

possibilities set out above, as well as the disturbing social side-effects which, unhappily, have always been a source of embarrassment. Where *we* may be

running out of ideas, a multi-disciplinary membership of an Institute could provide the drive for a much-needed fresh appraisal of the subject.

MORE ON DAPPLE GRAY LANE

Ann Druffel

THE strange encounter case which occurred on the Palos Verdes Peninsula in California, USA, and which was published in FSR (Volume 23, Nos. 1 and 2, 1977) remained somewhat unique in UFO literature. Readers might remember that the incident concerned the sighting of a non-humanoid entity by two young men, John Hodges and Pete Rodriguez. The entity, according to Hodges, was shaped "like a brain," and later contacted him after he had been transported into a holographic-type "room" where it communicated at length with him and warned him that the human race was facing atomic destruction. John Hodges was, and is, a Southland UFO researcher himself.

In my previous article, entitled *Encounter on Dapple Gray Lane: Parts I and II*, I pointed out that one of the main weaknesses of the case was that the secondary witness, Pete Rodriguez, originally refused to be hypnotically regressed, thereby failing to support certain statements by John Hodges made under hypnosis, and which filled in a short time-lapse occurring during the encounter.

However, Rodriguez later consented to hypnotic exploration of the time-lapse period. Rodriguez' change of mind was brought about by a series of interviews with James Durkin, an investigator at that time for the Center for UFO Studies. I have worked closely with Durkin on other Southland UFO cases. He is acquainted personally with Rodriguez, and through his efforts, Rodriguez' curiosity about UFO research and his own experience on Dapple Grey Lane increased considerably. Durkin, however, avoided giving Rodriguez any details about information obtained from Hodges through hypnotic regression.

Since our original hypnotist, W. C. McCall, M.D., was not available, I became a qualified hypnotist in August, 1977, through a course of study with the American Institute of Hypnosis in Los Angeles. I regressed Rodriguez on January 29, 1978, with James Durkin as witness.

Rodriguez was a good subject, rather easily slipping into a light trance. In the first few minutes of the session, he shifted between past and present tense as he described his encounter. His statements regarding the reddish-grey rounded creature corroborated his conscious-memory statements, which were included in the original article. Added details, however, were numerous, and the emotional content and confusion expressed by the witness was plainly evident. Both emotion and confusion were almost



TRS Photography: Ted Stempfel
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absent in prior conscious-memory interviews with Pete.

PR: "Everything looked wet. Maybe it was raining... I think I saw it first... on the side of the road, near the ivy.

"It's a strange looking object almost as big as a volley ball... I didn't look at it probably as long as I would have wanted to... and hurriedly ran to the car... I jumped in... and he [Hodges] turned on the car... It's just like I couldn't turn my head and see... It's like it didn't want me to look at it too long and we were both nervous and kind of shaken. It seemed like it happened so fast, and then again it seemed like it *didn't*... As we were leaving, I looked back... but the whole area... kind of hazed or disappeared...

"Then, even though it was misty or foggy or cool it was just like I was quite warm; and I'm sure I had a thin jacket on."

Slipping into a moderately deep trance, Rodriguez continued, reliving now, instead of remembering.

PR: "I *have* a thin jacket on... I feel warm... yet outside it was cool... Yet after passing, or seeing, this object... I feel warm when I was running to the car. I feel warm now... the top part of my body, moving downward; my feet are cold.

"When I got home... I got undressed to cool off, lay on the bed, and I was still thinking, wondering what had happened... I want to get cool, like when you're in... a hot room or something.

"My mind is just wandering, what is going on, what did I see, what was... where's John! that's what I'm wondering. He dropped me off and it seems like I... like he could be somewhere else, but yet close.

Hodges was *not* close. He was miles away from Pete's house, sitting in his car in front of his own home. The statement seems illogical. Was Rodriguez psychically attuned to Hodges at this time when he described John like "he was somewhere else, but yet close?" For at the same time Rodriguez was attempting to cool off in his home, Hodges was experiencing a second encounter with the brain-like entity. He had seemingly been transported through blackness, then found himself in a "room" talking to the entity and viewing scenes of atomic destruction on a large screen. In the room, also, were seven or eight grey-skinned humanoids who seemed to be working with console-like, lighted panels. This second encounter seemed to Hodges like a "super-advanced hologram or projection."

Rodriguez continued, now in lighter trance, but still bringing out previously suppressed memories.

