

(continued from inside cover)

was consonant with them. It was said to be a cloud of gas released by a satellite for experiments on wind drift and so forth. This would explain the apparent expansion, if it became visible soon after release. It would account for the movement, since the direction of movement is that of our usual high winds—going north-east (there was no ground wind at the time). Again this is typical at this time of the year. This morning as I write there is no wind at all, but a few unlikely low cumuli are

moving lazily north-eastwards. Luminosity? Deliberate, if man-made, for this would make for easy observation.

I can only say that nothing similar had been seen by us before and we are not infrequently looking at the skies, especially since viewing is easier without street lights, industrial dusts and so on.

Friends who were visiting us the same evening coming from the south-west by car, first had their attention drawn to the circle by a small boy riding on the back seat. Their impression was that it was oval to begin with

—they say that it came up from behind “fairly fast”; and even appeared to be not more than a thousand feet up (we are already 5,000ft. above sea level). And it went past to the north of them and gradually faded out. By the time they reached us we also had seen it so there was nothing much extra to be said. Circular when more overhead, and definitely transparent.

How hard it is to describe from memory, especially things overhead and at night!

Yours truly, “S.A. Observer” (name and address supplied).

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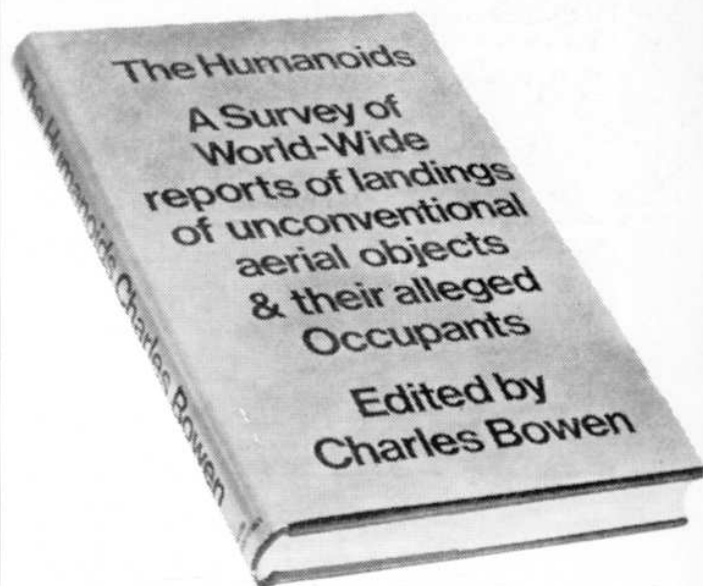
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Were there saucers in Prehistory? See

## **PALAEOLITHIC UFO SHAPES**

by AIMÉ MICHEL



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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

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## CONTENTS

The Stone Collectors: R. Eraud .. .. .	2
Palaeolithic UFO-Shapes: Aimé Michel .. .. .	3
Flying Saucer over Cluj, Romania: Florin Gheorghita .. .. .	12
Pyrenean Humanoid Report: F. Lagarde and J. Mirtain ..	17
Experiences and Observations: Jerome Clark .. .. .	19
The "Parallel Universe" Myth: Dr. Jacques Lemaître .. .. .	22
In Defence of the "E.T.H.": Aimé Michel .. .. .	25
Thinking Aloud: Charles Bowen .. .. .	26
A Surprise from Dr. Vallée: Gordon Creighton .. .. .	28
What's good for Spacemen: Charles Bowen .. .. .	29
Shape-Changing UFO: L. Harris .. .. .	30
World Round-Up .. .. .	31
Mail Bag .. .. .	iii

1969

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For subscription details and addresses please see foot of page ii of cover

## PUBLICITY

EVERY so often a correspondent writes to ask why we do not advertise. Publicity, we are told, is the only way to ensure an increased readership.

Our correspondents are surprised when we point out that we have considered this alluring possibility, and have even given it a try at times, albeit gingerly. Fortunately our dabbling in the columns of the large newspapers has been limited to a few sallies among the small ads, for we could never afford space by sufficient multiples of the column inch to ensure being seen. The replies to the small ads could be counted on one hand, and there could be no guarantee that larger insertions would fare any better. We have also tried displays in specialist journals in this country and abroad. The results have been better, but disappointing nevertheless. (For example, better only in that a \$180 advertisement in a newsstand "one shot" magazine devoted entirely to UFOs produced in all some 35 new readers, and orders for 20 copies of our original version of *The Humanoids*—which hardly seems value for money!)

So, with our fingertips slightly singed, we find it more profitable to rely on the goodwill of readers and friends. The awful truth is that among the bulk audiences of the big advertising media there is only a relatively small percentage of lonely souls who find they have an urge to learn about this subject, and the chances are remote that they would see the kind of advertisement we could afford.

We, and those few others who value goodwill, endeavour to nurture it by adopting a serious, but broad, approach to the subject. We try to show that it is a subject worthy of serious study when we are invited to speak at universities and technical colleges, at branches of the Royal Aeronautical Society (including branches at famous R.A.F. stations like Boscombe Down), and to the British Association Young Scientists. It is heartbreaking, therefore, to see so much of our hard slogging put to nought by the irresponsible behaviour of a few others.

Everywhere one looks, dogfights are in progress between those who should be fighting the good fight side by side; valuable pages in otherwise responsible journals are devoted to energy-sapping polemics against "rival" journals. Then there are those, presumably motivated by a yearning for publicity, who seek to make a poppyshow of the business by employing fairground techniques and, no doubt, a clown or two to perform. Others, usually with the best of intentions, contrive to put on displays in public places to demonstrate to shoppers and passers-by why they *must* believe in UFOs. Indeed, such is the state of affairs that it would cause us little surprise should we learn that some rabid publicity-seeking ufologist had contrived to slip piles of dubious-quality journals on to the stalls of well-known firms or public corporations at big exhibitions or open-air displays.

For such excesses of lunacy, or selfishness, or irresponsibility, the seekers get their publicity, invariably of a kind they do not seek. The tragedy is that in the eyes of the general public we are all cast in the same mould—an attitude gladly encouraged by any person or organisation with a wish to damn the subject; an attitude that facilitates public acceptance of the Condons of



this world, and of lesser fry like Patrick Moore (when he is allowed to interrupt and rudely shout down people, as when he appeared with our own Gordon Creighton on a BBC TV *24 Hours* programme last August).

Here and now we make a plea for more sense and less nonsense. Far, far more will be achieved by conducting serious and probing investigations into cases, by collecting the facts and reporting and recording the details and publishing them in the serious journals. Once on record these facts and details will amass, and will aid the debate

and encourage the sensible, necessary speculations.

Quietly, behind the scenes, more and more interest is being displayed in UFO reports by scientists, engineers and medical men. Often they are attracted to the subject by new ideas about it that are being discussed in FSR and elsewhere. Inevitably this will lead to publicity for ufology in the right places. So please let us have responsible behaviour and with it, less publicity of the wrong kind. Above all, let there be more genuine effort, and more collaboration "in the field".

# THE STONE COLLECTORS

*R. Eraud*

THE witness, Monsieur D.L.V., is not anxious for publicity, and has never spoken to anyone about this episode until quite recently, when he gave the details to me.

At about 3.00 p.m. one Thursday in the summer around about 1954-1956 he was on the slopes beneath the chateau of Buron, which is 4 kilometres from Coudes.

With his companions, Monsieur V.—then a boy—was taking part in a young people's outing. One group of them had installed themselves below the castle, which they were "defending", while the other group, to which the witness belonged, was "attacking".

Half-a-dozen of them are moving along up a path and looking towards the castle, which is on their right. Suddenly, dumbfounded, they freeze in their tracks. Just ahead of them, at a distance of no more than 25 or 30 metres, are two beings about 90 centimetres or 1 metre in height. They are wearing bright shiny "divers' suits", and their heads are encased in enormous helmets about 50 centimetres wide. The helmets have a flat circular

visor (as on an old style British Tommy's helmet, but wider). The helmets seem to be of the same material as the "diver's suit".

The witness was able to make out no features; his only recollection is of a reflection of something there, a bit brighter than the rest of the helmet.

Near the two dwarfs stood a square box without a lid, seemingly made of the same material as the "divers' suits". The two little beings were taking stones from a section of wall made of stacked unmortared stones (the local basalt, commonly found in the region). The stones they were selecting seemed to be around 1-2 kilogrammes in weight. They were lifting the stones with both hands, carrying them a few paces, and bending down and placing them in the box (without bending their legs) and then returning to the wall for more. To this fantastic sight, add the fact that the beings were moving very slowly, somewhat as though they were subjected to a weight that it was difficult for them to bear. "Just like in a slow-motion film," said the witness.

After they had watched for about two minutes, one of the boys was seized with panic and fled, followed immediately by the rest.

Monsieur D.L.V. was unable to say whether any force other than astonishment had prevented the boys from approaching more closely. The boys felt nothing, and it is possible that the dwarfs did not see them.

The boys saw no machine on the ground or in the air. The meadow which was the setting for the unwonted episode is however bordered with groves of trees.

Visiting the site some 12 or 14 years after the alleged occurrence, we found it precisely, though it is rather more overgrown with vegetation now than then. We took two photographs and also some samples from the crumbling wall.

NOTE: There is a geological fault-line about 300 metres to the south-west of the site.

*Translation by Gordon Creighton from the original article which appeared in *Lumières dans la Nuit* for February 1969 (No. 98). [see page 25]*

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# PALAEOLITHIC UFO-SHAPES

Mysterious drawings in the Stone Age caves  
of France and Spain

*Aimé Michel*

FOR two hundred uninterrupted centuries, from about the year 30,000 B.C. to around 10,000 B.C., in the Palaeolithic or Old Stone Age, a brilliant civilisation flourished in that region of continental Europe which is today south-western France and Cantabrian Spain. Throughout the whole of this period, the equivalent of about 700 or 800 human generations, a race of people of whom we have no direct knowledge, painted, carved, and sculpted, for an unknown purpose and under an unknown inspiration, masterpieces that still today are numbered among the high peaks of World Art. The entire world knows the names of Les Eyzies, Lascaux, Altamira, and all who reflect upon the origins of Mankind and, more particularly, upon the origins of western thought, dream of going there once in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>

Entering the cave at Lascaux is like visiting the Parthenon or the Sistine Chapel. Every time that I have been there, I have seen the same impressive spectacle: the crowd of visitors, chattering, passes into a semi-darkness. And then the walls are lit up, and suddenly all is silence: 15,000 years after the deaths of those who painted them, the pictures still produce the effect of a sublime presence that imposes respect for its genius and prompts us to meditation and contemplation. The men who fashioned these masterpieces may lie beneath the dust of the centuries: but at the very first glance we understand that, if there is something in us that escapes death, that something is there, on that white stone, and will remain there until the end of the world.

At first sight, the subjects from which they drew their inspiration seem to be solely of an animal nature. We are in fact impressed to begin with by the portrayals of bison, horses, reindeer, mammoths, and so on. There are lots of them, thousands of them, throughout the whole Franco-Cantabrian region.

Since the opening years of the present century, and especially under the stimulus of the celebrated Abbé Breuil<sup>2</sup>, they have been the object of detailed studies. The writers on Prehistory have counted them, classified them, photographed them, and drawn them. In a total of 72 painted caverns, there have been enumerated 610 horses, 510 bison, 205 mammoths, 176 ibex, as well as other species. Altogether, more than 2,000 animals.

Alongside the animals, however, you notice finally that there is something else: incomprehensible signs

and pictures which do not attract attention at first and which the students of Prehistory have long had a tendency to neglect—until they began to perceive in them a certain uniformity: for in fact identical signs are found in different caves, often very far apart from each other. And even among the different signs a typology begins to be perceived. There are resemblances, like, for example, the resemblances between the hieroglyphs of the earliest Egyptian dynasties and the hieroglyphs of the classical period of Egypt, though these resemblances are looser. Is it perhaps that this is a sort of writing in the caves, as some people have suggested? Is it perhaps a vaguer sort of picture-writing, like that of the North American Indians? Various theories have been offered during these last few years. So far none of these theories have convinced all the specialists. Not being an expert on Prehistory myself, I naturally have no interesting ideas on this difficult and fascinating subject. However, I do not doubt that, like myself, my readers will be profoundly puzzled and intrigued by a considerable number of these signs, and will deem them worthy of serious attention.

## I The Reliability of Franco-Cantabrian Art

One initial question and one that must precede any research into what these signs portray, concerns the degree of confidence that, generally speaking, can be placed in the accuracy of the drawings in the Franco-Cantabrian caves. A mere glance suffices to give us the answer. It is art of an admirably representational quality.

The painters at Lascaux and Rouffignac and Altamira possessed a sureness of vision and of execution that is comparable to the vision of the great painters of the Renaissance, and that, by its realism and its movement and at times even its humour, is greatly superior to all that has been bequeathed to us by the Classical and Near Eastern worlds of Antiquity. It is impossible to stand and look at the frieze of little horses at Lascaux, so adorably lively in their thick coats, without being seized with love for their painter. Frequently, just as in the most modern of drawings, one fleeting moment is immobilised and held for all eternity by a single stroke. (As for example—again at Lascaux—in the frieze showing deer about to swim, one behind another, across a stream.)



At the Font de Gaume a reindeer, standing, inclines its head downwards over its recumbent dame that is in calf, and you have the feeling that in a second from now he will stretch out his neck and lick her.

At Rouffignac a woolly rhinoceros, with two horns, stands with his head lowered, ready to charge. And the two reclining women in the Madeleine cave have the languid, buxom grace of a Renoir. And animals that the eyes of modern man will never see, such as the mammoth, are caught so well in their familiar attitudes that you can still feel them to be quivering with powerful life (at Les Combarelles, for example).

We know therefore that when they desired to portray reality the painters of Palaeolithic times were the equals of Leonardo and Picasso. Whatever may be the meaning of the drawings by which they have portrayed objects unrecognisable to us, one thing at least is certain: **these drawings show very faithfully what they desired to show.** Their reliability is absolute. If these works of art portray nothing, then it is necessary to explain to us why artists so concerned with realism in all other cases have chosen, for their non-representational fantasies, to imagine precisely, and with an astonishing exactitude, those forms whose non-existence has been demonstrated, some 15,000 or 20,000 years later, by the Condon Report.

## II The types of the things imagined by the Franco-Cantabrians

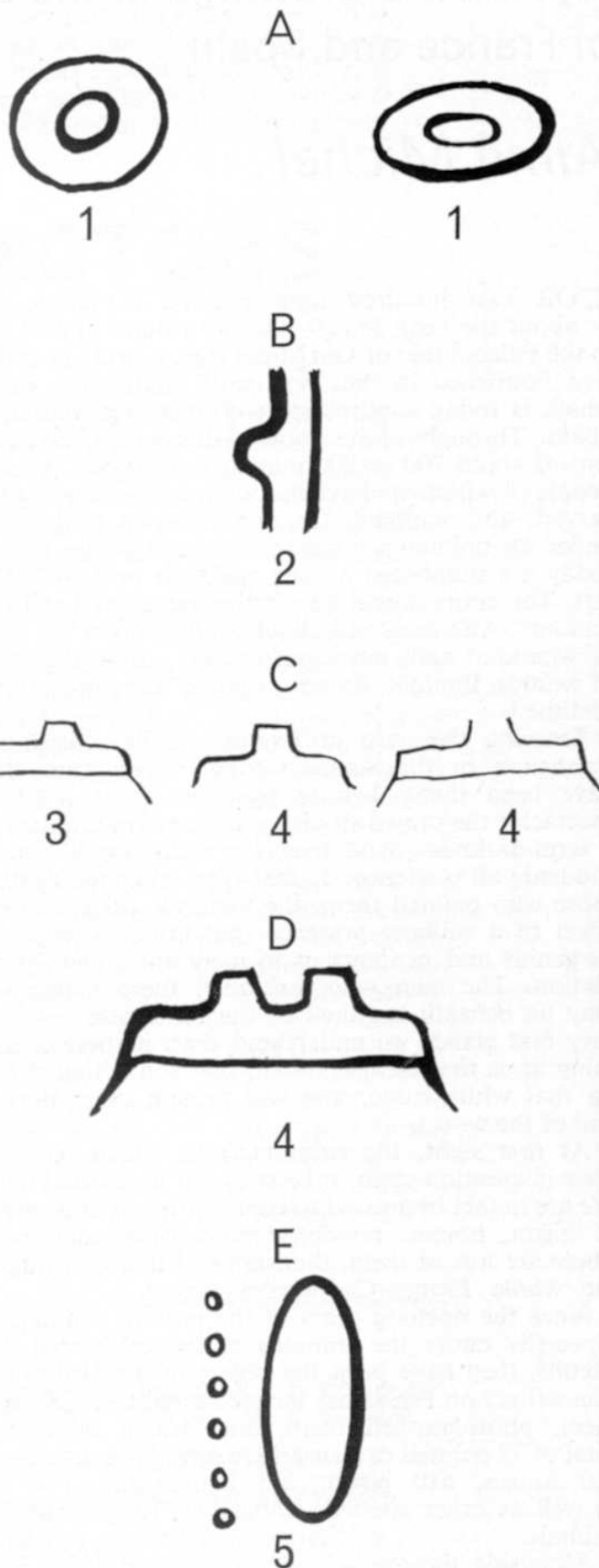
Throughout all the caves we can collect say from twenty to forty different types of imaginary objects, depending upon how strict we are in equating one type of object with another type, or, contrariwise, on how strict we are in our specification of each object.

A considerable number of the objects are geometrical quadrilaterals (examples: Nos. 15, 16, 17, as shown herein, which are from Lascaux, Le Gabillou, and El Castillo). Others look like arrows, or feathers, or harpoons (Niaux, Le Gabrillou, Lascaux, Les Combarelles, etc.). And there are yet others that are rows of dots (in many of the caves).

After we have eliminated these various items, along with a few others, we are left with a dozen types of object of which the very least that we can say is that *they remind us of something!* The reproductions which I give here are faithful enlargements of the drawings done by Professor André Leroi-Gourhan<sup>3</sup> who is at the present time the top authority in this whole field. Many of them can also be checked against the various special studies that have been devoted to each of the caves and for which I give the bibliographical references. In order to understand the various shapes and their relation to the text, the reader should know that:—

- (a) The letters (A,B,C,L,M,N) serve to designate each of the types of object that—perhaps a little arbitrarily—I have distinguished among them.
- (b) The numbers given after each type of object refer to a summary description of the caves in which this type of object is portrayed. Certain of the objects are followed by no number: this means that the author (Leroi-Gourhan), from whom I have taken them, does not state their precise origin.

### Types of unknown objects portrayed in the Palaeolithic caves of France and Spain



### III The Caves with Forms Resembling UFOs

I give here the main data pertaining to the fifteen caves in which the images studied in the present article have been found. As stated above, the numbers relate to the shapes.

#### 1 Pair-Non-Pair (Gironde, France).

A Cave some 20 metres long, with roof partly collapsed, located at Marcamps in the Gironde.

The circular incisions are on the right-hand side as you go in, behind a mammoth and a number of ibex. The same type of images appear again on the left-hand side at the far end of the cave, behind and on the same level as the horns of a deer. Altogether there are a total of nine of the circular images here.

The dating of the Pair-Non-Pair Cave is uncertain. The cultural fragments and debris found there are those of human activities lying between the Aurignacian and the Solutrean Periods, i.e., between 30,000 and 20,000 B.C. *In addition to the circular forms, we find others (always done with double lines) which are elliptical.*<sup>4</sup>

#### 2 Villars (Dordogne, France).

Discovered in 1958, this cave has not yet been studied fully. Leroi-Gourhan dates it from the old Magdalenian IV, that is to say it is roughly contemporary with Lascaux, which it greatly resembles.

