

FLYING
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Five Shillings



A very unusual case

The San José de Valderas Photographs

see Page 3



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UNDERSTANDING

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"THERE are more ways than one of killing a cat," is, at least as far as cats are concerned, a slightly sinister English saying.

It goes without saying that there are those who, without any knowledge or understanding of the UFO problem, would like to dispatch the UFO "cat" by any available means. In a different sense there are many others who support widely differing ideas—or ideas to which they accord the stature of hypotheses—relating to the problem.

However, in complete contradiction to the sense implied in our opening metaphorical saying, we feel that the only present hope of solving the UFO problem lies in one method. That method is the careful in-depth investigation of cases, with particular attention being paid to the witnesses, and the painstaking recording of the facts that are elicited from these enquiries. The hope is that when a sufficient number of detailed reports of UFO cases have accrued, scientific analysis of the reports will yield patterns of behaviour and vital clues, and so clear the way for the emergence of truth.

For the public recording of the facts a vehicle is required, and this is a purpose that has been served by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for well-nigh fifteen years. Nevertheless it is not enough that the vehicle should remain just a repository of facts; the impact of those facts must be widely disseminated, therefore the vehicle must be as widely circulated as possible.

From time to time we are urged by well-wishers, in all good faith, to stick to reporting just the facts, to put aside "ideas", to refrain from indulgence in "hypotheses", to steer clear of "slippery slopes". Now FSR, no doubt in common with other journals, receives many reports of scantily investigated cases, and these—especially those which are purely newspaper items—often contain inaccuracies. There is little we can do about it, for our resources, and those of our faithful representatives, just will not stretch far enough. So the incidence of reliably and thoroughly reported cases is sporadic to say the least; it is not often that we are blessed with reports that reach the high standards of the case of Dr. "X",¹ of the Baleia case,² of the case of Betty Hill and her husband, the late Barney Hill³ or of the nightmare incident of Cisco Grove.⁴

So, if we were to heed the advice of the well-wishers, and stick just to the "facts", there would be a real danger of FSR becoming dull, losing readers, and so ceasing to be that vehicle which is so necessary for the recording of facts.

Needs dictate that the Editor of a journal devoted to a subject which, by its very nature, defies application of the orderly, classical scientific method of *hypothesis, observation, experiment*—in that order—should be a little adventurous, yet decidedly careful, if he wishes his charge to stay in business. One thing he quickly discovers is that he has to permit speculation, but he has to keep a tight hold on the reins. His difficulty here is that when people are persistently confronted with facts, both the well-reported and the less reliable, they begin to get ideas about the exasperating subject represented by those facts, and they are tempted to speculate and to hypothesise.

At times there are those who race out ahead of the field, provoking cries of alarm from the steadier types—and, in all probability, from those who wish they'd had the idea first—but we must accommodate these front runners, and investigate their ideas and claims, for such an exercise might well prove fruitful.

It is our experience that it is in this way that the subject stays alive, and it is our opinion that the controlled exercise of imagination acts as a stimulus to debate, promotes activity and leads to further thought and

reasoned argument and—we hope—to an understanding of the problem.

¹ Michel, Aimé. *The Strange Case of Dr. "X"*. FSR Special Issue No. 3, UFO PERCIPIENTS.

² Aleixo, Pr. Hulvio B. *Humanoids Encountered at Baleia*. FSR, November/December 1968; January/February 1969.

³ Fuller, John G. *The Interrupted Journey*. The Dial Press, New York (paperback: Dell Publishing Co., New York).

⁴ Lorenzen, Coral. *UFO Occupants in United States Reports*. FSR Special Issue No. 1, THE HUMANOIDS (new hard-cover edition published by Neville Spearman Ltd., 112 Whitfield Street, London W1).

UFO PHOTOGRAPHED OVER TONBRIDGE

Airman/reporter gets his picture while investigating another case!