PR: "I wanted to go to sleep, still thinking of what I'd seen and what I'd... felt and what I had... *heard!* As I passed the object I... heard a noise from the ground... It seemed like a combination of a hum... and a movement of two things together that were... soft and yet wet... kind of like a fish, almost. A fish makes noise when the gills open and close, with the wetness... I think harder and harder and I think that's what helped me go to sleep."

The noise Rodriguez heard might be very revealing. Did the sound have the purpose of hypnotizing the witnesses, so that the entity could help them *perceive* it? Much research has been done lately in the United States designed to test the validity of hypnosis in retrieving time-lapse memories of UFO encounters. *Some researchers such as James Harder and Bert E. Schwarz suggest that witnesses are hypnotized at the time of the encounter, and that these memories are later retrievable through hypnosis.* It is possible that the *hypnotized state is necessary* in order to perceive UFO close encounters.

If the memory of the "wet, soft" sound helped Rodriguez go to sleep after the frightening experience, it could well have been hypnotic in nature.

Rodriguez did not state that the barely-audible



Figure 1 Rodriguez' sketch of entity

sound came *from* the reddish, crevasse-lined entity. I tried subtly to *lead* him to say that the sound emanated directly from the creature, but failed. He contended that the sound came from the *vicinity* where the entity sat on the road. Rodriguez passed very near the creature. Could the sound have been directly stimulating his own brain?

Although Hodges remembered two entities, one quite small, Rodriguez' memory, even bolstered in trance, is that of only *one*, the large one described by Hodges (see Figure 1, Rodriguez' sketch drawn after the hypnotic session). His sketch does not differ substantially from that drawn during the conscious-memory interview conducted on April 17, 1976. The main difference is that the "red spot" drawn on the left side of the rounded object is indicated as "sparkly" in the subsequent sketch. Was this "sparkly" appearance also a part of a subtle hypnotic technique perpetrated upon the witness by the entity?

Rodriguez' verbal description was greatly enhanced in hypnosis. He found it difficult to define precisely, carefully stating; "It's not very tall at all. Kind of... round on top... kind of rigid... crevasses or lines or something with depth... kind of flat on the bottom, reddish in colour. I think maybe the crevasses or ridges... gave it its black, darker effect. Seems like... I couldn't see the back of it."

Rodriguez maintained that perhaps the object "did not have a back," and could not even picture or imagine what the back looked like. Was he seeing a holographic projection, instead of an actual physical object? This would fit in with Hodges' description of the holographic "room" which he saw a few minutes after dropping Rodriguez off. Perhaps *both* phases of the encounter were holographic in nature.

Rodriguez was closely questioned about any further view of the entity he may have had after he

