to demonstrate the many difficulties encountered in our investigations, difficulties to which the attention of researchers must be alerted for the future.

BENEDITO MIRANDA'S CONTACT WITH CREW ENTITIES

1. Our interviews with members of his family

Benedito Miranda is a truckdriver, 48 years old, of sturdy build, married, with ten children. For the past three years he has been living, with his family, in Cataguases, in the State of Minas Gerais. He is however a native of Itaperuna, where he attended school up to the third year of primary, and where he has a sister living and numerous friends from childhood days. Itaperuna is two hours by car from his present home in Cataguases.

On December 5, 1971, we interviewed Maria José, one of his daughters, who had been present at noon on October 25, 1971, when her father arrived home with his clothes soiled with red earth or mud and with a dark sort of earth like asphalt. His eyes were red. He asked for a lotion to bathe his eyes, and then went straight off to bed. A few hours later he came out to his wife and children and, complaining of a headache, asked them to close the windows, as the bright daylight was aggravating his pain.

2. His statements at the Itaperuna Police Headquarters

It appears from the record that, at 2.00 a.m. during the night of September 24/25, 1971...

"There appeared Sr. Benedito Miranda, popularly known as "Badita", Brazilian citizen, married, resident at rua da Liberdade 248 in Cataguases, and stated that, when returning from Itaperuna to Cataguases, at the Carangola bridge on highway BR-040 (see map, Fig. 1), he came upon a strange round object in the middle of the road and blocking the passage of his car. Upon approaching the said object, he saw emerge from its interior two men of small stature each measuring approximately 30 cms. in height. Then the said creatures took from the belt of one of them, a big roundish object resembling a torch, from which came a beam of blue, and at times reddish, light. They threw



Benedito Miranda

the beam in his direction, and when it struck him he was lifted up and suspended in the air as though he were a bird. The more powerful the beam of light grew, the higher he rose in the air, until he was at a height of about 50 metres. He felt totally paralyzed, being unable even to cry for help. After some five minutes or so had passed, the lights of a car appeared on a high area towards Retiro and Muriae. The said creatures then slowly lowered the beam of light towards the informant's car and placed him inside the car without even touching him with their hands, the whole thing being done solely

by the power of the beam of light coming from the aforesaid strange object (torch). Then they entered the round object, which flew up into the sky at an incalculable speed. The informant stated that it took him about thirty minutes to return to his normal state, owing to the great fright he had suffered."

"Signed: Benedito Miranda
(Declaration duly taken down by Police Investigator Nilson Almeida Amorim.)"

Notes by SBEDV

1. In actual fact, Benedito Miranda lives in another street, and in a house with another number, and we could not even find the street named by him.
2. The bridge over the river Carangola is 4 km. from the centre of Itaperuna. See map in Fig. 2.
3. We have altered the text of the declaration in one or two places to make it more intelligible to the reader.

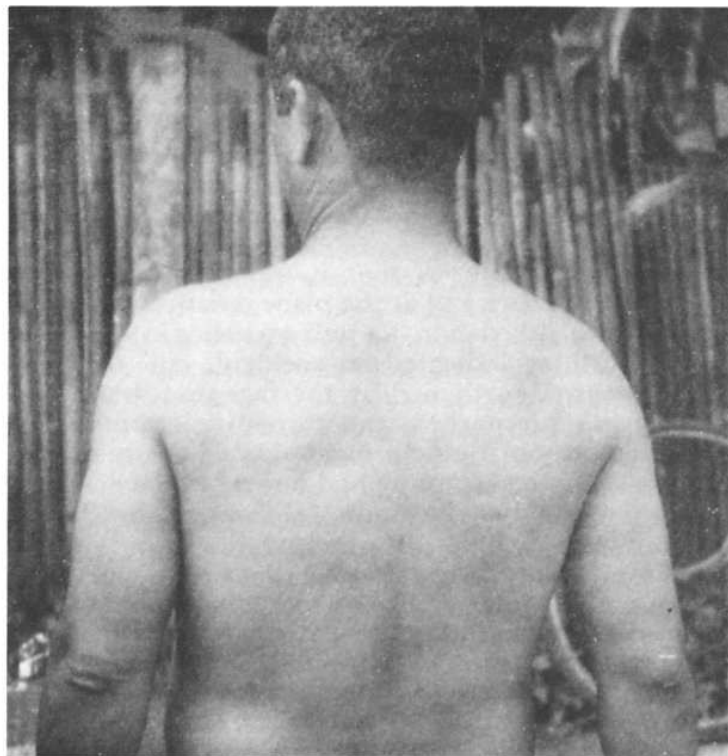
3. SBEDV Interview with Benedito Miranda

Sr. Miranda confirmed to us that, between 11.40 p.m. and midnight on September 24, 1971, he was travelling from Itaperuna to his home in Cataguases; that he remembers stopping his car at the bridge over the river Carangola in order to verify a defect in the steering (suspension). But he is unable to explain why, apparently, he fell asleep, seeing that he only awoke again at 6.30 a.m. next day, September 25, nor can he explain why he was inside his car with his clothes all soiled. He then resolved to continue the journey to Cataguases, where his wife complained about the clothing dirtied with red mud, and she also noticed his reddened eyes. By then he was feeling pain throughout the whole body; he had a cut on

the left arm; and in his left hand he felt a numbness and a tingling. Then he discovered that he had reddish-purple marks in the region of the elbow, also on the left side. On the following days his eyes were watering and remained bloodshot and felt hot. He also had a headache for about six days and suffered from insomnia for approximately a week.

When the witness was interviewed by us on the first occasion, (October 2, 1971), ten days after the episode, all that could be seen in the region of the elbow was a zone of slightly stronger pigmentation; but his left hand still showed a slight tremor of the fingers.

When we saw Sr. Miranda for the last time, on December 5, 1971, he told us that he still felt pain in the left arm after a hard day's work. He declared himself to be willing to be subjected to sessions of hypnosis, in order to find the explanations not only for the sleep that overcame him in the night of September 24/25, but also the reason for his dirty clothing, his bloodshot eyes, his headache, and his statement to the Police at Itaperuna. He would only let himself be convinced that he really had said all that at the Police Station when he checked his signature at the end of the statement. He even maintained at first that it was some joke in bad taste, but, urged by his sister, he finally went and verified personally the genuineness of his signature on the declaration at Police Headquarters. After that, on the occasion of our last visit to him, a preparatory session was started with him on that same day (December 5, 1971) by Dr. A. M. de O., to assess the feasibility of subjecting Sr. Miranda to hypnosis. Although the results of this preparatory session were satisfactory, the work of investigation has been greatly harmed, because in fact there have been no further sessions of hypnosis.



Back view of Benedito showing elbows.



Testing Benedito's hand for slight tremor.

4. Some Similar Cases in the Literature

i) The case at Kempsey in Australia

In Flying Saucer Review for July/August 1971 (p. 20) Eileen Buckle gives an account of the case of an Australian aborigine who, on the night of April 2, 1971, through the window of his house, saw a round face pressed up against the glass, spying on what was going on. Then he felt his body rising upwards and being impelled through the upper part of the window and falling upon some steps outside. And then, panic-stricken, he took to his heels.

The biggest surprise of all however was to come next day, in the form of amnesia (selective loss of memory, not total). Referring to the incident of the previous night, he now attributed the wound on his hand to an accident he had had when he had put his fist through a neighbour's window that he was mending...

ii) The Case of Betty and Barney Hill

This case had wide repercussions in American UFO investigation circles, and in Brazil the review *Manchete* of October 29 and November 5, 1966, stated (p. 138 of the issue of October 29):

"It was daylight when they arrived home. Their watches had stopped and never worked again. They had expected to be home at 3.00 a.m., but only got there at 5.00. Two hours of their lives had passed without their perceiving it, and they only realized some months later that they had lost this time."

When, on account of a strange depression and psychosis, they decided to appeal to the psychiatrist Dr. Benjamin Simon, he subjected them to hypnosis in separate sessions. In their accounts, given in isolation, both agreed that they had undergone strange tests inside a flying saucer, and there was even a dialogue with the extraterrestrial beings. (From *The Interrupted Journey*, by John G. Fuller.)

5. Accounts in the SBEDV Bulletin of saucer occupants going up and coming down on beams of light

In Bulletin No. 10 (July 1959), p.5, dealing with the contact case of Luiz Henrique da Silva, we recorded how, from a flying saucer at a height of 100 metres, "there emerged a human being, and he descended to the ground in a spiral..." (Translation in FSR for May/June 1967, p.7.)

