

plane that had crashed. He then proceeds to describe the saucer in terms totally incompatible with the way a crashed plane would look! In spite of his short stay inside the craft, his description in version (ii) is extremely detailed, in fact, too much so if we consider that after a few minutes he became uneasy and left. In version (i), Bossa had no problems entering the craft; in version (ii), he had to do some acrobatics to accomplish it.

Moreover, it is rather hard to believe that knowing what was waiting in the fields, he opted for not returning immediately. This site was practically adjacent to the road, and even if the area is not very populated, it is hard to conclude that no one would pass the place for many hours, probably a day, since the bodies were stone cold.

CONCLUSIONS

There are two, and only two, possibilities.

i) the story is true, in which case it becomes necessary to find a satisfactory explanation for the anomalies listed above; and

ii) the whole thing is a clever hoax, perhaps developed by an educated man for his own entertainment, or by a not so well educated man for financial gain, in which case, Bossa perhaps never existed.

If he was as well known as González wants us to believe, it should be a simple matter to find material proof of his visit to General Acha or to Bahía Blanca in May of 1950.

REFERENCES

- ¹ Stringfield, Leonard H., SITUATION RED: THE UFO SIEGE, Doubleday, 1977.
- ² Lorenzen, Coral E., The reality of the little men, FLYING SAUCERS, December 1958, p.26.
- ³ Flachaire, M., Un atterrissage d'astronef en Argentine, LE COURRIER INTERPLANETAIRE, No.15 (Pâques 1956), Lausanne, Switzerland. Alfred Nahon, Director.
- ⁴ Scully, Frank, BEHIND THE FLYING SAUCERS, Henry Holt and Co, New York, 1950.

NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR

It is certainly to be hoped that — even at this late date — some of our friends and correspondents in Argentina or Venezuela or elsewhere in South America will be able to give conclusive answers to the very evident questions posed by Dr. Willy Smith.

The Botta case has been mentioned several times in FSR — particularly in our Volume 1, No. 4 (1955), and in our Vol. 28, No. 6 (1983). For a tentative bibliography of the whole "Crashed Saucers" argument, see the footnotes accompanying the article, *Top U.S. Scientist Admits Crashed UFOs*, in FSR Vol. 31, No. 1 recently. See also the immediately following item, below, which is the latest material that we have received in this particular debate.

As regards FSR's own account of this case (FSR Vol. 1, No. 4, Sept./Oct. 1955, page 5), we would take this opportunity to point out that *our* understanding — and that is how we gave it — was that it had first appeared in A.P.R.O.'s *Bulletin* already in 1955 (or earlier). Mrs. Lorenzen's article in FLYING SAUCERS, entitled "*The Reality of the Little Green Men*", quoted by Dr. Willy Smith, only appeared, however, in December 1958.

Moreover, in the A.P.R.O. version which we have, it was not "*two other UFOs*" that Botta found on his return to the spot next day, but "*a cigar-shaped object and two discs.*" The A.P.R.O. account goes on to say that one of the two discs was hovering at a height of some 2,000 ft. and that Botta, who thought it might be some 30 ft. or so in diameter, took six photographs of it, only two of which, however, showed it with any degree of clarity. The account goes on to say that the two discs shortly afterwards "*shot up and merged with the cigar, which, after travelling horizontally for a short distance, disappeared into space at a colossal speed.*"

Incidentally, as regards the "*heap of ashes*" that Botta and his friends were supposed to have found lying at the site, our impression here at FSR has always been that this was to be taken to indicate that a *cremation* of the bodies might have taken place, and not, as Dr. Willy Smith seems to have read it, that "*the craft was a now a pile of ashes*".

My own interpretation of the story has consequently always been that, if Botta and his friends found no crashed disc lying there any longer, but only a pile of ashes, this meant that the disc had been recovered by its owners. — G.C.

