

AMAZING NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Can this be true?

BY GORDON W. CREIGHTON

WHEN, in January, 1961, the Soviet press devoted whole pages to proving that flying saucers could not exist, I expressed the conviction (see FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, March-April, 1961) that something remarkable must have been happening behind the Iron Curtain. We knew that we could look in vain to official Soviet quarters for any clarification, and had reconciled ourselves to the prospect of perhaps never knowing the truth. But now an Italian investigator, Signor Alberto Fenoglio, has managed to piece together some parts of the amazing story which he has obtained in personal interviews with a number of Soviet citizens. The latter must perforce remain anonymous, but we are told that one of them is a Russian diplomat stationed in the West, while another is a Russian engineer who was recently in Italy with a technical mission.

I give below a very condensed translation of Signor Fenoglio's article, which appeared in an issue of *Oltre Il Cielo: Missili & Razzi**, a Rome journal devoted to missiles and space research.

We must naturally accept the fact that the sceptics will make great play with the anonymity of the Russian informants and will see it as conclusive evidence that the whole thing is a pack of lies. But discerning students of our subject (who perhaps can also imagine something of what life must be like for a Soviet engineer or a Soviet diplomat!) will note the numerous points of agreement with reports of happenings in other parts of the world, and will form their opinion accordingly.

The Soviet Union, with all its war plants, atomic installations, airfields and missile bases, is under constant UFO surveillance. The authorities know it, and are uneasy. Air Force personnel and civilian pilots have encountered huge discs, and "fire balls," and immense cigars, all over the

country, by day and by night, and thousands of people in the towns have seen them, too.

The UFOs have frequently been caught on the radar-scopes. In the spring of 1959 they caused widespread alarm and near-panic among Radar and Air Force personnel when they appeared for more than 24 hours in the skies above Sverdlovsk, headquarters of a Tactical Missile Command.

Discs fired on

Red Air Force pilots have fired upon the discs and fire balls. One pilot flew right through one of the giant fire balls. When given the most searching examination afterwards, neither he nor his machine was found to bear the slightest trace or mark. The fire ball had simply "expanded," as it were, to let him through. It then contracted again and flew on as if nothing had happened. While under fire from his machine-guns it had manoeuvred and zig-zagged, clearly showing intelligent control.

The saucers seem to have shown particular interest in people who were taking flying lessons. Numerous candidates for the Soviet civilian flying licence have described how the discs dogged them with extraordinary persistence, even following them right back to their airfields.

Estimates of the length of the largest cigars have ranged from 800 metres to 1 kilometre. When observed in daytime, they gave off great tongues of flame and smoke from the rear. At night they showed "an intense bluish-white phosphorescence." When stationary, the cigars were frequently described as being of a greyish colour which made them very difficult to distinguish against the clouds and sky.

The most remarkable of the accounts are as follows:

(1) Near Irkutsk, a year ago, a rocket-shaped machine with four legs was seen to land. The craft and two of its occupants were photographed by a woman doctor from a nearby laboratory.

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(2) About a year ago, a small mail-plane, carrying mail and four passengers, disappeared while on a regular scheduled flight across the central plains of Russia. The machine was found, intact, two days later, near Tobolsk (Siberia). Everything on board—engine, radio, mailbags, etc.—was in perfect order. The tanks contained fuel for two hours of flight. The four passengers had vanished without trace. At a distance of 100 metres from the aircraft there was a huge clearly defined circle, 30 metres wide, on which the grass was all scorched and the earth depressed.

(3) Last year, a woman parachutist jumped from a height of 9,000 metres. The pilot of her aircraft saw her floating down, with her chute extended, so he landed to wait for her. She came down . . . at Saratov . . . *three days later*. Her explanation? She had been caught in mid-air by a saucer. Its three occupants had treated her well, had taken her out to an immense distance in Space so as to view the Earth, and had given her a message for the authorities. The envelope containing the message was given to the local Chief of Police. We are told nothing as to its contents.

(4) Last summer, over the city of Voronezh, a giant cigar, at least 800 metres long, came down to a height of only 2,000 metres, in daylight, and hung there immobile. Thousands saw it and there was tremendous panic. Suddenly the cigar "began to grow transparent." It disappeared completely. Shortly after this, some fighter aircraft arrived and flew around, evidently searching for it. Seconds after the baffled pilots had departed, the monster was back again "in the same place" above the city. Then a vast jet of flame suddenly shot out from its stern. The cigar began to move, rose steeply into the sky, and vanished at immense speed.