#### 3 Pech Merle, near the village of le Cabrerets (Lot, France).

Is an immense labyrinth more than two kilometres in length. "One of the most impressive of the painted murals" (Leroi-Gourhan). Symbol No. 3 is painted, in red, in a niche running off from the big central chamber, above the form of a human being (J.3), very impressive, and also painted in red: the personage is not only wounded, perhaps dead, pierced with straight lines penetrating his body which the experts on Pre-history take to be assegais (spears), but his head, bald and beardless, has an enormous cranium, a pointed chin, no ears, **and his eyes are represented by two lines, very elongated and slanted and running up towards the sides.** Contrary to the majority of the other personages and forms depicted in the cave, this one is drawn (just as the symbol No. 3 is) with rapid strokes and no shading off. It cannot have taken the painter more than a few minutes to do it. Symbol No. 3 seems to be flying above the man, or to be settled on the ground further back behind him. Its width is equal to the length of the personage's body. The date suggested by Leroi-Gourhan corresponds to the Magdalenian of Lascaux.<sup>5</sup>

#### 4 Cougnac (Lot, France).

In this cave we find exactly the same sign as at Pech Merle, and here too it is associated with the theme of the wounded or dead "man". It seems to date from the same period. The sign is repeated six times. The distance between these two caves is about 40 kilometres as the crow flies (Cougnac is on National Highway No. 704, to the N.W. of Gourdon, in the commune of Payrignac).

In addition to the symbol with *one* protuberance on

top, symbol D, with two precisely symmetrical protuberances, is also found at Cougnac.<sup>6</sup> This cave was discovered by Jean Mazet. (It is perhaps worth mentioning that Mazet embarked on his search for the cave as the result of indications given by a pendulum dowser working over a map and far away from there!)

#### 5 Las Chimeneas (Puente Viesgo, Province of Santander, Spain).

The symbol shown at E is in close proximity to several of the quadrilateral forms. The dating: end of the Solutrean or beginning of the Magdalenian, i.e., shortly after 20,000 B.C. The entrance to the cave is on a mountain, the Monte Castillo, and near the entrance to the Pasiega cave<sup>7</sup> which we will deal with later on.

#### 6 Altamira (Santillana, Province of Santander, Spain).

One of the most famous of all the Franco-Cantabrian caves. It is a vast S-shaped chamber, over 200 metres long. You will see here at least three types of interesting symbols (F, G, P). And here, for the first time, we find, side by side, two drawings, each of which is food for thought, and moreover placed in relation to each other in such a way that the effect is reinforced still further (P). The G-6 type of sign (which appears again also in Group P) *is by predilection painted on the cave-ceilings and in every possible position, and in several places it appears in groups of two or three or even more.* And here is a remarkable detail: the area of ceiling where these objects appear in a group is devoted entirely to them, while the neighbouring area, which portrays bison almost exclusively, is crowded with the animals, all huddled close together and at times in quite a tangle. We have the impression that the painters wanted to emphasise the *importance* of these unknown forms, and to emphasise their *different character*.

The saucer-shaped objects do literally create as it were a vacuum around themselves. Symbol F-6, particularly suggestive, is in the bottom gallery, more than 150 metres from the entrance of the cave.

According to Leroi-Gourhan, Altamira dates from the Magdalenian III—IV (i.e. around 12,000 B.C.). Or, according to Breuil, it is Magdalenian VI (about 10,000 B.C.).<sup>8</sup>

#### 7 Les Combarelles (Commune of Les Eyzies, Dordogne, France).

A long, narrow, winding corridor extending for 237 metres, opening out at the foot of a high beetling cliff. Les Combarelles is a cave with *incised and carved* signs—not painted.

The symbols are of all sorts, and very numerous. Straight off, among the first signs (namely about half way along) we find a human face that is astonishing for its unrealistic character (in contrast to the realistic portrayal of the animals), for the development of its cranium, for its almond-shaped *but vertical* eyes, for its beardless and pointed chin, and the absence of a mouth (J-7). Underneath it are three "curious" signs (to quote Leroi-Gourhan), namely horizontal ovals with lines running through them (I-7). Leroi-Gourhan



says: "I know of no other signs like these, except perhaps the signs, with spiky lines projecting, that are found coupled with large figures bracketed together in the deep gallery at Altamira". This scholar makes a very interesting observation, for what he calls "signs bracketed together" are types C, G, and P of our present classification.

As you continue on towards the interior or the cave you find the sign H-7 several times in succession and then, a number of times, the sign F under various forms (i.e., as F-9 and F-16, for example).

At the end of the cave, on the right-hand side, close to a magnificent bison in profile, comes the best rendered one of all (F-7). Further on, there are more figures of humanoids, always rendered so unrealistically that they prompt Leroi-Gourhan to make another interesting comment: "Almost all of the faces show an animalised profile and they have contributed a good deal towards giving sanction to the theory that they are people wearing animal-masks—a view which I do not reject but which, before we accept it, must explain why, when we gather together all the known human profiles, there is a transition, without our noticing it, from the normal profile to the profile of an animal's head". (There is thus a *continuity* between man and the beings portrayed there.)

As for the date, Leroi-Gourhan says: "I think it falls in the Middle Magdalenian, around 12,000 B.C., with a duration that brings it no doubt to the start of the Later Magdalenian, about 10,500 B.C.".<sup>9</sup>

**8 Font De Gaume** (Commune of Les Eyzies, Dordogne, France).

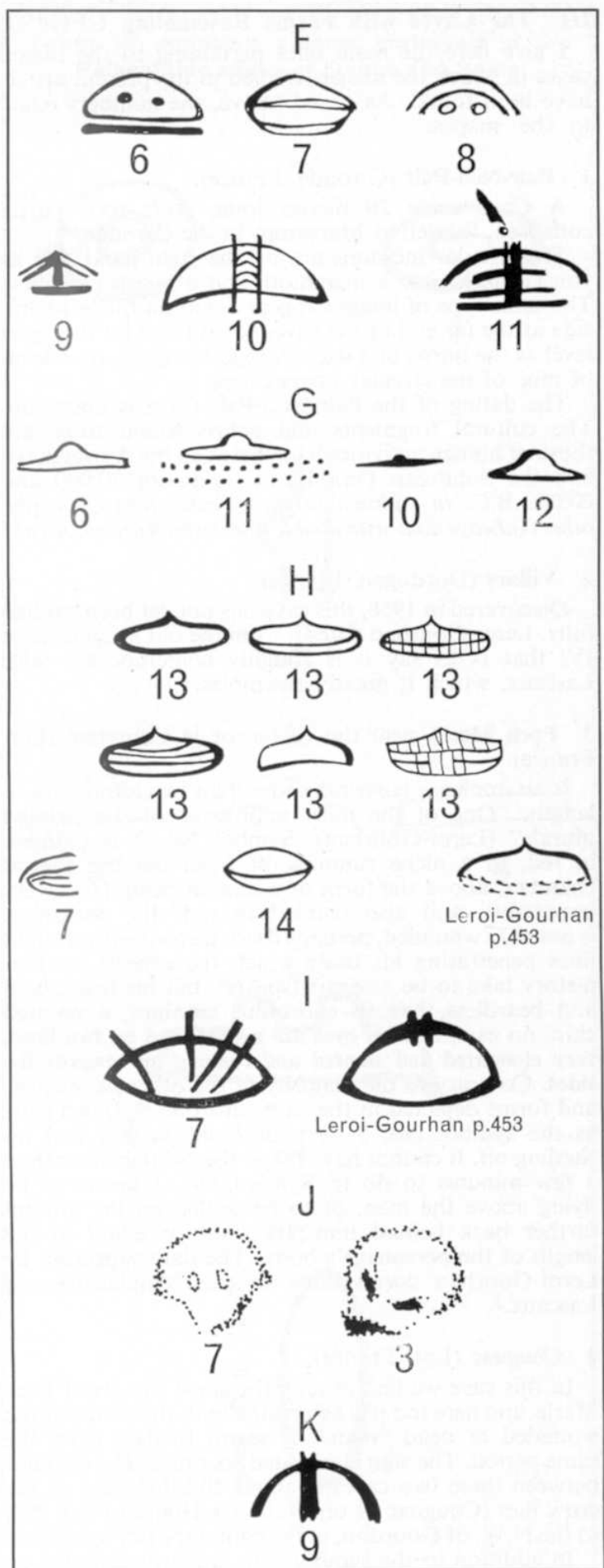
This again is a corridor (130 metres long), but with two side-galleries and a number of offshoots. We find here numerous signs of type F, very well drawn, and identical with F-7 or F-16. One of them (F-8) is particularly interesting on account of its resemblance to one of the Altamira signs (compare with F-6). And Altamira is about 500 kilometres distant.

In the literature on Prehistory, this type F is called "tectiform", i.e., roof-shaped. It has given rise to countless speculations, which Leroi-Gourhan's book discusses at length. He makes one comment which will catch our attention: he says the "tectiform" signs are often covered over with a scrawled representation of the oval sign (Sign H in our present classification), as is shown by examples at Les Combarelles, Les Trios Frères, Montespan, and Altamira. The comparative study of these signs made by Leroi-Gourhan leads to acceptance of the view that these tectiform signs are all contemporary with each other (old Magdalenian IV) and a little earlier than the oval signs (Later Magdalenian IV). In other words, we are here again dealing with about 12,000 B.C.<sup>10</sup>

**9 Rouffignac** (Commune of Fleurac, Dordogne, France).

This is an immense labyrinth over one kilometre long, decorated from about 300 metres from the entrance, and with numerous side corridors.

Rouffignac is the place you must visit if you want to have an idea of what a live mammoth could have been like. From the point of view of what we are here con-



cerned with, we find in this cave the tectiform F sign reduced to its simplest form (i.e., F-9), and also we find here another nearly related shape (K-9) of which, so far as I know, there is no other example.

At the end of the right-hand gallery you can also see human faces, which thus enable you to make a comparison between them and the humanoid faces mentioned above (J-3 and J-7). At Rouffignac, no doubt whatever about it, we are dealing with drawings of men like ourselves, incised with both humour and sobriety. One of them, with a nose from a modern cartoon (S-9), is opening his mouth in a hilarious mood, showing that good spirits were not unknown to the Magdalenians. I should be happy to count this jolly Périgordian among my ancestors.<sup>11</sup>

#### 10 Les Trois Frères (Commune of Montesquieu—Aventès, Ariège, France).

This cave enjoys universal fame on account of its celebrated dancing sorcerer, or dancing god, which was long considered to be the only palaeolithic human representation worthy of the name. But the eye of the Ufologist will be drawn more to symbols F-10, G-10, and L-10. There are several examples of F-10 in the "Hémione Gallery" and, with its accompanying artifact in the shape of a ladder, it certainly does constitute one of the most remarkable of all the Palaeolithic types of symbols. The Abbé Breuil regards it as a variant of the tectiform type, and this deepens our curiosity.

Type L is no less curious. One cannot readily grant that the Magdalenian artist was desirous of portraying a barber's shaving dish upside down, a hub-cap from a motor-car, or a British Tommy's tin hat. So, what then is it? The same question goes for type I-7 with its "antennae". The dating is probably the same as for Les Combarelles, Rouffignac, and Font de Gaume.<sup>12</sup>

#### 11 Niaux (Ariège, France).

This extremely vast Pyrenean cavern is one of the most important for both the student of Prehistory and the Ufologist. There are innumerable type G symbols here and, as at Altamira, they are sometimes in groups (in the side-gallery known as the "Diverticule des Signes", particularly, about 600 metres from the entrance, and also after the Terminal Lake). In at least two of the cases (O-11 and Q-11) type G and type F signs plainly suggest something more than their mere representation. The scene shown in Q-11 gives one the idea of movement and even of a take-off, and perhaps also of those flashes of light frequently reported as seen between two UFOs moving along together. The scene in O-11 also suggests movement. We shall of course be forced to wonder whether the mind of a Magdalenian could have thought of this manner of suggesting movement. But what do we know about it, anyway? In any case, the drawing is there, and can be examined at leisure. Date: Middle Magdalenian, about 12,000 B.C.<sup>13</sup>

#### 12 La Cullalvera (Ramales, Province of Santander, Spain).

An immense cavern, about two kilometres of which have been explored. The signs are at about 700 metres

from the entrance, in a big off-shoot on the left-hand side. They are of type G.

Date: old Magdalenian IV, still roughly about the same period.<sup>14</sup>

#### 13 La Pasiega (Puente Viesgo, Santander, Spain).

This corridor-shaped cave, about 100 metres long, contains a whole assortment of signs of one same type (H in our classification) calculated to evoke perplexity. If the Magdalenian artist had intended to portray the objects described by Dr. 'X' (FSR Special Issue No. 3, page 3) it would have been difficult for him to have made a better job of it. There is more than a mere resemblance. There is identity. Is this chance? How can we know?

At La Pasiega these objects are shown sometimes horizontally, sometimes vertically—so too are the objects described by Dr. 'X'.—and sometimes with vertical lines and sometimes without them (so too those of Dr. 'X').

Date: Students of Prehistory accept that the first part of the cave, which is *without signs*, is the oldest, from around 13,000 B.C. The part containing the signs would, they say, again be of the Magdalenian IV.<sup>15</sup>

#### 14 Ussat (Ariège, France).

This Pyrenean cave, while of only minor interest from the prehistorical point of view, is for us perhaps the most disturbing of all by reason of two signs (see Category N) described by Leroi-Gourhan as "of a unique type, though easily attributable to the bracketed signs or the tectiform signs". (In our classification, the former are types C and D, and the latter are type F.)

The Ufologist will be strongly inclined to agree with this comparison, and also to emphasise the unique, and indeed the astounding nature of these type N signs.

It is fantastic that primitive men of the Magdalenian period equipped with stone axes and clad in animal skins could, merely by the power of their own imagination, have conceived of objects so greatly resembling machines standing on four legs, equipped with antennae and ladders and displaying geometrical superstructures. And, to raise our stupefaction to a supreme pitch, this sketch of a human figure underneath one of the two signs gives us an idea of the dimensions that the Magdalenian artist was allocating to this imaginary object of his: they are the dimensions of the L.M., (Lunar Module) or of the machine described by Antônio Villas Boas.

Date: End of the Magdalenian, i.e., 10,500 B.C., according to Breuil. Leroi-Gourhan contests so late a dating and thinks Ussat is contemporary with La Pasiega.<sup>16</sup>

#### 15 El Castillo (Puente Viesgo, Santander, Spain).

A quite complex labyrinth, adjoining the La Pasiega and the other Puente Viesgo caves, with a profusion of geometrical signs more or less related to type H. A good many of them only need the four "legs" to be exact reproductions of the drawings at Ussat.

Date: According to Leroi-Gourhan, contemporary with Altamira.<sup>17</sup>



16 **Lascaux** (Commune of Montignac, Dordogne, France).

It is undeserving that we should give but scant mention to this high point in World Art, but Lascaux has no interest for the Ufologist. I have mentioned it here only as having a specimen of a quadrilateral (R-16).

17 **Le Gabillou** (Commune of Sourzac, Dordogne, France).

The same comment applies here as to Lascaux. It has a quadrilateral (R-17).

#### IV The Caves, Sex, and UFOs

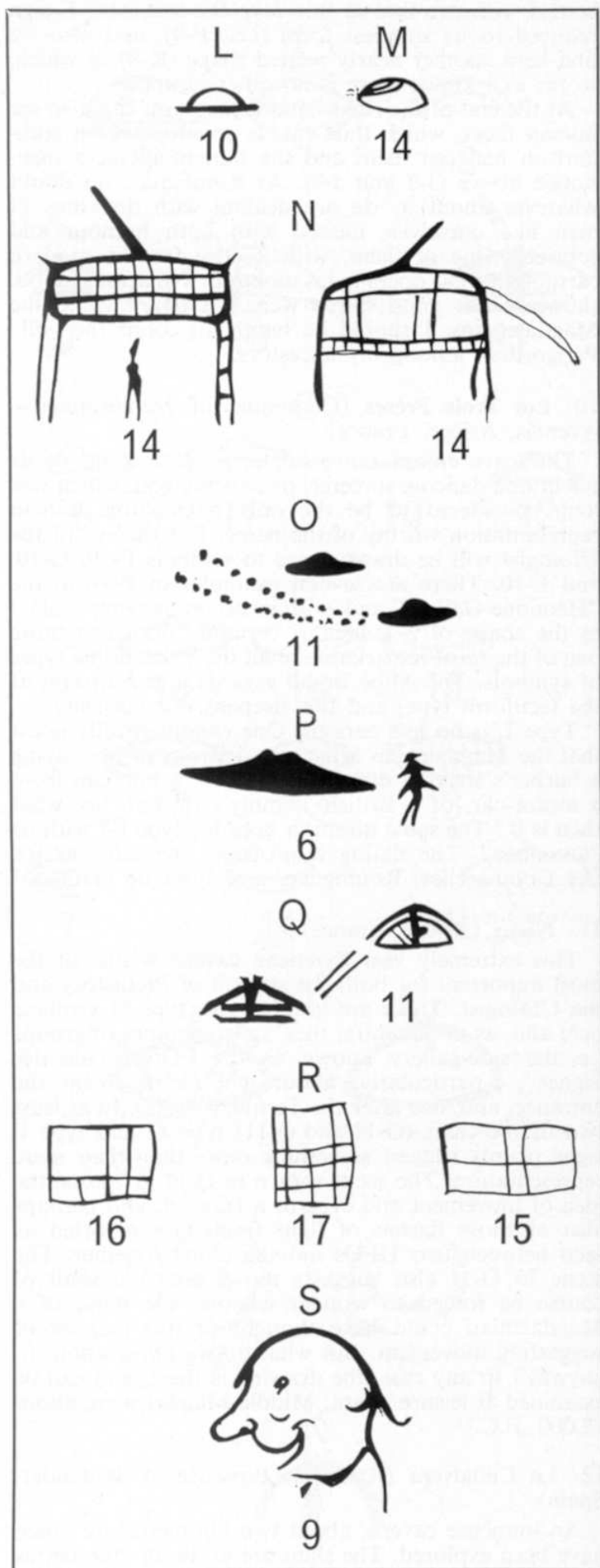
The present article has merely the modest ambition of directing the curiosity of more competent investigators. The realities of prehistorical times are so far distant from our modern experience that only an expert in Prehistory with a good knowledge of the literature of Ufology will be able (with a great deal of prudence) to judge the significance of the similarities that I have cited here.

For the purpose of considering the parallels which I have suggested, it is not necessary to believe in the physical reality of flying saucers. It is enough if we note that XIXth and XXth century Man sometimes gives a description of things that he says he has seen, and that these descriptions agree, feature for feature, with drawings and carvings made in the prehistorical caves of the second half of the Magdalenian period, i.e., between B.C. 12,000 and B.C. 10,500.

As I have said, these drawings have given rise to innumerable speculations, from the most naive (namely that the signs were the artists' signatures; that they were magical marks in connection with ceremonies; that they were symbolic indicator-panels like those used for the Highway Code; that they were a kind of writing, etc., etc.) to the most sophisticated, which nowadays claims that they have been identified as sexual symbols.

This interpretation is naturally highly reasonable, since even an austere scholar like Leroi-Gourhan seems to believe in it. It is only the Ufological interpretation that is fantastic. However, we ought to be told, once and for all, what there is that *might not*, by chance, be a sexual symbol. As for myself, I am—being as I am, a compatriot of Brigitte Bardot—strongly in favour of sexual symbolism, which affords me the most lively of satisfactions in this vale of tears. The readers of FSR know that long ago I finished off Religion by demonstrating that church-steeple is phallic symbols. I have also discovered a phallic symbol in the formulae of Taylor and McLaurin, which shows that British mathematicians are sexually obsessed. My friend Jacques Bergier, for his part, has proved the non-existence of the giraffe, which is simply a badly interpreted cow decked out imaginarily with a phallic symbol instead of a neck. (For some time past I have thought that, as a sequel to this, Bergier is pondering the possibility of proving the non-existence of Dr. High Neck.)

