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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1965

VOLUME II, No. I

11th YEAR OF PUBLICATION



THE MOST AMAZING CASE OF ALL

The bi-monthly
Journal of
SPACE

Acting Editor:
Charles Bowen

Consultant:
Gordon Creighton

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Drawings and Map by PAULINE BOWEN

1965

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

INCORPORATING FLYING SAUCER NEWS

Vol 11 No. 1

JANUARY-FEBRUARY

Policy

1965

FOR the eleventh time, we of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW wish our readers everywhere a Happy New Year. A Happy, Brave and Well-rewarded New Year to ufologists, researchers, and to our contributors the World over. Courage, one and all, for who knows, 1965 may prove to be the year when your unflagging labours will be justifiably rewarded. The truth must out one day, and that day may be nearer than we think. Those in authority, who for reasons best known to themselves wish to play down the flying saucer, or UFO evidence, must surely and inevitably expose themselves by the increasing absurdity of their attempts to explain away, or distort the truth.

Both 1963 and 1964 were good, active years for our subject. More and more people are beginning to realise that something is afoot in the skies, and around us here on Earth. Scientists and astronomers, for so long the spearhead of the assault on us, are openly talking and writing of myriad civilisations in our galaxy and beyond—something which they would have died rather than admit only a few years ago! This, of course, does not mean that the sceptics have been put to flight; that those who condemn us, having nothing better than total ignorance on which to base their arguments, have been vanquished. What is noticeable, however, is that when the subject is discussed openly nowadays, the laughs and fun-pokers are far less evident than they were in years gone by. In fact, many more people than ever before are displaying a genuine and sympathetic interest in our subject, and that is something which is borne out by the increasing number of applications from would-be subscribers to this journal. The sane, objective approach of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, for so long a voice crying in the wilderness, appeals to all who wish to examine the facts, and who are prepared to brush aside stifling orthodoxy. At long last the truth that we proclaim seems to be finding a way through to the man in the street!

What better time than now, on the threshold of 1965, to re-examine the aims of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW?

Broadly our policy remains that of examining without prejudice every aspect of the flying saucer mystery, every sighting, every contact claim, every landing report.

We shall continue to keep a watchful eye on authority, and to harass it whenever it makes an ass of itself.

As ever, we remain jealous of the objective standards we have set ourselves, but will not shrink from publishing new and interesting hypotheses, or from airing views that are speculative, if we feel that they so much as suggest an opening for a new line of research or reasoning. Ufology is a subject calling for much diligent research, and at times errors are bound to be made. We must, therefore, be "big"

enough to admit errors in our thinking if we are guilty in this respect.

It is obvious that the final truths of this subject are likely to be so utterly staggering, and beyond our conventional acceptances, both moral and scientific, that it behoves us to remain open and alert. Take for example the extremely strong and apparently valid objection, for the most part, admittedly, among those outside our circle, to the idea that extraterrestrial beings and animals, or even beings and animals from another plane, have similar basic physical construction to us and our animals. This issue of the REVIEW, and the last, carry a variety of reports, new and old, in which such things are met or seen. Is it not time now to examine those objections?

There will also, no doubt, be objections to the publication of selections from the mass of landing and contact reports which have been coming in great waves from South American countries. There is great virtue, however, in the simple way in which these stories are told, and in the fact that the bulk of them come from the lips of untutored folk. Waveney Girvan once made the point that evidence from uneducated, illiterate people was far more reliable and acceptable than that from "experts". That, we feel, is very true of these South American accounts as well. Those in a

position to know, assure us that the country folk of the remote hinterland of that continent have no pre-conceived notions of science fiction, or of the flying saucer story.

Another point which we must not miss is the part that fear plays in many of these accounts. When, finally, the simple folk who had had these incredible experiences were persuaded to tell their stories, they made no attempt to hide the fact that they were very, very frightened. Furthermore, this fear was experienced whether the alien approach was friendly or hostile. It is extremely unlikely that an intending hoaxer would admit to having been frightened almost beyond comprehension by, as in one of the cases, a being who calmly and gently examined the plants along the roadside.

Perhaps in these stories we have revealed the reason for the reluctance on the part of our government, and the governments of most other countries, to acknowledge the fact that we *are* being visited by alien beings in strange craft. Is it, in fact, *fear of panic* which prompts them to act the way they do? If these isolated folk in sparsely populated lands experience such terrifying panic, how then would a great crowded mass of people react in the face of visitations by extraterrestrials with vast technological superiority and undisclosed intent?

APOLOGY

We deeply regret having had to keep subscribers waiting so long for the November/December 1964 issue of the REVIEW. For several weeks the magazine reeled under a succession of body blows. The slide was started by the postal strike, and that was followed by the ban on our class of mail. Soon afterwards there was the illness and subsequent death of our Editor, Waveney Girvan.

Most of you must have read Mr. Girvan's last article *Ten Years Old*, which appeared in the November/December issue, so you will realise that the REVIEW is managed solely by the Editor, with valuable and essential help in the final stages from his production assistant, and from the lady who handles distribution. All this work is voluntary, or semi-voluntary, and is done in our spare time. To have the Editor removed so suddenly, and to have no access to his future plans and material, proved a punishing blow. Nevertheless we are well on the way to recovery, and hope soon to be back to our normal schedule. We trust that our subscribers will appreciate our difficulties, be patient with us, and forgive the irksome delays.

Socorro Sequel

By Coral Lorenzen

Mrs. Lorenzen, one of the world's leading, and most respected researchers into the UFO mystery, is international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization of Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A. She is also editor of the A.P.R.O. Bulletin, and author of that excellent book THE GREAT FLYING SAUCER HOAX.

Reprinted from FATE Magazine with special permission

IT was Thursday, April 30th, 1964. A lone B-57 was flying a routine mission in the vicinity of Stallion Site, a few miles east of San Antonio, New Mexico, U.S.A. Suddenly the pilot called Main Control on the Holloman Air Force Base—White Sands Proving Ground Integrated Test Range, and announced that he was not alone. When control called for an explanation, he replied that he had “Got a UFO”!

When the controller asked for a description of the object, the pilot informed him that it was egg shaped and white, and in reply to further questions, stated that it carried markings similar to those on the Socorro UFO! He then swung his big jet aircraft round to make another “pass” at the object, and as he flew over the area where he had first seen it, he re-called base and announced laconically that the UFO was on the ground!

Then radio communications ceased. Photo crews were asked to stand by.

Main Control is a huge building topped with automatic and manual tracking devices and radar antenna, completely removed from the main base at Holloman. Inside, the Mission Controller as well as a host of other personnel keep in constant contact with instrumentation installations throughout the whole range and co-ordinate the efforts of planes, missiles, radars and theodolites in order to keep track of the progress of the various experimental tests being carried out at Holloman and White Sands.

Shortly after I received my first tip on the above information I called Terry Clarke of KALG Radio in Alamogordo nine miles east of Holloman AFB. I asked him what he knew about the UFO landing on the Holloman Range in April. He said his information source had monitored the range radio communications that day and his information was almost exactly what I have stated. He also said he'd heard of another sighting and there was a rumour that a UFO was in a hangar at Holloman, under heavy guard.

I contacted Arlynn Bruer of the Alamogordo *Daily News* to find he had sketchy knowledge of the

sighting but had heard the rumour about the purported hangared UFO.

Next I went through the files dealing with the New Mexico sightings of April and May. One contact informed me that unidentified lights had been sighted on the Range during April, prior to the historic Zamora incident, another bit of information involved a guard who had come upon a UFO on the range at night. Hysterical with surprise and fright he emptied his side arm at the object, then fled, with the UFO seemingly in hot pursuit. When he finally reached Base Headquarters, our informant said, he had “flipped his lid” and required sedation and hospitalisation.

I immediately made queries concerning the landing and any other incidents related to the Holloman Range landing. We learned of two other UFO incidents on the Range during the month of May. There is no doubt in my mind concerning the accuracy and reliability of the information we gathered. Separate informants who have been reliable in the past gave us the information we needed to verify the initial facts. I do not hesitate to relate it here for, at the time, there was no indication of classification and the incidents were discussed quite freely both in White Sands and Holloman.

The singular fact about the landing, which took place on the range extension between Socorro and Albuquerque, was that a digital track recording was obtained during the presence of the object. A digital track recording is a tape recording automatically generated simultaneously with the tracking operation which contains the elevation, azimuth and range of the target during the time it is tracked by radar.

On May 15th, between 11.30 a.m. and 12.15 p.m., Surveillance Radar as well as FPS-16 radars at Stallion Site, tracked two objects in the area north of Stallion Site. The UFOs performed “perfect precise flight manoeuvres”, including side-by-side flight, separating then rejoining each other in formation and up and down (Pogo) manoeuvres.

Visual confirmation was made by a trained radar

operator who saw the two objects, described them as brown and (rugby) football-shaped. They were flying at low altitude and disappeared beyond buildings at the instrumentation side where the radar operator observed them.

Probably the most disturbing information relating to this sighting was that one or both of the objects were responding alternately with the standard FAA recognition signal (sometimes called IFF).

To avoid the necessity of having to depend entirely on radar "skin track", i.e., reflection of radar beam from the plane's surface, there is in use in most military and commercial aircraft a "transponder" system. An "interrogate" signal is transmitted periodically from the tracking ground station. This signal consists of a series of pulses arranged in a particular time sequence or "code". When the "transponder" (a combination receiver and transmitter) receives the correct code it responds by transmitting a code of its own which is received at the ground station. This is called a "recognition signal". Either of two frequencies commonly are used, with a different code on each frequency. It was one of these codes that the two football-shaped objects were beaming alternately while in flight on the Range north of Stallion Site.

Exactly seven days later, on May 22nd an automatic track was obtained of an unidentified flying object with an exceedingly low speed of up to 2,000 feet per minute (a very slow 25 m.p.h.) which came within 3,700 yards of one of the Range radar installations. The skies were clear and there was no indication that the objects tracked were any kind of atmospheric phenomenon, and certainly they were not conventional aircraft.

After collating the information, Mr. Lorenzen and I decided to give a press release. We had a special purpose in mind—to get further information on all sightings. Our release was given to the press wires on Saturday, May 24th.

On Sunday, May 25th, Holloman "answered" our release with an AP release, datelined Holloman. It said that the Air Force confirmed that "a radar unit" at Holloman twice had tracked UFOs in the area of White Sands on the preceding Friday, and that the report was being investigated; it suggested that some natural phenomenon such as a dust storm probably was responsible; the spokesman could find no basis for a report from an "aerial phenomena research group" in Tucson of a visual sighting at Holloman or that an egg-shaped object was under guard in a Holloman hangar.

We did learn something—there had been two separate sightings on Friday, May 22nd, instead of one.

Unless there was another landing the "captured"

UFO would be the one involved in the April 30th landing, which would mean a motorised ground patrol must have come upon the UFO while its occupants were some distance from it and prevented their re-entering the craft. I do not know of any UFO landing incident in which the occupants ever got very far away from their craft, and the Zamora landing demonstrates their amazing speed and ability to escape close observation. Also, the size and amount of noise of a B-57 make it impossible to believe the occupants of the April 30th UFO were unaware of its presence. It is difficult to put any credence in the rumour of the "captured" object in a hangar at Holloman and remain objective. All of my sources trace back to a single airman who spoke of the object in a shop in Alamogordo. It does seem that inasmuch as our contacts could find no further corroboration, as they did find for the incidents of April 30th and May 15th and 20th, that the fellow was either making a bid for attention and/or was mistakenly excited by a closely guarded hangar.

But, frankly, I believe the account of the frightened guard who stumbled upon the UFO at night.

And I do know that the civilian population in the vicinity of Holloman-White Sands Proving Ground Range are apprehensive about the continuing sightings.

I also have information indicating that the military at Holloman and White Sands, one of the most thoroughly instrumented test bases in the United States, are concerned about unconventional aircraft, which not only land under their noses but which know so much about aerial procedures and traffic that they can simulate coded FAA recognition signals.

These reports are of enormous importance if true. And there is strong evidence that they are true. But Holloman-White Sands Area is now under a blanket of military security. It was impossible for us to go in and interview the principals allegedly involved. What we have conducted here is a kind of intelligence operation. But we trust our sources and we have evaluated our information to the best of our ability.

Since August there were three UFO landings in the state of Arizona in one night—all near highways or roads. Colorado, Wyoming and Montana have experienced similar visitations.

The thread of continuity which runs throughout the fabric of the Spring 1964 flap consists of these major features:

The objects which landed or hovered fell on straight lines on the map.

They landed in areas where eventually they would be seen, but where they would be inaccessible and, therefore, safe.

Of all the sightings gathered by APRO since April 22nd there have been only three or four "orphans" not located on previously established straight lines.

Reports currently are coming into APRO's office from around the United States as well as the Fiji Islands and Australia. It looks like they are just "openers" for what may be ahead.

The spring 1964 flap impresses me as an intelligence operation carried out by the occupants of the UFOs either to show themselves preparatory to closer contact in the future or to find out the effect such contact would have on humans or how much we already suspect.

The press wire services and network TV and radio have been, for the most part, silent about UFOs or adhering to the prescribed "there ain't no such thing" party-line of officialdom since 1952. Perhaps the UFO occupants have made a number of landings in places where they would be certain to be observed, then retired to a safe place to monitor local TV and radio in order to learn the effects of their visits on the natives.

A similar operation took place over a geographically similar area with comparatively sparse population, in north-east Brazil on May 13th, 1960, just a few months before Mars and Earth made a close pass in space.

Mars and Earth will be close again in March 1965.

Because of the establishment of a straight-line pattern in the civilian sightings of UFOs in the south-west in April and early May I decided to see whether the estimated location of the April 30th landing at Holloman fell on one of the lines. A straight line drawn from Socorro, where the Zamora sighting took place, to Round Mountain near Tularosa, New Mexico, where a motorist observed a bright object coming down the next day, intersects the Holloman Range near Stallion Site as well as Highway 380, north of the site, near San Antonio. Another line from Round Mountain through Albuquerque, Rock Springs, Wyoming and Canyon Ferry, Montana also intersects the North Range. The third possibility is the line running from Las Cruces through Edgewood, La Madera, Alamosa, Colorado to Cheyenne, Wyoming, all of which are locations of sighted UFOs. However, we cannot assume the Holloman landing falls on one of the lines, but can only reiterate that three of the previously established orthogenic lines do intersect the north Holloman Range extension.

The interesting thing about these four military sightings (and there may be more, of course) is that the UFOs were seen on a military base during the time (from April 30th onward) that military representatives were busily labelling various

civilian sightings of similar objects to misinterpretations of conventional objects or hoaxes. I believe this series of sightings demonstrates that the Air Force programme is merely an attempt to explain away UFOs, and the really serious work of evaluation, correlation, etc., is being done elsewhere. The Air Force's official statement that it was "unfortunate that only one witness reported the Socorro object, and that no photographs were obtained" is clearly an attempt to discredit the Zamora sighting on the basis of the lack of corroborating witnesses. The Air Force immediately was put into an embarrassing position when Dr. Lincoln La Paz, a noted meteorologist who knows Zamora personally, endorsed his integrity and reliability.

It was during my investigation of the New Mexico flap that I learned of the existence of an agency called the "UFO Board", comprised of military and civilian scientists.

Air Force Regulation 200-2, much quoted among UFO enthusiasts, instructs local UFO officers on how to investigate a UFO sighting, and serves as a guide for public information officers concerning what can or cannot be said about a given incident. If an object can be explained a public statement can be made; if it is unexplainable in conventional terms no public statement will be forthcoming.

