

The Silpho Moor Mystery

by Philip Longbottom

In the March-April issue was published a report of the small object which came down on Silpho Moor, near Scarborough, England, on November 21, 1957. It was seen to fall by three men. The "Review" printed four photographs of the object in the July-August number. Controversial argument has continued between those who maintain the object is from outer space and those who claim it is an elaborate hoax. Our contributor put in over 100 hours' work breaking down the code and transcribing the message of the scrolls.

MANY READERS of this journal will have come across at least one article purporting to tell the story and subsequent history of the "saucer"-shaped object found on Silpho Moor towards the end of last year. The articles in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW have, happily, presented the whole affair in an objective and straight-forward manner. Unfortunately, this has not been the case with several other of the magazines and pamphlets "devoted" to furthering research on the subject of UFOs. For this reason I have decided to break a self-imposed silence on the matter and present the facts so far as they are known to-date.

Possibly a few words about the finders and myself would not come amiss here. Of the people in the car when the object was found, Mr. Hutton is a property dealer, Mr. Thomas a butcher, and Mr. Taylor a tailor. The man to whom the object was taken is Mr. Avenell, a local solicitor, and I myself am a restaurant owner. All local businessmen, and, in a small town like Scarborough, all known casually to each other. Mr. Avenell came into the picture because he is Mr. Hutton's solicitor, and also was thought to write on the subject of flying saucers under a pen name. In actual fact, he writes on metaphysics. I came into the thing purely out of curiosity! Having heard rumours about the object, I offered my services as an ex-electrical and mechanical engineer. There you have the cast—now for the play.

It was decided that the object should be opened at Mr. Avenell's home on Sunday by three people. A reporter from the local paper was present with Mr. Avenell and myself. Mr. Avenell, who had some experience during the war with mines, had already drilled a piece out of the top of the "saucer" with a tank cutter. With the aid of a torch, he had got some idea of what the inside was like and, armed with this knowledge, and the fact (which he purposely did not tell us until later) that he had sufficiently broken down the

code on the outside to be reasonably sure that the object contained a message inside, we started proceedings. It was obvious that the two halves of the thing were not soldered or brazed together as one would have expected, but appeared to be stuck with a substance resembling cellulose filler, greyish in colour. We tried several ways of removing this, but with little success, until finally we hit upon the idea of placing the thing on its edge, and then trying to split it open by placing an old kitchen knife on the joint and hammering away for all we were worth. This was effective and we split the joint all round. The two halves did not come away even then, being held together by an iron rod, the thickness of a pencil, which ran through a sort of white metal bearing in the top half. This we drilled out, and the two halves then came apart. (And I for one, NOT having experience of mines, breathed a little more easily!)

Resting inside, we found quite a heap of ash, various burned bits and pieces, what appeared to be fused glass, and, most important of all, a coil of copper tubing, about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter, which had apparently been joined at each end to holes in the top of the object, presumably as a cooling unit. Through the coils of the tubing was inserted a tightly-rolled cylinder of copper which, upon gently unrolling, proved to be seventeen thin sheets of copper, fastened at one edge, like a book. This was badly charred with the debris, but on cleaning it off was found to have hieroglyphics on each page. Around these pages, forming an "outer cover" for the book, was a sheet of thicker copper which bore no writing and was obviously used to protect the rest of the pages during "transit."

I took a copy, symbol by symbol, of the key on the outside of the object, and also of the first few lines of the first page of the book, worked through most of the night on this, and finally ended up with a reasonable translation and also, which was more important, was able to evolve a sort of code

card, or more elaborate key, to the whole of the hieroglyphics.

Probably this is the point where I should explain the symbols a little more fully. It was soon found that each symbol had several alternative meanings and sounds, depending upon its position under, over or across the line or, in some cases, its proximity to the line. Some of the symbols are abbreviations, and several of them are phonetic spellings of familiar words. The whole thing is not just a simple substitution code, but is a very complicated effort. To make up a complete "language" like this would seem to be out of all proportion to a hoax, however elaborate. Like any other translator, one tends to get "inside" the thoughts and feelings of the person who wrote the original, and I firmly believe that this is not a "made-up" language, but one in constant use. The whole thing flows so easily, and yet contains the natural mistakes that one would expect, considering the difference between our written and spoken word.