Well, of course all this is excellent, and reasonable,



and serious. So, let us accept it: the saucerish signs in the Magdalenian caves *are* sexual symbols.

No admission could be more valuable to us since we know, after the brilliant proof that was given by C. G. Jung,<sup>18</sup> that the flying saucers are also sexual symbols. So this is something, isn't it, that serves to reinforce our belief that our reasoning is sound: thanks to all these true scholars we are well justified in supposing that there is a relationship between Ufology and Prehistory. And this will permit me to add yet a further contribution to true rational science:

## V Bavic and the Magdalenian Signs

The students of Prehistory have established the synchronicities between numerous regional prehistoric cultures.<sup>19</sup> As a result, it is found that at the time when the Franco-Cantabrian artists were painting and carving on the walls of their caves the Magdalenian signs that we are here discussing, other cultures, more or less similar but also often quite different, were developing in Belgium, Germany (the Hamburgian), in the Czechoslovakian-Austrian area, in Holland, and in Hungary. In the European part of Russia the sites known as Siuren II, Borchevo II, Molodova V, Kostienki I, and Markina-Gora I, all date from this period. In Poland there were the Masovian and

Tarnovian cultures (Magdalenian traces are found in Poland at shortly after 15,000 B.C.) In Italy, Sicily and, finally, throughout the whole of the old continent, we find cultures contemporary with the Franco-Cantabrian Magdalenian.

However, all the Magdalenian of the flying saucer signs is localised in the South-West of France and in Cantabrian Spain. **These signs are found nowhere else**, despite the fact that all the other features of the Magdalenian civilisation may be present as far distant as in Poland or Czechoslovakia.

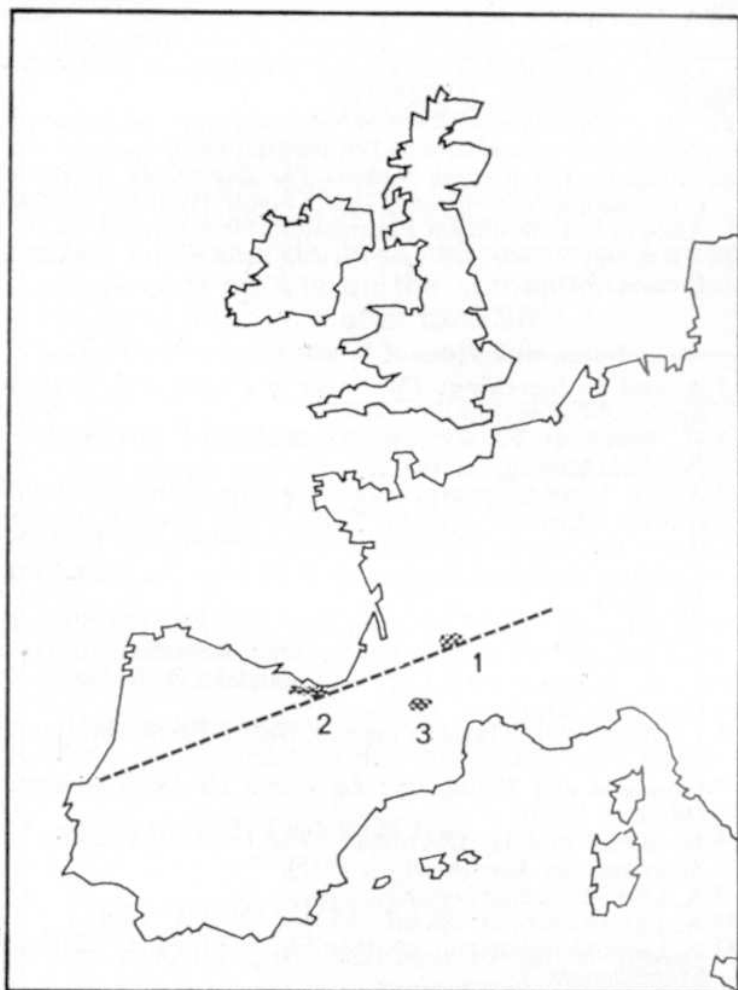
The region in the world where this "Flying Saucer Sign Culture" reached its maximum splendour was very localised: this is the valley of the river Vézère, a tributary of the river Dordogne, in which valley, over a distance of some tens of kilometres, there is a string of wonderful caves (Lascaux, Les Combarelles, etc.) It is not necessarily here that we find the most remarkable of the saucer signs, though many of them *are* in fact here. But it is here that the art historically linked with the signs reached its highest level and its manifestations attained their greatest density. Decorated cave succeeds decorated cave, masterpiece succeeds masterpiece.

Well now, this region, which has its like nowhere in the world, and which covers an area less than that of London, has the BAVIC Line passing right through its centre. The Line runs, parallel to the Vézère itself, five kilometres from Les Eyzies, five kilometres from Les Combarelles, four kilometres from La Mouthe, four-and-a-half kilometres from Font de Gaume, two kilometres from Laussel, nine kilometres from Laugerie Basse, nine kilometres from La Madeleine, ten kilometres from Lascaux, ten kilometres from Bara-Bahau, and two kilometres from Cap Blanc.

Bernifal (near Meyrals, Dordogne), where there are numerous tectiform signs, is *right on Bavic*. So is Commarque (Sireuil area, Dordogne). Cougnac, les Jean-Blancs, Rouffignac, La Sudrie, Pech-Merle, Marcenac, Sainte Eulalie, Le Gabillou, in addition to other places, are all close to the Bavic Line.

This arrangement can surely only be the result of chance. Any supposition to the contrary would be absurd. But we must recognise that it is a very kindly chance. For, after the Vézère-Dordogne area, the next richest region of the world in flying saucer symbols is the Cantabrian mountain region, in Spain. And, without being quite so precisely centred on the Bavic Line as the Vézère-Dordogne area, the region does nevertheless overlap the Line. Covalanas, La Venta de la Perra, La Haza, and Sotarriza are all either right on the Line or only a few kilometres off it. The whole of the El Castillo area is but a few tens of kilometres from it. The densest region of the decorated Cantabrian caves is less than 100 kilometres from it.

This leaves us with the Pyrenean region, so rich in very characteristic tectiform signs and, moreover, the location of the two extraordinary "machines" in the shape of the L.M. (Lunar Module) (type N). The distance between the caves of L'Ariège and BAVIC is in the neighbourhood of 200 kilometres. But the datings indicate that the civilisation of the Pyrenean caves came from La Vézère, where there are a great many sites earlier than the Magdalenian. The Périgord



Bavic and the caves

1. Vézère region; 2. Cantabrian region; 3. Ariège region



region, for example, is dated at thousands of years earlier than the Magdalenian. When the first UFO-shaped signs appear, it is in the valley of La Vézère, on the Bavic Line, and nowhere else.

Let us repeat: all this is the result of chance. But, finally, since it is well accepted that flying saucers are sonde-balloons incorrectly interpreted by ignorant folk obsessed with Science Fiction, and that BAVIC is an illusion, we are forced to conclude that Cro-Magnon Man, the producer of the Magdalenian works of art in Europe, was just as obsessed with bad literature as our contemporaries are today, and just as ready to take his own illusions for reality. Although he cannot possibly have seen any flying saucers, since they don't exist, this did not stop him from drawing them with great profusion of detail, in all the variety in which we know them one hundred and fifty centuries later—including their occupants with their big heads and their slanted eyes. It is comforting, to be sure, to believe that all these UFO-shaped drawings are sexual symbols, despite the fact that scholars like Dr. Peter J. Ucko,<sup>20</sup> professor of Anthropology at University College in London University, vigorously dispute this, and despite the fact that for the majority of experts on Prehistory these symbols are a complete enigma. But, if these signs dating from 12,000 B.C. are sexual symbols, why did Condon fritter away \$500,000 in proving that the signs of 1969 are bolides, aeroplanes, sonde balloons and temperature inversions? In order to introduce a little variety into our pleasures, I propose the opposite: I propose that the Magdalenian flying saucers were aeroplanes and sonde balloons, and that *our* flying saucers are symbols of a Divine Phallus favourable to the mammoth hunt.

We are still left with BAVIC, which, as we know, exists even less than flying saucers do. An examination of the possible links between BAVIC and the wall paintings of the Magdalenian period can consequently only belong in the realm of the "paranoia-criticism" invented by the surrealist painter Salvador Dali. Drawing our inspiration from Dali, we can imagine beings that have arrived from elsewhere ranging through the palaeolithic lands in search of the most advanced civilisation, discovering it in the valley of La Vézère and in Cantabria, and then maintaining the terrestrial Great Circle that passes through those two regions as a system of reference for their visits there. After which, be it due to laziness, or to lack of imagination, or in order to encourage the soaring flight of paranoia-criticism, or perhaps because time does not count for them, they have continued to keep this system of reference indefinitely.

But these theories are of course absurd. The true and rational explanation is that Divine Phalluses operate along orthodromic lines.

## VI Suggestions

The serious study of the problem propounded in this article would demand much time and money and a thorough knowledge of the techniques of prehistorical research.

The few caves that I have visited and studied attentively have convinced me that, whatever the true inter-

pretation of the UFO-shaped signs may be, those signs were something very important for the people who drew them. If the UFO-like shape is not due to chance, it is evident that we shall have to make a lot of changes in our ideas about the UFO Phenomenon and, incidentally, also in our ideas about Prehistory and about the part that the UFOs may perhaps have played in the birth of Western Civilization. But how can we know whether this is so?

One indispensable initial job would be to make a complete inventory of the caves and of the signs. Then it would be necessary to establish their exact chronology. Finally (and this would be the most important part of all) it would be necessary to investigate whether the *appearance* and the *evolution* of the signs did not perhaps coincide with interesting cultural or technological facts, so that we can reveal an influence, if there was one.

Here, as always, the principal obstacle to serious research will be psychological. Time is needed to get used to fantastic ideas. But the day will come when that time has elapsed, and when we discover that the thing that really would have been fantastic would have been for matters to have been any different.

[Translated from the French by Gordon Creighton]

## Bibliographical Notes

The two most important works are those by H. Breuil and A. Leroi-Gourhan, details of which are given below. For those who have read Leroi-Gourhan, the next books to read would be those by Peter J. Ucko and André Rosenfeld.

Other recommended works on the subject are the following:

- D. de Sonneville-Bordes: *Le Paléolithique supérieur en Périgord*. 2 vols. (Delmar, Bordeaux, 1960.)
- S. Giedion: *The Eternal Present: The Beginnings of Art. A Contribution to Constancy and Change* (Bollingen Series XXXV, 6, 1, Bollingen Foundation, New York, 1962).
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## Notes, with Titles of Works Cited in the Text

- 1 A. and G. Sieveking: *The Caves of France and Northern Spain: A Guide* (London, 1962).
- 2 H. Breuil et F. Windels: *Quatre Cents Siècles d'Art Pariétal* (Montignac, 1952).
- 3 André Leroi-Gourhan: *Préhistoire de l'Art Occidental* (Lucien Mazenod Editeur, Paris, 1965). English translation: *The Art of Prehistoric Man* (Thames & Hudson, London, 1967) and Abrams (6 West 57th St., New York 19, 1967).
- 4 A. Cheynier: *La Caverne de Pair Non Pair* (Documents d'Aquitaine 3, Société Archéologique, Bordeaux, 1963).
- 5 L. R. Nougier et Robert R. Nougier: *Pech Merle de Cabrerets* (Toulouse, 1954).
- 6 L. Méroc et J. Mazet: *Cougnac, Grotte Peinte* (Stuttgart, 1956).
- 7 Gonzales and Echegaray: *La Cueva de Las Chimeneas* (Madrid, 1963).
- 8 H. Breuil and H. Obermaier: *The Cave of Altamira at Santillana del Mar* (Madrid, 1935).
- 9 A. Leroi-Gourhan: *op. cit.*
- 10 A. Leroi-Gourhan: *op. cit.*
- 11 A. Leroi-Gourhan: *op. cit.* (See Fig. 543 for the "hilarious Magdalenian").
- 12 H. Bégouen: *Les Grottes de Montesquieu-Avantès*. (Editions du Travail, Toulouse, 1936.) (Count Bégouen is one of the "Three Brothers" who discovered the cave in 1912.)

- <sup>13</sup> H. Breuil: *Les Peintures et Gravures Pariétales de la Caverne de Niaux* in: *Préhistoire et Spéléologie Ariégeoises*, Tome 5, 1950  
and  
*La Caverne de Niaux. Compléments Inédits sur sa Décoration* in: *Préhistoire et Spéléologie Ariégeoises*, Tome 7, 1952.
- <sup>14</sup> Echegaray and Gonzales: *La Cueva de Cullalvera* in: *Préhistoire et Spéléologie Ariégeoises*, Tome 14, 1959.
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and  
A. Leroi-Gourhan: *op. cit.*
- <sup>16</sup> H. Breuil: *Peintures Magdaléniennes de la Grotte des Eglises à Ussat, Ariège* in: *Mélanges de Préhistoire et d'Anthropologie Offerts au Professeur Comte H. Bégouen* (Toulouse, 1939)  
and

- A. Leroi-Gourhan: *op. cit.* (p. 321).
- <sup>17</sup> H. Alcade del Rio, H. Breuil and L. Sierra: *Les Cavernes de la Région Cantabrique* (Monaco, 1911)  
and  
A. Leroi-Gourhan, *op. cit.* (p. 275).
- <sup>18</sup> C. G. Jung: *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies* (English and American editions, London and New York, 1959).
- <sup>19</sup> See, for example, François Bordes: *Le Paléolithique Dans Le Monde* (Hachette, Paris, 1968) (pp. 222-223).
- <sup>20</sup> Peter J. Ucko and Andrée Rosenfeld: *L'Art Paléolithique* (Paris, 1966).

Our cover design is a montage of Stone Age drawings from Franco-Cantabrian caves, based on reproductions in *Préhistoire de l'Art Occidental* by André Leroi-Gourhan (see note 3).

# Happy Christmas

The Editor and Publishers of the  
**FLYING SAUCER REVIEW**

wish their readers a very Happy Christmas and an exciting New Year

They would also like to take this opportunity of thanking the readers for their continued support

## DOUBTS ABOUT "LITTLE MAN" PHOTOGRAPH

When we published John Keel's article on the alleged North Carolina photograph by Ronnie Hill of a 'little man' (see FSR for January/February 1969), we did so with the reservation that it should be viewed in the same critical way that UFO photographs should be viewed. John Keel, and correspondents of his, have kept a watch on this case and now report that developments have cast doubts on the authenticity of the photograph. Dr. Berthold Schwarz is now also looking into the matter for FSR.

1969 will go down in our records as the year which saw the despatching of the 4,000th, and final copy, of FSR's first Special Issue, *The Humanoids*.

1969 also marked the appearance of the fabulous new, augmented hard-cover Neville Spearman edition of *THE HUMANOIDS* (see p. ii of cover).

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# FLYING SAUCER OVER CLUJ, ROMANIA

*Florin Gheorghita*

**Our contributor, an engineer, prepared his article in French. Gordon Creighton, who made the translation, comments that the spelling "Romania" is today held to be correct, and should be used in preference to "Rumania".**

I WISH to place on record one of the more spectacular sightings of an unknown flying craft, for I am of the opinion that the relevant photographs will serve to enrich the fund of knowledge already accumulated over the years regarding this epoch-making problem.

The case is that of the UFO photographed on the outskirts of the Romanian town of Cluj<sup>1</sup> towards the end of the summer of 1968, the pictures being among the best and most interesting ever taken in the world. At the outset, I wish to draw special attention to the fact that the analysis of these pictures has raised some very remarkable and scientific problems. I shall attempt, below, to interpret some of these, and this may lead to fuller analyses at a later date. But firstly, the facts:

## Description of the Occurrence

On the morning of August 18, 1968, the technician E.B. had decided to go, with his lady friend Z.M. and two other friends, to spend a pleasant Sunday far from the noise of the town. The weather being very fine and the sky clear, they decided on the forest of Baci, which covers the hills lying to the west of Cluj and which, by reason of its rich vegetation, has always given much pleasure to Nature-lovers.

At about noon the small party stopped in a clearing full of flowers, far from the more frequented routes. Having set up their camp, and feeling hungry, they decided to light their little fire and prepare food. E.B. was to get firewood. When he had gone but ten paces or so into the forest, he heard his girl friend call him saying that she wanted to show him "something". Returning to the clearing, he was told by her to look up at the sky, and, to his astonishment, he suddenly beheld there a great round metallic object which looked silvery in the sunlight. It was flying over the forest without making the slightest sound, and in a peculiar manner.

E.B. remained watching it in silence

for ten seconds and by then he realised that it was "something" very remarkable and he rushed to the rug lying on the grass to get his camera. In great haste he set the time and aperture and pressed the button. His next photo was taken more calmly, as the object was moving slowly. He thus had the time to observe that it reversed direction in its flight and also that its luminosity altered, details which are shown well on the photographs. He had to take the last two shots in haste again, because the object suddenly accelerated and shot upwards and vanished rapidly. The time was 1.23 p.m. There was not the least breath of wind blowing, and the silence of Nature continued unbroken except for the songs of the birds in the forest.

The whole party had stood in silence watching the strange evolutions of the unknown object. Once it had gone, the preparation of the meal, and later the pleasure of their excursion were uppermost in their minds, and the powerful impression made on them by the two minutes in which they had watched the machine in flight gradually faded.

Returning home, E.B. was occupied with daily problems and gave no more thought to the happening in the forest. Only ten days later did he develop his film, having taken other pictures in the meantime until the film was used up. In fact he was in no hurry, for he did not know what to do with the pictures, fearing ridicule. The only person known to him who could enlighten him regarding what he had seen was myself, and I had been away in Bucharest for two months, returning to Cluj only after August 26.

I thus was able to see the first prints of the photographs after September 1, and I realised that it was something extremely important.

## The Investigation

Aged 45, E.B. was known to his colleagues as a serious and honest man, though perhaps a little too self-centred. An officer in his earlier years, he was

now a technician in a Cluj constructional engineering enterprise. In this latter capacity I had known him for almost two years, our relations being purely professional. I happened to know already that the UFO problem did not interest him and that he viewed it all with scepticism. I knew definitely that there was neither documentary material nor were there any books on UFOs in Cluj that he might have consulted, and I knew that the rare reports in the press could not have been of any great concern or interest to him in that respect.

His lady friend, Z.M., aged 34, a civil servant, was also known among her colleagues as a serious person and also as one who had no interest in UFOs.

I began by questioning the witnesses, and learned the following additional details:

—The clearing where the photos had been taken is 47 km. from Cluj as the crow flies, and to the WSW of the town.

—The air temperature *in the sun* was around 36°C.

—The sky was completely clear, but there was, very high, a strange sort of vapour which they only noticed when the object had vanished at high altitude.

—The camera was a FED-2, with an INTERSTAR 2.8 lens. The film was the usual sort, 17 DIN.

—None of them had observed the object at the moment of its arrival. It was seen by them only when it was over the clearing.

—When observed, it was at a height that they estimated to be around 600 metres, at an angle of 85° to the horizon.

—Its flight path during the initial period was from NE to SW, and on a straight course. Then, when the object reversed course, its line of flight seemed slightly downwards towards the ground.

—In its flight, both horizontally and vertically when leaving, it kept changing its position in relation to the line of flight.

—As regards its appearance, I reproduce here E.B.'s written statement which he gave me and which was published in several newspapers: "The object had a metallic gleam, made no sound, and was constantly changing position and direction. It had no resemblance whatever to any of the bodies that I have seen so many times in flight, from balloons to jet aircraft."

—The diameter of the machine seemed to be in excess of 30 metres.