John Lade

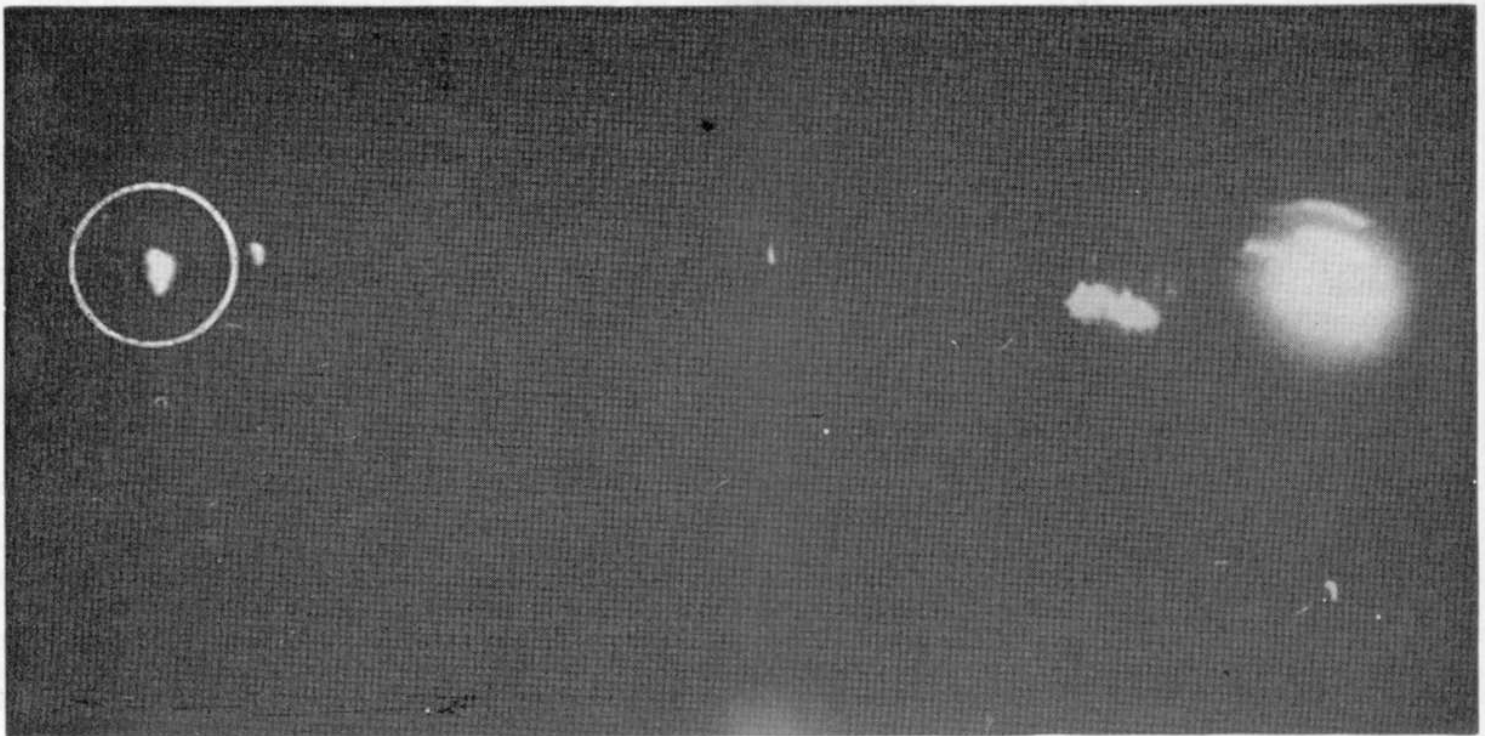
BY courtesy of the *Kent Messenger* we reproduce this picture of at least two objects which was taken by Duncan Baxter, staff photographer of the *Tonbridge Free Press* (a *Kent Messenger* newspaper) on a Nikon F with a 50-mm. standard lens, exposure being 1 second at F2 on Tri-X film processed in Kodak D76 for 45 minutes at 75° F.

Mr. Baxter, with no previous interest in or experience of UFOs, was investigating for his paper an alleged sighting (which he satisfied himself was of an aircraft) by a family living in Riding Lane, Hildenborough, near Tonbridge, Kent, when his opportunity occurred as described in his words: "On February 11, 1969, between 1915 hrs. BST and 2200 hrs. BST, I and seven witnesses made the following sightings: one large, bright object, brighter than any other in the sky at the time. Object appeared to pulsate, changing from bright to very dull at irregular intervals. Within two hours (approximately 2100) the object was higher than

before in the sky. Looking through binoculars we could see no cloud and the object was so bright that no shape was visible. At this time, our attention was drawn to a much smaller, star-like disc shooting across our heads in a north-south direction and disappearing into distant cloud; we all agreed that this was not an aircraft.

"At approximately 2145 hrs. the small object, ringed in the photographs, appeared as though from the larger one and moved, slowly and erratically, towards the south. It appeared to hover in the sky, stopping at regular intervals of about a minute, disappearing from sight about 10 minutes after we first saw it. Distracted by the smaller object, we did not notice that the larger one had faded and disappeared from view.

"At one time during the sightings an airliner flew overhead on course to Heathrow, and the object dimmed until this had passed. I have considerable knowledge of aircraft movements in this area as I fly regularly from Biggin Hill."