In the CICOANI account of the Sagrada Família case, Belo Horizonte, which we gave in SBEDV Bulletins Nos. 48/50 (January/June 1966) and 51/53 (July/December 1966) an entity came down and went up again between two beams of light projected from the saucer down on to the ground. (English Translation: G. Creighton, *The One-Eyed Entities of Belo Horizonte*, in FSR Special Issue No. 3, UFO PERCIPIENTS, September 1969.) Likewise Dirceu Góes of Sarandi, in the South Brazilian State of Rio Grande do Sul, describes how two beings descended rapidly to the ground in a spiral movement and in association with a beam of light projected downwards from the saucer. (See SBEDV Bulletin No. 74/79 of May 1970/February 1971, page 37.)

PAULO CAETANO AND THE ENTITIES

1. Interview with a Doctor

Prompted by the headlines in the Rio de Janeiro papers of September 28 and 29, 1971, we set out for Itaperuna, which lies in the north of the State of Rio de Janeiro, at a distance of some 360 kms. Arriving there on October 2, we were unable to see Paulo Caetano Silveira immediately, for he had been invited to Rio de Janeiro by TV Tupi of that city. But our time was not wasted, as we were able to interview Dr. Munir Bassad, the doctor who, on the day in question, September 23, attended to Paulo Caetano at the SAMDU casualty clinic where he had been sent by the Police.

Dr. Bassad told us that he noticed a certain excitement in Paulo, a generalized tremor throughout the body, and a certain degree of difficulty in getting out of the car at the Clinic. His arms and clothing were covered with dust, as though he had been rolling on the ground. As he already knew Paulo, who had been his patient before, he asked him:

"What's all this unseasonable larking about? What's the matter with you?"

To which Paulo replied:

"I saw something ahead of me—I don't know what it was, I just don't know...I can't get control of myself. You, who are a doctor, you know me...there was no reason for seeing what I saw."

After he had calmed down a bit, the doctor urged him to tell what he had actually seen. Paulo continued, and told him that he had been on a business trip to Tombos, and emphasised that he had not been drinking, because he was under his own doctor's orders not to, and Dr. Bassad was able to confirm this.

2. Interview with another Doctor

On October 17, 1971, we interviewed another doctor. This was Dr. Cirley Crespo. He was the first person to contact Paulo after the latter's experience, this being simply as an eyewitness, when Dr. Crespo was travelling by car on highway RJ-100 and passed through Serraria, ten kilometres from Itaperuna (see map at Fig. 2). Travelling with him were his father-in-law, in the back of the car, and his brother-in-law, sitting beside him on his right. They were bound for Itaperuna.

Dr. Crespo told us that it was about 8.00 p.m. when, on the date and at the place mentioned, he saw a man who asked him to pull up. He did so, as the man's clothing indicated an accident, and this hypothesis was strengthened by the fact that there was a *Vemaguete* car parked, and turned half-around, on the shoulder on the right hand side of the road. The man was Paulo, whom he had not recognized at first. Paulo headed first towards Dr. Crespo's brother-in-law, saying:

"Man, I was nearly a goner!"

The occupants of the car could all see that he seemed to be sweating heavily, despite the fact that the temperature at the time was relatively cold. They noticed too a generalized tremor throughout his body; terror was stamped on his face. Dr. Crespo also noticed some slight scratches on Paulo in the region of the left elbow.

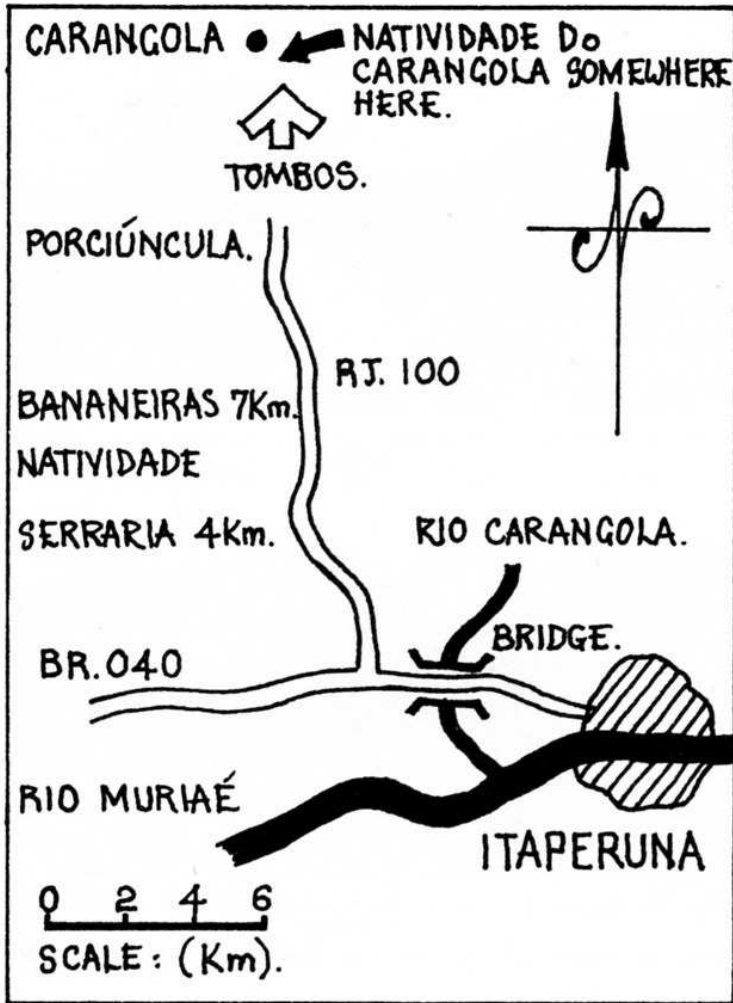


Figure 1: Map of the district

Speaking in irregular bursts, Paulo told them that he had been coming from Carangola when an object, of the approximate size of a *Volkswagen* and emitting a red light which later turned blue, blocked the road; that his car was thrown sideways off the road; and that he himself was then drawn out of the car, the door of which opened by itself.

Paulo then asked whether Dr. Crespo would give him a lift into Itaperuna and whether someone else would follow with his own car as it was impossible for himself to drive it. As however Dr. Crespo was in a great hurry and as he had his father-in-law with him, he could not agree to this suggestion, but offered to tell Paulo's family. But Paulo preferred that he should tell the Police, who would then make the necessary arrangements. After having informed the Police as promised and taken his father-in-law home, Dr. Crespo and his brother-in-law returned to the spot as they were convinced that something serious had happened there. But they found neither Paulo nor his car there.

3. Transcript of Paulo Caetano's Statement to the Police

"State of Rio de Janeiro.
Secretariat of Public Security,
11th R.A. Police Station."

"Service Report

From: Investigator Gilberto Alves da Silva
To: Assistant Commissioner Airton Mouta
Teixeira."

"Mr. Commissioner:

I beg to inform you, for whatever purposes may be deemed necessary, that at 2100 hours yesterday, September 22, 1971, there appeared at this Police Delegation the citizen PAULO CAETANO SILVEIRA, Brazilian, native of this State, white, married, aged 27, son of Júlio Caetano Filho and Alzerinda Caetano Silveira, resident in this town at No. 213, rua Bonifácio Alonso, who made the following statement:

"That, between 1930 and 2000 hours, he was coming from Tombos do Carangola (State of Minas Gerais) and travelling in his *Vemaguete* car, registration number HA-0364 (RJ) along the highway linking us with the municipality of Natividade. At the spot called 'Serraria' his attention was aroused by a strange object ('flying saucer') in the middle of the road, which caused the paralyzation [SIC] of his car. Although he cannot explain how this was, the door of the car opened and he was drawn out, as though a magnetic force were acting upon him, and he was dragged into the interior of the object. He is unable to say anything more, and knows only that he was left beside his vehicle with some small abrasions and bruises on his left arm. Previously to that, moreover, on the Tombos road, the same object, with a beam of light (red and also bluish) had tried to interrupt his passage, and he had already informed the Chief of Police in that town (Tombos, State of Minas Gerais) of this fact. While still beside the highway, and in a visibly nervous state, Sr. Paulo asked a passing doctor from this town to inform this Police Delegation immediately upon his arrival here. This the doctor did, and the undersigned Investigator at once proceeded to the spot, but fortunately encountered nothing there."

"Signed: Gilberto Alves da Silva, Investigator.
Itaperuna, September 25, 1971."

Notes by SBEDV

The reader will certainly be surprised that, in the statement of Sr. Paulo Caetano, the presence of crew members of the flying saucer was never mentioned once. Very logically this later caused the Police Investigator to doubt Paulo's statements, for in subsequent declarations he did mention the presence of occupants.

