

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ARGENTINA

Underwater UFO bases off Patagonia?

According to a report of July 28, 1973, from Buenos Aires, which was reprinted by the Italian newspaper *La Nazione* of July 29, the Argentine Society for the Investigation of Unusual Phenomena (President, Antonio Las Heras) has issued a statement to the effect that flying saucers have underwater bases in the coastal waters of Southern Argentina.

The Society claim that, after years of research, they have now ascertained that machines from another world have established under-sea bases in the gulfs of San Matías and San Jorge, 1,100 and 2,000 kilometres, respectively, to the south of Buenos Aires, and on the coast of Patagonia.

The statement goes on to say that the first researches concerning these extraterrestrial objects began several years ago. A cigar-shaped space-ship was seen on October 22nd, 1954, and in the beginning of the 1960s flying saucers had already become so frequent along the coast of Patagonia that they no longer caused any surprise.

Definite proof of the existence of the UFOs, according to the Society's statement, was finally obtained on August 14, 1968, when 100 witnesses were able to observe the trajectory, covering a distance of 700 kilometres, of five extremely luminous ellipsoid objects which rose up out of the Gulf of San Matías and then submerged again in the Gulf of San Jorge.

Credit and thanks to reader Mrs. Mary Boyd of Firenze, Italy, who sent us this report and also made the translation from Italian.

[Over the past nine years FSR has carried frequent reports about the alleged underwater UFO bases down the coast of Argentina and Patagonia, beginning with Gordon Creighton's article *Argentina 1962*, in FSR for July/August 1964 — EDITOR.]

Tres Arroyos round-up

Since the extraordinary experience of the 73-year-old Ventura Maccerras of Tres Arroyos (see FSR July-August and September-October 1973) the local press has reported a number of further sightings in that area. According to the Tres Arroyos paper *La Voz Del Pueblo* of May 15, 1973,—

"A woman named Elena Ottaviano de Roqué was one of several who saw a UFO over the town on April 22. At 8.15 a.m. she was on the street and had to cover her eyes, so dazzling was the brightness of the vivid lights from a hovering object which she estimated to be at a height of no more than 500 metres. It was of an oval shape, reddish in colour, and pulsating steadily. It passed later to green and then finally to violet before vanishing. When she first observed it, it had not yet become stationary and was darting about in various directions."

On another date in June, six young men and women who were driving through Tres Arroyos reported a similar sighting.

On yet another occasion, reported in the Buenos Aires paper *La Crónica*, (June 1973, precise day not certain) a man named Eduardo Calle of Orense was driving along a country road when his engine failed. He got out to inspect and saw a round, blindingly bright object rise straight up from the nearby field and vanish into the sky at immense speed. Examining the spot where he said it had stood, the Police found a round hole, the grass being scorched and burnt. *Moreover, fungi of an unknown species were beginning to grow on the spot.* (As will be recalled, FSR has published a number of reports from Argentina about these huge mystery mushrooms which appear at UFO landing sites.)

The local population in the Tres Arroyos area is convulsed and alarmed at these reports, and great crowds have been to examine the spot.

Credit for various accounts to Miss Jane Thomas, Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL

Censorship of UFO reports

We have very reliable grounds indeed for believing that there is the strictest censorship of UFO reports in at least some areas of Brazil, although we are not clear as to whether this situation is entirely nation-wide and extending with the same efficiency in all the States. To judge, for example, from the press-clippings of UFO reports which we have received this year from our friends in Rio de Janeiro, it would appear that the regulations are not being applied very rigorously in that particular city.

As regards the nearby State of São Paulo, and its capital city of the same name, matters are however very different. For it so happens that São Paulo itself is where the Brazilian Air Force's

own equivalent of "Project Blue Book" is based. This most probably accounts for the fact that extremely little about UFOs is getting into any São Paulo newspapers or other media these days. And when an item does manage to get slipped into the first edition of any particular São Paulo paper, it is generally out by the time the second edition of that day appears, or is given again with a prompt and satisfactory "proof" that the report was "a hoax." (Incidentally, precisely the same pattern can be seen here in London if one studies our newspapers for a good many years past, especially our two evening journals, the *Evening News* and *Evening Standard*.)

The governmental regulation which is operative in this matter of UFO reports in São Paulo and São Paulo State is entitled *Institutional Act No. 5 (State Security)*.

It states textually: "It is forbidden for TV, radio, newspapers, and other news media to divulge UFO reports without the prior censorship of the Brazilian Air Force."

G. Creighton, August 18, 1973

MEXICO

Radar and Creature Reports from Mexico

We are indebted to Dr. J. Allen Hynek for the press-clipping of the following report, which appeared in the important Peruvian newspaper *El Comercio* of Lima for Sunday, June 3, 1973. The *Latin* agency account was dated Mexico City, June 2nd. Translation from Spanish by Gordon Creighton.

UFOs detected by radar at Mexico City Airport

"The early morning sky showed a rare degree of limpidity, such as has seldom been seen at the Benito Juárez International Airport here, when the radar in the control tower registered an aircraft in the vicinity. Astonished, the three men who were on watch looked up at the sky, for no plane had asked for landing clearance. In the distance there was a violet-coloured light which was approaching at extraordinary speed.

"Said Fernando Discua, supervisor of the control tower: 'The strange craft or unidentified object did a 360° turn, and its speed could never have been equalled by any jet.

"The controllers tried to communicate with it, but got no reply. With their earphones clamped to their

heads, they waited with apprehension for some indication, a coded message, a voice, a signal...

