

from URANUS?

The spacemen threw stones

ANOTHER CONTACT STORY FROM BRAZIL

In accordance with our declared policy, we are anxious to publicise the contact claims. Although this meeting is alleged to have occurred some years ago, we think that many of our readers will be unfamiliar with the incident. It has been taken from the *A.P.R.O. Bulletin* for May, 1961, published from 4145 E. Desert Place, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.

IN 1947, when the flying saucers were seen frequently in the United States, the sightings were received with considerable scepticism elsewhere. Brazilians were no different from others. One unusual event which took place in that country in 1947 was recorded, then shelved until 1954 when Brazil underwent extensive UFO surveillance. At that time the following incident found renewed interest among Brazilians. Whether or not it is true, we cannot say, but certainly it is an unusual case. It was first printed on August 8, 1947, in *Diario Da Tarde* and the *Correio Do Noroeste*, in Bauru. Then, in 1954, the case was reviewed along with a sketch in *O Cruzeiro*.

A circular ship

On July 23, 1947 (only 29 days after Kenneth Arnold's experience), topographer Jose C. Higgins was working at a location west of the Goio-Bang Colony, north-east of Pitanga and south-west of Camp de Mourao. When crossing one of the few fields in that region, he heard a high-pitched, piercing whistling sound, which seemed to come from the sky. Higgins looked up. He said that what he saw "raised the hair" on his head. Higgins described a "strange, circular air ship with protruding edges absolutely similar to those of a drug capsule" which was coming down out of the sky. The workers accompanying him, all countrymen, became frightened and ran. Higgins said he stayed to see what might happen.

"The strange craft crossed over the field in a closed circle and landed softly about 150 ft. from where I stood," Higgins stated. He said the object was about 150 ft. wide, but not including the edges, which were about 3 ft. in width, and the whole object was about 15 ft. high. "It was crossed by tubes in several directions," Higgins

said, "but there was no smoke or fire, only that odd sound coming from the tubes."

The object, when landed, was supported by curved metallic-looking poles which bent even more when touching the ground. The whole craft appeared to be made of grey-white metal, yet different from silver. Higgins walked toward the machine to examine it more closely, and while looking it over he discovered a kind of window or porthole which appeared to be made of thick glass. Then he saw through the glass two persons watching him curiously. They were very strange-looking. A few seconds passed, then one of them turned his back as though talking to someone in the craft. Immediately Higgins heard a noise inside and a door, which was located on the under side of the craft, opened, and three people came out. They were enclosed in a kind of transparent suit which enveloped their bodies completely, head and all, and inflated like a rubber bag full of compressed air. On their backs there was a metal box that seemed to be a part of the suit. Through the transparent covering, Higgins could easily see what they wore. They had on shirts, short pants and sandals. The garments did not appear to be made of cloth, but rather appeared to be of a brilliant coloured paper. Their strange appearance was partially due to their eyes, which were large and round, and without eyebrows. They had no beards, and their heads were large and round and almost hairless. The length of their legs was greater in proportion to their bodies than those of a normal human being, and their height was about 7 ft. tall—about a foot taller than Higgins.

Higgins called attention to the fact that all the men seemed so similar to one another that they appeared to be twins or at least brothers. One of the men on the outside carried a tube which

appeared to be of the same metal of the ship, which he pointed at Higgins. The strange men talked among themselves, but Higgins was unable to understand what they said, although he said they sounded quite pleasant. He also noted that despite their large bodies they moved with incredible agility, forming a triangle around him. The one holding the tube made gestures motioning Higgins toward the door. He approached the door. Through it he could see only a small chamber limited by another door on the inside, and the end of a pipe coming from the inside. He also noticed several round beams on the side base of the protruding edge.

Higgins then began to talk, asking about the place where they apparently wanted to take him, using many gestures. They seemed to understand, and one of them made a drawing on the ground with a round spot at the centre and encircled by seven circles. Pointing to the sun in the sky, he then pointed to their craft, then to the seventh circle, doing the latter several times.

Higgins readily admitted that he then became frightened. He felt they wanted to take him off the earth, and he began frantically to figure some way to get away from the men. He knew it was impossible to fight them because of their large size and number. Then he had an idea. He had noticed that they avoided the direct sunlight for more than a few seconds, so he walked toward the shadow, and taking out his wallet he showed them a photo of his wife. With a lot of gestures he made them understand (or at least thought he did) that he wanted to go and get her and take her with him on the proposed trip.

Their behaviour

The strange men did not attempt to stop Higgins, so he sauntered casually away and entered the forest. He found a safe place from which to watch them without danger of being discovered and was surprised at their antics when left alone. They were playing like children, jumping in the air and throwing stones of enormous size. After about half an hour and a careful examination of the surroundings, the men got back into their ship which took off with a whistling sound. The craft moved away into the north, and finally disappeared into the clouds.

"I will never know if they were men or women," Higgins said later when he related his story to the press. He continued: "Despite the

characteristics I described, they were somehow beautiful and appeared in excellent health." Higgins remembered the sounds of two words: "Alamo" and "Orque." The first one corresponded to the Sun, and the other to the seventh circle in the drawing.

