

THE ONGOING SPANISH COVER-UP

By Gordon Creighton

IN FSR 38/2 we published an article, *The Spanish Air Force UFO Files*, by one of Spain's best-known and most experienced UFO investigators, Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos of Valencia.

It was indeed an interesting article, but there was something in it that worried me greatly when I read it. I refer to the passage where Vicente-Juan writes:—**"In 1990 I started to visit and correspond with officials in such headquarters, mainly the Public Relations Office and the Air Safety Section, bringing to the attention of the Chief of the Air Force Staff memoranda, reports, and arguments proving that (1) UFOs pose no threat to the national security and (2) UFOs represent a legitimate scientific problem, not a military one. In consequence, I argued, existing UFO documents should be declassified and the corresponding material should enter the public domain"**.

Sr. Ballester Olmos goes on to relate how finally, in May 1991, his efforts were successful, and the colonel in charge of the Air Safety Section prepared an internal memorandum to the General Division of Operations of the Spanish Air Force which finally "explicitly concluded that the UFO file should be declassified and made public to interested parties".

We are informed that this process of "declassification" is now taking place, and that the whole amazing thing has been brought about by Sr. Ballester Olmos, a private citizen of Spain! If this situation is indeed true, what is it telling us? It is telling us that, after years and years of UFO study, the top Air Force officials of one of the largest and most renowned nations of Western Europe do not know how to make up their minds about UFOs, and about the possible grave danger of UFOs to mankind, without going for advice to a businessman from Valencia and indeed being finally convinced by him as to what course of action they should take! (Try to visualize the British Ministry of Defence consulting Gordon Creighton about how to deal with UFOs!).

If that is the truth of the matter, then I am astounded. But I don't believe it for one second, and I said so in my editorial note to Sr. Salvador Freixedo's letter, on page 26 of FSR 38/2. My statement was as follows:—**"I beg leave however to doubt whether this material contains anything of any real value whatsoever apart from harmless details of encounters by Spanish aircraft with UFOs in Spain's Air-Space... I suggest that these "revelations", startling as they may seem to be, are in themselves only a part of the ongoing official cover-up and black-out. I'll bet they contain not one single word about abductions, about genetic tinkering and crossbreeding and about the forcible extraction of sperm and ova from humans, such as we now know is going on in other parts of the world, and most particularly in the United**

States of America".

Attempts are now being made in many quarters to "prove" that these disagreeable sorts of stories are appearing *only in the USA* and that they are purely the result of the "over-excitability" and craziness of the American population or of the downright mendacity of Budd Hopkins. I therefore wish to make it plain here and now that FSR's own medical team have for a considerable time past been finding and regressing people here in Britain who offer "tales" that are just as "wild" and just as "crazy" as any of the stuff which they allege is being cooked up by Americans who are high on drugs and enjoy claiming that they have been "abducted by aliens", or cooked up by Budd Hopkins and the rest of his colleagues in the USA. (At present we are publishing none of this British material. There will be decisions later as to how it is to be dealt with.)

I revert now to the matter of Spain and the claim that the Spanish Air Force are about to "come clean". We are being asked, it seems, to accept the extraordinary suggestion that the military leaders of a great and noble European nation are incapable of deciding by themselves whether UFOs are dangerous or not dangerous without the advice of an automobile dealer from Valencia.

Such an idea is of course preposterous. But I can fully understand that the Spanish Ministry of Defence may have perceived that Señor Ballester Olmos's naive belief in the "harmlessness" of UFOs might easily be put to very good use, and might help them to unload upon their own public another load of subterfuge.

Proof that my suspicions were well founded is now provided by the latest Spanish book on the UFOs, *Materia Reservada* (meaning in English "*Classified Material*"), by J.J. Benítez, which I have already advertised inside the front cover of FSR 38/4. I have not yet learnt what the price of the book is (my copy has no price marked) but it is published by Editorial Planeta, Barcelona, and those who have enough command of Spanish are urged to have a look at it. With all the load that we are carrying in publishing FSR, I have not yet had the time to read through the whole book attentively, but it is perfectly clear to me that Señor J.J. Benítez, who is a journalist in the Vizcaya Region of Northern Spain, is not talking nonsense and that the Spanish Air Force — like every other air force in the world — are continuing to prevaricate.