Translation of Message

The next step was to translate the whole of the message, and it was found that the only way to do this was to examine each symbol with a reading glass and then copy it on to paper, doing this until the whole was copied, after which it was possible to do the translation itself. This process occupied a week of almost solid concentration and ended up with the message which you can read in this issue. Let me state here that the translation may easily contain the odd mistake. I am not a cypher expert, I am not a philosopher, and I am not particularly intelligent! The essential thing was to get out a rough translation as quickly as possible to determine the truth or otherwise of the message. The scrolls are now in the hands of a cypher expert, so that we may expect a more accurate translation in the near future, although I expect the gist of the message to remain unchanged.

An interesting point that has arisen re the scrolls is that on re-examination of them a few weeks ago I found that the pages, or at least the last page of the actual message, was not made up of thin copper foil—it was made up of two layers of copper, as thin as tissue paper, bonded together by some means. Since then, a piece of the page has been examined by scientists and found to be made of *three* layers of thin copper! This side of the mystery is also, of course, now being investigated.

As to the actual object, the "saucer," this is now at a laboratory undergoing tests on its construction and also tests with regard to its magnetic

field; etc. Results of all these tests will be published in the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* as soon as they are to hand.

Before concluding this article, it may be advisable to reply here to two of the severest critics of the whole affair. Firstly, we have Mr. Rush, of the Teeside UFO research society, who is of the opinion, which has received quite a lot of publicity, that the top of the object is made of ordinary copper which resembles a domestic water tank. The Teeside area must certainly possess some expensive water tanks! As I stated earlier, Mr. Avenell had previously cut a piece out of the top of the object, which proved to be in a series of layers. Working from the inside, they were in this order, firstly a layer of thickish copper, a layer of thinner copper, a layer of some substance which responded to a magnet, and finally a layer of some white plastic substance, which also responded to a magnet in a lesser degree. So far, no holes have been cut in the base of the object, but it is apparent to the touch that it is at least double skinned.

Finally, a word about George King's article in the April issue of *Cosmic Voice* which contains certain half truths. Mr. King showed me a paper with hieroglyphics on and asked if they resembled those on the scrolls. I replied that one or two were something like them and that is all. As the marks on the scrolls are all variations of T, L and V in our language it would be surprising if there were not some similarity. Mr. King also states that it is the duty of his magazine to expose fakes—I could not agree more.

Text of the Scrolls

MY NAME IS ULO and I write this message to you my Friends on the Planet of the sun you call Earth. Where I live I will not say. You are a fierce race and prepare travel. No one from any other planet ever has landed on earth, and your reports to the contrary are faulty. Men cannot travel far in space vehicles owing to sudden changes in speed direction and many other reasons. They are machines, part at our "control," part "auto-control" to avoid objects in way. It is impossible to receive radio over far distances owing to natural waves in space unless key of several frequencies is used, but we can receive single frequencies from near transmitter recorder in space vehicles.

From here to end of message is written by me, Tarngee. I am since three earth years secretary for Ulo who has injured his arm while repairing space vehicle. He lost swimming race with me and I made him tell me reason. Now I write for Ulo. It is friendly if I write about our women. I am of average size. We can't tell quite your size to compare but I am of height four times across

space vehicle. If height divided into 24 units (2 times 12) Round bust 15 units (12 and 3) Waist 8. Bottom of body 13. Height of legs 12. So far as we can know appearance is some like yours. There are four women for one man and Ulo says "This is no reason to remove clothes to find measures," but he is clever and strong and pretends only to mind. I have 20 earth years. Ulo has 42 which is not the same as earth. Then we live 126 earth years but it was not always so. We like best men that are at top strong in mind and body from age 31 to 60. We enjoy play between men and women and are not restricted, nor do we think nature bad as some parts of earth it is nearly hot with control of weather. But many grumbles that it is not good. Then our clothes are for decorate only. We have first strip round waist. On front and back is fixed strip one third part of unit wide to go through legs, and on front cloth 4 units wide and on back like cloth. Bosom are held by strip 1 unit wide round neck and under bosom. On having child clothing is more until when approaching old covering is from neck to feet. On feet we have hard covering. Hair is long to waist except for swimming and sport when worn on head, and front and back clothes are not worn. Colours we cannot compare to yours but we are of skin colour light with sun, for houses are open to air at most times. We have rules to keep children happy and in touch with parents but they do not rely on parents so far as yours. This is good for not all parents are good and the good are too anxious.