\* \* \* \* \*

All this was extremely interesting, but I had to make sure that it was not a hoax. I took the film and the prints, and went first to the best known photographer-reporter in Cluj. After studying them in his laboratory, he said he had no doubt as to their genuineness.

I then consulted a well-known Bucharest specialist, a photographic reporter with the Romanian National Press Agency, who happened to be in Cluj on other business. He confirmed the complete absence of any hoax, and he pointed out an interesting psychological aspect to me: this was that if an amateur photographer, such as E.B. is, had wanted to make a hoax, he would have put the object at the centre of his picture. But in the first and third photograph the object is almost at the edge, which fact shows how excited he was and his haste to snap the object.

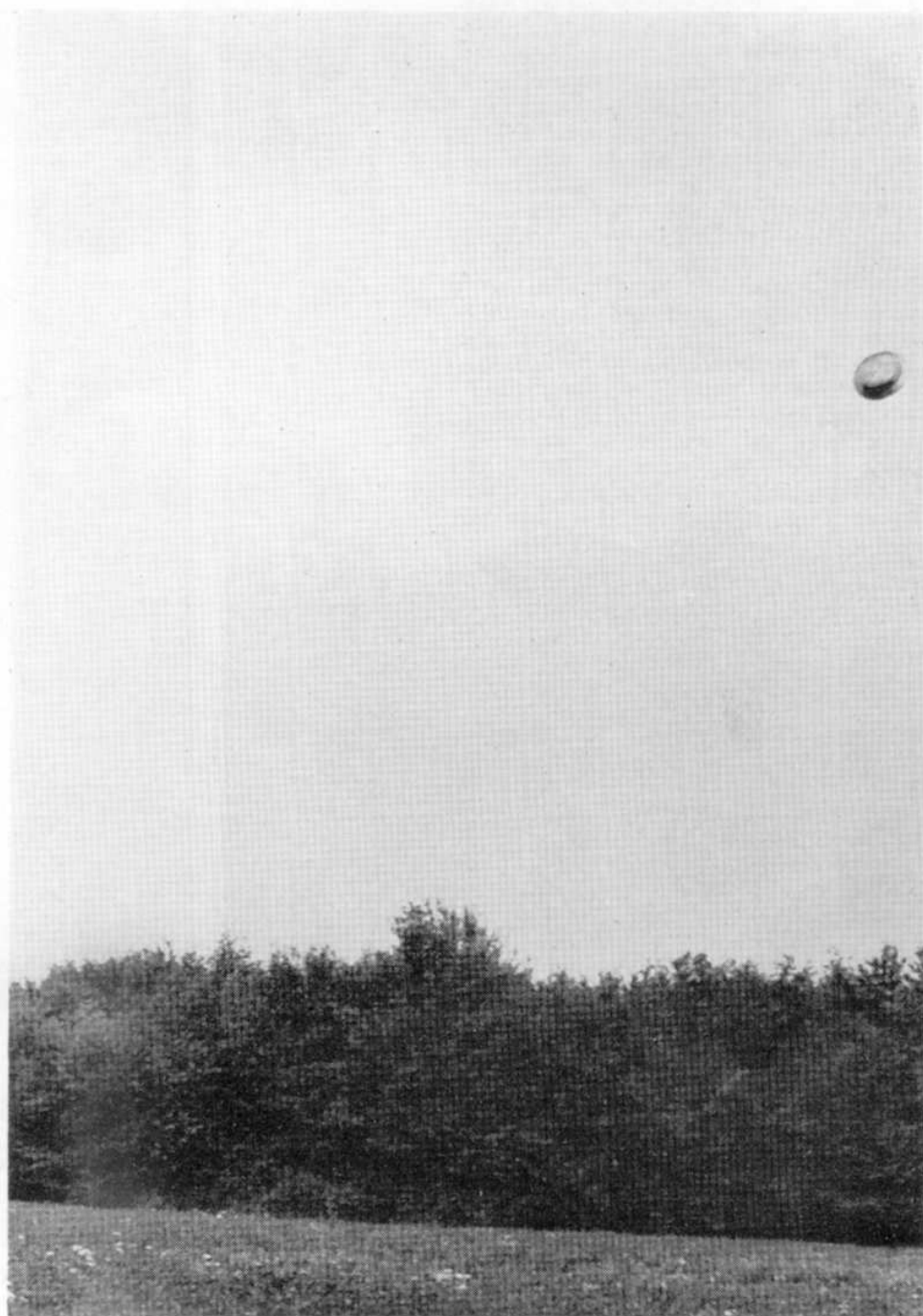
I also consulted an official laboratory in Cluj about the film. They had it analysed by their technical experts, using the latest methods, and found no sign of trickery.

After these strictly technical investigations, I sought to work out the logic of the movement of the various images, using enlargements. At the outset, the second picture had particularly caught my attention by its clear perspective, showing very clearly the natural setting and the UFO in flight over the forest. The third picture too showed clearly that it was impossible to have thrown the same object to such a height. And you can see clearly from the photos that it is the same object in all of them, and a very large one too.

The presence of the same trees and the same flowers on the pictures enables us to follow the flight. The sketch made was produced simply by superimposing the photos.

#### Sketch

At the same time, the size of the trees and branches and flowers also enables us to appreciate the large size of the object. E.B.'s estimate of a diameter of around 30 metres seems indeed right. By geometrical details in various points we can see that this estimate is in fact a minimum one. Finally, the presence of the same trees in the fourth photograph (which was



Photograph No. 1

not published, being retained by E.B. for its special features) demonstrates categorically that the film is authentic, namely by the final detail of the object vanishing upwards!

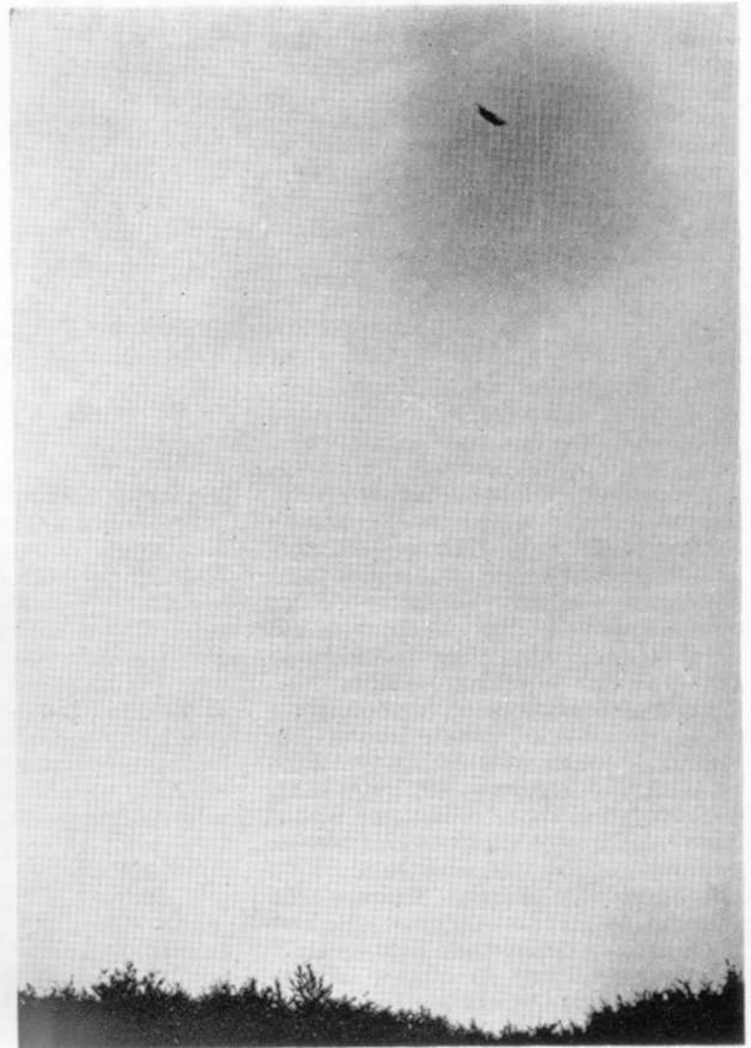
Trial comparisons of these photographs with other similar UFO photographs was for me the final proof. Frank Edwards' book, *Flying Saucers, Serious Business*, has three photographs of a UFO taken in California near Santa Ana in August 1965. They show an astonishing resemblance to the Cluj photographs: the same type of construction; the same proportions; the same manner of metallic construction; the same technical features. Only the size seems to be clearly different. Thus,

almost exactly three years apart in time (the Santa Ana photos were taken on August 3 and the Cluj photos on August 18), and at a distance of over 16,000 km. from each other, two men have captured on film images of strange unknown flying objects that are extraordinarily similar. There is not the remotest possibility of those two men ever having known each other or of having had the least dealings with each other. Indeed the second man never knew, or saw, or had the slightest knowledge about the photographs taken by the first man.<sup>2</sup>

The proof is so absolute that I sent the photographs to the news agency to be published. (To show our sincerity in



Photograph No. 2



Photograph No. 3

this matter, I wish to make it quite clear that neither E.B. nor I have sought nor have we received the slightest material recompense for the photographs.)

#### Publication of the Photographs

After rigorous analyses, all the Bucharest newspapers of September 19, 1968, as well as two Cluj papers, published the pictures. That same evening, the national television network showed enlargements of the pictures. Next day, a television team was already in Cluj, and the interview given them by E.B. and his friend Z.M. went out the following evening on the TV. It is perhaps of interest to mention that the newspaper *Informatia Bucurestiului* also published the account of some psychological tests done on E.B.'s good powers of observation by a reporter.

But of course, as always, there were also folk who were hostile. But also, as usual, subjective in their approach, and not documented on the facts of the case. Thus, without seeing the photographs, the director of the local Observatory put out the idea that the object in the pictures was probably a meteorological

balloon. In several articles published in newspapers with a big readership, I showed the weakness of this hypothesis, which is clearly ruled out.

#### The Analysis of the Photographs

For myself, I think the Cluj series of photographs is of remarkable importance, both from the documentary aspect as also for the scientific and technical problems that they present. At the same time, alongside of the tens of thousands of registered UFO sightings in the world, these Cluj photographs have now arrived to pose the same fundamental questions to the present-day scientific community: namely, how are these perfect machines constructed, what is their strange technique by which they fly, what is the power used, who are the beings in them and who are their builders?

Obviously these questions cannot be answered now, but the analysis, even more thorough, of all sightings and all photographs and all material evidence, will yield important information for us.

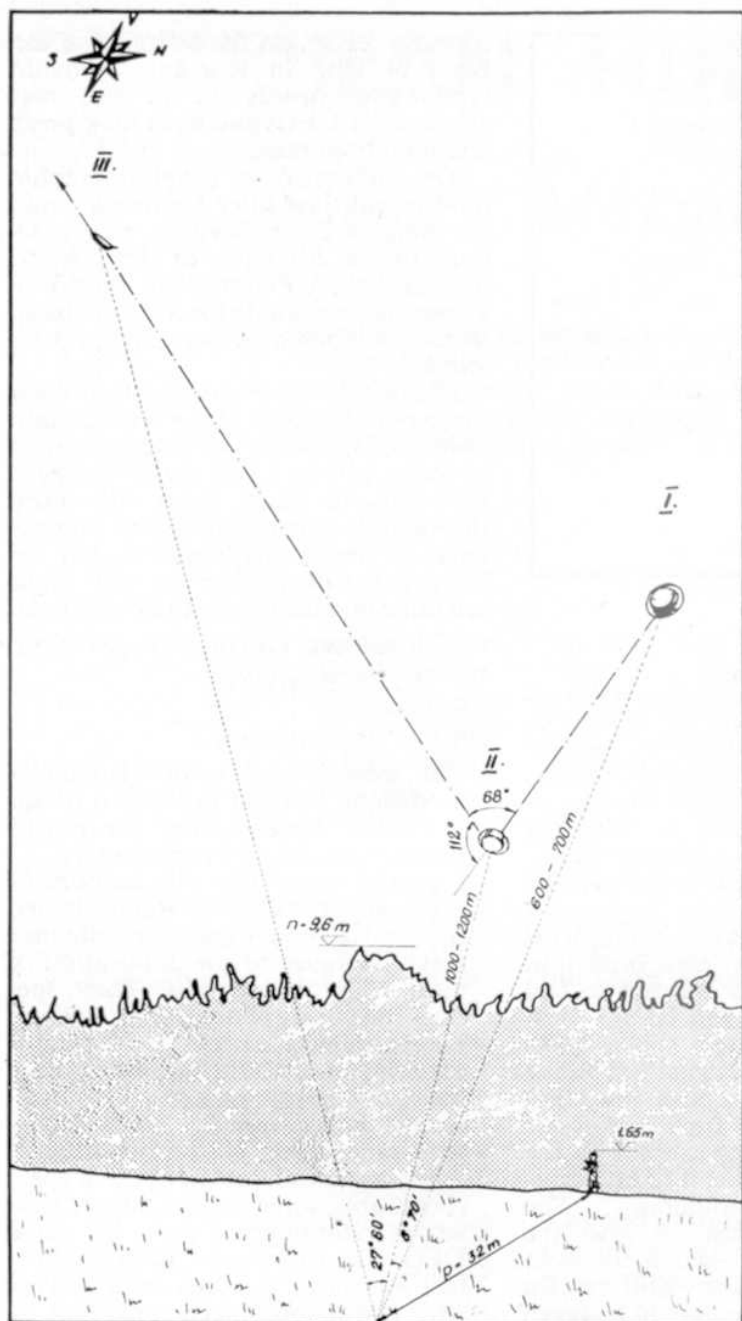
What do we find in these Cluj photographs?

(a) The first photograph seems to confirm for us one thing that was already well known: the flying saucers are metallic craft designed according to admirable technical principles. For example, as is seen in this case, their attention to aerodynamics is evident.

The angle at which the picture was taken gives us (for the first time with this particular type of UFO) a view of the upper part—which is flat. If we look closely for details, we can see that the surface of the craft is not perfectly smooth: there is a slight bulge on the left. What the purpose of this asymmetrical design could be is difficult to imagine, but it can serve to remind us of several of the cases mentioned by Frank Edwards in his book referred to above—cases in which the crew were seen to be making certain kinds of use of the upper surface.

The fact that lateral portholes are not visible, either on this saucer or on the Californian one (Santa Ana), raises serious questions as to the possibility of visual examination from the inside to the outside. Are these particular types of space-craft simply teleguided





and so not requiring visual systems? The considerable size of the object however leads us to deduce that it is not a simple teleguided affair. Is there no crew to use the large interior space? If however we accept the existence of beings inside it, then there must be some kind of visual system. Have they perhaps some sort of special device which cannot be observed from photographs? Naturally the problem calls for more thorough investigations, plus further photographic data and direct sightings.

(b) The second photograph however raises the most serious problems. To begin with, my attention was drawn to seemingly different aspects:—First, we note that, compared with the first photograph, the shape of the

object has now become somewhat vague, while all the other details in the picture (trees, flowers, etc.) have remained very clear, and yet, during the few seconds that have elapsed since the first photograph was taken, neither the atmospheric conditions nor the conditions pertaining to the operation of the camera have changed in any way. —Secondly, you can see that the image of the object has become bright and yet at the same time the shadow that seems to be thrown by the constructional details on the upper part of the rim seems almost illogical when compared with the shadow thrown in the first photograph.

In reply to the questions that I put to them later about these changes, E.B. said that, as he was getting ready to

take the second picture, he was able to watch how the object had reversed course in the air growing brighter and brighter, until it accelerated suddenly and shot away upwards.

We are familiar with numerous accounts of the brightness of the external surfaces of UFOs, especially at night. Was this the phenomenon that was now taking place here?

To secure further help on the question, I appealed separately to two University lecturers from the Cluj Institute of Fine Arts, both of them specialists in matters of natural lighting. With the help of one of them, and before a group of professors from the Institute, we projected the whole film, and also the individual photographs, on to a screen. After a discussion, each of the two specialists made some models of the object. On these models they studied the distribution of the light from a lateral source (here playing the part of the Sun). Their conclusions, arrived at separately, were identical: namely that in the second picture the object had indeed become luminous, but illuminated in itself, not from outside!

The problem of the UFOs' own luminosity is assuredly a remarkable scientific and technical one. How can so large a metallic surface suddenly become luminous, brighter than the light of the Sun at noon on a summer's day? What can be the purpose of this phenomenon?

The shadow however which appears on the upper portion of the rim also raises some questions. Is it simply the momentary result of the reversal of the object in the air and of the angle of the rays of sunlight striking the rim? Or is it perhaps a constructional detail which remained hidden behind the dome in the first picture and which now becomes visible as a shaded area? Is there a certain lack of homogeneity in the metallic material of which the craft is built, and which only shows up when the luminous effect comes into operation?

To arrive at a more realistic hypothesis, we should inevitably have to know first the source and indeed the purpose of this strange emission of luminosity.

The luminosity effect of UFOs—seldom disputed by the writers who in their books have presented UFO sightings and have written of the importance of the UFOs—has on the other hand almost always been taken as one of the main features that various people have seized upon in order to deny, as scientifically impossible, the real existence of these strange objects.

From this point of view, the photographs taken at Cluj constitute a piece of documentation of the very greatest importance, since here the phenome-

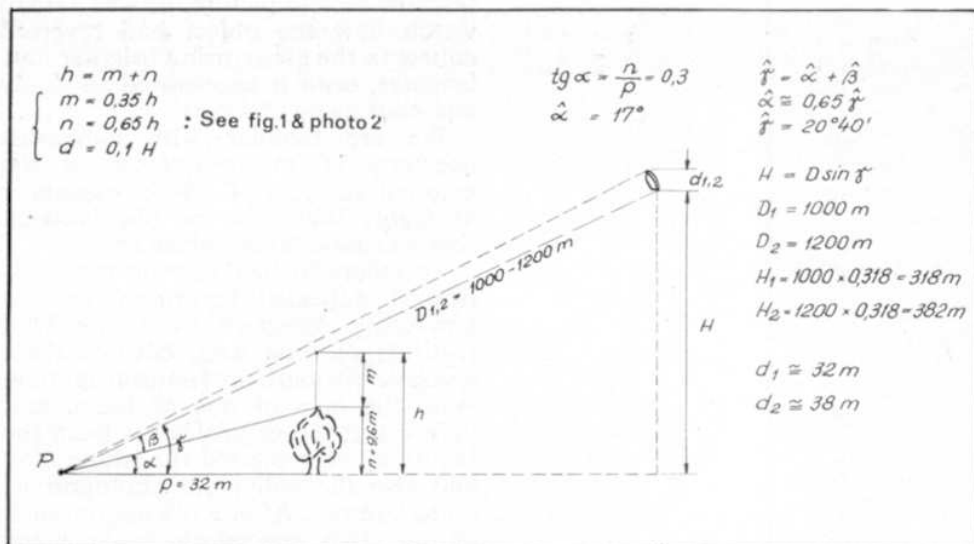


Fig. 2

non does not appear—as usually is the case—as a mere spot of luminosity in the sky, but was captured by the camera at a moment when the contours of the object were still visible. This fact rules out the possibility of subjective interpretation or the possibility of hasty dismissal as a fake.

(c) The third photograph, less spectacular, nevertheless also presents important problems which would appear to be fundamental themes for a future new flight technique. But, in order not to weary the reader, I will confine myself to mentioning only a few of them, leaving the discussion of the problem as a whole to be taken up again on a future occasion.

What is striking in this third photograph, right at the outset, is the almost vertical position of the craft. Is it logically acceptable? We are in truth so used to the idea of flight in a horizontal position for aircraft and also for UFOs too, but we must not forget that frequently airmen—and particularly pilots of fighter craft—are obliged at certain times to put their machine into a vertical position where it is

advantageous to them.

