

but (so we are informed by such competent authorities as Comrade Khrushchev and Soviet atomic physicist Professor Dmitri Sakharov) in the neighbourhood of twenty millions. One inevitably wonders whether Uncle Joe and Aladino Félix were not products of the same "finishing school"?

There does not appear to be any record of Stalin's ever having claimed that he had friends and pals in "Outer Space", but those were slightly different times from ours, and perhaps the Gentry had not at that time hit upon the brilliant idea of palming themselves off as "Cosmic

Brothers" who have come from afar to visit and help Mankind. This probably did not begin until the early 1950s. It would be interesting if someone who has the leisure for such research could go through the reports and see whether anybody had ever claimed, prior to 1952 or thereabouts, that he had had converse with "a man from another planet." What does seem certain, at any rate, is that, during the American Visitation of 1897 for example, not one of the entities allegedly met told any American that he was from another planet, and not a single American is reported in the press of the time as having thought there was anything "interplanetary" about the whole affair.

MAIL BAG

The Piri-Reis map

Dear Sir,—I was appalled to read the article in March/April FSR by Dr. P. C. W. Davies. In it he completely ignores the book by Professor C. H. Hapgood, "Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings" published by Chilton Books. This book gives a long and detailed account of the Piri Reis map of 1513 along with numerous other portolan maps.

I will refer only to Antarctica and point out that in Professor Hapgood's book eight features on the Piri Reis map can be identified on a modern sub-glacial map with less than one degree longitude error. Dr. Davies will appreciate that longitude could not be determined accurately until the development of the chronometer 250 years later and also that the sub-glacial outline of Antarctica was not discovered until 1949.

I must assume that Dr. Davies is not aware of Professor Hapgood's book and I suggest that he reads it and considers its relevance to his article. Since I work in The Queen's University of Belfast I'm sure that if Dr. Davies has difficulty in obtaining a copy he will let me know and I shall arrange to let him borrow my copy on inter-library loan.

In conclusion I hope you will be able to devote space in FSR to correct what I believe to be an erroneous impression of the Piri Reis map created by Dr. Davies. I also offer my sincere congratulations on your excellent journal and wish it every success.

Yours truly,
W. J. Swindall,

"Jiri," Ballyaughlis, Lisburn,
N. Ireland.
June 13, 1972.

From Aimé Michel

Dear Sir,—I see from FSR Vol. 18, No. 2 (page iii), that I am "the leading and most respected researcher in the world." Which proves irrefutably of course that FSR is the leading and most respected review in the world.

Unfortunately, people are nasty: you can tell them till you are blue in the face that you are the leading and most respected researcher in the world, and they don't believe you. They say: "Well, what about me then?"

They all want to be "the leading and most respected in the world," when in fact this title belongs only to you and me (and, of course, especially me).

It reminds me of the time when I was a University student, and my friend the poet Louis Le Cunff had founded a newspaper called *The A*. This paper, Le Cunff always emphasised, was indisputably the first in the world as regards alphabetical order. And yet it was a failure, which is good confirmation of the fact that people are

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.

mean, and that it is no good trying to teach them who is No. 1.

Yours sincerely,
Aimé Michel.

Light on Lima

Dear Sir,—This refers to a letter from Mr. Vicente Juan Ballester Olmos dated July 5, 1971, which appeared in the September/October issue of your Review. The letter requested information on an occupant report near Lima, Peru, in September of 1968.

The undersigned, together with other APRO investigators, personally visited the area. After talks with local police and fishermen it was determined that no such incident as reported had taken place. I might add that the story originated in one of Lima's less reliable newspapers.

Yours sincerely,
Richard Greenwell,
Assistant Director, Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation (APRO),
3910 East Kleindale Road, Tucson,
Arizona 85712, USA.

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Pre-1969 issues, in limited supply, are available only to readers through the post.

FSR Back Issues,

21 Cecil Court,
Charing Cross Road,
London WC2N 4HB.

Preparation of a catalogue of Type 1 cases in Britain

Dear Sir,—As readers will recall, in their study of Iberian type 1 reports 9 (published in the FSR Special Issue No. 4) Dr. Vallée and Sr. Ballester deplored the lack of studies of Type 1 reports in Great Britain (as well as in other areas).

In an effort to remedy this situation, in co-operation with Dr. Vallée, a catalogue of Type 1 reports in the British Isles is being prepared on the lines of the "Magonia" and "Iberian" catalogues. Already a sample of over 200 such cases has been obtained, largely from published ufological sources. The total number of such reports may be larger, and the purpose of this letter is to appeal to readers to supply **full details** of all such reports in personal or society files, results of investigations and re-investigations of reports, details of new reports as they arrive, and details of reports published in newspapers, journals prior to 1969 other than FSR, or low distribution journals. Respondents may be assured that all such cases will be gratefully received.

For the purposes of the catalogue Type 1 reports are, provisionally, designated as:

- Reports involving objects on the ground with or without "occupants";
- Reports involving objects observed at an altitude of 100ft. (30m.) or less, or described as being at treetop or rooftop height;
- Reports involving objects at higher altitude where "occupants" have been observed;
- All reports of "occupants", "humanoids", "aliens", "spacemen" etc., whether involving objects or not;
- Reports of objects entering or leaving bodies of water in a controlled manner.