The Navy and the Army, however, have no unclassified public regulations about UFOs but do have classified regulations governing UFO investigations and these services do not make public statements about any UFO incidents. One of the people at the Wright Air Development Centre UFO Project recently told an APRO member that they don't have enough time and personnel to keep up with filing, let alone research and evaluation. It is only normal procedure that the Air Force would be relegated the task of publicly accounting for UFOs, just as it is only normal that the agency doing the actual research and evaluation would be operating behind closed doors, anonymously.

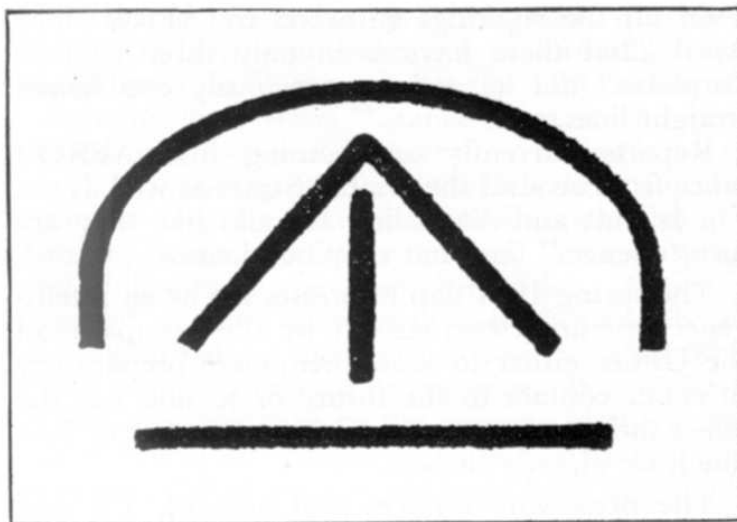
For many years researchers have urged that all the facts should be told and that possible resulting hysteria is not a legitimate reason for denying the existence of UFOs. I agree. But there may be an area we have not thoroughly explored.

If, early in the UFO game, certain responsible scientists and officials recognised the superior nature of the UFOs, accepted the interplanetary thesis, and considered the possible hostility of the objects, they may have felt justified in exerting some influence on press wires, TV and radio networks to keep UFO information at a minimum. They may have realised as early as 1950, when UFOs jammed radio frequencies of planes over Korea, that the objects were capable of monitoring our electronic news transmissions. We should be

objective enough to admit that a counter intelligence move as outlined above would be practical and necessary.

Postscript: Copies of *The Great Flying Saucer Hoax* by Mrs. Lorenzen, are still obtainable from A.P.R.O., 4145 E. Desert Place, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A., to which address enquiries should be addressed. The A.P.R.O. Bulletin is published from the same address (subscription \$3.50 per annum).

Reproduction of the symbol that police officer Zamora claims he saw on the UFO near Socorro, New Mexico (see November/December 1964 issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW). The same symbol, which Zamora says was coloured red, and 18 inches high, was reported on the UFO seen to land at Holloman AFB.



ACTING EDITOR'S T.V. SPOT

ON January 1 the Acting Editor accepted, at short notice, an invitation to appear on Granada TV's magazine programme *Scene at 6.30*. The unrehearsed "off-the-cuff" item, which was seen by viewers in the North West of England, lasted four minutes, so there was time to say very little. It is gratifying, however, that our subject should be kept in the public eye.

Maybe it is not too much to hope that one of the other companies, or the B.B.C., now put on a longer, prepared feature, so that the public may be given a further, rational picture of this extremely serious, yet fascinating subject, which could eventually have such a bearing on all our lives.

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UFOs? No! Lens Flare? YES!

A MAGORITY VERDICT

WAVENEY GIRVAN's invitation to photographic experts to give opinions on the spindle-shaped objects evoked a heavy response. Sufficient weight of evidence has been adduced against the spindle-shape to "sink" a UFO!

We of the REVIEW are always prepared to recant when errors in our thinking are satisfactorily demonstrated.

A hint of things to come was reader W. J. MacLean's letter. This we published in MAIL BAG in our November/December issue. Later arrivals appear in this issue on page 28. The big guns were booming when NICAP's Mr. Richard Hall wrote to us and supported his case with some excellent photographs. The *coup de grace* was struck by our worthy contributor Luis Schönherr, and we have managed to find space for his exposition in the following pages.

First of all, however, we append an extract from the letter from NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, of Washington, D.C., U.S.A.):

"I have made a special study of the lens flare *vs.* UFO subject, and believe I can add something to the discussion. There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever that the photograph on page 3 of the September/October issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is a typical lens flare caused by a reflection of the floodlight off the lens of the camera, and that this explanation is valid for virtually all similar photographs.

"I should first point out that the illustration of a lens flare in "The UFO Evidence" was not intended to describe the Joe Perry photograph, though it is easy to see how you got that impression. It was merely a general illustration which happened to be inserted (by our printer) in the account of Perry's photograph. His was not a lens flare phenomenon, but a developmental effect, which general category also causes many false UFO photographs.

"We have accumulated many photographs showing lens flares. I enclose three samples; please return these after making whatever use of them you care to. Please note the following patterns:

(a) Photographs showing lens flares usually, but not always, are taken at night. (A brilliant

light source will produce the same or a similar effect in daytime).

(b) One or more brilliant light sources usually appear on the prints (though sometimes only the glare from the light source is visible, with the actual light off the edge of the print).

(c) The "axis" of the spindle, in every case where it is possible to analyze which light source matches which lens flare, lines up with the light source. Why this is so I will leave to those more familiar with the optics of lenses.

These patterns generally hold in every example of lens flares with which I am acquainted, including the Vulcan bomber photograph on page 3 of the REVIEW. The Woomera photograph on page 5 is not clear enough to be sure, but most of the elements are present and the description sounds typical of the conditions which do produce lens flares.

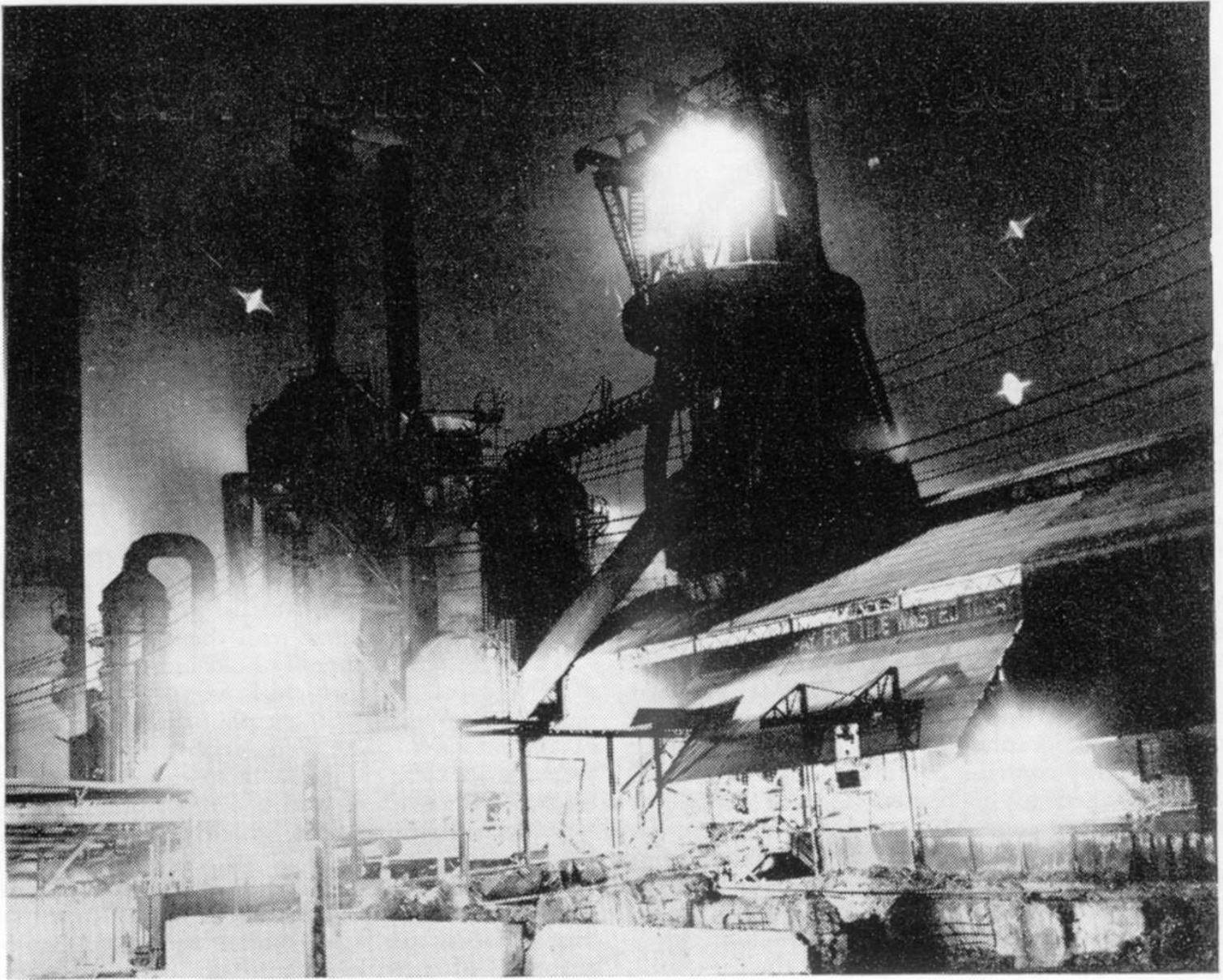
"The above is fact, and interpretation of fact. To enter on speculation briefly, it is curious that this phenomenon is not better known to photographers. I speculate that good photographers would ordinarily be less likely to expose the lens of their cameras to a brilliant light source, hence have not seen many lens flares in their own work.

"The Armco Steel Corporation blast furnace photograph enclosed is a particularly good example of two of the most common shapes of lens flares, and of the axes lining up with the light sources. Flare No. 1 lines up with the light in the lower right-hand corner. Flare No. 2 lines up with the brilliant light on the left-hand side. Flare No. 3—which please note has a more elliptical appearance—apparently results from a background light at a markedly different angle from the camera, possibly the light only partly visible behind the tower.

"The Oakland, California, city hall photograph shows another common variation: overlapping rings or "bubbles" of light, but with a typical "disc" as its most prominent feature.

"Our third photograph shows two different sizes of 'solid' lens flares, and one 'transparent' one. The largest 'solid' one compares favourably with flare No. 3 in Photograph A, and with the Ribera photograph mentioned in your article.

"Obviously if the light reflection theory is cor-



The well-known Armco Steel Works photograph, mentioned both in Mr. Richard Hall's letter, and in the following article by Luis Schönherr.

rect, we could expect a range of variations in appearance to result from different types of lenses, different angles to the camera, and different brilliances of the light sources.

"I forgot to mention a fourth pattern of lens flare photographs: in virtually every case, the photographer saw no UFO. It is possible that a photographer who did see a brilliantly lighted UFO and photographed it might get lens flares on his picture too, and later mistakenly interpret the lens flare as the UFO.

"It seems to me the evidence is overwhelming for the light reflection theory. It could easily be tested by deliberately photographing flood-lighted buildings at night, or even by photographing the sun. If enough camera angles are tried, this should produce lens flares almost at will.

"I have never heard an unambiguous description of a non-photographed UFO which resembled

a typical lens flare. Obviously a real disc reflecting some light, viewed edge-on, might give a similar appearance. But the question at issue is interpretation of photographic phenomena, normally accompanied by other brilliant light sources, and usually not observed visually.

"This is not granting the sceptics a point at all. It is objective investigation which, incidentally, should show sceptics that we are not gullible and do not strain to make every unusual phenomenon out to be a UFO."

We regret that we were unable to include the second and third photographs mentioned in Mr. Hall's letter. It is doubtful that they could have been reproduced well enough for the objects to be seen—a difficulty which we experienced to some degree with the Coningsby and Woomera photographs.

In fairness to our late editor, it should be

recorded that he only became deeply interested in the spindle shapes after the re-run of the Pathé newsfilm which was arranged for him. The Pathé representative assured him on that occasion that spurious images were out of the question with the expensive, completely hooded equipment which they used. It should be added that Mr. Girvan was not a photographic expert, and he was particularly impressed by this "evidence" which came so soon after the testimony of Michael Blake of Southampton. He even speculated on the possibility that the

powers behind the UFOs, aware of the confusion they would cause, had simulated the lens flare shapes for observation-type craft, or probes, for camouflage purposes.

Whilst the photographic experts, and others appear to have proved their point it seems that the door must be left slightly ajar for this last possibility.

As we are considering that theme, it may be well to examine the sighting report from Aberdeen, Scotland, featured in our World Round Up columns!

SPINDLES IN THE SKY

by *Luis Schönherr*

MY analysis of the photographs referred to in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has been based on the following facts drawn from my own twenty years of experience in the field of photography:

- (a) Reflections in camera objective lenses are far more common than the average photographer realizes.
- (b) An objective lens need not necessarily be defective in order to cause a reflection. An excessive amount of light (either as the result of long exposure or of the actual brightness of the light source) may be sufficient. For this reason reflections of all types occur preferably when photographs are taken against the sun and during night exposures.
- (c) A photographic objective nearly always consists of a set of different lenses. Four-lens-objectives are today common, a wide angle objective may contain from 6 to 10 lenses and a zoom objective even more. As a reflection originates from one or more of the various glass-glass or glass-air surfaces within the lens set, the probability of a reflection occurring under given circumstances will be the greater, the more lenses an objective contains. The light rays originating from such an irregular reflection within the objective do not pass the whole lens set but only some lenses. It will be clear that—although the objective as a whole is not defective—the correction for such rays must remain insufficient. Furthermore, they are often subject to secondary reflections and also to refraction. All this may cause on the film the typical effects of spheric and chromatic aberration, astigmatism and coma.¹
- (d) Often, but not always, the size and shape of the reflex image on the film depends also on the effective aperture (the diaphragm setting) of the objective.

- (e) There should be a distinction between reflections that are caused by light sources within the image field, and those that are due to light rays from outside the image field.
- (f) As far as I know from personal experience, reflections of the spindle type are always caused by light sources from inside the image field, and therefore the light sources which cause them will also appear on the negative. It should be borne in mind, however, that reproductions are often made from prints obtained by enlarging only a section of the negative.
- (g) The production of one axis of the reflex image intersects the light source which causes it. Light source and reflex image are diametrically opposed.
- (h) If different light sources have caused more than one reflex image, the productions of their axes will intersect in a common point, i.e., the point at which the optical axis of the objective has been directed during the exposure.
- (i) Light rays from outside the image field may also reach the front lens of an objective. As the objective has not been calculated for this angle of incidence, reflections may also occur. But in this case they seldom have a well defined shape, and they cover greater parts of the negative in form of an indistinct "haze".
- (j) Lens hoods can only prevent reflections mentioned under (i).
- (k) Defective lens hoods may themselves cause reflections. If the inner side of the hood tube is not dull black, but scratched, and thus exposing the shiny metal surface, reflections may occur. Once, after a night exposure, when I unscrewed the lens hood, I noticed a single rain drop on the inside. I did not pay

much attention to this. But later, when I examined the film, I found a very faint annular image on it. Although I did not succeed in reproducing the effect in an experimental arrangement, I strongly suspect that the raindrop was the cause. It is very difficult to reproduce exactly the same conditions; it may have been an unnoticed short-timed flash from the headlights of a passing car, which was reflected by the raindrop.²

If one applies the foregoing to the photographs in question, one reaches the following conclusions:

- (1) The "shape" on the photo of the Avro-Vulcan bomber³ is doubtless a lens reflection. (Compare with *b*, *f* and *g*). The fact that the lens was hooded is irrelevant (*j*). As to the alleged motion of the "shape" see *d*.
- (2) The photo in the *Komsomolskaya Pravda*⁴ belongs to the same category. The light source responsible for the reflex image at the left can be expected to be at the right on the ground (outside the picture). Compare with *b*, *f*, *g*.
- (3) The photo of the Armco Steel blast furnace⁵ demonstrates very well the statements under *h*. The location of the intersection indicates that the camera must have been pointed upwards. This is also amply demonstrated by the excessive perspective of the chimneys. Note also the conformity in the brightness of light sources and reflex images!
- (4) In the case of the Woomera photo⁶ there are at least two main causes for light tricks, whilst two further causes are to be suspected.
 - (*n*) In the centre, there is the fiery blaze of the rocket exhaust.
 - (*m*) At the left can be seen the tunnel from which the hot gases emerge. The boundary layer between the hot gases and the cooler air would be favourable to the formation of mirages either from the sun or from the rocket's blast. Turbulence in this layer could account for erratic motion of the mirage.
 - (*o*) Possibly the sun was also within the image field at the right.
 - (*p*) The light ring at the left bears a very strong resemblance to the annular image mentioned in *k*. (See also note ²).

