

A Brazilian Sighting

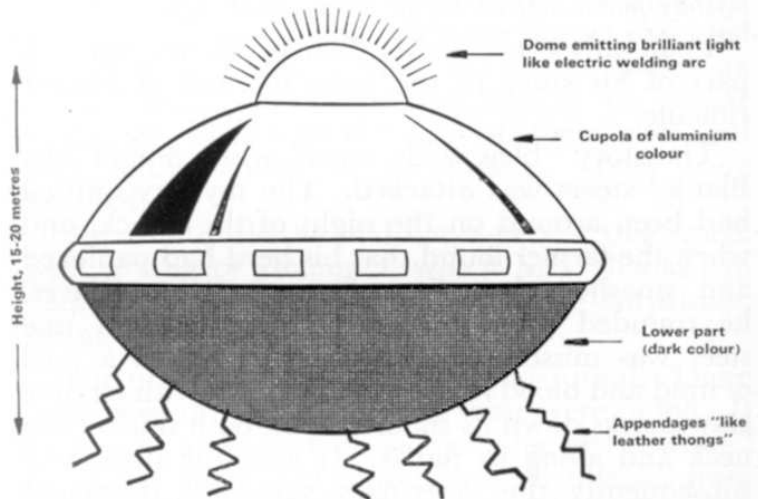
By Gordon W. Creighton

ACCORDING to a report received by General Chassin's saucer-research organization in Paris (G.E.P.A.), the following very interesting sighting occurred at 6 a.m. one day in April 1958 on the Atlantic sea-board of North-Eastern Brazil. A Brazilian jeweller named Senhor Wilson Lustosa was travelling along the beach from the port of Maceió to a place called Parapueira. (As I know from personal knowledge of this beautiful coast, there are virtually no roads, and one simply drives for miles along the broad beaches of dazzling white sand). At a spot called Saude, the witness stopped to ask some fishermen what they were looking at. They said that it was a flying saucer. He could see nothing at first, but soon he heard a humming noise, which grew rapidly louder, and perceived something which seemed to be falling out of the sky towards him, from the direction of the sea.

When the machine was at a distance of some 40 metres from him and the group of fishermen, and about 15 metres above the water, it began to rock sideways, and then stopped and hung there. It was from 15 to 20 metres in height, "and its width was approximately that of a travelling circus". It seemed to have three distinguishable parts: the upper half was the colour of aluminium, like an inverted bowl, and on the top of it was a small protuberance or dome, with a light as bright as that of an electric welding arc. The lower part was also a bowl, of the same size as the top, but dark in colour, and around the widest part, where the two bowls met, was a band with a number of square portholes, from which came a reddish light. The portholes nearest to the party of onlookers were darkened, as though there were people looking out through them.

Beneath the machine, the water seemed to be boiling, or being sucked up, but without actually touching the under part of it, and a faint humming could be heard at brief intervals. From the under part of the machine a number of things like leather thongs were hanging, motionless.

During the hour that they stood there and watched it, it rose again several times into the sky



and then descended, as if crashing, "with a noise to shatter the ear-drums".

This report comes from Senhor Walter Sa Cardoso, of rua Santa Cruz 291, Farol, Maceió, who had it from the eyewitness. I reproduce the sketch which accompanied the report, and suggest that this craft may be identical with the type photographed off the coast of California by Radio Officer T. Fogl one day in 1957. (This photo was reproduced on pages 6 and 7 of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* for January-February 1959, and there was another—slightly different—picture, also by Radio Officer Fogl, which accompanied Dr. Bernard Finch's article, "The Under-Carriage", on page 23 of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* for March-April 1961, but was inadvertently reproduced upside down). Radio Officer Fogl's saucer, like the Brazilian one here reported, has things projecting below it, but these seem to be metallic, and certainly nothing like "leather thongs".

This seems to be a type of UFO which has been reported many times. Numerous reports of night-sightings have referred to "turtle-shaped" objects, or "jellyfish-shaped objects", with long golden streamers hanging down (the leather thongs?).

I am not quite sure what would be the average Brazilian's idea of "the width of a travelling circus", but evidently this means that it must have seemed to the witness a very big craft, at least 100 feet or so in diameter.

A Layman's Time and Space

By A. G. Cadman

The following article is reprinted from the SPHERE of June 13, by courtesy of the Editor. We include it in this issue of the REVIEW not only because of its great intrinsic interest, but also as an incitation that flying saucers can be referred to seriously in a general high quality magazine. Some years ago this would have not seemed possible.

DESPITE the limitations of security and public relations expertise, many people have heard strange things concerning the experiences of spacemen regarding time measurement. Einstein's simple statement that "Time is Relative to a man's position in the Universe," he chose to prove by mathematics which could be appreciated only by the few. It seems that pace shots have provided simple physical proof. We hear that a spaceman can return after a number of days in orbit with certain of his watch type instruments recording but a fraction of that time. If this is so, then perhaps a layman may be permitted to theorise.