And, among the numerous sightings of UFOs, we do know of reports in which UFOs moved about in a vertical position or were vertical and stationary. Thus for example, I recall the photograph taken on April 2, 1966, at Melbourne, and published by Frank Edwards in his *FLYING SAUCERS HERE AND NOW*. No doubt such a position would seem to entail great inconveniences for any crew present in the craft, but perhaps it is not so bad for them after all.

The third photograph shows however one detail that is intriguing: on the upper part of the image of the UFO you can see a curious curvature of the rim. Has this any connection with the patch of shadow—difficult to explain—on the second photograph? The analysis of this detail, as also the colour of the rim—which is even brighter than the dome—still remain open problems that deserve to be taken up again later.

(d) By way of conclusion:

The three pictures of the strange flying object photographed over the

forest of Baci, on the outskirts of the town of Cluj in Romania, provide remarkable proofs as to the real existence of UFOs and as to their great scientific importance.

The authenticity of the photographic film, established after thorough-going checking and verification, shows us that all the attempts to deny or to disregard the UFO problem constitute a regrettable attitude towards the basic ideas of contemporary and future science.

I hope that my presentation of these three photographs, along with certain aspects of the wealth of data contained in them, will be a real encouragement to others to study them still more thoroughly. The documentary importance of these photographs can be increased still further by the right scientific and technical studies of them.

ENGINEER GHEORGHITA FLORIN,  
CLUJ, ROMANIA.

#### Notes

- 1 Cluj, second largest town of Romania. Known as Napoca in Roman times, it lies in Transylvania, the north-western province of the country.
- 2 I greatly regret that the authors of the repudiated Condon Report issued by the Condon Committee did not make reference to the publication of these Cluj photographs. Their specialist on testing photographs, William K. Hartmann, writes: "... photographic proof would require not only multiple photographs but also multiple photographers, unconnected with each other, not known to each other, at considerable distances apart (preferably some tens of kilometres) whose photographs show the same UFO. The Colorado University project knows of no such case". Were Mr. Hartmann sincere and had he known of the Cluj photos, he would probably not have written this. Will he now change his findings? [Extremely unlikely—EDITOR.]

## GOODBYE, Messrs. CHIPS?

The eminent scientist MAX PLANCK wrote, from bitter experience: "A new scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents *eventually die*, and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it."

Quoted by Arthur Koestler in *"The Drinkers of Infinity"* (1968).

# PYRENEAN HUMANOID REPORT

*F. Lagarde and J. Mirtain*

Monsieur Lagarde, member of the editorial team of the French journal *Lumières dans la Nuit*, will be remembered by FSR readers for his article *UFOs and Fault Lines* which was published in our issue for July/August, 1968. M. Mirtain is one of the LDLN team of field investigators. Their report appeared in the LDLN issue No. 98 for February, 1969, and has been translated by Gordon Creighton.

THE witness, Monsieur Jean Senac of Libaros (Departement of Hautes Pyrenees, France), is an old soldier, veteran of numerous campaigns all over the world wherever the French Army has fought. At the age of 71, he is still alert and active in agricultural pursuits.

One day, at 10.30 a.m., in broad daylight, he was the witness of a sensational and mysterious happening on departmental highway No. 21 which runs from Tarbes to Castelnau-Magnoac. It happened four years ago and, apart from the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, the public has never heard of it until now. The statement made to us by Monsieur Senac is as follows:

"I am no longer quite sure of the precise date, but I know it was after the straw had been cut. It was in the first half of July 1964, possibly on the 8th or 9th. That morning, at 10.30, I was near Maraunats, about 150 metres beyond the spot where the road crosses the road from Galan. Looking along the road towards Sentous, I was dumbfounded to see an extremely bright shining machine lying athwart the road and the verge of the road. The sun was shining, the visibility was excellent, and I was amazed to see this strange shining craft which looked like nothing known to me. You might have said it looked like a table, but I could not make out its precise shape because it was so dazzlingly bright. It is 250 metres from here (Investigators' note: we were stand-

ing with him at the spot) to the thing. If it was a car or any other familiar object, you couldn't have been mistaken about it, even if you couldn't see all the precise details.

"From its position on the road, I should say it was about 2½ to 3 metres long, and its height was about that of a passenger car, perhaps a bit less. It seemed to me that it was not quite touching the ground, but there weren't any wheels, and I can't say whether or not there were legs.

"At that point, it suddenly rose up and flew off towards Puydarrieux at great speed. Such a thing was totally unexpected, and my astonishment knew no bounds. I was still standing there, looking at the place, when I caught sight of two strange forms. They were little men, absolute dwarfs, which must have been hidden from my sight by the machine. As you can see, I myself am not very tall. Well, they were a lot smaller than me."

M. Senac stretched out his hand and indicated their height. We measured it, and found it was 1.15 m.

"They were wearing a sort of clothing that I could not see very well, but the colour of it was khaki. And of that I am dead certain, for I know khaki all right . . . I have worn it often enough. I can tell it at a great distance, and in broad daylight, as far off as this, I can't be mistaken.

"Then I watched those two little beings walk along beside the hedge about 30 metres or so in my direction. Then they went through a gap

in the hedge and walked across the bracken towards that big chestnut tree there. They seemed to be bent forwards, with a load on their backs, and I could see a sort of sack on the back of each of them, but could not make out the details. My curiosity was well and truly aroused, and I'd have liked to have been nearer, to question them, but I couldn't leave my cows where they were, on the verge of the road. So, without losing a minute, I took the cows back to my place, and then I got on my bike and set off towards the chestnut tree. When I got there, I found traces of where the two dwarfs had been and I found marks of trampling beneath the tree."

He mimed and gestured, to indicate not just their simple passage at the spot, but a trampling on the spot.

"I looked all round for any signs as to which way they had gone, but found nothing. Although it is true that it took me half an hour to put the cows in and come back here on my bike, there was only a very brief period in which I had not had the road under constant observation, and it seems to me that they cannot possibly have left the same way as they came.

"Then I went all round everywhere . . . at the spot where the thing had stood, I thought I could make out the marks of feet, but I'm not sure, I can't swear to it."

Monsieur Senac is a grand old man, with a very honest reputation, sincere and trustworthy. He has a fine military career behind him, and it would not be easy to fool him.

When we asked him if he had



heard any noise when the object took off, he said he thought he heard something, but was not too sure about that, as he had had a bullet through his left ear and could only hear with the right one. But he said there was at any rate no smoke or flame or sparks as it took off.

For those who know the area in question, we must add that the local scene has changed quite a good deal since 1964. The thick hedge along the roadside has now vanished, and the big chestnut tree which stood back about 15 metres into the field from the hedge has been cut down but its stump and branches are still to be seen. The land which was fallow in 1964 and covered with bracken, is now under cultivation.

## THE PLAN FOR VALENSOLE

Dr. Jacques Lemaître's plan to plant lavender cuttings in the landing spot on l'Olivol met a very mixed reception. However, he now tells us that Monsieur Masse has ploughed the field in the normal cycle of events, so that the soil may recover its strength.

It is obvious, therefore, that the 'plan' will have to be postponed until it is known how the new plants eventually fare, say in two years' time.

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### Dr. Miran Lindtner

The tragic death of the President of UFOIC of Sydney, Australia—in an accident, last August, at Frankfurt railway station in Germany—was a shock for his many friends and colleagues. Our condolences to his family.

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# EXPERIENCES & OBSERVATIONS

## Towards a new concept of ufology

Jerome Clark

For many months it seemed that Mr. Clark, a regular correspondent and contributor to FSR, had dropped out of the ufological scene. Then came this unusual article, dated September 5, 1969, in which he claims to have had remarkable experiences. In a note, Mr. Clark writes: "It's . . . a personal accounting of my UFO thoughts over the last sixteen months or so . . . I believe I have something to say and, besides, there's new information in the article."

IN the early morning hours of May 5, 1968, I saw a UFO and its occupant. Or at least I saw *something*.

There were four of us, all in our early twenties. We were Paul Jensen, Jerry Fuqua, Phil Bjerke and myself. Of the group, only I had maintained an active interest in flying saucers, and that, incidentally, was the reason I was asked to join them in their plans for a vigil on the road to Kindred, North Dakota. Before then I had known them only slightly but recognised them to be sensitive, curious young men of definitely above-average intelligence.

As they explained it to me one morning on the campus of Moorhead State College in Moorhead, Minnesota—of which three of us were students—the story went something like this:

On a gravel country road leading to Kindred, North Dakota, on the other side of Fargo, there would appear a mysterious "ghost light". Invariably it hovered just above the road and it seemed determined never to let anyone get too close to it. At whatever rate of speed (at whatever risk, for the road was in a state of disrepair, to put it tactfully) one might drive to catch it, it simply would not be caught. It would usually vanish, only to reappear *behind* the car.

The whole affair sounded fairly typical, I thought. Ghost lights are certainly nothing that any experienced Fortean is unfamiliar with. But then I had never seen one myself and I was, of course, interested.

There were other details, these, however, considerably more vague, and I tended to dismiss them if not exactly reject them outright. For example, some persons who had visited the "Lady" (the name the road had been given, the reason for which I have forgotten) claimed to have heard strange sounds in a certain grove of trees surrounding an abandoned farmhouse, and others talked of shadowy, odd-shaped figures dimly glimpsed in the moonlight. Understandably, I think, I did not take these allegations overly seriously.

At about 11.30 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, the four of us sat in Paul's car on the Lady, smoking and joking among ourselves. Although I had hopes, I was not expecting very much. I had not the slightest inkling of what would happen before the night was over.

At 12.05 a.m. the light appeared far down the road. That was all it was, too: a light and nothing more. Bright and reddish-orange, it looked like a bigger light

when watched through binoculars. It did not reflect light on the road above which it appeared to hover. It flickered on and off every ten or fifteen seconds and then went off permanently as we raced toward it (an uncomfortable procedure—we all got sore heads out of it in more ways than one).

At 1.30 a.m. the light shone to the south of us. Paul bore down on the gas pedal and we roared down the road, only to have it vanish on us again.

We stopped the car and sat for a few minutes, hearing what seemed to be a high-pitched, screaming whine—and there are no power-lines on the road (though, perhaps significantly, there is a huge power station several miles back). At 1.45 a.m. Phil remarked that the light should reappear in fifteen minutes (earlier he had told me that it ordinarily came at half-hour intervals). A minute or two later there it was, this time to the north of us.

Paul noticed it first. He said: "Isn't there something dark at the bottom right hand of the light?"

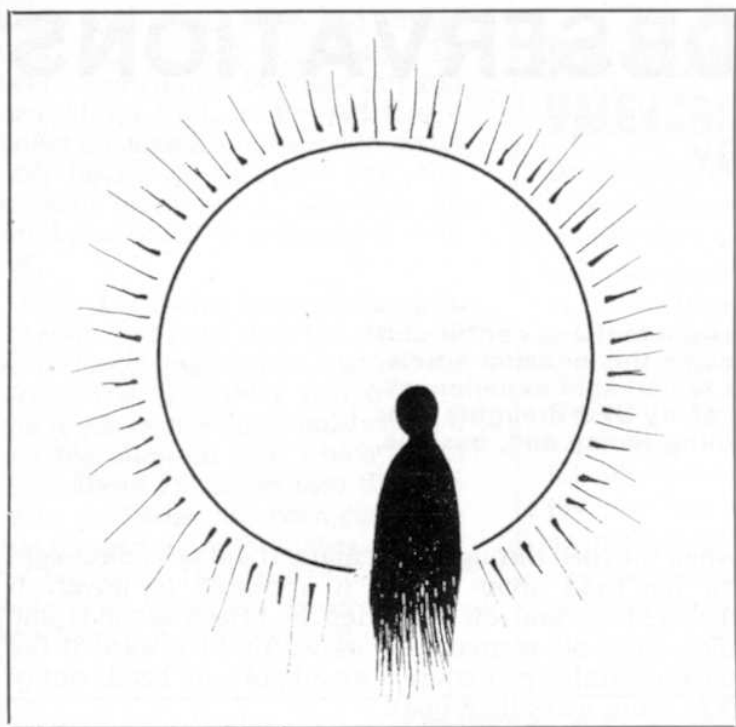
Thinking about the tricks imagination plays, I looked, gulped, and gasped. I was seeing the silhouette of what must have been a huge figure *gliding toward us and growing larger as it did so*. (See accompanying sketch.)

Literally unable to believe my eyes, I turned away, then looked again. It was still there. All I could think was, *what if it overtook us?* In those few seconds I must have mentally reviewed every horror story in UFO literature. Finally, catching my breath, I blurted: "Let's get out of here!"

We sped away, swerved down a side road and halted. Now viewing the light from the side, we were startled to see that *the figure was still at the right-hand side of the object and still gliding toward us*. We drove several more miles before stopping again.

As we again approached the area at about 2.15 a.m., we saw the light moving through a grove of trees at an abandoned farmhouse (the same place from which, according to rumour, strange sounds like that of large animals walking through underbrush have been heard). We waited for a while. When the light did not show, we left.

I did not go out to the Lady again. It was not because of lack of interest; to the contrary, it was because too much else was happening. And I had begun to get scared.



Within hours after our return to Moorhead all hell started to break loose, and it continued unabated all summer. By September, on the verge of mental collapse, I dropped out of the UFO field.

## II

The August 1960 issue of Ray Palmer's *Flying Saucers* published this letter from William F. Riefer of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:

"Dear Ray:

Two years ago with the aid of Hayden C. Hewes and James W. Maney, we formed the organization known as Interplanetary Intelligence of Unidentified Flying Objects better known as 'I.I.O.U.F.O.' with headquarters here in Oklahoma City. Both Hayden and James have had letters in your publication *Flying Saucers*. But until now I have had little to say that might be of interest to the readers of your magazine, however at this time I feel it necessary to get a few things off my chest pertaining to some of the events that have been occurring since organizing this group to investigate UFO sightings. We have tried to obtain members in various states throughout the country and abroad to make reports to us of UFO activities in their areas. So far we have been successful.

"But this is not the reason for this letter. I am writing you this letter for a little information and your opinion and the opinion of your readers of the events that are taking place now and for the past 15 months. I have no proof that any of these things are connected with my interest in the UFO field or the organization. I have heard many rumours about things of this nature happening to people in UFO research. But up to the last year I felt that most of the stories were the figments of an overactive imagination. But due to the more adverse activities of person or persons unknown I would very much like to know if things of this nature are happening to others in the UFO research field.

"First of all over a year ago my residence received a tremendous amount [sic] of unusual telephone calls, as many as 25 to 30 calls in a 24 hr. period. After tolerating this for about 3 or 4 months and making many complaints to the telephone company about these calls we decided to have our

number changed and unlisted which worked successfully and the calls ceased for a period of about 2 weeks. Then once more the calls started coming, not as many as before, maybe 2 or 3 a week.

"... Then the weird things really started happening, first of all Mr. Maney received a letter that was signed by an individual who has a grudge against the entire human race with heathen overtones due to the charges made against all Christianity that we have on earth. We checked through various sources and to all information that we can gather the individual writing these letters died Apr. 15, 1955. Now we know that this is impossible because people in that condition just don't write letters. Three other members of our organization have sent letters to this individual and they are returned promptly with a notation unknown at this address. However when Mr. Maney or myself send this person a letter to the same address we get a reply. And again supposedly written by this same deceased individual.

"Next the number of hang-up telephone calls has increased as much as before and with determination not to put up with this any further I immediately contacted the telephone company and ordered our number to be changed, also to remain unlisted, with strict orders that calls placed to the old number not be relayed to the new number. At the time of this change of numbers 4 people knew the new number; myself, my wife and my oldest son Joseph and the man that made the change at the telephone company. In fact when my son got the call from the telephone company with the information about the new number he had one wrong numeral. It took me better than an hour to obtain the right number from the man who had made the change. Within 2½ hours the hang-up and weird calls started coming again. Where these people obtained this new number I do not know.

"I am fully aware of the fantastic claims I am making here sound impossible [sic], but my family and I as well as Jim Maney know these things have been happening.

"I have been contacted by various individuals who make fantastic claims as to their identity and origin. These I consider as either crackpots or pranksters, until recently. But due to various other things that have happened that I will not go into at this time that has [sic] left me with a reasonable doubt as to the fact that maybe some of these people's claims might be true. But I would like to know if these sort of things and events are happening to other men and women in the UFO research field. I would greatly appreciate if you have any information pertaining to events of this nature...<sup>1, 2</sup>

When I read Riefer's account, I was impressed for two reasons. First, it appeared years before the pioneering research of ufologists like John Keel who managed to show that such phenomena do in fact occur. Secondly, I, along with my three fellow witnesses and a certain individual to whom I was then very close, were caught in a situation fully as frightening and baffling as Riefer's.

For personal reasons (not particularly, I hasten to add, fear of retribution from men-in-black types) I do not care at this point to relate in much detail the incredible events that occurred over the four-month period following the "ghost light" sighting, but I will say that they involved peculiar telephone calls, poltergeists, the appearances of strange dark-complexioned visitors, "ghost-like" figures coming out of and disappearing into nowhere, after leaving threatening messages, odd odours, sounds and lights, UFO sightings and psychic phenomena of various kinds.

After a time I began to wonder if I weren't the victim of an elaborate hoax of some kind. In many ways conservative by nature, I could hardly credit my senses and would often attempt, never successfully, to convince



myself that it was all in the imagination of myself and my friends. My solution, finally, was to divorce myself from ufology for one year.

### III

We are entering a weird, wonderful, terrifying age. The world we have always known is changing rapidly, almost inexplicably, heading toward either final chaos or the birth of a new order. Humanity has discovered a new consciousness of itself in the Universe—and if you don't believe it, check your local bookstore's supply of works on UFOs, psychic phenomena, witchcraft, astrology, the occult and other "borderline" fields, and watch how fast it is sold out. Magic, it is said, is being reborn.

A friend of mine returned from California to tell me of a new church starting in San Francisco. People he knew were joining it and encouraging him to do likewise. "Services" consisted of everyone's joining together and chanting in a language none of them recognised or understood, but the end result was that whatever one wished for—a girl for the night, money, social position—one got.

"I read their literature," my friend said, "but it didn't make sense. I read it through carefully several times, trying to understand what was going on, but it was all literal double-talk. *It wasn't meant to be understood.*"

Around the world new religions, new philosophies, new ideologies arise and gain adherents. Malcolm X, in prison studying Black Muslim literature and preparing to assume his future role as one of the most influential figures in the black struggle, has a vision identical to that of a UFO contactee:

As I lay on my bed, I suddenly, with a start, became aware of a man sitting beside me in my chair. He had on a dark suit, I remember. I could see him as plainly as I see anyone I look at. He wasn't black and he wasn't white. He was light-brown-skinned, an Asiatic cast of countenance, and he had oily black hair.

I looked right into his face.

I didn't get frightened. I knew I wasn't dreaming. I couldn't move, I didn't speak, and he didn't. I couldn't place him racially—other than that I knew he was a non-European. I had no idea whatsoever who he was. He just sat there. Then, suddenly as he had come, he was gone.

... I would later come to believe that my pre-vision was of Master W. D. Fard, the Messiah, the one whom Elijah Muhammed said had appointed him—Elijah Muhammed—as His Last Messenger to the black people of North America.<sup>3</sup>

"Fard", who one time told Elijah Muhammed that his (Fard's) true name was "Mahdi", appeared in the streets of Harlem in the early days of the depression,

selling silks and identifying himself as "a brother from the East." In 1934 he disappeared as mysteriously as he had arrived.

Life styles change along with fashions. The growing hippie subculture produces males whose hair flows down to their shoulders, a feature previously associated only with a certain type of UFO being. And powerful drugs like LSD, whose workings science is at a loss to understand, change those who take them in mysterious ways they can scarcely perceive. Men everywhere, searching for new gods, find them and the pace of change accelerates.

In the past year I have been able to place my experiences into the kind of perspective that I am convinced ufology must accept if it is going to get anywhere.