Although the Investigator's reasoning is justifiable, our own considered opinion on this point is that the person who is involved in an episode of this nature remains blocked mentally by a kind of auto-censorship, as has been pointed out very effectively by Professor Húlvio Brant Aleixo, himself a psychologist (see SBEDV Bulletin No. 81/84, p. 214).

Sr. Paulo, it seems, only told the full details of his experience when he found himself among people more open to acceptance of the subject. On the other

hand, the opinions of the Police Investigator did themselves have an influence on the current of local opinion. We think it important to record these comments, because they demonstrate the fragility of the basis upon which public opinion – which however is formed very rapidly sometimes – is built up.

4. The Police find an Eyewitness

Our readers must understand that it was on the Itaperuna Police Headquarters itself – a nerve-centre linked with all that goes on in the community – that the rich phenomenology of the UFO problem has had its primary impact. And the man who is involved in it all there is Police Commissioner Airton Mouta Teixeira, a trained and experienced investigator, always ready to listen, and one who has been of great help to us in the UFO problem.

Now, it came to the knowledge of Commissioner Teixeira that a certain Getúlio –, manager of an estate near Serraria (where Paulo had his experience) recalled a certain interesting remark that had been made to him by a boy who worked under him. This boy was Sinfronino da Conceição Henrique, aged 17. So his father, Sr. Ernestino da Conceição Henrique, was requested to present himself at Police Headquarters. This he did, on October 15, 1971, the transcript of his statement being as follows:

“That, at 1900 hours on a day the precise date of which he does not now recall, but approximately three weeks ago, he (i.e. the son, Sinfronino) was in the house of a neighbour; that the said house is at a distance of some 100 metres or so from the highway linking Itaperuna to Natividade, and is located at the place known as Serraria. And that, having come out of the said neighbour’s house and, looking towards the road, the boy saw a vehicle parked on the edge of the said road, with its front part turned round towards Itaperuna, and with its headlights on, and that he observed, in front of the headlights, two children who at times seemed to walk in a manner different from what is normal, and gave the impression that they were floating.

“This being all that there is to state up to the present date, October 15, 1971.”

“Signed by the Declarant: Ernestino da Conceição Henrique.”††

5. SBEDV interviews the boy Sinfronino da Conceição Henrique

On October 17, 1971, we paid a visit to Sr. Ernestino da Conceição, a forty-five-year-old man with twelve children. He lives in a house built on his own land, at a distance of some 300-400 metres from highway RJ-100 where Paulo had his experience. The winding road to his house leads past the house of his neighbour José Noveca, which is only 150-200 metres or so from the highway.

Sr. Ernestino told us that on the night in question he was sitting out on a tree-stump. He had a good view of the road, though certain areas of it were masked by shrubs, so that he was unable to observe certain details. But he does remember that, on the



Top: Ernestino da Conceição Henrique. Father of the boy Sinfronino

Bottom: House of José Noveca. Seen from the main road

day in question, a car stopped there and then departed later. But his son Sinfronino had had a much better view from the house of the neighbour.

At the father’s suggestion we then went to see Sinfronino at his place of work, an estate where he is employed as a cowherd. He told us precisely the same thing, namely that, on the night in question, he had gone round to see his neighbour and friend Luiz Noveca (son of José Noveca). At our request, he repeated the precise words he had used to Sr. Getúlio, the manager of the estate. These were:

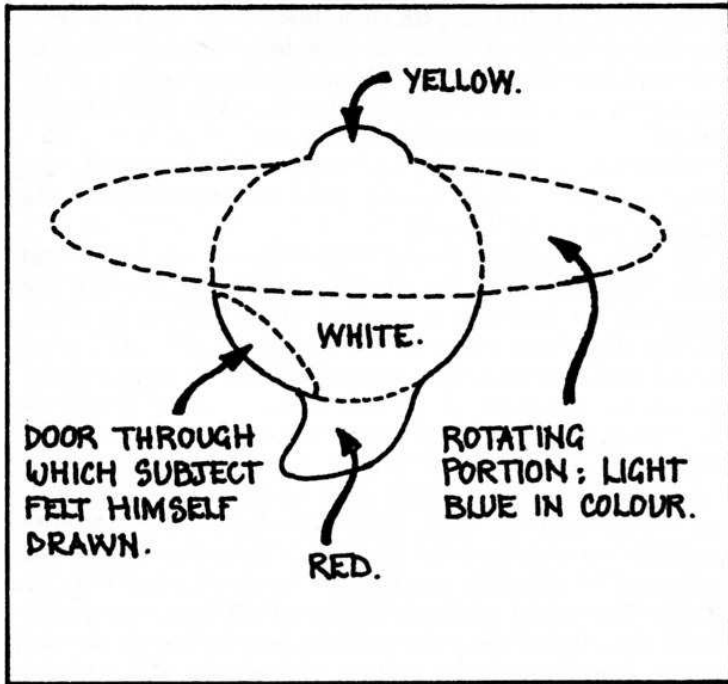
“Senhor Getúlio! I saw two little boys walking round a *Volkswagen* that stopped on the road last night!”

In reply to our further questions, Sinfronino gave the following clarifications:

to judge by their size, the “little boys” would have been about seven years old. They went around the car once. After two minutes or so he saw them no more. The car remained stationary there for 30 minutes (which is confirmed by Sinfronino’s father.

When we enquired further about his education, Sinfronino said he had been attending a course of anti-illiteracy classes for the past three years.

†† Translator’s note: The text of this declaration is given by SBEDV Bulletin as speaking of “two girl children” (duas meninas), but it is clearly a typographical error, for, as will be seen below, Sinfronino told Dr. Buhler when he interviewed him, that he had seen “two little boys” (dois meninozinhos), – G.C.



Sketch of UFO by Paulo Caetano Silveira

STATEMENTS OF PAULO CAETANO SILVEIRA

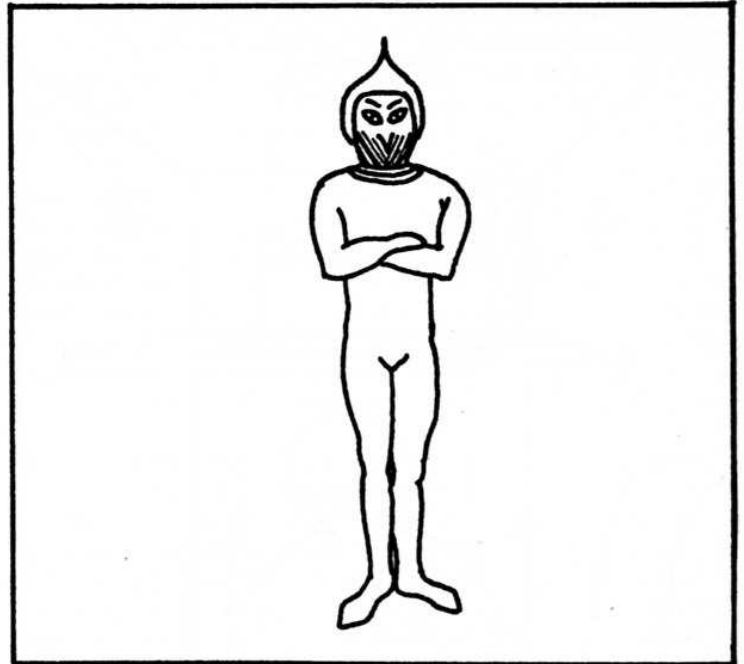
I: His first encounter with UFO Occupants

When we saw Paulo on October 16, 1971, he was still suffering from the impact of his appearance on a Television programme (Channel 6 - Guanabara). He told us that the TV cameramen who came to Itaperuna were far more concerned with finding people who would provide them with reports contrary to the facts.

He told us furthermore that he was not able to drink alcohol at the time of his experience, not only because his doctor had forbidden it on medical grounds, but also because he was much pre-occupied at the time with his wife, who was pregnant. (The child was in fact born on December 23, 1971.)

Recounting for us his experience with the UFO, he said that on September 22, 1971, he had driven in his car to Carangola in connexion with his work as a typewriter mechanic. At 7.45 p.m., when returning home, at a point 3 km. from the town of Tombos (See Map - Fig 1) he saw in his driving mirror that he was being followed by a luminous body. The distance between the object and him grew less and less, until the object was flying around the car, at a distance of about 3 metres from it. This object was red, of elliptical shape, and about 2.5 metres wide and about 3 metres high, and moving at a height of about 50 cms. from the ground. Subsequently it took on a white colouring, with a bluish sheen. Then he noticed that the car was losing speed, and finally it stopped, though the engine seemed to be working perfectly, for it speeded up when he put his foot on the accelerator. When the car came to a total halt, he tried the various gears, including the reverse, but the car would not move.

