

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Dog affected by "electric bulb" UFO

The *Northern Daily Mail* of Hartlepool carried the following story in its edition for June 9, 1972—

"A mysterious 'flying electric light bulb' puzzled Wingate residents last night. For shortly after 10.30 p.m. an unidentified flying object brought people out of their homes, and caused motorists to halt as it lit up the night sky. One eyewitness, Mr. James Anderson, of Lake View, Wingate, told the Mail today: 'I was driving down through Wingate when the car in front of me pulled up in the middle of the road. The people jumped out and looked up at the sky.

"There was a brilliant light in the sky—like an electric light bulb. There was a terrific noise with it.

"It seemed to fly along, then it stopped for two or three seconds, and then it shot up vertically at great speed.

"I've never believed in flying saucers and that sort of thing before, but now I don't know.

"My wife Rita, who was in the car with me, was terrified."

"Other people heard the noise as far away as Peterlee. One said: 'It was very loud, and my dog went mad, I thought it was an aircraft.'

"Another motorist who saw the 'light bulb' was Mr. Richard Roberts, of Roberts Tours (Wingate) Ltd., who was driving home with his two sons from the Fir Tree Inn. He said: 'It came from the west towards the east coast. We thought it was a rocket at first. It seemed to hover for a few seconds and then it did a vertical climb. It had a hell of a rumble with it.

"It was like a brilliant spinning light, with a centre and a sort of flare

around it. It disappeared upwards in a flash, and must have been travelling faster than sound. Quite a few people stopped to watch it.'"

Parachute-shaped object

In the *Leicester Mercury* of May 16, 1972, we read how—

"Kirby Muxloe had a strange visitation last night—according to retired nurse Mrs. Florence Freestone, who lives at 3, Cherry Tree Avenue. She saw an unidentified flying object, like a car headlamp in the shape of an umbrella with something attached to it.

"She watched the glowing image for about 10 minutes around 10.55 p.m. It looked like a burning parachute, she said, but remained stationary until covered by clouds. It was positioned near the moon.

"Mrs. Freestone wrote down what she saw and drew a diagram.

"Leicester county police said today

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beings. He assures us that his friends testify to it. We ourselves are able neither to underwrite nor to contradict his views. We take them simply as one more report; as a piece of news that must of necessity find a vehicle in the press if it is to be disseminated."

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Finally, here is a report taken from *La Crónica* (Buenos Aires) of April 16, 1972.

UFO witnesses suffer headaches

"People who saw a UFO land on la playa de Buenos Aires, a Peruvian beach some kilometres from the city of Trujillo, are suffering from strange headaches, according to the evening paper *Última Hora*. The flying saucer was so close to the eyewitnesses that Josefa Gayoso de Iparraguirre and her two sons, Germán and César, almost touched it.

"The eyewitnesses said that the saucer had the shape of a bowl upside down. Other people have remained affected by the powerful luminosity given out by the UFO, but some of them have had their eyesight seriously impaired."

* * * * *

Footnotes and Comments by Gordon Creighton

¹ Luján lies due west of Buenos Aires.

² Olavarría, as readers will recall, has already figured in two reports, namely that of the case of the boy Oscar Iriart (FSR, September/October 1968, p. 26), and that of the flying entities seen on the El Carmen farm (FSR, March/April 1970, p. 26).

³ It seems that the newspaper did not reproduce these symbols in its report.

⁴ One of the more maddening facts about UFO investigation is that one so seldom ever hears again of individuals mentioned in reports. It is a pleasure, therefore, to record that this Señor Martínez is quite certainly the same Felipe Martínez who claimed many strange experiences with UFO entities in 1949, 1951, and 1965, and regarding whom I gave a résumé in Case No. 44 of "The Humanoids In Latin America" (Chapter IV of FSR's book *The Humanoids* (Neville Spearman, London, and Henry Regnery, Chicago).

