

THE PRINCIPLE OF TRANSMOGRIFICATION

John A. Keel

AMONG the many deliberately neglected factors hidden within the mass of UFO sighting data is the apparent ability of the objects to change colour, size, and shape while remaining in full view of the observers. A disproportionate percentage . . . as high as 10 to 1 in many "flaps" . . . but always constant at a ratio of 3 to 1 in the overall sighting reports, describes these unusual non-mechanical characteristics. UFO researchers have tended to ignore these "eccentric" sightings, or have tried to dismiss them as natural phenomena of some kind.

During my first "flap" studies of 1966, I began to divide reports into two main categories: "hard" sightings of apparently metallic objects with discernible physical features such as fins, portholes, domes and superstructures, and so on; and "soft" sightings of transparent or translucent objects seemingly capable of altering their size and shape dramatically. I placed the almost countless sightings of LITS ("lights-in-the-sky") in the "soft" category. It quickly became evident that the "soft" sightings represented the *real phenomenon* while the "hard" objects seemed to play some kind of diversionary role, often appearing at low level to pursue—or be pursued by—police cars and airplanes.

For twenty years, the Ufologists have concentrated on the relatively rare "hard" sightings, regarding them as proof that manufactured machines were the main phenomenon. Having decided that these machines were largely circular flying craft, they were obliged to explain away the LITS and "soft" objects as effects produced by the electrical ionisation of the air and other by-products of some little-understood technological development. Theories of this type were developed by qualified engineers and scientists and do seem valid until you examine *all* the data closely and at length.

One of the many troublesome negative factors is the *fact* that although thousands of UFO photos have been taken in the past twenty years, only a dozen or so taken in different parts of the world depict identical objects. If the objects were more uniform in design (and origin) there would now be hundreds of identical pictures. Thus, on the strength of the pictorial evidence alone we can conclude that a wide, almost endless, variety of objects is involved.

When one reviews the great mass of descriptions published in the past two decades, one is also obliged to concede that an impossibly wide variation exists in the descriptions. Again, the Ufologists and their publications have concentrated largely on those descriptions of circular, domed objects and assume that they represent the whole. Actually such objects form only a small (5 to 10 per cent) part of the overall sightings.

There is also a very large percentage of "bastard" sightings; very peculiar objects in the form of rectangles, cubes, doughnuts, and even question-marks. Such sightings have been common throughout these twenty years but have been slighted by the Ufologists because they failed to conform to the more "acceptable" saucer design.

Any truly objective study of the UFO phenomenon must necessarily include a study of all the objects sighted, not just those objects which seem to support a particular theory. Perhaps the Ufologists instinctively recognised that the "soft" and "bastard" sightings weakened the extraterrestrial thesis and the main "cause" of Ufology was to prove that UFOs were the product of a superior intelligence from an advanced interplanetary civilisation.

The U.S. Air Force, on the other hand, did make an effort to study all of the sighting reports in the early 1950s. Project Blue Book Report No. 14 contained 240 charts, graphs and tables breaking down the known and unknown reports into many categories. If you study the Report carefully you will see some of the reasons for the official conclusions. The sightings were too numerous and too frequent to be the work of a single technological source. The descriptions, including those of the coveted "reliable witnesses", were too varied to support the notion that they were simply and purely manufactured machines. An attempt to develop a "model UFO" from the descriptions in 434 "unknown" cases met with failure. There was no single basic uniformity in all these reports. Therefore, either every object was individually constructed and utilised only once, or . . . *none of the objects really existed at all.*

Would even a "superior technology" on some distant planet go through the trouble of manufacturing a complex flying machine and then send that machine millions of miles to our planet to manoeuvre briefly one time—and one time only—over a farmhouse in Georgia? Certainly, once such a machine had been transferred to this planet it would be used many times in many places and eventually we would receive identical descriptions of it—and identical photographs—from several different points.

Instead, we have almost as many different descriptions as different witnesses. In my field trips I have carefully weighed the psychological factors. I have found groups of six or ten witnesses who all described the same identical details of a given object in a given area. But ten or twenty miles away another group of witnesses would describe a seemingly different object, even though all their descriptions dovetailed, too. I have been told about tiny, ground-level "flying buzz-saws"

hovering over strip mines, and gigantic multi-windowed spheres hovering above power plants. Yet I have not discovered identical objects hovering over different power plants or strip mines.