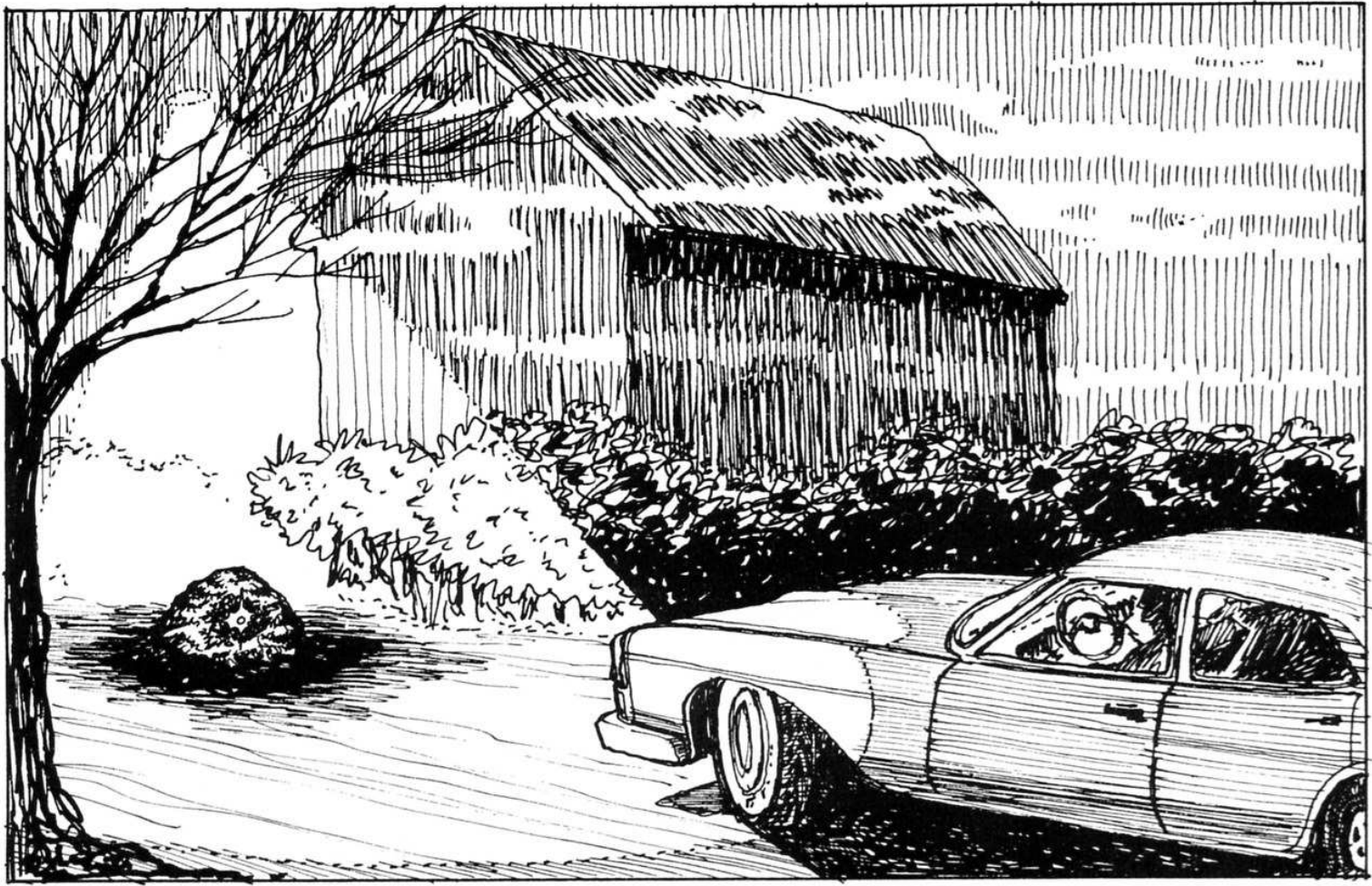


Figure 2: based on sketch drawn by Rodriguez after hypnotic session

got into the car. This was in an attempt to corroborate Hodges' statements under regression that the entity floated above the hood of the car and spoke to him telepathically. Rodriguez, however, could not recall any such experience, although he did bring out the following:

PR: "I got in the car, slid over as fast as I could, then John was behind me... but it seemed like it only took me three or four seconds after seeing the object to get to the car, another second or two to slide in, but it seems like it took John longer than that... He's running toward the car... like he's not running too fast."

Later, Rodriguez stated that John seemed to be running in slow motion. Was the object causing a time aberration, creating two different rates of time-passage... one for Hodges, another for Rodriguez? Hodges does not remember running in slow motion to get to the car, but *does* remember the object floating up over the car's hood to communicate very briefly with him. The time element here... several seconds... is about the same as passed for Rodriguez while he was watching Hodges run slowly towards the car. This is a striking example how proximity to UFOs and/or occupants can sometimes cause time aberrations for witnesses.

Rodriguez also described a beam of diffuse light coming from behind trees on the left hand side of the lonely road. It seemed hazy and was white in

colour, but all attempts to identify its source met with no success.

After the session, Rodriguez drew a diagram of the scene, including the beam of light shining down at an approximate 45 degree angle (see Figure 2). There is an implication here that a UFO was in the sky behind the trees, possibly associated with the strange creature in the road, but Rodriguez would not embellish his statements to even suggest the possibility. The general lack of embellishment in Rodriguez' description seems to confirm him as a careful, honest witness.

Rodriguez, when questioned in hypnosis about the date of the encounter named a Friday night, but was uncertain about the date. He felt it was early winter, 1970. Hodges named August 17, 1971 with fair certainty.

Rodriguez had *never* referred, in conscious-memory statements, to the entity as "brain-like." Yet under hypnosis, when asked what he thought the object in the road was, he paused, then said, "I think it just might be a brain."

He did not know *what kind of brain*, surely not human because of its large size, however. He said he did not think the brain was there to "talk" to him, but that it was "more or less looking, listening up there, more than anything else."

The encounter scene seemed "misty or wet" during the time Rodriguez was near the brain, but as he looked back from the speeding car, the same

scene was encased in "dense fog" almost as wide as the street. This aberration of the atmosphere might be added evidence that the encounter did, indeed, take place in a kind of altered reality.