In the first diagram below it has been assumed that time lies in ever slower circles as one progresses away from the thick atmosphere and cloying gravity of the globe. If spacemen orbit the Earth in the four sections marked A.B.C.D., then it may

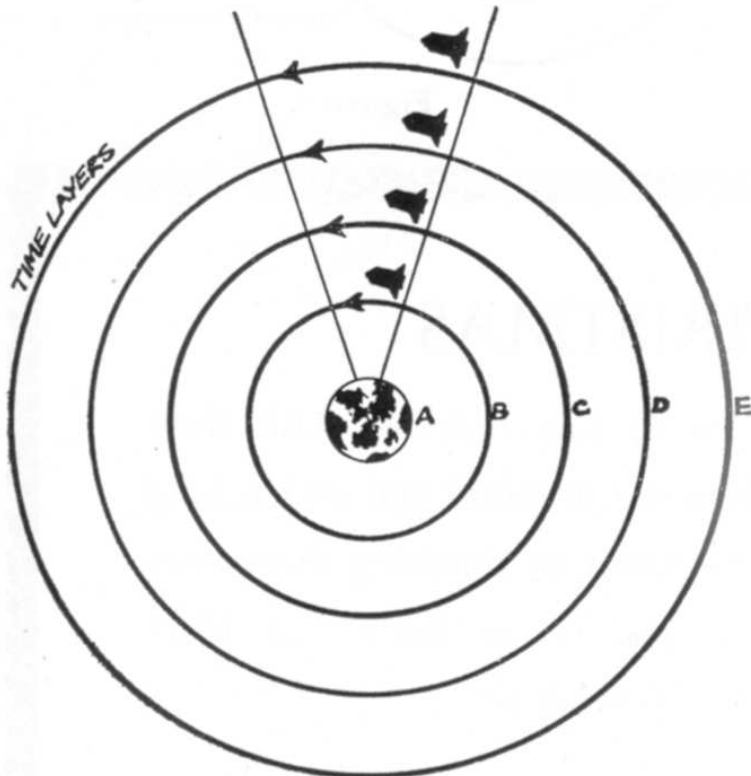


Figure 1

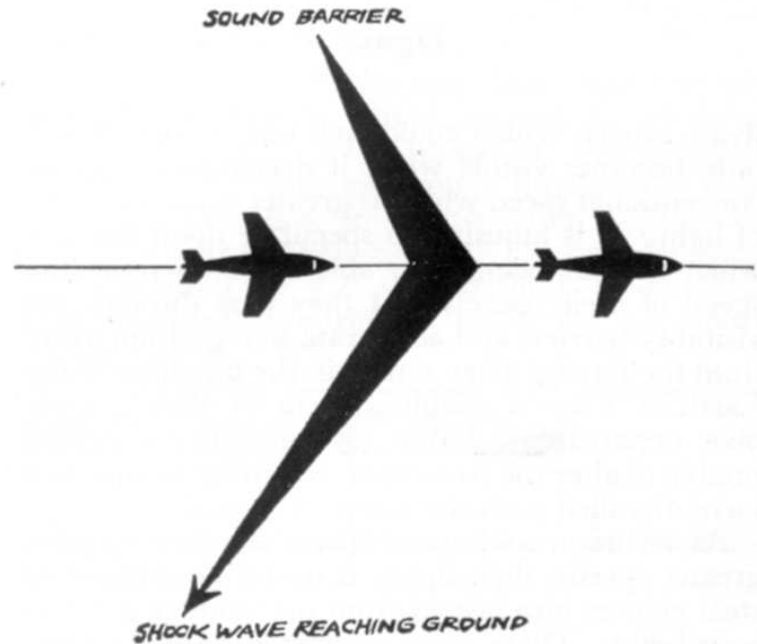


Figure 2

be that the vast distance covered at D may be but a fraction of the Earth time at A, although they may have fled across the sky in visually the same period. Hence the possibility of a spaceman visiting a distant planet and returning to find his contemporaries aged while he is still young.

When we Earthbound creatures attempt to measure time in our simple physical form, we use as the final yardstick the speed of light. It is by this we are told the astronomers measure distances and changes in the skies. Yet it may be this theoretical barrier of the speed of light which can explain the persistent and ever increasing reports of alien objects in the skies. It is but thirty years ago that the sound barrier to the layman was the point of decimation for the speed-hungry airman. Events proved that the breach of the sound barrier brought little more danger than noise and broken glass. It is not possible that the penalty or advantage of exceeding the speed of light is invisibility? For if this is so then a ready explanation is to hand for the