

LOU ZINSSTAG (1905-1984)

An Appreciation by Timothy Good

LOU (Louise) ZINSSTAG, the pioneering Swiss UFO researcher and writer, died in Basle on 19 January 1984, ten days after her 79th birthday. She had been struggling courageously with cancer for nearly a year, but typically insisted on looking after herself at home until the last month, when it became necessary to have her taken to hospital.

Her interest in UFOs began in 1954 after reading "*Flying Saucers From Outer Space*" by Donald Keyhoe and then "*Flying Saucers Have Landed*" by Desmond Leslie and George Adamski. She began corresponding with Adamski and in 1957 became his Swiss co-worker. This association led to some fascinating experiences and new friendships, but in 1964 disagreement and uncertainty about his later claims forced her to leave him, although she remained steadfast in her conviction that many, if not all of his claims were essentially true.

In 1958 she wrote a compendium of Swiss sightings, "*UFO Sichtungen über der Schweiz, 1949-1958*" (now out of print). Her association with FSR began in the same year when she wrote her first article for the magazine, and then corresponded with Gordon Creighton, Brinsley Le Poer Trench, Waveney Girvan and John Lade. During the following years she was a regular visitor to London and had many enjoyable meetings with the FSR team, particularly Waveney Girvan for whom she had enormous admiration.

Her articles for FSR included "*Monguzzi takes Saucer Photos of the Century*" (Vol. 4, No. 5, 1958); "*A Voice from Space*." (Vol. 7, No. 1, 1961) describing Basle resident Walter Kunz's tape recording of the anguished cries of an early Soviet cosmonaut in an apparent emergency, and "*Conversations with Dr. Jung*" (Vol. 9, No. 4, 1963).

Lou, who was related to Jung through her mother, also wrote an informative article on Jung's early psychological researches with some members of his family: "*Memoirs of what Mother told me about her Cousin Carl Gustav Jung*" (Journal of the American Society of Psychosomatic Dentistry and Medicine, Vol. 27, No. 2, 1980).

She had two sightings of UFOs in her life: a 'totally black sphere' over central Basle in July 1957, and a zigzagging object high above the Odenwald in Germany in July 1971. In both cases other witnesses were present.

I first met Lou in 1965 at her delightful flat in the centre of Basle. We struck up an instant rapport and the conversation lasted well into the small hours, as did most of our talks in the following years. In 1976 during one of my many visits to Lou I suggested that

we should collaborate on a book about Adamski. Later that year, and in 1978 and 1979, we travelled all over the United States interviewing friends of his, as well as many other famous contactees and abductees. After much hard work "*George Adamski — The Untold Story*" was finally published by the two of us in January 1983, and Lou came to London for the launch party. Her part of the book contains fascinating reminiscences of Adamski, her visit with him to the Vatican in May 1963 when he was received privately by Pope John XXIII, as well as her discussions with Jung about Adamski, and her own intriguing personal 'contact' in 1961.

A true 'bon viveur', Lou had a tremendous sense of humour and a healthy appreciation of good food and wine. Her small frame belied her fantastic energy, which astonished everyone. Far from being a fanatic about UFOs she had other absorbing hobbies, including a passion for the theatre, cinema and museums, travelling abroad, walking, and a great love of animals, especially birds.

Deeply concerned about the world-wide political, economical and ecological situation, she attributed official secrecy on UFOs to international financial interests. This was most evident in her own country, she maintained, where there is a virtual blackout on UFO reports. In this connection I feel sure that she would like me to quote a paragraph from her last letter to me:

"... The different governments all sit in the same boat, ours as well as yours: they are all indebted to the banks, they are all in the red, they have no power to attack or to put in doubt what the banks want to do with the big money. They put it into our conventional energy forms which bring heaps of interest. I am sure that the governments know this. Of course, they can't tell the truth (about UFOs); they have to invent new lies every year or so ... but the forces in the dark, hiding behind and influencing every kind of debunking explanation, are stronger than any other agency because they have all the money in the world at their disposal."

Lou will be missed by her friends and correspondents all over the world. She wrote and spoke several languages, including Russian, and over the years amassed a truly impressive international collection of UFO photos, books, articles and newscuttings. Her dearest wish to have these archives deposited in the Basle University Library has been realised, thus bequeathing a unique legacy to students of our tantalizing subject.



Lou Zinsstag

LOU ZINSSTAG

DURING one of her earliest visits to FSR, Lou Zinsstag gave me an interesting account of the cover-up in Switzerland. She had been summoned before one of the senior officials of the Swiss Security Services and told flatly that she was to publish nothing more on UFOs. He had her last magazine article open on the desk before him.

The whole concept of UFOs is of course deeply disturbing, and it is perfectly understandable that *bankers* everywhere (who seek to create the illusion of a "stable world") should be so allergic to the idea and so unwilling to see "the boat rocked".

However, as time went by, Lou Zinsstag (like Adamski himself) became a good deal less naive, and began to perceive that there is more than one sort of UFO entity; that there are forces and powers at work in our poor old world which are far more sinister and dangerous to mankind than the mere "*Gnomes of Zürich*"; and that these forces are most probably some of the entities themselves, who are anything but desirous that we should even know that they exist, and who are probably the ultimate controllers and manipulators of the "UFO cover-up".

The other extremely important feature about Lou Zinsstag is of course her family relationship with C. G. Jung, one of the greatest philosophers and psychiatrists and teachers of our time. Our critics and opponents who find the existence of the UFOs so disturbing for their complacency have made much —

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REMARKABLE CONFIRMATION FOR ADAMSKI?

An important Brazilian contact case of 1957
(Translated from Portuguese)

FSR Vol. 3, No. 6 (November/December 1957) carried a brief account from Senhor Escobar J. Faria of the alleged experience of Dr João de Freitas Guimarães, a lawyer and professor of Ancient Roman Law in the Catholic Faculty of Law in one of the Brazilian universities (possibly São Paulo?) who claimed to have had a remarkable close encounter and flight in a craft with friendly alien beings of a very human-like type.

Here is the considerably fuller account of his story, which we take with his permission from Dr. W. Buhler's *SBEDV Bulletin No. 4*, published in Portuguese in 1958 and now translated into English possibly for the first time. It seems to be based on a transcription of the Professor's account as given by him in an interview on the Brazilian TV Channel 13 in August 1958, though some of the dates do not mesh well and we think therefore there may be a typographical error somewhere. — EDITOR

ONE evening in the cool season of 1957 — seemingly in June or early July — Professor Guimarães was on legal business in the coastal town of São Sebastião, which lies a little north-east of Santos on the Atlantic coast in the State of São Paulo. He

had already dined, and was taking a stroll along the beach, the time being about 9.10 or 9.15 p.m.

The sky was overcast and dull. There was no bench nearby, so he was sitting on the sands with his knees drawn up, contemplating the dark sea. Suddenly he