3,000 people (everything in China is on the gigantic scale!) on a sports ground at Chang-P'u (Province of Fukien, East China). The film was Romanian, and its title: Alert on the Danube Delta. Suddenly, at about 8.30 p.m., two objects appeared in the sky. Flying so low that they almost seemed to touch the ground, they emitted an intense orange glow and were only fractions of a metre apart, and travelling in total silence. Such was the panic which ensued that 300 people were injured and two children killed. Meanwhile, the two objects were out of sight in a few seconds.

On October 23, 1978 (another open-air film-show) pilots of the Chinese Air Force were looking at a film somewhere in the Province of Kan-Su (North-West China) when a large bright object appeared in the sky. They observed it for some two to three minutes, as it circled around above them at an estimated height of some 21,000 ft. (about 6,000 metres). The object was rectangular and carried intensely bright lights. On October 21, 1978, (two days earlier) the Australian airman Valentich perished while observing a similar object.

Two students from the Peking Mining Institute were camping in August 1980 at Ch'ang-P'ing, in the mountains near Peking. Their names were Hsin Sheng and Pi Chiang, and the report which they produced is as follows:-

"At about 0408 in the early hours of August 23, 1980, we were looking at the stars when we saw an object emitting a white light appear from behind a mountain to the East. At first, when partly hidden by the mountain, it looked like a portion of the disc of the Moon. But its irregular course led us to conclude that it must be a UFO. We climbed up on to a large rock to get a better view, and we were able to observe the object for half an hour.

When it moved away, it looked like three very near stars. At one moment it came towards us, and then moved away again. The entire sighting took place in complete silence." They took a photograph, which was published in due course in the *Peking Evening News (Pei-Ching Wan-Pao)*.

On October 5, 1980, a party of sailors were fishing at night for shrimps off Ta-Kang, on the North China Coast. According to a statement made by one of them, Hung Chang-Kuei, aged 31, a cone-shaped object, flying at about 3,000 ft. (900 metres) appeared at 3.00 a.m. Although the object seemed to be quite small, it emitted an intense heat which they felt on their faces. Hung Chang-Kuei said: "It was as though we were underneath a stove. It emitted an intense glow, a bit like the glow from an electric arc. It was a vivid red colour in the centre, and bluish-green around the edges and white at the extreme rear part. The sighting lasted about ten seconds and the thing whistled as it flew over us."

Another member of the party, Chin Kuo-min, aged 46, added: "Frankly, I was terrified. We didn't know what it was, and it made such a terrible noise."

A month later, on November 5, 1980, at a textile mill at Ching-Hai, near the big port of Tientsin (North-East China), two workers, Li Jen-Pei and Li Lai-Chun, observed, in the early hours of the morning, a disc-shaped object emitting a green glow and following an irregular course. It vanished towards the East, but reappeared again about seven minutes later, flying westward. After a few seconds it again changed course and vanished finally towards the East.

Undoubtedly some of these reports may relate to sightings of meteors or of ball lightning. But it is equally certain that this still leaves cases of genuine UFOs! (As examples of meteors — one was seen in China on November 11, 1979, and again on November 11, 1980. This was a meteor that was seen also in France and in Spain on those dates.)

(Translator's Note: four last lines, about meteors, not translated, being seemingly contradictory.—G.C.)

## A RUSSIAN EDITOR DUE FOR WORK ON THE PIPELINE?

The *Guardian* newspaper carried the following strange *Reuter* report from Russia during the first two weeks of 1983 (precise day not ascertained).

"The Soviet newspaper Sovietskaya Kultura said yesterday that the existence of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) should not be ruled out, and revealed that a Soviet fighter plane had a brush with a mystery object two years ago.

The paper said there were still many unexplained phenomena behind various "flying saucer" reports, and urged scientists to collect and collate as much information as possible on the subject.

In an example of recent strange happenings in the Soviet Union, the report said that in 1981 a fighter

plane encountered a "fiery ball" 16 ft. in diameter.

Scientists had at first assumed that the phenomenon was ball-lightning, but the damage to the plane did not tally with this.

The report also revealed that the Soviet Union was working on plans for a long-distance, unmanned space mission to try to track down signs of civilisations on distant planets."

(We feel that the editor of this paper which suggests that UFOs exist should watch his step. Does he want to be a candidate for work on the pipeline?) Ed.