The object, completely silent, seemed to him to circle around the car for about three or four minutes, and then quietly rose into the air. Then he noticed that his car must have been in gear and the



Rough sketch of small being from the Itaperuna UFO (sketch from newspaper *O Dia* of Rio de Janeiro 3/10/1972)

engine running, for suddenly it shot forward, and then the engine died. This is what often happens with people who are learning to drive and do not yet know how to accelerate gradually and how to work the gears.

By now Paulo was terrified, and sweating heavily. He switched the engine on again, and it worked perfectly. He drove on to Tombos, arriving there five minutes later. There he reported the affair to the Chief of Police, who took it seriously, as he believed in the existence of flying saucers. The Chief took him to his own home and gave him sugared water to drink, and advised him to inform his family that he was going to stay that night in Tombos. But Paulo preferred to pursue his journey, as another twenty minutes driving would see him home.

But when he had travelled about only one or two kilometres beyond Tombos, and a little before reaching Porciúncula, he again observed in his driving mirror that there was an object following about ten metres behind him. Before he reached the town of Natividade he got a good view of the object. He stopped at the Celsinho filling-station, and told the proprietor there what was happening to him, and the man replied:

"That's nothing. Just say a *Pater Noster* and drive on. They're folk from Mars..."

When there were still 13 km. to Itaperuna, at the locality known as Bananeiras, he saw the object once more, but this time at a height of some 500 metres or so. Three kilometres further on, at Serraria, which lies at Km.4 on highway RJ-100 and 10 km. from Itaperuna, he saw, in the beam of his headlights, in the middle of the road, a dark shape which he took to be some animal. When he was still about ten metres from the object the "train all lit up, all red," and at the same moment his car skidded towards the shoulder of the road, as though by magic, and stopped.

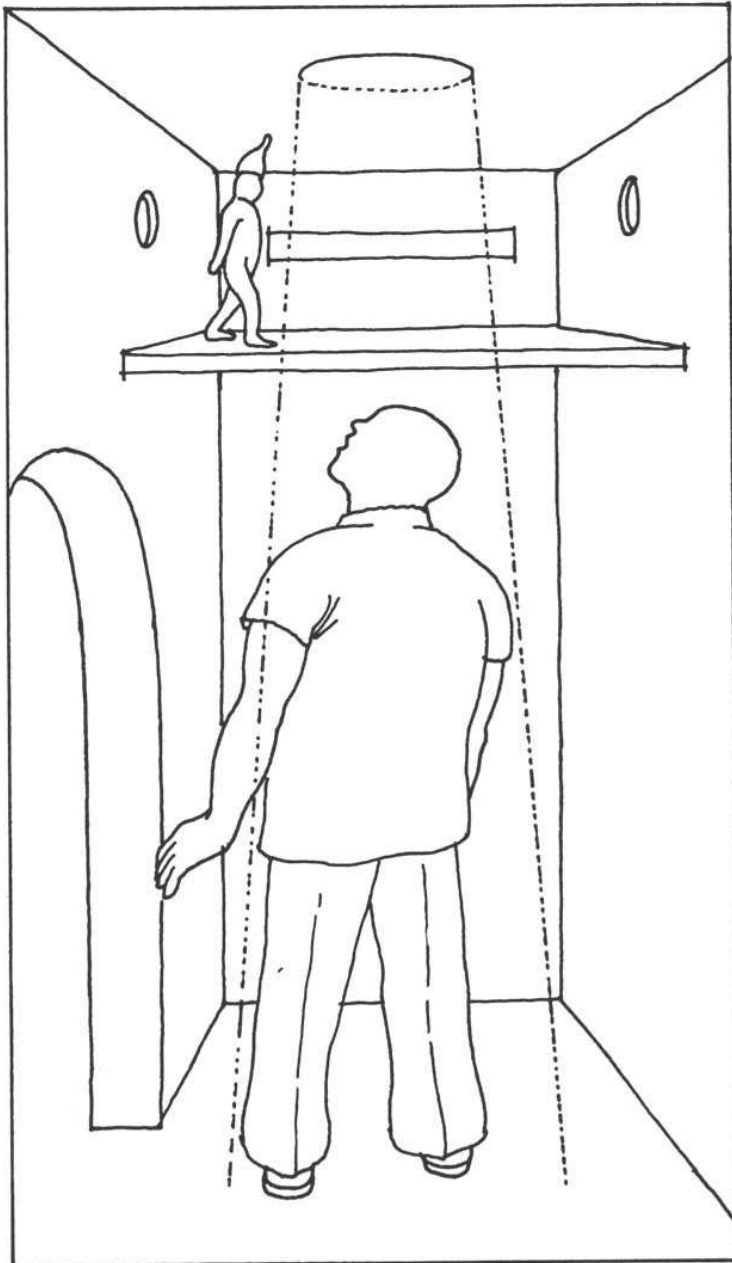


Fig. 3: SBEDV Sketch of Paulo Caetano's experience inside the UFO (first contact, September 22nd., 1971).

The colour of the object now changed from red to white. Paulo made desperate efforts to get away, but the car would not move. From inside the object came a high-pitched whistling noise, and from a door in it came a beam of light which struck him. Three small forms which looked like 5- or 6-year old boys, 90 to 110 cms. high, illuminated by the light from the door, emerged. The three forms approached slowly because their movement was slow and dragging, and their legs did not bend sufficiently for them to be able to walk properly, thus giving the impression of floating in the air.

Despite Paulo's desire to get away he had not the strength to do so. When the shapes were at a distance of about 10 cms. from the left side of the car the car-door opened without anyone having touched it and, despite the fact that Paulo had not the slightest

desire to leave the car, he somehow went out, he does not know how, as soon as the door opened, and he was walking towards the door of the object, accompanied by two of the shapes, one on each side of him. He did not see the third shape again.

Arriving in front of the door of the object, the three of them were taken into the interior of the craft by a sort of "shovel."

It was a well-lit room. Once more he heard the same whistle, and saw the door closing. For a few moments he had the sensation of ascending in a lift, but he does not know if the object itself rose, or, if so, to what height. He observed that he was encompassed by a beam of yellow light coming from the flat, hexagonal ceiling about 2½ metres above his head (see Fig. 3). He noted too a "plank" about 1 metre wide and about 30 cms. above his head, which ran from wall to wall, and on which another crew member was gliding to and fro. This personage was occupied in passing constantly from one wall to the other. The most curious thing of all however, concerned two lights near the ceiling, one of them on each of the opposing walls. When the entity was walking towards one of the walls this light was yellowish-white, and it slowly turned blue as the entity walked away from that wall. He noticed too what looked like three windows, about 50 cms. wide and 10 cms. high, distributed around the six walls of the cabin. On some of the wall-panels there were lights of various colours which kept coming on and going out. The yellow light from the centre of the ceiling fluctuated at intervals of two or three seconds, which prevented him from seeing well ahead of him or to the sides. All the time however he had the feeling of people moving about around him and heard noises, as though of control-buttons being operated. Although unable to see properly, he estimates that there may have been perhaps about six people in the cabin.

Paulo considers that his mental state for evaluating the situation was perfect, but nevertheless he had not the strength to speak, and was preoccupied



Paulo Caetano pointing with his left hand to where the UFO stood on the road ahead of his car, and with his right hand pointing to where his car ran off the road and spun half round.

the whole time with the problem of how he was going to be able to get out of these surroundings. He thinks he was being examined, without however being touched by any of them.

Suddenly he had the sensation of being inside a rapidly descending lift, and then once more he heard the whistle, and the door opened. Again he was escorted by two of the crew, as the "shovel" set them down on the ground in front of the craft, where his body felt heavy. He felt himself going down now, collapsing in utter weakness on the asphalt road. He felt them dragging him some 3-5 metres till he was beside the road, on the shoulder, where he swooned away.

When he came to his senses again he saw the object rising obliquely and slowly, to a height of some 100 metres or so. Then, travelling very rapidly, it vanished from his sight. He remained lying there on the ground for some ten minutes or so, at a distance of about 3 metres from his car. He got up to try to stop a passing car, with the idea of asking them for help. It was Dr. Crespo, who failed to recognize Paulo. He asked Dr. Crespo to inform the Police. Then, very soon after that, another car came by, the occupants of which suggested Paulo drive into town slowly behind them, which he did.

Arriving in Itaperuna, Paulo went to Police Headquarters, who later despatched him to the SAMDU first-aid unit, where he was seen by his own doctor, Dr. Bussad.

In answer to our questions, Paulo said he was unable to explain the slow movements of the entities, except by attributing them to the Earth's greater atmospheric pressure or to a lack of adaptability on the part of the entities. He did not see their eyes or noses, as their faces were covered with a grey material of the same colour as their helmets, which latter were funnel-shaped (see Fig. 3).

