

SPEECH OF THE ALIENS - 1

P. M. H. Edwards

Dr. Edwards is Professor of Linguistics at the University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

IT is with some envy that I witness the frequent ufological publications by numerous scientists, for I realise only too well that here is a field primarily suited to men of science; we students of the humanities are sometimes out of our depth in discussions on electromagnetic radiation, space-time, gravitation, and even simple meteorology.

As the study of language is one of my interests, it has of course not yet been my lot to make any analyses, or to contribute anything to our common fund of knowledge. The ufonauts have not yet left us any data on their languages; moreover, whenever speech descriptions have been made by contactees, these have been subjective and necessarily sketchy. But perhaps some day a trained linguist will luckily happen upon a ufonaut or two, and we hope he or she will be prepared, with pertinent questionnaires, to provide us with at least some basic descriptions. Hitherto, I believe I am right in stating that the only extant speech descriptions come from witnesses with little or no linguistic knowledge; evidence of this kind can only be utilised with reservations.

However, in spite of the scanty and hopelessly disparate material presently at our disposal, it seems worthwhile to attempt a brief synopsis of most of the known descriptions to date. It is manifestly impossible to cover every single piece of evidence; not all of it has been published, and now that there exist numerous reviews and books on ufology, it is impossible for one researcher to avoid overlooking certain items.¹ In view of this, I should be very grateful if readers would kindly notify this REVIEW of any important cases which I have overlooked: later, it may then be possible to amalgamate all the material, and in due time we may finally emerge with some pieces of valuable knowledge. Till then, all we can do at the moment is necessarily speculative.

Part I—Cases where Beings allegedly spoke the languages of the witnesses

This class of evidence is extremely bulky. I shall, however, not deal with cases of this kind, since many of them belong more properly to the evangelical fringe, and no attempts were usually made to *describe* their way of talking. Exceptionally, however, I shall briefly discuss four of these cases, since a rudimentary description is given by the witnesses.

1. Between August 17 and 20, 1953, near Ciudad Vallejo, Mexico. Señor Salvador Villanueva, taxi driver, reported a lengthy conversation that he allegedly had with two ET (extraterrestrial) beings, one of whom is said only to have understood Spanish, while the other apparently spoke Spanish *with a peculiar accent, as though he seemed to be stringing words together.*² I feel

this description is naïve; for everyone, in quick speech, strings words together. As linguistic evidence, this case is unimportant, assuming it to be true.

2. November 6, 1957, Everittstown, N.J. Mr. J. Trasco *thought* the LGM (little green man) said: "We are peaceful people, we only want your dog," in *broken English*. This case, also reported *inter alia* in Aimé Michel's second book, *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*, is also of only scant linguistic interest.³ It is, of course, possible that, in his sudden fear, astonishment and excitement, Mr. Trasco may have *imagined* that he heard words in his own language, dealing—as he supposed—with the then loudly-barking dog (see Case 12). It will be recalled that, in John G. Fuller's *The Interrupted Journey* (Dial Press, New York, 1966, p. 264), Betty Hill is quoted as saying: ". . . I first insisted that they were talking to me in English, with an accent . . . I think my final conclusion is that while they weren't speaking English, I could understand what was being said to me as if it *were* in English . . . When they talked among themselves, they were entirely impossible to understand." (The question as to whether a hypnotised subject can understand commands given in a, to him, unknown language, is apparently still an open one. My attempts to obtain definitive information on this score have all been unsuccessful: presumably the matter has not yet occurred to most hypnotists. I vaguely recall having read, somewhere, a story where a subject did obey commands given in a language which she did not know; however, in the absence of the reference, I am obliged to leave this question open for the time being.)

3. April 24, 1964, Tioga City, N.Y. Mr. G. Wilcox reported that two 4ft. beings spoke to him in English *smoothly and effortlessly, but that their voices seemed to come from the body rather than the head.*⁴ This slightly resembles the description from Valensole (July 1, 1965); linguistically, it is irrelevant at the present time (see Case 31).

4. December 12, 1967, near Ithaca, N.Y. Mrs. Rita Malley reported that her car was stopped by a hovering UFO, and that from that craft, she heard *voices talking in chorus*, saying the same thing, "only they spoke as if what they were saying *was being translated into English*, because the *words were broken.*" The voices, she said, were not impressions: they were external, and sounded almost as if they were using a loudspeaker. Mrs. Malley said that the voices informed her of the accidental death of a friend's brother. She also noticed that her young son seemed hypnotised on the rear seat and unconscious of what had transpired.⁵ However, this particular case *appears* to be related to a different phenomenon, known as ESP (extra-sensory perception),

and it is my hope to deal with it in another article in the near future. In any case, it is not easy to accept the fact that ufonauts are crossing the vastness of Space to give us advance warning of the decease of mere acquaintances.

