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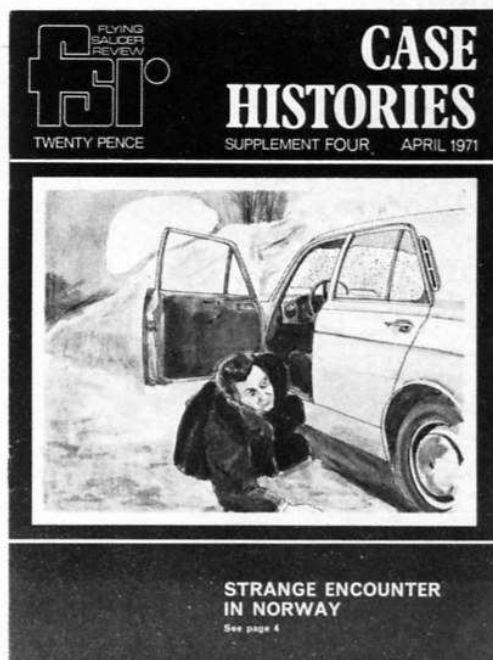
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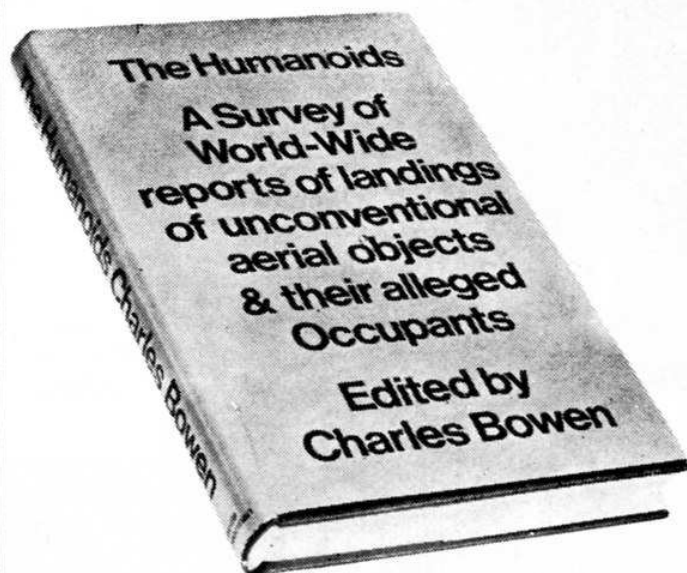
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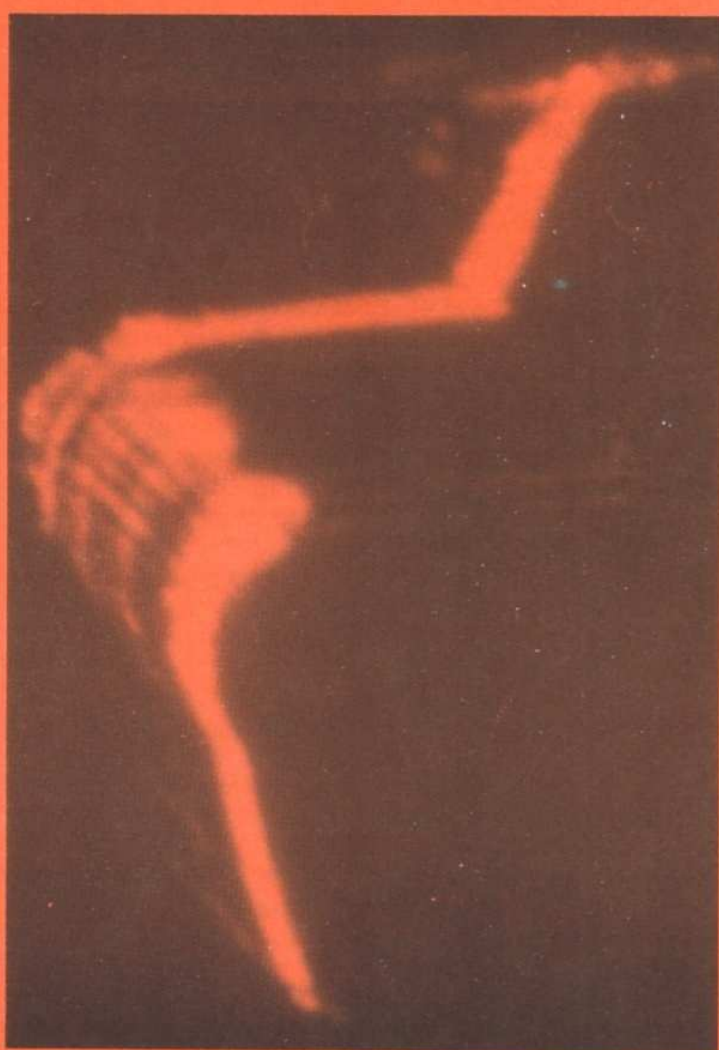
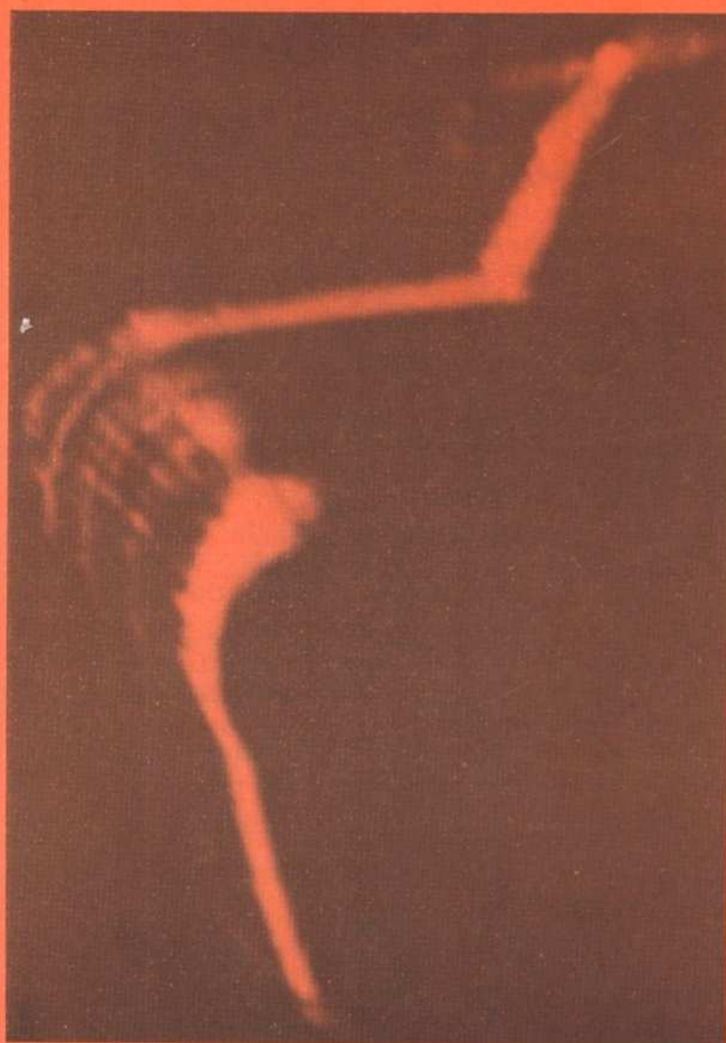
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Special Issue No. 5

November 1973

40p.



# UFO Encounters





## UFO ENCOUNTERS

Special Issue No. 5  
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## STRANGE ENCOUNTERS

THE very idea of the observation of, and contact with UFO entities, and of the possible inter-relationship of psychic and UFO phenomena are anathema to thousands of people who otherwise would have developed an interest in the study of UFO reports. Yet it is this side of the phenomenon that is proving to be of the greatest significance and importance in that study.

Cultist fringe activities -- generated by wishful belief in the truth of everything contained in the 'messages' allegedly passed on to some of the 'contactees' -- have kept most of the die-hard dabblers in 'UFO studies' with their eyes glued on the heavens for objects viewed (*explainably?*) at a safe distance. It is not surprising that landing reports have been frowned upon and that UFO 'occupants' have been taboo for many during most of the twenty-seven years of modern UFO publicity.

Fortunately a small number of researchers -- nowadays a growing number -- have realised that the phenomenon has to be viewed in *all* its aspects, and that these include *not only* reports of well-defined unconventional aerial objects, especially where confirmed by radar, and reports of low-level objects, especially when accompanied by electronic, electrical and physical effects on living creatures, or maybe supported by photographs, *but also* reports of landings of strange objects and of observations of 'humanoid' occupants or other creatures, with or without 'messages', etc.

With regard to the latter category, we have said before (in *The Humanoids*) that the strangeness and often the very pointlessness of the activities of the reported creatures militate against the theory that the accounts are hoaxes: a hoaxer would, for example, be more inclined to give the story a beginning and an ending. Again, if the lurid 'contactee' claims are examined when shorn of the woolly cultism that surrounds them, it may be seen that they have a place in the overall pattern of the reports.

The questions arise: are ideas or images projected into the minds of close-range UFO observers, or are they controlled, say, by hypnosis? (Recall, for example, how, after their UFO encounter at San Pedro de los Altos, highly esteemed professional men repeated word for word, in all seriousness, a 'discourse' made up of the most incredible gibberish!)

Do the controllers of the objects cause witnesses to 'see' (in their minds) images of the strange objects and their stranger doings? Are these controllers extraterrestrial visitors, are they elemental denizens of this Earth, or are both types involved in the 'game'? Again, is there an overlap between UFO and psychic phenomena, or are both of these controlled wholly from the same source?

The strange encounters claimed in the reports in this Special Issue may not themselves provide the answers, but they must be put on the record for they seem to indicate the general direction in which we might profitably direct our researches.

CHARLES BOWEN



# STELLA LANSING'S MOVIES: FOUR ENTITIES AND A POSSIBLE UFO

*Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D.\**

NO picture of a purported UFO is any better than the person who takes it. And desirable as it might be, it is almost impossible to obtain a photograph of a person taking a photograph of a flying saucer. A recent report concerned contactee Stella Lansing and her many extraordinary movies of possible UFOs.<sup>1</sup> One of her films showed an alleged craft and four entities. My psychiatrist studies of Mrs. Lansing showed her to be an honest, intelligent, middle-aged woman, who has had a profound interest in ufology for some time and who has had a series of unusual presumed UFO-related experiences over the past several years.

Mrs. Lansing's experiences are unlike the accounts of other contactees where, unfortunately, the evidence is often in indirect proportion to the quality and quantity of their supposed UFO experiences. My previous study of her had the unique clinical feature of the repeatable UFO experience. While I was visiting Mrs. Lansing at her home in Palmer, Massachusetts, we saw strange illuminated discs on two occasions. She filmed the disc of the first sighting, while I made a tape recording. On the second occasion, we both filmed pulsating, glowing, gliding discs, and one of us recorded on the film a strange, mystery automobile, which seemed to appear out of nowhere and which alternately lighted and dimmed out its front headlamps as if signalling. The motion picture film clearly showed this and the illuminated discs in the background. The purpose of this paper is to present Stella Lansing's spectacular film of the four entities and close-up view of a possible associated UFO.

## Major Previous Sightings

The time and place was approximately 1.00 a.m., in September, 1961, at Northampton, Massachusetts. The night was clear and hot. After giving her infant daughter a bottle, Mrs. Lansing went outside and noted, "...a soft light, like a star, rising--then it went so fast I thought it was a plane. There was no sound. But it stopped dead ahead and then was the size of a dinner plate. It came at great speed; after fifteen minutes of hovering it went away. It was between my house and the neighbour's garage. I ran up to the bedroom to call my husband."

Later, on several occasions in 1963, in Palmer, Massachusetts, Mrs. Lansing became aware of strange lights in the sky. She observed these phenomena both alone and with her children.

Mrs. Lansing recalled a UFO experience of November 9, 1965, the date of the great Eastern seaboard blackout. "It was the same thing that happened in September of '61, which I'd forgotten. I drove into town to get candles for a girl friend,

and it [UFO] was travelling over the telephone poles on Flynt Street--there was a black car 'being driven' in front of me. The car stopped at the bottom of the hill, and I guess 'the occupants' were watching. The light suddenly swooped under the telephone poles and went into the field. There was a steady upward spraying of red light, and then it went on to the northwest."

The increased sightings in the spring of 1966 prompted Mrs. Lansing to attempt filming them with a Brownie and with a Polaroid Land 95 camera. She had poor results. On Halloween, 1966, at approximately 7.20 p.m., and lasting for several minutes, she had a terrifying UFO experience. She noted: "I went to park my car and when the headlights were on the water, I saw a bobbing head or figure emerging from the water--it had a black skullcap. It scurried along the shore to get to the peninsular [approximately sixty metres from Mrs. Lansing's house]. I backed up the car, put on the dim lights, and I saw a fuzzy mist by the house on the peninsular. Then I saw an orange ball of light as big as a baseball or basketball there. I felt as if the hairs were raised on my arms, my body, and the back of my neck and head. Then suddenly, this huge light, object or whatever it was, swooped down in back of the house and swished over the lake. I waited to hear a splash, or a crash, but heard nothing. It was a reddish-orange mass of light. Thinking about it later, it seemed that after this event all hell broke loose: perhaps something crashed, or landed around here, or in the lake. I wonder if that had something to do with all the subsequent UFO events. I wonder if they were looking for something that might have crashed. Five to ten minutes later, Dick [husband] and the kids drove in. I met two neighbour boys walking on road who had seen the big flash of light come down to the lake."

## Photographing the Entities, 1967

In the fall of 1966, Mrs. Lansing told her employer,<sup>†</sup> a jeweller in Palmer, Massachusetts, of

<sup>†</sup> Interview of the jeweller in Brinfield, Massachusetts, on October 30, 1971, fully confirmed Mrs. Lansing's account. At the time of her experience he had lived in the Palmer area for twenty years, and said of her, "I never met a more honest person. She never kids about such things." He recalled two occasions when (1) he watched for approximately thirty minutes "an orange string of lights hanging underneath something strange, and (2) something odd flying in the sky one night at the same time as she saw something in another part of town."

\* Consultant, Brain Wave Laboratory, Essex County Medical Center, Cedar Grove, New Jersey.

her futile attempts to photograph UFOs. He kindly offered his hand-winding, Keystone, regular 8-mm., Capri-model motion picture camera, which could be used at night without a filter. Its widest fixed lens opening was f 2.8. However, Mrs. Lansing soon learned that she could not put a new roll of 50-foot film in the camera until she had first finished unexposed film then in the camera. The jeweller's daughter and her fiancé had already exposed many feet of this film while on an outing (daytime) at Quabbin Dam, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Lansing believes that this particular UFO sighting took place at approximately 10.00 p.m., Saturday night, February 18, 1967. She deduced the date from her memory after discussions with her family and after looking at her jottings on film packages and at other notes on scraps of paper.

"On Route 32, north, at the junction of the old Warren Road and Flynt Street, I noticed balls of yellow-orange lights, silently walking from east to west to the old cemetery. They were as large as basketballs. A man stopped his car by the [side of the] road. I asked him if he saw them too, and he said, 'Yes.' I ran home for the camera. [See Figure 1 for daytime photo showing relationships.]

"At the junction of these streets, where the power lines are, I again noted yellow-orange balls, and two reddish balls coming down between the power lines, and over them, walking down silently. One stopped and bounced like a rubber ball. I couldn't see behind its light, shiny façade. I estimated that it was 50 feet away and 20 feet above the ground on the hill. It seemed to hover.

"It was after closing hour and must have been about ten o'clock, because a young girl whom I knew from the store stopped her car. I was standing in the middle of the road. There was snow on the ground and a near full moon in the southwest--to the left of where I was standing. The stars were out. The girl and I saw a large yellow-orange object, and then it was sometimes reddish-orange. Then a bluish white light was coming toward me. I could look through it - it was clear, and then I saw red. I looked at it with the binoculars and only saw red. The light hovered at about 150 feet distance. I filmed it until it went away to the south-south-east. If I can remember right, it seems that if there were any sounds at all, it reminded me of crickets. I waited for about five minutes and was going to take motion pictures of the moon, when all of a sudden there was a brilliant white flash, which took off into the air at a 45°-60° angle. I filmed it. While running the camera, I may have made single frame exposures, but I was so excited that I don't remember. It was too weird to look at and imagine what it was. I could see one arm [of the object] with one side that was red and white, but mostly red. It was luminous. It seemed to level off and went between the moon and myself. There was a lot of light on it, and then all of a sudden all lights went out and it seemed to get small like a star--finally disappearing toward the west. I used Kodachrome film. The camera did not have a telephoto lens. I called it the Red Bug."

Mrs. Lansing took her film to a laboratory in Springfield, Massachusetts, for development. She later

learned that the 25-foot film segments of the 50 foot reel were incorrectly joined; i.e., the pictures of the jeweller's daughter and fiancé at the Quabbin Dam outing (which preceded Mrs. Lansing's pictures) were put last, and Mrs. Lansing's film (25-foot segment) was placed first. Because she had no projector Mrs. Lansing borrowed her employer's old one, but in the process she burned the film because she couldn't hold it at a single-frame projection. However, when she later used her son's plastic hand viewer for a frame-by-frame analysis, she saw: "...much red in it--some weird faces, not like heads, that seemed to have motion. That's all I could make out."

In December, 1967, when she obtained a projector that could show twelve frames a second, she saw "...despite the dirty, poorly developed film, figures and a beehive, arm-like object." Finally, in April, 1968, she purchased a Bell and Howell projector that could be slowed to two frames per second. Mrs. Lansing saw four entities. "I never saw the people when filming it. I can't tell you what object they came out of or what they were in. The only thing I could think of was that they must have come from the soft white object which seemed to go away to the southeast--the object that was hovering while I was filming.::

Mrs. Lansing showed her film only to her immediate family and a few friends, then to a UFO meeting sponsored by *Saucer News* on April 18, 1969, in New York City, and later at the Parapsychology Symposium, New York City, October 25, 1969. She learned about the former meeting from the Long John Nebel all-night radio show.

A reporter who was present at the April meeting invited Mrs. Lansing and her girl friend to his apartment so that he could better view her pictures. Mrs. Lansing said that while they were there, the reporter corrected the previously improperly spliced sequences of the film. With handling and time, a brittle, small segment of the film [4.1 cms.] which was curled and attached to the reel at the very end, broke off. Still later Mrs. Lansing cut off a section [255 cms.] "...that was at the end and was damaged by the projector sprocket holes. It showed nothing [which was confirmed on careful examination by the author]."

**FIGURES 1 - 5** These show the entities and are taken from 30 centimeters of the filmstrip which represents almost 4-1/2 seconds of exposure. The four entities are apparently fair-complexioned adult Caucasian men

---

:: When Mrs. Lansing discovered that she had actually photographed some entities, she was very excited and telephoned Westover Air Force Base (30 kilometres away) to seek advice. She was informed that they would take her films for study. However, she parried the invitation with, "Where my films go, I go." The matter was not pursued further. She based her reluctance to part with her films on situations that she had read about and her previous experience with a UFO Massachusetts investigator who took one of her best photographs and never returned it nor let her know his opinion.



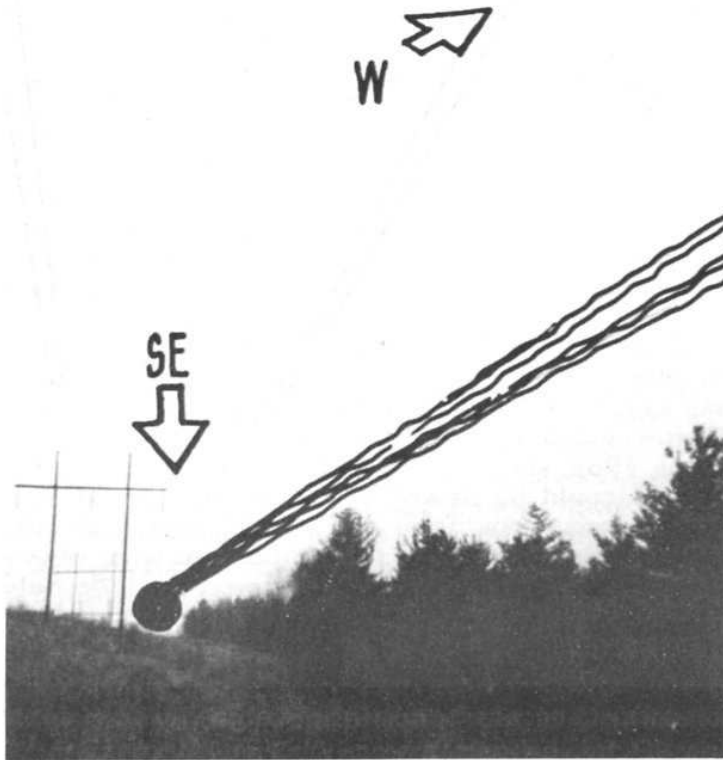
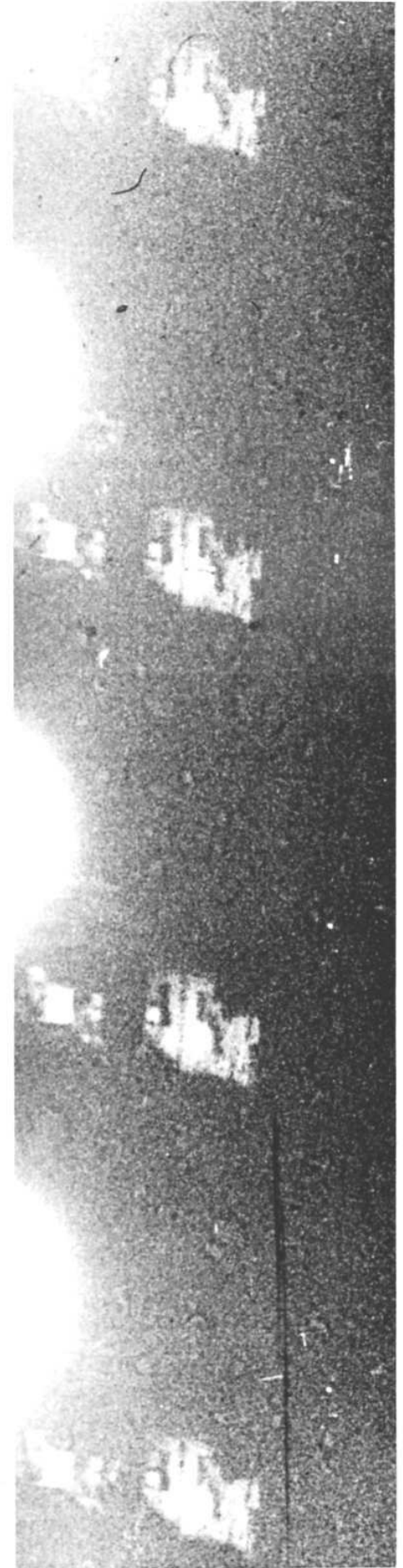


Fig. 1: Stella's picture of the place where the action took place.