Rodriguez could not remember any subsequent visits by the entity in the road and did not think his life had been changed in any way by the encounter. There were no lasting effects from the strange feeling of "warmth" felt during and after the incident.

In general, Rodriguez' hypnotic session corroborated Hodges' statements to a considerable degree, adding strength and credibility to the case.

In view of the information which came out of Rodriguez' hypnosis session, Hodges was again regressed on February 9, 1978. Hodges suspected consciously that he had had a subsequent visit from *one of the grey-skinned entities* he had seen in the "room" to which he was somehow transported after the Dapple Gray Lane encounter.

It should be reiterated here that John Hodges himself is a Southern California UFO researcher with a major U.S. organization. For that reason, pseudonyms have been used for both witnesses at their request.

Under hypnosis, Hodges relived hearing the voice of the brain-like entity twice since the Dapple Gray incident. While sitting on a beach with a girlfriend in 1975, he heard the voice tell him that war was going to come soon and that the human race "had wasted too much time."

"I keep hearing these voices, and I don't even remember them after I hear them," recounted Hodges, showing great fear and strain. He remembered a mist enveloping the car at the time the voice spoke to him.

Hodges also recalled another time he heard the "brain's" voice. The date is uncertain, but before 1975 and *after* 1971. He was driving and talking with Pete Rodriguez near Royal Palm Beach.

"Suddenly I hear this voice and it says, 'We will meet soon.' I'm still talking to Pete, and I don't remember hearing it."

Hodges then relived hearing the *same voice* for the fourth time, on January 28, 1978, a few days before the second hypnotic session.

JH: "... I feel the buzz and I see one of the humanoids from the room. He seems to be telling me I have done well. I have been a good messenger. He tells me there are some things I should know."

Hodges went on to describe, in an almost constant flow of memory, now *the grey-skinned humanoids* seen in the holographic "room" *were the intelligent entities* connected with his and Rodriguez' encounter. He explained that *the brain-like entity(s) were merely "translators"...* composed of living but essentially non-intelligent tissue... used by the humanoids to communicate with earth witnesses. He stated that in every UFO encounter, a similar "translator" is present whether visible to the witness or not. These translators can be any size, ranging from a single living cell, upward. The one on Dapple Gray Lane was an "old translator", which had grown large like living tissue.

Hodges then launched into a full range of proph-

ecies, allegedly given him by the grey-skinned entity which had appeared to him in a holographic-type vision on January 28, 1978. These were all delivered in moderately deep trance and included the following:

1. The UFO phenomenon is building up to official worldwide contact. This will occur immediately after a world war, the general destruction of which will draw the human race together. The official UFO contact will be made in order to sustain peace and will be the start of our acceptance as "children of the galaxies." The date will be about 1987.

2. In the early 1980's the Middle East will erupt. Israel will break off diplomatic ties with the U.S. and the Arabs will ally with the Soviet Union. Around 1982, Saudi Arabia will cut off the oil supply to the U.S. and escalate the war. The actual fighting will be first between Arabs and Israelis but will soon spread into the European bloc, and WW III will begin.

3. France and Italy will be hardest hit. The Soviet bloc will spread a limited missile bombardment around the East Coast of the U.S. But the missile-launched atomic warheads will not explode!

Questioning Hodges regarding this strange statement, he explained that no nuclear warhead can be dropped from more than 550 feet and reach critical mass.. He contended that only ground-tested nuclear warheads will reach critical mass. Reminded of the atomic bombardment of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in WW II, he stated that the destruction had been caused by natural earthquakes and that the U.S. had sent out bombers using magnesium termite to create a blinding flash and dispersed fissionable material over the cities to make it appear they had been devastated by nuclear blasts. No amount of debate on this point could shake John Hodges from his certainty on these points.

Continuing with his predictions, Hodges stated:

4. There will be extensive detonation of nuclear warheads on both continents, but these will be carried by terrorist groups into enemy territories and set off at ground level by remote control.

5. The widespread destruction will bring about fear on both sides that the entire earth would be destroyed, and diplomatic relations will be re-opened by 1984. By 1985 world commerce will be common. By 1987 the entire nuclear armament of the U.S. and Soviet bloc will be disarmed. At that time, official contact will be made by the UFOs.

Hodges also alleged that the grey-skinned humanoid he saw in his bedroom on January 28th, 1978 told him that he [Hodges] had been "given the seed of communicating with the galaxy."