Part II—Cases where certain ET words were reported

5. Some time in 1958, the *Star* newspaper, Sheffield, England, is quoted as saying that a nearly-blind musician named Philip Rodgers had made tape-recordings of ET voices.⁶ He described the alien language as “utterly different”, with many diphthongs and very few consonants it is decidedly nasal, and is sung rather than spoken. To speak it properly, he said, one has to be a coloratura singer, because the meanings of the words depend on the musical inflections of the voice. This could very well be part of a description of Chinese! Mr. Rodgers gave the words “Mee-see-mar” and “Mee-see-see” as probable greetings; “Nya-na-po-do” and “Ya-bo-hoo-si-ta” which he could not understand! He said that some voices were nasal, whereas others were not. This case is not impressive, of course, and has only been included for the sake of completeness, in so far as this is possible.

6. July 23, 1947—only 29 days after Kenneth Arnold’s historic sighting around Mount Rainier, Washington. Senhor José C. Higgins was working west of Goio-Bang colony, N.E. of Pitanga, S.W. of Camp de Mourão, Brazil, when he saw three 7ft. beings who were talking to each other, although he understood not a word. He reported that the language sounded quite pleasant, and that he could recall only two alien words: “Alamo” which he took to mean our Sun; and “Orque” which he felt referred to the 7th circle, or planet, from our Sun. Apparently the aliens had made him a rough drawing, showing a central circle surrounded by seven rings, and Senhor Higgins took this to indicate their planet of origin.⁷

7. April, 1965, Monte Grande, Argentina. Señor F. Martínez reported encountering a small man, little over 1 metre tall, who spoke to him with difficulty. He called his machine “Sil”.⁸

8. August 27, 1968, Lins, Brazil. Senhora M. J. Cintra gave some water to a being who replied over and over again: “Rempaua”.⁹ In Doctor Walter Bühler’s admirable Portuguese-language Bulletin SBEDV (Rio de Janeiro, issue 66-68, May 1, 1969, p. 73), the alien is reported as repeating “Abaura”, instead of “Rempaua”.

Part III—Cases where witnesses merely reported that the aliens’ language was unintelligible

9. May 18, 1909, Caerphilly Mountains, Wales. Mr. Lethbridge saw a large tube-shaped construction on the roadside; by it were two men in heavy fur overcoats. When they saw him, they spoke excitedly to each other in a foreign language, and flew off.¹⁰

10. July, 1953, Villares del Saz, Spain. Señor M. Muñoz H. allegedly saw dwarfs 65 centimetres tall with yellow faces and narrow eyes, who spoke unintelligibly and then smacked him.¹¹

11. March 1954, Sta. Maria (RGS), Brazil. Senhor Rubem Hellwig saw beings 1.60 metres tall, who spoke in a strange language.¹²

12. September 17, 1954, Cenon, France. A farmer encountered a very small being whose voice sounded inhuman, and whose language was incomprehensible.¹³

13. September 20, 1954, Azores. An airport guard was addressed by an alien who was not understood.¹⁴

14. October 4, 1954, Chaleix, France. M. Garreau was addressed by two human-like beings in a language he could not understand.¹⁵

15. October 5, 1954, Loctudy, France. A baker claims he was touched on the shoulder by a dwarf with an oval face covered with hair, and with eyes as large as ravens’ eggs. His language was incomprehensible.¹⁶

16. October 9, 1954, Pournoy-la-Chétive, France. Four children reported a 1.30 metres being with large eyes and a face covered with hair, wearing a black “cassock”, who looked at them and said something they did not understand, before he flew away.¹⁷

17. October 12, 1954, Montluçon. A railroad employee met a being covered with hair, emitting sounds which he could not understand.¹⁸

18. November 1, 1954, Poggi-D’Ambra, Italy. Two human-like dwarfs were seen, who had small teeth, and who spoke an unknown language.¹⁹

19. November 6, 1957, Playa del Rey, Calif. Mr. R. Kehoe reported that two 5.5ft. beings asked him questions and sounded as though they were talking English, but he could not understand them (see Case 2).²⁰

20. January 23, 1965, Lynchburg, Va. An industrial worker said he met three 37in. beings with strange eyes who uttered unintelligible sounds.²¹

21. July 1, 1965, Valensole, France. M. M. Masse was paralysed by two small beings in his lavender field. They apparently communicated with each other by inarticulate sounds which didn’t seem to come from what for them took the place of a mouth. M. Aimé Michel, who has been described as an acoustics engineer, in reply to Mr. L. Schönherr’s questionnaire,²² said that it is difficult for an untrained listener to decide precisely from which point on an object 80 centimetres in height a sound is coming. It was noteworthy, however, that the “mouth” holes did not open, neither did their “jaws” move, when they made their inarticulate sounds. However, the witness noticed changes of facial expression, due to slight movements of the skin. Referring to the words “gurgling sounds” which he used for describing their noises (the French word was “gargouillements”), Aimé Michel adds that this term possesses the connotation of weakness²³ (see Case 35).