By courtesy of "Kent Messenger"

THE SAN JOSÉ DE VALDERAS PHOTOGRAPHS

A very well-documented case

Antonio Ribera

ONE of the most irritating aspects of the unidentified flying objects is the elusive character of the phenomenon. Although hundreds of thousands of persons of sound mind, often of a high level of technical or scientific ability, have seen UFOs in the sky or even on the ground, and although these objects have also even been picked up by radar, sceptics still argue that "physical" proof—the final incontrovertible demonstration of their existence—is lacking.

We possess photographic proof, it is true, but in the majority of cases it is always *indirect* proof. The phenomenon has, I repeat, a quality of elusiveness which doubtless is intrinsic to it and relates to its very nature. If we postulate, as a working hypothesis, that the UFOs are the product of a technology that is not merely superior to ours but *different* from the terrestrial technology of this moment and this century, then it is to be expected that they would indeed leave behind no "material" proofs of their passage. There is no more naïve question than: "If they are machines, why don't nuts and bolts drop from them?" (This question was asked not long ago by a distinguished scientist of NASA when he was passing through Barcelona.)* Or: "If it is certain that they exist, then why don't we pick up their radio transmissions?"

Both questions are marked by the most naïve degree of anthropocentricity. Both start out from the supposition that there can only be one type of "machine" or only one system of long-distance communi-

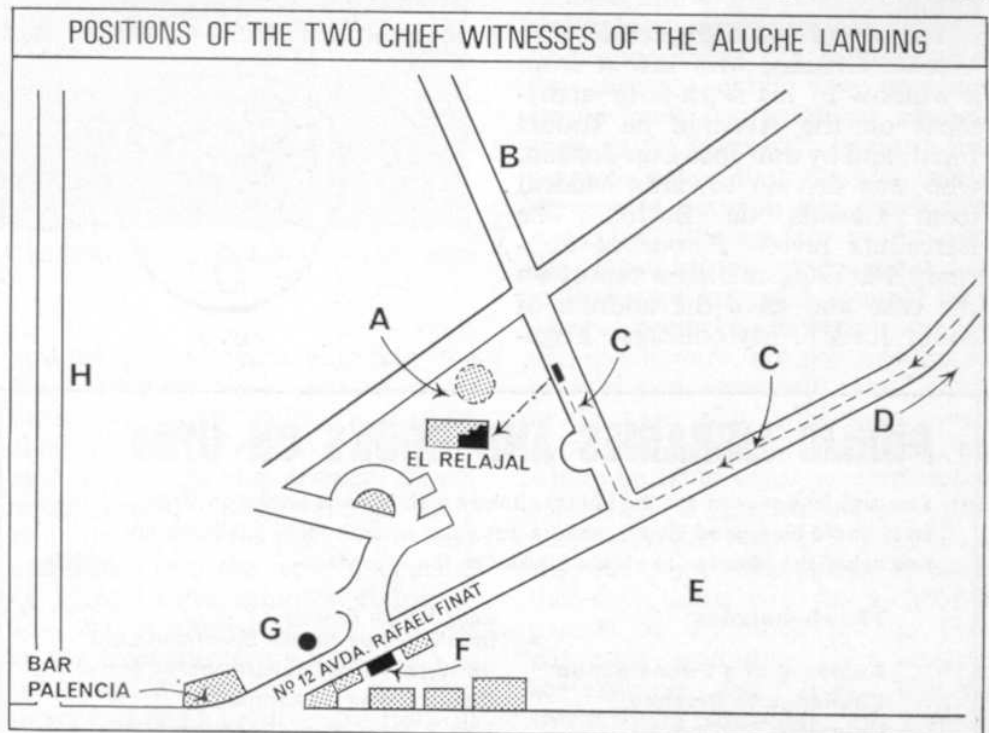
cation. The great English scientific writer Arthur C. Clarke has said: "Any sufficiently advanced technology will be indistinguishable from magic". To a man of the 16th century, television would have seemed to be magic, just as a transistor radio appears to be magic to one of the few primitive men still remaining today.

What we have got to revise in all this is the very concept of "machine", which for us is still rooted in the mechanistic concepts of the 19th century. Cybernetics and the Information Theory are already pointing the way towards concepts of the "machine" that have no relation whatsoever to the old 19th-century ideas that began with the steam-engine. Extrapolating on the basis of these concepts, in which electronics plays so preponderant a

role, allied with miniaturisation and—why not?—with biology, we can arrive at wellnigh unimaginable concepts of "machines" that would partake more of the nature of *living beings* than of machines. Where then are the nuts and bolts dropped by a UFO in flight when, to begin with, the UFO does not "fly" in the sense that an aircraft does, for example, and when the mechanical and structural features familiar to us have no part in its creation?

After this digression, prolix but necessary, let us return to our previous line of discussion.

