

which had not been adequately explained. There was a need to investigate these and they constituted an unsolved scientific problem as there were no answers under current hypotheses.

As a result, the motion from the Symposium was favoured. The next step was to examine the feasibility of establishing investigation into and the appointment of scientists to look into the UFO problem, provided the money was available. ANZAAS would be prepared to appoint scientists from

over Australia to do this research.

Tapes and papers available

I am able to offer a package deal on the Symposium: one tape of the full proceedings (9.00 a.m.-5.30 p.m.), either two-track at 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ ips or four-track at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ips, plus a copy of the Symposium condensed papers and Professor James McDonald's papers (86 quarto pages in all), at a cost of \$A17 (seventeen dollars, Australian), including postage. These can be purchased from me at the address below:

Owen Davis

25 Hyland Terrace
Rosslyn Park
South Australia 5072
Australia

Incidentally, Professor McDonald had been invited to present a paper at the Symposium, but unfortunately his untimely death occurred. His papers are: "Science in Default; 22 Years of Inadequate UFO Investigations" (presented at 1969 A.A.A.S. Symposium in Boston) and "Meteorological Factors in Unidentified Radar Returns" (Tuscon, 1970).

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Artwork by Terence Collins

SEARCH FOR LIFE IN SPACE

By ANNEISE SCHULZ
in Vienna

INTELLIGENT beings very likely existed outside the solar system and had probably been in interstellar communication with each other for "aeons," a scientist told a conference yesterday.

One day Earth might join these galactic communities and profit as the youngest form of intelligent life from them, he declared.

Dr Bernard Oliver, an American, speaking on the last day of the Astronautical Conference in Vienna, reported on the country's Cyclops project.

A boost for the little green men

From
MICHAEL JEFFRIES

VIENNA, Saturday. EXISTENCE in space of other intelligences and civilisations is so likely that scientists should now mount a serious major listening programme for their radio signals. This is the main conclusion of a report to be published shortly by NASA, the American Space Agency.

It is based on the results of Project Cyclops, believed to be the most comprehensive study of the possibilities of extra-terrestrial intelligence in recent times.

This 100,000-dollar investigation, carried out under the auspices of NASA and the American Society for Engineering Education, has just been completed.

Dr Bernard Oliver, of America's Stanford University, gave the first details here of the research programme he headed to the International Academy of

Astronautics' meeting on communication with extra-terrestrial intelligence—CETI.

Sceptics too are in for a shock. New discoveries in astronomy and biological sciences in the last 30 years—particularly the belief that amino acids, the precursors of life can form in the evolutionary process of our galaxy—are changing the emphasis of the arguments.

Dr Oliver who is also vice-president for research and development of the Hewlett

Packard firm, Colorado, told scientists: In all likelihood intelligent civilisations have existed in the galaxy for four or five thousand million years.

"It seems very probable that many of these have established interstellar contact. If so, then communication has been taking place between civilisations for eons, and beacons may well exist to help young races, such as ourselves, to join this galactic community." He calls it our "galactic heritage."

UFO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM UMKOMAAS

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NASA URGES SPACE LISTENING 'WATCH'

Page 8

Edited by CHARLES BOWEN

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

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page ii of cover

RALLYING POINT

THE disclosure that Dr. J. Allen Hynek's book *The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry* is to be published in the United Kingdom at the end of October,* was followed by news of a very favourable review of the book in the columns of the American journal *Science*.† The author of the review, entitled "Reopening the Question," is Dr. Bruce C. Murray of the Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

Dr. Hynek, chairman of the Department of Astronomy of Northwestern University and director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center, was scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force investigatory group "Project Blue Book," an appointment which terminated, as Dr. Murray points out, presumably in response to Dr. Condon's statement that "... further extensive study of UFOs probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science will be advanced thereby." That was one of the conclusions of the head of the U.S. Air Force-sponsored UFO study published in January 1969, and the *Science* reviewer demonstrates that *The UFO Experience* is "... Hynek's version of what the Condon Report should have been, interlaced with stinging criticism of the study on which it reported."

Dr. Murray observes that Dr. Hynek's definition of a UFO is not only an object or light seen in the sky (or upon the land) whose appearance and behaviour mystify its observers, but also one that ...

remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all available evidence by persons who are technically capable of making a common sense identification if one is possible

... whereas Dr. Condon defined a UFO as the stimulus for a report made by one or more individuals of something seen in the sky (or an object thought to be capable of flight, but seen when landed on Earth) which puzzled the observer sufficiently that he reported it. Thus, says Dr. Murray, Condon's UFO is Hynek's *UFO report*, and includes a "vast population of uninteresting misidentifications of stars, planets, airplanes, balloons ..." and so on. "Condon's UFOs" continues the reviewer, "are dominated by what can be explained away, whereas those of Hynek are limited to what cannot."

Later in his article Dr. Murray points out that the Condon approach, greatly criticised by Dr. Hynek, was to evaluate UFO reports as to whether or not they constituted evidence of extraterrestrial visitation to Earth. He suggests that the Condon approach conceivably reflected an (unconscious) desire to make the UFO problem vanish altogether from scientific jurisdiction rather than attempt to isolate possible new empirical observations.

Noting Dr. Hynek's criticism that about one-quarter of the cases selected by Dr. Condon remain unexplained ("a seemingly significant fact not explained by Condon"), Dr. Murray discusses the six observational classes into which Dr. Hynek divides his 80 example cases. These have been discussed already in the pages of *Flying Saucer Review* (Vol. 18, No. 3); suffice it to say

* Publisher: Abelard-Schuman (UK) Ltd., on October 26, 1972.

† Issue of August 25, 1972; vol. 177, pages 688, 689.

that in the *Science* article Dr. Murray makes some revealing observations on the classification "Close-Encounters of the Third Kind" (in which humanoid figures are reported) when he notes that "Hynek obviously feels uncomfortable" about including them "because of the 'little green men' implications." Any kind of Close-Encounter is bizarre, states Dr. Murray, so why rule out just the most bizarre? He asks: "Is Hynek afraid of the apparent implications of his own analysis—namely that all the UFO phenomena really may be related to the Close-Encounters and perhaps to flying saucers and little green men?" and continues: "... a staggering implication that drove the late James E. McDonald of the University of Arizona to actual belief in extraterrestrial visitation ..."

The *Flying Saucer Review* team members have known Dr. Allen Hynek for a good many years, and we hasten

to assure readers that he is *not* afraid of such an implication, and does not suffer from an aversion to humanoid reports. We feel that he trod warily on the subject of "Close-Encounters of the Third Kind" as the book was aimed primarily at a non-UFO orientated, sophisticated scientific audience: his view has always been that the facts would speak for themselves.

In his conclusion Dr. Murray states that the Hynek "defence of UFOs, as a valid, if speculative, scientific topic, is more credible than Condon's attempt to mock them out of existence" and is an "... articulate challenge to his colleagues to tolerate the study of something they cannot understand."

Dr. Murray's article is a heartening appraisal, in an unexpected quarter, of a valuable book: together they will go down in history as a rallying point in our subject.

BAD PUBLICITY

THE claims of the Brazilian farmer, Antônio Villas Boas, constitute one of the more important cases in the annals of our subject. After careful study of the reports, and further correspondence and discussions with investigators who had met the claimant—first of all Dr. Walter Buhler, and more recently the main investigator, the late Dr. Olavo T. Fontes—*Flying Saucer Review* put the case on record in January/July 1965, and, in full detail, in 1966-67. In addition the report appears in full in the Neville Spearman and Henry Regnery editions of *The Humanoids*. The reports were treated scientifically, and with care, and the question remained: was this a real case involving *real* intruders from space; was it an elemental, or other intrusion, into the life of a human being, or was it purely illusory? Once the case was on record it could be examined in the light of experience and evidence in both the fields of UFO and other research.

Because of its obvious sensationalism, members of our team have always refrained from discussing the "A.V.B." affair either with the press, or with the broadcasting companies.

Thus it was with dismay that we read in *The Sunday People* of August 6, 1972, an article garishly entitled "Look out, Lovers!"—a piece which opened in true

tap-room style: "Say fellas, have you heard the one about the Englishman, the Irishman and the brawny young farmer from Brazil?" A brief resumé of the A.V.B. case was lumped together with two other supposedly sexual-cum-UFO cases under the sub-title "The men from outer space could be 'beaming in' on your intimate moments!"

Who had tossed the A.V.B. case to the wolves? It transpired that it was Mr. Norman Oliver, editor of "Gemini", which was described as the "leading UFO journal"—an elevated position achieved after the publication of only two numbers.

When the advent of "Gemini" was advertised in FSR earlier this year, the advertisement was accepted in the belief that the journal would be conducted in a responsible manner. Collaboration with a popular newspaper in the expectation that the sensational material provided would be treated seriously rather than as a joke is, perhaps, a measure of inexperience: heaven forbid that the motive behind the encouragement of the use of such material was the hope that the characteristic "popular" treatment would lead to an increase in readership for the collaborators' magazine.

While there are doubts that such bad publicity would aid recruiting, there can be no doubts that it will have provided valuable ammunition for those who wish to heap ridicule on UFO research and researchers.

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UFO PHOTOGRAPHS FROM UMKOMAAS

. . . and a police report from Durban

Philipp J. Human

Here is another photograph of what is claimed to have been an unidentified flying object. Our contributor, a representative of *Flying Saucer Review* in South Africa for many years, puts the claim on record. We hope, however, that there will be a more detailed investigation to follow.

ON Sunday morning, July 23, 1972, Eridanio di Marco, a Shift Superintendent at Saiccor's Chemical Laboratory, came off duty at 4.00 a.m. After a wash and brush-up, he left the factory by car to go home. He was in no particular hurry, and after ten minutes' drive he approached the street in which Umkomanzi Mansions is situated. It is there that he occupies a flat which overlooks the town of Umkomaas, South Coast, Natal, South Africa.

He states that he suddenly noticed a very bright light travelling from north to south, but moving from left to right and up and down at a leisurely pace, and at an angle of about 30° with the horizon.

Arriving home he rushed into his bedroom, woke his wife, Marina, grabbed his camera and went out on to the balcony from where he could see the object very clearly. It was then that he realised he did not have a spool in his camera, so he rushed indoors again and loaded it. By then his wife was watching the object too. It was a somewhat cloudy morning and still very dark. In order to miss the lights of a nearby hotel it was necessary to tilt the camera at an upward angle before taking two shots at 3.5 fps and allowing each about a minute's exposure.

As the object was still clearly visible, he says he decided to have a good look through his binoculars. He was surprised to see that its shape resembled a neon light tube with the upper edges rounded, and about the width of his thumb at arm's length. It was difficult to judge its speed and the distance it had travelled from the time he had first seen it. There was no sound. It continued its journey in the same direction and both watched it until it was a mere pinprick of light in the distance when it vanished completely. It was then 5 o'clock and time for bed.

During the following week he developed the negatives in Saiccor's laboratory but says he did not mention the incident to anybody for fear of ridicule. The next week-end he made some more prints hoping they would be better than the first ones.

It was by the merest chance that I heard about the sighting through someone who had seen a discarded print in the darkroom. I persuaded di Marco to tell me about it, and with much shrugging of shoulders and waving of hands he described what had happened. When I told him that there were many people who would like to study this sighting, he gladly gave me the best prints for the benefit of *Flying Saucer Review*. He

suggested that the negatives would be sent for examination if it was at all necessary. [*This we welcome: the negatives will be examined and the results publicised in due course—EDITOR.*]

I asked about the blurred white marks in the foreground of the picture, but he did not know about them.

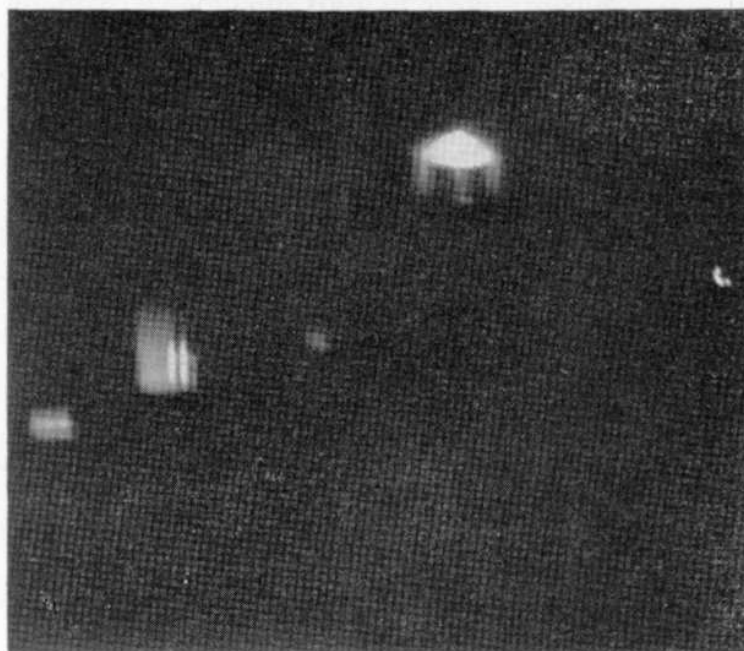


Photo 1

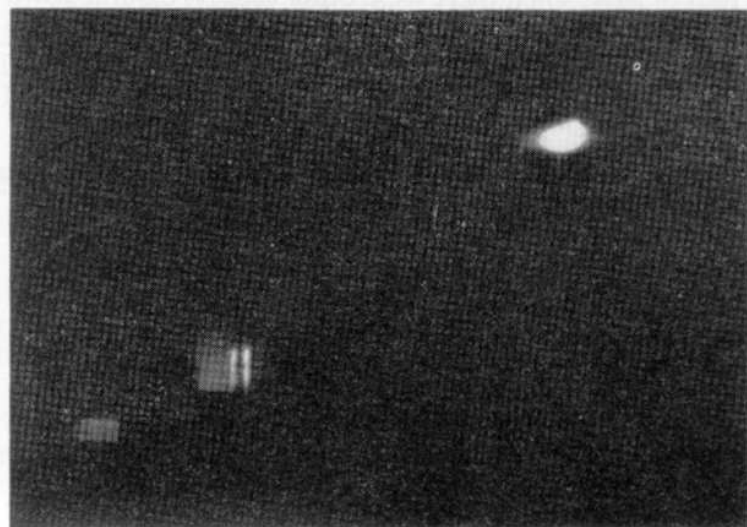
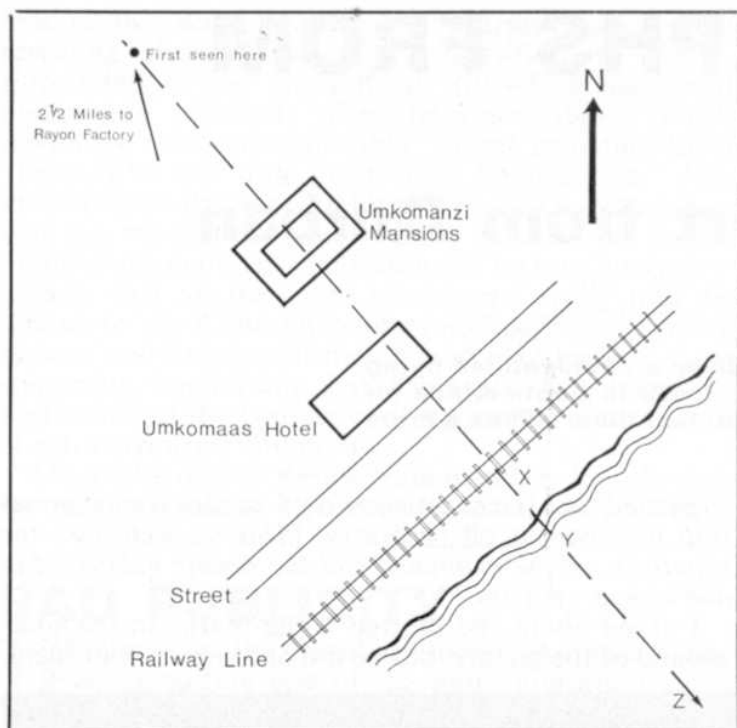


Photo 2



UFO at positions X and Y for photos 1 and 2 respectively (not to scale)

He said that when the pictures were taken he noticed several large stars in that sector of space as the clouds had parted for a while, and he was careful to tilt the camera so as to miss the buildings and street lights in his line of vision. I am enclosing two prints of his first photo. The second one is less distinct. What is surprising is that with the naked eye the object appeared to be a dazzling white light. The photo, however, resembles a disc, and yet through binoculars it was almost cigar-shaped but not quite. (Both photographs were sent later—EDITOR).

Durban Harbour UFO

The Umkomaas photograph was the culmination, for me, of a few weeks that were exciting by any standards for a South African interested in UFOs. The Fort Beaufort incidents, and the furore that followed, had taken us by storm at the end of June and into the first part of July. Then there were other reports up and down the country which, I understand, will be dealt with in FSR. There was, however, one incident, just three days before Eridanio di Marco says he took his UFO photograph, in the reporting of which I played a tiny part.

A UFO was sighted by policemen over Durban Harbour on the morning of July 20. The incident was reported on Radio Port Natal in an Afrikaans newscast at 6.30 a.m. I telephoned the announcer immediately and asked for a repeat in English in the next news broadcast which was due at 7.30 a.m. He asked if I were a "star gazer." I replied: "Yes!"

As I had to leave home to go to the office before 7.30 I rigged up my recorder and my wife taped the broadcast. The newsreader started off by announcing: "And now I have something for all star gazers . . ."

The report was given in even more detail in the *Natal Mercury* of July 21, 1972, under the headline "PUZZLED

POLICE WATCH UFO OVER BAY." The object was first seen at about 3.30 a.m. Here is the newspaper report—

"Policemen on duty at the Radio Police Station in the early hours of yesterday morning were baffled by an unidentified flying object which hovered over the Durban harbour area for more than an hour.

"Later a policeman at Tongaat reported sighting a similar object.

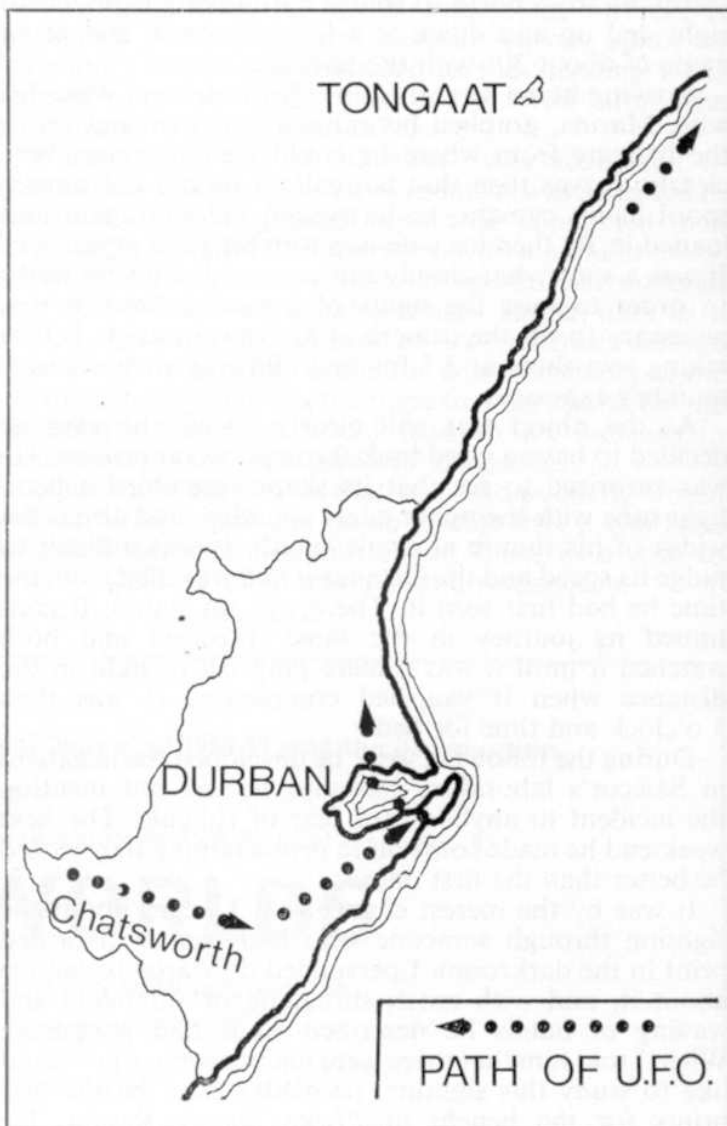
"The police switchboard was inundated with calls from people who sighted the UFO.