It would be very interesting to learn whether or not the cameraman himself observed the object.

- (5) The shape of the image in the photograph taken by Sr. Llaurodo⁷ is the shape of a typical reflex image. The accompanying text, as well as the picture itself, indicate further that the photograph was taken against the sun. A

filter had also been used, and filters, particularly if they are of poor quality, are often responsible for reflections. Sr. Llaurodo states that he saw something flying against the sun. Can we be sure that this "something" and the image on the film were caused by the same object? And if it had really been so, one should bear in mind that the human eye acts very much like an optical lens. Therefore it seems that in principle, lens reflections may appear on the retina as well as on a film. Although possibly not the whole image field has been reproduced, there is little doubt that the one axis of the image is directed towards the sun. (Compare with *b*, *f* and *g*.)

- (6) In the case of the visual observation of Michael Blake⁸ which lasted only two or three seconds, the possibility of a reflection in the eye cannot be excluded. I am, however, not quite sure as to this latter hypothesis, because I myself have never experienced such a reflection, and because the eye is a single lens objective which offers not as much opportunity for a reflection as does a photographic lens set. In this case the last word must be left to the experts of physiological optics.

For the expert it is always possible to calculate the exact shape of all reflex images for any given lens set, and all possible angles of incident. But this demands—even in a single case—such a disproportionately high expense in time and mathematics that it is seldom accomplished. As a rule, only the manufacturer of the objective will be able to make such a calculation at all, since only he is in possession of the required fundamentals.

For an expert's analysis the following data should be available:

- (1) The original negative, type and sensitivity of the film.
- (2) Type of shutter, and shutter-speed.
- (3) Diaphragm setting.
- (4) Objective, focal length, manufacturer and Serial number.
- (5) Camera-type.
- (6) Filters and lens hood (if used).

Owners of a reflex camera (where the photographic objective serves also as a view finder) can easily observe the evolution of such reflex images and their variations with different diaphragm settings, if they point the camera towards the sun and at varying angles to it. In cameras with separate viewfinders, the different optical system of the view finder may show nothing unusual, while the photographic objective may produce a reflex image on the film.

I hope that at least those readers who are acquainted with my speculations on UFOs and the

Fourth dimension, will not consider me as a narrow-minded sceptic. The purely optical nature of the spindle type "UFO" is obvious to anyone familiar with optical phenomena. As I felt, however, that some of the readers of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* might be tempted to see a connection between the projections of the four dimensional force fields suggested in my previous articles⁹ and those reflex images, I thought it my duty, to deal with the subject in detail.

NOTES

¹Cagnet, Francon, J. C. Thierri, *Atlas optischer Erscheinungen*, Springer-Verlag, Gottingen 1962, Library of Congress Cat. Card Nr. 62-15420.

²In December 1958 the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* reproduced a photograph taken by a Mrs. Barrett during a voyage in Norway. The ring-like image in this picture is similar, but much more intense. In his book *The World of Flying Saucers* Dr. Menzel states that the Barrett photograph had been thoroughly investigated, and ATIC reached the conclusion that the image had been caused by the reflection of a diamond which the photographer was wearing.

³*FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, Sept./October, 1964, p. 3.

⁴Ibid March/April 1961. The reproduction at my disposal is from a Swiss UFO-periodical which in the meantime has ceased to appear. The lighting on it shows quite clearly that there must have been an intense light source at the right on the ground.

⁵Wilkins: *Flying Saucers on the Attack*, frontispiece.

⁶FSR Sept./October 1964, p. 5.

⁷Ibid July/August 1962, p. 14.

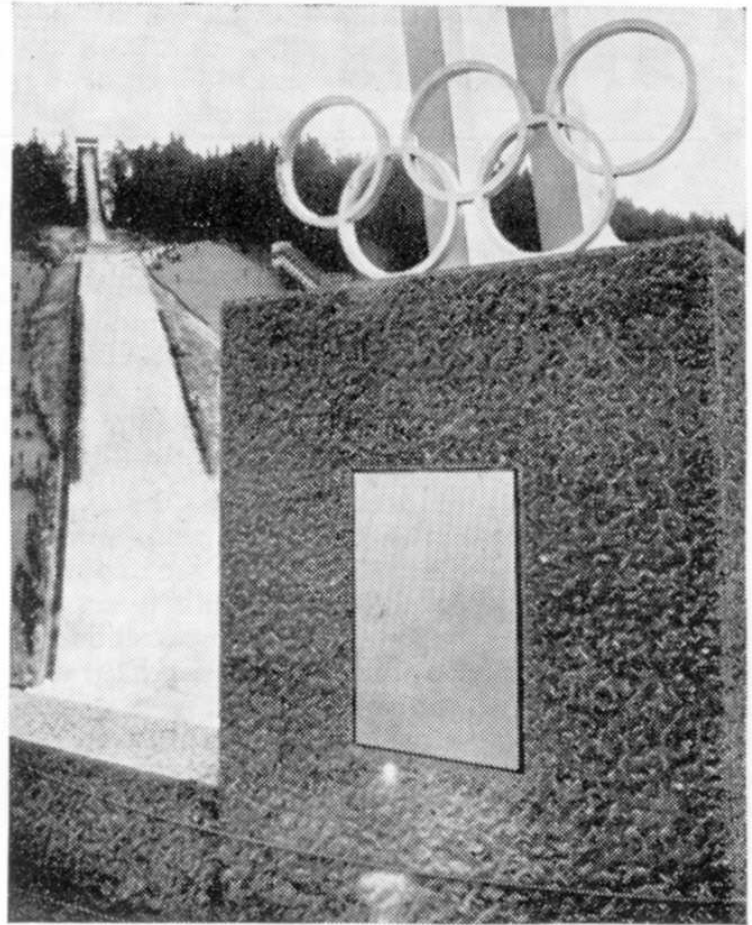
⁸Ibid Jan./Feb. 1964, p. 3.

⁹Ibid March/April 1963, p.10. Ibid Jan./Feb. 1964, p. 16.

This photograph was taken in February 1964 at the ski jump on the Berg Isel near Innsbruck, Tyrol. The reflex image at the bottom edge is caused by the sun, which was within the image field (in the centre of the upper half of the picture).

DATA: Objective: Curtagon, 1:4, focal length 28 mm. Manufacturer: Jos. Schneider & Co., Kreuznach, Germany. Settings: Diaphragm: 16. Speed: 1/125 second. Film: Ektachrome, daylight reversal, 19 DIN. Camera: Exa II, focal plane shutter, no lens hood or filter.

Since during daylight exposures the sun stands high in the sky, the reflex image con-



sequently will appear in the lower part of the picture (compare with *g*) where it is sometimes overlooked and if it is noticed certainly not mistaken for an UFO.

During night exposures, when the only light sources are on or near the ground, the reflex image will appear in the dark sky, where it attracts attention.

Only when the angle between the sun and the optical axis of the objective lens is small, the reflex image on daylight photographs can also appear in the sky or even in the vicinity of the sun. The photograph taken by Llaurado (see text) is an example for such a case.

LETTERS

We are always pleased to receive letters from our readers: they are part of the life-blood of the *REVIEW*. Please remember, however, to keep your letters short. If possible type them, using double-spacing—and here the Editor asks contributors to do the same—using one side of the sheet only. If no typewriter is available, please write clearly, again using only one side of the paper. If you will kindly do this, it will save the Editor a tremendous amount of time, and work!

Unless correspondents give their full name and address (not necessarily for publication), their letters cannot be considered.

The Editor wishes to remind correspondents that it would require a superhuman effort to acknowledge every letter personally. He therefore avails himself of this opportunity of thanking all who take the trouble to write to him.

The Most Amazing Case of All

Part 1—A Brazilian Farmer's Story

By Gordon Creighton

For many years Brazil and Argentina have been the centre of intense UFO activity. There have been many strange sightings and occurrences, but none so startling as this story, retold by Mr. Creighton. The policy of the REVIEW is to present all aspects of the flying saucer mystery, and this story, albeit uncorroborated, needs to be told. The full implications are alarming to say the least, and will be discussed in the second part of the article, in which further evidence of UFO activity in the region is also presented. Part II will be published in the March/April 1965 issue of the REVIEW.

THE following account, which I have translated and condensed from Brazilian source material, is without doubt the most sensational UFO story that we have heard yet. I have been "sitting on it" for the past two years, hoping that further evidence would come to light, and also—I confess—wondering whether or not objections would be raised to my giving currency to it. I am now in possession of further information that throws light on the story, so here goes! I tender my apologies to any reader who may find this bizarre story offensive. I can only plead that, distasteful or frightening as the affair may be for some, I for my part believe it to be true, and that whatever the truth may be, it is better that we face up to it.

My principal source is the April/July 1962 bulletin of the Sociedade Brasileira de Estudos Sobre Discos Voadores (Brazilian Society for the study of Flying Saucers) in Rio de Janeiro, and I am most obliged to Dr. W. Buhler, the editor, who was good enough to send me a copy.

Brazil is one of the largest countries in the world, larger indeed than the U.S.A., and contains what is potentially one of the richest areas still undeveloped. In common with neighbouring Argentina, Brazil has had an extraordinary number of UFO sightings and landings. The eminent Brazilian investigator Dr. Olavo Fontes has described, in his *Brazil under UFO survey* (FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Mar./April, May/June, and July/August 1961), the apparently systematic military type of reconnaissance which the "Visitors" have been making of the defence and communications facilities of his country, and he has made it plain that many Brazilians are apprehensive that an invasion is impending.

The episode here described took place at midnight on 15th December, 1957, at a place near the inland western frontier of Brazil. The precise location is not disclosed by Dr. Buhler, but from my knowledge of Brazil, where I spent some years as one of H.M.'s Consuls, I think the locality must be

Ponte Poran. I shall show why I have come to this conclusion in Part II of this article.

Very soon after the affair occurred, the Brazilian Society for the Study of Flying Saucers heard of rumours in Rio de Janeiro that the secret service were investigating something quite extraordinary. Finally the Society ferreted out enough information to be in a position to launch their own inquiry. In July 1961, Dr. Buhler himself, with another member, a Dr. M.P.A. (name not disclosed), set out on a trip into the Brazilian hinterland. Their objective was a place lying some 1500 kilometres from Rio de Janeiro (Ponte Poran is about that distance from Rio), and their journey lasted 36 hours, involving the use of five bus routes and a ferry-boat.

The purpose of the journey was to interview a young Brazilian farmer who is referred to in their account as "A.V.B.", his identity being kept secret for understandable reasons. It is proposed hereafter to call the farmer by the Portuguese name "Adhemar", although it must be remembered that it is not his real name.

The farmer, who is described as a serious young man, lives 5 kilometres from the nearest village. He rode in on his horse to the village to meet the investigators, as pre-arranged. At first the two doctors found him shy and intensely reluctant to discuss the details of his experience of four years before, but they finally persuaded him to talk. The episode had indeed been so strange that he had not even mentioned it to his parents, with whom he was then living, or with his brother. By the time the doctors arrived to see him he had married.

December is a very hot month in that part of Brazil, so hot that Adhemar and his brother worked at night, driving their tractor and ploughing a field lying on a plain beside a river.

On 14th December, 1957, at about 11 p.m., they were busy ploughing when Adhemar drew his brother's attention to a light in the sky. The light changed its position every time they turned the

plough at the end of a furrow, and when it came nearer the brothers took fright, uncoupled the plough from the tractor and drove off home.

On the following night Adhemar was out ploughing again, this time alone. At midnight a "star-like light" approached at great speed from the north and seconds later came to a halt about 300 feet above the field. Thoroughly alarmed, Adhemar decided to pack up and make for home, and began to operate the hydraulic gear which uncouples the plough from the tractor. It failed.

Adhemar was still struggling with the coupling mechanism when the engine of the tractor also went dead. At that moment the machine in the sky swooped down and landed some twenty yards from the tractor. The terrified farmer saw two "people" emerge from the machine and run towards him: in a panic he jumped from his tractor and endeavoured to run away, but the two people (now described as "men") grabbed him from behind. He managed to throw one of them over his head, but two more arrived and seized him, and finally there were five or six of them hanging onto his arms and legs. Although he had resisted violently at the beginning, he soon perceived that it was useless to struggle against so many, and gave up. Nevertheless, it was clear that man for man they were not so strong as he.

The captive farmer was hustled to the machine, and up a ladder, then through a door into a round compartment some five or six feet high, and six or seven feet wide. This compartment had a shaft passing through the centre from floor to ceiling, and the surrounding wall had square holes in it ". . . such as one sees on electrical installations." There was a fixed table with three legs which had upon it an instrument—and here Dr. Buhler explains that he has been asked by a certain person in Rio de Janeiro not to describe the instrument, so that the authenticity of any future reports mentioning such instruments may be established.

The captors at once applied a flexible suction syringe to two places near the prominent part of his chin, apparently to draw blood from him. Next, they proceeded to remove his clothes with incredible speed, carefully undoing all buttons so that nothing was torn.

He was then conducted through a door to another compartment, in which the only furniture was a couch covered with a plastic material. He was laid upon this, and his body was moistened all over with a kind of sponge which contained a refreshing liquid. Adhemar imagined at first that this was to clean him, as he was dirty.

Estimating the time that he had been in the first compartment as five minutes, Adhemar added that he was left waiting in this second compartment for

some twenty minutes. Nobody came to trouble him, but he suddenly became aware of a pungent odour which pervaded the compartment. Overcome by a wave of nausea he was violently sick.

There was a third door leading to another room, and this door now opened. Two men brought in a girl who was between 4 ft. 8 ins. and 5 ft. tall. They left her with him and withdrew. Smiling, the girl approached him with open arms. . . .

Adhemar told Dr. Buhler that when he thought afterwards about the episode, he was very puzzled, for only a few moments before the arrival of the girl he had been both nauseated and terrified, yet when she appeared with the men, those feelings had disappeared. He suggested later that the excitement which replaced the earlier unpleasant sensations might have been connected in some way with the liquid which had been applied to his body.