The problem being as stated, an "ideal" case would be one combining, at the very least, pictorial documentation, if possible from various sources, plus the visual testimony of various independent witnesses of recognised probity,



A Approximate position of the marks of the craft. **B** To the Airport Settlement. **C** Route taken by Sr. Jordan's car. **D** To Casilda de Bustos. **E** "C" Housing Estate, Aluche. **F** Home of Sr. Ortuño. **G** Water Supply. **H** To Carabunchel.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Heaven help the astronauts if nuts and bolts fall from NASA's spacecraft. Readers should see John Keel's article "The Superior Technology" on page 26.

plus "physical" traces left by the UFO in the event of its having landed, and, finally, material objects from the UFO itself.

The archives of the American Blue Book Project contain numerous cases, tagged as "unidentified", that present only one of the proofs indicated above. The truly ideal case would be a case combining them all, plus detection by radar, the creation of electromagnetic effects, and the observation of "occupants" near the object.

Apart from the detection by radar and the observation of "occupants", the case dealt with in this article combines all the features indicated. This convergence of features makes the Spanish case at San José de Valderas one of the best documented cases on record. Moreover, in this case the various categories of proof confirm and reinforce each other.

Aluche landing

About eighteen months prior to the case at San José de Valderas, there was another incident of great interest. On February 6, 1966, in the Madrid suburb of Aluche, a large circular UFO made a brief landing between the hours of 8 and 9 p.m., being seen by a group of soldiers at a nearby ammunition dump.

The object was also seen by don Vicente Ortuño, who saw it from a window of his sixth-floor apartment on the Avenida de Rafael Finat, and by don José Luis Jordán, who was driving towards Madrid from Casilda de Bustos. The Barcelona review *Porqué* of February 16, 1966, carried a report on the case and gave the address of Señor Jordán. My colleague Euge-

nio Danyans wrote to Señor Jordán and asked for details.

Señor Jordán's lengthy reply formed the main part of my article *The Madrid Landing* which was published in *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* for May/June 1966.

Briefly, Señor Jordán saw a whitish disc approaching; the colours changed to yellow and orange. He stopped and got out of the car and watched the object, high above him, the apparent size of a car's steering wheel, as it descended towards a point some way ahead of him. The witness returned to his car to drive closer to the apparent landing place near an airfield. As he approached the spot, he saw the disc rise up quickly—it appeared to be some 10 to 12 metres in diameter, and making a steady muted vibratory sound—displaying a fascinating luminosity. Suddenly it vanished as though it had "gone out".

The witness saw three "projections" sticking out of the underside of the object. They appeared as in Figure 1, or perhaps as in Figure 2.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

The shape of the underneath was as in Figure 3, while the whole had

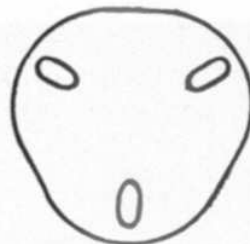


Fig. 3

something of the appearance of Figure 4 (the upper part was not visible as the object passed by).



Fig. 4

Señor Jordán went to a nearby house (the mansion of the "El Relajal" Estate) to tell of his experience.

After the sighting, Señor Jordán was so puzzled by what he had seen, that he turned investigator on his own account, armed himself with a tape recorder and visited all the witnesses of the incident he could find: Vicente Ortuño, don Mariano de las Heras and his friends (of the Bar Palencia, where the soldiers had excitedly discussed their experience) and doña Herminia Peláez of the "El Relajal" Estate, whose husband had taken Jordán for a madman on the night when he reported the sighting to them. Doña Herminia told Jordán that the picture of the television set, switched on at the time, fell off due to some unknown cause, but that the lighting was not affected.

And so it was that, when, one year and four months later, to be precise at dusk on June 1, 1967, there occurred the extraordinary case at San José de Valderas, José Luis Jordán lost not a minute in hastening to interrogate all the witnesses that he could find for this second case which seemed to have so close a connection with the first one.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND BOOKS ON UFOs

Few and far between are the library shelves with serious books on UFOs, so it would be a good idea if readers got down to their local public library and asked the librarian to obtain books like the following:

The Humanoids

Ed. Charles Bowen
(published by Neville Spearman Ltd.)

