

SCIENCE AND LOCH NESS

F. W. Holiday

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

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

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

UFO SPEED

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

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

Notes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

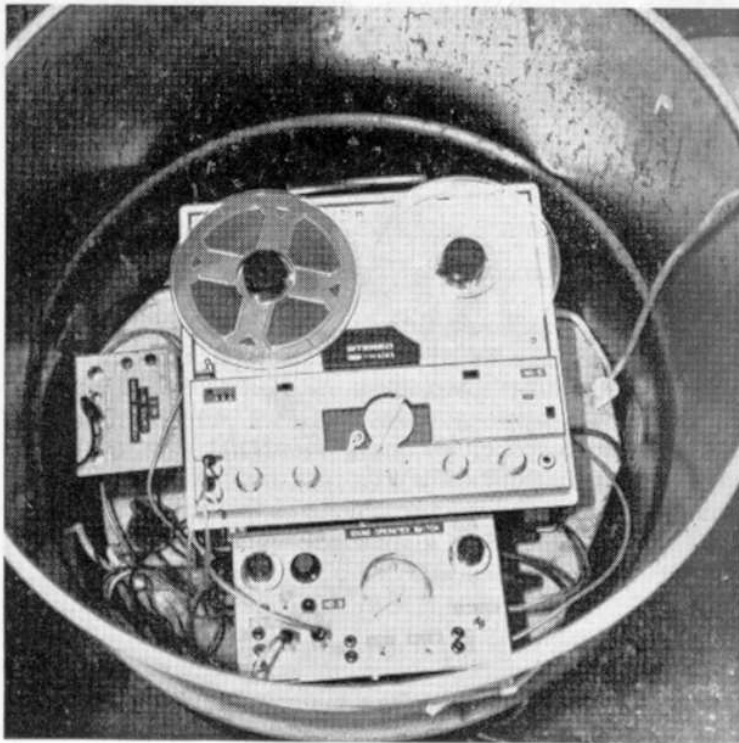
The mouth falls agape. Is he joking? What does he mean by "evidence"? Have we wandered into some sort of Mad Hatter's scientific tea-party in which commonsense is turned inside-out, left becomes right and logic is shot like a mad dog? To save our reason we remember (barely in time) that science doesn't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

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

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

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

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



Interior of acoustic monitor.



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

BRAZIL ONCE MORE

Gordon Creighton

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

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

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

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

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



THEY ARE BACK

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

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

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

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

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

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

References

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