Their chins were sharp-pointed; and they opened and closed their mouths without making any sounds. Their clothing was light blue (note: the shade was checked by Paulo as "Letrafilm 107 M" against the table of colours which we showed him for the purpose of identification). Of the same colour too were their shoes, coarse and rectangular, and pointed in front. Their shoulders seemed high, as though covering their necks.

Paulo states that his own height is 1.70 metres and that he weighs 86 kilogrammes. Prior to this experience he used to sleep soundly and undisturbed. But he has since become rather nervy. This may perhaps have been a natural fatigue, due to all the publicity of which he found himself the target. He said also that he has suffered momentary black-outs of vision of about two to three seconds at a time, and that he still felt (22 days after the episode, which was the date when we saw him) a hot and burning sensation in his eyes.

The watch he had been wearing on the day of the experience, and which had never been slow, was running fifteen minutes slow next day. □

a) **A case that in some respects is somewhat similar (Imjärvi)**

This is quoted by FSR (September/October 1970, p. 14) in its account of two eyewitnesses who saw a flying saucer at low altitude in Finland, at 4.45 p.m. on January 7, 1970. One of them described as follows the entity which he saw:

"The creature was about 90 cms. tall, with very thin arms and legs...and wore some kind of overall in a light green material...with boots of a darker green that reached to above the knees; with a pale face, a hooked nose, small ears narrowed towards the head; and fingers that looked like claws; it was holding a little black box which emitted a pulsating yellow light from a round opening."

This eyewitness was also unable to see the eyes.

b) **Theory regarding loss of control of the car owing to its being suspended in the air.**

In connexion with the fact that Paulo got no response from his car when he tried to start the engine up on the Tombos road, and it remained stalled, we recall the case (given in the APRO Bulletin and in FSR CASE HISTORIES No. 11) about the Indians, Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Raw Eater, of the Indian Reservation at Gleichen, Alberta, Canada, who saw a beam of light directed at their car and then perceived that the car was no longer on the ground. At the same time they could see, through their windows, that the car was travelling along suspended at a height of about two feet (approximately 60 cms.) above the ground and at a speed of from 40 to 45 m.p.h. (65-70 km. p.h. approximately). When the beam of light was extinguished, after they had travelled a quarter of a mile (about 400 metres) they felt the car settle down again upon the ground.

II: **Paulo Caetano's second contact with UFO entities**

On the night of October 10/11, 1971, about 18 days after his first experience, Paulo suddenly woke up at 3.00 o'clock in the morning as though aroused, as he put it, by a 'mental shock.' From his bed he saw a light shining through the kitchen window. Without awakening his wife he rose and went to the kitchen and, through the metal grating of the window, saw the same craft that he had already encountered; it was right there in his garden, about three metres from his house and half-a-metre from the ground. Observing closely, Paulo saw, beside the craft, some little men who pointed a small box in his direction. He and they remained there like this, eyeing each other, for about ten minutes, at which point he began to feel his head aching. After the craft and its occupants had gone he went back to bed but was unable to get any more sleep that night.

III: **Paulo Caetano's third contact with UFO entities**

On November 17, 1971, Paulo was asked by his friend Elvio B— to make a business trip with him to the town of Natividade de Carangola.

It was around 9.30 when, on the way back, they

□ [For the preliminary account of this first encounter, see my *Uproar in Brazil*, in FSR for November-December 1971. — G.C.]



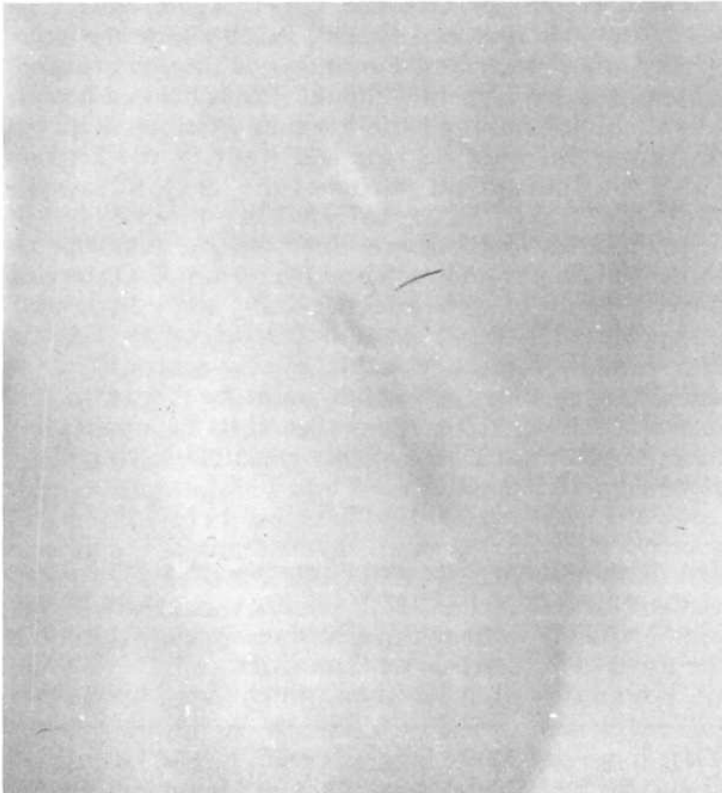
Paulo Caetano's third contact. Paulo pointing to the spot where the UFO stood. His car is in a precise position where it was when thrown off the road.

were passing through Bananeiras, which is 12 km. from Itaperuna.

And here, at Bananeiras, there occurred an episode regarding which we will give the versions of both participants, reserving for ourselves the right to make certain comments later.

i. Paulo's Version

Near Bananeiras (see map – Fig. 1) Paulo felt that the car was not pulling as well as usual. He pointed this out to E.B—, who replied that he personally was drowsy and wanted to sleep. As on the previous occasion, the car was once again pushed aside on to the shoulder of the road, where it stopped. The same flying saucer was there, at a distance of about four metres from them, and at ½ metre above the ground.



A red beam of light was projected at the car and caused the door to open, and put out their spotlight. Once again, too, a member of the crew approached Paulo. This time the entity was in pink-coloured clothing ("162 M" according to the Letrafilm system). He conducted Paulo into the interior of the craft again via the "shovel" process. There they gestured to Paulo that he should lie down on a small table about ½ metre long with a pillow on it. His legs remained hanging down over the end. From the ceiling they lowered an apparatus resembling an X-ray machine, with which they fastened both his arms. Then he felt what seemed like a cut near his elbow, and he saw that they were collecting some of his blood which was running down. (We saw and photographed the wound three days afterwards. – W.K.B.)

After that, Paulo felt as though the cut was being washed, and he felt something blowing, and a sensation of heat. All this lasted, he thought, about two minutes or so.

Then they showed him two panels: one of them had on it a plan or sketch resembling the plan of the town of Itaperuna which he had seen at the Police Station. The second panel seemed to him to show an atomic explosion.+

+ [Translator's note: See Charles Bowen's *One Day In Mendoza* (FSR November/December 1968) for the case of the two Argentinian casino-employees Peccinetti and Villegas, who at 3.30 a.m. on September 1, 1968, allegedly met similar small beings from a similar craft. These beings, as they reported, took blood-samples from their fingers, scribed crude hieroglyphs on their car, and showed them, on an object resembling a television screen, a series of scenes one of which seemed to be an atomic explosion. – G.C.]



Two views of Paulo's arm 3 days after the incident.

The door of the craft had remained open throughout the whole episode, which did not seem to Paulo to have lasted more than about five minutes or so. His body now felt heavy. He remembers being helped by his friend E.B—, but he has no knowledge of how he made his way to Itaperuna.

ii. Elvio B—'s Version

Near Bananeiras, Paulo began to show signs of nervousness, and told E.B— that there was a flying saucer accompanying them, when in actual fact what was following them was a bus which was keeping at a reasonable distance behind their car.

Shortly after that, Paulo began to feel the car slowing down, and it stopped. It was at this point that Elvio B— had come to his assistance after he (Paulo) had fallen to the ground, remaining there semi-conscious, behind the car, the door of which was standing open.

E.B— had quite a job to get Paulo on to his feet, which he managed in the end by propping him up against a mudguard and using the car as a support.

Immediately after that, they set off by bus for Itaperuna, where Paulo was examined by doctors of the SAMDU first-aid post.

A report on the affair was sent to the Itaperuna Police Headquarters, who despatched someone to get Paulo's car which had remained out on the highway.

