

"The first object was sighted by Inche Abdul Rahman Hassan, a retired workshop supervisor, at 8 p.m. on Friday (presumably March 1, 1968).

"He was relaxing in the verandah of his house when he spotted the object over the Ampang area.

"The object suddenly appeared in the sky, flashing bright light. At first it was motionless. I could see clearly, it was like a saucer," he said. "Then it moved slowly across the sky and was gone within minutes."

"At about 3 p.m. on Saturday, his 21-year-old daughter, Che Jamilah, and a friend Abdul Hamid, saw another bright object in the sky. The object was like a huge saucer, moving up and down flashing bright light. She said it had a slight smoke trail.

"It hummed for a while and remained visible for about four minutes before it climbed up the clouds and disappeared," she said.

"Inche Zanial confirmed her description of the object, and maintained that it could not be an aeroplane.

"Another resident, Inche Yahaya Hassan, said he saw a disc-like bright object in the sky for about three minutes on Saturday afternoon. He could not remember the exact time.

"The object was like a pancake and it moved slowly with a humming noise before it disappeared," he added.

"The RMAF base commandant here, Group Captain J. W. King, said flying saucer sightings were a 'very common thing' in Europe. But his men did not see anything unusual during the weekend. The objects could have been reflections in the sky, he said."

SPAIN

Creature reports

In the Madrid newspaper *Arriba* of February 27, 1968, we read of "REPORTS OF AN ENORMOUS 'HAIRY MONSTER' IN SPAIN" in an article by Miguel Gil, from Gerona, near Barcelona—"A rumour that a strange animal was committing depredations on the outskirts of the town of Vilovi was at first received with scepticism. While those who gave the original reports were children, adults have subsequently come forward who declare that they have seen the creature. It did not seem very convincing, inasmuch as the reports were almost always about something seen at night, and as there had been cases of groups of thugs going around at night attacking country houses in the area, it was supposed that perhaps these stories related to attempts to 'case the premises' for future occasions. On top of this, one must remember that Carnival time is here. The result being that while some have taken the stories about the creature as true, others have regarded it as a joke.

"There have however been further appearances of the strange creature, and the result is that tomorrow a 'beat' is being organised, which will be undertaken by a considerable number of hunters with their dogs. This decision was reached after receipt of word that yesterday evening, at the village of Curbarsi in the Vilovi district, an enormous animal had been seen, the description of which agreed with what had been said by the earlier witnesses, but now, and for the first time, it had been seen in broad daylight, although at some distance.

"The animal was drinking from a pond near the house of the witnesses. It fled, leaving in the clay soil a number of great footprints 40 centimetres long and resembling those of a plantigrade being (i.e. one that walks on the whole sole of the foot). These footprints agree with the description given by the motorist Ruperto Juher, who said that he had seen, near Hostalrich a few days ago, an animal with a large hairy body and long arms, that crossed the highway in front of him, walking with a weary sort of gait.

"Yesterday's report of the new sighting of the animal eliminates the possibility that the animal that has spread panic in this district could have been, as had been supposed, the badger that was shot six days ago by Señor Marti of San Martin. The unwillingness of some folk to believe the reports has resulted in this frightening experience being reported by numerous other individuals, and now an attempt is to be made to clear it all up.

"There was a circus in this area some few days ago, but nobody reported any animal missing from it. In addition, there is also the occasional Hungarian who passes through, with his bear, and one of these might conceivably have escaped into the mountains and now, in view of the cold, be coming into the plains to seek food.

"Count de Ger, president of the society for the protection of animals in Barcelona, is taking an interest in the case, and has also taken an interest in the manner in which the captured badger is reported to have been killed.

"It is possible that the animal now being sought is in fact a bear. It is hoped that within a few hours from now we shall know the truth about this affair which has kept this region in a state of panic." (Translation: Gordon Creighton.)

Credit to Señor Ignacio Darnaude of Sevilla.

AZORES

The sentry and the saucer

From the journal *Lumières dans la Nuit** we obtained the following story which appeared in the French news-

paper *La Dernière Heure* of February 3, 1968—"Lisbon, February 2. Report from Portuguese News Agency ANI.

"A Portuguese military sentry at the installations at Cinco Picos, on the island of Terceira in the Azores, avers that he was attacked by an unidentified flying object on Thursday morning (February 1).

"The soldier, named Serafim Vieira Sebastião, aged 36, noticed at first a strange interference on his transistor radio, and at once looked around. The saucer was so near to the ground, he said, that he could see two of its occupants. He promptly telephoned to another sentry and told him what he had seen. He then approached the machine, and shone his torch on it. A "gaseous dust" was emitted from the saucer, enveloping him, and he fell to the ground, where the other sentry found him a few minutes later.

"The doctors at the local hospital found the soldier Sebastião sane and normal in all respects, and he was found never to have been known to suffer from hallucinations. He was then taken to the Lajes Air Base (which is under American control) to make a full report.

"One local paper states that a meteorological balloon had been released shortly before at the Lajes Base and might have accumulated static by touching the high-voltage power lines that pass over the Base. The soldier however sticks to his statement that he saw two men in the saucer and that it attacked him." (Translation by Gordon Creighton.)

* For address of *Lumières dans la Nuit* please see page ii of cover.

SWEDEN

Mystery of the lakes

The *Times* of April 5, 1968, carried the following account—

"Something 'incredibly powerful' has smashed a huge hole through the ice covering a lake in central Sweden, but scientists and military experts are uncertain about what it was.

"The hole, discovered yesterday near Malung by two villagers, is 700 square yards in extent and was made through ice almost 3ft. thick.

"The Defence Ministry was notified of the discovery by the police and sent experts to examine the hole. Colonel Curt Hermansson, who is leading the investigation, said today that an aircraft crash was out of the question.

"There are no traces round the hole, only big blocks of ice which have been thrown up, indicating that whatever went into the lake was incredibly powerful," he said.

"Some experts think that the hole is too big to have been made by a meteorite. All the information so far (continued foot of page opposite)