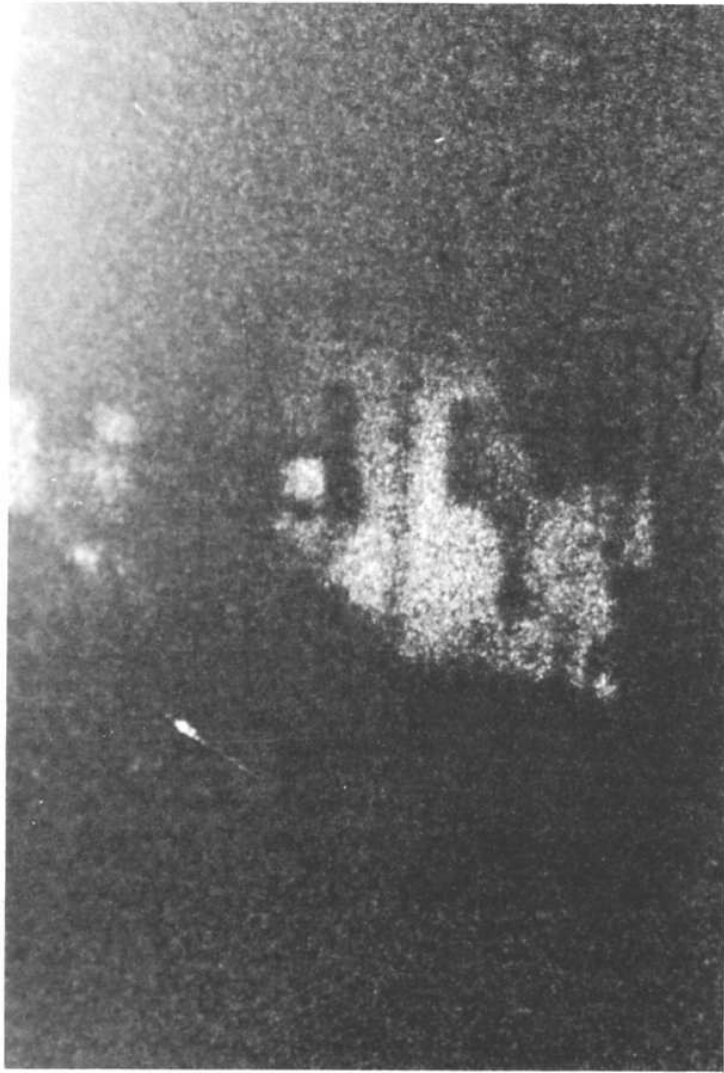
with dark hair.† On projection, there is movement, such as turning of the head and apparent talking. The profile view of the tall figure on the left-hand margin of the film, who appears to be closer to the camera, seems to show a beard and moustache. The second figure from the left is apparently looking at the two entities on his left. The right side of his face is clearly seen and he seems to have on a white undershirt, which is seen as a V-shaped form on his chest and neck. The third entity from the left has the left side of his face closest to the camera and seems to have a long, dark moustache and goatee. Mrs. Lansing wondered if he had goggles. The entity on the far right is not clearly shown. He has on a

† As a simulated "control" test on a moonlit, starry night of October 30, 1971, Mrs. Lansing took movies of the author with and without a flashing penlight at the supposed locations where she had filmed the entities and the craft. The results did not resemble the 1967 films. On two occasions the author took motion pictures (using more sensitive film than that Mrs. Lansing had in 1967) of white-shirted friends standing approximately nine metres away from the camera and moving about. These pictures were taken at the base of a steel high-tension cable tower in a New Jersey sand pit on a moonlit night at approximately the hour of Mrs. Lansing's 1967 films. However, nothing similar to her entity-possible-craft movies was discovered. In these instances there is the paradox of not recording images seen with the naked eye on more sensitive 1971 film, whereas less sensitive 1967 film showed luminous (?) entities and a possible craft, which had been neither suspected nor seen by Mrs. Lansing. Unless coincidence or "beginner's luck" is accepted, it can be speculated that the entities knew (or wanted?) that their pictures were being taken.



Figs. 2 - 5: Four-frame strip from Stella's movie film.





Enlargements from film strip showing entities.

For full "blow-up" see Page 36.

light shirt, like that of a sailor's jumper, and either a dark tie or a neckerchief, and a possible chevron, faintly visible on the sleeve of his left arm. In some of the pictures of the entities there is an unfortunate photographic artifact on the left margin. Note the dark window-like rectangular areas shown in relief against a light background structure. It can be speculated that this structure is mechanical. It has faint indications of curves and might represent the craft.

**FIGURES 6 - 7** The single-frame exposure of the craft was considered artifact by the Linden color Labs' photographer, Mr. Art Kusiv. Mr. David Hamer, who is a research physicist specializing in optical systems and who is also a professional microscopist, kindly examined the film. He thought that it had been handled considerably and that the emulsion was damaged. Using a Bausch and Lomb stereobinocular microscope with magnification up to 70X in both reflected and transmitted light, he completed the visual microscopical examination of the "images." He felt that the "craft" could not be an image, or it would repeat itself on many frames, and that it was a gouge or a winged scratch on the film that did not go through all the colour layers. But it was a three-dimensional artifact. Unfortunately, it was not feasible to study further the particular film

segment with scanning electron microscopy, automatic image analysis using lasers, etc.<sup>oo</sup>

Although the author is not knowledgeable about film analysis, as a practising physician he is aware of how his colleagues in pathology not infrequently disagree over the interpretation of microscopic slides of various pathological lesions; e.g., although they see the same section of a tumor under the same conditions, their viewpoints can occasionally vary widely. The author could see no evidence of a scratch or a gouge effect from his examination of the "craft" using the naked eye, a magnifying glass, or a monocular Leitz microscope at 30X and 60X. He wondered if Mr. Hamer, who is an aircraft pilot and admittedly has no *a priori* bias against UFOs, was not

<sup>oo</sup> It might be noted that when the original film and prints of the entities and possible UFO were unofficially submitted to experts at two of the most prestigious institutions in the United States (in Washington, D. C.), the experts refused even to look at the evidence or consider the subject. The independent photographer who brought the films to Washington for this purpose had prearranged appointments with these experts who had in the past fully co-operated with her in other matters. She said, "It was weird. Nobody wanted to vouch for it. They have been good friends. They refused to look at it--wouldn't touch it."

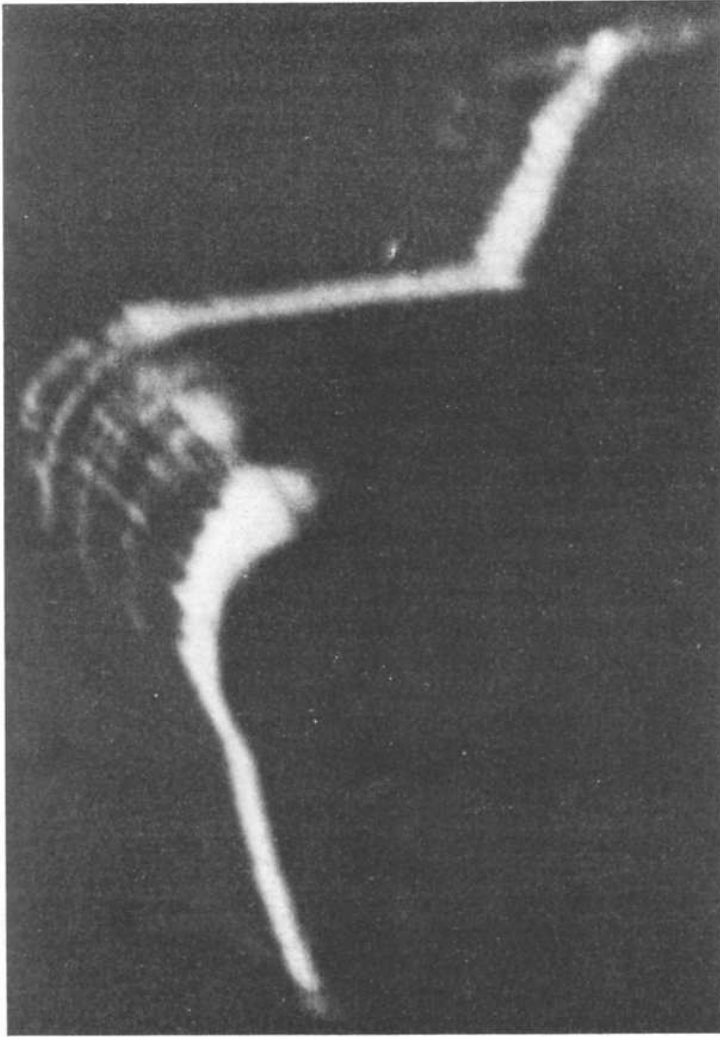


Fig.6: Stella's Possible UFO. Reproduced from original colour frame

using *post hoc, ergo propter hoc* reasoning about the craft not being a UFO because it was not present over many frames--as if this were the criterion for such a strange and often unconventional illusive phenomenon.<sup>+</sup> As a matter of fact, other serial light effects that might or might not have been

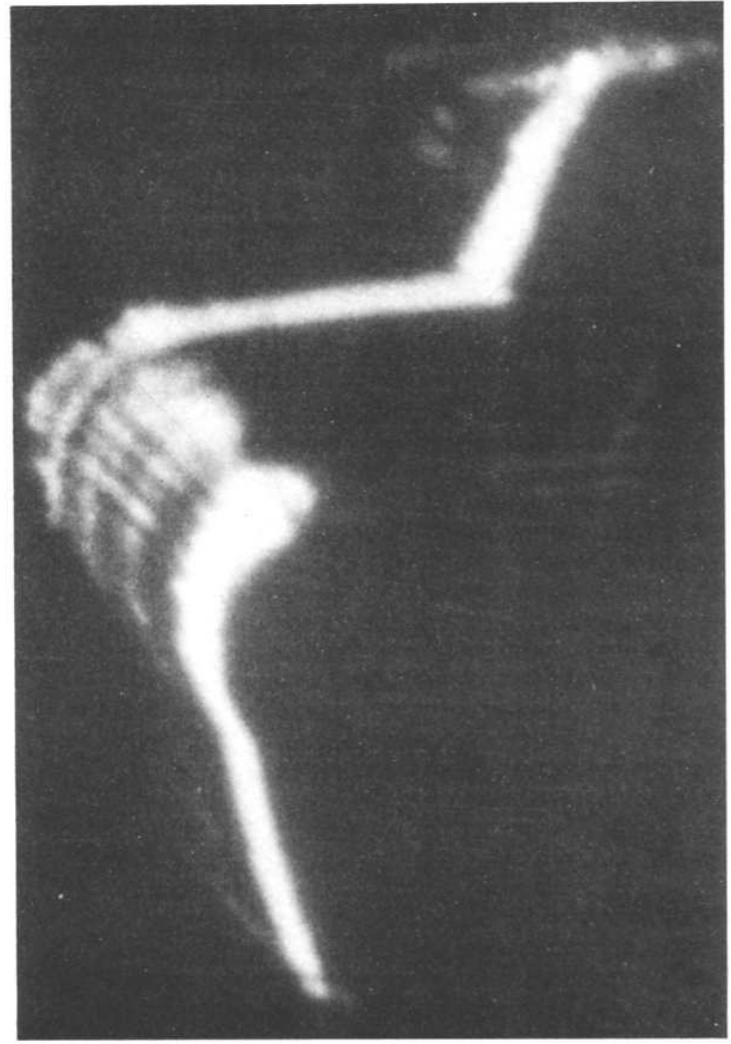


Fig.7: Black & White reproduction of same frame. See faint third extension

related to the "craft" were observed, as well as readily recognizable scratch artifacts. These intriguing light and colour effects were seen in frames contiguous to the frames of the conchoidal or beehive-like long-arm structure.

It might be wondered how the conchoidal,

<sup>+</sup> There are reports in the literature of UFOs being seen for a period of time, and then suddenly disappearing. For example: at dusk, in the fall of 1964, while driving in an isolated section of the Shunpike Road near Madison, New Jersey, Miss Dorothy Angebauer, a middle-aged automotive-parts bookkeeper, was buzzed by a UFO flying at an estimated height of one and a half telephone poles and about two telephone poles in front of her car. This lasted for several minutes, until the craft suddenly disappeared. One might wonder (1) if this effect was produced because the UFO flew away at such a great speed, (2) if the UFO dematerialized, or (3) if something might have exerted a psycho-biological or paranormal effect on Miss Angebauer, and a psychic hallucination accounted for her experience. Psychiatric examination revealed her to be healthy, with an excellent past employment record. She was thoroughly familiar with the sounds of various types of motors, airplanes, and helicopters. She had no previous interest in UFOs or psychic events. She had told several fellow employees, friends, and family members about her experience,

approximately at the time of its occurrence. This was verified by the author. She had no past history for any dereistic or paranormal events. Thus the failure to find a suitable explanation for her experience shows that it can be quite fallacious to rely on conventional methods as the *sine qua non* for the evaluation of an unconventional experience such as hers.

The question of airplane artifact is also unlikely. Proof is that on many occasions I took motion pictures of airplanes at night; on projection nothing was seen similar to Mrs. Lansing's conchoidal-like structure (or in numerous instances many of her other alleged filmed UFOs or UFO-related structures). Furthermore, movies of various known artifacts: viz., airplanes, radio-TV beacon towers, etc., taken from the ground and from an airplane at 4,000-6,000-feet altitude, over the Palmer area on the night of October 30, 1971, revealed nothing similar to Mrs. Lansing's 1967 possible craft. When Mrs. Lansing and I showed the prints of the entities and a possible UFO to our pilot (and another pilot and mech-

(continued on page 7)

corrugated, vertical and horizontal coloured pattern was achieved as well as the details for the seeming attachment of two of the long and flexible (?) arm-like structures and the faintly visible third arm-like extension (in black and white, Figure 7). The craft and coloured-light effects seemed to be focused pictures of a definite configuration. If these were gouges, one would wonder why they were centred, why they were not on the edge of the film or in proximity to definite gouges, and why there was not a consistent pattern of more of them. The gouges, burn artifacts, and scratches on the film could be seen with the naked eye, had a different configuration and location, and showed either light (no colour) or dark. ‡ Furthermore, Mrs. Lansing has other films showing craft (the "red bug" or artifacts?) similar to this reported illustration. Also, among various items in the literature, on the Gemini 4 voyage, astronaut McDivitt saw and photographed one still picture, and movie exposures in black and white, on July 4, 1965, of "...a cylindrical object that appeared to have arms sticking out...it did have an angular extension, that is, it did not appear as a point. It gave a white or silvery appearance as seen against the day sky."<sup>2</sup>

#### Comment

Unfortunately, limitations of space preclude a more complete study of Stella Lansing and her enormous amount of photographic evidence of poss-

(Footnote continued from page 6)

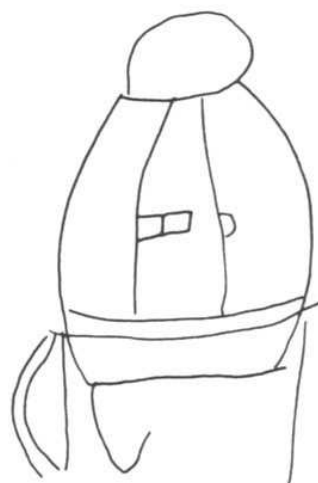
anic) who is also a flying instructor at the Palmer Airport, he had no explanation. He and his two friends could not recall seeing any strange lights in the sky while flying. However, our pilot did recall a bizarre experience of seeing at an estimated 1,000 feet in the sky glowing, orange lights when he was stationed on the ground, at the Quabbin Reservoir, north of Palmer.

Interview of a farm woman, Mrs. J.K., whose home was in line with the Warren Street sightings, revealed an episode of observing a UFO at tree height and with some characteristics similar to Mrs. Lansing's conchoidal craft. This was reputedly at the approximate time of Mrs. Lansing's sighting. Mrs. J.K. examined Mrs. Lansing's prints of the 1967 entities and the alleged craft but she had no explanation although the picture of the possible UFO resembled what she saw.

‡ One midnight, early in the fall of 1959, officer of the law Samuel Cowell, Jr., of Pemberton, New Jersey, in the line of duty, was suddenly confronted by a UFO that landed on the paved road, approximately 100-200 feet in front of his car. He approached it with a nightstick and a drawn 0.45 pistol. Among many interesting features of his experience he recalled, "...the UFO had the sound of a hive of bees flying. It came down without a sound. It was on 5 to 6 legs that were similar to grasshoppers' legs. They were straight out when it came down, and when it started to hit the ground the legs seemed to bend, like the hind legs of a grasshopper. It covered the whole width of the road. The thing looked as though it had ribs to it, and the material was in block form. It made a funny buzzing noise. It had a shiny metal rim about 4 to 5 feet from the bottom and around it. The top and bottom was flat. On top was a hole about 4 to 5 feet across. The sides bellied out and breathed. They were in squares all the way around, on top and all. I watched it for several minutes. When it went up, I've never seen anything go so fast in



Samuel Cowell (see footnote ‡) and his drawing (below) in facsimilie



my life. It sprang up. It had no light, smoke, or odour. It glistened in the moonlight and seemed to have a brownish cast. When I walked to the ground where it had landed, there were no imprints or marks, but I found 5 to 6 chunks of light brown stuff resembling cork, about 1 1/4 inches thick and 3 inches square. I gave them to an Air Force sergeant, a friend of mine stationed at [nearby] Fort Dix. When he came back he said that all he could tell me was that it was not radioactive. I heard nothing else."

Psychiatric study of Officer Cowell on two occasions, in Pemberton, New Jersey, and a follow-up telephone interview, revealed him to have an excellent police and military record with no evidence for sociopathic behaviour, delusions, hallucinations, or mood fluctuations. This opinion of Officer Cowell's integrity was confirmed on interview of friends of long standing, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ahlrichs and Mr. and Mrs. Russel Grover, of Pemberton, New Jersey. See photograph of Officer Cowell and his drawing of the UFO.



ible UFOs or UFO-related material. The difficulties in presenting all the complexities of a very involved, inscrutable, at times bizarre and almost incredible story are almost insurmountable.<sup>1</sup>

As an explanation for the movies, a hoax on Mrs. Lansing's part is most unlikely. There is no motivation for it, and interviews of Mrs. Lansing, various members of her family, her friends, her former employer, and others support this viewpoint. For someone to play a practical joke on her, under the circumstances described, is almost more outlandish than the data she has recorded. It would be an expensive joke to play and a hard one to keep secret in a small New England town where everybody knows everybody else. To explain her movies of the entities as films of hippies, vagrants, etc., would also be most unlikely, for there were no such people in this area of snow-covered Massachusetts in the February of 1967.

The pictures do not resemble any member of Mrs. Lansing's family, her friends, or the jeweller's family and friends. Technical considerations make a double exposure impossible. There is no evidence to support an explanation such as that the jeweller's daughter, her fiancée, or members of his family, or Mrs. Lansing's family wilfully or surreptitiously photographed the "entities" before she used the camera. The jeweller's daughter and fiancée took their pictures many months before Mrs. Lansing's employer loaned her the camera. At that time the jeweller noted that there was some exposed film in it. Mrs. Lansing did not check the ground of the supposed UFO hovering the morning after the incident because when she took the pictures of the lights she did not see anything on the ground and she had no idea what she had filmed.

The pictures of the entities seemed to show some kind of craft in the background, and if the single-frame exposure of the supposed UFO near the end of the film is not artifact, it is likely that the entities were associated with that. There is nothing in present-day technology that the author is aware of that would conform to the association of these particular pictures of entities, supposed craft, and surrounding circumstances. If the pictures represented some advanced form of travel or weaponry, then one would be up against a stone wall of questions: what country? why isn't it used in the world-wide conflict? how can such a device be kept a secret? etc.?

Could such pictures be paranormal? The eminent psychiatrist Jule Eisenbud's epoch-making rigidly controlled experiments of Ted Serios' thoughtography present a wide array of paranormal pictures which should be of great interest to ufologists. For example, once, while attempting a hidden-target picture of a French chateau, Ted, at a distance of 30 feet, said, "Something, somewhere in France." However, Dr. Eisenbud noted that Ted's mind was really focused on detecting the "imminent arrival of Mariner IV in the vicinity of Mars." Ted obliged with a picture of a spacecraft (see Figure 8).††<sup>4</sup> In another session, during this period, Ted attempted to anticipate Mariner IV's arrival on Mars by depicting the Martian landscape and canals.<sup>5</sup> Another time, in a

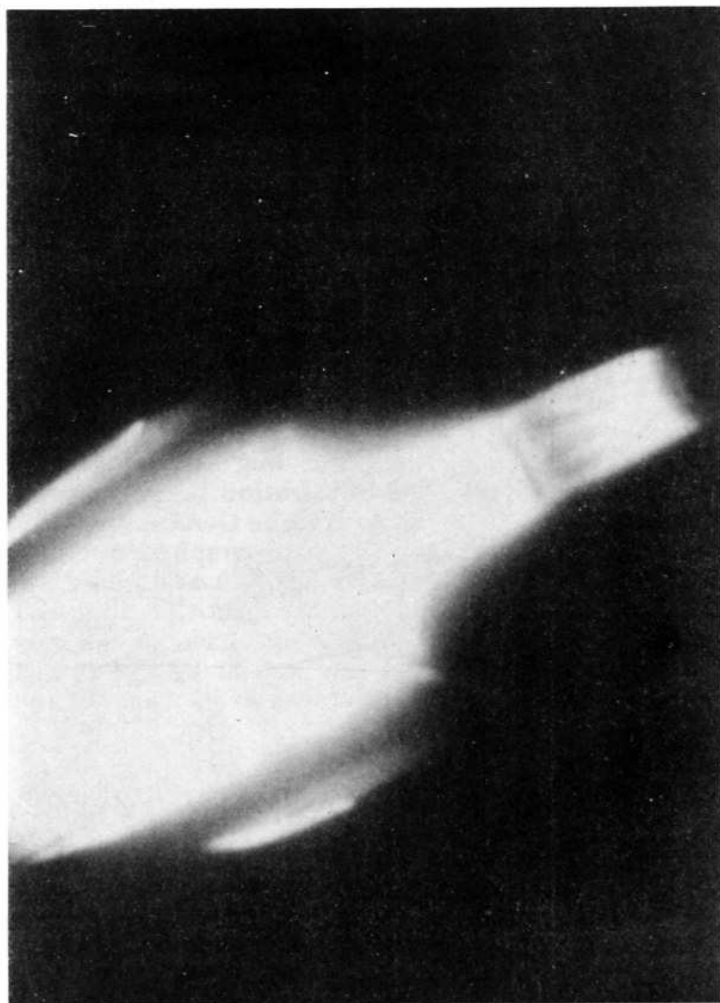


Fig. 8:

rather unique experiment, Ted was exasperated, and he demonstrated amazing, if not inexplicable, conscious control over his thoughtography by obtaining a photograph of striations.<sup>6</sup> This might not be dissimilar to Mrs. Lansing's craft. In one spectacular experiment Ted obtained images of one of the Russian Vostok rockets, apparently in space (Figure 9). A diligent search in world-wide literature failed to reveal, as one might expect, any photographic counterpart of these. Here one might also justifiably assume that the pictures do not represent images in some form in someone's mind or memory.†<sup>7</sup> From the point of view of Mrs. Lansing's entities, mention should also be made of Ted's pictures of "unidentified people, in various poses, some with almost snapshot clarity, who might not have been

†† See page 180 for details of this fascinating experiment and the roles of the unconscious mind, telepathy, and possible precognition. I thank Dr. Jule Eisenbud and the publishers William Morrow & Co., Inc., New York (*The World of Ted Serios: "Thoughtographic" Studies of An Extraordinary Mind*), for permission to reproduce some of these fascinating thoughtographs.