In view of research by Mr. Alan Sharp, it has been decided not to include reports of ground effects not involving reports of objects.

Reports should, if possible, give exact date, time, location and witness's name. Requests for anonymity will be honoured in published reports. It is hoped that ufologists will publish details of cases they investigate in *Flying Saucer Review* and *FSR Case Histories*.

The reason why I was not "forthcoming" about the classification of UFO books in libraries,* is simply that I found in my first draft letter it took up too much space and was very boring. Basically books of the Von Däniken type can be classified either

as historical mysteries, or as religious phenomena interpreted as extra-terrestrial visitation. The problems of classification and whether works should be classified by subject or discipline has been the subject of controversy among classifiers for a hundred years. Yours faithfully,

Peter Rogerson,
8 Braddon Avenue, Urmston,
Manchester, M31 1UE.
May 21, 1972.

* *This is a reference to a letter from the correspondent which appeared in FSR, Vol. 17, No. 00—EDITOR.*

Computing distances of UFOs observed

Dear Editor,—Recently I developed a computer programme to find the distance of a UFO from the observer during a sighting. I had heard that the November/December 1969 issue of FSR had an article containing a sketch and some calculations made of a sighting, so, in order to test my programme, I borrowed that issue from a friend.

The article was entitled "Flying Saucer over Cluj, Romania" and was written by Florin Gheorghita. It concerned three photographs that had been taken of an object which the witness estimated to be 1,000 to 1,200 metres distant and 30 metres in diameter. Using the photos and the sighter's estimation of distance the author calculated that the object had a diameter of between 32 and 38 metres.

The article did not contain the specific information that I needed so I could not use it. I did notice, however, that the author's calculations were incorrect so I wrote another programme to find the actual values. I found that if the distance of the object was between 1,000 and 1,200 metres then its diameter was between 42 and 50 metres.

While it is true that this mistake does not change any aspects of the case, two points need to be made: (1) For a sceptic this is lethal ammunition and (2) Should UFO research ever get beyond the ridiculous stage it is quite probable that mistakes such as this could affect the analysis of a UFO report.

I will be happy to analyse any UFO report that someone may have for its mathematical reliability or to supply any missing distance or dimension measurement. Anyone can reach me at the address given below.

Yours sincerely,
David Keilbarth,
2843 Guilford Land, Oklahoma City,
Oklahoma 73120, USA.
April 30, 1972.

About a lightning calculator

Dear Sir,—I am writing this because M. Aimé Michel requested further information on lightning calculators. The following article is an excellent example, conducted by an authority in this field, and I hope M. Michel finds it of some use:

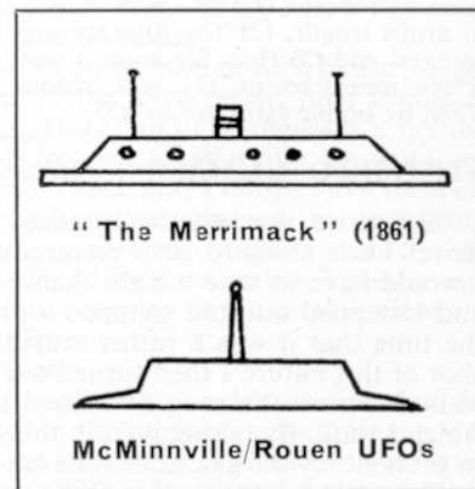
I. Hunter: "An Exceptional Talent for Calculative Thinking." *British Journal of Psychology*, 1962, Vol. 53, No. 3, pp. 243-258.

It concerns Professor Alexander Aitkin, F.R.S.

Yours truly,
I. Jones,
67 Stephens Road, Walmley,
Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

Comparison

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Clifford's letter in the January/February 1972 issue concerning the McMinnville/Rouen UFOs I would like to point out the sighting of a



similar object over Michigan in 1904 (*Mysteries of the Skies*, by Lore and Deneault, p. 93).

According to the 1st witness "It had a sort of thick mast sticking up from the centre . . ." And the 2nd witness said "Its shape reminded me of pictures of the Confederate gunboat

Merrimac" (Fig. 1).

Figure 1:

The Merrimack (1861)

Figure 2:

McMinnville/Rouen UFO

Now if Merrimack's funnel is substituted for the "Thick Mast" described, the resemblance of the 1904 UFO with those seen at McMinnville and Rouen is remarkable.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. Woloniecki,
Washington Street,
Bradford, Yorkshire.

Help needed

Dear Sir,—I intend to write a book about Flying Saucers and their sightings in England, mainly in the southern counties Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset etc.

Just now I lack such details as eye-witnesses' statements, diagrams and general information. I would like to appeal, through FSR, to your English readers for details of UFO sightings.