Adhemar told Dr. Buhler that the girl had sparse blond hair, no eyelashes, no eyebrows—or only very fine blonde ones—and no hair on her body. Her ears were small, her chin, lips and nose were finely formed, her eyes were "Chinese" looking, her cheekbones prominent (as in Slavonic peoples) and her teeth white and well formed. He estimated that her weight was 80 lbs.

In due course the girl left him. He said that she had not spoken to him throughout the incident. Dr. Buhler tried to extract such details as he could, but Adhemar was shy and very embarrassed at that point.

Adhemar went on to say that when the girl approached the door, it opened automatically. Being a simple farmer, he said he could not imagine what manner of mechanism controlled such an operation.

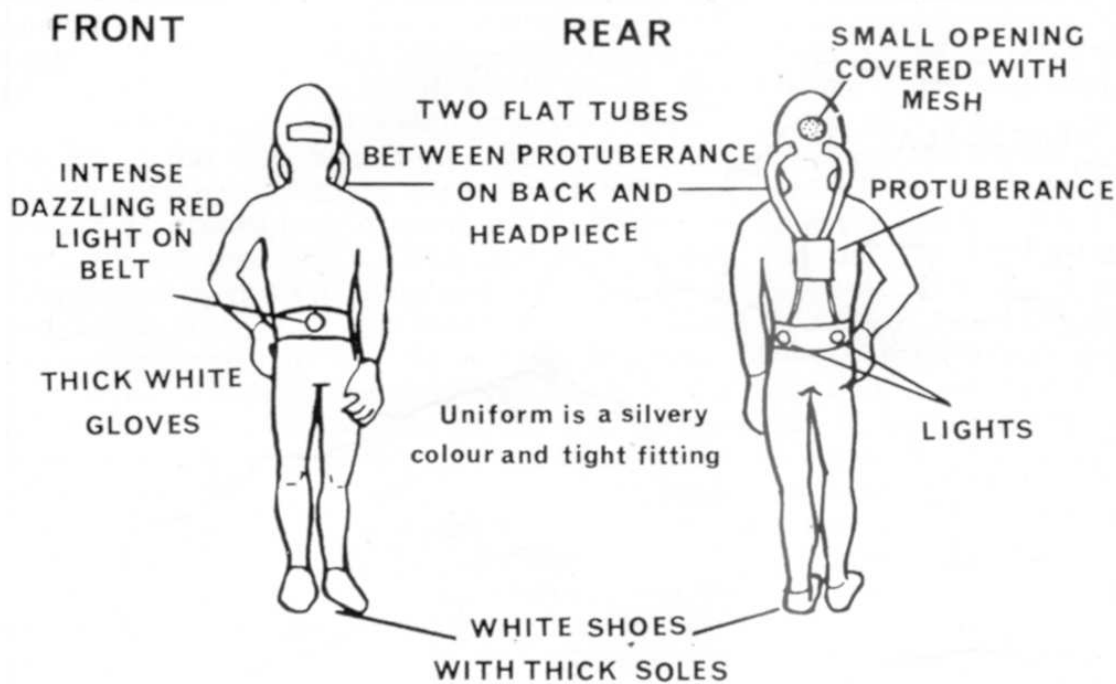
When the girl had gone, Adhemar returned to the first compartment to get his clothes. After he had dressed himself, he was joined by a member of the crew who took him outside onto a platform which was level with the floor of the compartments.

Our farmer was now able to take in something of his surroundings. He had seen five or six members of the crew. They were all dressed alike, in white, close-fitting "metallic scale" suits (his hands had even been injured by the scales during his struggle). Each man also wore a wide belt, with a reddish light on the front of it. Their feet were encased in rough white shoes, which apparently had no heels, to judge by the footprints which Adhemar saw next day in the soft earth. Their hands were covered by strong gloves, and on their heads were large opaque helmets with only a small horizontal slit at the level of the eyes. At the rear, flat metallic tubes emerged from a small lump on the men's backs, and ran up, one on each side, into the helmet.



THE SOUTH AMERICAN CONTINENT

Scene of so much UFO activity



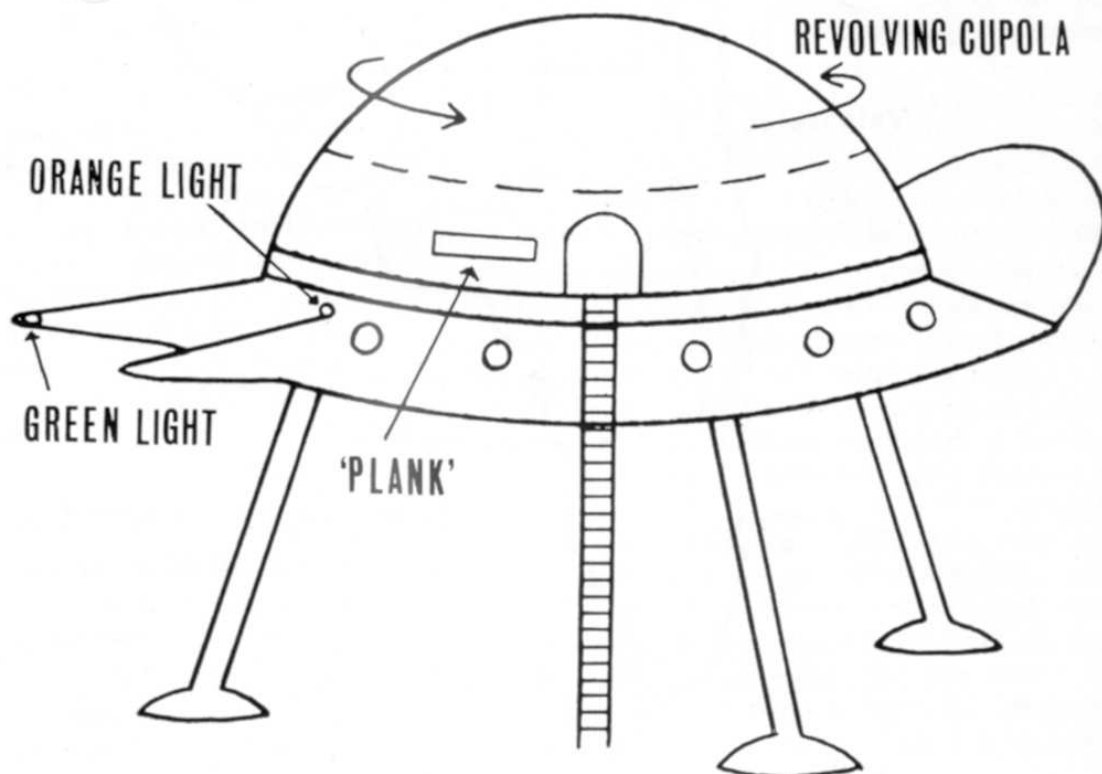
UFO crew members in uniform: drawings based on "Adhemar's" description

Adhemar said he was unable to see eye to eye with them. In other words, he was unable to secure any view at all of their faces, and we do not know whether they were creatures resembling the girl or not.

The men did not speak to him, but only among themselves, in a strident sort of language. Adhemar could affirm at any rate that it was not Syrian or Japanese, two languages with which he was sufficiently familiar to recognize them by their sound.

All the men were of small stature, reaching only to his shoulder, but the girl was smaller still. Dr. Buhler and his colleague report that they themselves are both 5 ft. 7 ins. tall, and that Adhemar is a little shorter than that.

The interviewers now turned their attention to the interloper's machine. Adhemar said that it landed at a spot some 50 yards from the bank of the river, thus cutting him off from the route to his home, some two miles distant. He did not attempt to cry out for help as he knew it would be useless at



Artist's impression based on the Brazilian farmer's description

that distance.

Adhemar did not understand the source of the light which illuminated both the outside and the inside of the machine.

The description of the machine is strange, but I feel that it may well correspond with some UFO sighting accounts already on file. It was a "... bird-like construction", some nine or ten feet in height, which stood on a tripod itself some ten or twelve feet high. The thickness of the tripod legs was about twelve inches, widening out at the base where they met the ground.

The main body of the machine was about 50 to 60 feet in length, and had a pointed fore-part which bore a green light. There was also a shorter pair of parallel protuberances, one on each side, both of which bore an orange light near its tip. On either side of the main body of the machine there emerged a short projection, "... shaped like a plank". The normal position of these projections seemed to be horizontal, but Adhemar noticed, when the machine took off, that they had made a turn of 30 degrees.

Above the main body of the craft, but quite close to it, was a large cupola, 18 inches thick, and approximately 30 inches wide. The cupola was in constant rotation, even when the machine was on the ground, and it produced a wind which could be felt as the farmer stood nearby. This wind increased to storm-like intensity when the machine began to take off. There was no heat or odour.

At the end of the main body stood a vertical plate, just like a rudder.

When Adhemar had finished his tour of the platform, the man who was with him accompanied him down the ladder, which, it appeared, was retractable. On reaching the ground, the man made two holes in the earth, pointing first to one hole and then skywards, and then to the other hole. Adhemar, the simple farmer, almost certainly illiterate like most of his fellows of the rural population of Brazil, told Dr. Buhler that he had not understood what the little man meant by this very elementary method of indicating two different planets in Space! But, as I have emphasised on more than one occasion, there is nobody less likely to have ever heard of science fiction than the rural mestizo populations of South America. Yet it is precisely from that Continent that some of the most astonishing UFO reports have come. It must be borne in mind that no part of our planet offers better bases than the vast interior of South America. I have already mentioned, in a previous article on UFOs over Argentina, that our correspondent in the northern part of that country has informed us this year that many of his compatriots now believe that Space entities have bases in the

Andes, or the nearby Mato Grosso of Brazil, or under the sea along the coast of Argentina. On page 207 of her book "The Great Flying Saucer Hoax"—one of the most important books ever written on this subject—Mrs. Coral Lorenzen likewise suggests there are bases in Central Brazil.)

When Adhemar saw that the machine was about to take off, he stepped back quickly. The green fore-light changed to a blinding white and after it had risen, which it did with incredible speed (this is unlike most UFO accounts) this white light was the only one that remained visible in the sky. The machine was gone in a flash.

Walking home, Adhemar still felt nauseated, and for the next three weeks his liver was painful, and small superficial ulcers appeared on his face and arms. These however, healed quickly.

When he went to get his tractor next day, he found that it functioned perfectly. The heel-less footprints of the crew and the impressions made by the machine's three legs were clear enough in the soft ploughed earth. As Dr. Buhler points out, this in itself was heavy evidence in support of Adhemar's story, and should have been investigated. Further evidence was the two marks on his chin, where the blood had been drawn from him. These remained visible for more than three years!

Adhemar told the two doctors that he had only talked to one single person about the affair (presumably only one person in addition to the authorities who had questioned him in Rio). He added, moreover, that on two occasions, both during the night, and some months before his strange experience, his home had been "floodlit" twice from the sky by Space-craft. On one of these occasions his mother had also witnessed the "floodlighting", whilst on the other occasion the whole yard around the farmhouse had been illuminated from above. This was seen by both Adhemar and his brother from the bedroom in which they slept. Furthermore, other people in the village and the neighbourhood had also seen these lights on several occasions during the night.

When Dr. Buhler asked Adhemar his final question—how would he feel should he have to undergo such an experience again—the farmer replied shyly that he would not particularly like it. It had been very frightening, and in any case, he was now no longer a bachelor. "All the same" he added, "... if it should happen again, that the same machine with the same people landed once more, I would not run away. . . ."

(EDITOR'S NOTE:—All measurements in the original account were quoted in the metric system. We have converted them to feet and inches for the convenience of our readers.)

OUR COVER PICTURE

THE choice of cover illustration was dictated not only by the fact that it was derived from the Brazilian farmer's story in THE MOST AMAZING CASE OF ALL (see page 13), but also in view of the intriguing similarities between the uniform and clothing described in features which have appeared from time to time in the REVIEW.

The programme *The World of Tonight* (B.B.C. 1 T.V., Sunday, 22 November, 1964) reintroduced a character well-known to our readers: Springheel Jack. J. Vyner's interesting account, *The Mystery of Springheel Jack* appeared in the May/June 1961 issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

Mr. Vyner suggested that the intruder who terrorised the English countryside in 1837-38, and who has been seen in England and other parts of the world for more than a hundred years since that time, was a visitor from space in search of a contact here on Earth. The suggested explanation for Jack's appearances over such an extended period of time, is that Jack had many incarnations, or made return visits. Another explanation that we offer is that there have been a number of *different* Jacks. According to the B.B.C., the strange leaping figure was last seen in Britain in 1904, when he startled, and even horrified the people of Everton, Liverpool. Several times he was seen cavorting along back-streets and alleyways, and leaping to and from, and over roofs of back-to-back houses, shops, and other buildings. When he jumped down from roofs, horrified watchers rushed to the points where they expected to find his body, only to find that he had vanished. Authentic Springheeled Jack!

We, however, are more interested in the varied descriptions of his clothing than in his athletic feats. A flowing cloak was very often in evidence, and beneath the cloak there was usually a close-fitting, shiny garment. Next, and very important, this, there was the red, flashing lamp on his chest, or on a belt. For headgear, Jack usually sported a tall, metallic-looking helmet.

It is not really surprising that the clothes, as described, tallied in some ways with the conventional garb of mortals of the nineteenth century. Those same folk would, after all, be equally at a loss if they tried to describe the attire of our present-day airmen. Furthermore, if Jack, the intruder from space, wore a cloak, could it not have been because cloaks were fashionable, and would therefore provide a measure of camouflage for him? Again, the solid Victorians had no conception of a

space helmet. Their feet were too squarely planted on *terra firma*, and they had not begun to venture, even in the imagination, beyond the confines of Earth's atmosphere. Many years were to pass before the advent of the vivid forecasts of H. G. Wells, let alone the journeyings of Gagarin and Glenn. Nevertheless, their pen pictures make interesting reading in the light of more recent reports.

In Gordon Creighton's account of the Brazilian farmer's story which appears in this issue, there is a detailed description of the uniform of the crewman of the UFO who captured the farmer, "Adhemar". Our artist's drawing was based on the crude sketches made by the uneducated farmer. The headgear does not fall exactly into line with the tall helmet worn from time to time by Springheeled Jack, but it could be similar. Suffice it to say that witnesses did not mention eye apertures or the apparant use of one-way glass. Other similarities, however, are startling and seem to be more than purely coincidental. First there is the suit, spoken of as being close-fitting, metallic and scaled. Then we can't get away from that belt, carrying a *lamp*, from which emanated an intense, dazzling red light!

Now let us turn to the contact claim story which appeared in the November/December 1964 issue of the REVIEW. There were four good reasons for recording the bizarre experiences of the good lady of Whidby Island. Apart from the strange ability of the visiting craft to change its size, the soil-sucking operation, and the method of ingress and egress of the crew through the side of the craft, there was the description of the crew's attire. Mrs. Brown's contact was clothed in ". . . asbestos textured coveralls . . . which concealed the feet, hands and face except for openings where the eyes should be, but where no eyes were visible . . ." In the free translation from the Portuguese, Adhemar "could not see eye to eye with them": he could not see their eyes and had no view of their faces.

Somewhat similar, too, was the experience of Mr. Wilcox, the American farmer (see *Down on the Farm*, in the World Round-up feature of the Sept. / October issue of the REVIEW). His space contacts wore seamless dress, with hoods covering their faces.

The grey coveralls worn by the creatures spotted by Patrolman Zamora at the Socorro sighting also fall into this category, and there have been many other eye-witness accounts, some of which have also told of the flashing red lamps: lack of space precludes their being detailed here.