† On October 13, 1964, the crew of Voskhod I prematurely returned to Earth because they had seen "...something strange and inexplicable in orbit—something that terrified them."

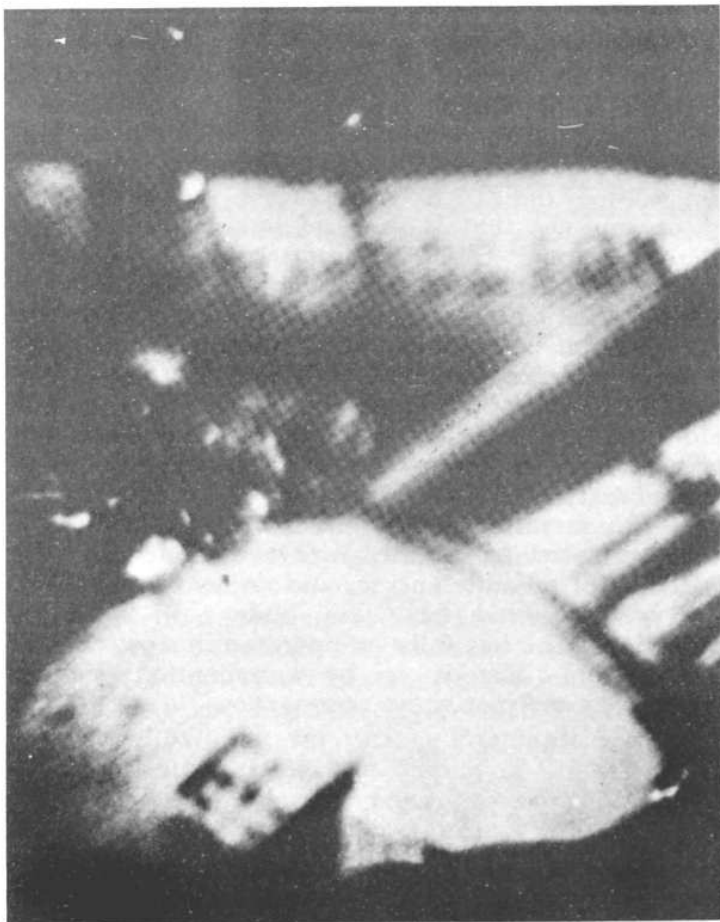


Fig. 9: "Vostok rocket"

living, for all anyone knows, at the time their picture materialised (see Figure 10)."<sup>8</sup>

Finally, mention should be directed to an unusual experiment involving Professor J. Allen Hynek and his Polaroid camera, Model 800. After an evening of failures, Ted obtained, at Professor Hynek's inspired last-minute gamble, an automobile image.<sup>9</sup>

Some of Eisenbud's thoughtographic evidence is clearly within the parameters of ufology. Although his relevant material is chiefly limited to Polaroid snapshots, he has thoughtographic movies on other subjects. All in all, his data make the hypothesis of a paranormal etiology for Mrs. Lansing's movies an intriguing possibility. There are objections to this hypothesis, however. One might wonder why Mrs. Lansing did not have paranormal pictures of entities on other occasions, rather than once, and why her films did not cover a variety of subjects, rather than exclusively UFO-related material. □ Furthermore, if her pictures were of psychic origin, how could they be reconciled (although not necessarily) with her occasionally associated multiple eyewitness accounts and with animal reactions to her experiences? Also, in contrast to her experiences, the cameras that were used in the Eisenbud experiments photographed things that were usually in people's minds--conscious or unconscious--and existed in reality somewhere, or in publications. Then again one can't discount the possibility that Ted Serios actually produced pictures from an interdimensional or extra-terrestrial plane. Thus, there are both intriguing



Fig. 10: "unidentified people"

similarities and differences between Mrs. Lansing's pictures and thoughtographic evidence.

In my own studies with patients and paragnostes, I have never come across psychic photographs similar to the thoughtography of Ted Serios or pictures similar to Mrs. Lansing's purported UFO photographs. Furthermore, the famed telepathist Joseph Dunninger, who has seen many strange things in his career of over half a century and who has met Stella Lansing and seen her movies and prints, has never come across anything like her or them. He believes that she is truthful but beyond that he has no explanation for her pictures.

Experiments with Mrs. Lansing are in progress to take motion pictures of possible UFO phenomena using different photographers and different model cameras at the same time, both in her Massachusetts locale, in New Jersey, and elsewhere. There might be clues by trying a variety of films: i.e., colour, black and white, varying sensitivity, infrared, ultraviolet, etc. Preliminary results of this type of experiment are suggestive of the physical reality of UFOs and associated phenomena in contrast to a psychic cause, unless the psychic nature be completely unlike or more advanced than that reported in the

□ For the past five years, Mrs. Lansing has taken more than a hundred 50-foot motion picture reels of purported UFOs or UFO-like material. She has shown me hundreds of unusual shapes of varying colours, movements, flashing, luminosity, and in some cases presenting responses suggestive of a possible intelligence of some order. It is felt that many of these pictures are unidentifiable and not artifacts. I wonder how the filmed structures might relate to proposed biological schemata formulated by the late Ivan T. Sanderson (*Uninvited Visitors*, Cowles, New York, 1967; *Invisible Residents*, World Publishing Co., New York, 1970) and also described by Vincent H. Gaddis ("Mysterious Fires and Lights," Chapter 2, *Animated UFOs* (paperback) pp. 25-43, Dell Publishing Co., New York, 1968).

literature.<sup>@</sup> Furthermore, as already mentioned, on one occasion, Mrs. Lansing and I both saw a possible UFO while she photographed it. On a second occasion, both of us simultaneously photographed pulsating, flickering lights and a strange stationary automobile with quasi, alternate-left-and-right signalling headlamps.

It is desirable that investigators from different scientific backgrounds devise other experiments with more sophisticated instrumentation. It is essential, however, that proper attention be given to Mrs. Lansing's needs and experiences. The meaning of the possible interaction between her and the hypothesized UFOs or interdimensional entities could be (1) a training to detect subliminal clues of UFOs, (2) hitherto undetected possible hereditary psychophysiological factors that coincide with "X" functions of UFOs, etc., and (3) her own possibly related psychic sensitivities and the hypothesized UFOs or interdimensional entities. Whatever the meaning, the occurrence of, and motivation for such events, should be furthered and not jeopardized.

<sup>@</sup> On October 30, 1971, I interviewed (without Mrs. Lansing's presence, or knowledge) three adults and eight children, mostly teenagers, on the mountain ridge at the confluence of the high tension wires on the top of the hill behind Warren Street (the site of the 1967 events). These people volunteered countless episodes of hovering, strange, flickering, varicoloured lights (UFOs?), round patches of flattened-out ferns and odd poltergeist-like effects: "...crashing noises, sounds like a kid blasting a trumpet, gibberish, so loud as if inside the head, (and an episode) where the doors and drawers of a house were all found to be mysteriously open yet nothing was stolen." There was no other report of such activities and there was no evidence of campers, hippies, etc. On one such poltergeist-like occasion, a few years ago, a family (and neighbours) was so terrified that the police were called; and the parents, children and grandfather abandoned their home and moved into town. During my interview of a lady who lived on this ridge road, she spontaneously mentioned strange noiseless lights that she had observed the night before, on the top of the opposite mountain at approximately the same time that Mrs. Lansing and I had independently observed and filmed with our cameras similar lights but from a different location. The adults and children were convinced that what they had seen in the past was quite different from airplanes and other known artifacts.

Much of Mrs. Lansing's data that might be applicable to the parallel world, or to the interdimensional hypothesis, is also germane to the extraterrestrial explanation. For example, if psi function is a reality for our world, why could it not be just as useful to an extraterrestrial as to an interdimensional one? Who can prove the source of psi or can say that it is more likely a part of an interdimensional than an extraterrestrial world or vice versa? In both cases conclusive evidence is lacking. The arguments pro and con could be extended *ad absurdum*. It is impossible on the existing evidence, to make a diagnosis of the ultra-terrestrial vs. extraterrestrial origin. For the present it might be more fruitful to continue collecting data and try not to overlook any of the complex interrelated aspects.

In conclusion, Mrs. Stella Lansing has presented some extraordinary photographic evidence for the existence of possible entities and an associated UFO. She has gathered her data under all kinds of conditions. She has fully co-operated in a psychiatric investigation. She is to be commended for her courageous and innovative approaches.

#### References

- 1 Schwarz, B. E.: Stella Lansing's UFO Motion Pictures: A Repeatable Experiment, *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol. 18, No. 1 (January - February 1972).
- 2 Roach, F. E.: "Visual Observations Made By Astronauts," Chapter 6, pp. 205-207, in *A Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects*, by Dr. Edward U. Condon, Project Director, Bantam Books, 1968.
- 3 Eisenbud, Jule: *The World of Ted Serios: "Thoughtographic Studies of an Extraordinary Mind"*, New York, William Morrow & Co., 1967.
- 4 *Ibid.*, p. 182.
- 5 *Ibid.*, p. 224.
- 6 *Ibid.*, p. 287.
- 7 *Ibid.*, p. 226.
- 8 *Ibid.*, p. 248-249.
- 9 *Ibid.*, p. 281.

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# ITAPERUNA: 1970-1971

Walter Buhler, M.D.

Dr. Buhler is President of SBEDV (Brazilian Society for the study of Flying Saucers), Rio de Janeiro. This contribution also appeared in SBEDV Bulletin No. 85/89 (March - December 1972). Translation from the Portuguese by Gordon Creighton.

WE have frequently drawn attention to the fact that UFOs seem to display a preference for certain towns or regions. One such town has been Itaperuna, located in the northern part of the State of Rio de Janeiro. In SBEDV Bulletin No. 72/73 (January/April 1970)\* we gave some details regarding initial "flyovers" during the period 1968-69. We now propose to give the account of some of the happenings in and around Itaperuna during the years 1970 and 1971, taking them in chronological order (*see table below*).

The present study is nevertheless quite far from being complete, for the following reasons:

- a. Although Paulo Caetano, the principal witness, has in many respects collaborated fully with us, as is shown by our various interrogations and by the photos, he has not displayed the same spirit of co-operation with regard to reproduction of his UFO photographs,† for he has given us no "contact" copy (i.e. print of the same size as the original film) of any of the three series of photos he claims to have taken, but has only given us enlargements of the first two photos. However, time alone may tell us the reasons for his behaviour.
- b. There have also been discrepancies in Paulo's

descriptions of the shapes of the saucers he claims to have seen, for sketches drawn by him in October 1971 and on November 20, 1971, respectively show some differences.

- c. The third difficulty results from the strange mental reactions (state of amnesia) presented by those who have been in the most close contact with the saucer occupants at Itaperuna. This engenders a certain difficulty in establishing and defining the true facts. And it would only be possible to arrive at any real conclusion if the persons would all consent to submit themselves to interrogation under the influence of hypnosis, naturally within the framework of the strictest medical and moral ethics.

We will also mention the case of Benedito Miranda who, like Paulo Caetano, presents us with contradictions, which fact has induced us to reflect upon the degree to which the impact of their

\* *Flying Saucer Review's* English translation of the whole of that report by Dr. Buhler appeared as "Brazilian Cases in 1968 and 1969" in FSR CASE HISTORIES, Supplements 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of 1970-1.

† These photographs show the usual luminous, hazy objects (egg-shaped). — G. C.

Episode	Date	Details	Eyewitnesses	SBEDV Bulletin ref.
1	Nov. 1970	Saucer follows car.	8 girls	81/84
2	Sept. 22, 1971	First contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
3	Sept. 22/23, 1971	First contact with entities.	Benedito Miranda	85/89 (This article)
4	Oct. 10/11, 1971	Saucer follows bus.	39 passengers	81/84
5	Oct. 11/12, 1971	Second contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
6	Oct. 20/21, 1971	Saucer follows car.	Judge and Professor	81/84
7	Nov. 15, 1971	First photo of UFO.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
8	Nov. 16, 1971	Second photo of UFO.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
9	Nov. 17, 1971	Third contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
10	Dec. 5, 1971	Fourth contact with entities.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
11	Dec. 19, 1971	Levitation by beam of light.	Paulo Caetano	85/89 (This article)
12	Dec. 19, 1971	Saucers over Itaperuna.	Virtually entire population	85/89 (This article)
13	Dec. 20, 1971	Entities seen.	Manuel da Silva e Souza	85/89 (This article)

experiences will have had an effect in throwing the behaviour of both of them off balance. We have been able to quote a number of cases which suggest that such things can happen. And maybe the technical resources of the extra-terrestrials, of a nature not only different from, but also superior to, our own, may also contribute towards this disequilibrium, which is entirely comprehensive on its own account and entirely independent of any link with metaphysical phenomena. This therefore will be the guideline pattern for our thinking.

My main purpose in the present article lies rather in the direction of highlighting the difficulties encountered in investigation and emphasising the discrepancies that are present, with a view to their correction in the future.

These accounts should therefore be regarded rather as an attempt to demonstrate the many difficulties encountered in our investigations, difficulties to which the attention of researchers must be alerted for the future.

### **BENEDITO MIRANDA'S CONTACT WITH CREW ENTITIES**

#### **1. Our interviews with members of his family**

Benedito Miranda is a truckdriver, 48 years old, of sturdy build, married, with ten children. For the past three years he has been living, with his family, in Cataguases, in the State of Minas Gerais. He is however a native of Itaperuna, where he attended school up to the third year of primary, and where he has a sister living and numerous friends from childhood days. Itaperuna is two hours by car from his present home in Cataguases.

On December 5, 1971, we interviewed Maria José, one of his daughters, who had been present at noon on October 25, 1971, when her father arrived home with his clothes soiled with red earth or mud and with a dark sort of earth like asphalt. His eyes were red. He asked for a lotion to bathe his eyes, and then went straight off to bed. A few hours later he came out to his wife and children and, complaining of a headache, asked them to close the windows, as the bright daylight was aggravating his pain.

#### **2. His statements at the Itaperuna Police Headquarters**

It appears from the record that, at 2.00 a.m. during the night of September 24/25, 1971...

"There appeared Sr. Benedito Miranda, popularly known as "Badita", Brazilian citizen, married, resident at rua da Liberdade 248 in Cataguases, and stated that, when returning from Itaperuna to Cataguases, at the Carangola bridge on highway BR-040 (see map, Fig. 1), he came upon a strange round object in the middle of the road and blocking the passage of his car. Upon approaching the said object, he saw emerge from its interior two men of small stature each measuring approximately 30 cms. in height. Then the said creatures took from the belt of one of them, a big roundish object resembling a torch, from which came a beam of blue, and at times reddish, light. They threw



**Benedito Miranda**

the beam in his direction, and when it struck him he was lifted up and suspended in the air as though he were a bird. The more powerful the beam of light grew, the higher he rose in the air, until he was at a height of about 50 metres. He felt totally paralyzed, being unable even to cry for help. After some five minutes or so had passed, the lights of a car appeared on a high area towards Retiro and Muriae. The said creatures then slowly lowered the beam of light towards the informant's car and placed him inside the car without even touching him with their hands, the whole thing being done solely

by the power of the beam of light coming from the aforesaid strange object (torch). Then they entered the round object, which flew up into the sky at an incalculable speed. The informant stated that it took him about thirty minutes to return to his normal state, owing to the great fright he had suffered."

"Signed: Benedito Miranda  
(Declaration duly taken down by Police Investigator Nilson Almeida Amorim.)"

#### Notes by SBEDV

1. In actual fact, Benedito Miranda lives in another street, and in a house with another number, and we could not even find the street named by him.
2. The bridge over the river Carangola is 4 km. from the centre of Itaperuna. See map in Fig. 2.
3. We have altered the text of the declaration in one or two places to make it more intelligible to the reader.

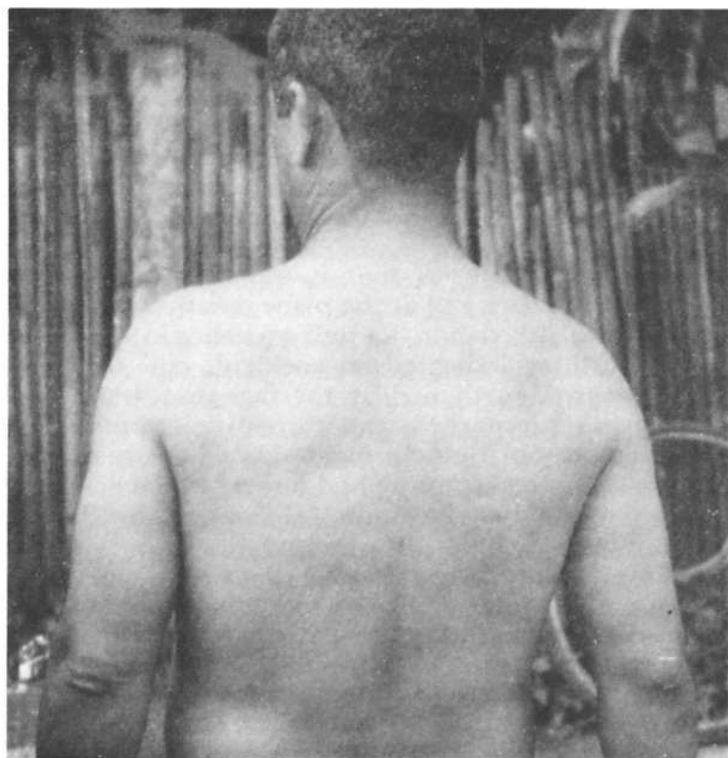
#### 3. SBEDV Interview with Benedito Miranda

Sr. Miranda confirmed to us that, between 11.40 p.m. and midnight on September 24, 1971, he was travelling from Itaperuna to his home in Cataguases; that he remembers stopping his car at the bridge over the river Carangola in order to verify a defect in the steering (suspension). But he is unable to explain why, apparently, he fell asleep, seeing that he only awoke again at 6.30 a.m. next day, September 25, nor can he explain why he was inside his car with his clothes all soiled. He then resolved to continue the journey to Cataguases, where his wife complained about the clothing dirtied with red mud, and she also noticed his reddened eyes. By then he was feeling pain throughout the whole body; he had a cut on

the left arm; and in his left hand he felt a numbness and a tingling. Then he discovered that he had reddish-purple marks in the region of the elbow, also on the left side. On the following days his eyes were watering and remained bloodshot and felt hot. He also had a headache for about six days and suffered from insomnia for approximately a week.

When the witness was interviewed by us on the first occasion, (October 2, 1971), ten days after the episode, all that could be seen in the region of the elbow was a zone of slightly stronger pigmentation; but his left hand still showed a slight tremor of the fingers.

When we saw Sr. Miranda for the last time, on December 5, 1971, he told us that he still felt pain in the left arm after a hard day's work. He declared himself to be willing to be subjected to sessions of hypnosis, in order to find the explanations not only for the sleep that overcame him in the night of September 24/25, but also the reason for his dirty clothing, his bloodshot eyes, his headache, and his statement to the Police at Itaperuna. He would only let himself be convinced that he really had said all that at the Police Station when he checked his signature at the end of the statement. He even maintained at first that it was some joke in bad taste, but, urged by his sister, he finally went and verified personally the genuineness of his signature on the declaration at Police Headquarters. After that, on the occasion of our last visit to him, a preparatory session was started with him on that same day (December 5, 1971) by Dr. A. M. de O., to assess the feasibility of subjecting Sr. Miranda to hypnosis. Although the results of this preparatory session were satisfactory, the work of investigation has been greatly harmed, because in fact there have been no further sessions of hypnosis.



Back view of Benedito showing elbows.



Testing Benedito's hand for slight tremor.



#### 4. Some Similar Cases in the Literature

##### i) The case at Kempsey in Australia

In Flying Saucer Review for July/August 1971 (p. 20) Eileen Buckle gives an account of the case of an Australian aborigine who, on the night of April 2, 1971, through the window of his house, saw a round face pressed up against the glass, spying on what was going on. Then he felt his body rising upwards and being impelled through the upper part of the window and falling upon some steps outside. And then, panic-stricken, he took to his heels.

The biggest surprise of all however was to come next day, in the form of amnesia (selective loss of memory, not total). Referring to the incident of the previous night, he now attributed the wound on his hand to an accident he had had when he had put his fist through a neighbour's window that he was mending...

##### ii) The Case of Betty and Barney Hill

This case had wide repercussions in American UFO investigation circles, and in Brazil the review *Manchete* of October 29 and November 5, 1966, stated (p. 138 of the issue of October 29):

"It was daylight when they arrived home. Their watches had stopped and never worked again. They had expected to be home at 3.00 a.m., but only got there at 5.00. Two hours of their lives had passed without their perceiving it, and they only realized some months later that they had lost this time."

When, on account of a strange depression and psychosis, they decided to appeal to the psychiatrist Dr. Benjamin Simon, he subjected them to hypnosis in separate sessions. In their accounts, given in isolation, both agreed that they had undergone strange tests inside a flying saucer, and there was even a dialogue with the extraterrestrial beings. (From *The Interrupted Journey*, by John G. Fuller.)

##### 5. Accounts in the SBEDV Bulletin of saucer occupants going up and coming down on beams of light

In Bulletin No. 10 (July 1959), p.5, dealing with the contact case of Luiz Henrique da Silva, we recorded how, from a flying saucer at a height of 100 metres, "there emerged a human being, and he descended to the ground in a spiral..." (Translation in FSR for May/June 1967, p.7.)

In the CICOANI account of the Sagrada Família case, Belo Horizonte, which we gave in SBEDV Bulletins Nos. 48/50 (January/June 1966) and 51/53 (July/December 1966) an entity came down and went up again between two beams of light projected from the saucer down on to the ground. (English Translation: G. Creighton, *The One-Eyed Entities of Belo Horizonte*, in FSR Special Issue No. 3, UFO PERCIPIENTS, September 1969.) Likewise Dirceu Góes of Sarandi, in the South Brazilian State of Rio Grande do Sul, describes how two beings descended rapidly to the ground in a spiral movement and in association with a beam of light projected downwards from the saucer. (See SBEDV Bulletin No. 74/79 of May 1970/February 1971, page 37.)

#### PAULO CAETANO AND THE ENTITIES

##### 1. Interview with a Doctor

Prompted by the headlines in the Rio de Janeiro papers of September 28 and 29, 1971, we set out for Itaperuna, which lies in the north of the State of Rio de Janeiro, at a distance of some 360 kms. Arriving there on October 2, we were unable to see Paulo Caetano Silveira immediately, for he had been invited to Rio de Janeiro by TV Tupi of that city. But our time was not wasted, as we were able to interview Dr. Munir Bassad, the doctor who, on the day in question, September 23, attended to Paulo Caetano at the SAMDU casualty clinic where he had been sent by the Police.

Dr. Bussad told us that he noticed a certain excitement in Paulo, a generalized tremor throughout the body, and a certain degree of difficulty in getting out of the car at the Clinic. His arms and clothing were covered with dust, as though he had been rolling on the ground. As he already knew Paulo, who had been his patient before, he asked him:

"What's all this unseasonable larking about? What's the matter with you?"

To which Paulo replied:

"I saw something ahead of me—I don't know what it was, I just don't know...I can't get control of myself. You, who are a doctor, you know me...there was no reason for seeing what I saw."

After he had calmed down a bit, the doctor urged him to tell what he had actually seen. Paulo continued, and told him that he had been on a business trip to Tombos, and emphasised that he had not been drinking, because he was under his own doctor's orders not to, and Dr. Bussad was able to confirm this.

##### 2. Interview with another Doctor

On October 17, 1971, we interviewed another doctor. This was Dr. Cirley Crespo. He was the first person to contact Paulo after the latter's experience, this being simply as an eyewitness, when Dr. Crespo was travelling by car on highway RJ-100 and passed through Serraria, ten kilometres from Itaperuna (see map at Fig. 2). Travelling with him were his father-in-law, in the back of the car, and his brother-in-law, sitting beside him on his right. They were bound for Itaperuna.

Dr. Crespo told us that it was about 8.00 p.m. when, on the date and at the place mentioned, he saw a man who asked him to pull up. He did so, as the man's clothing indicated an accident, and this hypothesis was strengthened by the fact that there was a *Vemaguete* car parked, and turned half-around, on the shoulder on the right hand side of the road. The man was Paulo, whom he had not recognized at first. Paulo headed first towards Dr. Crespo's brother-in-law, saying:

"Man, I was nearly a goner!"

The occupants of the car could all see that he seemed to be sweating heavily, despite the fact that the temperature at the time was relatively cold. They noticed too a generalized tremor throughout his body; terror was stamped on his face. Dr. Crespo also noticed some slight scratches on Paulo in the region of the left elbow.

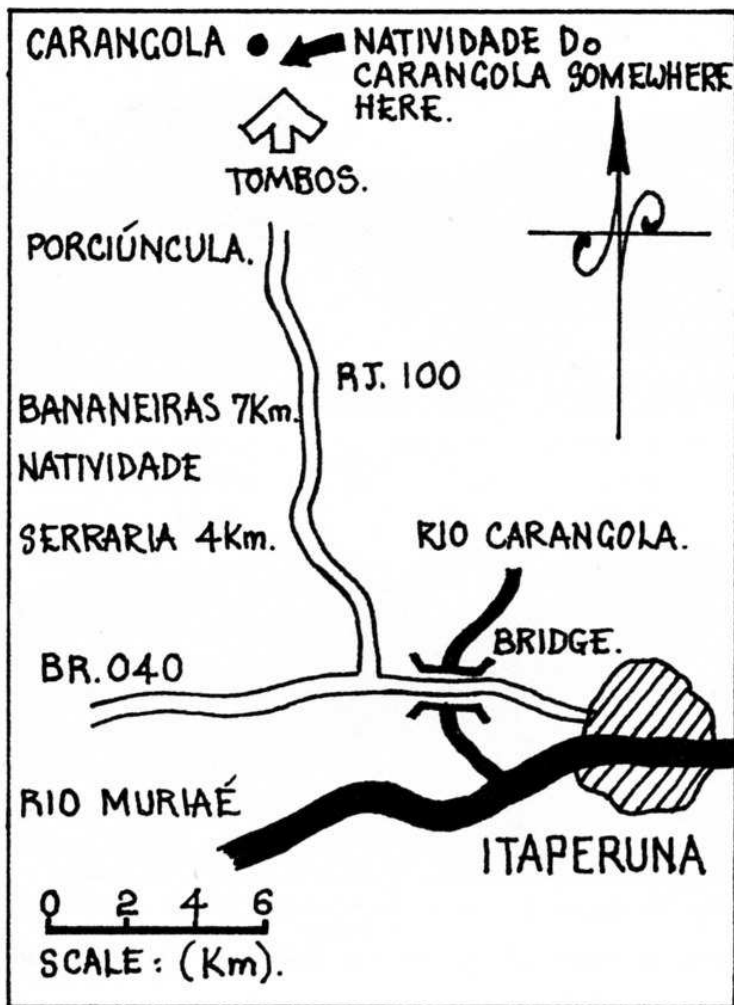


Figure 1: Map of the district

Speaking in irregular bursts, Paulo told them that he had been coming from Carangola when an object, of the approximate size of a *Volkswagen* and emitting a red light which later turned blue, blocked the road; that his car was thrown sideways off the road; and that he himself was then drawn out of the car, the door of which opened by itself.

Paulo then asked whether Dr. Crespo would give him a lift into Itaperuna and whether someone else would follow with his own car as it was impossible for himself to drive it. As however Dr. Crespo was in a great hurry and as he had his father-in-law with him, he could not agree to this suggestion, but offered to tell Paulo's family. But Paulo preferred that he should tell the Police, who would then make the necessary arrangements. After having informed the Police as promised and taken his father-in-law home, Dr. Crespo and his brother-in-law returned to the spot as they were convinced that something serious had happened there. But they found neither Paulo nor his car there.

### 3. Transcript of Paulo Caetano's Statement to the Police

"State of Rio de Janeiro.  
Secretariat of Public Security,  
11th R.A. Police Station."

#### "Service Report

From: Investigator Gilberto Alves da Silva  
To: Assistant Commissioner Airtton Mouta  
Teixeira."

"Mr. Commissioner:

I beg to inform you, for whatever purposes may be deemed necessary, that at 2100 hours yesterday, September 22, 1971, there appeared at this Police Delegation the citizen PAULO CAETANO SILVEIRA, Brazilian, native of this State, white, married, aged 27, son of Júlio Caetano Filho and Alzerinda Caetano Silveira, resident in this town at No. 213, rua Bonifácio Alonso, who made the following statement:

"That, between 1930 and 2000 hours, he was coming from Tombos do Carangola (State of Minas Gerais) and travelling in his *Vemaguete* car, registration number HA-0364 (RJ) along the highway linking us with the municipality of Natividade. At the spot called 'Serraria' his attention was aroused by a strange object ('flying saucer') in the middle of the road, which caused the paralyzation [SIC] of his car. Although he cannot explain how this was, the door of the car opened and he was drawn out, as though a magnetic force were acting upon him, and he was dragged into the interior of the object. He is unable to say anything more, and knows only that he was left beside his vehicle with some small abrasions and bruises on his left arm. Previously to that, moreover, on the Tombos road, the same object, with a beam of light (red and also bluish) had tried to interrupt his passage, and he had already informed the Chief of Police in that town (Tombos, State of Minas Gerais) of this fact. While still beside the highway, and in a visibly nervous state, Sr. Paulo asked a passing doctor from this town to inform this Police Delegation immediately upon his arrival here. This the doctor did, and the undersigned Investigator at once proceeded to the spot, but fortunately encountered nothing there."

"Signed: Gilberto Alves da Silva. Investigator.  
Itaperuna, September 25, 1971."

#### Notes by SBEDV

The reader will certainly be surprised that, in the statement of Sr. Paulo Caetano, the presence of crew members of the flying saucer was never mentioned once. Very logically this later caused the Police Investigator to doubt Paulo's statements, for in subsequent declarations he did mention the presence of occupants.

Although the Investigator's reasoning is justifiable, our own considered opinion on this point is that the person who is involved in an episode of this nature remains blocked mentally by a kind of auto-censorship, as has been pointed out very effectively by Professor Húlvio Brant Aleixo, himself a psychologist (see SBEDV Bulletin No. 81/84, p. 214).

Sr. Paulo, it seems, only told the full details of his experience when he found himself among people more open to acceptance of the subject. On the other



hand, the opinions of the Police Investigator did themselves have an influence on the current of local opinion. We think it important to record these comments, because they demonstrate the fragility of the basis upon which public opinion – which however is formed very rapidly sometimes – is built up.

#### 4. The Police find an Eyewitness

Our readers must understand that it was on the Itaperuna Police Headquarters itself – a nerve-centre linked with all that goes on in the community – that the rich phenomenology of the UFO problem has had its primary impact. And the man who is involved in it all there is Police Commissioner Airton Mouta Teixeira, a trained and experienced investigator, always ready to listen, and one who has been of great help to us in the UFO problem.

Now, it came to the knowledge of Commissioner Teixeira that a certain Getúlio –, manager of an estate near Serraria (where Paulo had his experience) recalled a certain interesting remark that had been made to him by a boy who worked under him. This boy was Sinfronino da Conceição Henrique, aged 17. So his father, Sr. Ernestino da Conceição Henrique, was requested to present himself at Police Headquarters. This he did, on October 15, 1971, the transcript of his statement being as follows:

“That, at 1900 hours on a day the precise date of which he does not now recall, but approximately three weeks ago, he (i.e. the son, Sinfronino) was in the house of a neighbour; that the said house is at a distance of some 100 metres or so from the highway linking Itaperuna to Natividade, and is located at the place known as Serraria. And that, having come out of the said neighbour’s house and, looking towards the road, the boy saw a vehicle parked on the edge of the said road, with its front part turned round towards Itaperuna, and with its headlights on, and that he observed, in front of the headlights, two children who at times seemed to walk in a manner different from what is normal, and gave the impression that they were floating.

“This being all that there is to state up to the present date, October 15, 1971.”

“Signed by the Declarant: Ernestino da Conceição Henrique.”††

#### 5. SBEDV interviews the boy Sinfronino da Conceição Henrique

On October 17, 1971, we paid a visit to Sr. Ernestino da Conceição, a forty-five-year-old man with twelve children. He lives in a house built on his own land, at a distance of some 300-400 metres from highway RJ-100 where Paulo had his experience. The winding road to his house leads past the house of his neighbour José Noveca, which is only 150-200 metres or so from the highway.

Sr. Ernestino told us that on the night in question he was sitting out on a tree-stump. He had a good view of the road, though certain areas of it were masked by shrubs, so that he was unable to observe certain details. But he does remember that, on the



Top: Ernestino da Conceição Henrique. Father of the boy Sinfronino

Bottom: House of José Noveca. Seen from the main road

day in question, a car stopped there and then departed later. But his son Sinfronino had had a much better view from the house of the neighbour.

At the father’s suggestion we then went to see Sinfronino at his place of work, an estate where he is employed as a cowherd. He told us precisely the same thing, namely that, on the night in question, he had gone round to see his neighbour and friend Luiz Noveca (son of José Noveca). At our request, he repeated the precise words he had used to Sr. Getúlio, the manager of the estate. These were:

“Senhor Getúlio! I saw two little boys walking round a *Volkswagen* that stopped on the road last night!”

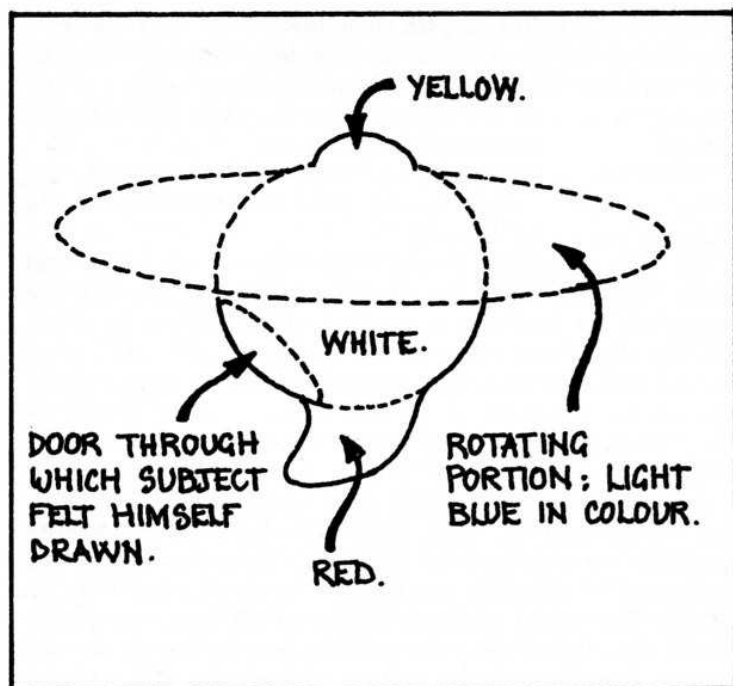
In reply to our further questions, Sinfronino gave the following clarifications:

to judge by their size, the “little boys” would have been about seven years old. They went around the car once. After two minutes or so he saw them no more. The car remained stationary there for 30 minutes (which is confirmed by Sinfronino’s father.

When we enquired further about his education, Sinfronino said he had been attending a course of anti-illiteracy classes for the past three years.

†† Translator’s note: The text of this declaration is given by SBEDV Bulletin as speaking of “two girl children” (duas meninas), but it is clearly a typographical error, for, as will be seen below, Sinfronino told Dr. Buhler when he interviewed him, that he had seen “two little boys” (dois menininhos), – G.C.





Sketch of UFO by Paulo Caetano Silveira

#### STATEMENTS OF PAULO CAETANO SILVEIRA

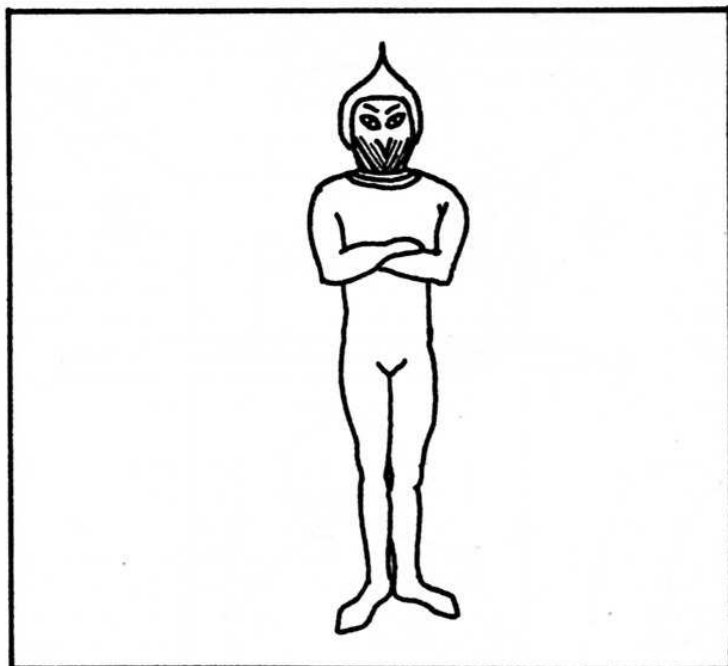
##### I: His first encounter with UFO Occupants

When we saw Paulo on October 16, 1971, he was still suffering from the impact of his appearance on a Television programme (Channel 6 - Guanabara). He told us that the TV cameramen who came to Itaperuna were far more concerned with finding people who would provide them with reports contrary to the facts.

He told us furthermore that he was not able to drink alcohol at the time of his experience, not only because his doctor had forbidden it on medical grounds, but also because he was much pre-occupied at the time with his wife, who was pregnant. (The child was in fact born on December 23, 1971.)

Recounting for us his experience with the UFO, he said that on September 22, 1971, he had driven in his car to Carangola in connexion with his work as a typewriter mechanic. At 7.45 p.m., when returning home, at a point 3 km. from the town of Tombos (See Map - Fig 1) he saw in his driving mirror that he was being followed by a luminous body. The distance between the object and him grew less and less, until the object was flying around the car, at a distance of about 3 metres from it. This object was red, of elliptical shape, and about 2.5 metres wide and about 3 metres high, and moving at a height of about 50 cms. from the ground. Subsequently it took on a white colouring, with a bluish sheen. Then he noticed that the car was losing speed, and finally it stopped, though the engine seemed to be working perfectly, for it speeded up when he put his foot on the accelerator. When the car came to a total halt, he tried the various gears, including the reverse, but the car would not move.

The object, completely silent, seemed to him to circle around the car for about three or four minutes, and then quietly rose into the air. Then he noticed that his car must have been in gear and the



Rough sketch of small being from the Itaperuna UFO (sketch from newspaper *O Dia* of Rio de Janeiro 3/10/1972)

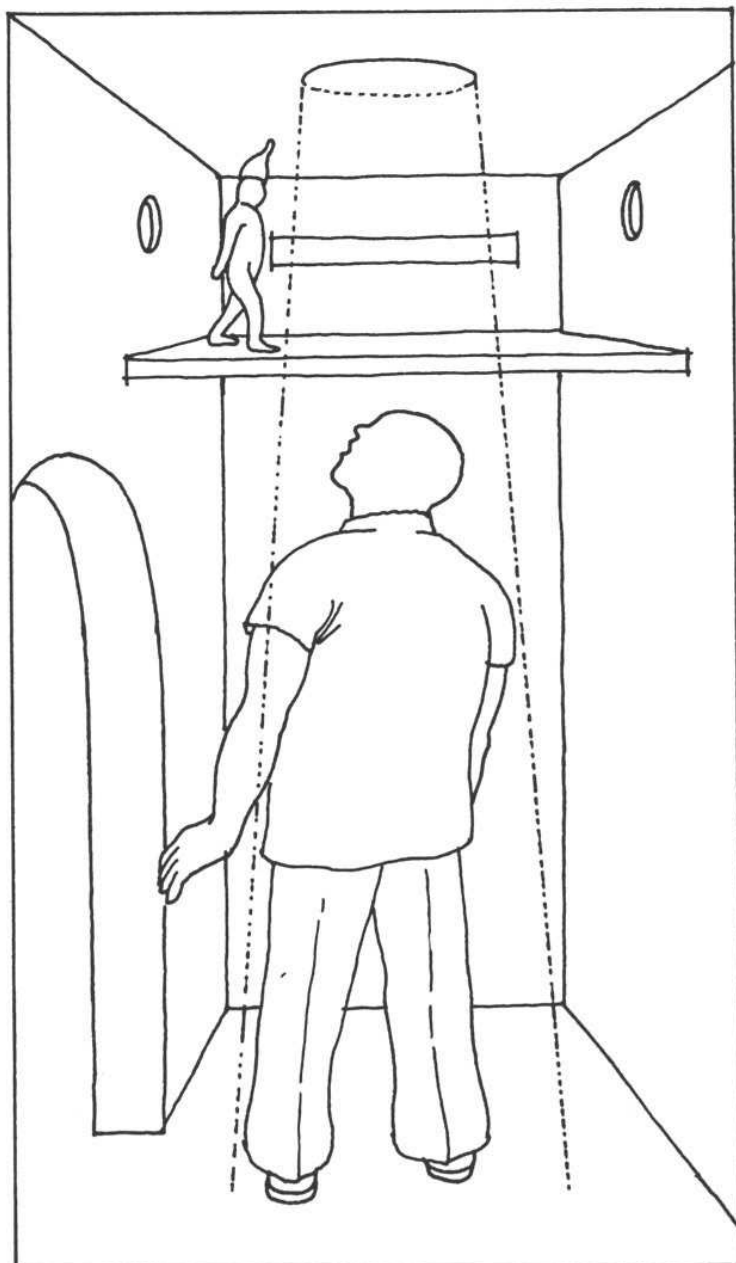
engine running, for suddenly it shot forward, and then the engine died. This is what often happens with people who are learning to drive and do not yet know how to accelerate gradually and how to work the gears.

By now Paulo was terrified, and sweating heavily. He switched the engine on again, and it worked perfectly. He drove on to Tombos, arriving there five minutes later. There he reported the affair to the Chief of Police, who took it seriously, as he believed in the existence of flying saucers. The Chief took him to his own home and gave him sugared water to drink, and advised him to inform his family that he was going to stay that night in Tombos. But Paulo preferred to pursue his journey, as another twenty minutes driving would see him home.

But when he had travelled about only one or two kilometres beyond Tombos, and a little before reaching Porciúncula, he again observed in his driving mirror that there was an object following about ten metres behind him. Before he reached the town of Natividade he got a good view of the object. He stopped at the Celsinho filling-station, and told the proprietor there what was happening to him, and the man replied:

"That's nothing. Just say a *Pater Noster* and drive on. They're folk from Mars..."

When there were still 13 km. to Itaperuna, at the locality known as Bananeiras, he saw the object once more, but this time at a height of some 500 metres or so. Three kilometres further on, at Serraria, which lies at Km.4 on highway RJ-100 and 10 km. from Itaperuna, he saw, in the beam of his headlights, in the middle of the road, a dark shape which he took to be some animal. When he was still about ten metres from the object the "train all lit up, all red," and at the same moment his car skidded towards the shoulder of the road, as though by magic, and stopped.