Anatomy of a Phenomenon

Jacques Vallée (Spearman)

Challenge to Science

J. & J. Vallée (Spearman)

Uninvited Visitors

Ivan T. Sanderson (Spearman)

The Flying Saucer Story

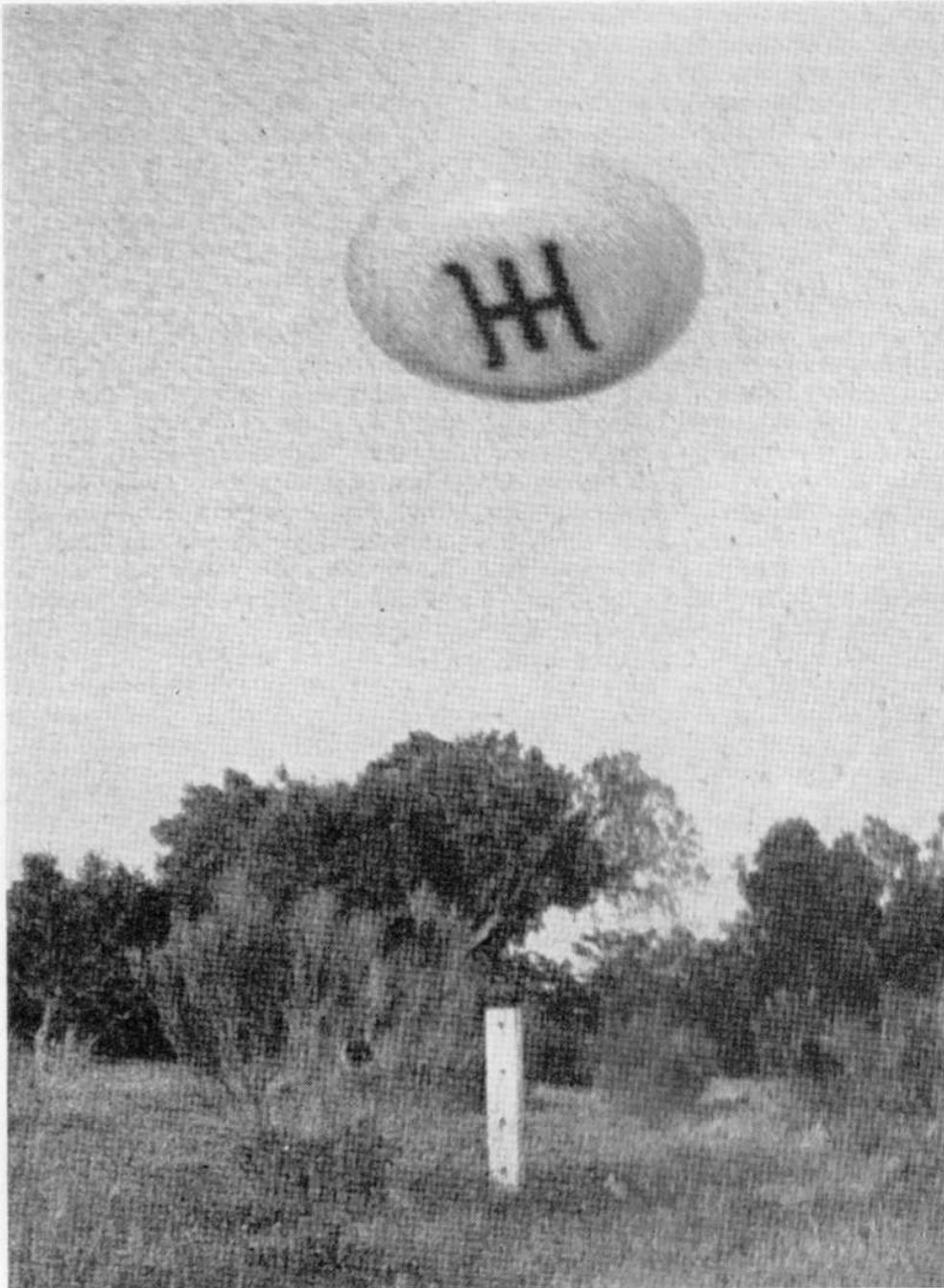
B. le Poer Trench (Spearman)

Unidentified Flying Objects

Robert Chapman (Arthur Barker Ltd.)

LANDING AT TYNEHAM?

The *Daily Telegraph* of August 30 published an account of an alleged UFO landing at Tyneham, reported by a lady witness—and husband—who requested anonymity. A reliable FSR reader made enquiries on our behalf, and warned us in confidence that the case should be treated with the utmost caution. So, with witnesses who shy from the revelation of their names, and investigators who are bound to protect their sources, we have decided to steer well clear of this apparent farce.