22. September 10, 1965, São João, Brazil. Senhor A. P. Ferro reported two 80 centimetres man-like beings, with normal eyes and reddish complexions, who talked together, and smiled. He could not understand their language.²⁴

23. May 20, 1967, Falcon Lake, Manitoba. Mr. S. Michalak says he heard voices from within a grounded UFO. They sounded like humans, although muffled by the sounds of the motor; he was able to make out two distinct voices, of different pitches.²⁵

24. October, 1967, Ithaca, N.Y. A certain “Mr. B.” met a 3ft. being in a black rubber diving suit and helmet. He had no hair, and his face resembled that of a monkey. Unintelligible sounds like a voice came out of

(continued on page 14)

TIBETAN "PEARL OF THE SKY"

THE following extract from *In Search of the Mahatmas of Tibet* by E. G. Schary—published by the Travel Book Club, 121 Charing Cross Road, London WC2—appears in the chapter "The Pilgrimage to Kailas Parbat". The incident occurred near the mountain (Kailas Parbat) after the caravanserai known as Parkah on the way to Laktsang. The year was 1917 (around July/August).

"About an hour before making camp we had left the plains of the lake behind (lake Monasarowar), crossed a pass of low hills and entered another smaller valley. As we neared the top of the pass, before entering this valley, the moon rose, full and yellow, and when I could see down on the further side, I was astounded to behold a second moon shining in what I thought to be the ground in the centre of the valley. I discovered soon that there lay a smaller lake.

"As we traversed the shores of this lake, I beheld a natural phenomenon, if it can be called that. Rising on my right beyond the shores of the lake were a range of low-lying hills, and suddenly above the edge of these hills, which were sharply outlined against the stars, a

large luminous disc rose, silvery in colour, and seeming to be a ball. I glanced to the left at the moon and estimated the possibility of a reflection from it, but noted, when turning back, that this could not possibly be, as the ball rose steadily above the level of the hills until it seemed several yards higher and then quickly dropped back beyond the hills once more. I have never yet been able to account for this.

"We camped at the further end of this valley that night and, two days later, arrived late in the evening at a nomad camp consisting of ten or twelve large black tents. Here the driver left me standing in the middle of the village and went on about his business."

We are indebted to Mr. W. Mathieson of Edinburgh for first drawing our attention to this item. A few weeks later, Miss Tova Bratt, of Geneva, Switzerland, sent the same item. Tongue in cheek, Miss Bratt doubts if the object were a radio-sonde, and adds that Tibetan friends of hers say they can't imagine what kind of natural phenomenon it could have been. They have told her that Tibetans know about UFOs, and call them "Pearls of the sky".

ADVERTISEMENT

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES FOR SALE

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION OF FLYING OBJECTS	U.S. Gov't. P.O.	2/6
U.F.O. REPORT	Irving Greenfield	3/6
UFOS THE WHOLE STORY	C. & J. Lorenzen	8/3
UFOS? YES!	D. Saunders & R. Harkins	9/3
CHARIOTS OF THE GODS	E. von Daniken	31/6
HUMANOIDS	Edited by Charles Bowen	31/6
TAMING OF THE THUNDERBOLTS	Delphine and Maxwell Cade	31/6
UNINVITED VISITORS	Ivan Sanderson	31/6
VIEW OVER ATLANTIS	John Michell	31/6
MYSTERIES OF THE SKIES	Gordon Lore	37/6
UFOS, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY	Catow	39/6
HARMONIC	33 Capt. Bruce Cathie	42/0

Ray Palmer's FLYING SAUCERS—bi-monthly (USA). Singly: 5/0. Annual subscription: 28/-

PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE

60 titles in stock plus 12 magazines. Free list.

Lionel Beer (SB16), 15 Freshwater Court,
Crawford Street, London W1H 1HS.

ADVERTISEMENT

SPACELINK

WORLD UFO NEWS FLYING SAUCER SCENE

Vol. 6 No. 2 discusses that Mysterious Chunk of Canadian Hardware, the Woburn Abbey caper, the Tyneham "landing", Angel Hair, and articles are illustrated with photos. As well as the contact and historical sections it is packed with useful information: book and magazine news, LIONEL'S LITTER, list of European magazines and the 1970 calendar of 40 UFO lectures and events.

Buy SPACELINK for full details of SK's.
London Symposium on Practical UFO Research to be held on Saturday, 18th July, 1970.

32 pages (off-set litho) 3/6 or 60 cents. Annual subscription: 13/6 or \$2.00.

Available from most U.K. clubs; Atlantis Bookshop WC1; Susanne Stebbing; Sammy Paradise (USA); William Moser (Australia) or: Christine Henning (FSR), SK Sub-Dept., 99 Mayday Gardens, London S.E.3.

PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION IS THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT

So . . . Tell your friends about

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW