

# UFO with Light Beams near Vitry-en-Artois

## Near-landing in the Pas-de-Calais, N.E. France

Taken from *Lumières dans la Nuit*\* for February, 1973, this account is prepared from the report on an investigation conducted by Messrs. M. Lecat, J. M. Bigorne and J-M. Bavay. Translation by Gordon Creighton.

At 6.00 p.m. on July 20, 1971, Monsieur F. Laisne, a 32-year-old building worker, was in his garden when a sharp whistling noise made him look round towards the next-door house. There, to his immense surprise, he beheld, at a height of just about 8 metres above that house, a great luminous ball travelling along at no more than 30 km. or so per hour. It seemed thoroughly real and solid, of a milky-white colour with greenish touches. It seemed flattened at top and bottom, and appeared to have a slight pitch in its movement. From the under-portion of it, powerful green beams of light were pouring down steadily on to the ground and illuminating the whole area below (although it was still broad daylight at the time). Furthermore, it was enveloped in a greenish halo. It was not rotating. His impression of its size was that it was a little over 2 metres in diameter, and that its surrounding halo was another 50 cms. wide.

The object then flew over his house. He heard no sound from it. It carried straight on ahead, on a horizontal course, until it came to a large poplar tree, whereupon it stopped dead for a few seconds, just a few metres from the tree. Suddenly it gave out a tremendous burst of blinding flashes of light in all directions. Then it climbed rapidly towards the top of the tree, its light blinked a few times, it gathered speed, and flew off, still climbing, towards Notre-Dame-de-Lorette. The witness watched it until it was out of sight.

At the moment when it let out its vivid burst of dazzling beams, a branch of the poplar broke clean off

the tree and fell to the ground. This branch was 15 cms. thick and 2.5 metres long. It looked as though it had been "grilled," but did not catch fire. On the poplar tree itself there remained a stump, 30 cms. long, from which the branch had come. The witness picked up the charred branch and used it in his wood-burning stove.

At the foot of the poplar tree, the grass was yellowed over an area of several square metres.

At the time of the occurrence, the witness was standing at a spot 120 metres from the tree and 60 metres from the line of flight of the mysterious globe. He felt no physical or other effects, either at the time or since. He was simply dazed by the brightness. The sky was overcast at the time, with fleecy clouds, and there was very little wind. The Arras-Douai-Lille electric railway

(Continued at foot of page 10)

\* L.D.L.N. address: Mons. R. Veillith, "Les Pins," 43400 Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France.