What happened to me, I think, was nothing special, nothing even especially fantastic, no more special, no more fantastic than any other UFO-related phenomenon (as commonly understood). The occurrences in and of themselves were no more revealing than any sighting, than anything "straight" ufology has come up with.

No, I believe that the UFO researcher must now look outward and around him, to the world that he lives in every mundane day of his life, to its workings, to its history, to its traditions, to its art, to its changes. He should watch for the new, re-examine the old, and study his newspaper as closely as he watches the skies.

The UFO riddle cannot be separated from the riddle of human existence. It is not as if the UFOs were intruders (as I thought they were when I became dramatically aware of their reality) into our sphere. They are no more (and no less) than one manifestation of a Reality that has many manifestations.

It is this Reality to which the New Ufology must turn its attention. Those who hold to the Saucer Cult, who have taken to UFO buffery to escape the problems of this world, will find the idea distasteful and offensive, but let them, for they have nothing to offer us or anyone.

The rest of us, our attention long on the distant stars, must now draw our attention slowly earthward, where the answers are and always have been.

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> I wrote to Mr. Riefer last year, but my letter was returned stamped "moved with no forwarding address".

<sup>2</sup> Riefer's mention of strange dealings in the postal service brings to mind a statement made by a member of a Tacoma, Washington, Fortean group that tried to investigate the Maury Island case: "I have had the experience of writing to Hal Dahl—in my original efforts to help find [Fred] Crisman—and having the answer come back from Crisman post marked in England or in some part of the U.S. Any letter sent to Hal Dahl is usually answered by Crisman—if he bothers to answer at all."

<sup>3</sup> *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (Grove Press, 1964, 1965), pp. 186-7, 189.

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND BOOKS ON UFOs

Few and far between are the library shelves with serious books on UFOs, so it would be a good idea if readers got down to their local public library and asked the librarian to obtain books like the following:

### The Humanoids

**Anatomy of a Phenomenon**  
**Challenge to Science**  
**Uninvited Visitors**  
**The Flying Saucer Story**  
**Unidentified Flying Objects**

Ed. Charles Bowen  
(published by Neville Spearman Ltd.)  
Jacques Vallée (Spearman)  
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Ivan T. Sanderson (Spearman)  
B. le Poer Trench (Spearman)  
Robert Chapman (Arthur Barker Ltd.)

# THE 'PARALLEL UNIVERSE' MYTH

A rehabilitation of the UFO as a method of interstellar exploration by the extraterrestrials of our universe

Dr. Jacques Lemaître

(Dr. Pierre Guérin)

Our contributor, author of *A Plan for Valensole* in our July/August issue, is a well-known physicist from Paris who has requested, with regret, that we do not reveal his identity. Hence "Jacques Lemaître" is a pseudonym. His article has been translated by Gordon Creighton.

IN a recent issue of *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* (Vol. 15, No. 4, p. 27) John Keel emphasised—and very rightly—the high proportion of UFO sightings relating to more or less transparent or translucent "objects" capable of changing shape or size at any moment, appearing luminous by night, and contrary to the idea that we have of space-craft—even of space-craft of a revolutionary type. On the other hand, the proportion of solid, apparently metallic, UFOs, obviously structured, having the appearance of machines and capable in some cases of leaving palpable traces upon the ground, is much lower than is the proportion of those of the first-mentioned type. Keel points out that the majority of Ufologists have tended however, until the present, to place the emphasis on the craft of this second type since these alone could furnish a rational backing for the extraterrestrial astronauts theory. As a result, these same Ufologists have been led to attribute the changing and at times immaterial seeming appearances of the "objects" of the first type to secondary effects (air ionisation, and so on) caused by the structured material machines assumed always to be located at the centre of the phenomenon.

Now, according to Keel, this interpretation is erroneous. The "objects" of the first type ("soft" sightings) are in the majority, and they are always described in the same way by witnesses in all parts of the world, while the machines of the second type ("hard" sightings) are in the minority and they are never exactly the same, in their details, from one case to another—despite the fact that they can be classed into three broad categories: (1) "saucers"; (2) egg-shaped objects, and (3) cylindrical or conical objects. Furthermore, the wave of 1897 in the USA was marked by the appearance of objects falling within neither of these categories and more reminiscent of dirigible balloons and craft with wheels similar to those of the 19th century human technology, while the waves of 1909 and 1934 produced UFOs reminiscent of aeroplanes. According to Keel, then, the "soft" sightings would thus seem to be the basic or fundamental phenomenon, and the "hard" sightings would be occasional materialisations—with forms varying from one case to another and in their degree of advancement over our own technology—of the first-named category. From this to claiming that the UFOs are *not* interstellar space-craft, but materialisations of psychic "forces" emanating

either from Man himself and auguring the future of Humanity, or from beings belonging to a "Parallel Universe", is but a step, and this is a step that a considerable number of Ufologists, like Keel himself, are beginning to take.

Generally speaking I agree with Keel as regards the facts, but not as regards the interpretation. It is perfectly correct that the primary phenomenon is the "soft" sighting. A typical example of this "soft" sighting category is the "great cloud cigar" ("grand cigare de nuées"), capable of changing from the cylindrical shape to the banana shape and vice versa, and lit up from within by night. It does not come from Interplanetary Space, and it takes shape *here*, in our atmosphere, just like those little isolated clouds which appear in a totally blue sky and which have sometimes been mentioned as dispersing again after a few minutes, and giving rise to a silvery disc accelerating and vanishing in a certain direction (see the case at Graulhet in the wave of 1954). The "great cloud cigar" too can give rise to classical types of structured machines that fly off, each on its own, over roads and farmsteads, and, when they find it necessary, land and permit paralysed witnesses to see their occupants.

The structured craft themselves can "vanish" on the spot, at low altitudes, as at Valensole in 1965. In at least one case, on November 2, 1968, in the Haute-Provence region of France (see *FSR Special Issue No. 3*), the "dematerialisation" on the spot occurred as though by a transfer of energy along a vertical luminous "force tube". Thus, the "hard" sightings unquestionably would appear to be temporary "materialisations" at the terrestrial atmosphere level, and the "soft" sightings can be regarded as one of the phases (perhaps not obligatory) in this materialisation. However it may be, if the UFOs were space-craft always retaining their solid material structure, we would observe them regularly when they were approaching or leaving the Earth, at the altitudes where our own artificial satellites are orbiting, and when they were caught by the light of the Sun. In fact, however, *such sightings have proved to be extremely rare*, despite the fact that UFOs have at times approached inhabited satellites or capsules. This absence of UFOs in the terrestrial exosphere has often been advanced by professional astronomers as ground for refuting the reality of the craft.



We can consequently conclude that *it is impossible to interpret the UFO phenomenon in terms of material space-ships as we conceive of the latter, i.e., in terms of manufactured self-propelled machines retaining their material nature and their mechanical structure to travel from one solar system to another by traversing the distance separating these systems in the Einsteinian Continuum.* (Four-dimensional Space-Time:  $x, y, z$ , and  $t$ , as revealed to us by our normal senses and by our measuring instruments, the Space-Time in which electromagnetic waves are propagated, the Space-Time of the astronomical universe.) Is this to say then that the UFOs are purely a creation (material or immaterial as the case may be) due to the psychism of Man or the psychism of entities belonging to some Parallel Universe? Is it to say that they are not the "means" for interstellar exploration used by the extraterrestrials of *our* Universe? I do not think so, and I shall now give my reasons for so doing. They can be reduced to a number of independent statements. It will suffice for us to link them up together.

(1) So far as I know, Parallel Universes are principally a creation of the authors of Science-Fiction and the latest discoveries in Physics have produced no concrete support for their existence.

(2) Everything leads us to think that, unless we are to parade the most obdurate form of Anthropocentrism—and incidentally one that is damned by all the successive discoveries of Science—our Earth is not the only place in the Universe possessing the attribute of Life, and that Life has appeared, is appearing, and will appear, on a considerable number of planets outside of our solar system. Modern Astrophysics teaches in fact that planetary systems are a natural by-product of the formation of Dwarf Stars, such as our Sun, which represent over 90 per cent of the total star population of our Galaxy.

(3) The Sun and the Earth have existed for  $4\frac{1}{2}$  thousand million years, and the evolution which, on our planet, has led to the emergence of Man has taken at least 4 thousand million years. Certain stars—and, consequently, the planets around them—are much older than the Earth, possibly by as much as several thousand million years. If, as an alternative to falling back upon Anthropocentrism, we accept that the evolutionary process of *all* life towards forms that are ever more complex and are endowed with the faculty of thought is a general law, then we perceive that there must exist, on certain planets beyond the Solar System, intelligent species that are as far ahead of us in the power of thought as we ourselves are ahead of the most elementary of terrestrial vertebrates. It goes without saying (though generally we find it excessively difficult to admit) that such a mental superiority as this over us must not at all be comprehended as a mere multiplication or extrapolation of our own present intellectual faculties, *but as an addition of "something else"*. Something else at a level about which we shall never be able to be explicit, and which we shall never be able to analyse until such time as we ourselves shall have mutated to a point beyond the species *Homo Sapiens*, since our present brain has not been conceived for such a task, just as the brain of a dog has not been conceived for propounding

(and, *a fortiori*, for solving) the problem of how an electric motor works . . .

(4) *Interstellar* journeys by means of space-ships retaining their material nature and their structure for travelling from one solar system to another by traversing the distances separating those systems in classical Space-Time, are a *physical impossibility* by reason of the immensity of the distances—incomparably vaster than the distances involved in interplanetary journeys. It is not a question here merely of a factitious impossibility, such as the impossibility of making something "heavier than air" fly at a time when aviation had not yet been born. The laws of Physics known in the 19th century (which are still true in the 20th century and will still be true in the 21st century) were not opposed to flight by something "heavier than air". What was opposed to it was simply the insufficient degree of development of our technology. But, on the other hand, what definitely *are* against interstellar journeys across Einsteinian Space-Time are the laws of Relativity, which are, *and will remain*, true in this Space *to which they apply*, and this will be so, whatever our future progress in Physics may be. No material object in movement in the Einsteinian Continuum can pass or even reach the speed of light, and it can be calculated that the energy required to take a space-craft to anywhere near this speed is far beyond the possibilities permitted by the theoretically most efficacious nuclear fuel, namely one that would effect the transformation of the total mass of the craft into energy, i.e. a combination of matter and anti-matter (in any case totally impossible in the present state of our technology and doubtless equally so for any future technology).

Now, to travel between solar systems tens or hundreds of light-years apart, it would be necessary to approach the speed of light, at the very least, so that the duration of the journeys, *measured aboard the craft*, would be sufficiently "contracted" (Langevin's paradox) to be carried out within the course of a human life. No source of energy obtained from the annihilation of mass will ever permit us to obtain this result. Even if entirely new sources of energy were found (at the sub-atomic level?) *there would still remain the insurmountable handicap of the limit set to the speed*, which would indeed permit the astronauts to perform their round-trip in a few years of local time (measured aboard the space-ship), but would cause them to find the Earth hundreds or even thousands of years older on their return!

(5) It thus appears clearly that the practical establishment of shuttle-journeys to and fro between the stars and exempt from the constraints of duration and power, *implies the crossing of a scientific stage that we have not reached yet*. This stage is the stage of taking a *short-cut* across another dimension of Space-Time, which would enable us to free ourselves from the need to traverse the measured trajectory in the Einsteinian Continuum. Such a solution might seem to smack of sheer utopianism were it not that, on the one hand, the study of *Psi* phenomena has already suggested to us long ago that such "short-cuts" exist and were it not that, on the other hand, present-day theoretical physicists have been led to postulate that the three dimensions of



Space, x, y, and z, are insufficient to account for the observed facts at the level of the elementary particles. The very fact that we are in a position to propound the problem (without being in the least bit capable of solving it) implies almost necessarily that Extraterrestrials in advance of us in the domain of thought have solved it long ago. Such is the stage to which we must reach in order to be able to "join the Galactic Civilisation".

(6) Such an intermediary passage through "another" dimension of Space (impossible to represent concretely with our senses) would obviously entail numerous consequences. As perceived by our senses and our physical receptors, it would be expressed at the outset by a disappearance (either progressive or abrupt—we do not know which) of the space-craft. This would be a disappearance out of regular Space-Time, comparable in fact to a dematerialisation. The reintroduction of the space-craft at another point in this Space-Time would appear as a materialisation. Naturally the machine thus materialised would have to be conceived equally for the purpose of travelling from one point to another by covering the whole of the trajectory between the two points, and it could use either of these two methods, according to the particular case, when flying near the surface of a planet. The study of UFOs has familiarised us already with behaviour of this kind.

On the other hand, we have stated above that *Psi* phenomena seem to involve short-cuts outside of the usual Space-Time. In fact, it has gradually become evident that *Psi* phenomena are not propagated by means of electromagnetic waves, and in order to interpret them we have sometimes been induced to postulate a flow of Time in two directions. So it would not be surprising if entry into another dimension for the purpose of exploring the Universe were to involve, at least in part, the controlled use of what we call *Psi* phenomena, and were consequently to imply a degree of mastery over the flow of Time of which we can have no conception.

The mention of such a mastery over Time leads us to the comparison of certain phenomena connected with mysticism, and in particular with belief in the immortality of the soul. The arrival on Earth of beings from the Cosmos, beings who, in order to do this, will have had to solve the problem of passing into another dimension of Space-Time, should logically be accompanied by a parapsychological interaction with the witnesses, with *Psi* phenomena linked with the functioning of the craft and manipulated by its occupants. In certain cases such an interaction might, at the level of the human psyche, involve implications of a religious or para-religious character. Here, again, the study of the UFOs has familiarised us with such very situations.

If someone were to describe the UFOs to me as manufactured rockets retaining their material appearance in all circumstances, I should find it extremely difficult to believe the witnesses, for such objects cannot, and never could, fly to the stars. But the UFOs that we are seeing are something quite different from that: *they are precisely what we ought to see if we were being visited by Extraterrestrials who had solved the problem of interstellar communications.* And it is for this reason that I

see absolutely no necessity for bringing in, in order to explain them, either the concept of an action by the human psyche on matter, or the idea of an interaction with hypothetical Parallel Universes.

Will we, ourselves, ever reach that stage that will enable us to be incorporated into the Galactic Civilisation? That is to say: shall we ever reach the point of mastering Space-Time and "building" UFOs? Some Spiritualists think so, though in general they admit that it could only be at the price of a veritable mutation in the human species. The fact that we should possess embryonic *Psi* faculties leads them to think that, by some form of training, we might be able to develop these faculties and so gain biological access to a higher level which would put us on an equal footing with the visitors from Space. As far as I myself am concerned, I should be inclined to think that such a mutation does not lie in any near future, unless it were surreptitiously imposed upon us, out of the night of time, by means of some sort of "manipulation" due to these visitors—a "manipulation" of which the UFO landings are merely the visible manifestation.

But my dignity as *Homo Sapiens*, conscious of his own greatness and at the same time assuming responsibility for his own carnal nature, makes an imposed mutation of this kind profoundly repugnant to me—even if it were in the name of some higher, cosmic, or indeed "Divine", "Truth".

I would rather have a wild wolf than a domesticated dog.

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# IN DEFENCE OF THE "E.T.H."

*Aimé Michel*

IT seems to me that certain English-speaking Ufologists have for some time been devoting particular attention to the irrational and "magical" aspects of the UFO Phenomenon and then concluding from it that the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis (ETH) ought to be abandoned.

For me this is astonishing. In fact, the irrational aspects have been known since the beginning of the 1950s. Not only is there nothing about these absurdities that should surprise us, but I have indeed always thought them to be inevitable if one accepted the extraterrestrial origin of the phenomenon. Any supposed exploration of Stellar or Galactic Space successfully achieved by a non-human race must in fact necessarily present *to our eyes* the appearance of magic, since such an exploration is itself impossible according to the code of our own Science and since any scientifically impossible fact is, if it occurs, bound to be miraculous. If, then, "they" are here, it is bound to be by means, and within a phenomenological framework that, *for us*, pertain to the enchanted realm of Fairyland. If the eye-witness accounts did *not* present this Phantasmagoria with which we are so familiar, I should not hesitate to become a disciple of Condon and Menzel, for I would not believe the witnesses. It is this irrationality in the eye-witness accounts that, around 1952, set me thinking for the first time that it was perhaps all true.

Of course, you can do without the ETH, just as you can do without any other theory. What Ufology needs is not theories, but correctly observed and correctly

described facts. Theorising is the easiest part of all, and the cheapest part of our research. Is it not however interesting to note that, among all the possible theories (and there are as many of them as you like), there is one, the ETH, whose end-result is the foreseeing of a body of evidence which precisely corresponds with the facts observed? Unless man is the only being in the Universe interested by the infinite mystery of space, and no science and no technology can ever go beyond the terrestrial science of 1969, it is inevitable that we should see flying saucers and that we should see them precisely as they are described, that is to say, absurd, elusive, fairy-like. As Jean Cocteau said to me in 1954: "What *would* be unbelievable is that they should **NOT** exist".

Having said which, I will not venture to deny that the UFOs can *also* come from a parallel universe, from the Kingdom of the Dead, from Magonia, or from the reservation where Santa Claus keeps the rows of toys that he puts in John Keel's shoes and in mine at Christmas-time. They must have something of the sort which they use for transit, since continuous movement through the Geodesics of Space-Time cannot explain their presence. I note merely, however, that, no doubt in order to cover up his tracks, Santa Claus always remains strictly faithful to the disguise anticipated by the ETH. And this reminds me of the solution proposed long ago for the Shakespeare problem by Jacques Bergier: in reality, he used to say, all the works attributed to Shakespeare were written by an impostor named Shakespeare.

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# THINKING ALOUD

An exercise in recapitulation designed to jog a few memories

Charles Bowen

FREQUENTLY I am asked—and quite often by people who read FSR—if I have any idea where UFOs come from and, indeed, if I can suggest what is happening. Not unexpectedly, and with a shrug, I reply to this: “Your guess is as good as mine.” Then, when they look puzzled, perhaps I relent by adding: “After more than twenty years of interest, and five years of very close association with the subject, I have tried to express my speculations in the columns of the REVIEW. If you have read FSR over the last three years or so surely you must have an idea what I suggest *could* be happening.”

Some have looked nonplussed at this, so I think the time has come for a short recapitulation of the instances when I have indulged in a little “thinking aloud”, especially since the publication of the first edition of *The Humanoids* in October, 1966. As far as I know, these speculations, and those of FSR consultants, have been read with interest by many readers. However, we must accept that there are those who may have missed certain items, or who may have failed to grasp the sequence of the build-up; there are also many new readers for whom I hope these words will serve as a useful guide.

The topic of UFOs is controversial for some folk, so it is not surprising that a few things that I or an occasional contributor have ventured have caused one or two eyebrows to be raised. It would be a dull world if everybody accepted everything that has been written, or said, without question.

It seems that the principal objections to so-called “unorthodox” views and ideas are aimed at suggestions that UFOs could come from some other unseen, barely sensed world of another level, alternate reality or “parallel universe”.

Discussion about this possibility has been entirely speculative, and has been recorded as such. Puzzled by the seeming inadequacy of a “bus-stop” extra-terrestrial theory, I for one have sought to find pointers to any other theory. Needless to say, newly emergent *ideas* have never been laid down as a hard line to be followed unswervingly, for my view is that FSR readers, being capable of thinking for themselves, would use new ideas merely as guide lines or talking points.

Furthermore, we have never abandoned old (although unproven) ideas: for any one of us to feel uneasy about the possibility that a cherished theory may not “fill the bill” does not constitute abandonment.