⁵ Everyone is now familiar with the claims made as to both harmful and healing effects wrought by UFOs, but so far as I know little attention has yet been paid to claims that they have also been responsible for sudden changes in human *intelligence*. Among the many hundreds of South American UFO reports from the altogether astonishing year 1965 which I have in my files, and which will eventually be published, there is one extraordinary report from Mexico to the effect that many children living in areas of that country where there had recently been great UFO activity had suddenly developed high I.Qs. I think we should watch very carefully indeed for evidence that this type of "Midwich Cuckoo" effect is indeed occurring. If such reports are true they show very clearly how, at a crisis point in the development of our species, benevolent beings from the Cosmic Hierarchy—if it exists—might bring about a rapid mutation in our mental capacities. Such a rapid leap would be the very opposite of the slow process of *sortes* recently discussed by Aimé Michel in his delightful *Project Dick!* (FSR, January/February 1972).

⁶ It must not be assumed that FSR promises any guarantee as to the accuracy of any of the statements of Sr. Martínez. The earliest reports (1949-65) described this gentleman as a *shopkeeper*, and we now learn that he was an *illiterate* one too.

⁷ There is overwhelming evidence that many patients experience this sort of "electrical current" when undergoing treatment by a spiritual healer.

⁸ It will be for investigators in Argentina to confirm whether Father Reyna is indeed their *doyen*.

they had no reports of any UFOs. A spokesman said there was a lot of cloud about and this could produce strange shapes."

Mystery animal tracks

The *Southern Evening Echo* of February 12, 1972, was the source of the following item:

"The mysterious tracks of a two-footed animal, similar to those found in the garden of Mrs. H. P. Short, of Nutwood, Tatchbury Lane, Winsor, have been reported by several people, including a Cadnam resident.

"Tracks have also been seen by two of Mrs. Short's neighbours.

"In each case the tracks run close to the house. They were evenly spaced but were left by only two paws.

"Similar tracks were also reported to Mrs. Short by Mrs. J. A. Marshall, of The Cottage, Romsey Road, Cadnam, who noticed them during the recent snow.

"Mrs. Short, whose father once kept one of the largest private zoos of British fauna in the country, has sent photographs of the tracks to a friend of her father's, Dr. Maurice Burton, head of the Natural History Museum, in the hope that he can identify them.

"Mrs. Short said: 'I have been brought up with all kinds of animals but I have never seen anything like this in my life.'"

Credit: Peter J. Kelly of Hythe, near Southampton.

Odd lights over the Wash

Here is an item of interest from the *Leicester Mercury* of October 30, 1971—another of those irritating occasions when a reasonable report is spoiled by lack of precise data as to exact time or date.

"Wildfowler Terry Walker, of Anstey, is puzzled about an eerie sighting of two strange lights with an odd behaviour pattern while following his sport on Buttewick Marsh, a tract of salt marsh on the north shore of the Wash.

"There were five of us when we had this strange experience," said Terry, who works in British United Shoe Machinery Company's Lasting Department.

"We had spent most of the day on the marsh and were walking off after darkness had fallen. The evening flight had not materialised, probably because it was a clear, still, cold, cloudless night.

"When we reached the sea wall, we stopped for a breather and I thought I saw a red light drop on to the marsh about a mile away. As I stared at it, one of my colleagues asked what I had seen. He confirmed my sighting and we both likened it to a red

distress flare.

"The marshes can be dangerous especially after dark—and as the tide was rising, we wondered if there was a fellow wildfowler or a small boat in distress. We fired four shots in the air at two-second intervals and flashed a torch towards the origin of the light, this being normal procedure for assistance recognition.

"No reply was received, but about four minutes later a light appeared and seemed to bounce across the marsh. It was pillar-box red and appeared from different places. It approached us, then receded, the jumps appearing to be about 100 yards long and about 50 to 100 feet high.

"We watched the phenomena for about five minutes, and then a second light caught our eyes. This was a bright white light about twice the size of a star which appeared at a 60-degree angle to the ground to the south-west.

"It was against a background of stars and moving independently of them in a rectangular pattern, with an occasional waver. It always finished on the same point and set off again at right angles to its former course.

"We sat watching both of these lights for about 15 minutes, and having decided that the red light was not a wildfowler in distress, we decided to report the sighting to Port of Boston authority.

"On our way there we watched the light in the sky for a further ten minutes. The Port Authority office confirmed that there had been no reports of vessels in distress, and we have never had an explanation or seen anything similar since.

"Jack o' Lanterns or Will o' the Wisps—pockets of inflammable marsh gas exploding—have been suggested as an explanation for the red lights moving across the marsh, but what about the bright white light?