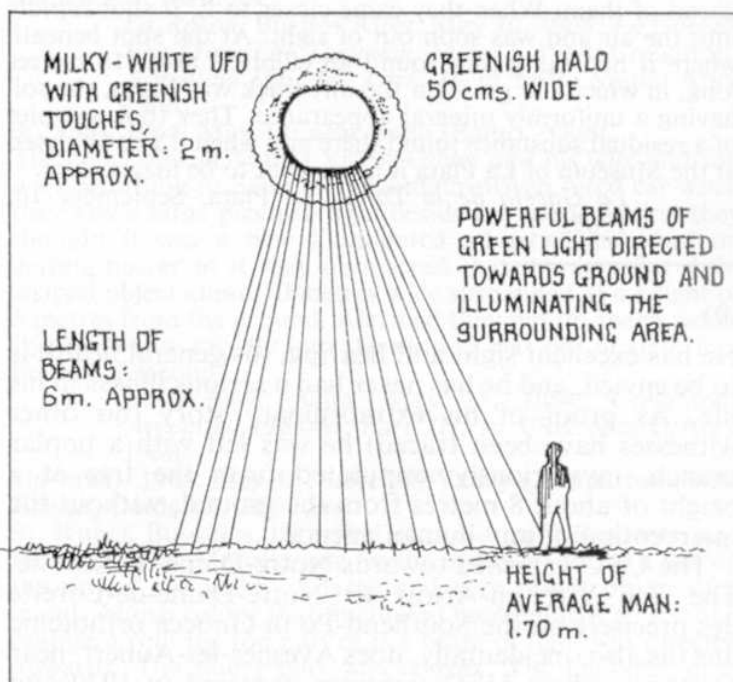


Figure 1

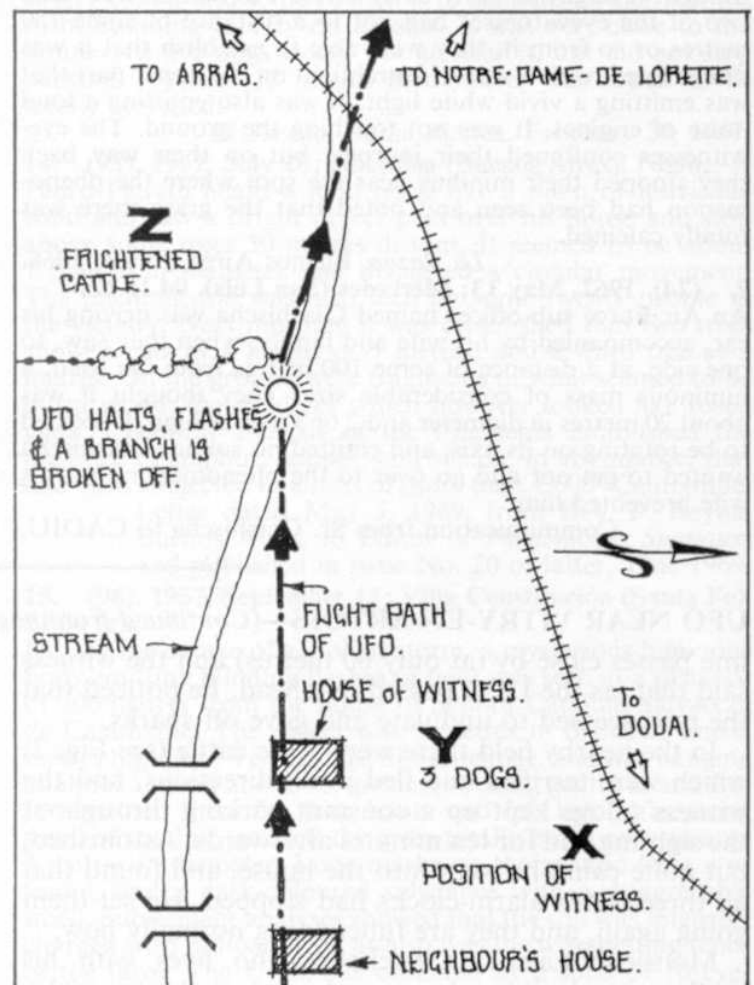


Figure 2

# Preliminary Catalogue of Type 1 cases in Argentina—Part 3

*Prof. Oscar A. Uriondo*

IN this catalogue we have made sub-classification in Dr. Jacques Vallée's sub-divisions of Type 1 UFO reports.

The initial figure given for each case refers to the serial order of the event within the class to which it belongs, while the figure in parentheses denotes the chronological position of the case within the total context of all classes.

Parts I and II contained 45 cases which fell into the sub-class A-1 of Class A relating to visibly abnormal bodies or phenomena situated on the ground. We now come to sub-class A-2.

**Sub-class A-2: Visibly abnormal body or phenomenon, hanging at not more than 10 metres from the ground**

**1. (12). 1958 (approx.); Bragado (Buenos Aires). Night.**

The musician José Basso, the fifteen members of his orchestra, and the chauffeur of the minibus in which they were travelling, saw (40 km. before reaching Bragado), and at 200 metres from the highway, a large bright contraption. They thought it might possibly be an aircraft in flames, but when two of the eyewitnesses had got to a distance of some 150 metres or so from it, they were able to establish that it was disc-shaped, with a sort of searchlight on the upper part that was emitting a vivid white light. It was also emitting a loud noise of engines. It was not touching the ground. The eyewitnesses continued their journey, but on their way back they stopped their minibus near the spot where the phenomenon had been seen and noted that the grass there was totally calcined.