"An Indian constable from the Chatsworth station reported sighting the object soon after the first reports were received.

"The entire staff of the Radio Station—nine men—then watched the object, which was changing colour from red to green, move from the Chatsworth area to Wentworth and the Bluff before moving off at an 'incredible speed' in a northerly direction.

"The sighting of the object was noted in the station's events book.

"At 5 a.m. reserve constable Chris de Wet was at home asleep when he was telephoned by an Indian constable from the Tongaat station and told that a UFO had been sighted off Tongaat Beach.



SOUTH AFRICAN MINI-WAVE, 1972—PART 1

Charles Bowen

THE Braeside broadsides fired by farmer Bennie Smit, and his policemen "allies" from Fort Beaufort, when confronted by a landed UFO on June 26, 1972, triggered off a counterblast of indignation and protest. The persistent "visitor", whether or not it were spacecraft, probe, induced image, collective hallucination, fireball, "thinking globe" or what-have-you, acted in a way suggestive of a measure of intelligent control, and that despite the savage mauling meted out to it.¹

Letters of protest poured into the newspaper offices. The newspapers in turn scurried hither and thither consulting experts who were usually experts in something else, and hadn't a clue about the UFO phenomenon. When they got down to the bare bones of investigation and reporting the papers frequently did a good job—as will be seen later. On one rare occasion they unearthed someone who knew something about the subject and a general article was the result.

The article was published in the *Rand Daily Mail* of July 8, 1972. Entitled "UFOs—fact or fancy?" it was under the signature of Frank Morton, one of our readers, to whom, in *FSR Case Histories*, we have already acknowledged our indebtedness for furnishing us with useful information during the early days of the Fort Beaufort flap. Mr. Morton, who was introduced as a representative of APRO, presented a reasonable summary of the UFO phenomenon from farmer

Martin's 1878 "saucer" and the LeRoy, Kansas flap of 1897, via the classic New Guinea wave and the Kelly-Hopkinsville goblins, to Fort Beaufort; he threw in a slashing attack on the late George Adamski for good measure. Unhappily, apart from quotations from the late Dr. James E. McDonald's papers to the AAAS,² the author gave no source references, although many of his sources will be recognised by anyone well versed in the literature of the subject. The article was accompanied by a reproduction of the Lars Thörn photograph taken near Skillingaryd, Sweden, on May 6, 1971, investigated by GICOFF and reported by Sven-Olof Fredrickson for *Flying Saucer Review*.³ This also appeared without any form of acknowledgment.

A week before, on July 1, the same newspaper had published an excellent report by Lin Menge, who had interviewed a number of people whose names were bobbing in the wake of the Fort Beaufort affair.⁴ "I know of no law which forbids you to shoot at an invader from outer space," was the reply of General D. A. Bester, Chief Deputy Commissioner of the South African Police when reporter Menge broached the matter with him. The General fenced cagily before admitting that a senior officer was conducting an investigation, then terminated the interview with a remarkable statement:

"One cannot prescribe rules for such a thing. There

A UFO PHOTOGRAPH FROM UMKOMAAS *Continued from page 4*

"I got dressed and drove to a hill overlooking the beach. I could see the object quite clearly. It was about the same size and shape as a robot light. It changed colour from red to green at regular intervals of about one second. It appeared to be hovering about 200m above the sea, close inshore. I watched it through binoculars for over 30 minutes," he said yesterday.

"And last night Radio Police headquarters were again

inundated with calls from people claiming they had spotted an unidentified 'Catherine wheel-shaped' object over the Bluff.

"Mrs. R. Jooste and her family, visitors from Johannesburg, said they watched the object through binoculars from a sixteenth floor hotel room on the Durban beach-front."

Comments on the Umkomaas photographs by Percy Hennell

Editor's note: The negatives of the two photographs, in a single strip, were obtained promptly by Mr. Human. They were sent to Mr. Percy Hennell for examination, and it is his enlargements that have been used with Mr. Human's article.

Here we have genuine photographs of a luminous object: there are no obvious signs of trickery. However, they are typical of the unfortunate photographs we usually get

of what is claimed to be the "real thing." I do not pretend to know what that "real thing" is, but it must be of some satisfaction to those in the "hardware" school of

thought to see once again, in Photo 1, the typical "mushroom top" type of object. It interests me to note—and this is an important point—that in his excitement the photographer "shook" his camera up and down, and this movement is visible in the image of the object.

Photo 2 is poor, and tells us little. Again, a degree of camera shake is present.

have been many reports of these objects over the years, but I have never come across one that was authentic. There has never been such a thing in the history of the world."

Lin Menge foresaw a rocket for the police at Fort Beaufort: "Stick to catching stock thieves—or else . . .!"

Interest in UFOs soared for a few weeks, and during this time there were a number of reports. I do not suggest that the Fort Beaufort furore generated *all* the subsequent sightings, but it must have been responsible for encouraging people to look up at the skies, and it is possible that a good share of the reports were of customary misinterpretations. Few of the other incidents approached in interest farm Braeside's persistent low-level UFO. I think it reasonable to describe the collection of events in South Africa in June, July and August 1972 as a *mini-wave*. Here is a summary of those incidents that have not already found a place in our pages—including *FSR Case Histories* Supplement 11:

1. Wellington (Cape Province), July 1, 1972. Just before 7.30 a.m. Mr. J. Fourie of Basson Road, Wellington, was wakened by his wife who pointed out a bright orange "thing" hovering over the Wellington Orphanage. Said Mr. Fourie: "I ran outside and saw this thing. It looked like the belly light of an aircraft flicking on and off. It was about 260 metres above ground and was about the size of a coffee table. It just hovered there." The witness watched it for a while, then it rose and moved towards Paarl, before moving over the mountain towards Worcester. As it went, the colour changed to white. Throughout the incident the object was soundless. There was one other witness, the local milkman, a Mr. Basson. (*The Argus* of July 1, 1972—evening newspaper.)

2. Constantia (Cape Province), July 1, 1972. Mrs. B. Merand, of Meadowridge, saw a round white light with two tails underneath like "sparklers" hovering behind a row of trees in Constantia Road opposite the new sports complex. After about five minutes the light rose, said Mrs. Merand, and moved in the direction of the Constantiaberg beacon. The time was 10.30 p.m., and the object looked like a golden star. Mr. R. Hurly, president of the Cape Town Astronomical Society suggested the object could have been the bright star *Canopus* which was setting at that time. (*Cape Times* of July 3, 1972.)

3. Durban (Natal), July 3 and 4, 1972. Mr. A. G. Hill of Marine Parade reported that he saw an unusual, shimmering bright object, over the sea on successive mornings. The first occasion, at about 6 a.m. on July 3, was seen when he woke up. Looking through the window he saw a thing shaped like a bone, with a "wedge-shaped thing about a third of the way down." It pulsed, and looked like a fancy ring with a lot of diamonds. It dazzled, like a cluster of 100 bright stars. Mr. Hill thought what he saw might have been a comet. On July 4, at 5.40 a.m. he again saw "the" object, square in shape, and without the dazzling welding-torch effect of the previous day. It seemed as if pieces chipped off and fell away from the bottom: the object did not change colour. (*Daily News* of July 4, 1972.)

4. Kraankuil and Witput stations, Orange River, July 5, 1972. A UFO was seen by three station foremen at stations along the main trans-Karoo railway line,

about 100 miles from Kimberley, in the vicinity of the Orange River. Mr. Lourens Rautenbach saw it first from Kraankuil Station at about 9.00 p.m., coming from the direction of Petrusville. He said it looked like a ball of fire which changed colour from blue to green. To him it appeared to be about 25 cms. in diameter (at arm's length?—C.B.). Mr. Rautenbach said it flickered along the outer edge, and looked as though it had life in it. It changed in size as it swung away in a semi-circle towards Orange River Station, and the witness phoned Orange River Station to alert them.

At Orange River Station Mr. Francois van Rensburg saw the object as it came over a ridge from the direction of Hopetown. It was whitish-yellow, and moved silently at a steady height, flickering as it faded in a northerly direction towards Witput.

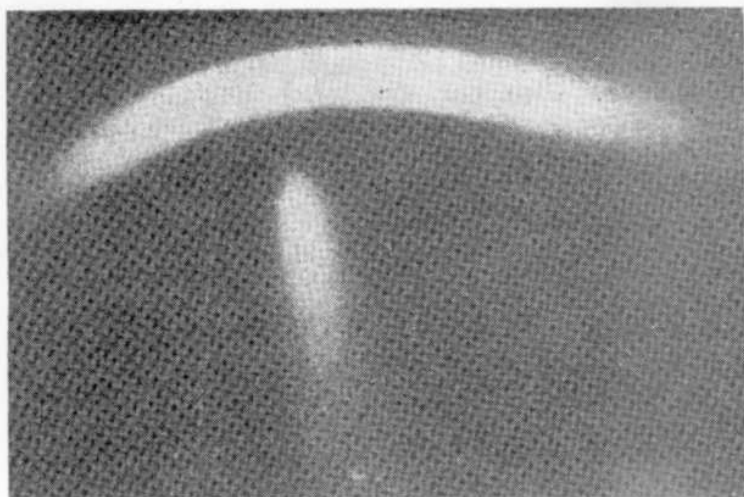
Mr. Nick Basson, at Witput Station was quite shaken to see the "unearthly" object hovering above trucks in the station yard. He said it was about the size of a saucer (as he saw it?—C.B.) and was yellow and amber. It then shot off over Hopetown. Half-an-hour later the object (or another one?—C.B.) "shot back past the station" in the direction of the Orange River. It seemed even bigger this time. It later returned over the line after seemingly travelling towards Luckhoff, and finally disappeared, moving down the Orange River. (*The Pretoria News* of July 6, 1972.)

5. Pietermaritzburg (Natal), midnight, June 22, 1972 (reported July 6, 1972). Mr. Colin Vary, businessman and qualified pilot, was with a friend, Miss Carole Mitchell. They were returning home, and were at the corner of Boshoff and Prince Alfred Streets when Mr. Vary saw an object the apparent size of a cricket ball appear over the Alcan factory. The UFO was moving in the direction from Impendhle towards Oribi at what Mr. Vary estimated to be 4,000 feet, with a speed of 400 m.p.h., and descending at a rate of about 3,000 feet a minute. It was a bright, greenish blue. Before trees obscured it from view it covered an estimated distance of between 10 to 15 miles in a few seconds. Mr. Vary said the UFO's actual size must have been about that of a bus: it was definitely a solid object, and it was not a jet aircraft. On July 5 Mr. Vary flew over the area looking down from the position where the UFO had been when first sighted, and that was when he formed his opinion about its actual size. (*The Natal Witness* of July 6, 1972.)

6. Johannesburg, July 6, 1972. Seen by dozens of people, and reported by Mr. G. Duveen of Gresswold who, with his wife and four friends, watched a glowing, orange-coloured object, for ten minutes as it travelled across the sky "at tremendous speed." All we know about the time was that it was "at night." (*The Star*, July 7, 1972.)

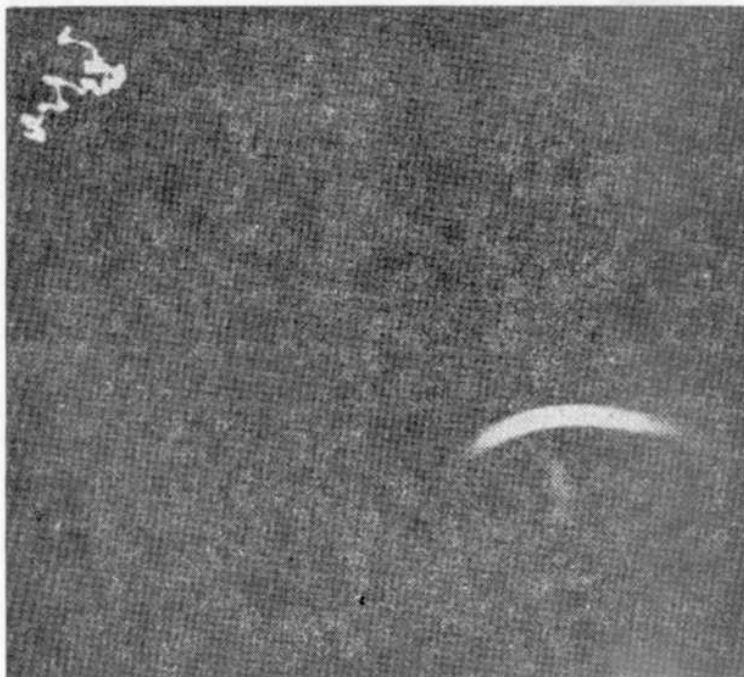
It was probably this same object that was reported as having put on a half-hour show over Johannesburg around about 9.00 p.m., by people in Inanda, Illovo, Linksfield and Kew. Mr. John Hotine of Third Street, Kew, said that in the bright light he could see, through his binoculars, a reflection on its side. It was balloon shaped. Mr. G. Kraft of Linksfield, said it looked like a flaming feather duster.

7. Port Elizabeth (Cape Province), July 7, 1972. At around 7.50 p.m. the *Eastern Province Herald* received



The unidentified flying object over Port Elizabeth, taken by photographer Geoffrey Allen, using a 35 mm camera with a 640 mm lens.

"bright, swiftly moving object" in close attendance. Captain Chester Chandler said that the UFO paced the a telephone call from a reader, Mr. J. Erasmus, who reported that he had been watching an object, the apparent size of a tennis ball, changing colour from yellow to white. It was roughly above the post office, and had been there for at least 15 minutes. A reporter and photographer scanned the sky from the roof of the *Herald* building, and located a flashing object in almost the opposite direction, high above Newton Park. It passed behind cloud, and when it reappeared, photographer Geoffrey Allen took several pictures through a



This group of unidentified objects was photographed over Port Elizabeth. The picture above shows the moon-shaped "mother ship" and its proximity to the "scout ship" taken with a time exposure and illustrating its jerky movement. The egg-shaped image was how it appeared to those who saw it.

[The above is a newspaper caption, not mine—C.B.]

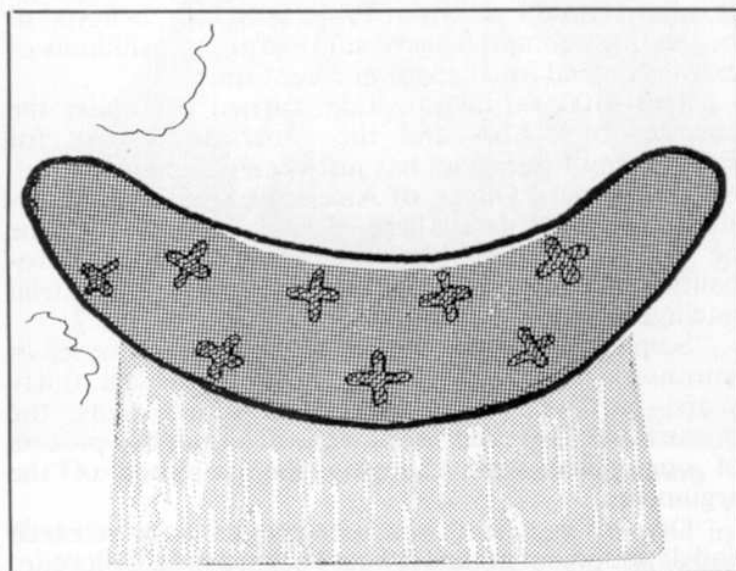
long telephoto lens. (35 mm. camera with a 640 mm. lens, exposures of one-fifteenth of a second.)

The object emitted red, white and green light, and appeared to break into two at infrequent intervals. By 8.45 p.m. it had disappeared. The umbrella-shaped image was from one of the telephoto lens shots. The film used was 800 ASA, and it was developed for 15 minutes. (*The Cape Times* of July 7, 1972.)

The South African Air Force spokesman was puzzled by the Port Elizabeth UFO. There had been no night-flying exercises at the time the UFO was in view. National Airways Corporation and the Algoa Flying Club said their last flights were at 6.00 p.m., and there were no other light aircraft in the area. The South African Airways Boeing from Johannesburg arrived on schedule at 8.30 p.m. The Met. Office said no weather balloons had been released during the time of the sighting. (*The Argus*, July 7, 1972.)

8. Queenstown (Eastern Cape Province), July 3, 1972. Mr. R. P. Golding of Sandringham said he and his wife had seen, at about 8.00 p.m., an object that "looked like two stars joined together, with a red light below and a green light on top. This object appeared to be over the aerodrome. Mr. Golding said his radio, tuned to Springbok Radio on FM at the time, "went funny." The object went up and down about ten times, then appeared to drop right out of the sky and disappear behind the house at the back of the Goldings' house. Despite enquiries by the local newsmen, nobody else in the area reported radio malfunctions. (*The Daily Representative*, Queenstown, July 4, 1972.)

9. Fish River Bridge (Eastern Cape Province), July 5, 1972. Railway truck driver Mr. Mitchell Struwig of Port Elizabeth, and his assistant, Mr. Thys Breed, were driving down the Fish River Pass on the Port Elizabeth-East London national road at 1.25 a.m., when, on the



Fish River object, based on witnesses' sketches

left-hand side of the river, near the Fish River Bridge, Mr. Struwig saw a half-moon shaped luminous red object in the sky. It appeared to have an irregular pattern on it, like a net, or rope covering. Three or four minutes after the initial sighting, the object sank out of

sight behind the mountains. The cabin suddenly became ice-cold: "something that never happens as it is always very hot inside," said Mr. Struwig. The object was shaped like a baby's bottle, but with rounded ends, and the witnesses estimated that it was about 100 metres in diameter. It was a darker red than the light it was emitting. Mr. Struwig knows the route well: he drives it almost every night. (*Daily Dispatch* of July 6, 1972.)

10. Over Natal, and elsewhere, during the week-ended July 9, 1972. On a date not given, the Captain and crew of a South African Airways Boeing 727 reported a "bright, swiftly moving object" in close attendance. Captain Chester Chandler said that the UFO paced the plane for a while before veering off to the south west. They were at a height of 2743 metres, and gave ground control at Durban a running commentary on the object's moves.

The airliner was flying at 250 knots (482 km.p.h.) when the incident occurred, and was being prepared to

descend and land at Durban. The senior flight officer, Mr. Graham Smith, and the flight engineer, Mr. G. Koekemoer, also saw the object. Captain Chandler said the shape of the UFO was indistinct. "It was a bright light which ground control assured us was not emanating from any aircraft they knew of." Checks with the S.A.A.F. and other authorities drew negative replies. Captain Chandler continued: "Ground Control was very excited about the object as it is their responsibility to see that nothing is on our flight path." The object passed at 8.50 p.m., and paced the plane before it veered off.

On an earlier flight during the same week—this time to Cape Town—Captain Chandler has spotted another fast-moving object (but not near his plane) sweeping across the skies from north to south.

Again, on Wednesday, July 5, yet another UFO passed a Boeing 727 while it was on a flight to Cape
(Continued on page 20)

LATE EXTRA . . .

NASA TO URGE SCIENTISTS TO LISTEN FOR CIVILISATIONS IN SPACE

In the *London Evening Standard* of October 14, 1972, we read in an item received that day from correspondent Michael Jeffries in Vienna, under the headline "A BOOST FOR THE LITTLE GREEN MEN" that—

"Existence in Space of other intelligences and civilisations is so likely that scientists should now mount a serious major listening programme for their radio signals. This is the main conclusion of a report to be published shortly by NASA, the American Space Agency. It is based on the results of Project Cyclops, believed to be the most comprehensive study of the possibilities of extraterrestrial intelligence in recent times.

"This \$100,000 investigation, carried out under the auspices of NASA and the American Society for Engineering Education, has just been completed.