Granted there are minor differences in the various descriptions of the uniforms, mostly a matter of material, lustre and texture. No doubt much

depends on the standard of education and environment of the witness. Generally, however, the garments appear to be close-fitting, seamless "coveralls", with hoods, or helmets, through the apertures of which eyes are not visible. Perhaps Mrs. Brown and Mr. Wilcox did not notice the

lamps because their contacts had no call to use them.

Was one of these uniforms, albeit worn by a taller creature, photographed by Jim Templeton? (see November/December 1964 issue of the REVIEW).

A South American Trio

By Charles Bowen

LET us imagine for a moment that we are in the position of the commander of an expedition sent to explore a strange planet. Intelligence has briefed us thoroughly, and we know that the planet teems with life, much of it highly organised, especially with regard to defence. We know too that there are vast regions of the planet which are either unexplored or undeveloped, having only a sparse population of illiterate folk following agrarian occupations.

It so happens that our expedition is low in manpower, but we have, by comparison with the denizens of the planet, extreme mobility and great technological superiority. The tactical advantage of surprise is on our side, despite the fact that our reconnaissance units have been probing the planet for some time, and the peoples there are vaguely aware of our existence. The adverb "vaguely" is used advisedly, because although the inhabitants of the planet have seen our units, they are somewhat bemused by the censorship imposed on their newspapers by the governments of their countries. The governments are aware of the situation, but choose to play the news down for their own reasons.

There is one snag, however, and here we have to tread warily. We have been warned that the military men of the planet have very devastating weapons at their command, and they have an unfortunate reputation of being trigger-happy!

The method of our arrival at the planet is of no account. It matters not one iota whether we have come from elsewhere in the universe on the same plane, or have materialised from a different plane, or whether we have journeyed from the past or the future—the problems would be the same. So, in these circumstances, how would we set about the task of "landing" to conduct our mission?

After a few moments' reflection, we would all surely decide that while our reconnaissance units keep a wary eye on the main centres of population, industry and defence, our main body would quietly establish a base, or bridgehead, in one of the remote areas. There we could conduct our research, or collate our intelligence reports, and from thence go forth on our exploratory sorties.

If you then decide on such a plan, surely it is more than likely that extraterrestrial visitors to planet Earth would come to similar conclusions.

It is not surprising then, that floods of UFO sighting, landing and contact reports have come to us from remote parts of our globe. South America, New Guinea, mountainous regions of Europe and Asia, the ocean wastes and even Antarctica have been the sources of many strange reports.

What region more suitable than South America can we on Earth offer to the prospective explorer or would-be take-over bidder? Vast, unexplored in many areas, with large inaccessible tracts, the South American continent is rich in mineral resources, vegetation and water supplies, and has just a sprinkling of, for the main part, ill-educated, illiterate peoples.

In fact, so many contact, landing and sighting reports emanate from these simple folk unsullied by science fiction and not given to imaginative storytelling, that they merit our closest scrutiny.

Elsewhere in this issue we tell of the Brazilian farmer's incredible experience, an account of an event that could have an alarming significance. Here now are three more cases from South America. Two of them are landing/contact reports, whilst the other is a sea-sighting for researchers whose appetite was whetted by the Antonio Ribera article *UFOs and the Sea* which appeared in the November/December issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

I am indebted to Gordon Creighton, our indefatigable, multi-lingual colleague, for his translations from the original reports, and to Oscar Galindez, our representative in the Argentine, for the first of these accounts.

I—On the road from Cordoba

The following account is taken from a report which appeared in the *Diario de Córdoba* (Córdoba Daily News), on 1st May, 1957, and, so far as we know, has never been published anywhere except in this remote provincial journal. Unfortunately the name of the man who claims to have had this experience is not disclosed, but we have written for further details.

Senor Oscar Galindez and many of his countrymen believe that there *are* UFO bases in the Andes, and he suggests that the probable locations are in the high mountains around Salta (N.W. Argentina) and the Puna de Atacama, a forbidding and desolate area to the west of Salta. (Reference should be made to the sketch map of South America on page 15.)

One day in April, 1957, a resident of Córdoba was riding his motor-cycle towards Rio Ceballos. It was about 7.30 a.m., and he had reached a spot some fifteen kilometres from the International Airport at Pajas Blancas, when his engine stopped. As he dismounted to check for the fault, he saw an enormous disc-shaped object hovering some fifty feet above the road. Terrified, as one may well imagine, he ran and hid in the roadside ditch. The strange object was some 60 feet in diameter and more than 15 feet high. For a few moments it remained motionless above the road, before it descended to about seven feet above the surface, where it again became stationary. The only thing that could be heard was a sound like air escaping from the valve of a tyre.

Suddenly, from the lower portion of the machine, a device described as a lift, or transparent stairway, began to descend. It carried a passenger—a being of human shape—who stepped down when the lift halted about a foot from the ground. After glancing briefly at various plants around him, the being finally walked towards the Córdoba. He, poor soul, was panic-stricken, and frenziedly tried to dig a hole in the side of the ditch, the better to hide himself.

The Space Man—if that is what he was—was about 5 ft. 8 ins. tall, and wore clothing like a diver's suit, fitting the body closely, and appearing to be made of plastic rather than cloth.

The Space Man said nothing, but gracefully reached out his hand to help the fear-crazed human from the ditch. Then, when they stood side by side on the road, the being pointed expressively towards the hovering craft, and tried to make the man understand by signs that he should follow him without fear. Encountering only resistance, he turned and very gently stroked the man's forehead to calm him, and again pointed to the machine. This action must have had the required effect, for the Córdoba overcame his panic, and entered the lift device. This rose slowly until it came to rest in a large cabin inside the craft.

Around the wall of the cabin were five or six panels, each about six feet wide, and covered with an intricate mass of equipment, including screens (like those on oscilloscopes?). At each of the panels a being was seated. Everyone of them was dressed precisely like the Earth man's guide. They paid no

attention whatever to their surprised visitor.

Later, when he came to tell his story, the Córdoba seemed to have been particularly impressed by a series of large square windows around the walls above the panels. The extraordinary thing, it seems, was that he had seen no trace of windows on the outside of the craft.

A dull phosphorescent type of light pervaded the cabin, yet again, no lamp was to be seen. This light was in addition to that coming through the windows.

The Earth man's tour of inspection ended when he was invited to enter the lift once more. By now he had completely recovered his composure, and as they were descending, he struck the wall with his knuckles. It gave off a metallic sound. As they alighted, he tried to ask his guide, by sign language, how the machine stayed suspended. The being, by way of reply, passed the palm of one hand flat over the other, but this meant nothing to the Córdoba.

The colour of the craft was somewhat indistinct. In parts it had a greenish tinge, whilst elsewhere it was blue, the combined effect being that of metallic iridescence. The noise like escaping air continued the whole time.

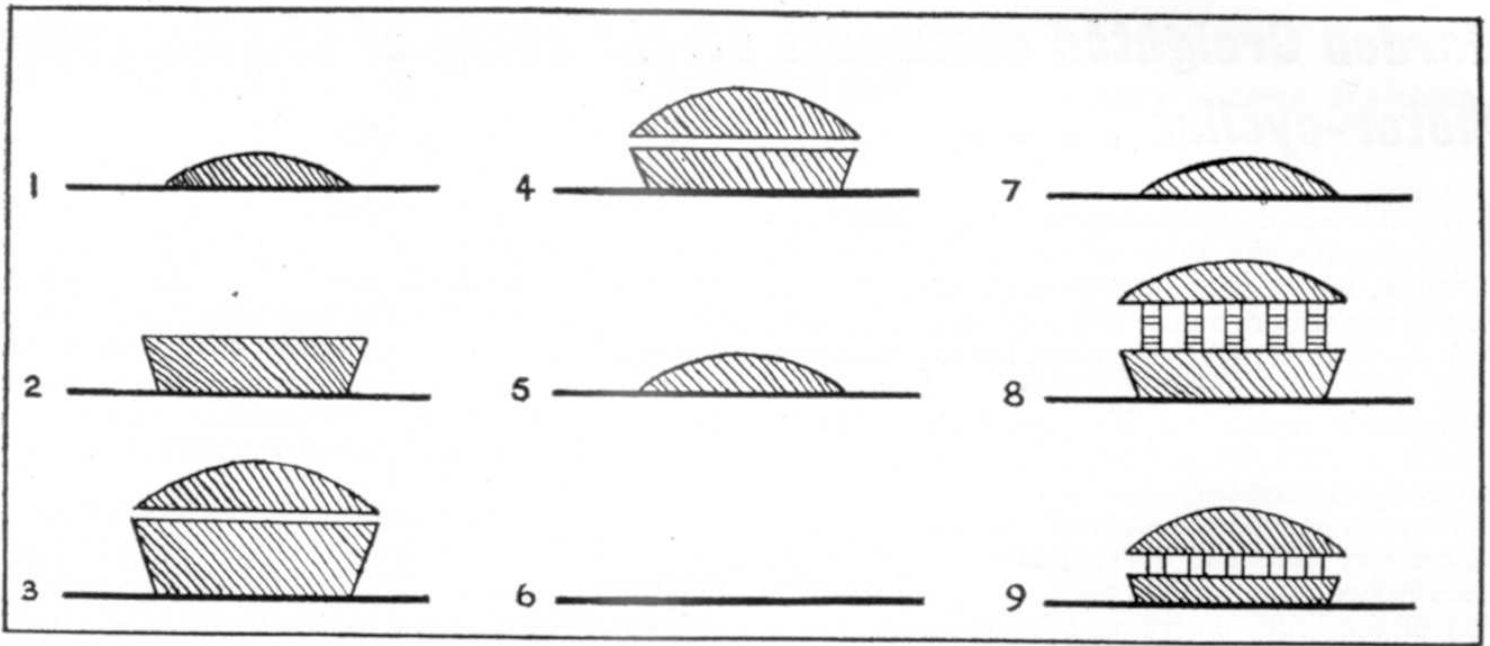
When the motor-cycle had been recovered, the being examined it carefully, but when its owner indicated that he would start it up, a gesture was sufficient to show that it would not work while the hovering craft was there.

At last the visitor turned to the man, and placed his hand on his shoulder, presumably in a gesture of farewell, and re-entered the lift, which then slowly disappeared into the craft. There was a short delay before the craft rose swiftly to some 2,500 feet, and sped off to the north-west. A UFO, presumably this same machine, was reported over Córdoba at 8.45 a.m., and over Pampa del Pocho at 8.47 a.m. At 9.30, there was a sighting at Pilar, and later came reports from Calamuchita and San Francisco Chanar. The final report that morning came from Arguello at 10 a.m.

II—Unidentified floating object

Although our second story is relatively old—and for that we apologize—it does not lack topicality, as any reader of Antonio Ribera's recent article will realize. It came to us by way of bulletin No. 5 (March/July 1964) issued by the Circulo da Amizade Sideral, a UFO study group in Curitiba, State of Paraná, Southern Brazil, and is published with their permission.

On January 10, 1958, Captain Chrysólogo Rocha of Curitiba, was sitting with his wife on the porch of a house at Guarujá, on the coast of the State of Sao Paulo, overlooking the South Atlantic.



The object in the sea off Guarajá (Artist's impression). 1 As first seen by Captain Rocha. 2/3 Rising from the sea. 4/5 Sinking on approach of ship. 6 Submerged. 7 Rising again. 8 Shafts with "bead-like" objects moving on them. 9 Sinking out of sight again.

The Captain was trying to pick out a small island with his binoculars. When he managed to focus on the island, he was astonished to find that it was something quite different, and was growing! Eight other persons were hurriedly called to the porch to watch the phenomenon.

The "thing" consisted of two parts, both of a clear, grey colour. One part was in the sea, whilst the other seemed to be suspended above it. Without warning, both parts suddenly sank out of sight. Shortly afterwards a steamer came in sight, on a course that would have taken it very close to the object. About a quarter of an hour later, when the ship was out of sight, the object again rose slowly out of the sea. The excited onlookers now saw clearly that the two parts were joined by several narrow upright shafts, or tubes, which were quite bright and visible to the naked eye. Up and down these shafts, small objects, "like beads on a necklace" passed in "disorderly and simultaneous movement". Shortly afterwards the two parts of the object closed up again, and it disappeared below the waves.

Meanwhile, one of the witnesses, a Brazilian Army officer's wife, had telephoned the barracks (Forte das Andradas at Guarajá). The barracks in turned advised the local Air Force Base, and an aircraft was sent to investigate. Unfortunately it arrived too late to see anything.

III—Landing report from Paraná

Our third story is condensed from Bulletin No. 4 (October 1963/February 1964) of the same research

group at Curitiba. The original report was made by Dr. Caio de Castro, a dentist at São Bernardo do Campo; it was related to him by a simple unlettered woman who came to see him as a patient.

The State of Paraná was terribly ravaged by vast fires during 1963, and reports of these reached even the British press! Unfortunately the date of the incident is not given: it was obviously during the period of the fires. The woman told how, early one day, she and a crowd of neighbours were watching quite helplessly while a forest fire was raging near their homes. Suddenly a huge machine "shaped like a basin" descended among the flames and the smoke, and hovered motionless at a height of about four metres above the ground. It seemed as if it was "held up by an invisible force". From the description given, the dentist estimated that the machine was about 35 metres in diameter and 8 metres in height. It was a brilliant zinc colour, and quite silent. (It is presumed that any sound it made was not audible above the roar of the fire.)

The machine continued to hover in the same position for some fifteen minutes, regardless of the flames. The crowd of astonished onlookers, who were gathered at a spot some 50 metres from the hovering machine, saw what they thought was a power radiating from it which seemed to quench the flames (perhaps some form of repulsion field?). Then, without warning, two or three tall, good-looking "people" emerged from the machine, began walking about around it, and picked up pieces of burnt material, stones and other debris.

Gordon Creighton comments on the story of the Córdoba motor-cyclist

I SUGGEST that this report be carefully compared with the story of the Italian Eugenio Siragusa, who claims that he has had encounters with space visitors on the slopes of Mount Etna on 30th April, 1962; 4th September, 1962; 9th August, 1963 and subsequently. (Please refer to Mr. Creighton's article on Siragusa in the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* for January/February 1963 and, November/December, 1963.—ACTING EDITOR.)

There is a good deal about the Siragusa story that is very similar to the Argentine episode of six years before. One notices particularly the description of the "lift" emerging from the base of the UFO, the clothing and general appearance of the visitors, and their reportedly wise and benevolent demeanour.

There was also at least one other case of the "lift" appearing in the *REVIEW* in recent years: I refer to the account of another Italian, Mario Zuccalà, who claimed to have met two men who emerged from a shaft that descended from beneath a small saucer (see the July/August number of 1962).

The man from Córdoba presumably met his contacts purely by chance. At any rate, they communicated with him only by gesture, and the simplest explanation for this might be that he possessed no gift of telepathy. Siragusa, on the other hand, claims that he was selected in advance precisely because he *was* telepathic, and that he was summoned each time to the rendezvous by a direct mental impression.

I suggest that we keep these two contact claims bracketed in our minds. Just as there is much evidence of several kinds of small or smallish entities who are either not particularly anxious to have us near them or their craft, or are anxious, for political reasons, to breed with us, so there are indications that our planet is being visited by at least two types of being very like ourselves. These beings are either of our own size, or are much ^{larger,} ~~smaller,~~ and both seem advanced and benevolent creatures who mean us well. Our prospects, therefore, may not be altogether unpromising.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MARCH/APRIL ISSUE

The reason for publishing *A Brazilian Farmer's Story* will be more than apparent to all when they read GORDON CREIGHTON's masterly analysis, and the surprising revelation he makes regarding an announcement in this magazine *nine years ago!* These together form Part II of **THE MOST AMAZING CASE OF ALL.**

Read also some new ideas on **GRAVITY PROPULSION**, and startling evidence of **TELEPORTATIONS.**

Be sure to tell your friends, if they have not already done so, to take out a subscription to the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. Alternatively, a year's subscription could be an admirable present for a friend! It is not too late to commence with this current January/February edition of 1965.