Comments

We asked Sr. Elvio B— what had happened to cause Paulo to be lying in a swoon behind the car. He was unable to give any answer to our question. Likewise he was quite unable to explain how the door of the car had opened, and indeed he said that he had not noticed when it was that Paulo had got out of the car.

Knowing as we did that Elvio has the same kind of car as Paulo's, we wanted to know why it was that he had not taken the wheel and conveyed Paulo into Itaperuna, and why it was then he had preferred to make the journey by bus? Up to the present we have still received no convincing answer on this point.

Later we learned that, when the Police sent out to get Paulo's car, they tried, and in vain, to find anywhere inside the vehicle, and particularly on the corners of the door, any traces of blood which would offer a more easy explanation for the wound on Paulo's arm.

Interview with the Doctor

It was Dr. Umberton Campos de Souza who attended to Paulo at the SAMDU, and he himself saw the cut and saw the hyperchromatic marks near the elbow, which marks, so the male nurse told us, had a burnt smell about them. The doctor did not however associate the cut and the discoloured marks and the "burnt smell" with the idea of a contact with a UFO. But he was surprised that, although Paulo knew him quite well, he should ask him, while he was being examined by him, who he (Dr. Umberton Campos de Souza) was.

IV: Paulo Caetano's fourth contact with UFO entities

Paulo now says he had a fourth contact with members of the saucer's crew on December 5, 1971. We are however surprised that he should have concealed this fact in the course of the previous interviews that we had had with him. He says that, after 7.00 p.m. on that day, he had gone out and was about to stop for a stroll along a road which starts at a fence near the bridge over the river Carangola. Then he observed a light, which drew nearer and nearer until it was about 20 metres from him. By then he could see that it was a saucer. As he got out of the car, he heard a noise and saw the door of the saucer opening. He saw two of the crew, one in the doorway and one inside the cabin. Both of them were making signs to him.

As on the previous occasions, he was taken up by the "shovel", but this time on his own (i.e. not accompanied) and was invited by them to sit down on a little seat. The crew remained standing. He heard them jabbering to each other in a way that sounded "like Spanish spoken by the actor Cantinflas," but he was unable to perceive any movements of their mouths, and the talking sounded like a loud-speaker of poor quality. They told him that they were here on a mission of peace, to prepare people to enter into contact with them.

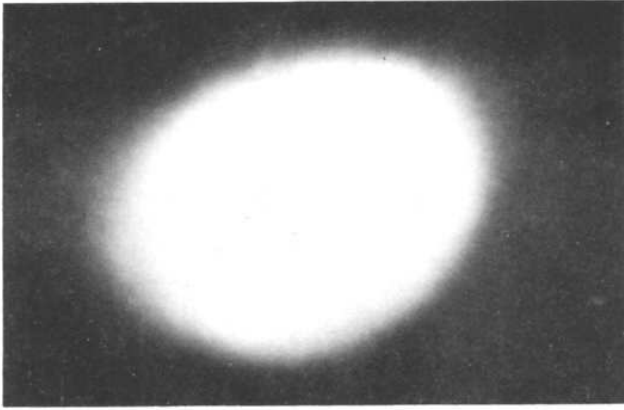
On the floor of the cabin he noticed a sort of bottle-like container resembling an oxygen-cylinder and in the ceiling he observed a sort of ventilator emitting lights of various colours.

V: Paulo suspended by a beam of light from a saucer

On December 19, 1971, Paulo left home, in his car, at 8.30 p.m., and was driving towards the property of a Sr. Erbert V.P. Dias when, at a spot some 2 km. before the property, he saw a luminous disc-shaped object over some hills. He got out of the car and approached to a point some 100 metres from the saucer. Then the saucer began to move towards him and came right above his head. For one or two minutes he was enveloped in a beam of light, and then the saucer veered sideways suddenly. Then he felt himself as it were suspended by the beam, at about 20 cms. above the ground...[*four words not understood, - G.C.*], when he felt a shock. Then the saucer shot up vertically into the sky and vanished over the horizon. When he returned to Itaperuna he discovered that there was a general commotion there owing to the news of the appearance of strange objects over the town. (An account of these sightings over Itaperuna on December 19, 20, and 21, 1971, appears below.)

VI: Paulo takes photographs of saucer on three occasions

1. On November 15, 1971, between Serraria and Bananeiras. At 8.00 p.m., and at a distance of some 500 metres, he saw a luminous object and took four photographs of it, two of them coming out well. [Technical details: Retina camera of pull-out type; exposure time 20 secs; f-50 mm; diaphragm 1:2; film: Kodak 3X.



Far Left: Paulo's first photo

Left: Paulo's second photo

2. On November 16, 1971, at the same place, after a five-minute wait, he managed to get two pictures of the saucer, one of them coming out well.

3. On February 26, 1972, Paulo left home at 7.29 p.m. and was driving in his car towards a dirt-road which is a continuation of the Avenida de Itaperuna, 3 km. beyond the Leite Glória Ltda's. plant, when he observed, at a distance of 200 or 250 metres, something luminous with an apparent diameter of 1 metre. He took twelve photographs over a period of ten minutes.**

Since we at SBEDV were given neither negatives nor prints, we have nothing on which to base any further comments by us.

At 8.30 p.m. on November 5, 1971, again at Bananeiras, Paulo saw a saucer and pointed it out to Sr. Erbert V.P. Dias, who was accompanying him at the time.

VII: Other witnesses see saucer occupants

On March 4, 1972, we interviewed Sr. Manuel da Silva e Souza, aged 55, a married man with a family of 13 children. He is the manager of an airfield at Itaperuna. The airfield has an annexe with a saloon and bar, as well as another building which is the manager's own residence. The location of the airfield is magnificent, giving a panoramic view over the whole town of Itaperuna.

On the night of December 20, 1971, Sr. Manuel was cleaning and oiling his shotgun when he noticed, towards the North-East, a powerful light apparently approaching. He took it to be an aircraft about to land, so he shut the front door and went out through the back door and walked a distance of about 15 metres. Then he observed, already on the ground, at a distance of some 100 or so metres towards the South East, a transparent, rounded or oval machine, totally illuminated by a powerful bluish light.

He dashed across the road, and got about 40 metres nearer, until he reached a fence. At that point he was some 50 metres or so from the object, which was about 2.5 metres high and less than that in width. It had moreover a slightly accentuated "beak" at the front. He observed a man of about 90 cms. height standing beside the craft, and saw him walk around it once. Then the entity stopped again in front of it, as though he had seen Sr. Manuel. The entity remained immobile there for some three or four minutes, as also did Sr. Manuel. Each seemed to be eyeing the other.

In answer to our questions, Sr. Manuel explained that the entity apparently had no covering on his head or on his back. His clothing seemed of a greenish hue.

The entity turned its back towards him and then rose up in the air until he was above the craft. Then he halted in mid-air and entered the porthole of the craft, feet-first.

The craft being transparent, Sr. Manuel could see two other similar or identical "people", both seated, who seemed to be looking in his direction. He did not see what the first entity did after entering the saucer, but he did observe that these other two seated ones put their hands on to something beside them, whereupon the craft at once rose into the air and continued its flight, vanishing immediately behind some hills that blocked the view.

According to Sr. Manuel's estimation, the episode could not have lasted much more than three or four minutes.

VIII: Cases of saucer occupants "rising in the air"

1. Cussac, France. According to GEPA's journal *Phenomenes Spatiaux* (June 1968), at Cussac, at 10.30 a.m. on August 28, 1967, two children watching cattle saw four small beings. Thinking these beings



Manuel da Silva e Souza, who saw an entity at 50 metres distance

** Four of the photos were reproduced in the Rio de Janeiro newspaper *Última Hora* of March 4, 1972, and are also reproduced in the present issue of Dr. Buhler's SBEDV Bulletin. The paper describes them as photographs of the "paralyzing light" seen at Itaperuna, — Translator's note.]

were other children, they tried to approach the creatures, but the latter rose into the air and entered the upper part of a flying saucer, head-first. The last of the creatures to enter the craft rose to a height of about 15 metres, after the saucer itself had already begun to take off. [For full English account, see FSR, September/October 1968, *Encounter With "Devils"*, by Joël Mesnard and Claude Pavy: translated by John C. Hugill from *Phénomènes Spatiaux*. - ED.]

2. **Pirassununga, Brazil.** (See SBEDV Bulletin, No. 66/68, p.81.) Tiago Machado observed how the UFO occupant, standing with his back to the saucer and about one metre from it, performed a leap which took him up to a height of 1½–2 metres, where he floated, and then descended, still floating, feet-first into a porthole, without touching anything. [This case has been dealt with at length by Nigel Rimes in his *The Pirassununga Landing*, in FSR Special Issue No 3, UFO PERCIPIENTS. September 1969, - ED.]