"Dr. Bernard Oliver, of America's Stanford University, gave the first details here, of the research programme he headed, to the International Academy of Astronautics' meeting on communication with extraterrestrial intelligence—CETI.

"Sceptics too are in for a shock. New discoveries in astronomy and biological sciences in the last thirty years—particularly the belief that amino acids, the precursors of life, can form in the evolutionary process of our galaxy—are changing the emphasis of the arguments.

"Dr. Oliver, who is also vice-president for research and development of the Hewlett Packard firm, Colorado, told scientists: 'In all likelihood intelligent civilisations have existed in the galaxy for four or five thousand million years. It seems very probable that many of these have established interstellar contact. If so, then communication has been taking place between civilisations for aeons, and beacons may well exist to help young races, such as ourselves, to join this galactic community.' He calls it our 'galactic heritage.' "

* * * * *

In the *Sunday Telegraph* of October 15, 1972, the story was taken up by Annelise Schulz from Vienna under the headline "SEARCH FOR LIFE IN SPACE"—

"Intelligent beings very likely existed outside the solar system and had probably been in interstellar communication with each other for 'aeons' a scientist told a conference yesterday.

"One day Earth might join these galactic communities and profit as the youngest form of intelligent life from them, he declared.

"Dr. Bernard Oliver, an American, speaking on the last day of the Astronautical Conference in Vienna, reported on his country's Cyclops Project which is devoted to the search for signals from civilisations outside the solar system.

"The most suitable microwaves for communicating with extraterrestrial intelligent beings were between 1,420 and 1,662 megahertz, he said, yet a whole 'orchard full' of giant radio telescopes, computers and other intricate technology were needed to search the skies for such signals.

"Professor Sebastian von Horner, of Greenbank Observatory in America, said that our galaxy—the Milky Way—contained about 2,000,000,000 planets on which superior forms of organic life were possible. The nearest was some 15 light-years away, too far for any astronautical expeditions but still within possible reach by signal.

"According to Professor von Horner, about 40,000 technologically developed civilisations might exist in our galaxy."

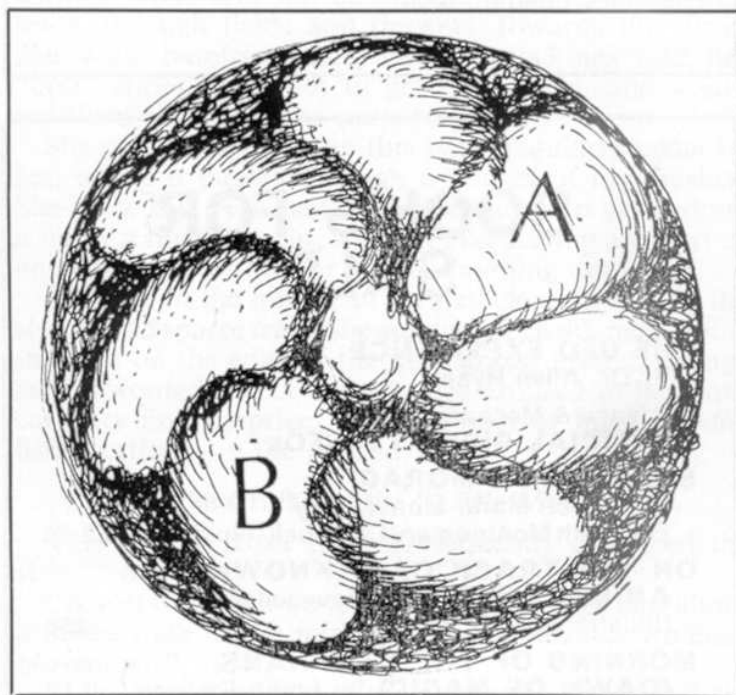
THE FORT BEAUFORT POLICE OFFICERS: *An Interview*

Ivan Clark

Our contributor is a correspondent of *Flying Saucer Review* who lives in Queenstown, Cape Province, South Africa, a relatively short distance from Fort Beaufort, the scene of the incidents that opened the recent UFO wave in the Republic.

BY now, your journals will have received plenty of newspaper reports of the UFO events at Fort Beaufort in the Eastern Cape.* Nevertheless I am sending this report because it is based on an interview with the two policemen concerned in the events, and the account may well include information which was not published in the newspapers.

The two officers, Warrant Officer P. van Rensburg and Sergeant P. Kitching, do not scoff about UFOs, and refuse to accept explanations of their UFO experience as satellites (in tree-top orbits?), or elephants suffering from some sort of strange malady! Here is a brief account of the events *based on what I was told in my interview.*



Key: A=Unflattened area B=Ovoid depressions
Illustration is actual size

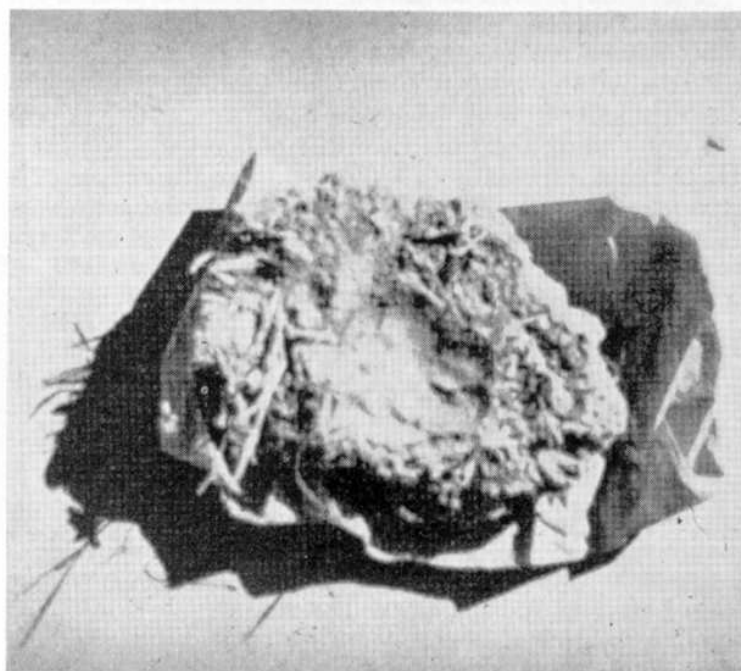
At about 8.00 a.m. on June 26, 1972, some native farm labourers came running to Mr. Bennie Smit the owner of the farm Braeside, near Fort Beaufort. They had seen what they thought was a fire in the thick bush-land.

Mr. Smit, thinking it might be poachers on his land, proceeded to the spot with his .303 rifle. He there observed an unusual object hovering partly hidden behind some bushy trees about eighteen feet high. The

object was about 200 yards away, and was egg-shaped and glowing all over. After a while Mr. Smit became uneasy, and decided to call the police; the two officers named earlier in this report arrived at about 9.00 a.m.

Sergeant Kitching described the object as being about three metres long and egg-shaped. "It was hovering length-ways, just partly hidden behind some bushy trees. The colour of the object was a gun metal blue-black, and after we watched it for a while it started to glow a coal red all over, the same as when Mr. Smit saw it early on. Then we noticed a vivid bright star-like light to one side of the object; this was flashing at intervals."

As they directed the native labourers to the object in thick bush, Sergeant Kitching says he was positive



The sod of earth dug up by W/O van Rensburg

that it was under some form of intelligent control, for when the labourers shouted from the bush, the object moved down out of sight of the observers. The labourers were unable to locate it and were ordered back. Now Mr. Smit decided to try to locate it and went into the bush with a handkerchief tied to a long stick so that the police could see him and guide him: this venture also failed and Mr. Smit returned.

Unfortunately the observers now decided to take other measures, and shoot at it. Fifteen rounds were

fired, the seventh of which (they said) hit the object, and, as Sergeant Kitching said, made a dull thud. The object rocked from side to side. (Apparently a .303 rifle shot has an impact of about 18 tons at full velocity.) At this point the object turned from a red glow to a green glow and then to yellow. The police watched it for an hour before having to leave the area, but Mr. Smit stayed to see it leave a little while later. He says the object turned on end and moved away climbing quite rapidly, and was soon hidden by the trees. Mr. Smit said that when he was in the thick bush he could hear the object making a humming noise, and that he and family had since then heard the noise over the house, but had not seen it again.

The police returned later to the farm and found the spot where the UFO seems to have landed. Three sets of three impressions, or prints, found in the *damp* [My italics—EDITOR] clay (see drawing). W/O van Rensburg dug up a print, and he was kind enough to show me this when I visited him. The print is most unusual. It is about 2½ inches in diameter, and gives the impression that legs from the object may have spiralled out of it and stopped just as the pads touched the ground. The clay print was turned slightly in a clockwise direction, with a portion of the mark—just to one side of the middle of the print—not flattened at all. Thus it left the same kind of impression as the hoof of a cow or a sheep might leave, flattened down at the sides and hollow in the middle.

There have been a number of UFO reports from Queenstown, my home town, mostly by night, and although I have been on the alert, I have not managed to see anything myself. I carry my camera, with a 375 power telephoto lens, wherever I go.

I don't think the Fort Beaufort police will shoot at a UFO again, especially as I showed them the report of a reservoir security officer in the United States who was blinded after shooting at one. Mr. Smit says he'll try to catch one next time—using a large net.

* *This is so: an article summarising the mass of material was published in FSR CASE HISTORIES Supplement 11 August 1972*
—EDITOR.

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BUFORA NEWS

London Lectures: "The Mystery Machine" by Alan Watts, BSc, FRMetS, Saturday, 2nd December. "UFOs, Science and Scientists" by Mark Stenhoff, Saturday, 6th January, 1973. Both at Kensington Central Library, Campden Hill Road, W.8, at 7 p.m.

Research HQ: The Association is in the process of setting up an office at Newchapel Observatory, in Staffordshire. This project is under the direction of Anthony Pace, FRAS, BUFORA'S Director of Research and joint owner of the Observatory.

"A Guide To The UFO Phenomenon": This 18-page booklet has been authored by members of the Executive Committee to provide factual information about UFOs and the Association for serious enquirers. Copies, price 42p, inc. post, available from the Vice-Chairman, Lionel Beer, and the Hon. Treasurer, Arnold West, 49 Mill Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

Send 9in. x 4in. S.A.E. for lecture programme and details of the **BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION** to: Miss Christine Henning (R8), 99 Mayday Gardens, London, SE3.

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THE CENNINA LANDING OF 1954

Sergio Conti

NOVEMBER 1, 1954, is a date that marks the occurrence of one of the most extraordinary UFO landing and contact cases ever recorded (it has already been quoted by Vallée as No. 24 in his *Century of Landings*).

Cennina is a small town near Búcine, in the Province of Arezzo.

On the morning of that day (a Monday and a feast-day in the Catholic Church) Rosa Lotti nei Dainelli, a forty-year-old peasant woman, mother of four children, living at a farm called "La Collina" which is situated in a lonely region between Cennina and Capànnole, had risen early to go down into Cennina to visit the church and the cemetery. She was carrying a bunch of carnations, destined for the altar of the Madonna Pellegrina, whose procession had taken place the preceding evening.

It was 6.30 a.m.

Rosa Lotti rarely went into town, and spent most of her time on her arduous duties on the farm.

On this feast-day morning however she had put on her new dress and started out along the footpath that leads, through fields and thickets, towards the town. She went barefoot, carrying her stockings and her "best" shoes so as not to get them dirty. She would put them on before she came to the first houses.

She reached a point on this path, regularly taken by her, where it passed through a thicket of low bushes. She knew this path perfectly. She had even gone along it many a time at night, without ever having any sort of unpleasant encounter or noting anything unusual.

Arriving in the middle of a small clearing among the shrubs and sparse trees, she suddenly beheld, near a pine tree and on the edge of the little grassy area, a strange and unwonted object that at once aroused in her both curiosity and surprise. It was a sort of huge *spindle*, fixed vertically in the ground.

The Craft and the "Little Men"

This is how Rosa Lotti subsequently described the strange machine:

"A sort of double cone, over 2 metres high and about a metre wide in the middle." (In *La Nazione Italiana*, November 2, 1954.)

"Like two bells joined together at their bases." (In *La Settimana Incom*, No. 24, Year XV.)

"The object was very swollen out in the middle and pointed at the two ends. It seemed to be covered with leather." (In *Il Giornale del Mattino*, November 2, 1954.)

"The outside of it shone as though it was of very polished light metal. On the lower cone there was an open glass door, and inside it could be seen two little seats, *little seats like those used by children*. In the central part of the *spindle*, where it was widest, there was a sort of roundish glass, closely following the round shape of the mysterious machine. Rosa Lotti had heard no

AN ITALIAN CLASSIC

Thanks to the work of Aimé Michel, Charles Garreau, Jacques Vallée, René Fouéré, Raymond Veillith, and of the many other excellent French investigators, we now know the great French UFO Wave of 1954 in much detail.

But naturally a UFO wave cannot be expected to stop short at one of our national frontiers, so it will carry on and spill over into neighbouring territory. It seems that the Italian part of the Wave of 1954 will one day be seen to have been just as great as the French phase, but our knowledge of the Italian picture for that year is still very far from complete. The Umbrian Section of C.U.N. (Centro Unico Nazionale) have promised us for the near future the first full Catalogue of all the Italian cases of that extraordinary year, and we look forward to publishing it.

In the meantime, I have translated from *Il Giornale dei Misteri** No. 17 (August 1972) Signor Sergio Conti's exhaustive account of what the Italians consider to have been perhaps the most remarkable of all their 1954 cases. It figures briefly in Dr. Jacques Vallée's *Century Of Landings (Une Siècle d'Atterisages)*—published by *Lumières dans la Nuit*—which is an up-to-date version of the catalogue which accompanies the American version only of his *Passport to Magonia*, but so far as I am aware, no full description of it has ever appeared in English. I am sure that our readers will welcome it. I believe also that the Cennina case will be accepted as a very important one, on account of the duration of the encounter (ten minutes) and the reported very close approach (at a distance varying from under 1m. to 4m. or so) of the entities. This gave the eyewitness plenty of time in which to study the features and the dress of two homuncules who, to my way of thinking, bear a remarkable likeness to certain small creatures seen repeatedly by our European forebears over the past thousand years and more.

GORDON CREIGHTON.

sound from it." (In *La Nazione Italiana*, November 2, 1954.)

Rosa Lotti had stopped in her tracks, astonished and curious. But her surprise was only just beginning. From behind the "spindle" she beheld two strange beings emerge. "Almost like men, but of the size of children," was her description.

The two little beings approached her with friendly expressions on their faces. She had plenty of time to

* The new Italian monthly, *Il Giornale dei Misteri*, devoted to Forteana, Ufology, Parapsychology, Mysticism, etc., is published by Corrado Tedeschi Editore in Firenze (Florence) and can be recommended as excellent value to those who read Italian. We are indebted to its Editors, Giulio Brunner and Sergio Conti, for permission to reproduce a translation of Signor Conti's account of a truly remarkable Italian case.

make a thorough examination of them, so that she was afterwards able to describe them in the minutest details. About 1 metre in height, they were wearing a sort of grey overall, all in one piece, including the feet. On their backs they had short cloaks of a grey material, and over the one-piece overall they wore a sort of doublet, fastened, right up to the collar, with little buttons "like shining stars." Their trousers were tightly-fitting, "like the long underpants that our men wear in the winter."

Their faces, crowned by helmets, were normal, but small. Both were no taller than a five-year-old infant, but their bodies were in proportion. "It would have taken two of those things to make a man," she said, "but they were very fine looking, even though rather old."

Vigorous, lively, they were talking away "as though they were Chinese. They kept saying: 'liu,' 'lai,' 'loi,' 'lau,' 'loi,' 'lai,' 'liu.'"²

They gesticulated, but with no trace of menace. Indeed, on the contrary, in a friendly fashion, as though they were trying to make themselves understood and to strike up a rudimentary conversation.

The older looking of the two was the more jovial, laughing and obviously trying to establish contact with her. They had magnificent eyes, full of intelligence. Their noses were of normal shape, their mouths just like a man's, but their upper lips were slightly curled in the centre, so that even when they were not laughing their teeth were still exposed. They were teeth like ours, broad, strong teeth, but short (as though they had been

filed down) and somewhat protruding, like the teeth of rabbits.

Their ears were hidden under two leather discs, and there was a band around their foreheads, also of leather.

Approaching Rosa Lotti, who was now terrified, they snatched out of her hands the bunch of carnations and one of her black stockings. When she remonstrated timidly, the one who seemed the older of the two handed some of the flowers back to her, but kept five of them. Then, having examined the structure of the flowers with an air of curiosity, and laughing the while, he wrapped them in the stocking and threw them into the "spindle" through the small opening.

Then they stepped back a few paces from her, and took two "packages" from inside the machine—white objects, circular, which they carried in the hollow of the arm, holding the arm bent with the hand on the chest. The *thing* seemed to be wrapped in a newspaper, but it was not a newspaper. (*La Nazione Sera*, November 2, 1954.)

Then they turned towards the lady again, but she had seized the moment to escape. After running about 100 metres, she looked back. Everything had vanished.

Psychological Effects on the Eyewitness

Dumbfounded and terrified, Rosa Lotti reached the town, gasping for breath. The sight of the little men and the spindle had petrified her. She was frightened to death. Shortly afterwards, she seemed for a while to be able to remember nothing; all she could recall was that, when at last she had managed to move her legs, she had fled, screaming. (*La Nazione Italiana*, November 2, 1954.)

She reported her extraordinary adventure to the local Brigadier of the Carabinieri,³ Brig. Rocco Benfanti, and to Corporal Nello Focardi. Later she repeated it to Captain Massaro and to the Chief Inspector of Carabinieri for the Búcine region, Elio Lolli.

Naturally many people at once ran to see the spot where the weird happening had occurred. All of them were in agreement that they had seen a great hole in the ground at the spot where the *spindle* had stood. The Carabinieri who went there in an effort to investigate the affair also found, in their turn, that there was indeed a deep cavity recently made in the ground. It was impossible for the Carabinieri to take impressions of any particular marks as the horde of curiosity-seekers had already trampled down everything all around, wiping out any footprints that might have been there. The hole was also seen by the Chief Inspector of Carabinieri at Ambra, Signor Zulimo Botarelli, who happened to be out hunting in the vicinity at the time.

The Aftermath

The encounter with the two beings had lasted about ten minutes. The first person met by Rosa Lotti after her precipitate flight was a man whom she knew, a certain Beppe Gostinelli, known also as Di Giacco, who was out hunting nearby. But she was so dazed and stunned that she did not even think of telling him anything about it. It was only later, in church, that one of her friends, a certain Annita Valenti, seeing how disturbed she was and how she was trembling, asked her: "Oh, Rosa! What have you been doing?"



Artist's impression of the incident, from *La Domenica del Corriere*.

Then Rosa Lotti told her everything, giving full vent to her emotions. Don Guido Belardi, the parish priest of Cennina, who knew her to be an extremely well-balanced member of his flock, absolutely free of any sort of foolish fancifulness or empty reveries, himself was greatly impressed by what she had to say, and he believed her.

The Latest Investigation

Now, eighteen years after the event, we have re-examined the Cennina case and, thanks to the active support that we have received from the Prato UFO Study Group, we have been able to check the details and also gather valuable pieces of supporting testimony. The Prato UFO Study Group, consisting of Siro Menicucci, Stefano Corsi, Ignazio D'Andrea, Daniele Bianco, and Virgilio Chiari, visited the landing site several times and contacted Rosa Lotti, who is still alive.

These young investigators have carried out a painstaking enquiry, and have secured confirmation of all the facts of what happened on that far-off day in November, 1954, and in addition to that they have also secured a number of fresh details which, perhaps through carelessness, the newspapers omitted at the time, or which they distorted.