World round-up

*of news and comment
about recent sightings*

ENGLAND

Disintegrating Silver Ball

From the *Westmorland Gazette* of October 9:

"At the height of the rainstorm on Wednesday afternoon, residents of Burton, in South Westmorland, saw what resembled a huge silver ball which disintegrated with a loud explosion.

"One resident told the *Gazette* yesterday (Thursday). 'People saw the same thing all over the village, indoors and out, and I saw it in my own living room. It was a large shiny silver shape which seemed to shatter before my eyes. It made a tremendous noise and was quite terrifying.' 'Everyone in Burton was talking about it,' a villager said, "and most of them are convinced it was a thunderbolt."

(Credit to Miss Driver of Morecambe)

Black Country sighting

The *Wolverhampton Express & Star* of September 21 carried the following report:

"An 'oval-shaped red object' which hung in the sky for several minutes was seen by a Cannock couple on the Bilston-Willenhall road last night.

"'We thought at first it was a light on top of some pylons,' said Mrs. Brenda Jenkins of 57 Walsall Road, Church Bridge, Cannock. 'Then we drove on a bit further to get a better view, and found that it was just hovering in the sky. It was about six times as big as a star and was just to the left of and below the Moon.'

"Another couple walking along the road also saw it, and stopped with the Jenkins to watch it. 'We drove off,' Mrs. Jenkins concluded, 'and when I looked back again it had disappeared.'"

Flying Saucer Review personality sees UFO

A diamond- or oval-shaped object, of a vivid red colour, like a neon sign, was seen hanging quite low, and apparently over Rickmansworth, at 8.25 p.m. on Sunday, 27th September by Gordon Creighton and three members of his family. They stopped and got out of their car at a point about two miles west of Rickmansworth, and watched the object for several minutes. When first seen it was quite stationary, and no sound was heard. Its apparent length was at first about an inch at arm's length, but it suddenly began to dwindle in size and then moved and seemed to vanish below the horizon towards London.

In his account, Mr. Creighton mentions the scores of reports of "strange coloured lights", and other objects, frequently red, seen in the Watford-Rickmansworth-Chilterns area since May 1964, and a comprehensive account is being prepared. In many cases interference with wireless or TV reception is said to have been noticed, and lights are reported to have flickered or gone out. In one specific case, on which more precise details are being sought, all the lights in a train running between Watford and St. Albans went out as a bright red object passed overhead.

The object reported by Mr. Creighton seems to fall into the same general category as those reported by the Littlehampton fishermen (Nov./Dec. issue of the *REVIEW*), and those reported above from Hove, Bridgewater, and over the Black Country.

Hove too

What would seem to be corroboration of the story of the three Littlehampton fishermen (see *World*

Round Up feature in the November/December 1964 issue of the *REVIEW*) appeared in the *Brighton Evening Argus* of August 12, in the form of a letter from Mrs. R. W. Baker of Dolphin Court, Hove:

"I was relieved to see your report (Monday, August 10) of a flying saucer being seen over Littlehampton by three fishermen early on Sunday morning. I saw it too. I first noticed the saucer coming along the Downs and then over Hove. It travelled slowly over Brighton towards the east. It was in sight for 12-15 minutes.

"The object seemed to be permanently lit up. It was a bright red neon-like colour, as the fishermen stated. Approximately between Hove and Brighton railway stations it hovered or stalled, and the red lights blinked on and off. Then it seemed to change course slightly and revert to permanent lighting. The object made no noise whatever, and it was a very still morning."

Whitby UFO

The *Ellesmere Port Pioneer* of October 15 published the following story, under the headline *More objects in the sky*:

"Returning home from a visit to friends on Monday evening two boys—13-years-old Graham Thompson, of 3 Avondale, Whitby, and 14-years-old Michael McCullough, of 39, Avondale—were walking along Stanley Lane when one of them spotted a 'bright red object' in the sky.

"At the time the two boys were star-gazing—in fact Michael was showing Graham where the Plough was situated.

"The boys estimated the height of the object as 1,000 feet, and around it

FLYING SAUCER SERVICE LTD.

Following the death of Waveney Girvan, the Board of Directors has been reconstituted. The surviving members of the Board, namely: CHARLES GIBBS-SMITH, F.R.S.A., T.M.A., and REGINALD DUTTA, have been rejoined by the HON. BRINSLEY LE POER FRENCH, whilst CHARLES BOWEN and GORDON CREIGHTON are newly elected members.

was a 'reddish ring,' though not as bright as the object.

"All of a sudden a white light seemed to streak out of it," said Graham. "The light went towards us, and down. As we were approaching Underwood Drive another light shot out from it. This time the light was bright red, like the object."

"He added, 'When we were going along Underwood Drive we noticed that, as it was going along, it seemed to decline, but was still a good way up.'

"When we reached our club hut, at the back of Michael's house, we made notes, as we watched it through the window. We went outside to see if we could still see it but by 8.30 p.m. it had disappeared behind some trees and we did not see it again."

"Said Graham, 'We did not believe in "Flying Saucers" but we do now, and we are quite certain it was not an aeroplane or satellite.'"

(Credit to Kenneth P. Woodward of Wirral, Cheshire)

Bright objects over New Brighton

1964 has been a good year for fisherman witnesses of strange, brightly glowing objects. From the *Liverpool Echo* of October 19 comes the following report:

"What were they? That was the question Mr. Ronald Kemp, aged 38, of 17 Rolleston Drive, Wallasey, was asking himself today.

"For Mr. Kemp said yesterday, that while he and some friends were fishing off New Brighton Promenade shortly before 9 p.m. on Saturday they saw two bright objects in the sky.

"We watched them for several minutes," he said. "They were bluish in colour and seemed to be travelling towards Seaforth. One was rather rather brighter than the other."

"A spokesman at the Meteorological Office at Liverpool Airport said yesterday that there had been no reports of anything unusual and an official of air traffic control said nothing unusual appeared on radar screens."

Eight objects near Southampton

There has been a wave of sightings in the Southampton area in recent weeks. Typical of these is that reported in a letter from John McDougall (14), and James Russell

(15), both of Totton, to the *Southern Evening Echo* (November 5):

"On Monday evening in the space of about 25 minutes, eight 'objects' were seen in the sky. They appeared as bright lights and crossed in an easterly direction towards Southampton.

"The objects which were single and in pairs crossed the sky intermittently. They were definitely not aircraft as they were going very fast and made no sound. If an aircraft was so high that the engines were not audible the lights would not be visible and the plane would crawl across the sky. If the plane was low the lights would be seen to flash and the engines would be heard.

The 'objects' made various movements, especially the second one seen which stopped and in jerks went backwards and forwards.

"The 'pairs' seemed to be in some kind of formation and after some time one seemed to fade away and then the other, all the objects were seen to do this."

(Credit to Miss S. K. Puntis of Bitterne. Thanks too, to other readers who forwarded the same item)

Merseyside again

From the *Liverpool Echo* of October 27 comes the following report: "There was another report today of mysterious objects being seen in the sky over Merseyside.

"Miss Josephine Isterling, a nursing sister at a Liverpool factory, said she saw two mysterious shapes—one a brilliant light, and the other less intense, but twinkling—from her home in Croxteth Road at about 5 a.m. today.

"I was so fascinated watching them that I was almost late for work," said Miss Isterling. "The first object was almost as big as the moon and seemed to be full of twinkling lights. It moved across the sky full face and sideways."

"The second object was noticed by her mother from another window. 'I went to have a look, thinking that it was the same one I had seen, but it was quite different,' she said. "This one was absolutely brilliant, but moved very little."

"Miss Isterling added that the two objects disappeared from view as it became lighter.

"But while it was still dark we could see both of them clearly for about an hour," she added.

"On Friday night a number of Frodsham residents reported seeing two luminous round objects in the sky over Wirral."

(Credit to K. Taylor)

Liverpool sighting confirmed

A letter to the editor of the *Liverpool Daily Post* from Mr. E. A. Fairclough of Rainhill, appeared in that newspaper on October 26. Said Mr. Fairclough: "With reference to the report by Mr. Robert Kemp in the *Daily Post* regarding the two bright objects he saw in the sky on Saturday night.

"I confirm that one of these objects was observed by my son Martin (aged 12 years) and myself at about the same time. We were in fact star-spotting with a home-made telescope when a star, as we thought, was noticed to be moving at a fairly rapid rate through the night sky.

"The details as we observed are as follows: 8.50 p.m. (or thereabouts), Saturday, October 17, 1964, looking in a northerly direction from latitude 53.26 N. longitude 2.47 W. the object, of magnitude +0.7, was seen moving from west to east from 5hr 51m at 46° for a period of 2 min. 30 sec., passing over Capella and then vanishing.

"In size the object appeared about half the diameter of Jupiter."

Cheshire sighting

From the *Liverpool Echo* of October 24:

"Added to the ever-growing list of people throughout Britain who are seeing strange objects in the sky were a number of Frodsham residents last night (Friday, October 23).

"Shortly before 8 p.m. two luminous round objects, each with a faint aura of light underneath, were seen close together over the Wirral.

"They parted company slowly and one glided towards the North Wales coast, but was only visible from higher ground in Frodsham for around five minutes when it disappeared into cloud.

"The second moved slowly over the village of Frodsham remaining stationary on the outskirts for nearly five minutes before proceeding slowly out of sight.

"The objects were visible from about 11 minutes to eight until just 10 minutes after the hour and were seen by several people who were completely puzzled.

"Most people discounted the theory that they could be unidentified objects from any other planet, but could be part of some country's top secrets."

(Credit to K. Taylor)

UFO stampedes cattle at Bridgwater

The *Yorkshire Post* of October 26 carried a report of yet another "red light" object: "A mystery aerial object, thought to be a flying saucer, has been seen by four anglers on a night fishing trip in Somerset. 'It was weird and frightening,' said one of them yesterday.

"The men narrowly escaped being trampled to death by a herd of 50 cows terrified by the object. 'It was like all pandemonium let loose, and we hid behind a car in case the cows should sweep us into the water,' said Mr. Jim Sharman.

"It happened soon after midnight, as the party were fishing in the King Sedgemoor Drain, Bridgwater. Mr. Sharman, aged 21, a coal merchant, of Jeffcock Road, Sheffield, said they first noticed something unusual when they saw a red light approaching up the Drain. 'It was just like the red light on an aircraft, and as it got nearer it was so bright that it lit up the bank and surrounding fields. The light tapered to the rear, about 12 feet away, and when it got overhead it hovered, flashing on and off.' The anglers shone two spotlights towards the object, but the light was so bright that they could not see where it was coming from. 'It became so bright that the cows started making a heck of a noise and chased round the field.'

"After about 15 minutes the object suddenly accelerated quickly and soon disappeared. 'There was no sound, and we don't know whether it was a flying saucer, space-ship, or a secret craft from a nearby airfield.'

"A spokesman at Bridgwater Police Headquarters said: 'We have not heard of any more cases like this. It is a complete mystery.' The other members of the fishing party were Mr. Wait Depledge, aged 21, of Shirland Lane, Sheffield, and two men from Accrington."

A similar report appeared in the

Daily Express of the same date.

Pink discs over Gateshead

The Newcastle on Tyne *Evening Chronicle* of October 13 carried the following account:

"Unidentified flying objects were sighted over Gateshead last night (Monday, October 12).

"Several people say that they saw glowing pink discs in the sky, and their descriptions tally.

"Mr. Arthur Toogood, a 38-year-old electrician, of Whitehall Road, said today: 'I was reading a book when I heard this sort of humming sound—quite loud it was—and when I looked out of the window I saw these things like full moons, one bigger than the other.

"They were moving towards Newcastle.'

"Mrs. Olive Turnbull, of Bewick Road, said: 'I got the shock of my life.

"The first thing I thought of was flying saucers. It was eerie. I can't think what they could have been.

"No, I still don't believe in flying saucers.'

"But her 11-year-old son Richard was adamant. 'They must have been saucers,' he said. 'They might be friendly or maybe they are an invasion party.'

"But a spokesman for Acklington Meteorological Office had a down-to-earth explanation.

"Nothing unusual was sighted last night, but there was a shooting star in the vicinity. Looked at from certain angles it may have seemed strange,' he said."

Credit to Mr. Harry Lord of Newcastle, who mentions in his letter that ". . . Mrs. Turnbull must be a hard nut to crack if she still can't believe!"

A harder nut the Meteorological Office spokesman. Strange indeed the shooting star that hums on its way over Tyneside.

Postscript: Could one of these objects have been the same as that seen by Graham Thompson over Whitby? (see previous item)

WALES

Neath sighting

Mr. L. J. Morris, of Grandison Hotel, Neath, Glamorgan, writes as follows:

On the evening of November 14 a friend called my attention to a moving

object in the sky, just above the cloud layer. The time was about 8 p.m.

The object shone brightly and was on a course roughly north-east. We watched it for about two minutes before it disappeared behind thick cloud.

During this time it did not change course or direction. It could not have been an aircraft as the light was unflickering and very bright. Also there was no sound. It was not a shooting star as I have seen many. Also it in no way compared with the satellites I have seen.

I myself believe we do have invaders from outer space though many of my friends are sceptical.

SCOTLAND

Mystery craft over Aberdeen

From the Aberdeen *Evening Express* of November 2:

"Two Aberdeen couples motoring along the beach promenade at dusk spotted an object which they are convinced was a flying saucer.

"Mr. Robert Smith, 37 Davidson Drive and Mr. Sandy Young, 18 Craighendarroch Place, and their wives watched the object for about three-quarters of an hour before it disappeared.

"It was blackish in colour and about 3 ft. in diameter,' said Mr. Smith. 'It was definitely powered by something because we could hear the purr of what seemed to be blades. It came down to about 50 ft. and then started side-slipping and going back up. There was a high-pitched hum or pulsation coming from it. It dipped out of sight behind a shelter and although we ran down on to the golf links it was by then out of sight.'

"Mr. Smith said that several cars stopped behind him and the people got out to look at the object."

In one of the other cars must have been Mr. Ian Taylor of Springbank Terrace, for he wrote to the editor of the Aberdeen *Press and Journal*. His letter appeared in the issue of November 6, and the following extracts are worthy of note:

"Regarding Monday's report—I have studied flying saucer phenomena for a number of years and I have never come across such an unusual sighting until Sunday (November 1), when, with a few other people, I witnessed a splendid demonstration of

pure gyroscopic suspension from this quaint little craft.

"It was around 4.30 p.m. when we first noticed it hovering above the north end of the beach promenade.

"There seemed to be a definite central sphere to the device, and around the flange rotating at high speed was a gyroscopic-like frame which, due to its movement, was probably the sole means of aerial control.

"I don't think it had blades as Mr. R. Smith suggested. The mere fact that the object was rotating at high speed was enough to give the audible 'fluttering' sound.

". . . The device was purely a gyroscope with some means of guidance to propel it in any given direction and speed.

"If by chance this craft was designed and built by someone in the city, and they had the means of keeping it in the air for such a long spell, and giving it radio control, I suggest that with such a knowledge of aerodynamics they should be working with the Farnborough Institute of Aero-Technology!