*La Razón*, Buenos Aires, July 4, 1968.

**2. (24). 1962, May 13; Mercedes (San Luis). 04.15 hrs.**

An Air Force sub-officer named Giashischa was driving his car, accompanied by his wife and family, when they saw, to one side, at a distance of some 100 metres from the road, a luminous mass of considerable size. They thought it was about 20 metres in diameter and 2 or 3 metres high. It seemed to be rotating on its axis, and emitted no sound. Giashischa wanted to get out and go over to the phenomenon, but his wife prevented him.

Communication from Sr. Giashischa to CADIU.

**3. (32). 1962, August 2; Airport of Cambá Punta (Corrientes). 24.00 hrs.**

At the appearance of what was presumed to be an aeroplane, whose pilot had not announced his arrival by radio, the director of the Airport, Sr. Luis Harvey, gave urgent instructions for the runway to be prepared. But great was the surprise of all the technical personnel who were present when they perceived that it was a spherical body, rotating on its axis and shooting out powerful beams of blue, green, and orange light. It halted and remained there for three minutes, without landing but just a few metres above the runway. Then it made off at high speed.

*La Voz del Interior*, Córdoba, August 3, 1962; *La Razón*, Buenos Aires, August 3, 1962; Gordon Creighton: *Argentina* 1962, in FSR, July/August 1964.

**4. (42). 1962, beginning of November; Salta-Tucumán road (Tucumán). Night.**

The truckdriver Pier Livio Quaia, coming from Salta, was forced to pull up abruptly on beholding an egg-shaped luminous object, some 12 metres in diameter and 4 metres high, suspended a few metres above the road. Green and red beams of light were coming from things like small windows set around the rim of it. The object then rose up vertically, passed at high speed over the truck, shaking the driving cab as it did so and emitting a powerful whistle. Two other truckdrivers also saw the object.

*La Gaceta*, San Miguel de Tucumán, November 6, 1962.

**5. (46). 1962 (end); Rio Colorado-Choele Choele road (Rio Negro). Night.**

Sr. Mario Borlandelli and a companion were travelling by car when they saw something bright just above the horizon ahead of them. When they came closer to it, it shot rapidly into the air and was soon out of sight. At the spot beneath where it had hung they found an elliptical area, 18 metres long, in which the grass on the dirt-track was burnt, the soil having a uniformly mineral appearance. They took samples of a residual substance found there and when it was analysed at the Museum of La Plata it turned out to be magnesium.

*La Gaceta de la Tarde*, La Plata, September 16, 1965.

## UFO NEAR VITRY-EN-ARTOIS—(Continued from page 9)

line passes close by (at only 60 metres) and the witness said that, as the UFO passed overhead, he noticed that the rails seemed to undulate and gave off sparks.

In the nearby field there were some cattle (see Fig. 2) which were terrified and fled in all directions, and the witness's dogs kept up a constant barking throughout the sighting and for ten minutes afterwards. Astonished, but quite calm, he went into the house, and found that all three of his alarm-clocks had stopped. He set them going again, and they are functioning normally now.

Monsieur Laisne, a bachelor who lives with his mother, is a keen gardener, and is an earthy type who has not the slightest interest in mysterious flying objects.

He has excellent sight and hearing, his general health is to be envied, and he has never had a serious illness in his life. As proof of his extraordinary story (no other witnesses have been traced) he was left with a poplar branch, mysteriously amputated from the tree at a height of about 8 metres from the ground, without the intervention of any human agency.

The UFO vanished towards Notre-Dame-de-Lorette. The line Vitry-en-Artois to Notre-Dame-de-Lorette lies precisely on the Southend-Po di Gnocca orthotenic line (as also, incidentally, does Avesnes-les-Aubert, near Cambrai, where UFO sightings occurred in 1970 and 1971).