3. **Kinnula, Finland.** This case was given in FSR for September/October 1971, p.18, and occurred at 3.00 p.m. on February 5, 1971, when a being some 90 cms. in height approached the witness "with very stiff, short steps." Its body was covered in a one-piece garment (see FSR's sketch), and did not sink down into the deep snow as one would have expected. The eyewitness tried to seize the little man, but he escaped and floated away towards the saucer. His pursuer, Petter Aliranta, who was some 3 metres or so from the saucer, managed to grab the heel of the creature's right boot, but let go of it as it burned like a hot iron. His hand was burned, and on the fingers the marks were still visible two months after the occurrence.

IX: Another entity-contact case at Itaperuna, but earlier

The account of Dona Gení Maria Santana. Sra. Gení Maria Santana, aged 23, is a nurse in the Santa Terezinha Sanatorium at Itaperuna, and resides at present with her husband in the Cidade Nova suburb of that town, next to rua Arlete Lixoto No. 90. Two years ago, in 1969, they were living beside highway RJ-100, between Serraria and Bananeiras, as the husband was employed on the Fazenda da Prata Estate. Taking courage from all the publicity about recent events concerning the saucers over Itaperuna, Gení was now prepared to tell us about what had happened to her on that very hot day. Returning home, after she had taken her husband his lunch on the plantation, she heard a knock on the door of their little house, which stands on posts about 70 cms. above the ground. So she opened a window and looked down, and saw a little man about 1 metre or 1.15m in height, with "Japanese eyes," a big ugly mouth, a pointed nose, and skin covered in a dark powder (?) [Translator's note: meaning not clear], which made him look like a beggar. She said to him sharply: "What do you want?"

He made some sort of involved reply which she did not understand, and she cut him short with: "No, I haven't got any food for you, No!"

The creature lowered its eyes and said no more.



Little hut of Geni Maria Santana where an entity appeared outside her door.

Gení closed the window and only opened it again ten or fifteen minutes later, when there was no longer anybody there.

In reply to our questioning, she said that the head of the entity was covered with a striped bluish "shiny" cloth. His clothing, resembling a dark overall, was capacious and covered his hands, which seemed to be holding something. She did not notice his shoes. She noted nothing abnormal in the behaviour of her livestock, consisting of fowls, goats, and pigs.

X: Another occupant report (not from Itaperuna)

Our member Mário Gomes Nunes of Fortaleza (North Eastern State of Ceará) has sent us a clipping from his local paper *O Povo* of November 8, 1971, which contains the following:

"The farmer Raimundo Nonato was on his property, the Fazenda Jirimum, in the municipality of Ipú, when he saw a strange disc-shaped object coming from the South at enormous speed, making no noise, and emitting a tremendous brightness exceeded only by the brightness of the sun. After flying around a few times, it landed. Approaching the spot, he was able to observe that it contained three small figures, but it was too far away for him to be able to make out their features or characteristics. After a few seconds, the object took off again, still quite noiseless, and still emitting a vivid light, and at once vanished in the sky."

XI: The saucers at Itaperuna on December 19, 20, and 21, 1971

Reports have come in from the following sources:
1. **Hotel Meirelles.** The proprietor and his wife state that at 8.45 p.m. on December 21, at a distance of between 500 and 1,000 metres, they observed a saucer flying slowly above the hills (heights around 50 - 100 metres) along the river Muriaé on the

opposite bank to their hotel. [Their sketches reproduced by SBEDV show an object like a vertical egg. - G.C.]

2. **Rua Tiradentes.** At 7.30 p.m. on December 19, opposite house no. 45 on this street, three youths observed, from the other side of the river Muriaé, and at a distance estimated to be about 1 kilometre, a star-like light repeatedly flaring up and then fading. 1¾ hours later, at a point some 70 metres from there, the same three youths saw, near a tree at the corner of the street and at a height of about 7 metres from the ground, a black object a little bigger than a *Volkswagen* car, which showed up very clearly, being set off by a white cloud around it. The object remained in view for three minutes. Then it crossed over the street and climbed away into the sky over the centre of Itaperuna.

3. **Rua Buarque de Nazareth.** At 8.00 p.m. on December 20, 1971, at a distance of about 1½ - 2 km., some 60 people watched a round, luminous, white object at an angle of about 45° above the opposite bank of the river Muriaé. It had golden stripes and was descending at intervals, by about 5 metres at a time, until it was lost to sight behind the houses.

4. **No. 26, rua Assis Ribeiro.** Sr. Aquiles Ernesto Andrade, teacher of Geometry in the Itaperuna school, along with members of his family and more than 80 other people of the neighbourhood, saw (all at the same time - 8.30 p.m.) on one of the days in the period December 19-21, at a distance of about 150 metres or so, a roundish object, about 2 metres in diameter, at a height of about 100 metres over the main square and at an angle of some 30° to the horizon. The stars were visible in the sky behind it. The object climbed away slowly for 15 minutes and finally disappeared at an angle of some 60° to the horizon.

5. **Kilometre 2 on Highway RJ-100.** On December 19, a husband and wife were returning home to Itaperuna. Near Serraria they suddenly observed a "ring of smoke." After that, they saw a ring-shaped luminous object travelling at high speed and changing shape. The thickness of the ring kept varying, but the external diameter remained the same. This was seen not only by these two witnesses but also by a truck-driver who pulled up and remained on the road for around five to seven minutes to watch what was going on. The object, distant about 200 metres from them, as they estimated, was dark, and yet transparent to the light of the stars. Its apparent diameter seemed to be about 3 metres.

6. **At 9.10 p.m. on December 19.** Dr. Walter Anderson, medical man and radiologist, observed a round, phosphorescent saucer, of the apparent diameter of about 1 metre, flying over the houses at a height of some 600-800 metres. It passed over the town in a zigzag, at a speed of about 60 km. per hour, and came from the direction of Serraria. It too was transparent to the light of the stars. The night was fine and cloudless with many stars visible.

XII: Transparent UFOs

Just as at Itaperuna, so in foreign countries too, transparent UFOs have been sighted, as the following cases indicate:-

a. **Bristol, England.** FSR for July/August 1968 (p.3. *Sighting in a Bristol Park*) describes how, at 9.20 p.m. on April 27, 1968, at a distance of 75-100 yards, a vicar saw an object some 12-15 feet high and about 10-12 feet wide, and luminous and transparent. The upper end of the object was dome-shaped. (See sketches on p.4 and on cover of the issue of FSR in question.)

b. **Red Sea.** FSR for May/June 1964 (p.14) reports that people aboard the steamer *City of Liverpool* saw a strange object on a bearing of 260° at an altitude of about 7°. As it passed over the ship it assumed the form of a smoke-ring, of an apparent diameter about five or six times that of the full Moon. It gave the impression of rotating in an anticlockwise direction. By 8.15 p.m. it had disappeared. The sky was clear and visibility very good.

c. **Bordesley Green, England.** In FSR for September/October 1969 (p.28), in his article *Where There's Smoke...*, John D. Llewellyn described how, at 9.00 p.m. on June 18, 1969, Carl Robbins photographed an object in a suburb of Birmingham. It was a black ring with three "lumps" or protuberances on it. It was about 16 metres in diameter, and was moving from West to East not far above the ground. As it rotated the "lumps" emitted smoke. (See photographs in FSR issue in question.)

We draw particular attention to this last case, as the Bordesley Green sighting has much in common with some of the things seen at Itaperuna, and also with things recently reported by investigators in the State of Rio Grande do Sul (in the far South of Brazil). In Rio Grande do Sul, objects were seen in a gigantic 'operation' over some 60 towns, during a period of 90 minutes on the night of December 19, 1971. What is to be emphasised here however is *not transparency*, but the apparently *metallic aspect* of the craft, at any rate of those which were seen at close quarters from a T-6 aircraft from the Brazilian Air Force base at Canoas.

Conclusions

Defining Our Research

a. We consider Itaperuna an attractive field for the study of contacts with the entities, for, in addition to those cases that we have dealt with in this article, we also know of a whole lot of other cases which we are not yet able to reveal *as the parties involved have requested that their experiences shall not be divulged.*

The flights of saucers over Itaperuna and, more recently, over Campos, and over other neighbouring cities, all lend support to the reports of activities of saucers and occupants at Itaperuna itself.

Examples of some of the more recent newspaper headlines from the Rio de Janeiro paper *O Dia* are as follows:

July 28, 1972: "5,000 People Watch Eight Flying Saucers Over Campos."

July 29, 1972: "Squadron of Flying Saucers Again Seen Over Various Towns."