(5) Last summer, on a hill near Rybinsk, some 150 km. north of Moscow, new rocket batteries were being set up, as part of the defence network of the Soviet capital. A huge disc appeared, at the estimated height of 20,000 metres, and with it a number of smaller discs. The UFOs took up positions and appeared to be studying the missile-site. A nervous battery-commander panicked and gave—unauthorised—the order to fire a salvo at the giant disc. The missiles were fired. All exploded when at an estimated distance of some 2 km. from the target, creating a fantastic spectacle in the sky. A second salvo followed, with the same result. The third salvo was never fired, for at this point the smaller discs went into action and stalled the electrical apparatus of the whole

missile-base. When the small discs had withdrawn and joined the larger craft the electrical apparatus was again found to be in working order.

(6) A few months ago, at a certain factory making heavy tanks (place and exact date are not given) there was a great explosion which almost precipitated an international crisis, as the Soviet authorities seemed to want to pin the blame on American sabotage agents. However, a number of cigars and saucers had been seen in the vicinity of this factory during recent weeks, and there were several witnesses who described how, just at day-break, they had seen a ball of fire descending towards the factory. There followed the loud explosion, accompanied by "myriads of intensely luminous small globes." In the half-light of dawn the whole neighbourhood was lit up, and a great air-blast was felt. For several minutes a great cloud of dust and debris hid the site. When the cloud had settled, all that remained was a rubble-filled crater. This crater was on the spot where, a few minutes before, had stood one particular department of the factory. In that department a special automatic device for use with atomic cannon was being manufactured. After the explosion, a disc was seen stationary overhead for some minutes, as though making sure that the job had been done. At the approach of fighters, the disc made off.

But the greatest mystery of all was that nobody had been injured. For it seems that the factory's alarm siren had been sounded some few minutes before the explosion, and all the workers had taken shelter. At the subsequent enquiry it was established that nobody had touched the alarm, as was in fact shown by the position of the interrupter-switch.

Those who are familiar with the writings of Adamski, Coral Lorenzen, Wilkins, Keyhoe, Meade Layne, Trevor James and Gordon Allen will find in these reports from Russia plenty of food for thought. And—let this be noted—we make the flat assertion that there is not one single element in all these accounts that we cannot match precisely from reports of what has happened elsewhere in the world.

When, as of course will happen, our friends smile indulgently and remark that it is all just a lot of drivel due to mass-psychosis or H-Bomb neurosis, then at least we can console ourselves with the very satisfactory reflection that a good many folk in the Soviet Union must be in pretty poor shape.

Rybinsk (case 5) in on BAVIC

MASTERS OF SPACE?

SIR BERNARD LOVELL, who is rapidly opening his mind on matters of space, has handed the palm of victory to Russia in her race to the Moon. According to the London *Evening Standard* of August 15, he stated that he would not be surprised if within a year a Soviet cosmonaut was making a close orbit of the Moon and returning to earth in the manner in which Lunik 3 took photographs of the Moon. It has been declared that the first nation to reach the Moon could dominate the Earth, and Sir Bernard probably had this forecast in mind when he declared: "With this tremendous drama opening up of interesting peaceful scientific uses of new developments, one must say that this Russian exploit (the landing of the twin cosmonauts on August 16) has

added a new and agonising dimension to the world's troubles."

It is extraordinary that, near as we must be to a solution of the whole saucer mystery, nobody in authority seems to give a single thought to the possibilities that may confront us. For many years, the Moon has been considered a completely dead planet: lichens might exist there, but intelligent life is quite out of the question. As far as indigenous life is concerned, the astronomers may be right, but if the Russians and the Americans are spending fortunes on being the first to land on the planet, then they must have considered how to overcome the adversities of its atmosphere and how to keep the colonisers alive. And if that is possible, has nobody considered that other space travellers may have arrived there first, overcome the difficulties and

established bases from which to observe the Earth more closely? We do not have to believe Adamski that this, in fact, is what has already happened. A number of astronomers have observed strange lights in the lunar craters and even an apparently artificial bridge of enormous dimensions has been reported by more than one observer.

One or two representatives of the Anglican Church have deplored the Godlessness of Russia's claims to own outer space: Sir Bernard Lovell shows alarm at the prospect of Russia's mastery. Nobody seems to have considered that neither Russia nor America can lay claim to outer space and that they both have lost the race before it started. This thought would seem impossible to think except for those who have patiently been studying the mystery of the flying saucers.

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