"I am quite convinced that what I, and many other people, saw was a small beam-controlled gyroscopical device from some non-terrestrial source."

(Could the object described by Mr. Taylor be one of the "flying spindles" which look so like the photographic lens flares?—ACTING EDITOR.)

ITALY

Triangular object over Piedmont

We are indebted to Gordon Creighton for this translation from the *Corriere della Sera* of September 24:

"Flying Saucers are reported to have been seen over various districts of Piedmont, and particularly Cavallermaggiore in the Cuneo region, and Pinerolo. At Cavallermaggiore an object described variously as rocket-shaped, or triangular, remained stationary in the sky from 6.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. on 23rd September, except for occasional periods of movement. Witnesses include Signora Milanese, school-teacher, Dr. Giovanni Tibaldi, physician, and numerous other people. These all described it as 'rocket-shaped.' An innkeeper, Pietro Toselli, observed it through a powerful telescope, and claims that it looked triangular.

"The sighting at Pinerolo took place at about 6 p.m. on the same day, 23rd September, when six cylindrical objects were seen travelling overhead at immense speed."

U.S.A.

An American "Charlton Crater" ?

According to the Philadelphia *Sunday Bulletin* of 6th September 1964 and the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* of 7th September 1964, police authorities and public at Glassboro' (New Jersey) were greatly mystified by weird marks found in an oak forest four miles north-east of that town.

Glassboro' Police Chief Everett Watson described the marks as a circle of charred earth some 20 feet in diameter, with a hole two and a half feet deep at the centre, the hole being surrounded by a small series of mounds of burnt material and what appeared to be metal scrapings. There were also three marks, arranged to make an equilateral triangle with sides 27 feet long. The marks, which looked as though they had been made by the legs of a huge tripod, were 2 inches in diameter and 6 inches deep. A few broken tree limbs were found in the vicinity.

The Police were called to the spot by Mr. Ward Cambell, of 30 S. Delsea Drive, Glassboro', whose two sons had found the marks. The boys had been fishing in a lake nearby, and they had met a man who told them that shortly after dusk on the previous Friday (4th September), he had seen first a glow in the sky, and then a glowing object which landed in the forest about half a mile from the lake.

The affair caused tremendous excitement locally, and hundreds of people went out on the Sunday afternoon to view the mystery marks. The newspaper reports conclude with the statement that the Glasboro's Police, completely baffled, had taken "samples of earth and other materials" and had sent them to McGuire Air Force Base for examination.

Objects over Utah

The following extract from the *Deseret News* of October 24 comes to us by courtesy of the Salt Lake UFO Council:

"The *Deseret News* and law enforcement agencies were deluged with calls Friday night and early Saturday

about unidentified objects seen over southeast Salt Lake City Friday about 3.30 p.m.

"An unidentified woman said she saw the objects as she was doing her laundry. Her description was essentially the same as that given by several other observers: 'They were white and disc-shaped.' She said she watched them through binoculars as they flew out of sight beyond Mt. Olympus.

"'I didn't know what to think when I looked into the binoculars,' said Thomas McLelland, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kent C. McLelland, 3062-1640 East. 'Frankly, I was scared. There were two of them and they definitely looked like saucers, with the bottoms rounded and the tops not so rounded. I saw them fly north and east and follow the contour of Mt. Olympus until they disappeared into the trees.' He said he kept watching the area but they had not reappeared by 4.30 p.m.

"Lee Sjoblom, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sjoblom, 2992 Middleton Way, also described the objects as 'white and disc-shaped.' They rendezvoused over Mt. Olympus and Millcreek Canyon area, he said.

"A few descriptions differed from the majority. One woman, a resident of the east bench, said 'one was orangish-red and one silver. Both were shaped like eggs.' One boy said there was only one object and it was round-shaped with a dome on top, while Leon Ottley, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon E. Ottley, 2644 E. 3120 South, saw the object as 'a platform with four boxes on it. It was white or silver and was in the vicinity of Mt. Olympus.'

"His brother, however, described the object as 'three balloons clumped together.'

"The Federal Aviation Agency, when asked about the sightings by The *Deseret News*, said: 'We're discounting the reports. None of our towers spotted anything and no weather balloons were up at that time. Of course there is the possibility that a gas station or some other business has released some gas-filled balloons.'

(And we suggest that the Agency is a "hot air" station! What a self-exposing piece of bumbledom: when there are no conventional explanations, these officials just discount reports!—ACTING EDITOR.)
(Credit to James D. Wardle of Salt Lake City)

MAIL BAG

Waveney Girvan

The Acting Editor wishes especially to thank all those readers who so kindly wrote after learning of the tragic death of our Editor, Waveney Girvan. We here publish a selection:

Cambridge University tribute

Sir,—We here in Cambridge were shocked and sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Waveney Girvan. We appreciated the amount of work he personally put into the publication and organisation of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. We feel that the Association has lost one of its leading lights in the passing of Mr. Girvan. His enlightened and sane comments on the subject of Ufology will certainly be remembered here in Cambridge. Personally I shall remember best his recent series of excellent articles in the *Kensington News*.

Will you please accept and pass on to his friends the sincere condolences of the members of Cambridge University Group for the Investigation of UFOs and of myself.—Stephen Smith (Chairman CUGIUFO), Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

From Waveney Girvan's secretary

Sir,—Upon looking through Waveney Girvan's personal file on Flying Saucers, I came across something that reminded me of an incident which happened last summer. Somehow, I don't feel entitled to keep it to myself.

Mr. Girvan was standing by his desk, reading something which had just arrived from a contributor, I believe. Without a word, he turned and handed it to me. He stood very still, watching me read, and raised his eyebrows in that quizzical way of his

when I had finished. I was greatly moved by the verses, and said so, adding that I thought them wonderful.

"Yes," he said. "That's what I feel. It could be the answer, couldn't it?"

He read the verses again, and they seemed to have great significance for him. He asked me to look the poem up and type it out, which I did. It is by J. ADDINGTON SYMONDS (1840–1893):

*These things shall be! A loftier race
Than'er the world hath known, shall rise
With flame of freedom in their souls
And light of science in their eyes.*

*They shall be gentle, brave, and strong,
To spill no drop of blood, but dare
All that may plant man's lordship firm
On earth and fire and sea and air.*

*They shall be simple in their homes
And splendid in their public ways
Filling the mansions of the state
With music and with hymns of praise.*

*Nation with nation, land with land,
Unarmed shall live as comrades free;
In every heart and brain shall throb
The pulse of one fraternity.*

*New arts shall bloom of loftier mould,
And mightier music thrill the skies,
And every life shall be a song,
When all the earth is paradise.*

I can only say that the words "Gentle, brave and strong" apply to no man more than to Waveney Girvan, and the poem, written so many years ago, breathes ideals which were his. "Simple in their homes and splendid in their public ways." . . . that too.—Mrs. Margaret Harman, 213 Chelsea Cloisters, Sloane Avenue, London, S.W.3.

From an old reader

Sir,—When I opened my copy of the REVIEW which came this morning, I was deeply grieved to learn of the

death of Waveney Girvan. I have been a subscriber to the REVIEW ever since it started, having become interested by reading Desmond Leslie's book on Adamski's tale. From time to time I have sent Mr. Girvan cuttings and bits of news I thought might be of interest, and he never failed to acknowledge most courteously my small contributions, generally in his own handwriting on a card. I rather suspect in the train on his way home!

I always wished I could make his acquaintance, for somehow or other I have felt a strong feeling of friendship for him all along, and that he was an exceptionally fine character. Of course I have a copy of his book.

I have read with much pleasure your obituary of "our friend", for that is what I feel he was, and I have a real sense of loss too. I wonder how old he was? Much too young to be taken from us, I think, and I feel great sympathy for his wife and son. . . .

I am an old man now, nearing 87, but I still wish I could have the luck to see a UFO, and converse with its occupants. There was one passed over the hills quite near here some years ago, and was seen (but not understood) by a near neighbour of ours.

By the way, I did see our late friend on TV and thought he dealt most efficiently with the unbelievers! —John Ogilvy, Inshewan, Forfar, Scotland.

(Our correspondent will no doubt be pleased to learn that it was Waveney Girvan who published the Adamski-Desmond Leslie book FLYING SAUCERS HAVE LANDED, when he was publisher for Werner Laurie's: it was a Best Seller! I believe Waveney was aged 55 when he died.—ACTING EDITOR.)

From the *Surrey County Herald* of August 28, and the *Surrey Comet* of August 29, we learn that Mr. J. L. White, a lecturer in astronomy at Ewell Technical College and a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, had recently addressed the Epsom Young Conservatives on the subject of Flying Saucers. Most unfortunately, said Mr. White, flying saucers have never been sighted by anyone qualified to assess their merit.

If they had been so observed, we venture to suggest that the "qualified" witness would in all probability have been labelled "hallucinated" or "drunk" by his ultra-qualified colleagues. Suffice it to say, Mr. White, that we prefer the evidence of the unscientific, unqualified, but solidly trustworthy witness.—Acting Editor.

Templeton photograph — a theory

Sir,—In your recent issue reference is made to an item in the London *Daily Express* for June 13, which states that Jim Templeton, a 44-year-old fireman from Carlisle, took a colour photograph of his five-year-old daughter Elizabeth near the Chapel Cross atomic station, and when the film returned from processing there appeared in the background a space-man in a white suit.

Each one of us, whether we care to admit it or not, comes up against something unknown and unexplainable in our lifetime.

I remember reading in the *Today Magazine* of some months ago, (it has since gone out of circulation) about some experiments with a camera loaded with film, which was placed to a person's head lens first, and clicked, while that person was in the process of concentrating on a particular object. In the case I read of, the subject was told to concentrate on a building. In the developed film there appeared a vague shape, not unlike the outline of a building. The important point here is not so much that details were recorded of the object concentrated on previously, but that SOMETHING actually appeared. There seems to be some unknown link between the camera's capabilities, and thought processes.

Personally I have been rather amazed to observe how the personality of an individual projects from a photograph, even though the person in some cases may have long since passed away.

May I suggest that beings from another world or dimension could well be capable of *projecting* a mental image of themselves through the medium of our own thoughts and minds. Perhaps thereby utilising part of the human mind's vast and so far unknown powers.

Jim Templeton could have photographed his, or someone else's *thought projection*. The atomic station on the other hand could perhaps have suggested a futuristic trend to the subconscious, in the case of Templeton, and the camera he held in some way recorded the image.

There have been cases where unknown persons have appeared in

group photographs, photographs of recorded on film. Though rare, it is true, these occurrences are still infrequent occasions and even of funerals explicable.

Indeed there are many things between Heaven and Earth that are still not discussed in the best of circles . . .

What to me will always remain the greatest mystery of all will be why some of the most intelligent people even refuse to CONSIDER life in outer space . . .

Speaking for myself the only thing that would astonish and amaze me would be the fact that we are *alone* in the Universe, but obviously we are not.—G. Fisher, 261 King's Road, Rayners Lane, Middlesex.

Dulwich de-materialisation ?

Sir,—I wondered if any of your readers reported seeing a red triangle in the sky over Dulwich, S.E. London at 11.10 p.m. on the night of the 7th October, 1964.

The object my wife and I saw was very bright and blood red, it was practically over our heads in the zenith, it was a perfect triangle and we watched it for at least 10 minutes, then it began to revolve slowly, then faster until it looked like a red blur, and then it "exploded". When I say exploded I mean it was a silent explosion, the object seemed to erupt into nothing but there was no noise. I would be interested to hear from anybody else who saw it to convince my wife and I that we were not dreaming.—R. Shannon, 12 Clive Road, West Dulwich, S.E.21.

Lens flare or UFO ?

Sir,—A though I do not wish to express an opinion about either of the two photographs reproduced in "Spindle in the Sky" (*FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, Oct. 1964, p.3), I would like to make a general comment on the subject of lens flare.

Any bright light, whether or not it is within the field of view of the camera, which shines onto the lens may cause a "flare spot". The purpose of a lens hood is to prevent lights from outside the field of view

from shining onto the lens. But a hood obviously cannot prevent a light within the field of view shining onto the lens, otherwise it would cut off that part of the picture. Thus the fact that a lens hood was used is irrelevant when discussing the possibility of a flare spot from the lamp in the picture of the Vulcan aircraft.

The likelihood that a lens will suffer from flare may depend on minor details of design and construction, but two general rules may be stated. Modern lenses with anti-reflection coatings (bloomed lenses) are much less likely to suffer than un-bloomed lenses. Also simple lenses with few air-glass surfaces are less likely to suffer from flare than lenses having several elements. The two photographs reproduced in the article were taken by professional photographers, so it is probable that modern, but complicated lenses were used.—J. M. Adams (Address supplied).

Sir,—As a subscriber to your interesting magazine I thought you would be interested to hear that I saw a very remarkable UFO last Sunday evening, (October 25) during the 9.30 p.m. News Programme on I.T.V.

The screen showed a Delta-wing plane taking off from Peterburgh in Africa, and in the right hand corner of the screen there showed up very clearly a circular "Saucer" similar to the one in the photograph in the *REVIEW* for September/October, of the rocket taking off at Woomera.

Perhaps others among your readers will have seen this UFO, for it was very plain, and remained in sight until the news item ended.—Mrs. H. Smeeton, "Pouches Thatch," Blackmore End, Braintree, Essex.

Sir,—Whilst I was reading a book called *Space Travel*, by Heinz Gartmann, I noticed a strange shape in the photograph in the bottom right-hand corner of p. 59. It bore a strong resemblance to the spindle-shaped UFO discussed in your article in the September/October issue of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. Do you think there is a connection?—G. Marshall, 12 Hendra Vein, Truro, Cornwall.

A SHOCKING NOTION

IN an article published in the *Los Angeles Times* for 27th July, a UPI staff writer summarized certain shocking evidence that the basic laws of Nature are subject to change, that the speed of light is not a constant, the Second Law of Thermodynamics is less than sacred, in a word—that modern Science is a house built upon sand. Such, at any rate, is a suspicion that has been growing of late in the mind of Dr. Everett H. Hurlburt, who is no less a personage than the Director of the Radio Astronomy Programme of the National Science Foundation of the United States. The reason for this suspicion is, he said, to be found in the behaviour of the newly - discovered “quasi - stellar sources”, or “quasars”.

These “quasars”, more than twenty of which have now been detected in the past year, contain some of the

most distant objects yet observed. Too big to be stars, they are also too small to be galaxies, and yet although far smaller than a Milky Way they are a hundred times as bright, being the equal, in mass and total energy output, of a billion suns. What the scientists are finding themselves unable to explain on the basis of present-day concepts is the energy production of the quasars, some of which appear to fluctuate (or, rather, to have been fluctuating some six billion years ago) at a rate that seems to imply that some excitation stimulus inside them *was moving faster than light*.

The sacred Second Law of Thermodynamics says that, in a closed system, energy can pass only from a higher to a lower level. But the quasars appear to reverse this rule, and, concludes Dr. Hurlburt:

“Some scientists now suspect that

many concepts at present held to be fundamental in Physics, such as the Speed of Light or the nature of Time, differ now from what they were in that early date in the history of the Universe. Possibly, they suggest, our fundamental laws of Physics are not everlasting and immutable, but rather have evolved from earlier and different forms.”

Nor is this the first hint of its kind. There was a statement in the *American press* a year or so ago to the effect that scientists were beginning to suspect that, while their views as to the speed of light within a solar system might well be correct, the situation could be very different when, for example, the inter-galactic speed of light was concerned. The relevance of all this to the subject of flying saucers is clear to everyone.