"Were they unconnected or not? None of us believe in psychic phenomena or in UFO's, but it certainly makes one think . . . incidentally we had not been overdoing the "something to keep the cold out," although we remedied the situation after seeing all this."

Credit: Geoffrey Coxon of Higham-on-the-Hill, Warwicks.

INDIA

One from the past

The following account has come to us orally from one of the senior officers of the Indian Air Force, who is a personal friend of a director of FSR. (We do not propose to embarrass the officer—or to please our anonymous Ph.D. correspondent in Dallas, Texas

—by revealing the officer's identity.)

The case occurred in 1953, and concerns the sighting of a large unidentified cigar-shaped object stationary over Delhi. Our informant adds that, so far as he is aware, this is the only report yet recorded of a cigar-shaped object over India.

Two De Havilland *Vampires* of the Indian Air Force were sent up to investigate the intruder. Our informant knew the pilot of one of these two aircraft, and subsequently had the account directly from him. He also discussed the case with the then Officer Commanding, Indian Air Force.

What the pilot told our informant is of great interest. He said that when he had approached the mystery object and was right beneath it, he was baffled to find that it had suddenly vanished from that position and was now on the other side of him, beneath him. This process went on for some time, the object literally "running rings around his machine" and appearing now here, now there, until at last, utterly discouraged, he broke off the investigation and returned to base.

SPAIN

Another Fátima?

From the columns of the *Sunday Express* for June 4, 1972, we take the following story signed by reporter Sally Brompton—

"In a Spanish mountain-top village a group of British pilgrims gazed above them in awe.

"The evening sun seemed to be surrounded by an aura of colours, spinning and pulsating in the sky.

"Forty men and women in the party are certain they saw a miracle. The group, mostly strangers to each other, had travelled to the tiny village of Garabandal in Northern Spain where, in 1961, four village children had claimed to have seen the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus.

"One of the British pilgrims, Mrs. Gwendoline Hurndall, a night sister at St. Joseph's Hospital, Hackney, East London, said yesterday: 'We found we could stare at the sun without sunglasses. The outline of a cross had been seen and I just saw a part of it before it vanished.

"Then the sun began to spin like a Catherine-wheel, first one way and then the other. Then it started to jump like a yoyo for a few minutes before going back to its spinning again."

"Another of the pilgrims, Miss Marina Foley, who works in a chemist's shop in Holborn, London, said: 'The sun looked like a flat, white disc and it was spinning in a clockwise direction and pulsating to and fro.'

"But a psychiatrist said: 'People who have travelled hundreds of miles on a

pilgrimage tend to have a sense of expectation. In a highly emotional state of mind anything could happen.

"Another explanation could be that staring straight at the sun can fatigue the optic nerve and cause illusions."

"Dr. Alan Hunter, acting director of the Royal Observatory at Herstmonceux, Sussex, said: 'We take photographs of the sun every day and would certainly have noticed if anything unusual had happened.'"

[We are grateful to the many readers who drew our attention to this report.]

It is conceivable that Dr. Hunter, or his colleagues, take their daily photographs of the sun from Garabandal in Northern Spain, in which case one would value their comments on the Fátima-like phenomenon reported by people in that district. Anyone who lives in South-Eastern England, and not too far from Herstmonceux during this wretched summer, will fully appreciate the need for such a deployment of equipment. It is more likely however that the Royal Observatory send their cameras way above the seemingly perpetual cloud-cover over England, or have their photographs taken at Cape Town, or somewhere similar. But these places are all a long way from Garabandal—
EDITOR.]

NEW ZEALAND

Holes and circles again

A correspondent, W. H. Preston-Thomas of Wellington, has sent the following short report, dated June 13, 1972:

"Our UFO group here, C.A.P.R.—Civilian Aerial Phenomena Research—has recently been investigating a strange happening on a farm in the 'King Country.' One night in a field near the farmhouse, a hole 9 inches wide and 15 feet deep was 'bored.' The sides of the hole were smooth, with traces of 'rifling.' The hole was in one corner of an enclosed field, but no marks of any machinery, and the fences all intact. It is a wild part with only dirt roads near the house, and no earthly machinery could bore a hole like that with no noise, leave no marks, or even get there over those roads!

"But I expect you've heard all about it? One of our chaps is up in the same district at present investigating another 'circle' appearance.

"Will send you any precise information if I can get it."