## A technology like “magic”

The main problem that I have been discussing with my colleagues and friends C. Maxwell Cade, G. Creighton, R. H. B. Winder, B. E. Finch and D. Lloyd,

is not simply where “they” come from—a fruitless quest—but *how* they make “contact”, and the apparent results of these activities. Naturally we can contrive to make such an assessment only in known physical terms. Nevertheless it is an interesting exercise, provided we do not forget Aimé Michel’s advice that an advanced technology would appear like magic to us, and therefore incomprehensible.<sup>1</sup>

With the recent human space exploits in mind, what of the dear old extraterrestrial visitation (“bus-stop”) theory? I find myself at one with those sceptics who cannot easily accept the idea that the “visitors” just hop into a “saucer” and pop down to planet Earth, only to hang around awhile, mapping the territory, collecting samples, and frightening the local inhabitants, before returning whence they come. Our collective studies have shown that UFO manifestations have been cropping up pretty regularly down the decades. Now, in common or garden Earth terms of time and space, the credibility of this “bus-stop” theory takes an even bigger knock from Aimé Michel’s persuasive suggestion that “they” may well have been plaguing our Stone Age ancestors (see pages 3 to 11) probably every bit as frequently as they do XXth Century man.

It seems to me to be stretching things beyond the limit to suggest that for 10,000, 20,000 or even 30,000 years “they” have been taking trips in this direction to keep an eye on us, but—and a big *but*, this—we must remember that those thousands of years are expressed only in *our* terms.

## Psychic-type projections?

One summer weekend in 1966, when I was preparing my contribution to *The Humanoids*,<sup>2</sup> my daughter Pauline and I were discussing features of the assembled British cases, and were comparing them with other well-known overseas incidents. We hit on the idea of “psychic-type projections” (into the minds of witnesses) generated by the interloping objects, perhaps either with a view to deterring human beings who happened upon them, or to experimenting with them. The idea was set down.

The arrival at this idea may have been a little haphazard, but once it was there, and long before the first issue of *The Humanoids* was even typeset, discussions on the feasibility of such projections were being had with Maxwell Cade. I was very encouraged by the things he had to say, and furthermore, he set about the planning of his excellent five-part series on possible alien intelligence and the ways in which it could have impact on the human race.

In the fourth part of the series<sup>3</sup> Mr. Cade alluded to our discussions, and looked ahead from the concept



that extraterrestrial visitors could have radars (like ours) which "... can listen out for our emanations and send back false signals to confuse our tracking stations." He asked if it could not be possible that "... they have equipment which can track our thoughts. The landing vehicle receives from a nearby group of humans some confused thoughts and emotions ('a flying saucer ... FEAR ... perhaps they are giants, or hairy monsters ...'). No sooner received than the reflected thought image is on its way. The human observers are met by just the type of alien creature they feared to meet."

It was encouraging to have a scientist of Mr. Cade's calibre writing this, but although I expected to dig among the records to find cases to illustrate the idea, it wasn't necessary, for the "waves" of 1967-68 provided incidents which enabled thoughts to range farther afield. In fact it was remarkable how easily the "parts" fitted together—so easily that, perhaps, one should have been wary! These ranged from reports in my locality of ghostlike, monster apparitions<sup>4, 5</sup> to reports of humanoid creatures appearing in houses,<sup>5</sup> and one with a near-landed UFO reported outside the house.<sup>6</sup> Flimsy evidence when considered alone, but clues which, with diligent research, could without doubt be substantiated time and time again among the tens of thousands of recorded cases.

#### The ins and outs of entities

The reported methods of egress and ingress of the alleged entities with relation to their vehicles makes an interesting study: it was a little thought on this aspect of their reported behaviour which provoked the idea of psychic-type projections. The news of the Pilar de Goias case<sup>7</sup>—and here I am concerned not with the death of one of the witnesses, but merely with the manner of appearance, behaviour and subsequent disappearance of the creatures—caused me to harken back to the description of the departure of Monsieur Masse's little acquaintances on the morning of July 1, 1965.<sup>8</sup> Instances of psychic-type projections from solid objects (probes?) otherwise engaged?

When one browses through the whole gamut of creature cases, contact reports, and even "contactee" cases,<sup>9</sup> the impression is conveyed that there is often a strange dreamlike quality about the alleged incidents, a quality very much present in the weird incident at Mendoza on September 1, 1968.<sup>10, 11</sup> May I reiterate the conclusion I appended<sup>10</sup> to my account of the case: "It is conceivable that the witnesses' car could have been stopped by the presence of a 'solid' object—the UFO—and that the rest of the story could have been implanted in the witnesses' minds by hypnosis, radiation, or some other form of induction. It is equally conceivable that the sighting of the object as well as of the creatures, and of all that transpired, could have been induced from afar, or from one of those enigmatic 'other levels'. Induced, too, with such intensity that the witnesses could be forced to inflict minor injuries on themselves, to damage their (prized?) vintage car, and to imagine the touch of the entities."

#### UFOs, psychic phenomena and the like

In the fifth, and concluding part, of his Alien Intelligence series,<sup>12</sup> Maxwell Cade demonstrated that UFOs

and poltergeists "... could be 'experienced', with completely convincing realism, due to the effects of electromagnetic fields ...". He went on to suggest that we should be prepared to accept that: "UFOs and poltergeists have something in common with other scientifically disreputable entities like werewolves, angels, ghosts, elementals, etc. Rather than discard all of these as 'unproven', why not admit the subjective reality of them?"

Mr. Cade concluded: "... there is evidence for both subjective impressions and objective physiological changes being produced or triggered by radiation in the decimetric or centimetric regions. This radiation could be either terrestrial or extraterrestrial in origin. It could be either a stochastic natural process or the planned product of an alien intelligence ... Perhaps anyone who has sought messages from other worlds than ours has been wrong only in that they were looking for messages of the wrong kind. Unfortunately, if communication is possible by the direct stimulation of minds with radiation, it is very difficult to see how we are to distinguish between messages and mania."

Views that the same author has brilliantly underlined in his most recent article for FSR, *Crypto-Sensory Response*.<sup>13</sup>

I have already made attempts to compress my version of our various ideas in *Interesting Comparisons* in the new version of *The Humanoids*,<sup>14</sup> and in *UFOs and Psychic Phenomena*.<sup>15</sup> It transpired that my allusion to the possibility (one among several) that UFOs could be reflections from another unseen "Parallel World" caused some fluttering in the doves. So perhaps we may look at this matter in another way.

#### Control?

As, after a fashion, I am thinking aloud, what are the chances that all UFO phenomena, psychic phenomena, poltergeists and ghosts, and even the legends of fairies and other elementals which have caused some of us to pause—the most recent, Dr. Jacques Vallée, in his new, and remarkable book *Passport to Magonia*<sup>16</sup>—are caused by the same thing ... radiation? Maxwell Cade, one of the top specialists in radiation medicine, has indicated not only that it can be done by means we are beginning to understand, but also that we ourselves are capable of doing it.

That being so I will pose a few highly speculative questions. Is the force that is the prime cause of all the kinds of phenomena which we observe, hear, or otherwise experience, located at a distance while—in order to control us "hypnotically"—it bombards us with a form of radiation? Is this why and how people all over the world see strange things and observe weird creatures, from little men to "mothmen"? Is this why they listen to verbose outpourings of cosmic philosophy, or to great dollops of gobbledygook, and contrive to remember them in minute detail? Is this why they see ghosts and creatures which walk through walls, hear things that "go bump in the night", converse with fairies or other elementals, and see clairvoyantly into the future? Is this how a very few people become psychic healers? Are just a few, for reasons unknown, permitted to glimpse beyond the veil? We may never know the answers to these questions, but if we are

prepared to accept that this *could* be happening, then our chances of understanding the problem will be far better.

This may not be so far-fetched as it sounds. We have long been aware of regular radio emissions from the regions of Jupiter, while much attention is being paid to the emissions from the enigmatic quasars. Other mysterious radio signals from beyond this planet's immediate vicinity have been discussed in FSR's pages by an active radio "ham".<sup>17</sup> Are these, or something like them, being used as a blanket control by alien entities?

In addition to the blanket control, it could also be possible for messengers, or "scout ships", or probes, to be sent here, covering their approach from radar's eagle eye, for example, by arriving as it were, through some tempic back door. (Such a thing, if it happened, could well be a vestige of the "magic" Aimé Michel writes about: I, in my unguarded way, have wondered if such a thing could be possible, and if so would it involve the fanciful magic of materialisations and dematerialisations, and even give rise to notions of "parallel universes" and the like<sup>6</sup>)

Once they have arrived in our airspace, robot (or "occupied") probes could deceive as to their intentions by projecting "all in the mind"-type manifestations in multitudinous forms. They could also go about their activities of making demonstrations to "receptive" humans, healing some of them and being kind to others, while deterring chance intruders upon their activities with reversed-beam type nightmares, or projected apparition of "little men". Elsewhere they could close the minds and harden the hearts of other humans (how well we know them!) while ensuring that the rest go unsuspectingly about their business.

One member of the FSR team once pondered the fact that most UFO visitations appear to occur during the hours of darkness. He asked: "Could the blighters be getting at our minds when they pass overhead while we're sleeping? Keeping their tabs on us?"

It was dear old Charles Fort who once posed the question: "Are we property?"<sup>18</sup>

Property? Control by radiation? A form of long-range hypnotism activated from afar, with or without

extraterrestrial visiting probes? May not this have been known by some other name down the ages? Here I suggest I stop thinking aloud before I find I'm venturing where "angels fear to tread".

However, I will make one final observation . . . that the very existence of the possibility of these ideas underlines the need that *every* aspect of this subject should be studied, that every fact should be recorded, that nothing—not even the most lurid or laughable contactee case—should be rejected without consideration. Everything may have its part to play in this perplexing subject, and although our chances are remote of ever getting to grips with it, and of understanding something wished on us by the possessors of a "magical" technology, we should at least try.

#### Notes

- <sup>1</sup> Michel, A. *The Problem of Non-Contact*. See *The Humanoids*, both FSR Special Issue No. 1, and the new, revised edition published by Neville Spearman Ltd., London.
- <sup>2</sup> Bowen, C. *Few and Far Between*. See *The Humanoids*, both versions.
- <sup>3</sup> Cade, C. M. *A Long Cool Look at Alien Intelligence*. Part IV, *Possible significance of Parapsychology in FSR* Vol. 13, No. 6, November/December 1967.
- <sup>4</sup> Bowen, C. *The Spectre of Winterfold*. FSR Vol. 14, No. 1, January/February 1968.
- <sup>5</sup> Bowen, C. *More Unusual Humanoids*. FSR Vol. 14, No. 3, May/June 1968.
- <sup>6</sup> Bowen, C. *Strangers about the House*. FSR Vol. 14, No. 5, September/October 1968.
- <sup>7</sup> Bowen, C. *A Fatal Encounter*. FSR Vol. 15, No. 2, March/April 1969.
- <sup>8</sup> Fouéré, R. (Ed.) *Phénomènes Spatiaux* G.E.P.A. investigator's account. September 1966 issue. (69 rue de la Tombe Issoire, Paris 14e, France.) See also *Interesting Comparisons* in the new Neville Spearman edition of *The Humanoids*.
- <sup>9</sup> The name *contactee*, in common usage in the literature of ufology, denotes the type of witness who claims to have had close, friendly contact with alleged UFO entities ("Spacemen") who give him messages, lecture him on cosmic philosophy, and take him for "rides", etc.
- <sup>10</sup> Bowen, C. *One Day in Mendoza*. FSR Vol. 14, No. 6, November/December 1968.
- <sup>11</sup> Bowen, C. *Softly, Softly in Mendoza*. FSR Vol. 15, No. 3, May/June 1969.
- <sup>12</sup> Cade, C. M. *A Long Cool Look at Alien Intelligence*. Part V, "It's all in the Mind", FSR Vol. 14, No. 2, March/April 1968.
- <sup>13</sup> Cade, C. M. *Crypto-Sensory Response*. FSR Vol. 15, No. 5, September/October 1969.
- <sup>14</sup> This section appears only in the Neville Spearman new version of *The Humanoids*.
- <sup>15</sup> Bowen, C. *UFOs and Psychic Phenomena*. FSR Vol. 15, No. 4, July/August 1969.
- <sup>16</sup> Vallée, J. *Passport to Magonia*. Published by Henry Regnery Co., Chicago.
- <sup>17</sup> Elliott, G. *Mysterious Radio Signals*. FSR Vol. 15, No. 2, March/April 1969.
- <sup>18</sup> Fort, C. *Book of the Damned*. Ace Books paperback version, p. 157. (Item quoted in full in FSR Special Issue No. 2, *Beyond Condon* . . .)

## NEW BOOKS

### A Surprise <sup>from</sup> for Dr. Vallée

GORDON CREIGHTON

FEW will realise what is in store for them when they take up the latest UFO book: **Passport to Magonia: from folklore to flying saucers**, by Jacques Vallée, published by the Henry Regnery Co., Chicago, October 1969.

Written by a scientist and astronomer, I imagine that this delightful book will come as quite a shock and a surprise to a good many people. Dr. Vallée is however careful to emphasise at the very outset what kind of work it is:

"This book is an attempt to build a bridge—a tenuous and fragile one—between a fancy and a myth.

It is not a scientific book. It could be called a philosophical book, if there were a philosophy of nonfacts. It is not a documentary, unless the dreams of children at play and the cries of women burned alive can be documented. Yet many lives have changed (secretly, unnoticeably sometimes), and, indeed, many innocents have been burned alive because of that fancy. This book is a tribute to all the people who dared preserve a dream."

*Passport to Magonia*—I will not spoil it for the reader by revealing where Dr. Vallée got his delicious title—is in fact a comparative study of the mediaeval myths and legends about sylphs and fairies, succubi and incubae, the "modern myth about flying saucer entities", and he has succeeded admirably in his purpose which was to indicate that these two bodies of myth and legend are in fact *one*. He has even shown precisely where A.V.B.'s story fits in!



Although Dr. Vallée does not mention this in the book, I know that the hint which set him off rummaging in realms so different from those dealt with in his previous books was a passage in my own section of *THE HUMANOIDS* where (p.30 of the original FSR edition, p.83 of the newly issued book) I wrote as follows:

"We pride ourselves nowadays on our enlightenment but, as Gurdjieff was always pointing out, it looks as though, *for every new piece of knowledge that Man acquires, ten pieces of old knowledge are lost*. I hope one day to show that there is much evidence that *some* of what we nowadays call "beings from flying saucers" are much more probably creatures who share this Earth with us; creatures who are totally unknown to most of us; regarding whom Science has not a single word to say; but about whom our own written and oral traditions, in all our civilizations, speak volumes."

Dr. Vallée at once perceived to what I was referring and mentioned it in a letter to Charles Bowen, and he has used his recent sojourn in Europe to hunt down some truly remarkable material from mediaeval ecclesiastical and monastic sources and from the strange twilight world of Celtic myth and legend.

*Passport to Magonia* is thus in large measure the book that I would have hoped to write had I the time and the opportunity, but it is a very good thing that not I but Vallée has done it, for I confess that I doubt very much whether I should ever have had the luck to find such gems. He has done a wonderful job.

From what I have said it will be clear, I hope, to all those UFO buffs whose strict predilection is for hardware that has travelled X light-years in its anxiety to seek us out, that the traveller embarking for Magonia bears no ticket stamped for any destination in Outer Space. His journey, rather, is towards that other bourn that lies just behind Alice's looking-glass—the "Alternate Reality" so dear to the hearts of Allen H. Greenfield and John Keel.

Maybe because he is a scientist and has his reputation to think of, Dr. Vallée does not seem to go so far as I personally would have done towards drawing all the logical conclusions, and some may think that he breaks off and leaves matters very much in mid-air. But his book is a marvellous new addition for our shelves, and I predict that it will become a classic in its own way.

Moreover it closes on a very practical note, with *A Century of UFO Landings*, Dr. Vallée's most valuable résumé of no less than 923 cases that he has found in the century running from July 1, 1868, to November 22, 1968. This list too is destined to become a classic and a most handy compendium for any serious student of our maddening subject.

The price of this book is \$6.95

### What's Good for Spacemen

**W**AS God an Astronaut? That question roared from the headlines of the *Sunday Mirror* when that newspaper serialised a book which has now appeared on the bookstalls: *Chariots of the Gods?* by Eric von Däniken, published by Souvenir Press, 190 pages, price 30s.

The book is illustrated, and FSR readers will recognise some of the photographs at once, for they have on occasion appeared in the pages of *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. Indeed, Mr. von Däniken speculates along a line which is all too familiar to ufologists. His line thrusts its way through Biblical sources, archaeological records, ancient writings and folklore, and prompts him to imply that extraterrestrials landed here frequently in the dim, prehistoric past. It is even suggested that they may have controlled human beings, and conducted breeding experiments with them.

Many interesting mysteries crowd their way into Mr. von Däniken's text; much of what he says has been said already by, among others, W. Raymond Drake, both in this *REVIEW*, and in his books *Gods and Spacemen* and *Spacemen in the Ancient East*, which have been accorded no publicity. As for some of those illustrations I mentioned earlier, these accompanied Gordon Creighton's article *A Russian wall painting and other 'Spacemen'* (FSR July/August 1965) in which he brought the big guns of his scholarship to bear on the wild claims of many who enthusiastically misinterpreted ancient representations of sun gods as "helmeted spacemen" and so on. Perhaps some of Mr. von Däniken's suggestions qualify for similar criticism: what's good for certain ufological "spacemen" should also be good for a few godlike astronauts. Nevertheless there are many other engaging ideas in this book, and also a short, objective presentation of the UFO mystery, knowledge of which the author seems to have acquired without any reference to the serious literature on the subject. So, unhappily, hundreds of thousands remain in ignorance of the existence of that literature, although we have the satisfaction of knowing that Mr. von Däniken has made them pause, and think. What's more, he will captivate many thousands more, which is a good thing.

CHARLES BOWEN

## AAAS SYMPOSIUM ON UFOs

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who, until his contract expired in the summer of 1969, was US Air Force Civilian Scientific Consultant on UFOs for more than 20 years, writes to say that an important meeting on the subject of UFOs will be held in Boston, Mass., on December 26 and 27. The Symposium has been arranged by a Special Committee of the AAAS under the chairmanship of Dr. Thornton Page.

Speakers will be Messrs. Walter Orr Roberts, Thornton Page, Franklin Roach, William Hartmann, Robert Hall, Douglass Price-Williams, Lester Grinspoon, J. Allen Hynek, James E. McDonald, Donald H. Menzel, R. M. L. Baker, Jr., Kenneth R. Hardy, Carl Sagan, Frank Drake, Walter Sullivan and Philip Morrison.



# SHAPE-CHANGING UFO

L. Harris

Our contributor, a regular reader of *Flying Saucer Review*, is a member of the Cosmic Research Group, a UFO study organisation active in Bournemouth.

THE following report has recently come to my notice and I thought it may be of some interest to FSR readers.

One evening in October, 1967, about ten friends were returning from a fishing trip at Portland, Dorset. They were travelling in separate cars, the last one being occupied by a Mr. L. Druce, and his brother-in-law, Mr. George, whom Mr. Druce was teaching to drive.

## "Auto stop"?

It was dusk as they were passing through the village of Lytchett Minster, when Mr. George noticed an object hovering over St. Peter's Finger Garage (Fig. 1).