Yours faithfully,

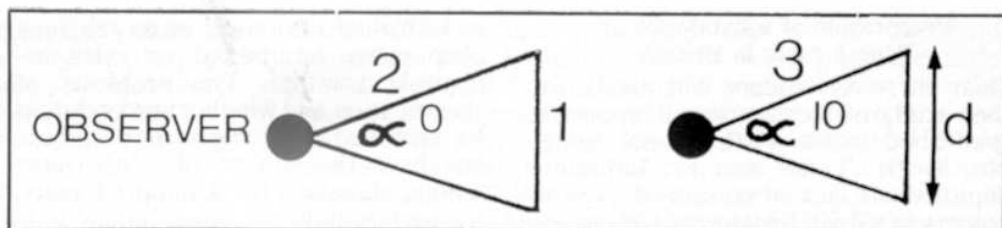
David Stanford,

30 Murrayshall Road, Scone, by Perth, Perthshire, Scotland.

[It is a brave man who would write a book although lacking basic information. Is anyone willing to help?—EDITOR.]

Simple calculations: basic requirements

Dear Sir,—I enjoy FSR a lot, but I have a bone to pick with people who sight objects, or people who report the sightings of other people. One cannot catalogue UFOs if, say, one is only given the colour. So, I ask, please try, before giving in a report, to get three measurements: (1) How wide it was at arm's length; (2) The distance eye to hand and (3) How far away it was when measurement (1) was made. Then by simple ratio: $\alpha^0 = \alpha^{10}$.



	(2)		(3)	
Observer X	α^0	(1)	X	α^{10}
Observer X	α^0	(1)	X	α^{10}
Observer X	α^0	(1)	X	α^{10}
	(1)	d		
α	— = —			
	(2)	(3)		

where d is the calculated diameter of the object. So, for example, in Richard Farrow's first report, of Mr. Holm's UFO, it was 228ft. across! Good luck!

Yours faithfully,

Laurence Campbell,

22 Lathbury Road, Oxford, OX 58163.

P.S. Please could any Oxford people who read this contact me; I'm lonely.

Those Devil's footprints

Dear Sir,—May I refer to the article by George Lyall in the January/February issue re the possible creation

of the "Devil's Footprints" by airborne lasers.

There would appear to be a simple way of checking this if the records are available. The article quotes the marks as being equally spaced (8 inches). Did anyone measure the spacing on a roof or some such slope? Given a constant source flying horizontally overhead with resultant 8-inch mark separation these would increase their distance on a slope, e.g. a 45° roof would result in approximately 11¼-inch intervals. Those who still insist on animal theories would be forever silenced since animals always shorten strides when climbing.

Yours faithfully,
Michael Poynor,

64 Worple Road, Wimbledon, London, S.W.19.
May 4, 1972.

STUTFIELD GLACIER (continued from p. 20)

"When we reached the Stutfield Glacier I realized that if I was going to get a picture of this phenomenon I would have to take it right then. We stopped the car and I stepped out and snapped a picture. Realizing at the time that it was a rather stupid place to try for a shot of this nature I then turned my coat collar up and walked across the road and lined up another picture which I took. By taking it from this location I was able to get not only the glacier but the mud flats in front of it.

"Some time later, well in fact at the viewpoint overlooking the Nigel bridge, we took one more shot but it didn't turn out very well because it was just a little cloudy, and I have an automatic camera which has a fixed speed shutter. That was the last picture we took until the end of September when we were leaving for Europe. I used the balance of the film in the old country and had it developed on my return to Canada the end of October."

Allan: "What did you think when you saw these two pictures that you took?"

Eryant: "Well, my first thought was that because they were out of order that I had wasted twenty shots in a film that was defective. I then put the pictures in order and looked at it [sic] again and realized that this wasn't a flaw, or didn't appear to be a flaw, because the picture immediately preceding the two pictures I took of the glacier, and that following, did not show any marking that would have led one to believe that it was a defective film. It became a little joke around the home, of the unseen flying saucer until a friend of ours (Mrs. Shillington—W. K. A.) contacted you and then I turned them over to you."

Mrs. Bryant: "Because it was such a poor day I only just got out of the car for a few minutes and stood beside him while he took the picture and sort of gave a few suggestions on how he should do it. Then I decided it was no place for me, it was such a nasty day, so when he said he thought he would take another shot from the other side of the road I just got back into the car and just watched him take a picture of it [the glacier—ED.] and the mud flat. But it was just an ordinary picture, I felt. I saw nothing at all that would lead me to believe there would be anything in the picture that was unusual."

Allan: "Well thank you very much, that's the important thing I think, that neither one of you saw anything out of the ordinary when you took the picture."

Bryant: "My camera is a Konica automatic. It's really my wife's camera. It has a fixed shutter speed and the light meter is coupled to the aperture in such a way that unless there is sufficient light the shutter cannot be released. Of course I can sometimes overcome this by raising the camera somewhat higher than I would like, but the light from the sky is sufficient in most cases to activate the light meter."

Allan: "You had no filter of any kind on it?"

Bryant: "Thank you very much but we don't even own a filter for this camera."

Allan: "Have you any idea what the fixed speed is of that shutter?"

Bryant: "Frankly I'm not a camera buff, but I believe the speed is one-thirtieth of a second."

POSTSCRIPT: Perhaps the light effect could have been caused by a raindrop on the lens?