Photograph 1. 'M' for Martians? First photograph by unknown young man

San José de Valderas is one of those ultra-modern housing settlements, consisting of large blocks of flats, that have sprung up around Madrid in step with this capital's excessive expansion. It so happens by a lucky chance that at San José de Valderas and near the Extremadura highway there are a few rural belts with meadows and copses of woodland. It was in one of these areas, dominated by the silhouette of the ancient castle of the Marqués de Valderas (used at the present time to house a college run by nuns of the Order *del Amor de Dios*) that

several people were enjoying the fresh evening air at sundown on June 1, or were resting or reading their papers, when they suddenly saw a strange disc-shaped object which appeared almost immediately over the castle and then performed evolutions over the area for a period of some twelve minutes, flying so low that it almost grazed the tops of the trees, fluttering to and fro in a strange movement like a falling dead leaf, and finally vanishing in the direction of the Extremadura highway. The object appeared to correspond to the classic descrip-

tions of "flying saucers". It was perfectly round, about 12 or 13 metres wide, and seemed to consist of two wash-basins placed with their concave sides facing each other. On the under part, the belly of the craft bore a curious sign—very similar to the sign on the UFO seen at Aluche—but with the parallel lines (the centre one being shorter) linked by another central horizontal line. "It looked like a cross inside a square" remarked one lady from whom Jordán took a taped statement. She and her son had seen the object. "It looked like a dinner-pail . . . or like a great big cheese", she said. On the other hand, in the local bars was circulating the following droll comment, typical of the Madrid brand of humour: "The sign? Oh, that was 'M' for *Martians*".

An engineer who saw the thing fly over along the Extremadura highway, compares it to "a gearbox of an old car"—a description befitting the witness's own technical nature. These discrepancies in the evaluation of the object's appearance, instead of negating the objective reality of what was seen, merely serve to corroborate it, inasmuch as they conform to the various idiosyncrasies of the witnesses, their professional education, family background, and so on. It is natural that a simple housewife should look for domestic similes ("a dinner-pail"; "a cheese") while an engineer would seek for technical similes, such as "a gearbox". Sceptics are wont to argue that there is rarely agreement between the statements made by witnesses (for example in the case of motorcar accidents), but as Professor James McDonald very wisely remarks, descriptions of details will vary, but descriptions of general character will not. Thus, in the case of a collision between two cars, no witness will say that what he saw was a rhinoceros attacking a perambulator; and when what is seen is a lenticular-shaped object travelling through the sky, there will be a limited gamut of tolerance in the eye-witnesses' accounts. (No witness, for example, will tell you that he saw a flying elephant).

Before it vanished in the direction of the Extremadura highway, the UFO was not only seen by



Photograph 2. Gearbox or cheese? Second snap by unknown young man.

dozens of people, but photographed by at least two of them. One of the photographers, a young man who at the moment was taking pictures of his girl friend lying on the grass, had merely to raise his camera and go on pressing the button in order to secure photographs of the unlikely object that was passing precisely at that moment across his field of vision. This photographer, who remains anonymous, left next morning a number of negatives of his sensational pictures at a photographic laboratory on calle del Doctor Esquerdo, for the attention of don Antonio San Antonio, the photographic reporter of *Informaciones*, to whom he had previously telephoned. It was five of these negatives that Farriols got from San Antonio, though we suspect that there are still more.

Some 6 metres distant from this anonymous young photographer, there were a man and his wife and his daughter, who also saw the UFO pass over. On seeing the young man taking photographs,

this other man remembered that he too had a camera and ran to get it and, aiming it at the UFO, began to take pictures. Overcome by nervous excitement however, as is natural, given the unwonted spectacle, he forgot to remove the lens-cap for the first two shots, which consequently came out black. Subsequently this second photographer, who was evidently made fun of, not only by his friends, but also by his colleagues at the office, decided to send two copies of his photos to the Barcelona writer Marius Lleget, who had given his own address in a book he had written entitled *Mito y Realidad de Los Platillos Volantes (Myth and Reality About Flying Saucers)* and had asked all those who had interesting reports or data to send them to him. Thus it was

Mónica, where it seems that the UFO made a brief landing.

But that is another story, which we will give later.

"Antonio Pardo" not only wrote a lengthy letter to Lleget, but telephoned to him shortly afterwards from Madrid and had a long talk with him. Unfortunately, like a real absent-minded professor, Lleget forgot to ask the man for his address, feeling sure that he would find it on the back of the envelope of the man's letter. But the letter bore no name of sender. And so an important clue was lost. Though Farriols and I have made various attempts to trace him, all proved unsuccessful. There are lots of "Antonio Pardos" in the Madrid telephone directory; we phoned them all, but with negative results.