JH: "He says that 'we have planted the seed in you, my son, that we may communicate! I think I see the seed... the translator, the brain! They're all the same! The means to communicate... I don't need the brain [entity]... There is a mutation!... This biological mass, this translator, is now within me, and I can

communicate at will... I remember now... Pete and I are walking toward the car. Pete sees the beam of light. I don't see it because it's hitting me and reflecting off the car, and this beam of light... impregnated the tissue... it doesn't hurt. But it's hot... all over my body!"

Hodges clarified that the diffuse beam of light was probably coming from a UFO hidden behind the thick trees, but he, like Rodriguez, could not see the craft. The diffuse, white beam of light did not plant the "translator" in his brain. This was accomplished by a *momentary*, bright directed beam which came down in the middle of the diffuse beam of light.

Hodges described the translator in his own brain as a single-cell brain "synapse" or engram. This cell, once safely implanted had no need to grow larger. It completed a psychic link between his own brain (mind) and the brains (minds) of the grey-skinned humanoids.

He stated that the synapse or communicative link did not function immediately, and therefore, during his subsequent encounter that same evening in the holographic "room", the brain-like entity still seemed to be the intelligent entity, communicating directly with him, while the grey-skinned humanoids posed as background. But by January 28, 1978, the synaptic link was sufficiently workable to allow him to communicate directly with the grey humanoid.

In fact, Hodges stated that he was in constant touch with the humanoids. He said they were from "the region of Zeta Reticuli." During the 1½ hour session, the following information was brought out regarding this "extraterrestrial source":

i. The Zeta Reticuleans are our cultural ancestors. Millenia ago they participated in converting earth's ape-men to homo sapiens, through gene manipulation.

ii. Pete Rodriguez was also given a synaptic translator during the Dapple Gray Lane encounter, but he is not yet aware of it. There are thousands of people alive on earth today who have been given these translators in their brains. These include all genuine UFO contactees (abductees), psychically-talented persons, and many others who are not yet aware.

iii These translators are an actual transfer of a single cell brain synapse into the human brain, accomplished without surgery. These translators possessed by humans are not all from the same source as "there are many types of humanoids within our galaxy."

iv. The translators supply a missing link in the human brain which allow psychic talents to blossom.

The hypnotic session ended, Hodges admitted that he felt as if the "translator" in his brain had been "nagging" at him ever since August 17, 1971. He felt it was the source of his ability to read and understand technical books, so that he had, in essence, the equivalent of a college education without having completed more than a few months of actual college training.

Hodges displayed a disturbing tendency to philo-

sophize on metaphysical subjects such as creation, the nature of God, and the relationship of man with his Creator. These were not mere theoretical opinions; they were presented as unalterable Fact. I say "disturbing" because his verbosity reminded me of the early contactees of the 1950's who claimed encounters with benevolent, handsome, blond-haired beings from Venus, etc. who discussed philosophical, religious, and socio-economic questions with them. I had distinguished, as had most researchers, between these types of "contactees" whom I considered either deluded or psychotic, and the later rational "abudctees" of the 1970s. The "abductees" for the most part, checked out as stable and honest citizens whose run-in with UFO occupants provided them anything but a charming afternoon aboard a visiting spacecraft. Yet here was John Hodges, a UFO researcher, seemingly on the brink of becoming a 1950-type "contactee".

I cautioned Hodges that the information obtained from UFO sources could not be trusted, and that often it checked out as completely fraudulent. He reiterated his belief that the synaptic link between himself and the extraterrestrial grey humanoids was real, and that the information being fed him seemed to be true.

In spite of this, Hodges maintained his normal, equable nature. He explained that the translator implant was one of the main reasons why some people are telepathic, but that some telepaths had actually mutated their own translators without the aid of UFO entities.

"A chemical reaction of too much DNA here, not enough DNA there, can cause mutation." A sudden spasm of the pituitary gland, sometimes a blow on the head, can cause cerebral fluid to penetrate the convolutions of the brain, and this cerebral fluid reacting with the DNA can easily cause the necessary requirements to mutate the synapse.

He claimed the mutation — the single-cell synaptic translator — can be found by using a sophisticated brain-scan instrument called the EMI. It is his opinion that the translator cell would be somewhat larger, more complicated and having more connections and protrusions than the other cells of the brain. He also thinks it is connected to the frontal lobal area, using the frontal lobes as antennae.