For example, Rosa Lotti maintains—contrary to what the press reports said at the time—that she had *not* felt any fear whatsoever during her contact with the mysterious little beings. The fear and alarm overcame her *only later*, when, as she got further and further from the place of the encounter, she began thinking over what had happened and she became fully conscious of it all. This point would in fact provide grounds for supposing that the presence of the humanoids created a state of tranquility in the human subject, and that only when she was at a distance from them did atavistic fears manifest themselves, getting the upper hand in her and producing the sensations of terror and anguish that any unknown phenomenon inevitably provokes in the human mind. This further clarification by Rosa Lotti is consequently of great importance. It is moreover borne out in other UFO contact reports, where likewise no psychological disturbance occurred in the parties involved so long as they were still in the presence of the “visitors.”⁵

Another discrepancy arises in connection with certain of the details of her description of the “spindle.” Here are the actual words of the statement made by Rosa Lotti nei Dainelli to the investigators from the Prato Centre when they interviewed her:

“In the thickened part of the spindle, it had two port-holes, on opposite sides to each other, and in the centre, between them, there was a little door, enabling me to see, inside, two little kiddie-chairs⁶ set back to back, each of them facing towards one of the port-holes.”

A further reported detail which the lady denies concerns the shape of the mouths of the two unknown beings. She maintains, contrary to what was reported at the time in the press, that the upper lips were in fact *not curled*, but were normal. And she adds that she noticed, at the time, that the two little beings were “well



shaven.” She lays particular emphasis on her recollection of this point.

In her description of the mysterious machine, she has confirmed her reported impression that it seemed as though it were covered with leather or at least in a metal of a similar colouring to leather, but she has made it clear that it was in fact *not shiny*. Also the detail about the tree has been rectified by her. It was in fact *not a pine* near which the machine was standing, but a *cypress* (still existing today). Moreover she fixed the time of the encounter more precisely, and made clear that it was at 6.30 a.m. and not at 7.30 a.m. as had been reported.

Moreover she stated that what the beings took from her was *all the flowers and one stocking*. *Nothing was returned to her by them.*

Further interesting details given by her relate to the object that the two beings brought out from inside the “spindle.” The “elder” of the two beings (and only he) took, possibly from under one of the seats, an object (only one object) which resembled a small cardboard package. It was round and of a dark brown colour. He raised it to his chest, and pointed it at her. Rosa Lotti thought he wanted to take a photograph⁷ of her. It was then that she ran off, and when she had gone about 100 metres she turned round and looked back. She saw that the “little men” and their “spindle” were still there. It is therefore not correct that she saw the craft take off, or that she witnessed any sort of spookish disappearance.

Support from Collateral Eyewitness Accounts

A vast network of collateral eyewitness accounts is now available to provide quite particular validity for the Cennina phenomenon, and to cause it to acquire a value, as an eyewitness account, that is well nigh irrefutable.

Almost all of these accounts confirm the time at which the "spindle" came down over the thicket at Cennina—about 6.30 a.m.

A stonemason, Romualdo Berti, twenty-five-years-old at the time, coming back from Badia Agnano (or, according to the version of the *Giornale del Mattino* of November 2, 1954, from his house, situated at Gavignano, a place on the opposite slope of the little valley formed by the mountain stream known as the Ambra) declared that a luminous rocket, like a cigar, and exhaling flames from its tail, rose up vertically out of the Cennina woods and headed towards Badia a Ruoti. The rocket was seen by him to rise vertically at first, and then to travel onwards almost horizontally. He heard no sound from it. The colour of the object was bluish.

A workman from San Leonino, whose name the newspapers (*La Nazione Italiana* and *Il Giornale del Mattino*, both of November 5, 1954) did not give, was out hunting at the time in the Ambra area and has described how, at precisely the same time, he observed a strange luminous object land in precisely that same wood.

The nurseryman Andrea Livi, of Montevarchi, was driving his van full of flowers at that moment along the road from Lévane to Búbine when he saw, from near Búbine, a great "reddish cone-shaped thing" coming from the direction of Firenze (Florence) and heading straight towards Siena. Unfortunately he lost sight of it behind the thickets covering the hills. Consequently he was able to observe the object only for a few seconds, enough however for him to make a calculation of its length—about two metres. The object left behind it a red trail. Andrea Livi told the Carabinieri that the stonemason Berti (referred to above) was unknown to him. Consequently any collusion between these two witnesses can be ruled out. (*Giornale del Mattino*, November 3 and 5, 1954.)

But the most genuine and impressive piece of testimony came as a result of a later investigation conducted by the *Giornale del Mattino* in March 1955. This testimony comes from two pupils who at that time were attending the elementary school in Ambra, the headmaster of which was Signor Giorgio Antoni. The two boys, one of them aged six at the time and the other aged nine, are brothers, and are now living with their family in Genoa. The younger boy, Ampelino Torzini, then in the junior elementary class, revealed, in his class scrapbook, written in school, that he and his brother had both actually been eyewitnesses of the experience of Rosa Lotti while they were out early in the morning seeing to their pigs. In his brief composition, the boy said that he had seen a lady "chatting with the men", and that he had seen the "spindle", but had mistaken it for an animal.

The elder boy, alarmed at the sight, ran off to tell their father, but when he and the father got back there all that was to be seen at the spot was the hole in the ground left by the metallic craft.

Luigi Dini, an employee of the Firenze Court of Appeal, stated that he and his daughter had observed, at about the same time, from the terrace of their house at Terranova Bracciolini, a "strange thing" which was flying through the sky from Pratomagno towards Arezzo, losing speed gradually and descending. It had the speed of a meteor he thought, and he and his daughter both seemed to hear a strange "rustling noise" from it, like the sound of a projectile.

The UFO May Have Returned That Evening

As we conclude this lengthy examination of the Cennina case, it is a fitting moment for us to record that, on the evening of that very same day, November 1, 1954, at about 11.45 p.m., a mysterious luminous machine, resembling in every respect the one allegedly seen at Cennina in the morning, was observed by nine persons and from three separate points in the same region.

Two farmers, Giuliano and Tosca Colcelli (now residing at Traversa di Via Marzia, No. 1, in Montevarchi) have confirmed that, from the place known as Pianacci, near Mercatale Valdarno, they were awakened that night by the shouts of a motorcyclist named Marcello Pistocchi di Giovanni, resident in Búbine, and now a mechanic with the Galileo Plant in Firenze. The two farmers got to the window just in time to see an oval-shaped object, seemingly as they thought about 1-70 metres long, vanish behind the mountains. It had a steady, reddish luminosity.

The motorcyclist Pistocchi, who was able to get a longer look at the craft, said that it seemed to be flying on a completely horizontal course, very low indeed, so that he was dazzled by its powerful, blinding light. He got the impression that the object was about to descend. Its light was so powerful that, from a distance, as he put it, "you could have seen a needle lying in the dust on the road." And—a strange feature this—he said that the light emitted from it continued far throughout the region. This light was coming from a lamp set centrally on the craft. According to the statement of the two Colcelli farmers, it also had two smaller lights on its sides. The motorcyclist Pistocchio compared the colour and intensity of the light of its centrally placed lamp to the colour and light produced in welding, that is to say: blinding and bluish-white. (*Domenica del Corriere*, September 24, 1952. In this connection it is opportune to recall the Facchini⁸ case which happened on April 24, 1950.)

The witnesses were not able to say for sure whether they lost sight of the object because it had vanished from view, or whether its apparent disappearance was due to the fact that it might have turned its light off suddenly, in which case it would have remained invisible to their eyes which were already blinded by its intense glare.

According to yet another witness, regarding whom the press gave no further details, the machine was like a flying spindle formed by two truncated cones joined at their bases. All the witnesses agreed in saying that no sound whatever was heard from it during its passage.

The motorcyclist Pistocchio suffered a real attack of panic, so much so that he tore his trousers badly in his

haste to dismount from his machine. He now lives in Búcine, and we found him to be a serious and steady sort of individual, well regarded. When recently approached again about the case however he was no longer willing to talk about what had happened to him on that famous night.

The selfsame phenomenon, at the same time, 11.45 p.m. was seen by various witnesses in Cennina. These included the mechanic Gino Pianigini, residing in Búcine, and the land-agent Luigi Bianchi. Then there was also the parish priest of Torre, Don Nevio Rossi. All three of these witnesses declared that they had seen a mysterious machine flying low and emitting an extremely powerful bright light.

Additional testimonies were secured from various other individuals whose names have not been reported. According to all of them the UFO was seen flying very close to the ground, and at times they saw it even halt in its flight.

There is moreover the testimony of Ottorino Santarelli, a tailor of Pietraviva. A resident of Paesetto (about 3 km. from Ambra), he was with two friends, Otello Preriasi and Angiolino Brogi, at about midnight on the date in question. Just as they had left the Pietraviva recreational club they saw what seemed to be a globe, sky-blue in colour, which suddenly halted in mid-air when near Pietraviva and over towards Santa Lucia from where they were. Then it seemed to drop down perpendicularly, giving the impression that it was about to land. But it stopped half-way up the side of a nearby hill. Wanting to get a better view of it, the three young men ran towards it, but the globe rose up again and headed off towards the mountain known as Monte Benichi, but then changed course once more and moved towards Casucci. As it moved off its colour changed from light-blue to red. It gave out no sound. Subsequent enquiries established that the tailor was a well-balanced person, not easily inclined to suggestibility, and there could be no question of euphoria due to possible libations, as he was a total abstainer. Signor Santarelli is now living in Milano.

Notes and Comments by Gordon Creighton

- ¹ The Italian press reports cited by Signor Sergio Conti are as follows:

La Nazione Italiana, November 2 and 5, 1954.
La Nazione Sera, November 2, 1954.
Il Giorno del Mattino, November 2, 3, and 5, 1954.
Il Giorno del Mattino, March 2, 1955.
La Settimana Incom, June 17, 1962 (No. 24, Year 15).

The work of two Italian UFO investigation groups has gone into the compilation of this report. These are (1) MUF (UFO Section), or, to give them their full title in English, the UFO Section of the Florentine Humanistic Cultural Movement, in whose files the Cennina Case is listed as No. 92, and (2) the Prato UFO Study Group (Centro di Ricerca Per Lo Studio Sui Fenomeni UFO di Prato), whose energetic young members have just conducted a fresh investigation of the case and have unearthed much valuable corroborative material—for example, the story of the two boys who were out attending to their pigs on the morning of November 1, 1954, and are alleged to have actually seen Signora Rosa Lotti being chatted up by her *homuncules*.

- ³ Rosa Lotti's comparison is good. These are all very typical sounds in Chinese.

- ⁴ The Carabinieri are the Italian *Gendarmerie*.

⁵ There is no need to emphasise the importance of this feature, which, as Signor Conti says, is borne out by other cases. It can only mean that—as we have long suspected—UFO entities, or *some* UFO entities, possess great hypnotic powers over humans. Everyone can work out for himself what the possible implications of this might be!

- ⁶ “due piccoli seggiolini.”

⁷ There are several other cases on record in which entities have appeared to be taking some sort of photograph.

⁸ I gave an outline of the remarkable Facchini case in my article *The Italian Scene—Part II*, in FSR for March/April 1963. Bruno Facchini, a workman of Abbiate Guazzone (Province of Varese) was returning home after a violent thunderstorm on the night of April 24, 1950. Just before 10.00 p.m., close to a line of electricity pylons, he came upon a vast black circular object hanging above the ground. In the lower part of it light was coming from an open hatch, and a being, which seemed to be a man, was standing on what looked like a pneumatic jack, and seemed to be soldering or welding the surface of the vast black object, for sparks were flying. The being was in a helmet and tight-fitting uniform, as were three others who were walking about round the large black mass. Facchini politely stepped up and asked the “welder” whether he could be of any help, and received a “guttural reply” that made him draw back in alarm and he felt himself struck by what seemed to be a jet of compressed air which knocked him down. Shortly afterwards he saw the hatch close and watched the great dark object move off silently into the sky.

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SOME SCOTTISH MONSTERS

Janet Bord

Until her recent marriage Mrs. Bord was well known in UFO research circles as Janet Gregory. An article by her husband, Colin, will be found on page 17. Their book *Mysterious Britain* is due for publication by Garnstone Press in October.

ONE of the very few cases on record of a UFO landing and occupants being sighted in Britain took place in November 1958, in Scotland. Briefly, the details are as follows. During a Territorial Army weekend exercise, a few miles outside the village of Tarland (about 60 miles from Aberdeen), two young lads were left guarding a small hilltop for a few hours. At sunrise, they heard a strange gurgling sound coming from behind some trees not far away. They went to investigate, and then they saw two large figures stumbling in their direction. They appeared to be at least 7 to 8 feet tall, and the gurgling sound was caused by them apparently talking to one another in a guttural tongue. They were dressed peculiarly, and seemed to find difficulty in walking across the rough ground. The two lads turned and fled down the hillside, taking refuge in a small hut. As they were running towards this, they heard a swishing noise behind them and, turning back, they saw a huge, brilliant disc-shaped object coming down the road, only a few feet off the ground. It swooped up over their heads, pulsating and leaving a shower of sparks in its wake.*

This case sprang to my mind as I was reading a recent book, *The Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui* by Affleck Gray¹, which deals with the various legends surrounding this Scottish mountain, legends of huge ghostly figures seen close to the summit, mysterious footsteps and footprints, music and laughter. One witness of the Big Grey Man himself, a mountaineer, was alone at night on the mountain, and saw "a great brown creature . . . swaggering down the hill . . . it rolled slightly from side to side, taking huge measured steps. It looked as though it was covered with shortish brown hair," and he later calculated its height as between 24 and 30 feet. A yeti? Or a ufonaut? Although the creature has not often been seen, many people alone on this mountain have experienced presences, such sensations being powerful enough to cause them to flee in terror.

More people have heard the mystery footsteps: "As we sat there we distinctly heard the sound as of slow footsteps, as when one walks over wet gravel. We looked round, but no one was visible—no sheep, deer or human . . . The sound of the slow footsteps died away in a minute or two." Others have been followed down the mountain by the footsteps. Compare these with the reports of "invisible walkers" heard by skywatchers up on Cradle Hill at Warminster. Although footsteps were heard, no figure could be seen. But as well as steps being heard, footprints 19 inches long (with features similar to those found in the snow in Devon in 1855 and termed the "Devil's Hoofmarks") have been found in the snow on Ben MacDhui and photographed. Although a

natural explanation of this phenomenon, which has also apparently been seen elsewhere, is given in the book, it is nevertheless interesting to bear in mind the ideas of George Lyall whose article "Did a laser create the 'devil's footprints'?" appeared in *Flying Saucer Review* recently.²

Frequently during UFO sightings and incidents of a supernatural nature, animals are aware that something strange is going on.³ The behaviour of a Scotsman's retriever one night on the mountain in 1939 indicates its awareness of something unusual, though his owner experienced nothing. "The dog was ranging about fifteen yards ahead of him when he suddenly whimpered, turned tail, and shot past at full speed. Donald returned to the Lodge perplexed, and found him crouched up against the back door trembling with terror." The dog would never pass the spot again, not even in daylight.

On more than one occasion, people have heard singing up on the mountain, baritone, treble and bass voices have been heard, though often the tunes cannot be recognised. Also orchestral sounds have been heard, and the music of the mountain has been ascribed to wind whistling through cracks in the rocks. However the answer is not so simple, for sometimes the music is heard in still weather away from rocks, and sometimes not all the members of a party have been able to hear the sounds. Talking and laughing by voices of both sexes has also been heard, though no words could be distinguished. This is reminiscent of some of the material picked up on tape by Philip Rodgers several years ago,⁴ and also by Dr. Konstantin Raudive, fully detailed in his book *Breakthrough*.⁵ Philip Rodgers believes his voices come from spacemen; Konstantin Raudive claims he is communicating with the "dead".

Is there any connection between all these strange happenings on Ben MacDhui and UFOs? Tarland, where the two UFO occupants were seen in 1958, is only about 30 miles to the east, not very far as the UFO flies. Not much farther away (approximately 33 miles in a north-westerly direction) is Loch Ness. Everyone knows about Nessie, that fabled and fabulous monster who has been such a cause of frustration to many a sincere researcher. F. W. Holiday, who wrote an important book about the monster,⁶ now feels that that particular phenomenon is not at all what most people think it to be, i.e. a clear-cut case of a prehistoric animal still living in the twentieth century. In his article "Monsters and UFOs,"⁷ he puts forward the idea that "In a general sense there are many parallels between monsters and UFOs," and that these phenomena may be linked.

(Continued on page 17)

ANGELS AND UFOs

Colin Bord

An examination of the correlation between an historical account of religious visions and today's contactee reports.

IT now appears very likely that the UFO phenomenon of lights in the sky has been with mankind for at least as long as there are written records. Some researchers have suggested that religious reports of messengers from God are also an aspect of the historical UFO scene.¹ The difficulty in correlating these reports with current reports of visiting UFO entities lies in the lack of detail in the Biblical accounts. This is not really surprising when one remembers that to the original writers the importance of the account lay in the message and not the medium. A report of a Biblical type of visitation written with the detail and observation more approximating to that of a present-day witness could be of greater assistance to researchers than the vague descriptions found in the old religious documents that are normally at their disposal. I believe that such reports do exist, and the experience of contactee Joseph Smith form one case that is worthy of our consideration.

Joseph Smith was the poorly educated son of a farmer living in the state of New York, who claimed that between the years of 1820 and 1829 he was contacted by various entities who told him they were angels and saints, and whom he believed to be such. It was a time of religious unrest among the simple agrarian community, and Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and others exerted continuous pressure upon the unsophisticated population in order to gain converts for their own particular sect. The 14-year-old farmer's son was not a little confused by the claims of the opposing groups, and decided to seek some form of guidance by retreating alone to a secluded woodland glade to pray. To his astonishment, he felt himself being overcome by

some unknown influence and unable to move or speak. He was about to succumb to what, he felt sure, was a malignant force, when a pillar of light, brighter than the sun, appeared above his head and gradually descended until it touched him. The malignant force was dispelled and before him appeared two glowing personages, whose feet did not touch the ground. After his initial amazement, a long conversation ensued, and to his enquiry as to which of the contending sects he should join, they replied "None," and indicated that one was as worthless as another.

At the end of the interview Joseph "came to himself" and found that he was lying on his back, gazing skyward. As were others later, he was anxious to spread the news of his experience, and as with the twentieth-century contactees, he met with disbelief, contempt, derision and hostility. But he was unshaken in his conviction that he had met and conversed with holy personages from the realms beyond this earth.

After this initial contact, nothing further occurred for three years until one night while Joseph was in bed, a glowing entity appeared in the room "standing in the air." This being announced himself as Moroni, a messenger from God, and told Joseph that there was work for him to do which would cause him to become famous, or infamous, on a worldwide scale. In Smith's own words: "my name should be had for good and for evil among all nations, kindreds and tongues, or that it should be both good and evil spoken of among all people." Moroni then told him where he would find a book of gold plates that had been buried centuries earlier. It told of the history of the earlier inhabitants of the American continent, and of the time that Christ

SOME SCOTTISH MONSTERS *Continued from page 16*

It may be pure coincidence that Loch Ness, Ben MacDhui and Tarland, all linked with stories of monsters of one kind or another, are so close together. But if someone were to take up the idea at this point, perhaps one of our Scottish readers, it might be found that this area has been particularly prone to visits by UFOs, and perhaps even that the three instances I have cited are not the only monster reports in this area. Who knows? Much relevant information remains buried, unless it is assiduously dug out by a dedicated researcher, such as Mr. Gray has proved himself to be.

But if this kind of investigation is not exciting enough for our would-be researchers, perhaps they might like to spend a night alone on Ben MacDhui and try and meet the Big Grey Man for themselves.

* [See *The Humanoids* (N. Spearman edition), p. 18—EDITOR.]

Notes

- 1 Published by Impulse Books, Aberdeen, 1970.
- 2 Vol. 18, No. 1, p. 24.
- 3 For many examples, see "A New FSR Catalogue: The effects of UFOs on animals, birds and smaller creatures", which has been appearing in recent issues of *Flying Saucer Review*.
- 4 For details, see *Gemini*, Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 38.
- 5 The full title is *Breakthrough: An amazing experiment in electronic communication with the dead*, published by Colin Smythe, 1971.
- 6 *The Great Orm of Loch Ness*, Faber, 1968.
- 7 *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol. 17, No. 5, p. 12.

had lived with them and taught them. He was not to obtain the book then, but would be told when the time was right.