Photograph 3. First of the "Antonio Pardo" photographs sent to Sr. Lleget

that he received a long letter from the second photographer, signed "Antonio Pardo", in which the latter gave a detailed account of his sighting and of his subsequent activities in the suburb of Santa

In his letter to Lleget, "Antonio

Pardo" gave some very interesting details about the UFO:

"We sat down to have our tea as usual. My wife had her knitting, I was reading the papers, and we were sitting on the grass a few

Our Cover Photograph is the second of the "Antonio Pardo" photographs sent to Sr. Lleget. Gordon Creighton observes that the name "Antonio Pardo" means *Anthony Brown* and is very common in Spain—as good an anonymous cover as any.

metres from the pine trees. Not very far from us there were perhaps anywhere between six and ten families or couples, no doubt all from San José de Valderas. It had not yet gone half-past-eight (it was still daylight and it was our custom to return home, to dine with our brother and sister-in-law, at around 9 o'clock), when my little girl, who was talking to her mother, called our attention to something that was flying about overhead near the Castle. It was a pity we had not got our binoculars with us, but all the same you could see its structure pretty clearly. Unquestionably it was no aircraft. Just then it oscillated to and fro, as though rocking, without the least forward movement, and then remained stationary with its circular base horizontal.

"Then it moved very quickly towards the right—though not so fast as when it went away finally, as I will mention later. And then once more it stopped, and began to rock gently to and fro again.

"We stood up to take a good look at it. Our neighbours had already seen it before we did, for they were all on their feet too, and many of them were holding their hands to shade their eyes as the sun was just beginning to set.

"From where we were, you could see the thing perfectly and the sun did not worry us too much. The perspective in which we were seeing the thing made it look oval in shape, though there can be no doubt that it was circular. Though afterwards the photos led us to reconsider our original opinion, it seemed at the time to both my wife and to myself like a cylinder of large diameter and not very high, with a disc parallel to the base of its equatorial plane. My daughter however did not see a disc like that at all, but described it simply as like one of those popular round boxes that contain portions of cheese. The photos will show you that my wife and I were not too far wrong in our description.

"To me myself it seemed that on the upper part of it there was something that shone as though plated with silver or made of glass (the only photo that shows the upper part, out of the seven photos which I have, does not enable one to make out this particular detail completely,

not even when well enlarged, and another witness who also confirmed to me this about the apex likewise did not seem very convinced either).

"The behaviour of the strange machine seemed to resemble the behaviour of a helicopter (though presumably of course there is no question whatsoever of its having been a helicopter). For quite a few minutes (though we took no record of the time, being bewildered as we were—nor did anybody else, but it may have been about 12 minutes) the thing remained 'suspended and stationary' near the San José de Valderas Castle.

"We were so engrossed with it during the first two or three minutes that we were watching it that I didn't even think at first of using my camera. When I turned my head round for a moment I saw a man back there who had his camera pointed at the thing and then the thought came to me to do the same. So that it still gave me time enough to take nine pictures, of which I spoiled two—because in my haste I stupidly forgot something as elementary as taking the cap off the lens.

"The space-craft, or UFO, or whatever it was, suddenly stopped swaying or rocking to and fro, and became stationary with the base lying in a horizontal position, and then it shot upwards at an incalculable speed. It was precisely that—its staggering speed—that left us amazed. I wasn't able to take a photograph of it as it went up. I recall that my wife and daughter and I looked at each other in astonishment. As the disc shot upwards its diameter changed visibly—I suppose through the natural effect of perspective. Its apparent size, which to begin with seemed to us to be bigger than that of an aircraft, was reduced in the blue sky to the size of a very bright pale yellow coin. Then it vanished in the distance towards Madrid.

"I want now to make a correction to one remark that appears on page 177 of your book.

"The colour of the flying craft was *orange*, though as soon as it was far off it seemed much more hazy and less reddish. We do not agree with your theory that this was due to reflected sunlight, for, although indeed the sun was on the

point of setting, it would only have caused a golden shade on the side of the craft towards the sun, and nevertheless all of us witnesses could see that there was a uniform coloration or glint all round the periphery of it, as though it were a neon lamp. We are certain that had it been night-time we would have seen the craft clearly by its own light, for despite the amount of daylight there was at the time, the luminous contrast of the thing was evident. The references of the other witnesses with whom you may be or may have been in contact will confirm this.

"On the other hand I confess that we spent a long time discussing the distinctive mark that was to be seen on the "belly" or base of the machine. I saw it as like this:



Fig. 5

while my wife and my daughter are pretty well agreed that it was shaped like this:

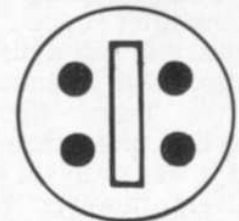


Fig. 6

"Until the photos had been developed our doubts on this point remained undisputed, but it shows how easy it is for an image you have seen to get deformed and for you to form a hasty judgment about it when you have not had much time available for an objective examination of it. This explains the vigorous discussions, between us and the other people nearby who saw it, on the question of particular details of it. For example, one boy who also saw it said that he had seen perfectly clearly some windows

all round its edge. If you look at the photos (and we have made enlargements) it will be seen that no such windows appear anywhere on it.