"The minutes passed slowly—they seemed like centuries—while the strange craft circled round and round over a radius of from ten to sixteen kilometres, bathed in a violet-coloured light that emitted flashes. The three of us stood there, looking at each other, perplexed. The radar registered the machine's existence, but it did not land, and it gave no audible signal."

"This has happened three times this week, and maybe the visitors will be back again today or tomorrow, in the opinion of the airline pilots, who are all convinced that it is an extraterrestrial machine from Mars or Venus or Jupiter."

"Control Tower Supervisor Discua says the craft was seen not only by the tower personnel, but also by commercial and civilian pilots."

"The control tower men say that one civilian pilot even took off in pursuit of the weird craft and followed it as far as the mountain peak of La Estrella which dominates the airfield, and where the UFO seemed to either descend or explode."

Emilio Estañol, one of the other control tower men, said that, for some seconds after that, the peak of La Estrella was lit up with an intense bluish light, like the light given off by welding equipment.

"Other civilian aircraft that arrived at the Benito Juárez international airport around the same time also reported by radio to the tower about the luminous object, which they said was some kind of unknown craft, apparently circular, although owing to its dazzling brightness they were unable to make out its shape or estimate its size."

"The pilot who took off and flew over the La Estrella peak came back half-an-hour later, and said he had seen no signs or traces either of the craft or any fire or lights. During the course of last Thursday morning, other pilots also flew over La Estrella but found no signs of a landing or of anything of the sort."

"Estañol agreed with his colleague that they had been surprised by the arrival of the craft, and that then they had been overcome by fear as they saw it registering on the radar and yet answering none of the radio signals."

"Said Estañol in a tone of resignation and conviction: 'All of us saw it, it was no figment, and lots of people telephoned to us to say the strange thing was over the northern part of the city.'"

"Several hours later, still deeply impressed by the sight, Estañol said: 'That thing was travelling at an

enormous speed and yet making no sound. And from time to time it stopped, as though it was suspended by a thread.'

"The question of who the occupants of such a craft could have been, and where they came from, and when they will return, was the general theme of discussion today at the international airport. Some folk took the line that the control tower personnel must have all been asleep and must have dreamt the fantastic apparition."

"But, on the other hand, the declarations of the control tower technicians about what they saw are backed up by other recent cases that indicate the presence of strange beings in other parts of our country."

Truck burnt out by creatures

"For example, Miguel Angel Gonzalez, a truck driver in the State of Veracruz, lying some 400 kilometres to the north-east from the Mexican Capital, declares that his truck was mysteriously destroyed by a tremendously powerful beam of light."

"Gonzalez said that on May 22 of this year he was travelling along the road from Tinajas to Tierra Blanca with a load of asbestos, steel-plating and concrete slabs — all non-combustible material — when he was obliged to pull up because of an engine defect. He then said: 'When I got down out of the cab there were some men of short stature barring the road. They were of the size of dwarfs, and I went for them, to clear them out of my way. The little beings made off into the thickets on one side of the road before I could have a good view of them. And when I got back to my truck, the whole of it was burning.'"

"Discussing the truckdriver's story, people here have been saying that it is the work of the *chanecas* — an Indian word which means *strange beings*."

"A 56-year-old Mexican engineer named Raul Alvarez, who investigated the spot where Gonzalez' truck had burnt out, said that the destruction of the vehicle must have been done from the air by means of a powerful light beam like a laser. After making his analysis of the remnants found on the road, he said: 'Some electrical device, producing high temperatures, and directed upon the truck from somewhere, pulverized it and left nothing behind but a few bits of metal sheeting, glass, and molten metal.'"

Scaly creatures

"Another report of extraterrestrial beings, of a size and of a colour different from humans, was also made

in Mexico City by two bricklayers, who said that two scaly creatures had appeared near a road where they were both working."

"Raymundo Villegas Alvarez, aged 42, one of the bricklayers, said that he had been afraid to mention the episode till now, out of fear that folk would say he was mad, but that now he was willing to speak up, particularly since the affair of the burnt-out truck and the appearances of strange aerial craft over the airport."

"According to Villegas, their sighting of the strange beings took place on August 18, 1972, on the highway between Mexico City and Tulyehualco, on the outskirts of the Mexico City Federal District, when he and his companion were at work tiling the roof of a house."

"He said: 'We heard a faint humming noise, and we looked over towards the road and saw two beings approaching, who were nearly two metres high, wearing silvery, scaly clothing. They had no noses or mouths, and seemed to be floating in the air. They came right up to about fifteen metres from where we were, and we were able to see that their backs were green.'"

"Villegas said that the sighting was interrupted, because at that moment a woman came by on the road carrying a milk-can, whereupon the creatures moved off in her direction and vanished."

"Villegas went on to say that, after this encounter with 'Martians' or beings from another planet, his assistant, Francisco Torres, aged 18, became insane, and left Mexico City to go back to his home in the country, at Cotija, a small place in the State of Michoacan."

"Speaking very seriously, almost absorbed in his own description of what they had seen, Villegas said: 'I never want to meet those beings again. I do not drink and I do not smoke — and I am scared.'"

MOZAMBIQUE

UFO with revolving 'spotlights'

A 'Sapa' report from Portuguese East Africa of an incident on May 12, 1973, was published in the *Natal Witness* (South Africa) of May 15, 1973—

"Another 'strange flying object' was seen hovering over the outskirts of Lourenco Marques on Saturday night. Witness said the semi-spherical object flew about 30 metres above the ground emitting a blue-green and yellow light."

"The object was as bright as a star and equipped with two revolving spotlights directed at the ground."

"A civil aviation authority said