We write on metal here so not to burn and for electric reasons. Our script is ugly made by one stamp which is placed in different positions. "B" tilt after hitting "A" nother line is made. So a typewriter can write so quickly so talk the machine be in only a small stick. (We can't use on metal). Ulo can't tell your script for we can record TV on listening to spelling competitions on radio Ulo does not understand connection between script and sound. Then we use our adapted script which you can know by key sent. I should like to print my picture but Ulo says it should burn off. He has read this and is not glad but may let it stay.

Our council do not wish communicate with earth for we are a happy race. Even mentally contact with your race may affect us, so talk the council, but they are not in so close knowledge of you as I am.

Old Vehicle for Mission

I cannot make the vehicle to drop message for this needs machinery which the engineers must fit, and I cannot give them such orders without permission from the council. Then I obtain old damaged space vehicle and alter it to land without signal from ground. This will cause vehicle to break on landing but message should remain. The machinery of vehicle will be made to explode or I am disloyal to council. "Cest difficile" for I have knowledge but no machinery except for house work.

It is not likely I can soon get other broken vehicle to send other message. If I do I send code at end to tell if it from me and if vehicle is from here and not wrong message from one of your people. No one within possible range of earth except we make space vehicles.

At end not to be published I give suggests as to communication by key radio but I doubt it will work as we must use passing on stations in space for control of vehicles.

One reason I send message is I hear your music. Some is better than we can make. Some is happy though much is howling as in pain, so there are some on earth who are fine. Also many who are not fine but kind who speak on the radio. These things I do not like to have destroyed. I agree all race as is known to council is very evil but we also long ago were not so happy.

Council are wise and kind but know you as killers of each other. They do not wish to hurt you. They think it good to wait and you will improve or disappear. They may be right but by this way I hope to help you unwish doing danger to my race.

We listen now to records "Sur le point" also "J'attendrai" also Charleston now "Les amour." The council though are not believing that this understood. One of the reasons for bad understanding between your countries is no agreed one language. With your radio or TV many could be taught by one. This many made it hard for me to find meaning.

The message I give you is of the atomic energy for destruction. The bombs which the two main powers made when exploded will destroy most animal life on earth and to make it not for long habit by survivors. Any small argument may result in full war then one side after long war will wish to finish it and use atomic bombs. Even if bombs are not used there is always fear of their use and hard work and tax to pay for them. Also testing bombs is dangerous. You say it is no danger at present rate after 30 years but rate increases and that time is short. Our recording vehicles on return are sometimes found to have atoms radiating and we can't touch except by machine.

World Council Needed

A world council should be made. We found it bad to have votes for each country. Result was secret agreements and threats as to voting so result of vote was wrong. There must be council of men who belong to no country. Our council office is on small island. Council are fair judges able to find what is best for race. Not forced by any government, on their trueness rests safety of race.

If a country was attacked or in danger it at once sent message to council. (48) men, which at once met and must decide in one and quarter hours (earth time), if danger is made. If yes, they order attacker to go back and if not obeyed council have fierce arms which would destroy attacker. This has not been necessary as council countries and attacker would not be able to send in or out if he disobeyed council. Council have power to take money and goods of attacker in it control and give attacked country. This is sufficient to stop attacks.

When we solved the problem there were leaders of one country who did not wish peace which would stop them get more power. Council must then stop money and goods to country when rules of council for their government are not obeyed. Goods from one country to other not to be taxed on enter or council can't control properly and it is right that all people should choose and have these goods. Countries are afraid to stop attack by big, for its houses and factories would be destroyed and its people killed by big country. Council have not buildings to loose and their people are easily protected.

