

A STRANGE OLD "CONTACTEE" CASE FROM SPAIN

Miguel Peyro Garcia

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Translation from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton

IT has not been possible for us to interview directly either of the two people involved in this case, inasmuch as one of them is now dead, and the other is advanced in years and we felt that we could not importune her by asking her to recall the details of so vexatious a business, since she had never spoken any more about it since the death of her sister.

The Individuals Involved

These were two sisters, whose names we refrain from divulging for the sake of their reputations, and because in any case we never received any authorization from either of them on the subject. They were of a well-to-do family, and both received a good education and were of a sound, solid intellectual and cultural level. The lady who is still living now once held the post of secretary to the Director of a department of the State administration having its office in Seville (I refrain likewise from specifying it so as to preserve her anonymity).

These two sisters, who were spinsters, lived together in the house where they claimed to have undergone the experience now to be related.

The peak period of the various statements made by these two possible "contactees" could be established as round about the beginning of the 1950s. (Note the proximity in time to two big UFO waves, those of 1950 and 1954.)

The Facts

One day these two ladies started telling all their friends that they were in serious difficulties because of the "Martians" or the "Extraterrestrials." (Note the strangeness of this asseveration, so precise, regarding the entities, at a period when Spanish Ufology was still, as one might put it, in its "prehistorical" stage.)

As may well be imagined, these alleged entities were at first taken by everybody to be a joke, but when the two ladies continued to insist and persist with their story, then of course folk began to have doubts about their sanity, and were wont to say, when out of earshot, that their solitary way of life had

evidently caused them to become hysterical. But neither of the sisters had ever previously shown any indications of mental disturbance; on the contrary, they had displayed excellent judgement which had won for them a consistently high moral and intellectual reputation.

However, despite all the conventions, the two ladies persisted in declaring that the extraterrestrials were watching them and carrying out experiments on them. (The one who talked about most of these matters was the one who is now dead.) To escape from the alleged mysterious beings, the sisters took refuge in their house in Seville, though, according to their own admission, this was no use at all since the extraterrestrials were observing them through the walls with their devices, and even entering the house and connecting apparatus to the heads of both women, causing them great pain and suffering. The atmosphere of terror in the house at night was great. The ladies, cowering under their bedsheets, averred that they could hear the footsteps of the beings as they moved about the house and the noises they were making. (As regards the physical appearance of the alleged beings, so far as can be recalled the ladies never gave any concrete information about it.)

One day, at the end of their tether, the two ladies went to the Police to report the matter. At the Police Station they were laughed at and told that "the best thing to do with the Martians is to hide yourself from them at night under a black cloth" — which, it seems, the two ladies proceeded to do.

But the "Extraterrestrials" did not cease their molestations, especially by means of an alleged "ray machine," the working and effects of which were as follows: the malevolent beings installed themselves in a house near or adjacent to that of the victims on whom they planned to experiment, and set up an unknown and mysterious "ray machine," the invisible emanations from which were then directed against the house of the two "guinea pigs." As a result of the continued bombardment of the house with these radiations the health of both victims would deteriorate until death occurred. The description of the apparatus puts us in mind of an x-ray machine.

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can be placed on a story. The levels can be summarised as follows:—

Level A: In-depth investigation on site by experienced observers.

Level B: Interviews with witnesses conducted by investigators,

under proper conditions.

Level C: Standard report forms have been completed by witnesses.

Level D: A letter or written statement

from witness is all that is available.

Level E: Report based entirely on a newspaper account, or magazine account not second hand.

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A few years after these "ufological" statements by the two ladies, one of them died of lung cancer. After her death the surviving sister never referred to the "extraterrestrials" again, for which reason it was assumed that the one who had just died had been a neurasthenic and that she had exercised a harmful influence upon the other.