August 1, 1972: "Magé Blacked Out By Saucers."

August 9, 1972: "Truck in Near-Collision with Flying Saucer."

b. Unfortunately it is impossible for us to make very frequent visits to all these places, given the very great distances.

Our most recent visit to Itaperuna was in fact on March 4, 1972. Consequently certain other complementary investigations which we would like to have made have not yet been brought to completion. For this same reason we have not yet been able to proceed with the task of tapping the memories of the eyewitnesses, under hypnosis, and with establishing the role which, in all this, should be played by the specialists in reflexology for example.

Amnesia and the credibility of the witnesses

We concede that realistic individuals, free from mysticism, even young people or people of little education, may be valid witnesses, even when they find difficulties in communicating.

Such, for example, are the cases of the Itaperuna airfield manager, Sr. Manuel da Silva e Souza, and of Sr. Benedito Miranda — the latter afflicted with an amnesia which in our view did not appear to be due to emotional shock (seeing that the amnesia included a "free interval," which enabled him to go to the Police and give an account of his experience).

Nevertheless, from the quality of his statements at the Police Station we may well suspect, all the same, that Benedito Miranda's mental faculties were *not* functioning entirely satisfactorily at that time, in view of the following facts:

1. The name of the street and the house-number given by him to the Police as his address in Cataguases are totally incorrect.
2. He gave the height of the saucer entity as 30 cms., whereas all the other Itaperuna witnesses speak of a more likely sounding size, namely about 1 metre.
3. In his second attempt to go to Cataguases, when he passed over the Carangola river bridge, he apparently stopped the car, allegedly because he had noticed a defect in the steering, and then he fell into a deep sleep, only waking up again at 6.00 o'clock next day, inside the car.

Leaving aside a possible defect in the steering and leaving aside also Benedito's general state of tiredness at the time, at a late hour, after having experienced a traumatic and disturbing episode, we can establish the three following hypotheses regarding this sleep which overpowered him:

1. Reflecting on his traumatic experience, he may have been seeking, by means of a beneficial sleep, to forget the vivid emotional experiences of the previous day, in which case a defect in the steering of his car would have been a good pretext for stopping at the spot.
2. On arriving at the very scene of his encounter with the saucer occupants he may have stopped and then fallen asleep on their posthypnotic instructions, and may then have been induced to forget the episode of the previous evening, just as happened with Barney and Betty Hill. (See the Hill's case, and the

Australian case at Kempsey, cited above, in both of which such posthypnotic suggestion seems to have been administered.)

3. Dr. Fergus Craik referred recently (*New Scientist*, Vol.53, p.428) to the existence in us of *two memories*: one of short duration, in which the details remain under the permanent control of the memory, otherwise "forgetting" would occur: and the second one, of long duration, in which the details can be "remembered" at any time.

We are of the opinion that, in cases of contact with saucers, either because of interference by the force-field surrounding such craft, or because of intervention by other factors of a technical order, people's nervous systems suffer certain influences which render it difficult for the "fixation of memory in the nerve-cells" to take place. Or perhaps bodies are formed in their bloodstreams which prevent the proper functioning of the aforesaid nerve-cells. (The reader should recall Paulo's tremor, as noted by Dr. Crespo on the road, and as noted by Dr. Bussad when he saw him at the clinic.)

In view of the foregoing, and bearing in mind the probability that one particular individual may be more resistant to such influences while another is less resistant to them, we consider that there is good justification for the contradictions noted between the statements made by Elvio and Paulo as given in their accounts of the third contact at Itaperuna, and we would thus have an explanation as to why, after the experiences he had gone through in the contact, Paulo should have known nothing about the trip he had made by bus, and should have failed to know the doctor from his own town.

PROBLEMS WE HAVE FACED

We apologise for the lateness of publication of both this Special Issue and the regular issues of FSR and FSR Case Histories. A number of magazines are "on the stocks" and will be produced just as quickly as our printers can print them, and as we can cope with their distribution.

The hold-ups have been due in the main to the difficulties experienced in obtaining supplies of paper during the period of serious world shortage of that commodity. This, of course, was followed by the power crisis and the 3-day-working-week which, unhappily, so many other firms have failed to survive.

The paper supply position is now a happier — although increasingly expensive — one, and stocks are now held which will cover our various issues to the end of 1974.

EDITOR.

THE YORBA LINDA PHOTOGRAPH

Ann Druffel

YORBA LINDA is a small, isolated town near the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountain range, about forty miles southeast of the major American city, Los Angeles, California. With its attractive homes, rolling hills, and pleasant high-desert climate, it is a model American community. The town is on the outskirts of rapidly growing Orange County. The sparsely settled land beyond is dotted with high-tension power lines, oilfields, water reservoirs, railroad lines, farm and grazing lands, and a secluded U.S. missile site. Farther to the east and northeast is mountain wilderness.

On January 24, 1967, at twilight in this quiet setting, a fourteen-year-old boy was preparing to do his homework for his next day's eighth grade classes. He went upstairs in the new home in which his parents, his eleven-year-old sister and he lived on the edge of town. Glancing out of the window on that dark, rainy afternoon, he saw "something" that was to change his life.

Since the family prefers anonymity to avoid ridicule, we shall call the boy Tom X. Five months from the date of sighting, he was to give this statement to a NICAP investigator.

"At 5.25 p.m. on that date I came into this second storey bedroom to get something for my homework. I looked out and saw a black object that looked like a man's top hat hovering over the houses across the street.

"I grabbed a camera and stood back from the window because I didn't know if the object would see me or not. I snapped a photo of it and then ran downstairs to get my family to witness it with me. I had called down the stairs to them previously while the object was in sight, but no one heard. When we got back up here, the object was gone.

"The object seemed sort of metallic but also had a dull surface. You couldn't really tell. It was just black. I didn't see any reflection of light off of the object. It was solid black, but like you'd see maybe some aluminium foil from an angle. It doesn't look shiny, but then at another angle it might. The object was rounded. I saw four legs on it. The legs were out all the time. Only three tripod legs came out on the picture.

"The sky was cloudy that night. The clouds covered the whole skyline, and it was a dark day. I saw (the object) in the northeast. It was gigantic. It looked to be about as long as one and one-half of the houses right in back of my house. After I ran out of the room to get the camera, the object was further out toward the east. It didn't seem to move while I was taking the picture. It just hovered and that's all. There was no noise. It hovered motionless--no wavering or seesawing. From the place where I took the picture, it was about 1½ to 2 inches on a ruler at arm's length in diameter.

"There might have been a dome at the top. I'm not sure about that, but I think I saw a dome at the top. I don't think the dome was black. It was another colour--I couldn't tell. It blended in with the black, but it wasn't black.

"I had drawn some pictures before we had the photo developed by an amateur friend. At first we didn't think that anything would turn out on the picture at all because it was so cloudy that day, and it was almost dark. But when we got the photograph back, the object had come out very clear.

"I couldn't really tell how long I viewed it. It seemed to be for two or three minutes. In re-enacting the incident for NICAP, the time came out about 30 seconds."¹

The above quotation is the beginning of a 40-page report, the result of an investigation which was started in July, 1967, and which continued unabated for four years. The report and photograph have lain in limbo. The principal witness, however, who is now 20, feels that by publishing the facts of the sighting and photograph, some vital information might be added to the growing UFO mystery.

The NICAP investigator on the case learned of the Yorba Linda photo through a brief article in a Santa Ana, California, paper.² Contacting the family on July 11, 1967, she began a collection of evidence, sketches, corroborative sightings, and photo analyst opinions which have grown into a massive and awkward collection filling four fat files. In these few FSR pages, we hope to condense the salient facts, draw the interest of other researchers to the problem, and, perhaps, somewhere seek out a solution.

The black "hat-shaped" object was not the first unusual sighting near the X. home. The whole flying saucer business came into the family's lives just twenty days prior to the taking of the January 24th photo. A giant, hovering object was seen on January 4, 1967, by the entire family. Tom saw it first, from the kitchen window, in the northeast, while getting ready for school. It seemed to "have just fallen from the sky." The object was a distinct, silvery football-shaped object which emitted a "hissing sound like air escaping from a tyre," as it stopped and hovered over a nearby house, some hundreds of yards away. It had what seemed to be "lighted windows, sequentially blinking around the centre." Tom rushed up to his parents' bedroom, awakening them in time to see the object throw on a gigantic, stationary red light above the windows. Tom's sister joined them, and his father watched the object with a pair of 2.5 opera glasses. He thought he saw a carriage on the underside, so later they called nearby El Toro Marine Base to inquire if there had been any blimps in the area. The answer was negative. With the four of them still watching, the object floated effortlessly towards the East, out of sight.