The room began to darken and the glowing individual ascended in a conduit of light. But the excitements of the night had not finished. In fact they could hardly be said to have begun, for while Joseph was still thinking about this amazing visitation, the room began to brighten once again, and the same entity reappeared at his bedside. Without the least variation he repeated his previous performance, and then added some prophecies regarding war, famine and pestilence that were soon to fall upon the world. He then retreated as before.

By now, Joseph Smith was deeply impressed and, abandoning sleep, he lay there, overwhelmed by the recent occurrences. And yet a third time the glowing personage appeared and again went through the same message, and this time warned Smith against having any ideas of obtaining the gold plates for his personal gain. This, he was told, would not be allowed to happen. With that, the figure of Moroni disappeared in the same manner as before.

It was by then daylight, the contact having taken the whole night to complete. Even so, the indoctrination was not yet finished. The following day Joseph found himself to be weak and exhausted, and was unable to work. His father saw his incapacity and sent him home, and as he was crossing a field, he fell unconscious upon the ground. Once again the same messenger appeared, and once more related the message that had been given three times during the night. At the end, Moroni told Smith to return to his father and tell him what he had seen and heard. The father was convinced of the reality of his son's experience, and told him to do as he had been instructed. So Joseph Smith went to the adjacent hill and found the inscribed gold plates within a stone box buried in the ground. He was told to leave them there for four years, but to return on the anniversary of that day every year. He did so, and each time was met by Moroni who gave him instructions on how he should organise his church once the gold plates had been recovered and rendered into English.

The numerous correspondences between this story and many of the features encountered in present-day contact cases will be evident to all ufologists who have given such cases more than casual attention. As the spirit of that time was predominantly of an evangelising religious nature, the manifestation was presented in a religious context, just as it is today when simple Catholic peasant children are used to spread a message, as has occurred at Fátima, Garabandal and several other places. This approach would not meet with much success if used in contacting members of the general populace of the Western world today who have no strongly-held religious beliefs, but as the predominant belief of our society has been based on the efficacy of science, it might be expected that a contactee would be presented with the phenomenon in a scientific context, and this generally seems to be the case. Bearing this essential difference in mind, we can examine the similarities between Joseph Smith's experiences and those of present-day contactees.

A reasonably well-authenticated report which con-

tains elements of both the religious/supernatural and the scientific space-craft presentation occurred in South America in 1965. Luminous beings descended from a landed saucer while the local Indians who were present worshipped them with uplifted arms. A message of peace and goodwill was conveyed by the "space beings", who returned to their craft and took off in a blaze of light.² Another relevant case involved Villanueva, a Mexican taxi-driver who met two mysterious persons who had appeared while he was examining his broken-down vehicle. After all three had spent the night sheltering inside the car from the rain, he accompanied them to their craft and noted that while he floundered and squelched through the swampy ground, the feet of the two ufonauts did not touch the ground but walked above the muddy surface.³ Beams of light are a frequent occurrence in contactee and landing cases, and have, according to the witnesses, been used by ufonauts as a means of egress and ingress.⁴

The initial paralysis (akinesia) as originally reported by Joseph Smith can be paralleled in various contact cases. Notable among these is the case of the lavender grower Maurice Masse⁵ who was not only temporarily paralysed by his contacts, but subsequently suffered the after-effects of exhaustion, as did Joseph Smith. There are numerous cases of paralysis being experienced during a contact, and some of these include the contactee lapsing into an unconscious state.⁶ In two of the cases previously cited⁷ as examples of the use of light beams by entities, the contactees were paralysed during part of the contact.

A number of contactees have been given prophecies of coming doom, sometimes in a Biblical context as was Joseph Smith, but others on a more personal or immediate level. Dino Kraspedon is one such contactee that comes to mind whose contact had Biblical connotations, while more immediate doom prophecies were given to Felipe Martínez who, along with his family, was promised salvation when the rest of humanity is burnt up.⁸

The interval of weeks, months, or even years between the initial contact and subsequent visits has been a feature of a number of *depth* contactees' stories (by "depth" I refer to contactees who claim numerous meetings with "spacemen" who have gained the confidence of the contactee, as opposed to those contactees who have had one brief and possibly traumatic contact experience). Orfeo Angelucci had his first UFO sighting in 1946 and contact was initially made during 1952 followed by meetings at one- or two-monthly intervals.⁹ Howard Menger claims his first sighting occurred at the age of eight in 1930, and two years later he had his first contact experience. He was not contacted again until 1942, when he was doing army training—an interval of ten years.¹⁰ Joseph Smith's visitant did return on the date that had been promised, but many contactees are told that there will be a return visit which in fact never occurs.¹¹ Similarly, contactees are told of massed landings which will take place on specific dates in the future, but which have also failed to materialise.¹² The term "bedroom visitants" has been coined by John Keel to describe entities who appear at night to contactees,¹³ and Joseph Smith's experience seems to fall into the same category as the cases referred to in note

13 as well as other cases that are on record.

Joseph Smith did dig up the book of golden plates and he also translated them, with the aid of an unexplained device that he found buried with them, which was termed the Urim and Thummim. In 1830 he published his translation, which is known as *The Book of Mormon* and became the bible for his new church. He prefaced the book with an account of his experiences, and with a statement signed by three witnesses to further visitations that happened to them and Smith in 1829, and another testimony from another eight witnesses who had handled and examined the gold plates. These, said Joseph Smith, were later collected by Moroni.

As a proselytising contactee, Joseph Smith was probably one of the most successful ever. From the original group of six friends, his organisation grew to hundreds in a few weeks and within a matter of months had a membership of thousands. It has continued to grow, and today the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, often known as the Mormon Church, has something in the region of three million members and is a worldwide organisation.

For the rest of his short life, Smith suffered the experiences of most known contactees, but as he lived in a less tolerant society than ours, he met with rougher treatment than the contactee of today. Apart from the usual ridicule heaped upon him by the press of the day, he and his followers suffered continual harassment at the hands of clergy-inspired mobs, and were frequently forced to move from established settlements to fresh territory. He was imprisoned in 1844, and while awaiting trial, the mob broke into the jail and shot and killed him.

The crucial point in such an experience as Smith's would seem to be after the initial contact. If the "space people" decide that the contactee is a suitable subject they may then set about making the contactee one of their own. If they decide he is not suitable, the contact is not pursued and the contactee is left with a ridiculous story and prophecies which fail to materialise. Those whom they do take under their wing may find their lives being controlled and directed to an unprecedented degree. The intelligences who adopted Howard Menger frankly told him that they had manoeuvred him into some of the bloodiest fighting in the Pacific operations of World War II. They had decided that their message would command more attention and respect from the American public if it were voiced by a war hero than if it came from an individual who had not been endangered fighting for his country's freedom.¹⁴ Other contactees have said that during a meeting with a UFO they experienced a period of blackout when operations were performed on their brain or body, and subsequently they were unable to use their free will on all occasions. They feel they have been "programmed."¹⁵ The ultimate fate of Joseph Smith was probably known and even planned many years before his murder.

The study of the teachings of Smith, Menger, and other individuals, both contemporary and from history, and the effect upon humanity of these teachings, is a necessary part of research into the contactee syndrome. To decide just what the contacting intelligences are

trying to achieve is far from easy. If one accepts the doctrine that this life we know on earth is but one of many that we will eventually have experienced, then to have it taken over and controlled by others may not necessarily be considered an unbearable usurpation of free will. For those who believe that they have no other life than this, it is an utterly outrageous imposition. Researching into the methods and motives of these non-earthly intelligences brings one face to face with significant questions. Would the answers to these questions reveal the nature and ultimate purpose of mankind on this planet?

References

- ¹ *Flying Saucers Through the Ages* by Paul Thomas, published 1965 by Neville Spearman Ltd. *The Bible and Flying Saucers* by Barry H. Downing, published 1967 by J. B. Lippincott Co., U.S.A.
- ² *The Humanoids*, edited by Charles Bowen, published 1969 by Neville Spearman Ltd., p. 110 (case 42 in "The Humanoids in Latin America").
- ³ *The Humanoids*, p. 90 (case 4 in "The Humanoids in Latin America").
- ⁴ For accounts of typical reports, see FSR, Vol. 15, No. 2, p. 21; FSR, Vol. 14, No. 6, p. 2, and *The Humanoids*, p. 104 (case 30 in "The Humanoids in Latin America"). Also, contactee George van Tassel in a TV interview on the Long John Nebel Show in New York reported that in 1953 when he was contacted in the desert by a saucer crew he entered the machine, which was hovering above the ground, by stepping into an "anti-gravity" light beam in which he floated up into the saucer. In FSR, Vol. 17, No. 6, p. 24, "Uproar in Brazil", there are two cases of unwilling contactees being levitated and held for some time in mid-air in a beam of light.
- ⁵ FSR, Vol. 11, No. 6, pp. 6 and 8; FSR, Vol. 14, No. 1, p. 6.
- ⁶ *The Humanoids*, pp. 51 and 59 (cases 149 and 198 in "The Pattern Behind the UFO Landings"); p. 111 (case 44 in "The Humanoids in Latin America"); p. 151 (Riverside Incident in "UFO Occupants in the United States").
- ⁷ FSR, Vol. 14, No. 6, p. 2, and Vol. 17, No. 6, p. 24 (previously quoted in note 4).
- ⁸ *The Humanoids*, p. 111 (case 44 in "The Humanoids in Latin America"). This case has already been cited in note 6 as an example of paralysis. [See also FSR, Vol. 18, No. 4, p. 00.]
- ⁹ *The Secret of the Saucers* by Orfeo M. Angelucci, published 1955 by Amherst Press, Amherst, Wisconsin, U.S.A.
- ¹⁰ *From Outer Space to You* by Howard Menger, published 1959 by Saucerian Books, Clarksburg, West Virginia, U.S.A.
- ¹¹ FSR, Vol. 17, No. 6, p. 15.
- ¹² *The Humanoids*, pp. 111 and 118 (cases 44 and 54 in "The Humanoids in Latin America").
- ¹³ *UFOs—Operation Trojan Horse*, by John A. Keel; see index for "bedroom visitants". Also see *Beyond Condon*, FSR Special Issue No. 2—"Return of the Monster" by Jerome Clark, p. 56.
- ¹⁴ As note 10.
- ¹⁵ "Strange Transformation" by Hans Lauritzen in *Outermost*, published by Gene Duplantier, 17 Shetland Street, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada; and FSR, Vol. 17, No. 6, p. 24.

Other sources used: Joseph Smith's introduction to *The Book of Mormon* and literature from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

UFO SPEED IN OUR ATMOSPHERE

Irene Granchi

Our contributor was, for many years, closely associated with the late Dr. Olavo T. Fontes, APRO representative in Brazil.

THE photos illustrating Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz's article in the *Flying Saucer Review*, January/February 1972 (pp. 8, 10 and 12) immediately brought to mind those I had seen in stills taken from Fernando Cleto Nunes Pereira's film, the similarity striking me as being very great. On being shown these pictures, he agreed with me, and it was decided to let FSR know about them.

Cleto's film, taken by Ortiz Rubio, a now deceased TV Tupi cameraman in the presence of Hilton Gomes, a well-known TV showman in Brazil, was bought by him only three days after it was shown as an extra news-item on the night of November 11, 1957. This was in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Nobody had believed it worthwhile keeping at the time for all that could be seen in its 1½-minute duration* was a round light swelling and splitting, then joining again. At one point the two lights split into four. That was all. Who would want anything so unsensational to watch?

Background evidence to the authenticity of this film is plentiful, for not only had there been a blackout at the TV studios in Urca district, but also the two TV men had been called to the scene of the sighting by eye-witnesses—there were hundreds of them—as was testified by the papers on the following day. Among them, there was a Professor Sergio Raul de Barros Regina who, in an interview, said he had watched first one luminous point travel horizontally across the sky, then two, then two more, all flying at an incommensurable speed first towards the Sumaré (near the Corcovado Christ) then towards the suburb of Leblon. It was nearly midnight when he saw a huge flash, again in the vicinity of the Samaré. All of this was seen from the window of his Rio de Janeiro apartment, looking towards Corcovado.

The little UFO movie was to afford some very astounding revelations. According to Fernando Cleto's studies and his consequent statement, it represents perhaps the most important document proving the *rate of speed* developed by UFOs within the atmosphere of our Earth.

Examination of the film revealed that a luminous central body was the constant target of the cameraman, just as it was to the hundreds of eye-witnesses to the sighting. By slowly unreeling the film and observing the sequence in separate frames, other lights are seen to appear in it.

The film camera used was a Bell & Howe, year unknown. Ortiz Rubio having died, it is no longer possible to ascertain which film-speed was actually used, but the minimum employed was 1/16th—it could have been 1/24th—so it was deducted that the movements appearing in isolated frames occurred at the minimum of 1/16th of a second.

Consequently, every time a new luminous body appears in one of the stills, and does *not* appear in the subsequent one, nor in the one preceding it, one can be justified in saying that the movement was produced within a minimal fraction of a second, in other words 1/16th up to 1/24th.

The film was taken with the nocturnal background of the "Mesa do Imperador" which lies somewhere between the Corcovado and the Pedra da Gavea, both famous Rio de Janeiro landmarks, around 700 metres high. The UFO was flying 300 metres above this. It was filmed from a distance of about 3,000 metres. The field of the telephoto lens covered about 1,200 metres. While sixteen photos were being taken per second, *one* object crosses the whole field in only *one* picture. The luminous central spot is maintained by the cameraman all the while. This means that the speed of the UFO

SOUTH AFRICAN MINI-WAVE, 1972—Pt. 1 *Continued from page 8*

Town. This object, which was brown in colour, passed below the plane. Ground control, Cape Town, knew of no other aircraft in the area at the time. (*Sunday Times*—S.A.—of July 9, 1972.)

* * * * *

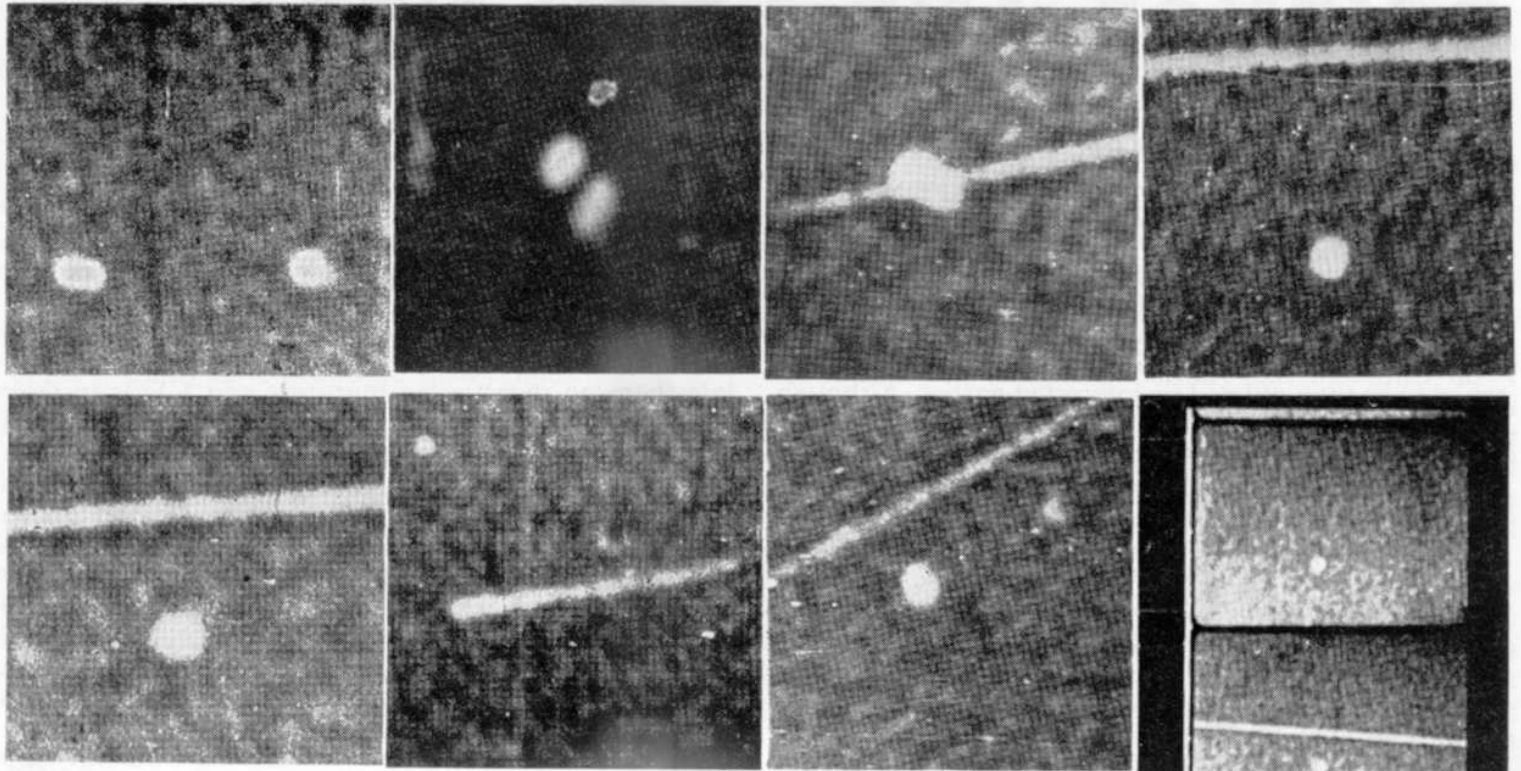
I wonder if there were any radar reports of the unknowns in these three South African Airways incidents?

I apologise to readers for presenting these accounts out of strictly chronological order. Further reports during South Africa's mini-wave will be included in

the second part of this collection, scheduled for the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

Notes

- 1 Bowen, Charles: "A hot reception at Fort Beaufort" in *FSR Case Histories* Supplement 11, August 1972.
- 2 At the request of Dr. McDonald, these were published, edited into the form of articles, in FSR 16/2, 16/3 and 16/5.
- 3 Fredrickson, Sven-Olof: "Recent observations over Southern Sweden," FSR 17/5.
- 4 Menge, Lin: "Shooting at UFOs is all right for some" in *Rand Daily Mail* of July 1, 1972.



crossing an isolated photo must have been at least 69,120 km. per hour. This is a modest estimate. Every shot can be examined in the same manner, deductions made with the same precision. As a working-plan, the probable distance of the UFO from the camera was calculated at 3,000 metres, but it could well have been 4,000 metres away—in which case the speed reached would have been 92,160 km. per hour. In 1957 that was indeed an unheard-of speed within our atmosphere!

Fernando Cleto Nunes Pereira sent a copy of his film to the Brazilian Air Force a short while ago. This study, according to him, can be of inestimable value to science, so he is now putting copies of his motion picture film at the disposal of scientists† wherever they may be in the hope that their conclusions will be made known.

In November, 1971, when I attended APRO's UFO Symposium in Tucson at the University of Arizona, I had with me a copy of this film which was viewed by the scientists participating at the Symposium in the Lorenzens' home. However, I had strict orders to return the film to Cleto here in Brazil, and scarcity of time prevented any copies being made on the spot for local study, or an extensive explanation of the facts involved.

All that goes above conveys Fernando Cleto's elaboration on the subject and deserves careful study and attention.

My own personal interest in these pictures stems from a different angle. I started out saying how struck I had been by their similarity to Dr. Berthold Schwarz's stills. I have numbered some of the enlargements F. Cleto Nunes has so kindly offered FSR to prove my point, so Nos. 1 and 2 can be compared with Fig. 2, Nos. 3, 4, and 5 with Figs. 4 and 6 on page 8 [of *FSR for January/February 1972*]. Obviously the twin lights are similar, the single light that seems to be doubling as if ready to split, like the duplicating of a cell, seen

in Fig. 4 and 6. Also the general outline and shape of each light. Let me quote Dr. Schwarz: "... the sky was illuminated by a sudden appearance of one, and then two, white-yellowish orange discs, which pulsed, changed size and colour, and merged into one, and then separated into two discs..." (page 7).