I recall one story about an occasion when the two ladies, who, as I have said above, had an excellent reputation, were visiting in the home of my grandparents. As they were taking their leave, the two ladies walked straight up to my aunt and told her how sorry they were, because they had "felt" that my grandparents' house was being bombarded from somewhere with extraterrestrial rays identical with those that were being directed on to their own home. Neither my aunt nor my grandmother experienced any falling-off in health, but such was not the case with my grandfather, who, only twenty years after that date, also died of a pulmonary cancer. In the opinion of the doctors this cancer had been developing for a long time past. (The orthodoxy of the prejudices which we hold and our sense of responsibility forbid that we should launch into any discussion here as to the possibility of affirming anything about the cause of these two deaths.)

Conclusions

We have not set all the dubious declarations of these two ladies in inverted commas, first because it would have meant putting the whole article in inverted commas, and secondly because this report of mine does not in any case claim to affirm or to deny anything, but simply to present a record of certain circumstances which have come to my knowledge.

My personal opinion is that a high proportion of the contents of the case was the product of the obsessed minds of the two ladies. The "weight" of this case, on a scale of say one to ten, would be ONE (1). The case may therefore be visualized as to a certain degree **NEGATIVE**, and if I have written about it here, this is simply as much for the purpose of "putting it on record" as for the purpose of contributing some grain of sand towards a study which might one day be made, in retrospect, of the influence of the UFO Phenomenon upon present-day society. Such a study would have to be conducted with the aid of all the latest and most modern social and psychological methods.

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COMMENT BY GORDON CREIGHTON: Lung cancer is unfortunately all too prevalent for anyone in his right mind to be able to claim to deduce too much from this story, and, as the author himself admits, it is seemingly all pretty light-weight. However, we should all also be mindful, on all occasions, of Aimé Michel's injunction that we are to examine everything and believe nothing.

The plain fact of the matter is that we know precious little about ourselves or about our Earth or the Universe around us. There unquestionably may still remain many powers and forces and even entities, right here and all around us, of which at present most

of us know nothing. It is easy enough to say that the two old ladies of Seville display classic symptoms that are all too familiar to the psychiatrist. I myself remember the case of one of my colleagues in the Foreign Office who at precisely the same period in the early 1950s — was pronounced to be insane (schizophrenic) because he "heard voices" and because he insisted that certain people (not "extraterrestrials" in his case, but the "British Government") were installed in a nearby room (which he insisted on inspecting, in my company) from where, so he said, they were using a machine to bombard him with rays.

On the other hand I also bear in mind that, personally, I have known more than just one or two very highly qualified doctors who would admit to me in private (certainly not publicly) that certain categories of mental trouble might well be due to external agencies of some parasitical type—such as, for example, "poltergeists", whatever "poltergeists" may be (and we who study UFOs are well aware of the heavy evidence of a link between UFOs and "poltergeists"). FSR prides itself on being the forum for discussion, and I think it essential that we do not fail from time to time to print these odd-ball cases which do not at present carry much weight but who knows? — may one day, when more information is available, prove to be veritable goldmines.

So level-headed a man as William James went on record as saying that, in his view, *the theory of possession might well have an innings again before long*. As I have indicated, there are qualified medical men today who admit privately that this may well be true; one such doctor — and I can mention his name here because he has written plenty of books and given plenty of lectures on this theme — is Dr Arthur Guirdham, MA, DM, BSc (Oxford), DPM (London), formerly director of an important psychiatric institution at Bath. Among his books special mention may be made of *A Theory of Disease; A Foot in Both Worlds; and Obsession*, all published by Neville Spearman, London. He is also the author of *Man: Divine or Social* (Vicent Stuart, London) and of three remarkable books about the extermination of the Cathars (Albigensians) by the authorities in 13th-century France and giving remarkable evidence for reincarnation and for the existence in our midst today of individuals who were martyred in those far-off days and still have full or partial recall of the events.

(Incidentally, the idea of somebody being able to injure your health by means of noxious "rays" from a nearby building does not look quite so, stupid or far-fetched now that the American Government have found it necessary in 1976 to protest forcibly to the Government of the USSR about the microwave bombardment of their Embassy in Moscow and the damage already inflicted upon the health of the staff, including, so it has been suggested, the United States Ambassador himself.)