THIS DAY AND AGE

AT the time of going to press, the American *Mariner IV*, and the Russian *Zond II* probes to Mars, are jostling for position in the 350 million mile race to be first to reach, and to send back pictures and data from the Red Planet. The Americans remain fairly optimistic, and this despite the fact that their spacecraft, which should have locked-on to Canopus, a bright star, as a navigational “fix”, had chosen a smaller star instead! (Could it have been something else?). Soon afterwards the Russians announced gloomily that their probe had suffered a 50 per cent loss of power.

It seems that there are stellar localities deep in space, way out in the galaxy, where they have no such power problems! In case some of our readers missed something which we are sure will be of abiding interest to ufologists, we reprint the following item which appeared in *The Times* of 26th October, 1964, under the headline “Radio Beacons on two Stars”:

“A Soviet astronomer has suggested that two pinpoint sources of powerful radio emission in the constellations Aries and Pegasus may be the beacons

of supercivilizations. The unusual nature of the radio spectra of these sources was noted last year by an Anglo-American team of radio astronomers. The Soviet suggestion has been published in the astronomical journal of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

“The article was by Mr. Nikolai S. Kardashev, who has been working at the Sternberg state astronomical institute in Moscow. The two objects reported by Mr. Kardashev were first observed in 1960 and noted last year in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society of Britain*.

“Among the countless sources of radio waves that pepper the sky these two, it was found, are peculiar in several respects. Above all, the spectra of their emissions are unlike that of any other recorded sources. Both peak intensities are at about 900 megacycles.

“As noted by Mr. Kardashev, this happened to be close to the optimum frequency for interstellar communication. Mr. Kardashev has plotted a curve representing the ideal radio spectrum for communication between civilizations. He finds that it bears a

striking resemblance to the spectra of the two sources.—*New York Times News Service*.”

While Mr. Kardashev speculates somewhat belatedly on something ufologists have taken for granted for many years, the Americans are worried about mysterious forces which have been deflecting their satellites. The following account which was released by Reuters under the dateline Honolulu, November 11, appeared in *The Guardian* of 12th November, 1964:

“Two American scientists are on their way to the Solomon Islands, in the South-west Pacific, to try to trace the ‘mysterious forces’ causing United States earth satellites to veer temporarily out of orbit when passing over the area.

“Dr. George Woollard, a Honolulu geophysicist, said yesterday that the same problem had been encountered in other places. It seemed that in all cases excess gravity was pulling the orbiting satellites earthward.

“Deflections in the satellites’ orbiting patterns had been registered by electronic tracking systems, he said. But it was not known yet how much

they deviated from course.”

Meanwhile we learn from *The Times*, (November 4), that the Canadian Department of Mines and Technical Surveys is currently tracking the movement of the magnetic North Pole, (last heard of between 12 and 20 miles north, and 4 miles east of the southern tip of Bathurst Island.) Apparently we are not alone in this respect, for, according to the same newspaper (November 10), Jupiter too has problems with its magnetic poles. In fact, the giant planet “wobbles”, adjusts its axis, and sends out signals! The news item reads:

“An adjustment of the planet Jupiter to its magnetic axis was put

forward today as an explanation of the radio signals which it transmits to the earth, with a period of rotation significantly faster than that of the planet itself.

“Mr. Glenn Berge and Mr. David Morris of the California Institute of Technology, observed two years ago that the planet’s radiation belt shifted by 18 degrees about every 10 hours, the planet’s period of rotation. They have now discovered that the planet itself ‘wobbles’, probably because its magnetic poles are significantly distant from the true poles. The magnetic axis passes about 35,000 miles from the centre of Jupiter, which has a diameter of about 85,000

miles.

“The radiation zone, like that of other planets, is held in Jupiter’s magnetic field. The radio signals which come to earth appear to be generated in the radiation zone, and the intermittency of their reception depends on the adjustment of the magnetic poles into the proper position to direct the signals to the earth.”

It makes one wonder whether or not the Canadian Department of Mines and Technical Surveys has checked to see if our errant magnetic poles have transmitting licenses. There is no knowing *who* may be listening!

A Contact Claim

By Jerome Clark

ANTONIO RIBERA, in his study of the Fatima “miracle” (see March/April 1964 issue of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*), suggests that UFO occupants may present themselves in terms familiar to “contactees”, usually as divine manifestations. This point seems to me quite well taken, and indeed it is one which I have considered myself for some time. However, Ribera does not follow his reasoning to its logical conclusion, which I believe would result in the discovery of some significant clues to the UFO mystery in general and the contact problem in particular.

I

The 1897 “airship” affair parallels Unidentified Flying Object reports of today in many ways—even in some of its ramifications. Included in the stories that flooded newsdesks and excited Americans in April of that year were even several contact claims, surprisingly enough. In this latter area, however, we find a number of major differences between the older and the newer stories that may prove highly important, as we shall soon see.

The “airship” was first reported over the Midwestern states of Nebraska and Kansas during the last week of March, then over Illinois in early April. Hereafter its appearances seem to have become somewhat scattered, suggesting that more than one ship was involved. (In at least one instance, two of the machines were seen flying side by side.) A contemporary account describes the machine in an article headed *Is it all a fake?* The writer proceeds:

“Is this air ship business a conspiracy of newspaper fakirs or have we at last solved the question which brought morification and bruises to Darius Green? From a hundred different places come dispatches with apparent credibility, noting the sighting of the airship. Men who have never been known to lie declare that they have seen the ship and talked with the inmates. When the ship first appeared about Kansas City (Missouri) the dispatches announced that it had been seen by hundreds of citizens. Later it was seen distinctly, so say the dispatches, by many people in Omaha (Nebraska). The dispatch gives the names of well known and reputable people who are willing to swear that they saw the ship, and who give a detailed description of it. A few days ago the ship landed near Springfield, Illinois, to repair the electric motor with which it is propelled and two farmers made affidavits to the statement that they had talked with the passengers, two men and a woman. All the descriptions of the ship tally. The Omaha description is that the supposed ship has a long steel body, shaped like a cigar, about 40 feet long and six to 10 feet in diameter, with wing-like attachments on the sides, while fore and aft appear wheel-like devices similar to the steering apparatus of a steamship. The top is capped with a balloon-like bag, oblong and seemingly attached. The headlight is similar to that of a locomotive. Most of the observers also claim to have distinguished a red light in the rear of the apparatus. Sometimes the car is seen to move rapidly at the rate of 50 to

60 miles per hour and at a distance of about 1,000 feet above the earth; at other times it is seen to move slowly and at moments not at all.

"In hundreds of places and by thousands of people the strange aerial body has been distinctly seen, or at least is so reported. The Associated Press—a news organization which is slow to take up with fakes—is sending accounts of the movement of the ship.

"John O. Preast, an eccentric but scholarly German who lives at Omaha, has been known to have been working for over a year on an airship. It has been noticed that little has been seen of him lately. Mr. Preast denied that the ship is his, but his neighbours think it is, and honestly believe that he has mastered the problem which first occurred to D. Green, and which made him famous.

"The *Argus-Leader* neither admits nor denies. It doesn't pay to be too dogmatic about what men can do, or cannot do. He is a brave man, who in this age of man's increasing mastery over nature would bluntly say that anything is impossible."

It is significant that the machine was almost universally thought to be an aircraft built by Americans who, for reasons of their own, did not want themselves to be identified. *Le Figaro*, a French publication, comes as close as anyone in implying another explanation: "Americans are no further advanced in the science of aeronautics than the French, and to accept the statement of an airship travelling one-hundred kilometres an hour we must admit the discovery of a new force or a new application of a force hitherto known to the extent of three or four times greater than any

existing."² Still, the *Figaro* suggestion clearly favours the terrestrial-origin hypothesis.

In this light we examine the "contact claim" of April 15. According to the Associated Press, two Springfield, Illinois, farmhands, Adolph Winkle and John Hulle, came upon the airship, which was resting in a field two miles north of Springfield. Three occupants—two men and a woman, all of them apparently quite normal in appearance—emerged and explained to the witnesses that they had flown from Quincy in 30 minutes and that they were repairing the machine's electrical apparatus and searchlight mechanism. They would, they said, make "a report to the government when Cuba is declared free." The news article notes that "the farmers' description (of the craft) is similar to descriptions heretofore given."³

Then, two days later, a 12-year-old boy named Daniel J. Schroeder and a friend of his made a most interesting discovery: an alleged message from the airship. Passing through the old sanitation building in Lincoln's Park in Chicago, they noticed a package wrapped in brown paper hanging from the branches of a tree. "When unwrapped a pasteboard box was disclosed containing the remnants of a luncheon, while attached to the box was a card on which was printed the following inscription: 'Dropped from the airship *Saratoga*, Friday, April 16, 1897.'

"The card was folded and had an embellished front page. In the upper corner were printed the words 'Air Ship' and below them was a gilded ensign of a boy standing on a pair of outstretched wings. It was something like a dance programme,

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

Covering the meetings of the British Association Conference at Southampton, the Science Correspondent of the *Daily Sketch* wrote on 1st September of the scientists' conclusions that "bug-eyed mosters", only a year or so ago unfashionable, were now quite "U" and "biologically acceptable". He went on to report the savants' discussions of the possibilities of there being superior insect-like types, or even men made of tin or silicon. The Science Correspondent then devoted some paragraphs to recalling the claims of George Adamski, Professor H. Oberth, Marius de Wilde and Joe Simonton, who actually claimed to have met humanlike space beings of various sizes. "We scoffed at their stories then," he writes, ". . . but now they may have the last laugh!"

of fine cardboard and apparently expensive. Besides the printed words there was written on the third page of the folded card, in blue pencil, in lines printed for the entry of memoranda, the words:

“9:41 p.m.—Due NW, 2,000 ft.; 61 N. Lat., 33. Long. Descending. Dense fog. Drizzling . . .”

“There were no names or other useful information on the card, but it is expected that by it the persons operating the aerial navigation scheme may be located. The lunch box was either dropped from the airship and lodged in the branches of the tree or was placed there to hoax people. In any event the parcel was in a spot where it was certain to be found, as many persons pass near the old sanitation building.

“Many persons looked at the strange find of the boys’ yesterday. It was not generally denounced as a hoax, because, as some observing men pointed out, anyone who had fancy airship cards printed was going to unnecessary expense to carry out a joke, while the package could just as well have been placed in some busy thoroughfare.”⁴

Finally, about this time another alleged message from the airship was found, this one near Astoria, Illinois. What its contents were we are unable to determine, but we do know that it was addressed to the famous American inventor Thomas Alva Edison and signed by a “C. L. Harris.”

Edison, however, denied any knowledge of the affair. “You can take it from me that that is a pure fake,” he told reporters. “I have had several men named Harris in my employ, but I know nothing of C. L. Harris.” Apparently not content with a mere denial, the “Wizard” (as he was slavishly called at the time) felt compelled to add, “I have no doubt that airships will be successfully constructed in the near future, but . . . at best, (they) would only be toys.”⁵

II

I believe that we can safely dismiss the possibility that the airship was constructed privately by ordinary human beings. Even if we ignore the similarity between the craft and certain types of modern UFOs, we must concede that a secret of such magnitude, involving what would have to be the first airplane, could hardly have been hidden for very long; moreover, all those suspected of having constructed the machine vehemently denied any connection, and there is no reason to doubt their word even today.

That its occupants were human in appearance, on the other hand, seems to have been fairly well established. *Le Figaro*, in a contemporary article discussing the mysterious craft, reports that “with a telescope a human being was observed in the machine.” In one instance and possibly two,

human voices were heard emanating from inside the object.⁶

Furthermore, it is evident that someone was interested in reinforcing the widely-held belief that the airship was of mundane origin, and apparently it was the UFO beings themselves. If Winkle and Hulle were telling the truth—and their story appears to have been almost universally accepted—we might conclude either that the extraterrestrials (we shall call them this for want of a better term) were engaged in some unknown activity in which they did not want their real identity made known, or that they chose to prove their existence realizing that the comparative unsophistication of nineteenth century Americans would not permit them to accept the interplanetary answer. This parallels the behaviour of the apparent extraterrestrial in the Fatima incident or, as in Ribera’s example, “the white explorer who presents himself to backward natives as ‘the great white god.’”

What bearing, then, has this on the so-called contacts of the “flying saucer” era? We shall examine this question on a future occasion.

NOTES

¹Sioux Falls, South Dakota, *Argus-Leader*, April 17, 1897.

²Quoted *Ibid*, April 19.

³*Ibid*, April 15.

⁴*Ibid*, April 21.

⁵*Ibid*, April 22.

⁶According to the *Chicago Record* for April 3, “People of Galesburg (Michigan) saw a brilliant white light approach from the southwest . . . It hovered close to the earth. Reporters state that they heard human voices from aloft . . . from the airship!”

The *Argus-Leader*, in a badly written news story in its April 17 edition, discloses that the ship had passed over Vermillion, South Dakota, the night before, and had been sighted by about 20 witnesses. “Stories were rife on the streets this morning and no doubt before night would have developed into an image with two lights and men and women’s voices as the general description is given.”

Readers are referred to the New Zealand “airship” flap of 1909, an account of which appeared in the November/December 1964 issue of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*.—ACTING EDITOR.

PERSONAL COLUMN

UFO BOOKS BOOKS, bought and sold. Current list 4d. Miss S. Stebbing, 87 Selsea Avenue, Herne Bay, Kent.

BOOKS WANTED IN NEW ZEALAND. UFO books and book-lists sought by New Zealand Postal Library. *The Coming of the Spaceships* by Kenneth Arnold, *Behind the Flying Saucers* by Frank Scully. The Apollo Verein 1958, Box 27, Otahuhu, New Zealand.

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STOP PRESS

FSR editorial quoted in London Evening Newspaper

The London Evening News in its afternoon edition of Monday, January 4th carried large sections of Waveney Girvan's last Leader which appeared in the November/December issue. A Ministry of Defence (Air) official's comments were also quoted. He said, "We have never in any circumstances said that the public would panic. There is no truth to hide for, in the words of Mr. Hugh Fraser, the former Minister, we have discovered no evidence of the existence of so-called flying saucers."

What else could we expect from the Ministry when apparently they fail to investigate well-documented cases which we and others bring to their notice.—Acting Editor.

U.S. NAVY RADAR SIGHTING

On January 5th the London *Daily Telegraph* carried the following item in the "Late News" column:

4,800 m.p.h. Objects Sighted

Washington, Tuesday (January 5th)—United States Air Force investigating reported sighting of two high-speed unidentified flying objects by Navy radar operators at Patuxent Naval Air Station, Maryland, U.S.A. Navy said today operators saw objects approaching at about 4,800 m.p.h. south of base at 8.30 p.m., December 29, 1964. Objects did right turn and disappeared.—A.P.

We understand that this sighting has been passed to the U.S. Air Force for investigation, and can only presume that we shall hear no more about it from that source.—ACTING EDITOR.

MYSTERY IN THE SKIES OVER LONDON

Comparison of these two accounts of a UFO seen high over London and Essex on the night of 30th September is instructive for all who wish to study the techniques laid down for dealing with our subject.

(1) *Daily Mail*, early edition (No. 3) 1st October:—

UFO MYSTERY

"An unidentified flying object over London and Essex last night, which kept changing colour, baffled the Meteorological Office and the Ministry of Defence."

(2) *Daily Mail*, later editions, 1st October:—

SKY MYSTERY

"The Ministry of Defence said last night that it thought a flying object seen high over the City was a meteorological balloon. Many people had 'phoned in, baffled by its changing colours."

... It is always interesting in these cases to see who is baffled!