As for Sr. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos, FSR's readers have been familiar with his fine work for many years past. There is no more indefatigable researcher in Spain! He is a firm follower of the "nuts-and-bolts" theory, and it seems that, after all these years, he still thinks our human science is going to "solve" the

continued on Page 24

CLASSIFICATION: "SECRET". FROM THE K.G.B. ARCHIVES

In 1992 several high-ranking Army chiefs, who refused to be named, informed the general public through independent ufological periodicals that information of paranormal phenomena and UFO sightings in the USSR had been secretly collected. Later the information was verified.

Recently our Editorial Board received a thick envelope of materials on UFO sightings over the territory of the USSR. They used to be "Secret", now they are not. The envelope contains the reports of rank-and-file personnel, reports of civil pilots and flight control personnel, transcripts of recorded radio exchange between plane crews and the stories of those who saw UFOs while on or off duty. As a rule, these were the people whose professional duty it was to watch the sky and record everything that was going on there. The documents we are citing are extremely trustworthy because the characteristics and performances of the flying objects reported by different people are more or less the same. As a rule, all the reports are certified by higher officers.

The sightings contained in the envelope occurred all over our immense country: from Kursk City in the European part to Kamchatka in the East and from the Tiksi Peninsula in the North to the resort town of Sochi on the Black Sea coast. They took place over a period of 9 years from 1982 through 1990. We used originals of all documents, though some of them have been abridged.

CASE NO. 1 — SOCHI AIRPORT

The first document is the transcript of a radio exchange between air-traffic controller R. Stepanian and the crews of three flights which were in the airport zone at the time. They were scheduled Flights Nos. 138, 397 and 500. The Controller's words are marked "TWR" (for TOWER) and the Flights — "F-1", "F-2" and "F-3" correspondingly. The Exchange started at 11 hrs 31 min.

July 26, 1989, Sochi Aeroport Zone

TWR: Flight 138, go ahead.

F1: Do you observe two objects hanging at our left?

TWR: To the left? What altitude?

F1: Our altitude, right, about 50 or 60 kilometres ahead of us.

TWR: Flight 138, you are clear of traffic now. Do you observe anything on your left?

F1: There was one object, then another one appeared nearby. They are flying away from us. The distance is already about 80 kilometres.

TWR: What is their shape like?

F1: One is oblong, like a dirigible, the other's kind of spherical.

TWR: Are they abeam?

F1: Yes, right ahead but they are moving away quickly, the distance is 80-90 kilometres.

TWR: Flight 397, do you observe anything abeam, 30-40 kilometres to the left of you?

F2: 30 kilometres abeam?

TWR: About 40 kilometres from the left to the right.

F1: Flight 397, they must be moving from the left to the right.

F2: No, we do not observe them, I'll look at the radar display.

F1: Flight 397, they are 25 kilometres to the right and behind you.

F2: We do not see them. There are clouds.

F1: Look above the clouds. They are sort of zigzagging.

F2: Flight 397, I've sighted two spots against the clouds.

TWR: Which zone?

F2: About 45 km from Sochi, 30 degrees behind me.

F1: This is Flight 138. One is nearly square, the other is diamond-shaped. They are flying apart now.

TWR: Flight 138, keep us advised on these objects.

F1: They are hanging close together over there. They are probably about 8 km ahead of us already.

TWR: Are they moving?

F1: Yes, they were 40 km away, now they are about 100 km away, moving from left to right. Request clearance to climb to 11,100m.

TWR: Flight 138, climb to level 11,100m and keep us advised on these objects.

F1: Flight 138, roger, climbing to 11,100m. Control Tower, do you see them on the radar display?

TWR: Negative.

F1: Right. Now they've made a turn and are moving aside.

TWR: Flight 138, do you still see them?

F1: They are behind us and to the left. The distance between us is increasing. They have moved away too quickly. One moment they were close to us and the other they were already far behind.

TWR: Flight 138, advise which way they are moving.

F1: Now they are behind me and to the left.

TWR: Flight 138, is everything all right with you?

F1: Affirmative, everything is all right.

TWR: Roger. Flight 500, do you see anything.

F3: Flight 500. Nothing in sight — either on the right or on the left.

TWR: Roger.