On the other hand, *the many thousands of "soft" sightings are very uniform.* Witnesses in Nebraska describe essentially the same phenomena as witnesses in Maine or Manitoba. How many times have you read about groups of tiny bright lights, all apparently under intelligent control, suddenly converging to form one big bright light which then flies off? Or, frequently the process is reversed and one big light will suddenly split into several small ones and each one will fly off on an independent controlled course. These cases are usually mentioned once in the UFO publications and then forgotten. When a professional writer assembles a UFO book, he weeds out the "most interesting" (i.e. the "hard" sightings) cases and uses them to build a case for extraterrestrial visitants. This means that most of the available UFO literature is biased, non-objective, and possibly completely erroneous.

The LITS and "soft" sightings don't seem to tell us very much about our friends from outer space so we try to forget them.

In the FSR special, BEYOND CONDON . . . , we offered several tables from several independent sources. Each of these tables broke the reported sightings down into categories. You need only glance at them to realise that LITS, "bastards" and "soft" sightings far outweigh the "hard" sightings. Since the special issue was compiled, I have gone through the reports mailed in to me by readers of my articles during the past three years. These are non-confirmed (not investigated) sightings. But they conform to the general data and so I weeded out 875 seemingly reliable reports (discarding about 600 "questionable" reports). These broke down to 220 "hard" sightings and 655 "soft" sightings. Next I added up the tables from the AF, *National Enquirer*, and Otto Binder (all detailed in BEYOND CONDON . . .) and here are the results.

1. Total number of all reports used in the study	2004
2. Elliptical and saucer-shaped objects	416
3. Cigar-shaped objects	70
4. LITS	684
5. Eccentric objects	184

When we reduce these to percentages, we come up with the following approximate figures:

- A LITS, "Soft" and "eccentric" objects 76 per cent
 B Saucer-shaped and cigar-shaped "hard" 23.5 per cent

Obviously the (A) category constitutes the main phenomenon and deserves the most study.

Are there really *thousands* of different sizes and shapes flitting around our skies, as the Ufologists would like to believe? Or are most of these objects temporary manipulations of matter and energy? We must now ask if there could not be some validity to a hypothesis that the objects are transmogrifications and we rarely, if ever, see them in their real form.

Mr. Lucius Farish and a few other dedicated researchers have now uncovered hundreds of sightings from 1896-97 and 1909. In both of these "flaps" all kinds of objects were described, including winged cigars, dirigible-types, and baffling "eccentrics". In 1909, there were innumerable LITS reports supported by descriptions of machines which looked and sounded like conventional airplanes . . . even though the aircraft of 1909 could not equal the speed and performances of these objects.

In 1933-34,* there was a massive flap throughout Northern Scandinavia. While there were many LITS and "eccentric" reports, all of the "hard" sightings involved low-flying *airplanes* of a size and capability unknown for that period. These "Ghostfliers", as they were called, carefully flew over villages and military installations so that everyone could get a good look at them and they provided a "frame of reference" for the more distant and more unusual LITS that appeared simultaneously in the same areas. The combined air forces and navies of Norway, Sweden and Finland took these "Ghostflier" reports very seriously and launched massive searches to try to locate their bases. None were ever found.

Apparently the "dirigibles" of 1897 and the "airplanes" of 1909 and 1934 were used for the same purpose. To provide an acceptable explanation for the more mysterious LITS then operating. Now, in the modern era, saucer-shaped "spaceships" are being deployed in the same way to give us an acceptable frame of reference and an explanation for the phenomenon.

As usual, this is an inadequate summary of the available data. One needs to review and understand all the data before one can accept or reject this hypothesis. But it does seem clear that the objects represent an organised, intelligent effort to mislead us and divert us from the main phenomenon. They exist temporarily, appearing to be solid manufactured objects when actually they are mere transmogrifications devoted to obfuscating the real "truth".

Study the LITS cases and you will find that most often our "mystery meteors" first appear as cyan-coloured (bluish-green) objects which then shift through the entire colour spectrum. Their most stable state is as a blinding white. When they descend or take-off they usually turn a brilliant red. All of this suggests definite changes of frequency. They "enter" our environment by descending from the higher frequencies beyond ultra-violet. (The many cases in which witnesses have suffered burned flesh and eyes suggests that ultra-violet radiation is coming from the objects.) They depart by passing into the red frequencies, going into infra-red (producing those cases in which witnesses suddenly feel great waves of heat?). We've been hearing about these "frequency changes" for years from the "kooks and contactees". The data actually supports it!