Higgins concluded: "Was it a dream? Was it real? Sometimes I doubt that these things can happen, and then I think that if it was not for the workers together with me in the beginning, it might have been a strange and fascinating dream."

The "Saturn-shape"

That the above described incident was described in the press a month after Kenneth Arnold's sighting, there can be no doubt. The Arnold sighting received little, if any, attention in Brazil. This is one important point in the evaluation of this sighting. It has been established that the incident was first publicised in 1947; only a few weeks after the Arnold sighting. The shape of the object seems to indicate that it is of the "Saturn-shape" type or the "double washbowl" type, neither of which type had been established through evaluation and compilation of data at that time. Little if any information concerning any type of disc or UFO had been compiled. Higgins apparently described something which was to become "common" to UFO researchers years later.

How much importance can be attached to the drawings on the ground is debatable. At any rate, despite the fact that one of the creatures pointed at the sun, it is not known for certain whether it was our sun to which he referred. The seventh planet from the sun in our solar system is Uranus, and as far as we know it is a cold, inhospitable planet. But we know so little about that planet that we cannot speculate about possible life. The space suits worn by the creatures could signify that they could not survive in our atmosphere, if indeed the incident took place, or they could merely mean that no experimentation with adaptability without protection had been undertaken.

The size and apparent strength of the creatures, plus their throwing large stones, etc., could indicate an origin with a lesser gravitational pull than the earth, and that the gambolling antics of the giants was experimentation with the novelty of the earth's gravitational pull.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Astronomer's sighting

Sir,—You may be interested to know that now that I am an active member of the British Astronomical Association. I come in contact with observers from various sections.

One observer, Mr. K. S. G. Stocker, F.R.A.S., of Wallington, Surrey, claimed a sighting of an unusual UFO during 1957. He has promised to let me have details, and does seem interested in the subject. He claims that good sightings are rather rare, but as the result of his experience he retains an open mind. Mr. Stocker's work for the B.A.A. includes colour photography of the stellar heavens and tracking of artificial satellites. — Susanne R. Stebbing, 26 Walmington Fold, Woodside Park, London, N.12.

Cosmic energy

Sir,—The Japanese typhoon of 1934 airlifted an assortment of ships from sea to shore. What if some twentieth-century Benjamin Franklin had been watching? If he had proceeded to make a study of whirlwinds and had stumbled on a method of generating and controlling them and it had been duly exploited, we might have been riding man-made cyclones by now in fabulous chromium-plated "skywheels" . . .

The aeroplane age began with the harnessing of certain chemical compounds and, with luck, will survive the harnessing of nuclear fission. The rocket age likewise.

One store of energy that has yet to be tapped is the atmosphere itself, which presses in all directions equally. How to tap it?

Flight on a whirlwind. Design a circular machine that will start a whirlwind turning or a "smokeless ring" rolling and will feed back just enough air pressure

energy to keep the vortex in motion.

In a natural vortex, the whirling particles are driven by compression forces directly—without the intervention of any mechanical devices or chemical actions. As they lose potential energy on their inward spirals they gain kinetic energy, which can very easily rev them up to supersonic speeds. (Vortex flow is more fully dealt with in Sherwood's *Aerodynamics*.)

A regenerative vortex converting atmospheric pressure into motive power: that would be perpetual motion, which was unthinkable until recently. The thought-block: gravity. Then—*scientists became certain that gravity travels in waves like radio and light at a speed of 186,000 miles a second.* (*Daily Express*, September 6, 1957.)

That being so, we can appreciate that the energy in air pressure must be of Cosmic origin. Nothing less than Cosmic Energy can maintain the perpetual motions of the Universe.

And when it comes to traversing ten thousand million or more miles of partly-radioactive space, nothing less than perpetual motion coupled with a protective spatiodynamic field is worth considering. — Robert Morison, 41 Roma Rd., E.17.

Exeter sighting

Sir,—Further to your remarks about the Exeter sighting and weather balloons in your September-October issue, I would like to make the point that when Bristol University — or anybody else, for that matter—sends up one of these contraptions they

publicise the fact of the launching in every possible way. This is not surprising as the main point of the exercise is to keep track of the balloon and to recover its instruments. Had the object over Exeter Airport last June been a weather balloon there would have been no need to await upon an explanation from the Air Ministry or any other official body. Furthermore, I doubt whether a radar tracking of a stationary balloon would have revealed a "very large" object. The radio-sonde attachment, the only metallic part, is small by comparison and would not have produced a large enough echo to justify the description quoted.—Richard Winster, Formby, Lancs.

Professor Lovell

Sir,—May I say how greatly interested I was to read your article in the September-October issue? Since the appointment to Jodrell Bank of Professor Lovell I have always felt that a tremendous mistake had been made by the selection of a man with an obviously closed mind. In 1953, I wrote to Professor Lovell about his broadcast on flying saucers and received the following reply: "Thank you for your letter of June 15. I am sorry if you found my broadcast irritating. I am well aware of the contents of . . . the three books which have been written on flying saucers and also of the qualifications of their authors. There is not the slightest satisfactory piece of scientific evidence that there is anything at all unusual connected with the flying saucer phenomenon." — Eric G. Boughton, 921 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middlesex.