**Fig. 3: SBEDV Sketch of Paulo Caetano's experience inside the UFO (first contact, September 22nd., 1971).**

The colour of the object now changed from red to white. Paulo made desperate efforts to get away, but the car would not move. From inside the object came a high-pitched whistling noise, and from a door in it came a beam of light which struck him. Three small forms which looked like 5- or 6-year old boys, 90 to 110 cms. high, illuminated by the light from the door, emerged. The three forms approached slowly because their movement was slow and dragging, and their legs did not bend sufficiently for them to be able to walk properly, thus giving the impression of floating in the air.

Despite Paulo's desire to get away he had not the strength to do so. When the shapes were at a distance of about 10 cms. from the left side of the car the car-door opened without anyone having touched it and, despite the fact that Paulo had not the slightest

desire to leave the car, he somehow went out, he does not know how, as soon as the door opened, and he was walking towards the door of the object, accompanied by two of the shapes, one on each side of him. He did not see the third shape again.

Arriving in front of the door of the object, the three of them were taken into the interior of the craft by a sort of "shovel."

It was a well-lit room. Once more he heard the same whistle, and saw the door closing. For a few moments he had the sensation of ascending in a lift, but he does not know if the object itself rose, or, if so, to what height. He observed that he was encompassed by a beam of yellow light coming from the flat, hexagonal ceiling about 2½ metres above his head (see Fig. 3). He noted too a "plank" about 1 metre wide and about 30 cms. above his head, which ran from wall to wall, and on which another crew member was gliding to and fro. This personage was occupied in passing constantly from one wall to the other. The most curious thing of all however, concerned two lights near the ceiling, one of them on each of the opposing walls. When the entity was walking towards one of the walls this light was yellowish-white, and it slowly turned blue as the entity walked away from that wall. He noticed too what looked like three windows, about 50 cms. wide and 10 cms. high, distributed around the six walls of the cabin. On some of the wall-panels there were lights of various colours which kept coming on and going out. The yellow light from the centre of the ceiling fluctuated at intervals of two or three seconds, which prevented him from seeing well ahead of him or to the sides. All the time however he had the feeling of people moving about around him and heard noises, as though of control-buttons being operated. Although unable to see properly, he estimates that there may have been perhaps about six people in the cabin.

Paulo considers that his mental state for evaluating the situation was perfect, but nevertheless he had not the strength to speak, and was preoccupied



**Paulo Caetano pointing with his left hand to where the UFO stood on the road ahead of his car, and with his right hand pointing to where his car ran off the road and spun half round.**

the whole time with the problem of how he was going to be able to get out of these surroundings. He thinks he was being examined, without however being touched by any of them.

Suddenly he had the sensation of being inside a rapidly descending lift, and then once more he heard the whistle, and the door opened. Again he was escorted by two of the crew, as the "shovel" set them down on the ground in front of the craft, where his body felt heavy. He felt himself going down now, collapsing in utter weakness on the asphalt road. He felt them dragging him some 3-5 metres till he was beside the road, on the shoulder, where he swooned away.

When he came to his senses again he saw the object rising obliquely and slowly, to a height of some 100 metres or so. Then, travelling very rapidly, it vanished from his sight. He remained lying there on the ground for some ten minutes or so, at a distance of about 3 metres from his car. He got up to try to stop a passing car, with the idea of asking them for help. It was Dr. Crespo, who failed to recognize Paulo. He asked Dr. Crespo to inform the Police. Then, very soon after that, another car came by, the occupants of which suggested Paulo drive into town slowly behind them, which he did.

Arriving in Itaperuna, Paulo went to Police Headquarters, who later despatched him to the SAMDU first-aid unit, where he was seen by his own doctor, Dr. Bussad.

In answer to our questions, Paulo said he was unable to explain the slow movements of the entities, except by attributing them to the Earth's greater atmospheric pressure or to a lack of adaptability on the part of the entities. He did not see their eyes or noses, as their faces were covered with a grey material of the same colour as their helmets, which latter were funnel-shaped (see Fig. 3).

Their chins were sharp-pointed; and they opened and closed their mouths without making any sounds. Their clothing was light blue (note: the shade was checked by Paulo as "Letrafilm 107 M" against the table of colours which we showed him for the purpose of identification). Of the same colour too were their shoes, coarse and rectangular, and pointed in front. Their shoulders seemed high, as though covering their necks.

Paulo states that his own height is 1.70 metres and that he weighs 86 kilogrammes. Prior to this experience he used to sleep soundly and undisturbed. But he has since become rather nervy. This may perhaps have been a natural fatigue, due to all the publicity of which he found himself the target. He said also that he has suffered momentary black-outs of vision of about two to three seconds at a time, and that he still felt (22 days after the episode, which was the date when we saw him) a hot and burning sensation in his eyes.

The watch he had been wearing on the day of the experience, and which had never been slow, was running fifteen minutes slow next day. □

- a) A case that in some respects is somewhat similar (Imjärvi)

This is quoted by FSR (September/October 1970, p. 14) in its account of two eyewitnesses who saw a flying saucer at low altitude in Finland, at 4.45 p.m. on January 7, 1970. One of them described as follows the entity which he saw:

"The creature was about 90 cms. tall, with very thin arms and legs...and wore some kind of overall in a light green material...with boots of a darker green that reached to above the knees; with a pale face, a hooked nose, small ears narrowed towards the head; and fingers that looked like claws; it was holding a little black box which emitted a pulsating yellow light from a round opening."

This eyewitness was also unable to see the eyes.

- b) Theory regarding loss of control of the car owing to its being suspended in the air.

In connexion with the fact that Paulo got no response from his car when he tried to start the engine up on the Tombos road, and it remained stalled, we recall the case (given in the APRO Bulletin and in FSR CASE HISTORIES No. 11) about the Indians, Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Raw Eater, of the Indian Reservation at Gleichen, Alberta, Canada, who saw a beam of light directed at their car and then perceived that the car was no longer on the ground. At the same time they could see, through their windows, that the car was travelling along suspended at a height of about two feet (approximately 60 cms.) above the ground and at a speed of from 40 to 45 m.p.h. (65-70 km. p.h. approximately). When the beam of light was extinguished, after they had travelled a quarter of a mile (about 400 metres) they felt the car settle down again upon the ground.

## II: Paulo Caetano's second contact with UFO entities

On the night of October 10/11, 1971, about 18 days after his first experience, Paulo suddenly woke up at 3.00 o'clock in the morning as though aroused, as he put it, by a 'mental shock.' From his bed he saw a light shining through the kitchen window. Without awakening his wife he rose and went to the kitchen and, through the metal grating of the window, saw the same craft that he had already encountered; it was right there in his garden, about three metres from his house and half-a-metre from the ground. Observing closely, Paulo saw, beside the craft, some little men who pointed a small box in his direction. He and they remained there like this, eyeing each other, for about ten minutes, at which point he began to feel his head aching. After the craft and its occupants had gone he went back to bed but was unable to get any more sleep that night.

## III: Paulo Caetano's third contact with UFO entities

On November 17, 1971, Paulo was asked by his friend Elvio B— to make a business trip with him to the town of Natividade de Carangola.

It was around 9.30 when, on the way back, they

□ [For the preliminary account of this first encounter, see my *Uproar in Brazil*, in FSR for November-December 1971. — G.C.]





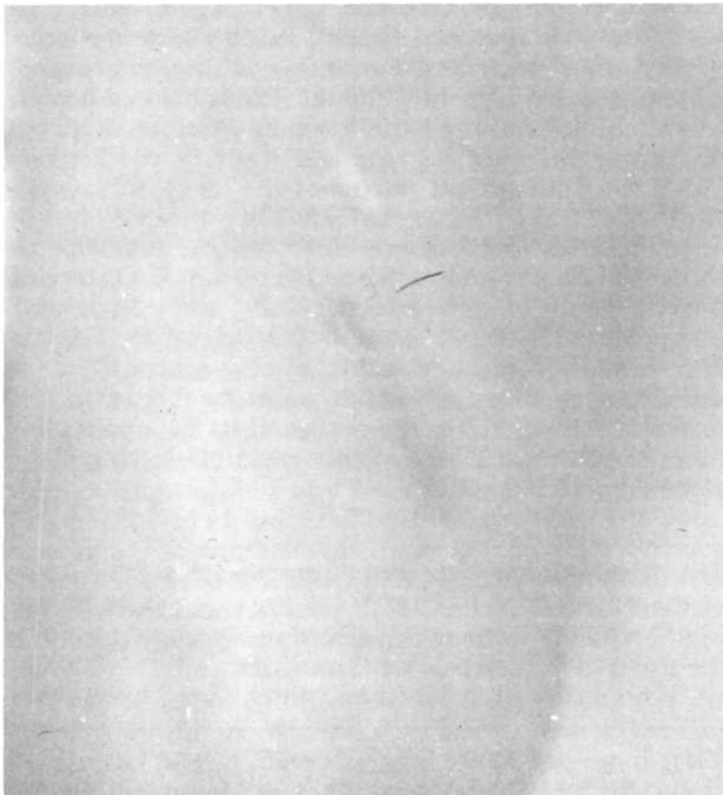
**Paulo Caetano's third contact. Paulo pointing to the spot where the UFO stood. His car is in a precise position where it was when thrown off the road.**

were passing through Bananeiras, which is 12 km. from Itaperuna.

And here, at Bananeiras, there occurred an episode regarding which we will give the versions of both participants, reserving for ourselves the right to make certain comments later.

#### **i. Paulo's Version**

Near Bananeiras (see map – Fig. 1) Paulo felt that the car was not pulling as well as usual. He pointed this out to E.B—, who replied that he personally was drowsy and wanted to sleep. As on the previous occasion, the car was once again pushed aside on to the shoulder of the road, where it stopped. The same flying saucer was there, at a distance of about four metres from them, and at ½ metre above the ground.



A red beam of light was projected at the car and caused the door to open, and put out their spotlight. Once again, too, a member of the crew approached Paulo. This time the entity was in pink-coloured clothing ("162 M" according to the Letrafilm system). He conducted Paulo into the interior of the craft again via the "shovel" process. There they gestured to Paulo that he should lie down on a small table about ½ metre long with a pillow on it. His legs remained hanging down over the end. From the ceiling they lowered an apparatus resembling an X-ray machine, with which they fastened both his arms. Then he felt what seemed like a cut near his elbow, and he saw that they were collecting some of his blood which was running down. (We saw and photographed the wound three days afterwards. — W.K.B.)

After that, Paulo felt as though the cut was being washed, and he felt something blowing, and a sensation of heat. All this lasted, he thought, about two minutes or so.

Then they showed him two panels: one of them had on it a plan or sketch resembling the plan of the town of Itaperuna which he had seen at the Police Station. The second panel seemed to him to show an atomic explosion.+

+ [Translator's note: See Charles Bowen's *One Day In Mendoza* (FSR November/December 1968) for the case of the two Argentinian casino-employees Peccinetti and Villegas, who at 3.30 a.m. on September 1, 1968, allegedly met similar small beings from a similar craft. These beings, as they reported, took blood-samples from their fingers, scribed crude hieroglyphs on their car, and showed them, on an object resembling a television screen, a series of scenes one of which seemed to be an atomic explosion. — G.C.]



**Two views of Paulo's arm 3 days after the incident.**

The door of the craft had remained open throughout the whole episode, which did not seem to Paulo to have lasted more than about five minutes or so. His body now felt heavy. He remembers being helped by his friend E.B—, but he has no knowledge of how he made his way to Itaperuna.

## ii. Elvio B—'s Version

Near Bananeiras, Paulo began to show signs of nervousness, and told E.B— that there was a flying saucer accompanying them, when in actual fact what was following them was a *bus* which was keeping at a reasonable distance behind their car.

Shortly after that, Paulo began to feel the car slowing down, and it stopped. It was at this point that Elvio B— had come to his assistance after he (Paulo) had fallen to the ground, remaining there semi-conscious, behind the car, the door of which was standing open.

E.B— had quite a job to get Paulo on to his feet, which he managed in the end by propping him up against a mudguard and using the car as a support.

Immediately after that, they set off by bus for Itaperuna, where Paulo was examined by doctors of the SAMDU first-aid post.

A report on the affair was sent to the Itaperuna Police Headquarters, who despatched someone to get Paulo's car which had remained out on the highway.

## Comments

We asked Sr. Elvio B— what had happened to cause Paulo to be lying in a swoon behind the car. He was unable to give any answer to our question. Likewise he was quite unable to explain how the door of the car had opened, and indeed he said that he had not noticed when it was that Paulo had got out of the car.

Knowing as we did that Elvio has the same kind of car as Paulo's, we wanted to know why it was that *he* had not taken the wheel and conveyed Paulo into Itaperuna, and why it was then he had preferred to make the journey by bus? Up to the present we have still received no convincing answer on this point.

Later we learned that, when the Police sent out to get Paulo's car, they tried, and in vain, to find anywhere inside the vehicle, and particularly on the corners of the door, any traces of blood which would offer a more easy explanation for the wound on Paulo's arm.

## Interview with the Doctor

It was Dr. Umberton Campos de Souza who attended to Paulo at the SAMDU, and he himself saw the cut and saw the hyperchromatic marks near the elbow, which marks, so the male nurse told us, had a burnt smell about them. The doctor did not however associate the cut and the discoloured marks and the "burnt smell" with the idea of a contact with a UFO. But he was surprised that, although Paulo knew him quite well, he should ask him, while he was being examined by him, who he (Dr. Umberton Campos de Souza) was.

## IV: Paulo Caetano's fourth contact with UFO entities

Paulo now says he had a fourth contact with members of the saucer's crew on December 5, 1971. We are however surprised that he should have concealed this fact in the course of the previous interviews that we had had with him. He says that, after 7.00 p.m. on that day, he had gone out and was about to stop for a stroll along a road which starts at a fence near the bridge over the river Carangola. Then he observed a light, which drew nearer and nearer until it was about 20 metres from him. By then he could see that it was a saucer. As he got out of the car, he heard a noise and saw the door of the saucer opening. He saw two of the crew, one in the doorway and one inside the cabin. Both of them were making signs to him.

As on the previous occasions, he was taken up by the "shovel", but this time on his own (i.e. not accompanied) and was invited by them to sit down on a little seat. The crew remained standing. He heard them jabbering to each other in a way that sounded "like Spanish spoken by the actor Cantinflas," but he was unable to perceive any movements of their mouths, and the talking sounded like a loud-speaker of poor quality. They told him that they were here on a mission of peace, to prepare people to enter into contact with them.

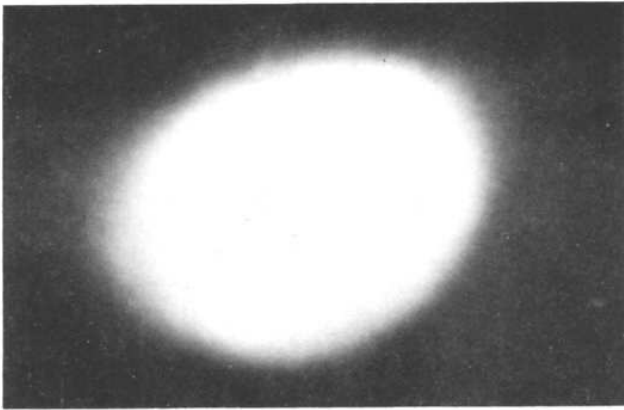
On the floor of the cabin he noticed a sort of bottle-like container resembling an oxygen-cylinder and in the ceiling he observed a sort of ventilator emitting lights of various colours.

## V: Paulo suspended by a beam of light from a saucer

On December 19, 1971, Paulo left home, in his car, at 8.30 p.m., and was driving towards the property of a Sr. Erbert V.P. Dias when, at a spot some 2 km. before the property, he saw a luminous disc-shaped object over some hills. He got out of the car and approached to a point some 100 metres from the saucer. Then the saucer began to move towards him and came right above his head. For one or two minutes he was enveloped in a beam of light, and then the saucer veered sideways suddenly. Then he felt himself as it were suspended by the beam, at about 20 cms. above the ground...[*four words not understood, — G.C.*], when he felt a shock. Then the saucer shot up vertically into the sky and vanished over the horizon. When he returned to Itaperuna he discovered that there was a general commotion there owing to the news of the appearance of strange objects over the town. (An account of these sightings over Itaperuna on December 19, 20, and 21, 1971, appears below.)

## VI: Paulo takes photographs of saucer on three occasions

1. On November 15, 1971, between Serraria and Bananeiras. At 8.00 p.m., and at a distance of some 500 metres, he saw a luminous object and took four photographs of it, two of them coming out well. [Technical details: Retina camera of pull-out type; exposure time 20 secs; f-50 mm; diaphragm 1:2; film: Kodak 3X.



Far Left: Paulo's first photo

Left: Paulo's second photo

2. On November 16, 1971, at the same place, after a five-minute wait, he managed to get two pictures of the saucer, one of them coming out well.

3. On February 26, 1972, Paulo left home at 7.29 p.m. and was driving in his car towards a dirt-road which is a continuation of the Avenida de Itaperuna, 3 km. beyond the Leite Glória Ltda's. plant, when he observed, at a distance of 200 or 250 metres, something luminous with an apparent diameter of 1 metre. He took twelve photographs over a period of ten minutes.\*\*

Since we at SBEDV were given neither negatives nor prints, we have nothing on which to base any further comments by us.

At 8.30 p.m. on November 5, 1971, again at Bananeiras, Paulo saw a saucer and pointed it out to Sr. Erbert V.P. Dias, who was accompanying him at the time.

#### VII: Other witnesses see saucer occupants

On March 4, 1972, we interviewed Sr. Manuel da Silva e Souza, aged 55, a married man with a family of 13 children. He is the manager of an airfield at Itaperuna. The airfield has an annexe with a saloon and bar, as well as another building which is the manager's own residence. The location of the airfield is magnificent, giving a panoramic view over the whole town of Itaperuna.

On the night of December 20, 1971, Sr. Manuel was cleaning and oiling his shotgun when he noticed, towards the North-East, a powerful light apparently approaching. He took it to be an aircraft about to land, so he shut the front door and went out through the back door and walked a distance of about 15 metres. Then he observed, already on the ground, at a distance of some 100 or so metres towards the South East, a transparent, rounded or oval machine, totally illuminated by a powerful bluish light.

He dashed across the road, and got about 40 metres nearer, until he reached a fence. At that point he was some 50 metres or so from the object, which was about 2.5 metres high and less than that in width. It had moreover a slightly accentuated "beak" at the front. He observed a man of about 90 cms. height standing beside the craft, and saw him walk around it once. Then the entity stopped again in front of it, as though he had seen Sr. Manuel. The entity remained immobile there for some three or four minutes, as also did Sr. Manuel. Each seemed to be eyeing the other.

In answer to our questions, Sr. Manuel explained that the entity apparently had no covering on his head or on his back. His clothing seemed of a greenish hue.

The entity turned its back towards him and then rose up in the air until he was above the craft. Then he halted in mid-air and entered the porthole of the craft, feet-first.

The craft being transparent, Sr. Manuel could see two other similar or identical "people", both seated, who seemed to be looking in his direction. He did not see what the first entity did after entering the saucer, but he did observe that these other two seated ones put their hands on to something beside them, whereupon the craft at once rose into the air and continued its flight, vanishing immediately behind some hills that blocked the view.

According to Sr. Manuel's estimation, the episode could not have lasted much more than three or four minutes.

#### VIII: Cases of saucer occupants "rising in the air"

1. Cussac, France. According to GEPA's journal *Phenomenes Spatiaux* (June 1968), at Cussac, at 10.30 a.m. on August 28, 1967, two children watching cattle saw four small beings. Thinking these beings



Manuel da Silva e Souza, who saw an entity at 50 metres distance

\*\* Four of the photos were reproduced in the Rio de Janeiro newspaper *Última Hora* of March 4, 1972, and are also reproduced in the present issue of Dr. Buhler's SBEDV Bulletin. The paper describes them as photographs of the "paralyzing light" seen at Itaperuna. — Translator's note.]



were other children, they tried to approach the creatures, but the latter rose into the air and entered the upper part of a flying saucer, head-first. The last of the creatures to enter the craft rose to a height of about 15 metres, after the saucer itself had already begun to take off. [For full English account, see FSR, September/October 1968, *Encounter With "Devils"*, by Joël Mesnard and Claude Pavy: translated by John C. Hugill from *Phénomènes Spatiaux*. - ED.]

2. **Pirassununga, Brazil.** (See SBEDV Bulletin, No. 66/68, p.81.) Tiago Machado observed how the UFO occupant, standing with his back to the saucer and about one metre from it, performed a leap which took him up to a height of 1½–2 metres, where he floated, and then descended, still floating, feet-first into a porthole, without touching anything. [This case has been dealt with at length by Nigel Rimes in his *The Pirassununga Landing*, in FSR Special Issue No 3, UFO PERCIPIENTS. September 1969, - ED.]

3. **Kinnula, Finland.** This case was given in FSR for September/October 1971, p.18, and occurred at 3.00 p.m. on February 5, 1971, when a being some 90 cms. in height approached the witness "with very stiff, short steps." Its body was covered in a one-piece garment (see FSR's sketch), and did not sink down into the deep snow as one would have expected. The eyewitness tried to seize the little man, but he escaped and floated away towards the saucer. His pursuer, Petter Aliranta, who was some 3 metres or so from the saucer, managed to grab the heel of the creature's right boot, but let go of it as it burned like a hot iron. His hand was burned, and on the fingers the marks were still visible two months after the occurrence.

#### IX: Another entity-contact case at Itaperuna, but earlier

The account of Dona Gení Maria Santana. Sra. Gení Maria Santana, aged 23, is a nurse in the Santa Terezinha Sanatorium at Itaperuna, and resides at present with her husband in the Cidade Nova suburb of that town, next to rua Arlete Lixoto No. 90. Two years ago, in 1969, they were living beside highway RJ-100, between Serraria and Bananeiras, as the husband was employed on the Fazenda da Prata Estate. Taking courage from all the publicity about recent events concerning the saucers over Itaperuna, Gení was now prepared to tell us about what had happened to her on that very hot day. Returning home, after she had taken her husband his lunch on the plantation, she heard a knock on the door of their little house, which stands on posts about 70 cms. above the ground. So she opened a window and looked down, and saw a little man about 1 metre or 1.15m in height, with "Japanese eyes," a big ugly mouth, a pointed nose, and skin covered in a dark powder (?) [Translator's note: meaning not clear], which made him look like a beggar. She said to him sharply: "What do you want?"

He made some sort of involved reply which she did not understand, and she cut him short with: "No, I haven't got any food for you, No!"

The creature lowered its eyes and said no more.



Little hut of Geni Maria Santana where an entity appeared outside her door.

Gení closed the window and only opened it again ten or fifteen minutes later, when there was no longer anybody there.