[Good! We will be pleased to receive it]
—EDITOR.]

Lichfield circle

The following is a *New Zealand Press Association* report, dated June 2,

1972, and emanating from Hamilton:

"Several Tokoroa farmers, puzzled by what they believe are frequent visits from unidentified flying objects, have found another mysterious circular patch of bare earth.

"This patch, the third found in the area in three months, was found on Mr. K. S. Cox's farm at Lichfield, six miles north of Tokoroa.

"Mr. White said that he did not think weedicide, grass grub or fungi could have caused the patch."

Credit: W. H. Preston-Thomas.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

North Carolina UFO seen by police

We came across the following account in *The Royal Gazette* of Bermuda, the issue being that for March 16, 1972. The report (UPI) is datelined Newton, North Carolina, Wednesday (March 16)—

"Police officers in three towns in Catawba County reported seeing an unidentified flying object which hovered, circled, and flew silently at great speed early today.

"Witnesses said the object was round and gave off a bright, reflecting greenish-blue light that 'blipped like an electro-cardiogram.'

"It was faster than a plane," said Sgt. M. L. Moore of the Newton Police force, who spotted the object about 12.30 a.m. 'It went across at a heck of a speed. It was a weird thing, I tell you.'

"Municipal Police in Hickory and Maiden, south of Newton, and two deputy sheriff patrol cars also reported sighting the mysterious object.

"Newton Police Chief J. D. Kirkman did not see the object, but said it apparently was the same thing seen on an earlier occasion by another officer.

"One of our officers, Paul Burgess, has seen it before—and he's been here two years," Kirkman said, 'It's the same thing all right. They compared notes and it's the same thing. It's really weird.'

"It came to a sudden stop over the business district and began moving in a slow up-and-down motion just like it was suspended in air," Moore said. 'In a few minutes it moved on in a south-west direction.'

WALES

Policeman spots Ogmere UFO

Mr. J. Eveleigh drew our attention to a report in the *South Wales Echo* of June 12, 1972, and a few days later we obtained a more detailed report of the incident from the *Western Mail* of June 13, 1972. In both reports the date is quoted as "last night" which, we

can only assume, was June 11:

"The mystery of an unidentified flying object seen drifting over a Glamorgan valley village and which frightened sheep and birds was still unsolved last night.

"Police checks with RAF and airport authorities failed to throw any light on the incident which was reported late on Sunday night.

"The sighting was made over the Ogmere Valley by Blackmill village Constable David Harris and his father-in-law, Mr. Alexander Anderson, aged 57, a retired miner from Maesteg.

"They were out walking Constable Harris's brown spaniel Judy shortly before midnight when they saw the object 'floating' across Llangeinor Mountain and then disappear over the treetops.

"It was travelling from west to east. They described it as being about 30 feet long and tubular in shape. There were white lights at the front and back but no wings. It was less than 100 feet above the ground.

"Mr. Anderson said, 'It was a beautiful, clear night and no noise. There was no traffic about. Suddenly, we looked up, and there it was. At first we thought it might be a shooting star.

"We watched it in silence for about a minute before it disappeared behind the trees. We just couldn't make it out. There was this dark, tubular shape with lights at both ends.'

"Meanwhile, a few hundred yards away on the other side of the village a smallholder, Mr. Chris John, was awakened by bleating sheep and bird cries.

"I am a very light sleeper, and, just before midnight, I was woken up by sheep bleating in a field behind the house. I first thought it was the dogs, and I dashed to the window. It was a beautiful night, and I saw the sheep tearing up the field and into their shed.

"They were very frightened, but there were no dogs about. Then the birds started up. It was all very queer whatever it was.'

Credit: John Eveleigh of Rumney, Cardiff.

STOP PRESS

South Africa: Farmer and Police fire shots at UFO

The following item is included at the last minute. Our account is taken from *The Star*, Johannesburg, South Africa, of June 27, 1972, and we are indebted to Michael Imber of Pretoria for sending it. The item is the first of many news cuttings—and whole newspapers!—that have reached the Editor, and it is obvious that the event has had quite

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More News on Aladino Felix —Alias Dino Kraspedon

Gordon Creighton

IN my article *Follow-Up on the Morro do Vintém Mystery*,* I mentioned the strange case of Aladino Félix, author of *My Contact with Flying Saucers*, and the fabulous saga of his threat to bring in the "Venusians" as allies against the wicked Brazilian authorities who had interfered with his terroristic activities.