In Cleto's numbers 6 and 7 there are several spots of light that can be compared with Figs. 3, 11, and 12 in Dr. Schwarz's article. Little lights are visible, and what is more important, the nearly straight line in Figs. 11 and 12 can be compared to the absolutely straight line in Cleto's enlargements, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, as well as in the photographic strip of four successive shots (No. 8). This most certainly indicates an object in flight. Again let me quote Dr. Schwarz: "... When the film strips were analysed frame by frame, some tiny blue discs and circular objects were seen... I call attention to it because the appearance of many such unobtrusive forms, where they appear as just flickers of light at slow motion projection speed..." (page 9).

The most indicative resemblances can, however, be found in the four strips of negative film where the two

SCIENCE AND LOCH NESS

F. W. Holiday

As a cynic of long standing it seems to me precisely right that society should become instantly myopic and obtuse whenever the possibility of monsters, UFOs and kindred phenomena is mentioned. Religion and all things other-worldly are only tolerable insofar as they keep within their appointed realm and permit themselves to be manipulated by interested parties. Although the heads of state still pay ostentatious lip-service to the deity, the commercial and social life of the country proceeds on blatantly atheistic lines. The result is predictable. The mass of the people sell their sense of values down the river and buy a colour TV with the proceeds.

Provided monsters and UFOs are not a threat to the establishment or cause the Dow Jones index to sag, we don't really want to know. Quite the best thing about resurrections, the loaves and fishes, and similar assorted oddities, is that we have them entirely on hearsay. In fact if you adopt a certain attitude you can keep almost everything at hearsay level as the Medical Research Council manage to do with spirit-healing. By a simple schizoid manoeuvre of the mind it is possible to accept that certain alleged events in Roman Palestine are not repeatable. This dubious thinking is propped up by the insistence on "faith" from those with only febrile argumentations to offer. This is not good enough. As an active member of the Doubting Thomas Society I claim the right to inspect the evidence—with the proviso that the pundits of this world must do likewise.

When I was a starry-eyed child I truly believed that scientists were interested in knowing. This proved to be untrue. Some things they will not touch at any price no matter what taunts are flung in their direction. Outraged at this selectivity, we can only construe it as intellectual

cheating. These people—it now appears—are really Artful Dodgers turning their blind eye or their good eye towards events, as suits their purpose, before rendering their false accounts.

As an experiment I tried writing cheerful letters to various anthropologists and archaeologists to congratulate them on mentioning monsters and UFOs in their writings about ancient cultures. These letters stressed the validity of such research since the phenomena described are still occurring. Almost none replied, one of the rare exceptions being Dr. George Cansdale who agreed that there is more to the Loch Ness business than meets the eye. None of the mythology experts asked for further details or indicated that they were starting inquiries on their own account or, indeed, that they had any interest whatsoever. Having gone through the motions approved by orthodoxy their function was now concluded.

Science has now developed a sickening credibility gap regarding Loch Ness phenomena. Even an amateur statistician knows that quite a sizable bunch of professional biologists and zoologists must have observed Loch Ness monsters over the last 40 years. The law of averages insists on this because biologists are no more uncommon as visitors to North Scotland than are, for instance, electronic engineers, Commissioners of Public Health or Members of Parliament such as Sir Murdoch MacDonald, K.C.M.G. But whereas the latter group dutifully described their sightings of monsters, the biologists and zoologists never said a word.

There are exceptions to every rule, however, and when biologist Dr. Neil Bass reported watching a large black moving hump in Loch Morar it seemed as if the credibility gap was starting to close. Was not such a hump (and whatever lay beneath it) the probable causation for the sonar effects recorded at Loch Ness by Professor Tucker, Robert E. Love and Dr. Robert Rines during the course of three separate and independent surveys? Were not the sonar echoes caused by humps; and were the humps not monsters?

Being a public body (and therefore vulnerable) the British Museum is bound to make responsive noises if petitioned legibly and pointedly. To such a petition Dr. G. B. Corbett, deputy keeper of Zoology, replied: "I cannot agree with you that the sight of an unexplained disturbance in Loch Morar by Dr. Bass demonstrates that the sonar phenomena seen in Loch Ness were not artefacts or known animals."¹

This statement shows how the scientific accounts are falsified so let us look at it very closely.

Dr. Bass did not merely see an "unexplained disturbance" in Loch Morar; he also saw a large, black, moving hump. The actual words used in The Loch Morar Survey Report, 1970, are: "Dr. Bass noticed a black, smooth-looking hump-shaped object in the water about 300 yards away and called the others, but by the time they arrived it had submerged, going smoothly and

UFO SPEED

Continued from page 21

larger twin lights are seen in several frames. A total of about 40 photos can be derived from these strips and evidence even more conclusive by comparing them with Dr. Schwarz's and Stella Lansing's films. This, for the scientific study.

But to the layman, like myself, the thing that shakes the imagination and seems of much greater significance is that two films taken so far apart in time and space, of lights unidentified, should at all resemble each other, leading us to a telescopic view of other, greater resemblances that are all around us, as yet unrecognised.

Notes

* The total duration of the film is 3 minutes, for the sequel is repeated.

† There will be a charge for the copy and for airmail totalling \$10.00. Requests to: **Fernando Cleto Nunes Pereira**, Rua Aires Saldanha 25, ap 402, Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

vertically down." The British Museum was aware of this report: I quoted it to them. They are aware that Dr. Bass is a particularly competent observer being a marine biologist. In spite of this serious resistance they falsified the account nonetheless.

That the Loch Ness sonar phenomena were not a product of artefacts was affirmed by each of the three sets of sonar experts. Robert Love and Dr. Rines positively identified them as being moving underwater objects of large size which showed a definite reaction to the presence of the boat. Moreover, tests with a static target showed that no known British freshwater animal could possibly have produced such echoes.

So please imagine a trial in which the judge refuses to hear the 500 or so witnesses outside, and has no scruple in tampering with the evidence of those he lets in. As for the technical witnesses—they are advised that they are fools and don't know their jobs and that their testimony, therefore, will be stood on its head.

This is what is being passed off as science in 1972.

Dr. Corbett concludes: "The Museum's position remains that we are willing to study any evidence that comes to light, but that we do not consider existing evidence that there is anything unknown in the loch sufficiently good to justify our participation in the search."

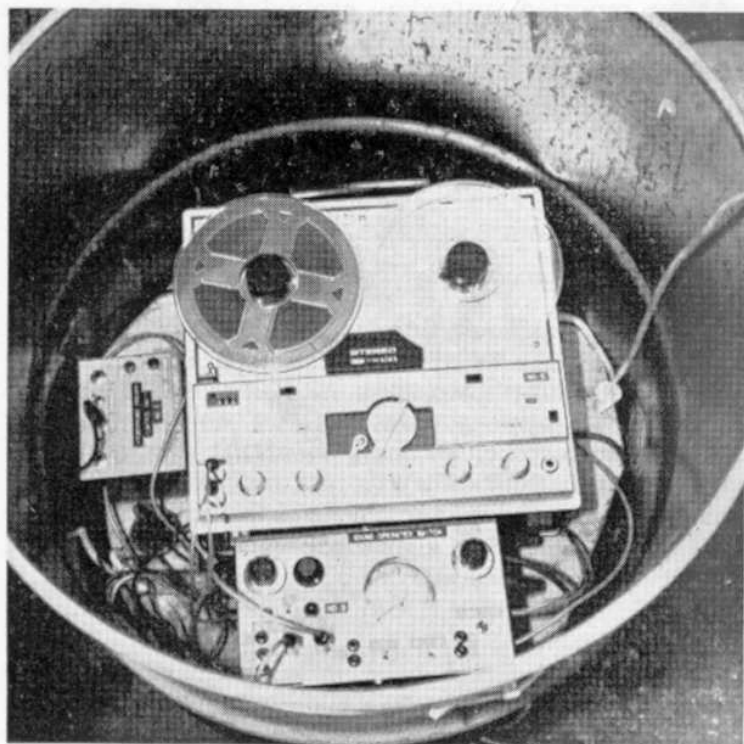
The mouth falls agape. Is he joking? What does he mean by "evidence"? Have we wandered into some sort of Mad Hatter's scientific tea-party in which commonsense is turned inside-out, left becomes right and logic is shot like a mad dog? To save our reason we remember (barely in time) that science doesn't want to know about this at all, and evading our catalogue of

facts represents no more than a passing embarrassment. Because the shocking truth is that Loch Ness monsters are not scientifically possible and to admit to such a thing destroys orthodoxy at its roots. We must remember to repeat all this fifty times a day as a penance.

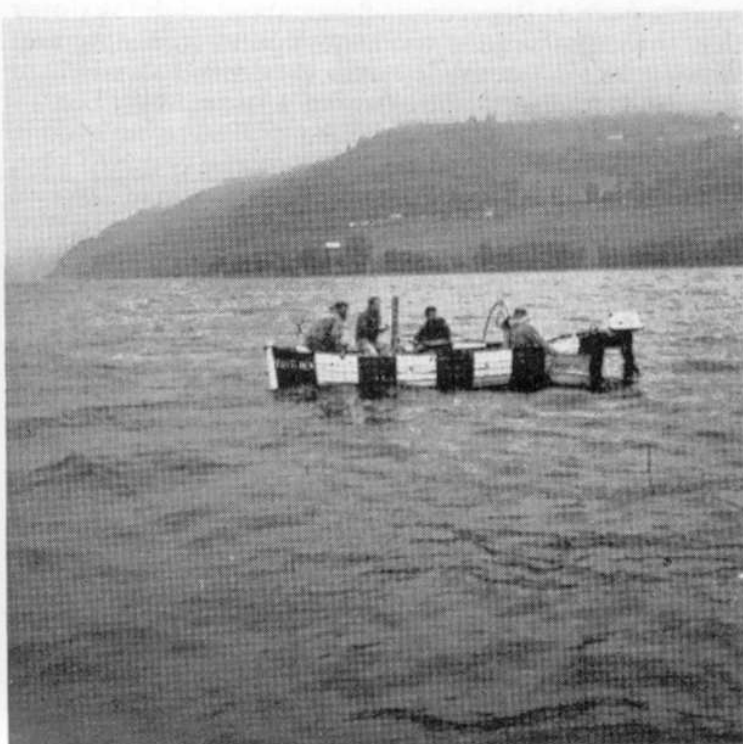
There will never be a British Museum expedition to Loch Ness to observe a monster any more than there will be a Jodrell Bank expedition to Warminster to observe a UFO. These sort of facts are not wanted, and science accounts will always be doctored to make sure they never creep in. When the starry-eyed little boy who was the writer learned all this he knew his disillusionment was complete. Because the wise men don't want to know the truth—only the bits of it they can fit into their orthodoxies. And these, as we know, leave the Dow Jones index unimpaired and permit the usual banalities to be observed in the accustomed way. As a process it could be described as a sort of intellectual fossilisation.

The upshot of all this is a deep suspicion over everything wrought by the scientists because they are clearly not to be taken at face value. The number of blind eyes turned towards an assortment of Fortean facts must be legion. Falsifying the accounts must now have become a major occupation because even the science journals (and they are bare for public scrutiny) are contaminated.

In an attempt to diminish Professor Tucker's sonar findings at Loch Ness, for instance, *Nature*² produced an attack so filled with distortions it could have passed muster for a cartoon-strip. "The loch was excavated by Pleistocene glaciers and has always been a freshwater lake," declared this august journal. This is just not so. Common observation suggests that the whole of the



Interior of acoustic monitor.



Robert E. Love (second from left) anchoring an acoustic monitor in 600 feet of water in Loch Ness.

BRAZIL ONCE MORE

Gordon Creighton

WE are indebted to Dr. W. Buhler for the very prompt despatch of some press-clippings on the latest UFO visitation in Brazil. Coinciding as this does with the current "flap" in South Africa, it may well be that a general "flap" is also building up in South America. It looks very much like 1965 again, and one is inevitably reminded of previous speculations regarding the role of Antarctica in the whole UFO Phenomenon, when one sees these southerly extremities of two of our continents again involved. (But what about Australasia? It will be interesting if increased sightings are reported from there also.)

Meanwhile, the Brazilian press-reports to hand are as follows (full translation in most cases, with paraphrases here and there):

From *O Dia* (Rio de Janeiro) of Saturday, July 29, 1972. Under the headline SQUADRONS OF SAUCERS AGAIN SEEN OVER VARIOUS TOWNS there appeared the following account from "Niterói (Sucursal): A public prosecutor, a former city-prefect, a lawyer, and hundreds of other persons of solid repute watched yesterday at Ururari, ten km. from Campos, the movements of flying saucers which appeared to be obeying the instructions of a 'mother-ship,' just as, on the previous day, more than 5,000 people had observed the mystery objects.

"On Wednesday (July 26) the saucers appeared over Campos and also over Vitória and over Campo Grande (State of Mato Grosso).

"Yesterday, besides visiting Campos again, the saucers were at Itaperuna,¹ flying about in the sky over that town for several minutes. Round in shape, and looking like automobile-tyres, they left behind them fiery trails and were all following a larger craft."



THEY ARE BACK

"The phenomenon has now become banal, but this time there was a difference, for it was not single saucers that were being seen at a time, but numbers of them. As we reported yesterday, around 5,000 people were watching a football match in the Godofredo Cruz Stadium at Campos, between the *América* and the *Sapucaia* teams, for the local championship, when they

SCIENCE AND LOCH NESS *Continued from page 23*

Great Glen, from Tarbet Ness down to Loch Linnhe, is a volcanic fault of immense age. Surviving pockets of Old Red sandstone and the opinions of geologists who have studied the formations support this view.³ Moreover, earth-tremors continue to be felt in the region.⁴

"The sonar equipment used by the Birmingham engineers has been tested by the Fisheries Laboratory at Lowestoft where it seems to have been discovered to be prone to ambiguities," said *Nature*. The fact is that Professor Tucker's sonar never left Birmingham and was nowhere near Lowestoft. If the Tucker sonar suffered from ambiguities then Robert Love's Honeywell sonar and Dr. Rine's Klein side-scan sonar (both shipped from the U.S.A.) suffered from similar but even more dramatic ambiguities.

We see therefore that the falsification process is not due merely to the over-caution of individual scientists,

but is a wholesale reaction from all points of the science spectrum. We now appreciate how it is possible for UFOs to flaunt themselves in British skies and for monsters to appear times without number with no official notice taken of these events. It is not that the events don't occur—they do occur. It is because they are the wrong sort of events—unorthodoxies.

This is the scientific crutch with which we are limping towards the 21st century.

References

- ¹ Letter dated May 12, 1972.
- ² Vol. 220, December 28, 1968.
- ³ See *Journal of the Geological Society of London*, Vol. C 11, 1946.
- ⁴ There was a tremor in March, 1971.

spotted eight saucers flying on an E-W course, emitting flashes of red and orange light.

"Everybody had been intent on the football game, when suddenly somebody called attention to the strange objects, which seemed to be carrying out a reconnaissance of the town. Among the many eye-witnesses present we received statements from the advocate, Benedito Rubens, president of the Rio Branco club, from a young woman named Neidnei Rangel, who fainted and had to be taken to the local hospital, from the businessman Carlos de Almeida, and from the journalist Wenes Barros.

"At Vitória (State of Espírito Santo) the mystery objects were seen during the night by various people, among them the Member of Parliament (Deputado) Gérson Camata, who was with some friends attending a party. His description of the saucers was as follows:

"They were coloured objects, flying fast and silently, with a long tail emitting a light of a shade that kept varying, now silvery, now green, and now yellow or red."

"The same phenomenon occurred over the town of Campo Grande, where 13 saucers were seen, 'floating' along in line, at about 10.00 p.m. They were at an estimated height of about 1,000 metres."

YESTERDAY'S SIGHTINGS

"Shaken already by their sightings of the saucers, the thousands of Campos residents saw them again yesterday when they appeared over Ururari, which is 10 km. from Campos. The objects remained there for about five minutes, flying round and round over the area. One of the eyewitnesses was a retired official of the Cupim Sugar Plant, Manuel Machado, who said:

"I was near my house, when I noticed a great brightness in the sky. And then I made out the flying saucers."

"Another witness, Argemiro de Sousa Leite, an employee of the same sugar factory and a player in the União football team, confirmed this, and added:

"It was just like the day before. It seems that they were the same lot of saucers."

"Both these witnesses had been on their way home when they saw the bright orange lights in the sky, and the saucers flying in line behind their mother-ship."

ITAPERUNA

"At Itaperuna too, practically the whole population saw the saucers fly over yesterday. Witnesses described them as shaped like tyres and emitting flashes of red and orange light. Among witnesses were: the public prosecutor José Moreira Bastos Filho; the tax-inspector Darvi Braga Campos; the advocate Francisco Moreira do Nascimento; the head of the municipal guard, José Reis; the ex-prefect, José Garcia, and many others."

OVER SALVADOR (STATE OF BAHÍA)

"Various people declare they have seen flying saucers here, over Vitória da Conquista and in the suburb of Liberdade, which is part of the city of Bahia. An agronomy student named Antônio Jorge Silva de Menezes states that he photographed a saucer last May, but that he had said nothing about it until now as he was 'afraid they might say I was mad.'

"At Vitória da Conquista, which is some 500 km. from Salvador, dozens of people ran out into the main square to watch the saucers.

"The student of agronomy referred to above, said (referring to his photograph taken last May) that he had been standing on the terrace of his house when he saw a strange object in the sky. It was shining, and he could hear no sound from it. 'I waited till it came nearer and then I took my first photo when it was about 500m. from me and at about 1,000m. from the ground. While I was winding on the film the saucer moved away at an incredible speed.'

"According to him, the saucer's speed, when he first saw it, was comparable to that of a jet aircraft. It was oval in shape and was flying in the contrary direction to most of the aircraft seen locally, which are bound for or are leaving the Dois de Julho Airport. He said he had sent the negative and the print to the Alfa-Iola Scientific Laboratory which is engaged in the study of flying saucers.

"Another eyewitness, Sr. Jaime Marinho, an inspector of the Taxation Department of the Prefecture of Salvador, states that on Monday last (July 24), between the hours of 5.00 and 7.00 p.m., he and two friends made contact with extraterrestrial beings from Mars or Venus. The contact occurred on the local beach." [Our italics—EDITOR.]

* * * * *

From *O Dia*, Sunday-Monday, July 30/31, 1972.

TOWN IN TRAUMA OVER FLYING SAUCERS

"Our team of reporters have been to Campos to gather further details on the phenomenon of last Thursday (July 27) when thousands of people at a football match in that town saw eight objects of exceptional and varying brightness accompanying a larger object, as though forming a squadron of 'flying saucers.'

"Many eyewitnesses were interviewed, of whom one or two held the opinion that what had been seen were simply meteors. The period in which the objects were over Campos lasted about two minutes, and the public was left in a state of general apprehension.

"Said one businessman, Edson Santos Azevedo: 'At first I thought they were balloons, but observing them more closely, I preferred to believe that they were something outside of what is normal.'

"Numerous motorists and taxi-drivers saw them. One chauffeur, Odimar de Moraes, counted nine of the craft, which flew out to sea and were lost to sight in dark clouds then covering the sky. Ten other drivers were also witnesses.

"Various local experts attributed everything to meteors.²

"Police motorcycle patrolman Miguel de Almeida was driving on the Campos-Vitória road, and stopped to watch the mystery objects, which he said emitted light of different colours.

"Of all those whom we questioned, only the local priest, Padre Henrique Fisher, said he had not observed the objects and did not believe in them, attributing the whole thing to mass suggestion. However Dona Rosinha, proprietress of a local night club, likened them to 'headlights running through the sky.'

"Three girl students, Márcia Silva Muniz, Lúcia da Silveira, and Ana Cristina, gave statements confirming in all respects the general picture given by others. They said: 'There were eight or nine of the things, apparently following in the tracks of another bigger one. They gave off a weird light and left behind them a streak of light like a rainbow as they headed out towards the sea.'

"Sra. Ana Augusto Rodrigues, wife of Captain Paulo Rodrigues, manager of the Barcelos Sugar Plant, said they were 'a gathering of flying saucers.' Sr. Helgo Santa Fê, professor of physical education in the Campos High School, thought they were meteors.

"We found that great apprehension still prevails among the people of Campos."

* * * * *

From *O Dia*, Tuesday, August 1, 1972.