In reply to our questioning, she said that the head of the entity was covered with a striped bluish "shiny" cloth. His clothing, resembling a dark overall, was capacious and covered his hands, which seemed to be holding something. She did not notice his shoes. She noted nothing abnormal in the behaviour of her livestock, consisting of fowls, goats, and pigs.

#### X: Another occupant report (not from Itaperuna)

Our member Mário Gomes Nunes of Fortaleza (North Eastern State of Ceará) has sent us a clipping from his local paper *O Povo* of November 8, 1971, which contains the following:

"The farmer Raimundo Nonato was on his property, the Fazenda Jirimum, in the municipality of Ipú, when he saw a strange disc-shaped object coming from the South at enormous speed, making no noise, and emitting a tremendous brightness exceeded only by the brightness of the sun. After flying around a few times, it landed. Approaching the spot, he was able to observe that it contained three small figures, but it was too far away for him to be able to make out their features or characteristics. After a few seconds, the object took off again, still quite noiseless, and still emitting a vivid light, and at once vanished in the sky."

#### XI: The saucers at Itaperuna on December 19, 20, and 21, 1971

Reports have come in from the following sources:

1. **Hotel Meirelles.** The proprietor and his wife state that at 8.45 p.m. on December 21, at a distance of between 500 and 1,000 metres, they observed a saucer flying slowly above the hills (heights around 50 - 100 metres) along the river Muriaé on the

opposite bank to their hotel. [Their sketches reproduced by SBEDV show an object like a vertical egg. - G.C.]

2. **Rua Tiradentes.** At 7.30 p.m. on December 19, opposite house no. 45 on this street, three youths observed, from the other side of the river Muriaé, and at a distance estimated to be about 1 kilometre, a star-like light repeatedly flaring up and then fading. 1¾ hours later, at a point some 70 metres from there, the same three youths saw, near a tree at the corner of the street and at a height of about 7 metres from the ground, a black object a little bigger than a *Volkswagen* car, which showed up very clearly, being set off by a white cloud around it. The object remained in view for three minutes. Then it crossed over the street and climbed away into the sky over the centre of Itaperuna.

3. **Rua Buarque de Nazareth.** At 8.00 p.m. on December 20, 1971, at a distance of about 1½ - 2 km., some 60 people watched a round, luminous, white object at an angle of about 45° above the opposite bank of the river Muriaé. It had golden stripes and was descending at intervals, by about 5 metres at a time, until it was lost to sight behind the houses.

4. **No. 26, rua Assis Ribeiro.** Sr. Aquiles Ernesto Andrade, teacher of Geometry in the Itaperuna school, along with members of his family and more than 80 other people of the neighbourhood, saw (all at the same time - 8.30 p.m.) on one of the days in the period December 19-21, at a distance of about 150 metres or so, a roundish object, about 2 metres in diameter, at a height of about 100 metres over the main square and at an angle of some 30° to the horizon. The stars were visible in the sky behind it. The object climbed away slowly for 15 minutes and finally disappeared at an angle of some 60° to the horizon.

5. **Kilometre 2 on Highway RJ-100.** On December 19, a husband and wife were returning home to Itaperuna. Near Serraria they suddenly observed a "ring of smoke." After that, they saw a ring-shaped luminous object travelling at high speed and changing shape. The thickness of the ring kept varying, but the external diameter remained the same. This was seen not only by these two witnesses but also by a truck-driver who pulled up and remained on the road for around five to seven minutes to watch what was going on. The object, distant about 200 metres from them, as they estimated, was dark, and yet transparent to the light of the stars. Its apparent diameter seemed to be about 3 metres.

6. **At 9.10 p.m. on December 19.** Dr. Walter Anderson, medical man and radiologist, observed a round, phosphorescent saucer, of the apparent diameter of about 1 metre, flying over the houses at a height of some 600-800 metres. It passed over the town in a zigzag, at a speed of about 60 km. per hour, and came from the direction of Serraria. It too was transparent to the light of the stars. The night was fine and cloudless with many stars visible.

## XII: Transparent UFOs

Just as at Itaperuna, so in foreign countries too, transparent UFOs have been sighted, as the following cases indicate:-

a. **Bristol, England.** FSR for July/August 1968 (p.3. *Sighting in a Bristol Park*) describes how, at 9.20 p.m. on April 27, 1968, at a distance of 75-100 yards, a vicar saw an object some 12-15 feet high and about 10-12 feet wide, and luminous and transparent. The upper end of the object was dome-shaped. (See sketches on p.4 and on cover of the issue of FSR in question.)

b. **Red Sea.** FSR for May/June 1964 (p.14) reports that people aboard the steamer *City of Liverpool* saw a strange object on a bearing of 260° at an altitude of about 7°. As it passed over the ship it assumed the form of a smoke-ring, of an apparent diameter about five or six times that of the full Moon. It gave the impression of rotating in an anticlockwise direction. By 8.15 p.m. it had disappeared. The sky was clear and visibility very good.

c. **Bordesley Green, England.** In FSR for September/October 1969 (p.28), in his article *Where There's Smoke...*, John D. Llewellyn described how, at 9.00 p.m. on June 18, 1969, Carl Robbins photographed an object in a suburb of Birmingham. It was a black ring with three "lumps" or protuberances on it. It was about 16 metres in diameter, and was moving from West to East not far above the ground. As it rotated the "lumps" emitted smoke. (See photographs in FSR issue in question.)

We draw particular attention to this last case, as the Bordesley Green sighting has much in common with some of the things seen at Itaperuna, and also with things recently reported by investigators in the State of Rio Grande do Sul (in the far South of Brazil). In Rio Grande do Sul, objects were seen in a gigantic 'operation' over some 60 towns, during a period of 90 minutes on the night of December 19, 1971. What is to be emphasised here however is *not transparency*, but the apparently *metallic aspect* of the craft, at any rate of those which were seen at close quarters from a T-6 aircraft from the Brazilian Air Force base at Canoas.

## Conclusions

### Defining Our Research

a. We consider Itaperuna an attractive field for the study of contacts with the entities, for, in addition to those cases that we have dealt with in this article, we also know of a whole lot of other cases which we are not yet able to reveal *as the parties involved have requested that their experiences shall not be divulged.*

The flights of saucers over Itaperuna and, more recently, over Campos, and over other neighbouring cities, all lend support to the reports of activities of saucers and occupants at Itaperuna itself.

Examples of some of the more recent newspaper headlines from the Rio de Janeiro paper *O Dia* are as follows:

July 28, 1972: "5,000 People Watch Eight Flying Saucers Over Campos."

July 29, 1972: "Squadron of Flying Saucers Again Seen Over Various Towns."

August 1, 1972: "Magé Blacked Out By Saucers."



August 9, 1972: "Truck in Near-Collision with Flying Saucer."

b. Unfortunately it is impossible for us to make very frequent visits to all these places, given the very great distances.

Our most recent visit to Itaperuna was in fact on March 4, 1972. Consequently certain other complementary investigations which we would like to have made have not yet been brought to completion. For this same reason we have not yet been able to proceed with the task of tapping the memories of the eyewitnesses, under hypnosis, and with establishing the role which, in all this, should be played by the specialists in reflexology for example.

#### Amnesia and the credibility of the witnesses

We concede that realistic individuals, free from mysticism, even young people or people of little education, may be valid witnesses, even when they find difficulties in communicating.

Such, for example, are the cases of the Itaperuna airfield manager, Sr. Manuel da Silva e Souza, and of Sr. Benedito Miranda — the latter afflicted with an amnesia which in our view did not appear to be due to emotional shock (seeing that the amnesia included a "free interval," which enabled him to go to the Police and give an account of his experience).

Nevertheless, from the quality of his statements at the Police Station we may well suspect, all the same, that Benedito Miranda's mental faculties were *not* functioning entirely satisfactorily at that time, in view of the following facts:

1. The name of the street and the house-number given by him to the Police as his address in Cataguases are totally incorrect.
2. He gave the height of the saucer entity as 30 cms., whereas all the other Itaperuna witnesses speak of a more likely sounding size, namely about 1 metre.
3. In his second attempt to go to Cataguases, when he passed over the Carangola river bridge, he apparently stopped the car, allegedly because he had noticed a defect in the steering, and then he fell into a deep sleep, only waking up again at 6.00 o'clock next day, inside the car.

Leaving aside a possible defect in the steering and leaving aside also Benedito's general state of tiredness at the time, at a late hour, after having experienced a traumatic and disturbing episode, we can establish the three following hypotheses regarding this sleep which overpowered him:

1. Reflecting on his traumatic experience, he may have been seeking, by means of a beneficial sleep, to forget the vivid emotional experiences of the previous day, in which case a defect in the steering of his car would have been a good pretext for stopping at the spot.
2. On arriving at the very scene of his encounter with the saucer occupants he may have stopped and then fallen asleep on their posthypnotic instructions, and may then have been induced to forget the episode of the previous evening, just as happened with Barney and Betty Hill. (See the Hill's case, and the

Australian case at Kempsey, cited above, in both of which such posthypnotic suggestion seems to have been administered.)

3. Dr. Fergus Craik referred recently (*New Scientist*, Vol.53, p.428) to the existence in us of *two memories*: one of short duration, in which the details remain under the permanent control of the memory, otherwise "forgetting" would occur: and the second one, of long duration, in which the details can be "remembered" at any time.

We are of the opinion that, in cases of contact with saucers, either because of interference by the force-field surrounding such craft, or because of intervention by other factors of a technical order, people's nervous systems suffer certain influences which render it difficult for the "fixation of memory in the nerve-cells" to take place. Or perhaps bodies are formed in their bloodstreams which prevent the proper functioning of the aforesaid nerve-cells. (The reader should recall Paulo's tremor, as noted by Dr. Crespo on the road, and as noted by Dr. Bussad when he saw him at the clinic.)

In view of the foregoing, and bearing in mind the probability that one particular individual may be more resistant to such influences while another is less resistant to them, we consider that there is good justification for the contradictions noted between the statements made by Elvio and Paulo as given in their accounts of the third contact at Itaperuna, and we would thus have an explanation as to why, after the experiences he had gone through in the contact, Paulo should have known nothing about the trip he had made by bus, and should have failed to know the doctor from his own town.

#### PROBLEMS WE HAVE FACED

We apologise for the lateness of publication of both this Special Issue and the regular issues of FSR and FSR Case Histories. A number of magazines are "on the stocks" and will be produced just as quickly as our printers can print them, and as we can cope with their distribution.

The hold-ups have been due in the main to the difficulties experienced in obtaining supplies of paper during the period of serious world shortage of that commodity. This, of course, was followed by the power crisis and the 3-day-working-week which, unhappily, so many other firms have failed to survive.

The paper supply position is now a happier — although increasingly expensive — one, and stocks are now held which will cover our various issues to the end of 1974.

EDITOR.



# THE YORBA LINDA PHOTOGRAPH

*Ann Druffel*

YORBA LINDA is a small, isolated town near the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountain range, about forty miles southeast of the major American city, Los Angeles, California. With its attractive homes, rolling hills, and pleasant high-desert climate, it is a model American community. The town is on the outskirts of rapidly growing Orange County. The sparsely settled land beyond is dotted with high-tension power lines, oilfields, water reservoirs, railroad lines, farm and grazing lands, and a secluded U.S. missile site. Farther to the east and northeast is mountain wilderness.

On January 24, 1967, at twilight in this quiet setting, a fourteen-year-old boy was preparing to do his homework for his next day's eighth grade classes. He went upstairs in the new home in which his parents, his eleven-year-old sister and he lived on the edge of town. Glancing out of the window on that dark, rainy afternoon, he saw "something" that was to change his life.

Since the family prefers anonymity to avoid ridicule, we shall call the boy Tom X. Five months from the date of sighting, he was to give this statement to a NICAP investigator.

"At 5.25 p.m. on that date I came into this second storey bedroom to get something for my homework. I looked out and saw a black object that looked like a man's top hat hovering over the houses across the street.

"I grabbed a camera and stood back from the window because I didn't know if the object would see me or not. I snapped a photo of it and then ran downstairs to get my family to witness it with me. I had called down the stairs to them previously while the object was in sight, but no one heard. When we got back up here, the object was gone.

"The object seemed sort of metallic but also had a dull surface. You couldn't really tell. It was just black. I didn't see any reflection of light off of the object. It was solid black, but like you'd see maybe some aluminium foil from an angle. It doesn't look shiny, but then at another angle it might. The object was rounded. I saw four legs on it. The legs were out all the time. Only three tripod legs came out on the picture.

"The sky was cloudy that night. The clouds covered the whole skyline, and it was a dark day. I saw (the object) in the northeast. It was gigantic. It looked to be about as long as one and one-half of the houses right in back of my house. After I ran out of the room to get the camera, the object was further out toward the east. It didn't seem to move while I was taking the picture. It just hovered and that's all. There was no noise. It hovered motionless--no wavering or seesawing. From the place where I took the picture, it was about 1½ to 2 inches on a ruler at arm's length in diameter.

"There might have been a dome at the top. I'm not sure about that, but I think I saw a dome at the top. I don't think the dome was black. It was another colour--I couldn't tell. It blended in with the black, but it wasn't black.

"I had drawn some pictures before we had the photo developed by an amateur friend. At first we didn't think that anything would turn out on the picture at all because it was so cloudy that day, and it was almost dark. But when we got the photograph back, the object had come out very clear.

"I couldn't really tell how long I viewed it. It seemed to be for two or three minutes. In re-enacting the incident for NICAP, the time came out about 30 seconds."<sup>1</sup>

The above quotation is the beginning of a 40-page report, the result of an investigation which was started in July, 1967, and which continued unabated for four years. The report and photograph have lain in limbo. The principal witness, however, who is now 20, feels that by publishing the facts of the sighting and photograph, some vital information might be added to the growing UFO mystery.

The NICAP investigator on the case learned of the Yorba Linda photo through a brief article in a Santa Ana, California, paper.<sup>2</sup> Contacting the family on July 11, 1967, she began a collection of evidence, sketches, corroborative sightings, and photo analyst opinions which have grown into a massive and awkward collection filling four fat files. In these few FSR pages, we hope to condense the salient facts, draw the interest of other researchers to the problem, and, perhaps, somewhere seek out a solution.

The black "hat-shaped" object was not the first unusual sighting near the X. home. The whole flying saucer business came into the family's lives just twenty days prior to the taking of the January 24th photo. A giant, hovering object was seen on January 4, 1967, by the entire family. Tom saw it first, from the kitchen window, in the northeast, while getting ready for school. It seemed to "have just fallen from the sky." The object was a distinct, silvery football-shaped object which emitted a "hissing sound like air escaping from a tyre," as it stopped and hovered over a nearby house, some hundreds of yards away. It had what seemed to be "lighted windows, sequentially blinking around the centre." Tom rushed up to his parents' bedroom, awakening them in time to see the object throw on a gigantic, stationary red light above the windows. Tom's sister joined them, and his father watched the object with a pair of 2.5 opera glasses. He thought he saw a carriage on the underside, so later they called nearby El Toro Marine Base to inquire if there had been any blimps in the area. The answer was negative. With the four of them still watching, the object floated effortlessly towards the East, out of sight.

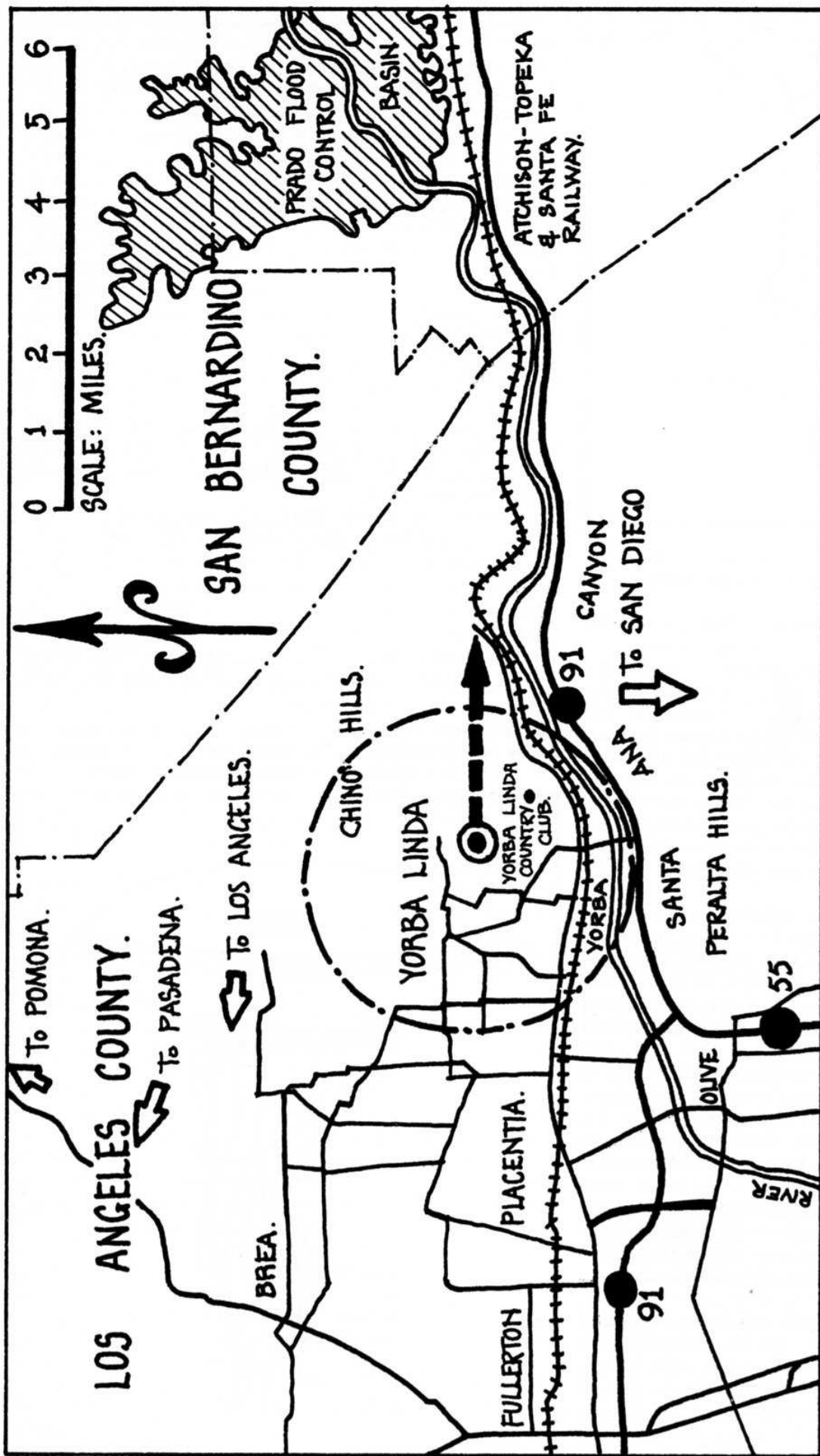


Fig. 1. Map of area showing location of Yorba Linda. Heavy broken line and arrow indicates the path of the object sighted on January 24th, 1967. At Fullerton, to the left and down from Yorba Linda, is the nearest airport.

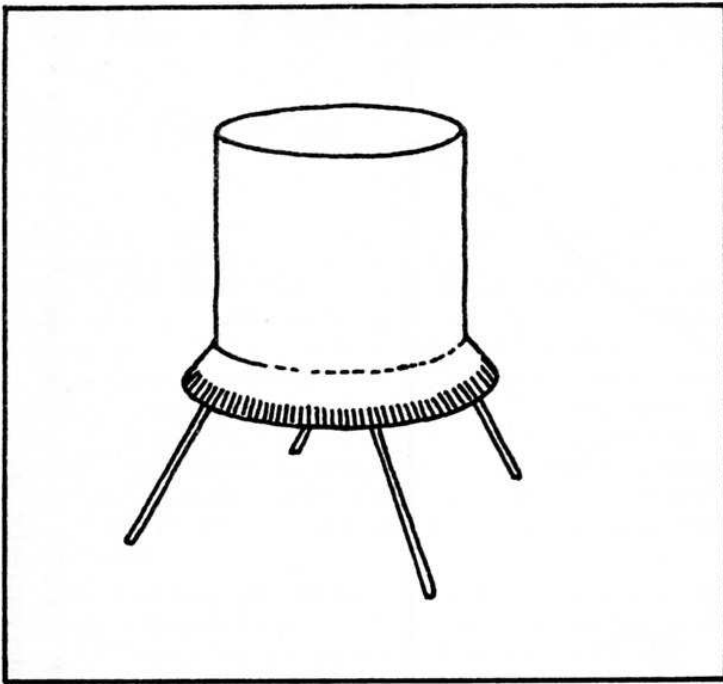


Fig. 2: Sketch of "black-hat" as sketched by Tom 'X' immediately after sighting on January 24, 1967.

Fascinated by his two sightings, Tom purchased Frank Edwards' *Flying Saucers: Serious Business* at a nearby store. This book encouraged him to investigate other possible sightings people may have had in the area. He started a "skywatch" with some of his friends, and it grew rather rapidly as others learned about it. In June 1967 one of the members of Tom's group called up the *Santa Ana Register* to request that a notice be placed regarding the club's next meeting. The newspaper, instead, sent out a reporter to write a story on the group. The newspaper publicity was not sought by Tom or any members of his family.

Up to the time of the first sighting, none of the family members had any interest in "flying saucers," considering them unreal and not a matter for speculation. For this reason, the photograph of the "black hat" took on added importance to Tom, who hoped that it could prove that he had, indeed, seen "something." Because of the darkness of the day, the family had little hope of the picture turning out. In the meantime, while still shaking from his experience, he drew a sketch of what he had seen (Figure 1).

In the next few days, Tom shot the remaining frames and took the roll of film to a 14-year-old friend for development. He was afraid to trust their regular mail order film processing company because they had lost a roll he had sent them a short time before. In case something did show up on the frame he had shot of the black object, he didn't want to risk losing it.

Tom's friend, whom we shall call Dave, arranged his developing apparatus neatly on his father's work bench in their garage. He and Tom hung dark sheets over the window and stuffed towels under the garage door to prevent light from coming in. There were a "few small cracks of light still entering", but Dave assured Tom it would be all right. When Dave was

finished, there it was: a contact print showing a portion of the window frame, telephone poles outside, and a small black object in the sky. Although the details did not show too well through the emulsion left on the negative, it was still possible to distinguish a black cylinder with three legs angling out from the bottom.