THE UFO CRASH REVELATIONS: AN INTERESTING NEW DEVELOPMENT

Dear Mr. Creighton,

In a recent issue of *Flying Saucer Review* (Volume 31, No. 1, 1985) your article entitled "*Top U.S. Scientist Admits Crashed UFOs*" indicated that it was first to Jerome Clark that Dr. Robert I. Sarbacher revealed his knowledge of crashed UFOs. Well, Mr. Clark was not the first. Mr. William Steinman in recent months has provided me with the following information:

"I first became aware of Dr. Sarbacher when I read notes of Wilbert B. Smith regarding his interview with him on September 15, 1950. I had obtained the notes from Wilbert Smith's widow, Murl. She obtained them out of Wilbert's own research diary, which is in the possession of Wilbert's son. Dr. Sarbacher remembered the interview when I sent him

a copy. The handwriting of the notes matches that exactly of other notes in Smith's own long-hand." A copy of Dr. Sarbacher's letter of November 29, 1983 to Mr. Steinman is enclosed for your information. The only copy Mr. Steinman says he gave anyone was to U.S. UFO researcher Mr. William L. Moore in December, 1983 (in fact, within one week of receiving it in the mail on December 5, 1983). You can take it from there how all the others, including myself, in the grapevine finally obtained their copy. A

more in-depth article with Mr. Steinman's approval will be published regarding the above affair in my UFO publication, *The Sixth Quark Journal*, this Spring.

Sincerely,
Tom Benson,
P.O. Box 1174,
Trenton, N.J. 08606,
U.S.A.
January 16, 1986

(See photostats
on Page 25 and 26)

SPINNING SAUCERS GAIN CREDIBILITY

Paul Whitehead

THE *Flying Saucer Review* took its name from those UFOs spotted by the pilot Kenneth Arnold in 1947.¹ The concept of a flying saucer is, however, much older, dating back at least to the 19th century, when an American farmer spotted what he described as a "saucer" flying over his property.²

Saucer-shaped objects were seen in the USA in the 1930s (and later sketched) by Richard Keeler. A report of the case appears in Dr. J. Allen Hynek's "*The Hynek UFO Report*", published in 1978.

Certain authorities, such as the American and British governments, would have us believe that flying saucers are seen only by those among us unfortunate enough to be suffering some mental aberration. "Mental patients" probably make the ideal spotters, as far as these authorities are concerned!³

However, the French Government, whose Minister of Defence, Monsieur Robert Galley, revealed in an exclusive interview on the French Radio programme *France-Inter* in February 1974 that his country took the UFOs seriously and had long had a department secretly studying them, continues to conduct research into the subject. (See *OMNI Magazine*, February 1986.) And it seems to be common knowledge that the American Government, among others, still conducts its own research programme too. But this, since the publication of the *Condon Report* in October 1968, is no longer said to be done by the U.S. Air Force (who seem never to have been seriously involved), but most probably by America's most secret Intelligence body, the NSA (*National Security Agency*) who may in fact have been the people really in charge of it all along.⁴

Before we move on to an article written recently by Dr. Frank Close, of Britain's Rutherford Appleton Research Laboratory, which discussed anti-gravity, spinning masses and even "spinning saucers", let us briefly recap on what flying saucers are theorised to be.

For some they are spiritual messengers from a distant galaxy, inducing the gullible among us to part

with money from our pockets to assist in bringing salvation to the earth. Some adherents to this philosophy believe the UFOs themselves are pure spirit, others think they just carry the Gods.

For others, UFOs reside within a hollow Earth, and are currently making exception to pollution, nuclear tests, too much "*Dallas*" on TV, etc.

The more rational explanations propose that UFOs carry visitors ("beings", robots or a cloned version of the two) from another world, who are monitoring our progress, much as a zoo-keeper keeps an eye on his various broods. Visitors from another dimension or from a parallel world are also not discounted.

Many reports of UFOs have been reported by high calibre and reliable witnesses. These include military personnel, police officers, pilots, etc — even astronomers.

One of the classic features of flying saucers is this:— *they spin*.⁵

Until now, the sceptics have happily thrown this feature, along with all the others, onto the refuse tip. Why, after all, should an advanced spacecraft have to spin? What does the spinning do? And anyway, we all know you didn't see a flying saucer, so it couldn't have been spinning!

But will they reject this feature of flying saucers quite so easily again?

Enter Dr. Frank Close. In his article "*Gravity — has the penny finally dropped?*" (*The Guardian*, March 14th 1986), he discusses at some length a proposal to experiment with antigravity.

"As any UFO buff knows," he states, "flying saucers spin rapidly so that their antigravity drives are effective."

Some scientists, he adds, were now suggesting that they could be right about the spinning producing antigravity. He goes on to describe how scientists were planning to experiment with antigravity particles produced by man, to see, among other things, if

(continued on page 27)