MAGÉ BLACKED OUT BY SAUCERS: EVEN BATTERY RADIOS SILENCED

"At 9.30 p.m. last night, Magé³ was suddenly blacked out, and even battery radios⁴ were silenced. Thousands of people ran out of their houses and found not only that the town was in total darkness but that a 'squadron' of flying saucers, emitting flashes of light of various colours, were just passing overhead at that moment. There was panic, obviously, and while the saucers were flying around over the area there was no light and everything else electrical stopped too. The electrical clocks marked the time: 9.30. It was a mighty shock for the populace, and they were expecting worse things to come. But when the saucers were gone, all was normal again, the light came on and the radios worked.

"It was a typical calm Monday evening in Magé, with many people out and about on the streets, and on the beaches.

"Suddenly—the blackout. Of power, radios, TV. *And even of battery-operated radios. No breakdown in the Central Generating Plant could cause that!*

"As thousands ran out on to the streets, powerful lights in the sky caught their eyes, and looking up, they saw a squadron of unidentified objects manoeuvring to and fro over the town. There was panic and talk of flying saucers. And fear of something much worse . . .

"About three minutes later the saucers left, with reddish or silvery trails behind them, and light came on again. The battery radios worked once more. All was relief, and calm once more. Except for one question: would they return?

"The technicians of the Central Electricity Plant of the Rio area could find no fault there, and no explanation.

"Everything was back to normal once the saucers had vanished over the ranges.

"'They'—the saucers—had already been, in the last few days, over Campos, over Itaperuna, over Campo Grande, and over Mato Grosso State. Always in 'squadrons.' Eight saucers in all, always flying in a straight line and obeying the commands of a mothercraft.

"Over Parada Angélica, not far from Magé, many people also saw the saucers, but they were flying high, and there was no black-out there.

"Said one witness, Marcos Biank, student, residing in the suburb of Barbuda:

"My mother was in the kitchen and my father was listening to his battery-radio. I was watching the TV. Suddenly the whole house was blacked out. I ran out onto the street to see if it was general. There was no light anywhere in the street but my attention was drawn to a vivid brightness in the sky. Strange objects were flying rapidly overhead, leaving coloured trails which gradually died away. When they had vanished beyond the mountains, the light came on again and the battery-radio operated again without our having touched them."

"Sirlei Pereira and Floripes Lucas, two lady witnesses, told your reporters of what they had seen. Said the former:

"I am still shaken up by it. It was a ball of fire followed by seven other smaller ones. It made my eyes hurt to look at them, and it left me unable to see anything. It was a marvellous sight in the sky, but it terrified me."

"Said Márcio Natal Nogueira, another witness:

"Man, I saw it too. It was a tremendous great thing like a pumpkin, pulling other things."

"Alfredo de Oliveira, taxi-driver, had his mother and his aunt as passengers, when they saw 'a round thing, with very bright sidelights, flashing on and off all the time. We watched it all for about 15 seconds.'

"Edmilson Silva Costa, bank guard, said he had seen 'it' once before at Magé, 'but on that occasion the lights didn't go out.'

"Silva Costa, another witness, who was standing at a bus stop with her daughter, said:

"The strange objects were flying around in the sky and gave off a tremendous brightness."

* * * * *

From *O Dia*, Wednesday, August 9, 1972.

NEAR COLLISION BETWEEN LORRY AND FLYING SAUCER

"Niterói (Sucursal): Police official Átila Vizeu was on duty in the early morning hours when Geraldo Marcílio, aged 32, of São Gonçalo, rushed into the Police Station, pale and trembling, almost incapable of speech.

"The policeman, dozing, sat up with a jump. 'What's this my good man! Is this the way to enter a respectable government office?'

"Geraldo Marcílio took a deep breath, apologised, and explained. 'It was a saucer, a saucer . . . I swear I saw it with my own eyes . . .'

"The vehemence of the man at last aroused the policeman's interest, and he listened to his story. A fantastic story.

"He had been driving a heavy truck along the Amaral Peixoto Motorway, when he saw a yellow and blue light, flashing, as though signalling. At first he thought it must be another vehicle coming the other way and he flashed back.

"But when he had got quite close to it, he saw it was no ordinary vehicle, but a flying saucer, and if he had not braked in time he would have hit it. When he drew up, he was at about 100 metres, at the most, from the mystery object, which was still sending out luminous flashes as though trying to make contact.

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ENGLAND

UFO on the road to York

The following account is taken from the *Stockport Advertiser* of August 24, 1972—

"Probably the closest-ever sighting of an unidentified flying object has been made by a Heald Green couple—in fact the object was not even flying but almost settled in a field on a lonely Yorkshire road.

"It fitted the description of a flying saucer, a glowing melon-shaped structure with a tapering base with a 'T'-shaped door. That is about all that the couple noticed, for when the door began to open they got back into their car and fled.

"Safe at home at 7 Neal Avenue, Heald Green, on Monday, 30-year-old Mr. John Taylor told the *Advertiser* about his experience. His wife, Sandra (29), has left for a month's holiday in Gibraltar.

"It can only be described as a weird experience", he said. 'My wife and I were driving home from Newcastle at about two o'clock in the morning on Thursday.* We were on Ripponden Road, between York and Thirsk, and suddenly Sandra told me to pull up.

"The thing was in a field beside the

road. We could not see the base properly because of a high hedge. It was about 20 feet high and a great deal more than that across, and glowing a weird luminous colour, which I could not possibly describe.

"At one time I would have laughed at anyone saying things like this, but it was a weird experience, and when that door began to open nothing would have made me stay around."

"Mrs. Taylor made a statement to Cheadle Hulme police when she arrived home, expecting to meet with scepticism, but their inquiries told them that other people had reported a similar experience, including a man who had stopped his car at the same time as the Taylors.

"York police are investigating."

* * *

* No clear date is given, but as August 24 (date of publication) was a Thursday, it is reasonable to assume that the Thursday when the incident was supposed to have occurred was August 17—EDITOR.

New Forest UFO

A UFO, reported on August 3, 1972, is the subject of an account carried in the *Southern Evening Echo* of August 4, 1972—

"Why no one else has reported a

strange red light which appeared over the Forest area near Lymington last night is puzzling Sir John and Lady Chichester, of Battramsley Lodge, Boldre, Lymington.

"Other people must have seen it," said Sir John today.

"The light, a red pulsating round object, was first seen by the Chichester family hovering north-west of Battramsley Lodge at about 11.45 last night.

"It then dropped at tremendous speed and disappeared below the tree line in the direction of Ringwood," he said.

"Shortly afterwards the same or another light exactly like the first appeared further to the north and circled the area before once again dropping below the tree line.

"The family watched the light for about a quarter-of-an-hour.

"It certainly wasn't an aircraft," said Sir John. 'Aircraft have flashing lights, not pulsating ones, and they certainly do not move up and down in the way this one was doing.'

"His daughter who viewed the object through binoculars had, he said, described it as being circular in shape and a mass of holes with flames shooting out."

Credit: **Reginald Harvell** of Lymington.

BRAZIL ONCE MORE *Continued from page 26*

"Geraldo Marcilio, already amazed, was stupefied when suddenly the object took off and flew away at a staggering speed.

"The policeman, still incredulous, but visibly impressed, made a note of the matter, which in due course reached Police Delegate Mena Barreto. In the meantime two men from the Public Security went to the spot in question, together with a driver and the clerk Antônio Carlos.

"They found nothing there, but a taxi-driver subsequently stated that he had seen the saucer at that spot. He had at first confined himself to telling his colleagues about it, not wishing to 'fall into ridicule' by reporting the matter to the authorities."

Notes

¹ See *Uproar In Brazil*, in FSR, November/December 1971 and *Itaperuna Again*, in FSR, March/April 1972.

² As Mr. Patrick Moore, one of the BBC's team of experts on the "UFO Phenomenon," recently reminded British TV viewers, the Earth has just been experiencing one of its annual showers of meteors, in this case the *Perseids*.

We may take it as certain that everywhere where men have seen meteors recently there have inevitably been claims of having seen "flying saucers", and Brazil can be no exception. The only questions that must exercise our minds are therefore the questions of whether (1) the facts

as reported above are correct, and whether (2) there may not also be a possibility that "something or someone" utilises the periodic meteor showers as useful covers under which to step up activities.

As for myself, I claim to know no more than the next man on the subject of meteors. But I should certainly like to hear of any firm evidence that a meteor has ever performed any one of these feats:

- (a) flown around at random,
- (b) flown in "Indian file" with other meteors,
- (c) blacked out the supply of electrical power,
- (d) silenced battery-operated radios,
- (e) landed on a road and taken off again.

³ I am not quite sure where Magé is, but it is evidently very near to Rio de Janeiro, probably one of its suburbs.

⁴ As I have said above, I know of no previous case in which it was claimed that either a meteor or a "flying saucer" or a "UFO" had silenced a battery-operated radio, but I think it has frequently been claimed that "flying saucers" blanketed them out with "static". I do recall also one very interesting case, a few years ago, in which it was claimed, in a report from Yugoslavia, that a "UFO" (or meteor?) had flown over a town (I think it was Ljubljana) and blanketed out the transmission of the local radio station. Moreover, just at the moment when the "UFO" or "meteor" was over the town, the filaments in some unattached electric light bulbs, lying on a shelf, were seen to light up and glow.

New Forest UFO: further details

Additional information on the Chichester family sighting was included in a report in the *New Milton Advertiser* of August 19, 1972—

"Had the recent geomagnetic storm anything to do with the curious phenomenon seen by Sir John and Lady Chichester and their daughter recently.

"Sir John said he was just drawing the curtains in his hall at Battramsley Lodge, Boldre at about 11.35 when he noticed a strange red light moving in the sky. He called his wife, who in turn, got their daughter and all three watched the object as it 'wandered around'. The light which was scarlet was pulsating regularly, never quite going out, but getting brighter and then dimming again. Lady Chichester said with the warm weather this could perhaps have been an optical phenomenon . . .

[The details that followed were similar to those in the *Southern Evening Echo* account—EDITOR.]

"Lady Chichester said there was no noise, which there would have been if it were an aircraft. She said it seemed large but 'of course, we don't know how far away it was.'

"Having had his curiosity aroused Sir John immediately tried to telephone Hurn airport but could get no reply. He then rang Lyndhurst police who sent out a car but their men could see nothing. They did not have any other reports of strange lights in the sky.

"A very bright aurora was seen in the sky over the Isle of Wight in the early morning two weeks ago following the bombardment of the earth by charged particles discharged from the sun following the huge solar flare. Unidentified flying objects seem often to be associated with large solar flares."

UFO reported by police in West London

The August 17, 1972, edition of the *Acton Gazette* (Acton is a Western suburb of London) carried the following account—

"A patrolling policeman could hardly believe his eyes when he saw a bright white light hovering in the sky in the early hours of Wednesday morning."

"He reported his strange sighting back to Hounslow police station and there two of his colleagues took a closer look at the UFO through binoculars.

"As they watched, the light, which had been hovering in the direction of Acton and Chiswick, changed its position. It was brighter than any other star in the sky and appeared to be circular, with black spots on it.

"Night workers in office blocks in

the centre of London also saw the strange light, which seemed to them to be much nearer than any of the other stars and four times as bright as Venus, the brightest planet visible from earth.

"When the *Gazette* spoke to a police official at Hounslow station after the incident, he said he knew nothing about it. The Scotland Yard Press Bureau, however, confirmed the sighting, though they could not give the names of the policemen involved."

†Presumably August 16, 1972—ED.

Fluorescent UFO—and others—over East Lanes.

The following extract is from the *Liverpool Echo* of August 18, 1972—

"Mysterious unidentified flying objects have been sighted by people living in the Pulford Road-Brindley Avenue district of Winsford. Many have observed the objects in the eastern skies every night for the past week.

"The UFOs appeared to be over Jodrell Bank and the Pennine foothills.

"Mrs. Barbara Mundy, of Pulford Road, said she first saw a UFO on Tuesday [August 16, 1972].

"It rose vertically, grew in size and gave off a brilliant fluorescent light. My eldest lad, Anthony, 15, said he had seen it before."

"Mrs. Lucy Howard, also of Pulford Road, said: 'They were like red flickering lights. Sometimes there would be three or four together and on other occasions only one.'

"She added: 'Everyone who has seen the phenomena have described them in exactly the same way. Their sightings are obviously not optical illusions.'

"A Jodrell Bank spokesman said: 'I don't think it is anything astronomical, but I can't throw any light on it.'

"He explained that the Perseides meteorite storm was at its maximum this week and if the meteor was directly in line of view, travelling backwards or forwards, then it might appear to be stationary.

"He suggested that the planet Jupiter which is in the south, is very bright at the moment and this might account for the light."

Scarborough object

In the *Scarborough Evening News* of June 29, 1972, we read how—

"An unidentified flying object hovered over Scarborough for nearly an hour yesterday afternoon.

"The object—a shining silver globe—was spotted by residents in Princess Royal Park who say that it later moved off towards the north-east.

"I don't know what the hell it was," said Mr. R. Sewell. "It was a round silvery thing with a point on top. It's

hard to say how high it was but certainly it was higher than the low cloud."

[Sounds suspiciously like a balloon of some sort—EDITOR.]

Credit: F. Satterthwaite of Copmanthorpe, York.

ITALY

Cows carbonised

From *La Nazione* of July 22, 1972, comes this report from Pavia, dated July 21—

"An inexplicable phenomenon took place at Marcignago (Pavia) in the byre of the farmer Angelo Segalini. Despite the fact that there was no thunderstorm in that area, a flame suddenly flashed out of the sky on to the cowshed carbonising seven of the animals and burning others. A check up at the power station excluded any question of a short circuit."

Credit: Mrs. Mary Boyd (staying in Firenze at the time), to whom we are also indebted for the translation.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Orange UFO over Wisconsin

The *Milwaukee Journal* of July 29, 1972, reported a UFO incident which, it is assumed, took place on July 22—

"Reports of an unidentified flying object were made early Saturday in Shawano, Waupaca, Outagamie and Brown Counties.

"Sheriff's officers in Shawano and Waupaca Counties reported seeing the object themselves. A Shawano County officer said the object sighted there appeared bright orange and about the size of a volleyball from a distance of two or three miles and a height of 800 feet. He said it followed a zigzag pattern across the sky."

Credit: Richard W. Heiden of Milwaukee.

Cops and UFOs

Here is a small item from the *Chicago Sun-Times* of August 17, 1972. Our correspondent observes: "UFO items are rarely seen in the Chicago press." The UPI report originates from Hays, Kansas—

"Central Kansas law enforcement agencies reported sightings of unidentified flying objects Tuesday night and early Wednesday.

"Fiery red objects, resembling those that have appeared periodically near Dighton, Kan., appeared over several towns in an area roughly 75 miles wide.

"Hays police described one as a red blinking object that sometimes turned white and 'sometimes had a greenish tint.' It was seen hovering and moving at varying speeds north and west of town."

Credit: Pierre G. Rothstein of Chicago.

Wisconsin "auto-stop"

We learn from the *Milwaukee Journal* of August 21, 1972, how, at Waukesha, Wisconsin—

"A Sussex man reported to sheriff's deputies that a large unidentified flying object early Monday [presumably Monday, August 14, 1972—ED.] had mysteriously caused his car to lose all power and boil over as he was driving near Sussex.

"Greg V. Faltersack, 18, who lives with a sister at W234-N5887 Lilac Dr., said the incident occurred about 2 or 2.30 a.m. as he was driving on Waukesha County Trunk JF between Highways F and 164. Faltersack, a restaurant worker, said he was on his way home from his girl friend's house when his 1963 Plymouth suddenly suffered a complete electrical failure, the engine died and the car's radiator boiled.

"Faltersack said he slammed on the brakes, bringing the car to a stop, and saw a large orange circular object that appeared to be hovering just over the treetops. Faltersack estimated that the object was 20 to 30 feet in diameter. He said he had it in sight for about seven seconds and that the object then went 'beep, beep' and rose out of sight.

"Faltersack said he was able to restart his car but that the lights, horn and radio still would not work. He was able to drive home and told his

sister about the incident. They returned to the scene, could find nothing and reported the incident to the Sheriff's Department.

"Deputies Thomas Audley and Jeri Kraus checked the area described by Faltersack and found skid marks where he had brought his car to a stop. They could find nothing amiss. They said that trees in that area were about 40 feet high, indicating that the object reported by Faltersack would be slightly higher than that.

"The deputies also verified that all of the fuses in Faltersack's car had blown out and that the car had overheated. They said Faltersack had not been drinking but was visibly shaken by the incident."

Credit: Richard W. Heiden of Milwaukee.

More on the "auto-stop"

The following extracts from *The News American* of Baltimore, Maryland, of August 30, 1972, give a few additional details on the incident which we believe occurred on August 14, 1972—

"Greg Faltersack told police he was driving along a lonely country road surrounded by mist and woods when he saw the thing.

"He was returning home on a familiar route to nearby Sussex after

visiting his girl friend.

"Suddenly the electrical system in the 18-year-old's 1963 Plymouth went dead. Faltersack braked, skidded nearly 25 feet across the road and halted on a shoulder . . .

"After about 10 seconds, he told authorities, the object made a strange 'beeping' noise, and took off into the sky and out of view.

"Faltersack then could start the car, but the lights, horn and radio wouldn't work. He drove home and called the Waukesha County Sheriff's office.

"Two deputies questioned Faltersack, a restaurant manager who is planning to join the Air Force. His sister, Mrs. Lenore Hildebrandt, said the lawmen were 'serious.'

"The deputies found that all the auto fuses had been blown and that the car had become overheated. They found the skid marks at the scene and noted the trees were about 40 feet high.

"Their report described Faltersack as 'stone cold sober,' and 'extremely upset and nervous, unable even to light a cigarette.'

"Sgt. Charles Hughlett of the sheriff's office speculated that the foggy condition may have created strange reflections. 'But I talked to Faltersack on the phone and he was pretty shook up. He certainly saw something,' Hughlett said."

Credit: Donald B. Ratsch of Baltimore.

MAIL BAG

Stopping the "merry-go-round"

Sir,—Following the article by Paul C. W. Davies in FSR March/April 1972, it might be interesting to scrutinise another claim of Von Däniken. In *Chariots of the Gods*, he writes about the Delhi Pillar: "At Delhi there is an ancient pillar made of iron which contains neither phosphorus nor sulphur and so cannot be destroyed by the effects of the weather (p. 44) . . . (p. 95). It has been exposed to weathering for more than 4,000 years without showing a trace of rust . . . Here we have an unknown alloy from antiquity staring us in the face . . . It is a most embarrassing story."

It certainly is.

According to J. R. Partington (*A History of Greek Fire and Gunpowder*), it was made in 415 A.D.

In *A History of Metals*, Vol. I, p. 135-7, Leslie Aitchison says: "These famous pillars and beams of India were not produced until very much

later periods, actually within our era. It used to be thought that they were extraordinarily old, but it has emerged that those of both India and Ceylon must be attributed to the first five centuries A.D."

He describes the pillar as "high quality wrought iron . . . a triumphal monument 23' 8" high, 12½" upper diameter, 16½" lower diameter, weighing 6 tons."

Of considerable interest is Aitchison's analysis of the pillar, which, he claims was made in 310 A.D.

Carbon	0.08 %
Silicon	0.046 %
Manganese	Nil
Sulphur	0.006 %
Phosphorus	0.114 %
Copper	0.034 %
Iron	Remainder

The contrast between the analysis and Von Däniken's claims, are, I believe, worthy of note. Dr. Davies's "merry-go-round", in this case, had

been stopped and investigated previously. But are not merry-go-rounds too much fun to stop for more than a short time?

Yours faithfully,

G. Willder,
64 Cross Lane East,
Gravesend, Kent.
July 28, 1972.

Weird craft

Dear Sir,—Immediately I turned to Janet Bord's article in FSR 18/3, p. 20, I was struck by the similarity of the sketches to the cover picture on the first copy of FSR that I ever obtained, about 8 years ago. I believe the caption in that case was "The weirdest craft of all,"* and the issue was a summer one. Unfortunately my copy is at present in store, so that I cannot check back. The incident occurred in France, and the objects were likened to giant flies which raised clouds of dust and leaves as they moved around.†

It would be interesting to check, as "Charlie's" sighting must have occurred only a year or so later. This I shall do in due course.