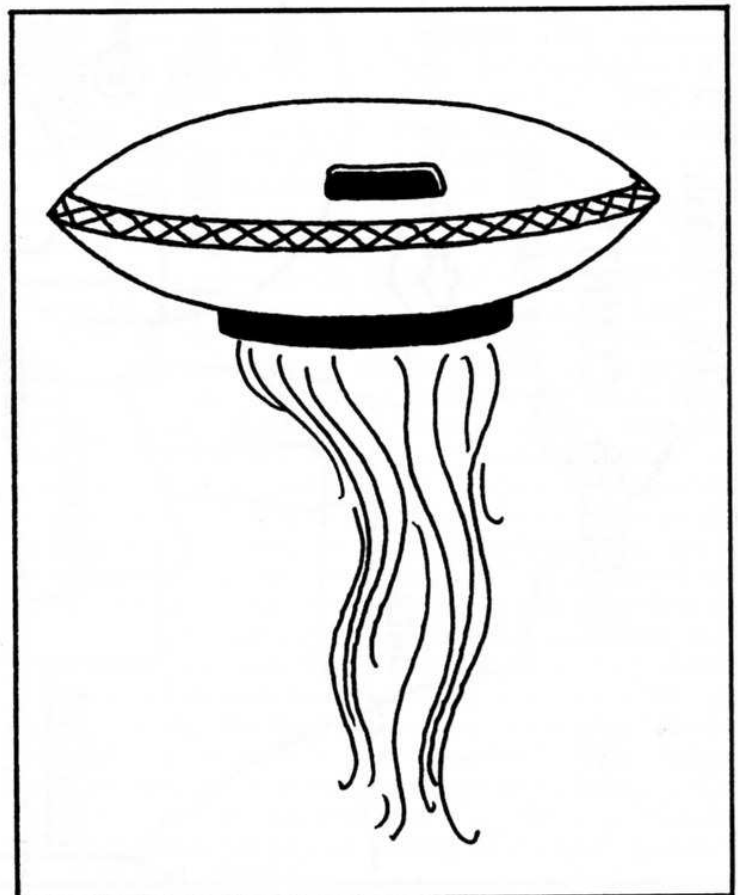
The amateur photo developer, Dave, had received his developing kit at Christmas, only a month before. He had developed only about five rolls of film previous to working on Tom's. He used a Tri-Chem Pac by Kodak, containing developer, stop-bath, and fixer. He estimated the temperature at 68 degrees and did not heat the chemicals. Being without a red bulb, he "felt his way around" and immersed the film according to package instructions. He "tried not to scrape the pictures too much" against the pie tin he used as a developing pan.

Tom released the negative to the NICAP investigator for study in August 1967. To aid in proper analysis of the photo, the following technical information was obtained.

**Camera:** A \$5.00 Mark XII camera, fixed-focus; 620 film from Sears' dated December 1968.

**Weather and Time:** Reported time of 5.25 p.m. was nine minutes after official sunset for the date. The U.S. Weather Bureau confirmed that the sky was heavily overcast with rain clouds at 400-1000 feet and higher. It had rained all day, stopping temporarily at time of sighting. Surface winds were from the northeast.

Fig. 3: Sketch by relative of Tom 'X' of object viewed by entire family on January 4, 1967. Drawing is composite of object's details as seen by members of family.





#### Measurements inside room:

1. Camera lens to window: 45 inches
2. Dimensions of window: length  $34\frac{1}{2}$  inches; height 33 inches. The window which frames object and reference points is the left half of a double window separated by a partition, width one inch.
3. Length of Tom's arm: 24 inches

#### Measurements outside window:

1. Window to nearest telephone pole (darkest on photo): 197 feet
2. Window to TV antenna below and to right of object: 82 feet
3. Window to nearest home: 70 feet
4. From left side of home to Tom's left to mid-point of second home on his right: 36.5 feet

During the initial interview, Tom's best judgement was that the object was hovering over the nearest homes to his east, and that the legs extended over a house and a half. He estimated the size when first seen as 11 inches on a ruler at arm's length, and approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches when he returned with the camera.

From the measurements above, it was first estimated that the object's actual diameter was 30+ feet, provided Tom's judgement of the distance was accurate. He had repeatedly stated, "It was gigantic!" However, in view of his frightened state, it is possible that a gross error in judging distance was made, accounting for the discrepancy in object's size which was discovered and reported below. It is important to mention here that the estimated size of 30+ feet was suggested by the NICAP investigator. Tom, when asked for an estimate of its size, always replied that he did not know, only that it looked "gigantic."

The negative was first analysed by Joseph Carson, a Los Angeles photographer known to the Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee. He preferred to work with the negative in its original state, although it was covered with an emulsion which Dave had not known how to remove. Carson determined that the photo was lightstruck and/or fogged, caused probably by light striking it during the developing process or by the use of unfresh chemicals.

Carson considered the photograph a genuine image of an actual object, farther away than three feet. After studying it with a magnifier, he stated that sharpness of focus of the telephone poles, the window frame and object were essentially the same.

He ruled out ordinary kinds of hoax, such as hand-thrown, string-suspended, and cut-out models. He determined that the two long white lines above and below the object are true scratches, caused either by mishandling during development or by a faulty turning mechanism in the camera. Tom had reported that he had had to use pliers to turn the film from frame to frame. Working copies made by Carson revealed that the object's bottom seemed to consist of three or four egg-shaped protrusions spaced equilaterally around the bottom (Figure 4). From these, he conjectured, the legs emerged.<sup>3</sup>

Unknown to us at the time, Tom's "top hat" UFO description had been corroborated by a youth in Iowa, who had seen a similar object on March 22, 1967, and had reported it to the U.S. Air Force.

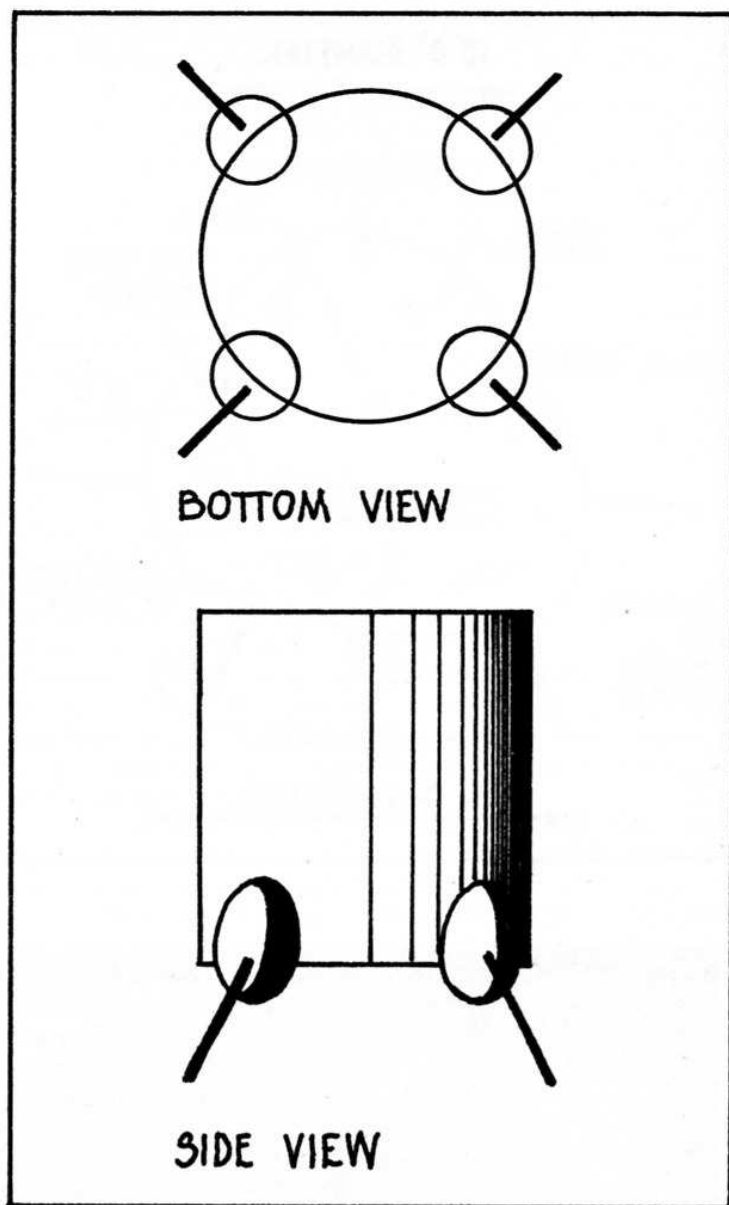
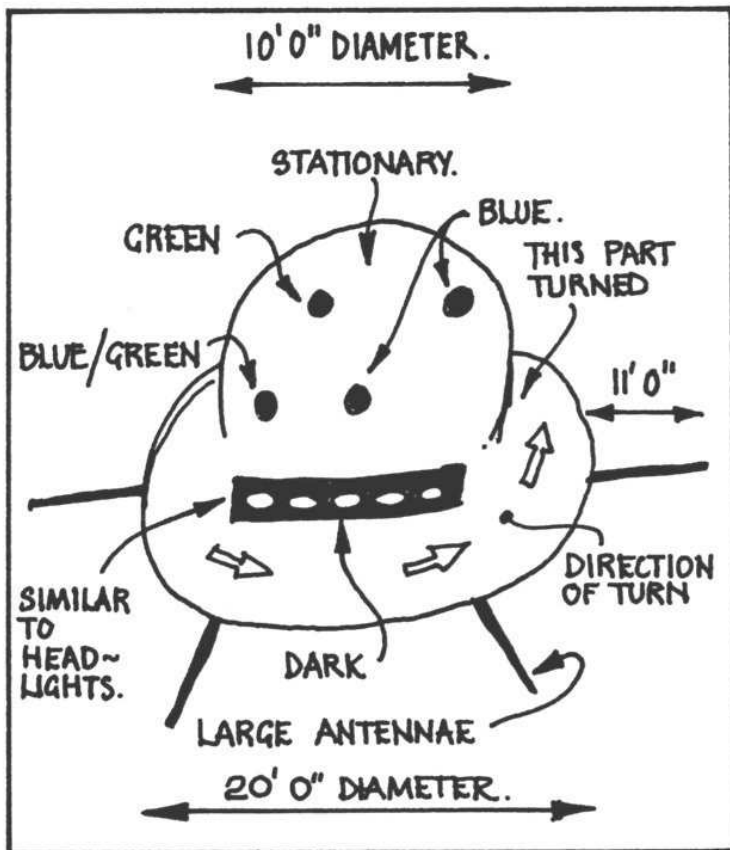


Fig. 4: Part of statement and sketch by photographic analyst, including his conjecture of object's shape.

Tom saw this witness's story and drawing in the December 1967 *New Report on Flying Saucers Magazine*.<sup>4</sup>

Carefully inspecting this art conception, which was strikingly like Tom's own sketch, he was able to make out the name, Douglas E., which the magazine had apparently, but unsuccessfully, tried to black out. Upon writing the witness, Tom learned that this boy was also fourteen years old, that Douglas had been outdoors at the time of sighting and had also seen four "antennae," as he called them, protruding from the bottom. It emitted a humming sound. His sighting had occurred at 10.20 p.m. and the object seemed self-luminous, with green, blue and white lights. He sent Tom a detailed sketch, including his estimate of the object's size (Figure 5).

The NICAP investigator also corresponded with Douglas, and obtained confirmation of the facts of the sighting. A copy of Tom's photo was sent to him, and he wrote back that it resembled very much the object he had seen. However, he said the bottom



part was revolving, while the upper part stayed stationary. Could this be a clue as to why Tom saw the brim of his "top hat" as a continuous slope rather than the egg-shaped protrusions revealed in the photo?

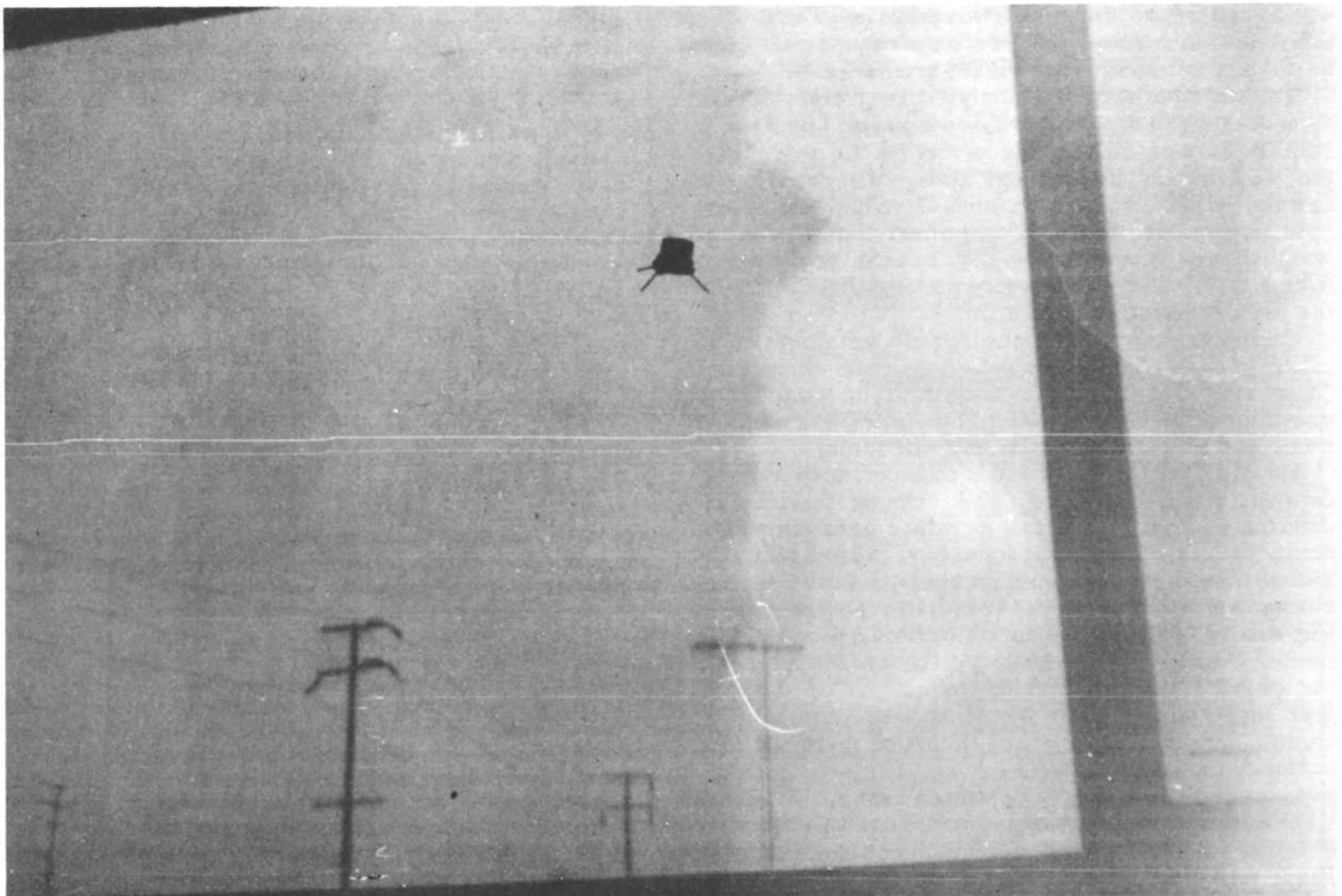
Another possible corroborative sighting was described in a 1967 APRO Bulletin. At about 6.30 p.m. on October 12, 1967, in Dubuque, Iowa, a silvery, egg-shaped, red-lighted object, with tubular poles dangling down "like landing gears," hovered directly over the heads of two children. A similar object was described independently by several children in a neighbouring house. Adults later estimated the object(s)'s size as about ten feet long, at an altitude of fifty feet.<sup>5</sup>

A report on the case was sent to NICAP Headquarters. Some weeks later we were informed by Stuart Nixon, then NICAP's full-time photo consultant, that preliminary study suggested that the photo was a hoax, a cutout or small model at the window photographed with a closeup lens.

Spurred on by what seemed to be the corroborative sighting of Douglas E., the fact that Tom denied ever owning or using a closeup lens, and also the fact of the solid family backing given Tom, analysis of the photo was continued by the NICAP investigator. William Hamilton, a senior photographic

Fig. 5: Sketch by Douglas Eutsler of Wapello, Iowa of object seen March 22, 1967.

Fig. 6: The Tom 'X' photo after negative was cleaned professionally



technician of twenty years' experience, was given the negative in February 1968. He cleaned off about 70% of the film coating or emulsion in hypo. The prints which resulted were far superior in quality and sharpness (Figure 6).

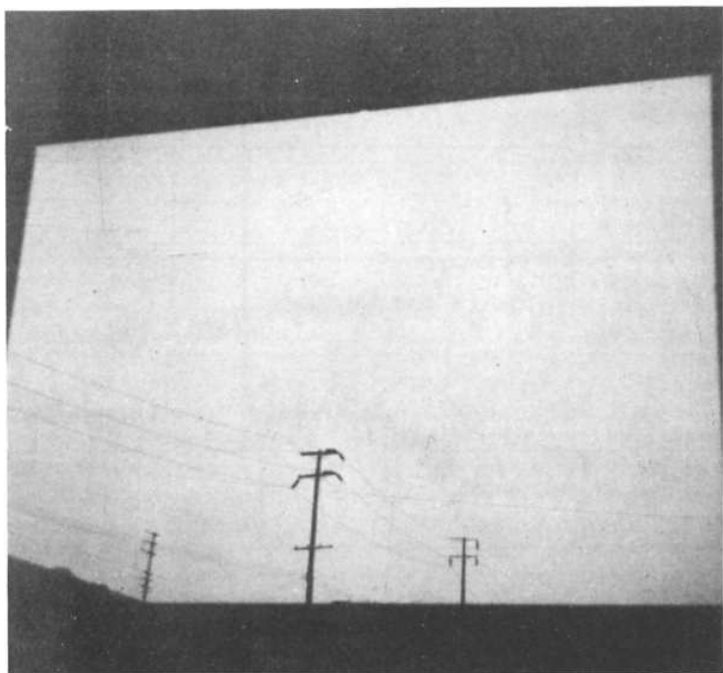
In Hamilton's opinion, the photo conformed to the witness-photographer's statement and was a genuine photographic image. He photographed, under almost exact lighting conditions, a cutout facsimile attached to a window with Tom's camera, using a Tiffen No. 1 closeup lens. This lens threw window frame, cutout, and background out of focus and also did not cover as wide an area as on Tom's photo. The cutout looked exactly like a cutout, whereas in Hamilton's experience with perspective and angle, the object in Tom's picture was three-dimensional.

Although Hamilton did not rule out the possibility that the object was a three-dimensional model close to the window, his studied opinion was that the object was at a much greater distance than the window pane, for the following reasons:

1. The object is in sharper focus than the centre partition, which is in a position to be essentially in equal focus as the object. Cleaning the negative had revealed that the object was in sharper focus than all reference points.

2. The telephone poles' images in the lower portion of the photo are somewhat out of focus and are low enough to be rendered such because of upward camera angle, plus distortion which could be caused by photographing through the window glass at this angle. The distortion could have been caused by the film being too tight in the camera, resulting in flattening the film plane from its slightly circular seat in the camera. Was the film inserted slightly off centre in the camera, accounting for Tom's difficulty in

**Fig.7: Comparison photo at scene taken July 11th, 1967 by Tom 'X' under supervision with investigator's Starflex camera. Mr. X. assumed same crouching position he reported when he snapped photo of object on January 24th, 1967.**



turning it? When the investigator used the same camera later for more comparison photos, she found the winding knob easy to turn.

3. The object would have to be at least six feet from the camera in order to be as sharp as it appears on the negative and could definitely be a large object, as any photo shot through a window will appear sharper at the centre than at the extreme edges.<sup>6</sup>

The third expert to analyse the negative was a commercial photographer of many years' experience. He is a producer of film strips for schools and encyclopaedia and was, at the time, a photo consultant to the Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee.

He examined the negative on a densitometer reading board, as well as making mathematical calculations, based on an object negative size of 1½ to 2 mm. His opinion was that the object was free-flying, in the sense of not being suspended or hand-thrown. From his familiarity with densities of objects as photographed at differing distances and in different types of weather, he thought the object was much nearer than the nearest telephone pole. His best size and distance estimate was eight to twelve inches diameter at fifty feet. The absolute maximum of size and distance, in his opinion, was twenty inches diameter at one hundred feet, since the object was too sharply in focus to be any farther away.

In puzzling out the discrepancy in size, the following points are offered by the investigator for consideration: (See page 32/33.)

- a. The object may have been right up to the window when first seen, obstructing most of the view. This would mean that its actual size was in the maximum range as determined by the third photo expert, i.e., approximately twenty inches in diameter. A combination of fright and other factors may have caused Tom to misjudge its distance.

- b. The phenomenon of "size constancy," in which the brain can "zoom in like a telephoto lens, preventing objects shrinking with distance as much as they ought"<sup>7</sup> might be relevant here.

- c. In situations of intense concentration, such as caused by fright or the viewing of unfamiliar objects, both of which are applicable to the case, the human eye tends to enlarge and bring the object closer.

- d. It is possible that Tom's strong corrective glasses have a bearing on the case, though his optometrist, whom he consulted on the question on July 31, 1971, replied negatively. His right eye prescription is 7.50 = 0.50x15 and left eye is 8.00 = 0.50x30 (PD 63/). With his glasses, which he wears constantly, his vision is good.

As far as discrepancy on the number of "legs" on the object is concerned, the investigator fashioned a clay model on the shape suggested by Joseph Carson. When the model was tipped so that its silhouette conformed with the object in the photo, only three legs were visible, one being hidden behind the model.

The negative was also studied, early in the case, by a local aerospace scientist, who has requested anonymity. At first he could see no evidence of hoax. He suggested that the object was an experimental space craft being tested, as was Surveyor, suspended by a cable from a large balloon. However, thorough



investigation ruled this out for several reasons which space does not permit us to explain here. The possibility of the object's being an experimental plane was checked out also, with negative results.

The local scientist had a densitometer reading made of the photo, including object and reference points, after the emulsion had been cleaned off. He was puzzled by the degree of blackness of the object in relation to reference points, describing it as "mysterious." His private opinion, after learning of the mathematical calculations on the size of the object, and after interviewing the boy, was that the object was a model. But he was puzzled as to what a hoaxer could have used to cover a model, so that it would photograph so black.

During 1968, the investigator made a number of comparison photos at her home and at the scene of the sighting, under cloudy conditions, shortly after sunset (Figures 9, 10, 11). A three-dimensional model, 11½ inches across the widest horizontal diameter, covered with very black vinyl plastic, was used for Figures 9 and 10. A cutout of the same black vinyl was pasted on the window at the former X. home in Yorba Linda for Figure 10. Another comparison photo was made in broad daylight on a Los Angeles street (Figure 12) to determine sharpness of focus of the camera under optimum conditions. The leaves in the foreground are about three feet away, the palm tree in the upper left corner is approximately 200 feet away.