I am not competent to judge the scientific validity of the above, but feel that it should be presented as a new idea which has come from a reliable individual deeply involved in UFO research himself.

A few weeks after the February 9th, 1978 session, John Hodges called. He had come to the conclusion that the UFO entities could not be trusted, and he was trying to suppress the information which he could have "fed" into him at will. The main reason for his distrust was that the entities had told him that frozen bodies of aliens and remains of a crashed saucer were stored at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Checking into his files, Hodges found that the rumours of such retrievals currently being investigated by U.S. researchers, concerned storage facilities at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. Realizing that this part of his information was erroneous, he decided that he could not trust *any* of the

entities' statements. or at least he was unable to distinguish which facts he was receiving, and had received, were true and which were false. He still maintained, however, that the translator in his brain does exist and that it was implanted at the time of his 1971 encounter in Dapple Gray Lane.

As a follow-up, a check of Hodges' hypnotic statements regarding the inability of nuclear warheads to detonate if delivered from an altitude above 550 feet ground level was discussed with a MUFON physics consultant. The information, as suspected, proved erroneous, as were also his statements regarding the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

It has proved impossible to this date to attempt verification of Hodges' statements regarding his single-cell translator, because of the expense of an EMI brain scan. However, I am continuing efforts to find a source for an EMI scan on Hodges' brain. If the translator cell can, indeed, be found and verified, this would add greatly to our knowledge of

the UFO phenomenon and of the nature of psychic talents.

At present, Hodges is still deeply involved in UFO research in Southern California.

In spite of the erroneous nature of some of the facts brought out with the aid of Hodges' "translator," this case has been presented in detail because it is an excellent example of how witnesses and particularly UFO "abductees" can be deluded and even harmed by their experiences. Many cases exist of seemingly reliable witnesses who report encounters and then experience disintegration of personality and disruption of their lives. Is it possible that Hodges' claim of synaptic translator implantation is factual? Is it possible that some witnesses, after undergoing this brain mutation, are incapable of effectively handling the flow of information received? Hodges luckily realized the UFO entities are capable of misleading and deluding witnesses, and was able to catch himself before becoming a fully-fledged Messianic contactee.

ANOTHER CLOSE CONTACT ON RÉUNION - Part 2

Lieut-Colonel Lobet

Concluding the account of the traumatic after-effects experienced by a witness after encounter with UFO and occupants. Translation from the French by Gordon Creighton

IN Part 1 of this article Antoine Séverin's personal account of the incident of February 14, 1975, was given, together with a declaration by his mother, and statements by his fiancée, neighbours, employer and colleagues. All testimony pointed to the fact that Séverin is a steady and reliable young man who doesn't smoke or drink, and who is not the type to invent stories to draw attention to himself; a young man who reads little and knows little or nothing about either science fiction or flying saucers.

Furthermore a psychiatrist stated that (after the encounter) Severin was in a state of crisis after suffering intense emotional shock, and that he had previously shown no symptoms of a neurological or psychiatric nature.

X - The gist of the Réunion Gendarmerie's reports on the Case

The object seen by the eyewitness was on the slopes of the Calvaire Hill, 300 metres to the west of Petite Ile.

On February 15, two gendarmes went to the home of the witness. He was in bed, in a state of unquestionable prostration. His eyes, wide and staring, were fixed on the unknown. He was unable to reply orally to the question put to him. With intense eagerness, by

This extraordinary case occurred on the slopes of Le Calvaire, a hill some 300 metres outside the township of Petite-Ile near the southern coast of the island of Réunion, lying between Madagascar and Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean. Lt. Col Lobet's excellent and very detailed account was published by *Lumières dans la Nuit* No. 147 (August-September 1975). We are indebted to LDLN's Editorial Committee for permission to reproduce it now in full in *Flying Saucer Review*.
- EDITOR

means of gestures, he describes, with his hands, a round, shining shape. To explain the brightness, he puts his hands horizontally to his eyes a number of times. Then he extends four fingers, indicating that there were four occupants, dressed in white. To indicate the latter feature, he points to the white sheet on his bed. To indicate the height of the beings, he extends his hand at a height of about a metre above the floor. Then he draws a sketch of the machine. He concludes his mimed demonstration by putting his hands first to his ears, then to his forehead, and finally to his eyes. He makes a grimace, and manages to bring out a sharp whistling - rising from very low to crescendo - at the same time twirling the index finger of his right hand, with it