The objects may be composed of energy from the upper frequencies of the electro-magnetic spectrum. Somehow they can descend to the narrow (very narrow) range of visible light and can be manipulated into any desirable form . . . including dirigibles, airplanes and "flying saucers". Such transmogrifications would not

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TWO "CREATURE" REPORTS FROM NEW ZEALAND

Anthony J. Brunt

READERS of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW may be interested in two "bizarre figure" reports that the Auckland University UFO Research Group¹ has investigated this year. Although in neither case was a UFO seen, the strange behaviour and dress of the figures, and the unusual circumstances surrounding the encounters make them worth recording. In one case a witness tried to converse with the figures, but was deliberately ignored.

The first incident was the more straightforward of the two. In this the "spaceman"—as one of the witnesses described the figure—was observed for only about six or seven seconds. Miss Gay Harvey, aged 29, a waitress, and Mr. Nino Perego, aged 37, a cocktail barman, both of Lower Hutt, reported seeing an average-sized man dressed in a "diver's suit" striding along an isolated country road late at night as they drove past in the opposite direction. The date can be pinpointed no closer than about a week before Christmas, 1968, at between 10.30 p.m. and 11.00 p.m.

Description of the entity

The couple were travelling from Wellington to Auckland and came upon the figure on the lonely Taupo-Tokoroa highway, about five miles north of Wairakei. Mr. Perego, an Italian who had been in New Zealand for nearly a year, was driving and consequently received a better view of the figure as they passed it on the other side of the road. The "man" was about 5ft. 7in. to 6ft. tall, of average build and wearing a shiny, plastic-type dark blue suit. It was loose fitting though not baggy. There was a belt or division of some kind round the waist, and the trousers appeared to end or be tucked in at the ankles with the feet enclosed in shoes of the same material. The sleeves appeared to be tucked in at the wrists and the hands were also encased in material of substantially the same kind. There appeared to be a collar or division around the neck where the helmet began. The headpiece was more rigid than the body material but was of the same colour.

Mr. Perego said this headpiece was cylindrical like a small "kitchen rubbish tin", and it had a flat top. Its size indicated that the figure had a head of apparently normal human size. There was a clear plastic-type window on the front of the helmet. Through this he could not determine any facial features but only a contrasting skin colour. The window was square and, on a normal person, would have extended from the eyes to the mouth and from ear to ear.² The figure was striding along slowly, like a "zombie", and did not acknowledge the passage of the car. It faced fixedly forward throughout the period it was illuminated.

Although Mr. Perego braked after he realised what he had seen, Miss Harvey did not want to return

because she was feeling ill and wished to reach Auckland as soon as possible. The night was dry and overcast and the road at the observation point was straight and flat. The surrounding terrain was mainly scrub country. Miss Harvey did not have as good a view as her companion, but was able to confirm the general description of the figure. It was she who used the terms "spaceman" and "diving suit". She had not heard of UFOs before. Mr. Perego had a heavy Italian accent, but nevertheless was fluent in English, and quite articulate. He said he was a keen science fiction reader and had also read articles about UFOs, and found them interesting.

Although the incident had not been published, the Group successfully urged the two nearest newspapers, the *Taupo Times* and the *South Waikato News* (Tokoroa) to appeal to the public for any other witnesses. None came forward.

A Maori's encounter

The second incident occurred in the extreme north of New Zealand and involved a 46-year-old Maori, Mr. Nathan Brown, of Awanui. Mr. Brown, educated to secondary school level, and an able seaman during World War II, had been drinking before the encounter. This must obviously detract from his account, but the three Group members who made the six-hour car trip to Awanui to carry out an investigation came away satisfied with the story.

Mr. Brown had been drinking and playing darts in the private bar of the Awanui Hotel with friends until about 1.00 a.m. on February 22. He had then decided to walk the two miles to his home north of the small township because it was a warm, clear night. About one mile north of Awanui on the flat plains, he noticed an incandescence behind some tall pampas bushes on the western side of the road. He crossed over and walked along the row of bushes looking through the gaps to find the source of the light.

After some yards he came to a gap about 8ft. wide where he saw three people. The line of pampas bushes was apparently in a shallow, overgrown ditch, 10ft. away from a wire fence bounding a roadside paddock. Between the ditch and fence was long, thick grass. He said two men were sitting on the grass verging the road tar-seal, with their feet in the ditch and their backs to the road. They were about 4ft. apart. A woman lay apparently across the ditch as if supported by a board that he could not see. Witness said his first reaction was that the three were having a roadside party. He greeted them but they remained silent. He asked other questions but got no answer and at one point asked: "Can't you talk?"

He then thought that maybe the people had been involved in a motor accident, even though there was no