The image on the Figure 9 comparison photo taken at fifty feet distance was 1½ to 2 mm, backing up the expert's estimate of the size. But there was a major difference to contend with.

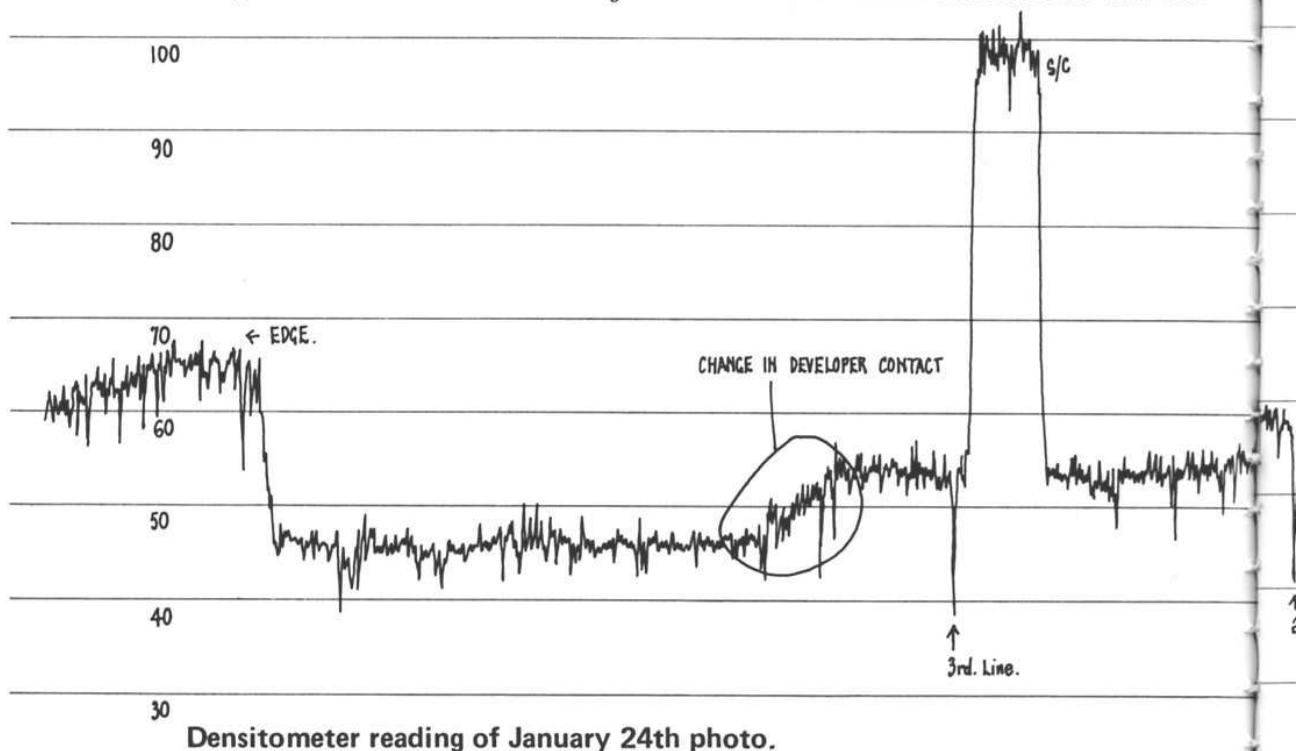
The density of blackness of all reference points and the model and cutout was essentially the same in comparison photos 9 through 11, in contrast to the Yorba Linda photo where the object photographed much blacker than the reference points. Thus we



**Fig.9: Comparison photo at Druffel home, made with Mr. X's camera shortly after sunset, clouded sky. Distance 50 feet.**

procured confirmation of the scientist's opinion expressed above that the object in Tom's picture photographed blacker than black should have photographed.

This phenomenon of degree of "blackness" remained a mystery for three years, defying all efforts to explain it. Then in October 1971 the photo was taken for study by Al Cocking, president of a Southern California geodetic survey company. After using advanced photogrammetric equipment on the photo, Cocking gave his opinion that the photograph was "of an actual object at a distance of ±100 feet away from the camera." He also stated that "the object seems to be three-dimensional and the



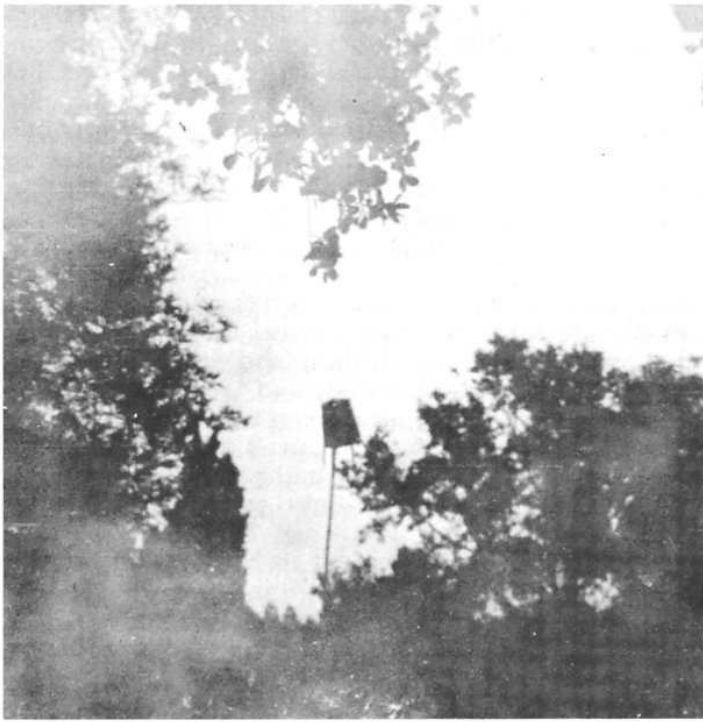


Fig. 10: Comparison photo at Druffel home, made with Tom 'X's camera, clouded sky. Distance 25 feet.

appendages are probably three in number rather than four." In other words, in his opinion, a fourth leg was not hidden behind the object as the investigator had surmised, but was probably not visible from *any* angle.

His statement went on: "Also it is quite possible that the reason the object photographed as black as it did was that its colour was probably red and the red colour of the object, plus the fact that it was filtered through ordinary window glass, would most

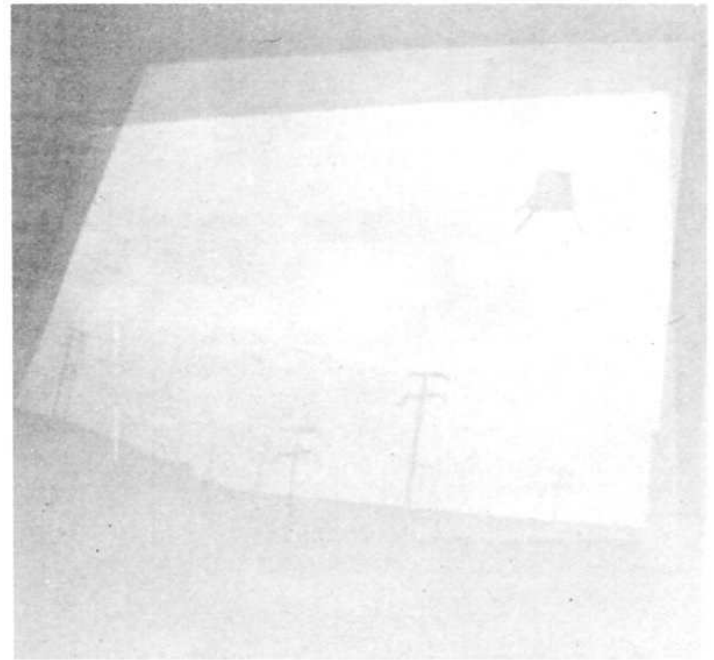
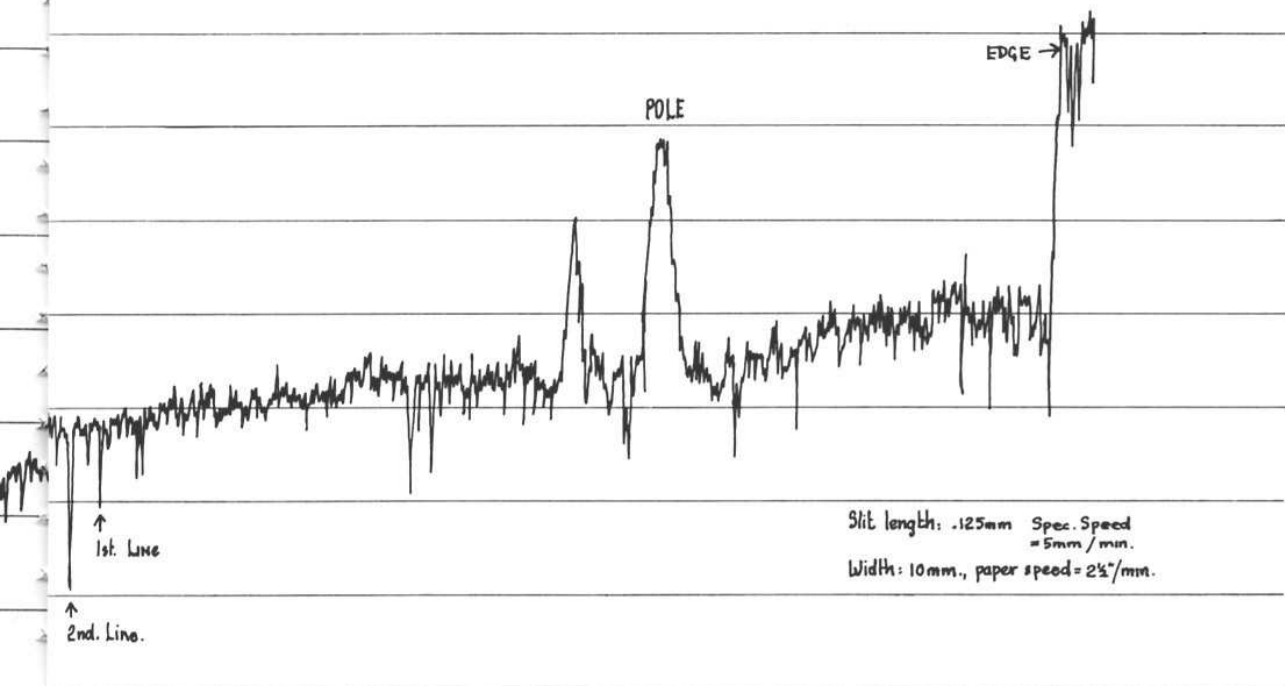


Fig. 11: Comparison photo taken by investigator at scene of sighting on April 16, 1968. Time was 6.31 pm, sunset was 6.25 pm that date. Cutout on window is made of very black vinyl. Clouded sky.

probably produce an image on the film blacker than a black object would be."<sup>8</sup>

Drawing a clue from the above, the X. family was approached again. It was learned from Tom, with the confirmation of Mrs. X., that his perception of colours is faulty. He cannot distinguish between red and green traffic lights, seeing both as white. But he can distinguish green from blue on a common checkered kitchen towel and differentiate shades of reds, pinks and purples on book covers. But he sees deep





**Fig.12: Comparison photo made in broad daylight on Los Angeles street with Mr. X's camera to determine sharpness of focus under optimum conditions. Leaves in foreground are about three feet away, palm tree in upper left corner is about 200 feet away (rough approximation).**

red or maroon automobiles as *black* "sometimes", but not always. Is there something about coloured lights and metals which can affect a person's colour perception while other coloured materials do not? Was the object made of metal and/or glowing red?

The Yorba Linda milieu includes more than reported visual sightings of unusual aerial objects. The X. family experienced a number of odd occurrences which, if not due to imagination or hallucination, are seemingly parapsychological in nature. These occurred at the Yorba Linda home from December 1966 through August 1967 and continued after the family moved to Santa Ana, some 15 miles to the southwest.

In late November or early December 1966, Mrs. X. was awakened from sleep before dawn by a voice calling her name. She saw a white, filmy figure hovering near her bed between her and the door. It had no distinct shape or facial features, but Mrs. X. had the impression it was a woman, and evil. As it came closer, she jumped from her bed, dashed *through* the figure to escape, and hurried out the door. Glancing back, she saw the figure had disappeared.

In late 1966, Mr. X. also heard his name called as he was preparing for bed. Thinking Tom was calling, he went into his son's bedroom. The boy was asleep. Mr. X. also heard footsteps in the Yorba Linda home at times when he was certain no other members of the family were walking about.

Tom's sister experienced occasional feelings of imminent danger, accompanied by abdominal pains and crying spells. These were invariably followed

by unexpected, unpleasant objective occurrences involving the family and other persons known to them. These occurred during the six-month period of UFO sightings and afterwards.

One of Tom's experiences was especially graphic, confided by Mrs. X. to the NICAP investigator in early 1968. The following is Tom's own description of the incident, recorded in 1971:

"While in the downstairs bathroom of my home in Yorba Linda I saw, from the corner of my eye, a figure walking through the closed door. I looked at it directly. It seemed to be a man. I can't remember whether I noticed his clothing and other details. He kept walking straight ahead, and went through the catty-corner to the door. I can't explain it, but I wasn't scared. When I came out, I asked reassurance of my mother if my father had walked in the bathroom, since this was the only explanation I could possibly think of at the time. Upon her negative answer, I related the incident to her. At the time of this occurrence, which was around the time of the UFO flap, I did not have any knowledge of the incidents which the other members of my family had experienced."

Since incidents of this kind were altogether new to the family, the parents did not discuss their own experiences with the children, for fear of frightening them. It was only after several months of visits to the home, on matters pertaining to the photo investigation, that Mrs. X. reluctantly shared the above facts with the investigator. By that time, Mrs. X. had read widely in UFO literature, including some of the more speculative authors, and thought there may be some possible link with the UFO incidents.

After the family moved in August 1967 other seemingly parapsychological incidents were reported. Most seemed to be in the form of poltergeist activity--crackling and rappings on walls and windows, a potted plant waving when there was no breeze, and a cat desperately frightened by something which couldn't be seen by human eyes.

It is important to state that the X. family impressed the investigator with their honesty and common sense. During the months of investigation they continued to be a close, typical upper-middle-class family. All are intelligent and well educated. These impressions were shared, during the intensive study period, by several experienced UFO researchers in the Los Angeles area who met the family and who supported the research.

It has been impossible to include all the salient facts regarding the Yorba Linda cases into a limited space. We have touched on only a fraction of the numerous sightings from January 1967 through June 1967, reported by at least fifteen persons in that area. There were many residents who were unaware that unusual things were being reported, as determined by door-to-door survey, but many families during the flap period did watch the sky with interest.

Returning to the matter of the January 24th 1967 photo, the main question remains: is the image of the three-legged object a hoax, or is it that of an unknown aerial object of alien design? The researchers concerned with the study are, at present, of different



minds.<sup>9</sup> The six-year study has produced no real answers. Even the expert who places the object at  $\pm 100$  feet from the camera speaks of the possibility of a hoax.

If a hoax, it could have been perpetrated in two ways:

1. by Tom and an accomplice, or 2. by an unknown hoaxter without Tom's knowledge.

If either of the above possibilities is true, exceedingly difficult obstacles would have had to be surmounted. If the object was a small model hung outside the window, the only permanent place it could be fastened was on the roof overhang, which did not extend beyond 12 inches from the window. This would put it *inside* the optimum focus range of the camera. The window screen could not be removed to permit access to the overhang from the inside, and Mrs. X. would surely have noticed a ladder in use, since the window was directly above the kitchen where she was preparing dinner at the time.

If an accomplice or hoaxter unknown to Tom was on Tom's roof, suspending a small model by means of a pole beyond the roof overhang, this could explain the sharp focus of the object.

However, the best estimates on the distance of object from the camera are 50 and 100 feet. Consider the angles involved here. The object was a reported 20° elevation when photographed. This angle has

been confirmed by comparison photos shot from the same position assumed by the witness-photographer. If the object was between 50-100 feet from the camera, the height of the object from the ground, calculated by sine function, would be 28-43 feet. There was nothing permanent in this vicinity which could have been used to suspend a model. The most logical way it could have been suspended would be from a long pole. The pole would have to be at least five feet higher than the object so that a string fastened to the end of the pole could be used as a connecting link. Even advanced photogrammetric equipment failed to detect the presence of any string.

If held from the ground, the angle at which the pole would have to be held would add to the height of pole needed. If held from an adjacent house or roof top, the angle from the horizontal would be decreased so that the pole's length would be even longer, even considering the height of the pole from the ground. A pole of such length would be a rarity indeed!

Other factors arguing against a hoax are these:

i) Sightings of other seemingly small UFOs were reported by independent witnesses shortly after the general time period of the Yorba Linda flap.

ii) The members of the X. family attested to Tom's extremely agitated state immediately after the reported sighting, and subsequent photo, of January 24th, 1967.

iii) The picture was the first one on the roll and the only one containing other than ordinary family scenes.

iv) Repeated interviews with the witness over a period of six years have failed to disclose any evidence or admission that the picture was hoaxed.

v) No effort has been made by any member of the family to gain any financial benefit from the photo,

and no published account has been made prior to this article.

Encouraged, however, by several eminent researchers with whom the investigator has corresponded, it has been decided that the Yorba Linda photo should not continue hidden from public view. Granted, the image in the photo is a "whatzit", a puzzle, a ufologist's nightmare. It does not conform to any UFO category and, indeed, does not even conform to the description of its own witness-photographer. But publication of these facts might bring out other "whatzits" from other files-images on film which have been lying in prejudicial purgatories because they happen to be too small, the wrong colour, or have too few or too many legs. It is hoped that further discussion and study by fresh minds might provide an answer to this controversial case.

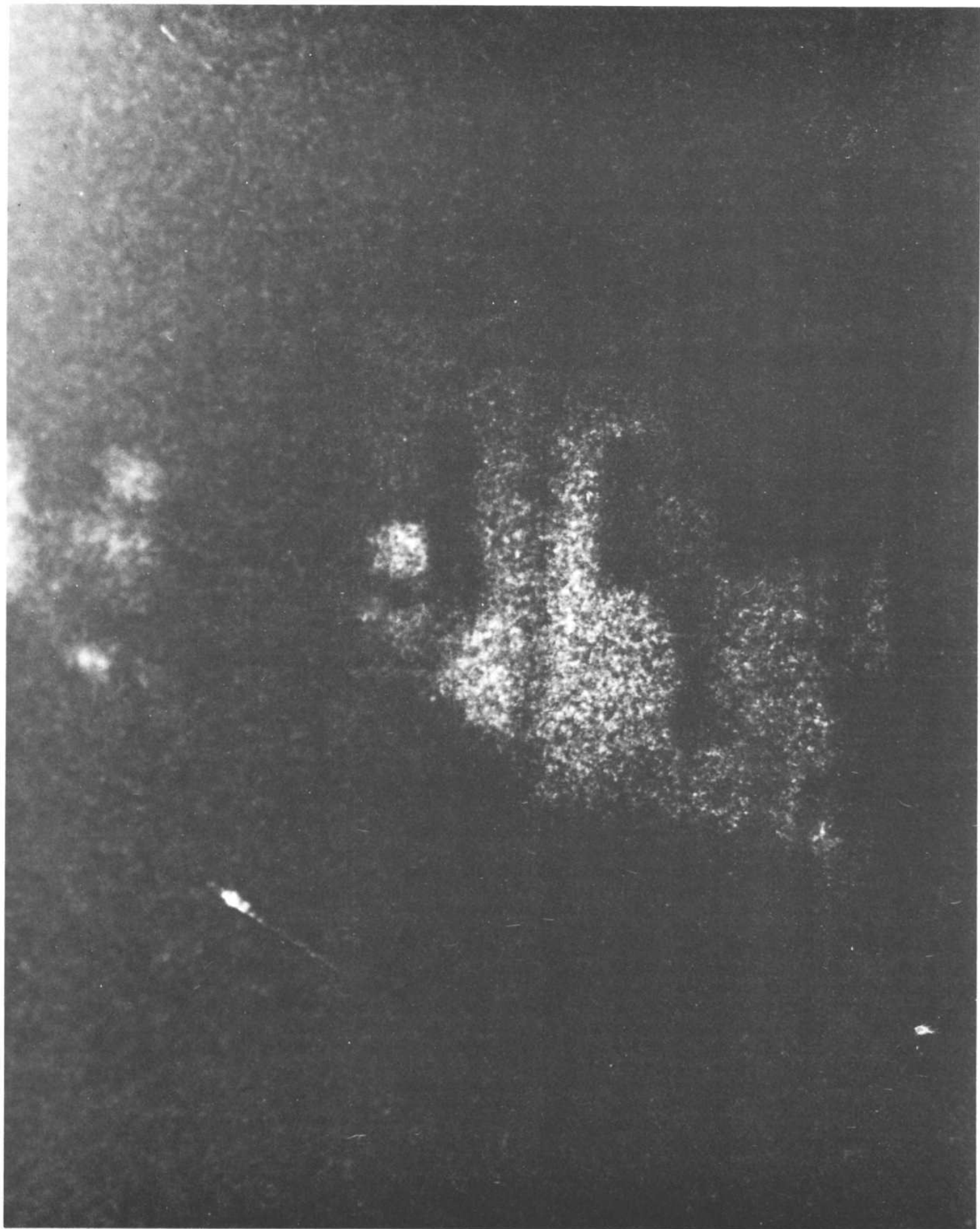
#### Notes on Author and Witness

Ann Druffel is a licensed professional social case worker in the state of California. She has researched and reported on UFOs in the Los Angeles area for the past sixteen years. For thirteen years she was a member of the Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee, but now works as field investigator for MUFON, NICAP, and DATA-NET.

Tom 'X' is a published writer and radio news assistant, holding a second-class broadcasting licence. With two years of college education, he is currently a department manager at a large retail chain store.

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- 6 Statement signed by photographic technician dated February 3, 1968. (Copy in FSR files)
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- 8 Statement in Druffel files. (Copy in FSR files)
- 9 Object was declared a "probable hoax" by Stuart Nixon of NICAP Headquarters in a letter and accompanying statement dated June 19, 1968. The classification was based on discrepancies encountered during investigation. This classification was changed in 1972 to "possible hoax".



Blow-up detail from a frame of Stella Lansing's film: See pages 3, 4 and 5.

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