Yours sincerely,

J. N. Webber,
Malborough,
Kingsbridge, Devon.

July 25, 1972.

* *Correct. The issue was FSR 9/4 (July/August 1963)*—EDITOR.

† *Fly-shaped objects, with fixed "wings," over the village of Vauriat, which, as Aimé Michel discovered, was located directly on the BAVIC line*—EDITOR.

Piri-Reis map

Dear Sir,—In reference to "The Piri-Reis Map: Fact & Fiction" by Dr. Paul C. W. Davies (FSR March/April 1972), it is interesting to note that the author's study of the literature is evidently somewhat incomplete in that he made no reference to the scholarly work of Charles H. Hapgood (*Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings*, Chilton Books, Philadelphia, 1966). Hapgood has made what is probably the most thorough study of the Piri-Reis maps to date.

In fact, Hapgood quite ably explains the strange configuration of the maps for the southerly part of South America "as the coastline swings out into the mid-Atlantic to the region of Tristan da Cunha." He also produces convincing evidence to support the claim that a portion of the map does indeed include Antarctica.

Yours truly,

Arthur Bray,
1187 Agincourt Road,
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada, K2C 2H8.

July 27, 1972.

[We have had several letters taking the same line—one of which was published in our July/August issue. Dr. Davies has seen some of them, and will have something further to say on this matter in the near future—EDITOR.]

The BAVIC line

Dear Sir,—As a fairly new reader of FSR, I am puzzled by Aimé Michel's comments in several of his articles (such as *The UFOs and History*, in FSR Vol. 18, No. 3) concerning the BAVIC line. I had read in Flávio Pereira's *O Livro Vermelho dos Discos Voadores* (Edições Florença Ltda., São Paulo, Brazil, 1966), pp. 351 and 357, that M. Michel was convinced by Vallée's studies that the orthoteny was in fact due to chance, and that he so wrote in the January 1966 issue of FSR. Pereira does not go into detail concerning the extent of M. Michel's change in attitude, and so leaves the reader believing that this change was a complete one. (Unfortunately, the

January 1966 issue of FSR is now sold out, so I am unable to read M. Michel's statements for myself.) But now M. Michel writes as though there is something significant about BAVIC. It is true that Vallée (in *Challenge to Science*, chapter 4, and *Les Phénomènes Insolites de L'Espace*, chapters 4-6) did not show many-sighting lines such as BAVIC to be due to chance, so perhaps M. Michel believed all along that BAVIC is significant.

It also puzzles me that, of all the UFO books I have read, only Pereira's speaks of M. Michel's change in attitude. Other recent books ignore orthoteny completely. Even Paris Flammonde's *The Age of Flying Saucers*, the subtitle of which claims it to be "Notes on a Projected History of Unidentified Flying Objects," omits all mention of orthoteny.

Yours truly,

Richard W. Heiden,
6901 West Fiebrantz Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216, U.S.A.
August 18, 1972.

[While M. Aimé Michel may have accepted that most of the three-point, and perhaps even the four-point alignments could have been due to chance arrangements of UFO observation points when plotted on the map, he never accepted that the great multi-point lines like BAVIC—the first line to be discovered—were chance alignments. As no orthotenic alignments were discovered during the last weeks of October, and subsequently, during the 1954 wave, he decided that reports of that period were of relatively little significance.]

He has realised during the last ten years that many of the more important incidents of the wave occurred during the latter part of October, and that he neglected to study them in detail during his researches (1954-57), because they didn't fit his theories. Consequently he became somewhat disenchanted with the overall picture of orthoteny, but he never discarded the idea that BAVIC, the original great multi-point line of September 24, 1954, was important—EDITOR.]

Dear Sir,—Thank you for the latest issue of FSR. Unfortunately, as a student low in funds at present I cannot, much to my disappointment, renew my subscription; I may join again, though, in later years.

I would like to thank you for all the hard work you appear to put into this task. I think those people who have been complaining are totally inconsiderate and without patience. Very few would dream of helping the organisation in its clerical work or some similar gesture. After all, an annual sub. of about £2 is hardly exorbitant—

4 pence a week!! I know of some similar publications on the continent where standards are vastly inferior and yet where the annual sub. is upwards of £8!

If the issues are a bit late—so what! I think Mr. Gibbs-Smith's article pointing out the difficulties was very understanding, given the circumstances. Yours faithfully,

M. J. Digman,
London University student.

Effects of magnetic fields

Dear Sir,—With reference to the "instant healing" allegedly experienced by some contactees, there is an interesting paragraph in *Living in Space—the Astronaut and his Environment* by Mitchell R. Sharpe, published by Aldus Books, London.

In the chapter entitled "The Hazards of Space" he is discussing the effect on living tissues of intense magnetic fields, and I quote: "Mice raised in a field with a strength 5,000 times greater than that of earth showed an increase in white blood cells; cancers disappeared."

And a few lines further on: "A constant field of 2,000 oersteds proved to have a healing effect on the scalded ears of rabbits."

Yours faithfully,

M. D. Brereton,
Barton-on-Sea,
Hampshire.

August 12, 1972.

Ball-lightning observed in Siberia

Dear Sir,—In view of a possible connection between ball-lightning and certain UFO sightings, I feel readers may be interested in the following report which appeared in *Bulletin* 12909 (July 17, 1972) of the Novosti Information Service, 3 Rosary Gardens, London, SW7 4NW:

"Ball-lightning was seen for the first time in the Arctic by people living in the settlement of Polyarny on the coast of the Chukotka Sea in north-east Siberia.

"It had been unusually hot in the settlement for a week. On Saturday the temperature reached 30°C. In the evening there was a thunderstorm.

"Ball-lightning went through a room occupied by the family of building worker Yegorov at about 10 p.m. It pierced a stone wall and emerged on to the street where it was seen by passers-by. The edges of the breach in the wall were seared. No instances of ball-lightning in the eastern sector of the Arctic had been known previously."

Yours truly,

Ron Toft,
14 Buckhurst Road,
Frimley Green, Camberley,
Surrey.

July 21, 1972.

MORE ON TELEPORTATIONS

Gordon Creighton

CAPTAIN Ivar Mackay has recently drawn my attention to two more very curious American reports which have appeared in the literature of our subject and which, if true (naturally we are not able at present to give any assurance as to their veracity), would certainly appear to relate to this most Fortean of all aspects of the UFO Phenomenon.

The strange mist

This report comes in the form of a letter from our friend Dr. P. M. H. Edwards of Victoria, British Columbia, to Gene Duplantier's *Saucers, Space & Science*, No. 160, 1971, where it appears under the caption **Spacial Delivery**:

"Dear Gene:

"An elderly British couple, resident here (anonymous), were interviewed by me last Sunday (September 13, 1970), and they told me that they were motoring in cloudless weather in Central Wyoming, on a limitless plain, with nothing to see anywhere except flat ground. They have often been on the prairies and they therefore know very well what a 'dust devil' is like. There was no 'dust devil' anywhere to be seen on that day. However, suddenly their car was overhung and partially enveloped by a strange yellowy-creamish-coloured mist that was weaving about them most peculiarly, and was transparent—yet it seemed to have 'body' or shape. The lady was driving, and she stepped on the gas and got out of there in a hurry; they were so scared that they didn't even look in their rear-view mirror.

"To this day, they hate talking about it, and refuse to believe in anything unnatural. The thing **must** have either suddenly materialized around them, or suddenly swooped down on them from directly above, because they saw nothing beforehand—it was so sudden. They don't want to be interviewed further.

"This incident reminds me vaguely of the incident in S.E. Argentina involving Señor and Señora Vidal . . ." (etc.).

This extraordinary report, which we publish with the kind permission of Mr. Gene Duplantier, certainly seems, as Dr. Edwards suggests, to be entirely genuine and to bear a strong resemblance to not only the teleportation case of the Vidals but to several other cases which I have reported and in which mysterious whitish clouds or mists were the principal feature.

The man who vanished up the pole

This report (and I must again emphasise that it must be read simply as a report: we have as yet no further information about it) also comes via Canada, and is by Kurt Glemser, an investigator who has given a great deal of attention to MIB reports and tales of the weird

and the uncanny. It was printed in *Sentinel* (Journal of Aerial Research Systems), No. 38, May 1971. It is fantastic, but so are a lot of other things, and it is certainly no more fantastic than the cases of Oliver Lerch and many others.

"In 1958, Mrs. George H. Wales told a remarkable story: 'My husband dissolved into space in front of my eyes in our Brooklyn backyard three years ago. I'd sent him out to climb to the top of a clothesline pole to rescue a shirt the wind had blown off our wash line. Hermann yelled that it was stuck on a rusty nail. As he reached for it, his hand seemed to disappear. Then, before my dumbfounded eyes, he was sucked up and faded away. I was too horrified to scream.'"

This amazing story certainly rivals not only the case of Oliver Lerch, who vanished aloft one winter's night in 1890, but also the case of the Iranian gentleman, who, one night in October 1954, in a suburb of Teheran, observed a UFO which was "sucking him up" from his veranda. Fortunately Mr. Ghaseme Fili was able to cry out in terror and awaken the neighbours, and the UFO, which seemed to contain a small black-clad man-like creature wearing a strange mask shaped like the trunk of an elephant, made a rapid departure.

References

- M. K. Jessup: *The Case For The UFO*.
- G. Creighton: *Teleportations*, FSR, March/April 1965.
- Oscar A. Galindez: *Teleportation From Chascomús to Mexico*, FSR, September/October 1968.
- G. Creighton: *Attempted Abduction by UFO Entity*, FSR, March/April 1967.
- G. Creighton: *More Teleportations*, FSR, September/October 1970.
- G. Creighton: *Another Teleportation & Its Sequel*, FSR, September/October 1971.
- G. Creighton: *Forty-eight Hours in a Flying Saucer*, FSR, November/December 1971.
- G. Creighton: *Uproar in Brazil*, FSR, November/December 1971.

Highlights of the forthcoming November/December 1972 issue of FSR:

- A Turning Point in UFO Investigation
by Charles H. Gibbs-Smith
- Landing on the Leusderheide
by G. S. Wiersema
- UFO over the Mooraduc Road
by Judith Magee
- The 'flying' spectre of Natal
by Philipp J. Human
- Gobbledygook
by Gordon Creighton

INSTANT TRANSFERENCE

Arnold Davidson

I ASSUME that most people know what ITF (instant transference) means. It is a term coined by Ivan Sanderson to describe the "instant transference", i.e., teleportation, of an object from one place to another.¹ Due to the fact that UFOs change size and shape, materialise, and dematerialise we must look to ITF as a plausible explanation.

In E. Abbott's book *Flatland* he stresses that: "As a four-dimensional body moves, its section by the three-dimensional world may vary; thus a rigid body can alter size and shape." This is manifested by an explanation known as the FitzGerald Contraction:

"Under ordinary circumstances the form and size of a solid body is maintained by the forces of cohesion between its particles. What is the nature of cohesion? We guess that it is made up of electric forces between the molecules. But the aether is the medium in which electric force has its seat; hence it will not be a matter of indifference to these forces how the electric medium is flowing with respect to the molecules. When the flow changes there will be a readjustment of cohesive forces, and we must expect the body to take a new shape and size."²

Could an extension of this be responsible for ITF? It seems possible that it could. If the electric flow could cause a readjustment of cohesive forces, it could theoretically also cause the cohesive forces to readjust in another place. I must admit I have only flimsy theories as to how the actual transfer would take place, but it seems that an extension of this property could explain how the cohesive forces would be able to dissipate and reassemble again. We could hypothesise (using John Keel's terminology) that the actual transfer could take place in "window" areas where our space-time con-

tinuum overlaps another space-time continuum. The electric flow could change causing the cohesive forces to dissipate and then perhaps by redirecting the electric flow it could cause the cohesive forces to reassemble in another place. Since time seems to play an important part in both UFO sightings and contacts, another idea could be that the forces reassemble by using Time Reversal Symmetry, a well-established physics law.

There are many cases where UFOs first reported as glowing objects ("soft" objects) change to craft having physical characteristics ("hard" objects) and *vice versa*. Assuming that ITF is used to bring UFOs into our world (either from other planets or from other space-time continua) the soft objects could represent the stage when the molecules are beginning to reassemble, the hard object being the final result. Therefore, *all* UFOs could be soft objects at one time, turning into actual physical craft only after the complete process of ITF has taken place. The numerous colour changes associated with UFOs could indicate that electrical flows are constantly changing in the craft. Since the majority of UFOs have the characteristics of soft objects it can be seen that ITF would not only explain this form but the subsequent transformation into hard objects too.

Regardless of whether an advanced extraterrestrial civilisation has developed the process of ITF or whether it is used to overcome the difficulty of penetrating our space-time continuum, this process could provide some important answers to the UFO mystery.

References

- 1 Ivan T. Sanderson, *Uninvited Visitors*, Neville Spearman 1969.
- 2 Sir Arthur Eddington, *Space, Time, and Gravitation*, Cambridge University Press, first edition 1920.

ANZAAS SYMPOSIUM ON UFOs

Owen Davis

ON Saturday, October 30, 1971, at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, the first scientific Symposium in Australia on the UFO problem was held. Organised by the South Australian Division of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS), it attracted about 300, including members of the public and many interstate visitors, one of whom had driven 2,000 miles from Queensland. Because it had the backing of this recognised body of scientists, it received much publicity through the various media. The Symposium originated after its convener, Dr. Brian Horton, had been

amazed by the extent of calls relating to UFOs on a radio talk-back show at which he had been a guest.

The Chairman of ANZAAS, Dr. Rupert Best, stated that scientists should wish to investigate scientifically any unexplained matters (solving one could also aid in solving related matters) and that he hoped the Symposium would assist by keeping open the minds of those present. He then introduced the Leader of the Opposition in the South Australian Parliament, the Hon. Steele Hall, M.P., who was to open the Symposium. Mr. Hall recollected his "encounter" with a UFO in the country, which later

turned out to be the inversion of lights from a nearby town, and reiterated that an open mind was necessary and that the UFO question could not be dismissed with the comment "it's impossible."

Dr. Horton's introductory remarks were directed against the forming of opinions with incomplete information. The UFO question was such an area and consequently it should be scientifically investigated, even though it was on the fringe of our current knowledge and often ridiculed.

Mr. Colin Norris, Vice-President of the Australian Flying Saucer Research Society, Adelaide, set the ball rolling

with a succinct history of UFOs and their characteristics. He showed numerous slides and a film of UFOs, and commented strongly on the lack of official activity in relation to them. In the foyer he had erected a comprehensive display of UFO clippings to show the variety of sightings made.

A paper by **Mr. B. Roberts** of the Commonwealth Department of Air, written in a personal capacity in 1966, was delivered in his absence by **Dr. Bill Taylor**, Secretary of the ANZAAS Executive. It covered objections to the term "UFO", assessment and identification of aerial sightings, and reporting procedure. Unfortunately, only a very brief and incomplete survey of Australian, American and British experience was given. The paper concluded that astronomical phenomena, and especially meteor showers, were responsible for the bulk of UFO sightings, and "only the impossibility of providing an intensive effort and immense expense prohibits the expectation of a complete reduction of sightings."

This was undoubtedly the most negative paper presented at the Symposium and, although it was not an official viewpoint, it sounded suspiciously like those that ufologists have come to expect from governments and official agencies. Although a breakdown of American figures was given, none were quoted for Australia, and this raises the question whether such figures do exist.

The next paper, "The Analysis of UFO Reports," was presented by **Dr. M. Duggin**, Senior Research Scientist of the Mineral Physics section of the CSIRO, Sydney. It called for closer co-operation between existing UFO organisations, which have done most of the work and collected the bulk of the reports up until now, and scientists. Lack of action was the only result from previous official studies and it was thus up to individual scientists to form world-wide panels and tackle the question on the basis of their specialities. Apart from the problems of cataloguing and analysing reports, they would also face ridicule from their colleagues.

Mr. Lynn Mitchell, currently Deputy to the Regional Director of Meteorology in South Australia, gave a concise and illuminating presentation on meteorological phenomena. He examined atmospheric optics under the following headings: perspective phenomena, refraction and reflection phenomena, diffraction phenomena, and scattering phenomena. He enlarged on those which are mostly commonly associated with UFO sightings and with which many will be familiar as explanations of numerous reports: scintillation, green flash, crepuscular rays, mirages,

and iridescent, noctilucous and lenticular clouds. Meteors, ball lightning, comets, stars, planets, balloons and satellites often give rise to such sightings as well. He concluded that any publicity which leads to more people surveying the skies will also increase the number of UFO sightings. (This is apparent from many of the USA and UK flaps). Many UFOs are sighted around sunset, a time when many types of the above phenomena can only occur. Despite continual visual surveillance by meteorologists, aided by radar watching devices, not one inexplicable sighting during the past two decades has been attributable to the Meteorological Observer, "a man trained to observe and record all he sees."

Dr. Peter Delin, Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Adelaide, spoke on "Psychological Aspects of Belief and Disbelief." Sceptics and believers are "at the two ends of a continuum" and are noisy in their discrediting of the others' views. "Part of this acrimony springs from mutual lack of comprehension, but part of it is justified, in that there are nuts on both sides." However, similarity between the two does exist, in that both tend to confuse and blend theoretical and observational issues. Interesting comparisons between psychical and UFO research supported the view that both extremes show similar faults of reasoning, biased observation, and also display "similar evidence of strong internal motivation unrelated to the subject matter under discussion, but predisposing them to the point of view they take up." Above all, it is paramount to separate a witness' report from his interpretation of that report.

Dr. L. Mander, Senior Lecturer in Organic Chemistry at the University, examined the possibilities of extra-terrestrial life in his paper, while "Space-Time of Extra-Terrestrial Cultural Contacts" was the subject discussed by **Dr. D. G. McCoy**, Physics Lecturer at the University, and this complemented Dr. Mander's views. After surveying the scale of the Universe and how Man's lunar achievements fitted into this scale, he said 0.001% of the stars in our galaxy would have planets with advanced civilisations, the nearest being several hundred light years away. Radio communication (radio waves, gamma ray laser) was the most likely form of communication. It would take one hundred to ten thousand years for a signal to reach its destination and the same period for its return. At present, there could be up to 10^{13} conversations within the known Universe. Finally, discussing the possibilities of remote space travel, he concluded: "It seems highly probable that physical space

travel beyond a few tens of light years does not take place."

The final subject, on how to solve the UFO problem, was presented by **Dr. D. Herbison Evans**, Lecturer in the Basser Computer Department, Sydney University. Since theoretical studies and report analyses had failed to solve the UFO problem, it was necessary to look for them so they could be investigated on our own terms. Alas, UFOs are rare! One thousand observation stations would be necessary (each with equipment worth thousands of dollars) just to obtain one observation on the average per year. Cameras with diffraction gratings for spectra, would be a cheaper method of obtaining valuable information, as would be the placement of observational stations in those areas where UFO activity is frequent. "Information costs money. If people want to know whether we are being visited by extra-terrestrial spacecrafts, they will have to pay to find out!"

The Symposium concluded with a panel of the speakers, written questions having been submitted previously by the audience.

Just prior to the closing of proceedings the following motion was put: "The Symposium as a group feels very strongly that some action on the problem of UFO reports be taken. The Symposium unanimously requests that the Executive Committee of ANZAAS (S.A. Division) discuss the possibility of acting as referees for any qualified person or institution who is making or who may make a submission for funds for the scientific investigation of UFO reports. It is further requested that the possibility of setting up a sub-committee for the study of UFO reports be considered by the Executive Committee of ANZAAS (S.A. Division)."

The Symposium was excellently conducted throughout, continuing from 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Rationality and reasonableness were the keynotes of the day and it was a most pleasing feature. The Symposium will certainly make people think and there is no doubt that it has played an important part in keeping people's minds open on the UFO topic.

Dr. Horton and ANZAAS are to be congratulated for making it such a success.

* * *

An important development

The motion was considered by the Divisional Committee of ANZAAS in the first week of November. The Committee felt that in the light of available information, the Symposium, and other evidence, there was sufficient evidence to show that there were sightings and evidence of phenomena