In a further report about this man from Dr. Walter Buhler, we learn that Aladino Félix was once in a seminary for priests, and has the reputation of being very intelligent, with a strong personality and a decided egocentric drive. Dr. Buhler says he came under some undesirable political influences and was probably manipulated into becoming the head of a considerable terrorist gang who carried out a great number of bomb outrages, armed bank robberies, thefts of dynamite, and numerous acts of terrorism which led to the loss of at least one human life† and for which, on March 30, 1971, Aladino Félix was given a prison sentence of five years by the Permanent Council of Justice of the 2nd Auditorio of the 2nd Military District (São Paulo).

According to the *Correio da Manhã* of January 15, 1972, also forwarded to us by Dr. Buhler, we now learn however that the Higher Military Court has reduced the sentence to only eight months in prison. This leniency, it seems, derives from the fact that several Government Ministers had voted for a reduction of the sentence. One of the Ministers suggested however that such reduction be conditional on the transfer of

Aladino Félix to a house of custody for treatment. In view of the vast amount of violent crime involved, this fresh development can surely only mean that there are very good grounds for concluding that Aladino Félix is in a mentally disturbed state.

As readers will recall, he had announced that he was calling in the "Venusians" to assist him in his war against society. We have not heard however how the "Venusians" have responded, and whether any of them have arrived to join in the fray. Unquestionably, if one can judge by the temperatures which our scientists claim to have detected on Venus, that planet certainly ought to offer excellent accommodation for even the most sulphurous of MIB Gentry.

I too am incensed—at the current rise in the cost of living—and I am wondering whether the "Ganymedians" can perhaps help?

All in all, the case of Aladino Félix is interesting, and possibly very important. It should be studied in conjunction with the books and articles of John Keel.

Notes

* FSR, July/August 1971.

† Another remarkable seminarian, an idealist with great intelligence, a strong personality, and a vast egocentric drive, who subsequently also became a highly successful bank-robber and terrorist, was one Joseph Vissarionovich Djughashvili, alias *Stalin*, whose victims numbered not one

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an impact in the Republic. It is proposed to deal with the affair, and other reports from South Africa, in an article in *FSR Case Histories Supplement 11*:

"Fort Beaufort.—Police and a farmer yesterday [June 26, 1972] fired shots at a mysterious unidentified flying object near here. The UFO, which appeared on the farm Braeside owned by Mr. Bennie Smith, about 15km from town, first appeared as a ball of fire 1 metre in diameter. It was reported to have changed colour frequently.

"The first person to see it was a farm labourer, at about 8 am.

"He saw a large ball of fire hovering at tree-top height.

"He called the farmer, Mr Smith, who fired unsuccessfully at the object with a .303 rifle. But it kept moving from behind one tree to another. The object kept changing colour—from red to green, yellow to white—and Mr Smith called the police.

"The station commander, Warrant Officer P. R. van Rensburg, and Sergeant P. C. Kitching, arrived at the farm at 9 am.

"After both Mr Smith and Sergeant Kitching had fired a couple of shots, we saw a round, black shiny object emerge from behind the trees," Warrant Officer Van Rensburg said.

"It would slowly disappear from sight and then reappear. Shots fired

had no effect, but when anyone approached, it would move out of sight."

"Mr Smith moved into thick bush and fired two shots from close range. After noticing a circle of fist-like imprints on the sand, he said the object made a whirring sound and disappeared in the direction of Fordyce Bush, an undeveloped and uninhabited area.

"According to the Fort Beaufort police, no further reports have been received.

"Warrant Officer Van Rensburg said he had never encountered anything like it before, and could offer no suggestion as to its identity.—Sapa."

What a way to deal with the unknown: shoot first, ask questions afterwards!—EDITOR.

THE INCREDIBLE FORT BEAUFORT AFFAIR (see STOP PRESS above) is dealt with in full in **FSR CASE HISTORIES Supplement 11** (due out shortly. Here is the story of a great new UFO classic in 1972. Read the story of the public and press furore, the strange developments, the police and scientific investigations and statements, further reported appearances of the UFO and intriguing new mysteries. Be sure to order your copy in good time if you do not already subscribe. Price 24p.