Your United Nations is no use to stop even small fights but does much other good work so should be kept. You should make a race council to control fights mainly and goods too and for United Nations on these things.

I send message to Britain which may know these things better than others but I had before meant to send to larger country. Friends, nature tries many times for the two make one. Seek is no harder than to make. Many seeks fail a few succeed. Nature is satisfied. Nature only starts, to guide and act is for you. If you feel it is for Nature to be grieved on but there are many successes.

I am not happy on the womens writing of Tarngee which is not object of message. Yet it would rest for her help. She has not written that she won prize for beauty of body and face and swim.

However, "mes amis," make happiness. B. Ulo.
I, writer, send love and wishes. B. Tarngee.

HOW SOME OF THE SAUCERS FLY

by

Dino Kraspedon

This is the fourth extract from the book *Contato com os Discos voadores*, which first appeared in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 1957, and will shortly be published in an English edition by Neville Spearman Ltd., London. This book gives a summary, largely in the form of questions and answers, of conversations the author had in 1952, and subsequently, with the captain of a flying saucer. It is possible that Mr. Kraspedon may visit England in 1959.

Q. Have you any objection to telling us about the problems of navigation in flying saucers?

A. None at all. It is obvious that interplanetary voyages will not be possible for people of earth for some time to come, but we will give them a helping hand by showing you what takes place.

The atmospheric pressure on earth is 1.033 kg. per sq. cm. If a sheet of paper is placed over the mouth of a glass full of water and turned upside down, the atmospheric pressure on the paper will prevent the water from being subject to the force of gravity and spilling out of the glass.

We use this natural atmospheric pressure in the flying saucer. It is this which gives us the necessary propulsive force.

If we maintain this pressure underneath the saucer and bring about a decompression on top, the craft will be given a terrific upward thrust which no known force can match.¹

Q. Please be more explicit, I do not quite understand the system you describe.

A. It is quite simple, my friend. We create a vacuum in the direction of travel. If we have low pressure on one side, the other side is subject to the full atmospheric pressure. Any object, whatever its nature, can only be moved if some difference of energy potential is created. For example, with a saucer of 20 metres diameter, we get $\pi r^2 = 3,141,600$ sq. cm. as the surface of the saucer. With an atmospheric pressure of 1.033 kg. per sq. cm. we can calculate that the force operating on a saucer of 20 metres diameter is equal to 3,278,272.8 kgs.

This gives you some idea of what is involved; even the smallest type of saucer develops a thrust of approximately 3 million kgs., whereas even your most powerful aeroplanes cannot develop more than a few thousand kilogrammes of thrust.

In a standard transport saucer this pressure would be much greater. With a craft of 100 metres diameter we would get a thrust of 78,540,000 kgs. and with one of 200 metres diameter the thrust would be 314,160,000 kgs.

There is no limit to the size or capacity of these craft. We construct big cargo carriers up to 600 metres diameter with a payload of almost 300 million kilogrammes.

This is more or less theoretical because we never use the whole cargo carrying capacity of these giant freighters. If we did so, we would not have sufficient force available to develop high speeds.

When we undertake any interplanetary journey we use a low capacity craft. The size depends on the object of the visit. Generally saucers with a diameter of 20 metres are the handiest. These craft, fully equipped weigh 250,000 kgs. The total capacity of this craft would be 3 million kilos, but we use this margin of power to enable us to operate at high speeds.

A ship could never develop energy on this scale; not even atomic energy can compare with the forces of nature. And nature does it without poisoning the atmosphere! Is it clear to you now?

Q. I understand. What an extraordinarily simple process!

A. Yes, it is simplicity itself. It is just a question of knowing how. But it would not be complete unless I told you how we set about creating a vacuum externally. First I will explain to you how the saucer is steered. We can move this vacuum in any direction. Course is set by operating an ordinary lever on a hemispherical mounting which moves the vacuum in the required direction. If we wish it to go in a particular direction, we produce a vacuum on that side of the saucer, and immediately the atmosphere pro-