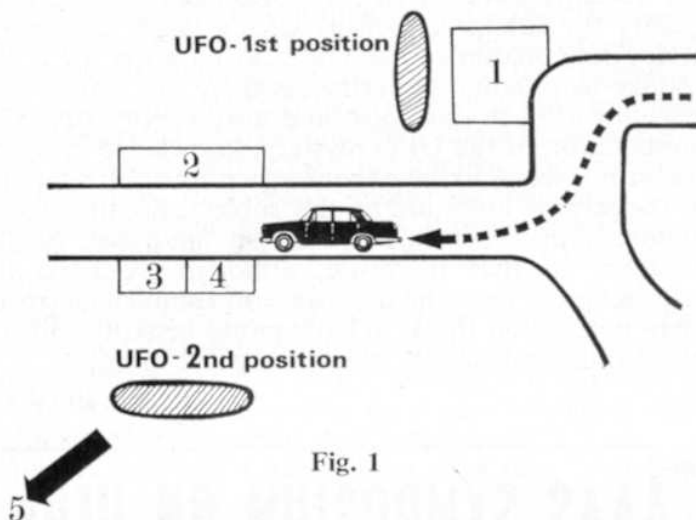


Fig. 1

The car's engine stalled (Mr. George is quite certain that he did not stall it, for at the time he was cruising in top gear) and Mr. George drew the attention of his brother-in-law to the object.

Mr. Druce estimated the object to be about 200ft. up. It was cigar-shaped (Fig. 2), and about 70ft. long. Mr. Druce describes it as being coffee-brown, with yellow lights of regular shape along its length, giving the impression of observation windows.



Fig. 2

By this time several other cars had stopped, and the object was observed for about five minutes. Then Mr. Druce and his brother-in-law became rather scared, so they re-entered the car, and drove on. The object had now risen higher in the sky, and kept pace with them, crossing the road en route.

When they reached the Oasis Cafe, farther along the

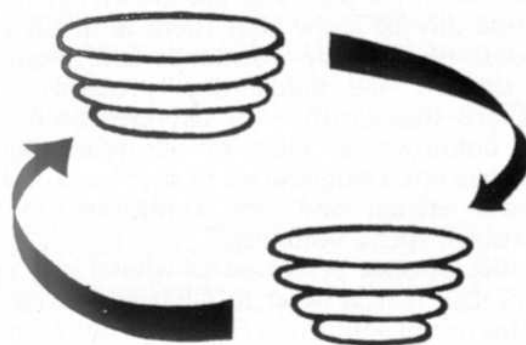


Fig. 3

road, they stopped the car again. The object stopped also, hovering over the police houses opposite the cafe. Mr. Druce ran into one of the police houses, but when he returned with a police officer, the object had vanished. He was about to assure the officer that it *had* been there, when it reappeared, this time in a totally different form. It was a blaze of coloured light; Mr. Druce clearly saw red, green, yellow, blue, etc., in "bands" of colour. By this time the sky was completely dark.

## Split in two parts

After a couple of minutes the policeman went into the other police house, and returned with another police officer. They all watched the object for some minutes, then a strange thing happened. The glowing object split into two sections; one section went beneath the other, and rejoined; thus the object took on a totally different shape (Fig. 3). After this manoeuvre, the object vanished for a moment, then reappeared. About two minutes later, it began to move away, slowly at first, then disappeared very swiftly, as if travelling at phenomenal speed.

The police officers took statements from Mr. Druce and Mr. George, but neither heard any more of the matter.

During the sighting Mr. Druce experienced weakness in his legs, and rising hair on his arms. During their journey home Mr. George was sick.

Since this occasion, Mr. George has seen a large orange ball "four times the size of a dinner plate" crossing the sky near Old Harry Rocks, Studland, Dorset. And in the evening of September 25 last, a stationary yellow "scratch" in the sky, appearing to be one inch wide, and eighteen inches long.

Mr. Druce, formerly a sceptic of all UFO phenomena, now devoutly believes that we are being visited by extraterrestrial spacecraft.

Sketches based on drawings made by Mr. Druce

# World round-up

of news and comment  
about recent sightings

## ENGLAND

### Huge orange UFO

In a letter to the Editor of the *West Cumberland Times* of May 31, 1969 (name and address of sender was withheld) we learn of an unusual sighting on May 24:

"I am curious to know whether any of your readers were travelling on the Carlisle to Cockermouth road in the early hours of Saturday morning, and saw what I can only describe as an Unidentifiable Flying Object.

"I was driving along at Moota when a large orange object, the size of a dinner plate to the naked eye, appeared from the Keswick direction, hovered and stopped. I stopped the car and with my four passengers kept watch. After a few minutes it appeared to travel for a short distance in the direction from which it had arrived. I proceeded towards Cockermouth, when once again it travelled towards the car, hovered and stopped. I again stopped the car, and watched. After several minutes it set off at a leisurely speed and disappeared into some clouds, again in the Keswick direction."

### Tunbridge Wells UFO

The *Kent & Sussex Courier* of August 15, 1969, told the story of a commuter's sighting from a train on Thursday, August 7:

"For fully half an hour while travelling by train from Tunbridge Wells to Hastings last week, Mrs. Joan Fuller, a Tunbridge Wells bank employee, watched a 'silver, cylindrical' object in the sky.

Mrs. Fuller caught her usual train, the 6.18 p.m. from Central Station, on her way home on Thursday night. She looked out of the window and saw the unidentified flying object hovering in the sky between Tunbridge Wells and Wadhurst.

"I watched it for about half an hour, and even looked out of the window to make quite sure it wasn't a shadow," said Mrs. Fuller, who has been commuting to Tunbridge Wells from her home at Bexhill-on-Sea for the past 10 years.

"It was about the size of a jet—and at about the same height," recalled Mrs. Fuller, who says she could not tell it if was moving because of the movement of the train.

"A police spokesman said there had been no other reports of sightings."

### Isle of Wight mystery

The following report was sent in by reader L. Scammell of East Knoyle, Wilts.:

"At 6.10 p.m. on July 30, 1969, from a boat 2 miles south of the Needles, Isle of Wight, in clear sunny weather, a very bright light was seen to the east against the background of St. Catherine's Down (12 miles away) at a level just below the crest. It appeared to come nearer while displacing slightly to the left, i.e. as if on a westerly course to pass north of the observer. Through powerful field-glasses it was seen as a circular disc of uniform and steady orange light with an indistinct darker elongated body behind it which was not visible to the naked eye. Comparison with the height of the cliff at St. Catherine's Down through the binoculars indicated that *if at that distance* the diameter was about 15ft. (i.e. about 1/4—1/5 the height of the cliff).

"The explanation at first assumed was that it was a helicopter carrying a horizontal spot-light, but assuming such a spot-light to have a diameter of (at most) 18in. this would imply that the machine was so close (i.e. hardly more than a mile) as to be clearly seen in all detail and also clearly audible. There was no noise.

"Another explanation considered was a reflection on a car-windscreen travelling inland, but this was ruled out by the orange colour, its uniformity over the whole disc, the absence of any flash or glitter, and the perfect regularity of the disc. A reflecting windscreen was found on another point of the coast immediately afterwards, and examined through the glasses: the light was white, irregular in intensity and shape, varied with the movement of the boat, and was easily recognisable.

"After about 3 minutes the light dwindled and disappeared: through the binoculars the dwindling appeared to be of a kind that suggested that the object was turning away north and that the light derived from a relatively flat plane and not from a sphere, i.e. as if a distant car head-light turned away. As the light failed I expected to see the dark indistinct shape that carried it more clearly on its new course, but to my surprise this faded with the light.

"Two witnesses.

"The 'defect' in this report seems to me to lie in the fact that the light seen at horizon-level was a perfect disc of large radius. Since a saucer is not usually seen for a long period in a completely vertical plane one would have expected an ovoid shape for a light from this source."

### Willian "willies"

From the *Herts. and Beds. Citizen* of August 1, 1969, we learn that:

"A 23-year-old Letchworth artist and his American girl-friend . . . claim they saw three flying saucers over the village of Willian early on Sunday morning (July 27).

"Mr. David James, formerly of 8 Sherwood, on the Grange estate, said on Wednesday that they watched one 'saucer' hovering about the sky for nearly two hours.

"After leaving a friend's house they were walking along Letchworth Lane near the golf club at about 3 a.m. when Dana Cousins saw 'a vivid ball of light.'

"Dana, also 23, from California, said: 'I thought it was a star at first, but then I noticed the colouring. It was made of extremely bright silvers and gold. I've never seen such a beautiful thing.'

"It was hovering about a tree—then less than a minute later it started moving slowly towards them, she said.

"David, a former Norton School pupil, said: 'I panicked. Then I saw a car coming. I tried to flag it down, but it didn't stop. That was hardly surprising at that time of the morning. It was a pity, though, because we wanted somebody else to see it too.'

"David claimed that as he 'panicked' the 'saucer' retreated, taking up its previous position above the tree.

"At this stage Dana noticed two other 'saucers.' They seemed to be 'very high up,' whereas the first one seemed to be 'no more than a few hundred feet high.'

"David said: 'It is extremely difficult to assess exactly how far away it was and how high. Because of this we couldn't really assess its size.'

"After about two hours they saw the first 'saucer' begin to move upwards, 'presumably to join the other two.'

"People have suggested that it was probably some sort of hallucination, but it can't have been," said David.

'We both saw them—and neither of us had been drinking.'

Credit to **Ian B. Wright** of Letchworth, who added the following note: "This report is of more interest when it is learned that about four or five months previously a Miss Gillian Smith of Letchworth and her fiancé had a similar late night sighting, about a mile from this spot. Again, a similar sighting was reported in the same newspaper in August 1965 at a place less than a mile from Willian. It may not go amiss to observe that Letchworth is approximately on the continuation of the Southend-Rovigo orthotonic line suggested by Aimé Michel."

## AUSTRALIA

### UFO report from Wagga

From the Sydney *Sun-Herald* of May 18, 1969, we read how:

"A glowing 'flying saucer' descended and hovered over the Riverina in the early hours of this morning, several people reported today.

"It was seen by eight people six miles apart.

"Reports said it hung 500ft. above a lonely paddock where Mr. Lindsay Dillon was driving a tractor on an all-night shift.

"The owner of the property, Mr. Tony Hocking, arrived a few minutes later to relieve Mr. Dillon, and also saw the object.

"Both men drove to their homes terrified about 4.15 a.m.

"Mr. Dillon roused his wife and some neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. John Hynes.

"Mr. Hocking woke his 16-year-old brother, Peter, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bark.

"From their homes six miles apart a few miles west of Deniliquin, all claimed to have watched the object for about half an hour before it finally disappeared.

"They reported the sighting to Deniliquin police, and a police officer said: 'Apparently this is fair dinkum. I know Hocking.'

"Mr. Dillon said: 'It came across the trees glowing completely white, then remained stationary above the tractor. Its colour changed to flashing red and green, and it was there for about five minutes. When Tony Hocking came it shot up to about 1,000ft. and changed to white again.

"I've never been so scared before. I was shaking with fear as I drove home."

"Tony Hocking said: 'What stuck in my mind was the tremendous brightness of this thing, and its speed. It was so bright it was almost dazzling. When it went behind a cloud it lit up the cloud. I couldn't

estimate how fast it travelled, but it was certainly faster than a Boeing jet.'" Credit: **J. R. Lawrence** of St. Kilda, Victoria.

## FRANCE

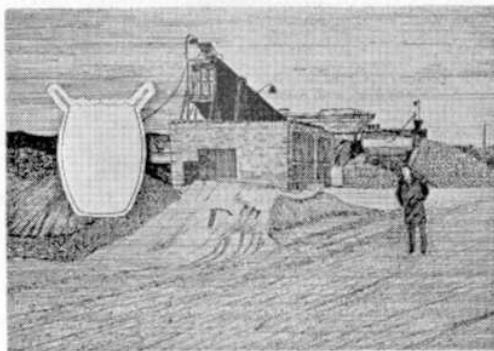
### Urn-shaped object in Montélimar

Monsieur Guéritault, a representative of *Lumières dans la Nuit*, investigated a report of an unusual object seen in southern France earlier this year. His lengthy and detailed report appeared in LDLN issue No. 101 (August 1969) and Gordon Creighton has extracted the following account for the benefit of FSR readers:

"On March 14, 1969, at about 7.50 or 8.00 p.m., Monsieur Manselon, aged 37, owner of a gravel pit at Malataverne, canton of Montélimar, Departement of Drôme, saw a strange urn-shaped object hovering at about 1½ metres from the ground in the gravel-pit. It was eight or nine metres from him, and shaped as shown in the sketch. Its colour was a vivid white, but not dazzling. He estimated its height at 2 metres and its width at 1½ metres.

"Surprised by the object, he found himself immobilised. He tried to retreat, and then to advance, and finally to call out, but all was in vain.

"He remained there observing the object for what he estimates to have been about one minute. At its upper corners, as the sketch shows, it had two 'antennae', which were much brighter than the other portions of the object. He heard no sound from it, and was unable to say whether it had suddenly arrived there in front of him, or had already been there for some time without being illuminated.



Scene reconstructed by F. Largarde

"Among the details which he noticed are the following: The edges of the object were all very sharply and clearly outlined except for the top, which was hazy and indistinct. The object did not light up the surroundings, so that he could not see the ground below or around it. The light emitted

from it did however seem to him to be pulsating slightly and very rapidly. No structural or other details were to be seen on the object. He felt no pricking or tingling sensation, nor were his eyes dazzled or unpleasantly affected.

"Finally the object began to rise straight up into the air, very slowly (at about 4 to 5 kms. p.h., he thought) and as it went up he felt the "paralysis" leaving him. When it had reached a height of about 8 or 10 metres, it tipped over on to its side, and suddenly 'went out, just like a light going out'. All this time he had heard not a sound, and felt nothing apart from the paralysis. He was now overcome by fear and started to tremble, and then ran to one of the huts in the gravel pit, where one of his men had just gone to turn off the power for the night.

"Inspecting the terrain next day, M. Manselon found no marks or traces left by the object. He was wearing no watch. There were no reports of interference with TV or radio in the area at the time. One of LDLN's investigators took the pull-over which M. Manselon had been wearing and had it checked for radio-activity but the result was negative. (This was, however, twelve days after the event.)

The investigator found no traces of magnetism at the spot under the area where the object had been seen, but he did find the mechanical digger, which was about 65 metres from where the object had been, quite magnetized (though this, in the opinion of LDLN, may well have been due to static). Monsieur Manselon's dog was taken to the spot on the same day as these tests were made (March 27). The dog showed no strange reaction at the spot over which the object had hovered but did behave queerly at a spot behind the digger, where for about five minutes he remained, turning round and round in a circle about three or four metres in diameter. Two days later, taken back to the spot, the dog no longer acted in this strange manner.

"Monsieur Manselon felt no unusual effects during the following days.

"A number of other people who were found and interviewed said that they had also been the object, and there was a similar sort of sighting five days later in the same region when, at a place about 8 km. south of Malataverne, at least half a dozen people said they had seen either a sort of orange 'vertical cylinder' stationary in the air, with flames shooting out of its base, or a stationary white ball with flames coming from below."



### Disappearing motorcyclists

From *Lumières dans la Nuit* No. 100 (July 1969) we learn of the remarkable account, sent to that journal by a Mme. Porta, of a "non-UFO" incident alleged to have occurred more than thirteen years ago:

"At 11.50 on the morning of August 22, 1956, I was riding my moped along Route No. 115 from Le Boulou to Céret when I was passed by an enormous and absolutely silent nickel-plated motor-bicycle. It was carrying two passengers lavishly dressed in blouses of a sort of fawn-coloured shiny satin-like material or watered silk. They were wearing gloves, closely sealed helmets, black or dark blue trousers, and tight stiff-looking half-length boots up to the middle of the calf.

"Then I was overtaken by another motor-bicycle absolutely identical with the first. Then, at a point about 500 metres further on the two machines stopped, right in the middle of the road, behind a bend, and blocked my way. I hooted to them to let me by. But in vain. I was obliged to pass them on the extreme left—a very tight squeeze, for their machines were enormous, of absolutely unusual size.

"The two pairs of riders were turned towards each other, as though they



Sketch by P. Lacroix

were talking, but as I came up level with them all four turned round to stare at me.

"Their faces were totally hidden by big smoked glasses, and neither their cheeks nor their chins were visible. The helmets did not have the usual chinstrap.

"I was very shaken. About ten metres further on I looked back. They had vanished without a sound.

"I remained shaken by it all that day. In the evening, at 7.25 p.m., as I was returning, a very bright point of light, with a metallic gleam and of the size of a distributor cap, seemed to be on the slopes above Le Perthus. Some

motorists stopped to look at it. It remained there for 4 or 5 seconds and then disappeared. When I reached home, my son told me that green balls had travelled through the sky at Le Boulou at about 5.30 p.m."

(Witness interviewed and report written by Mr. Vidal. Sketch of entities and their "motor-bicycles" by M. Philippe Lacroix for LDLN to whom we are indebted for permission to reprint this case.)

[Note by Editor of FSR: This report calls to mind the curious case of the mystery vehicle, with no windows, no lights, no number plates and no reflectors, said to have passed Mr. Ian Hann on the Bath-Stroud road in the West of England at over 60 m.p.h. one night in the autumn of 1965 and to have vanished ahead of him in a cloud of yellow smoke. (See FSR, March/April 1966, p.35, "UFO takes to the Cotswold roads").

Various writers, including John Keel and Coral Lorenzen, have mentioned evidence that, perhaps as a disguise, alien beings may be developing aircraft or ground vehicles very similar to our own existing types of machines.

Le Boulou: in the extreme S.E. of the French Pyrenees. (Lat. 42° 33' N., Long. 2° 50' E.).

## MAIL BAG

### Can You Beat This?

Dear Sir,—Library users will be encouraged to hear that many librarians are beginning to stock up on UFO material. When I checked the records of Erith public library recently I was delighted to find the following titles listed for borrowing: "The Case for UFOs", M. K. Jessup; "Flying Saucers From Outer Space", Donald Keyhoe; "My Contact With Flying Saucers", Dino Kraspedon; "Flying Saucers Have Landed", Desmond Leslie and George Adamski; "Flying Saucers", Donald H. Menzel; "Flying Saucers & The Straight Line Mystery", Aimé Michel; "Flying Saucers & Commonsense", Waveney Girvan; "Space, Gravity & Flying Saucers", Leonard G. Cramp, and "Uninvited Visitors", Ivan T. Sanderson. Anne Dooley, Southend Close, Eltham, SE9.

[That's just about the best I've encountered. If Mrs. Dooley will see to it that they acquire "The Humanoids", "Anatomy of a Phenomenon" (J. Vallée), "Challenge to Science" (J. and J. Vallée), "The Flying Saucer Story"

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.

(B. le P. Trench) and "The Scoriton Mystery" (E. Buckle) the list will be almost complete, and very good publicity for the subject too! At my local West Byfleet Library they have "Anatomy", but pressure is being brought to bear to improve on that. At Woking, three miles away, they used to have Waveney's book, but that's disappeared; I'll see what my friends can do. We can't let Eltham win as easily as that! But, perhaps there are some libraries even better stocked on the subject than Eltham.—EDITOR.]

### That cloud-like UFO

Dear Sir,—I refer to your January/February report of a South African Cloud-Like UFO—said to have been seen over South Africa in July 1968.

I think that it was a cloud, yet there are one or two features that I should like to think could be explained further.

It was first seen by several others and myself at about 6.30 p.m. (I write from memory and not from notes made at the time). It attracted attention because it appeared luminous, and came overhead with what could have been the

speed of a drifting cloud, moving from the south-west, staying in view for some 10 to 15 minutes. It was not noticed by us until it was fairly high above the horizon and expanded as it came over. Clearly transparent (stars were visible through it). No other clouds in the sky (typical for this region in July). When almost overhead it measured approximately the span of my hand at arm's length. One had the impression that it was not so dense at the centre—rather as though someone was blowing gigantic smoke rings, yet it was not American doughnut shape. I do not think the apparent expansion was due to the way in which an object grows in size as it nears one; even when nearly overhead it seemed to be growing. But not knowing its literal size it was impossible to make any estimate of true height. One was left with the impression of a cloud drifting across at 20,000-25,000ft. (or less), but not natural since the object was definitely circular.

Explanations came in papers some days later—and what was seen by us

(continued on iv of cover)