"There *was* something on which almost all of us were in agreement (some residents of San José de Valderas also saw it from their own homes)—and that was that it must be some special type of aircraft undergoing tests.

"That same night, as soon as we had got back to Madrid, I telephoned to the airport. I was most astonished when they told me categorically that at both the Cuatro Vientos and the Barajas airfields nothing whatsoever was known as to the presence there of any aircraft having those characteristics. They said that they had received numerous phone calls from private individuals and from a newspaper and that they had referred the matter to their superiors, who likewise knew nothing about the episode (note, Señor Lleget, the contradiction between this statement and what I was told in confidence two days later by two Air Force officers, which I will relate below).

"I also called up the editorial offices of the newspaper *ABC*, where they were likewise unable to throw any light on the matter for me.

"We have a custom, we and some of my very best friends and neighbours, that we gather together in their house after supper. We did so that night, and had a discussion of the case. Our friends freely accepted the thesis (from the version we had given them of the affair) that it was simply a helicopter. So lively however was the argument that we decided to remove the film roll from the camera (a *Paxette*, with objective of 1:2, 8) and develop it despite the fact that part of the film was still unexposed. The eldest son of our friend in question was at one time very keen on photography and has some decent apparatus for enlarging. So I sent him two prints from the photos we had taken that evening. I have seven negatives that came out. The prints I sent him were the clearest, the others being underexposed. Subsequently I had a very good enlargement made of each of the negatives, showing solely the UFO, but there is nothing particu-

lar that can be made out on the craft other than the sign.



"The following evening (June 2) the evening papers carried reports about the UFO. That same morning I had had a second discussion about it with my colleagues at work, who received my account with sarcastic remarks. So as to encounter no more ridicule, I decided to say no more about it henceforth to anybody, and to provide myself with a thorough documentation on the case. One paper cynically observed that any witness who had seen it (and we were many) was a "visionary". You will understand, Señor Lleget, that in these sort of circumstances there are cogent social reasons that oblige one to preserve silence in order to avoid being a target for other people's mockery."

* * * * *

A year after that sighting occurred, Rafael Farriols and his co-investigator Antonio Llobet made an extremely painstaking topographical study of the terrain at the site, showing ground-plan and elevation, etc., and they entered on their chart, in due order of occurrence, the five photos taken by the first photographer and the two taken by "Antonio Pardo". The result of this could not have been more astonishing, for it confirmed to the very utmost degree the actual presence of the UFO over San José de Valderas. The series of photos in the order in which they were taken furnished a precise reconstruction of the very route that the UFO had followed. If this was a hoax, then the perpetrator of it must have been a genius who was not only an adept at photography, but also a master at "brainwashing", seeing that he managed to convince numerous people that an object like the thing shown in the photos had flown around over the region.

Among the witnesses who saw the UFO we must also mention the girls of the Convent College established in the Castle of San José de Valderas, for, as the nuns of the College told Farriols and Llobet, the girls had been playing out of doors at the time of the sighting,

and as a result it was scarcely possible to hold any classes for a whole week afterwards, so great was the hubbub generated by the comments of the girls who had seen the "saucer".

The Landing and the Material Proofs

As we have said, the UFO flew off along the route of the Extremadura highway, where it was clearly seen by a number of people, including an engineer who was interviewed later by José Luís Jordán. Shortly after that, the UFO, a brilliant shining yellow colour bordering on orange, landed for a few moments on an open piece of ground in the suburb of Santa Mónica, some 4 kilometres, as the crow flies, from San José de Valderas. It landed close to the restaurant known by the name of "La Ponderosa". The owner of this restaurant is Señor Antonio Muñoz, who at that precise moment was perched on a step-ladder and stringing up coloured light-bulbs around the patio, while his chef was helping by holding the ladder. Suddenly a lot of very excited people began streaming into the patio, all declaring the same thing: namely that they had seen a sort of ball of fire, of enormous size, which in the cases of several of them passed right above their very heads and was lowering three "legs" to make a landing.

The first of these people who came in was a man, unaccompanied, who, so he said, had been driving in his car along the Prado del Rey road. When he was opposite the studios of the Spanish TV Company (TVE), which stand on fairly high ground, he saw the said ball of fire descending further down. Don Antonio Muñoz did not take this first gentleman's story very seriously and indeed did not even see fit to get down off the step-ladder to listen to him. Observing that nobody was taking any notice of him, the gentleman left with an expression of disgust.

Hardly had he gone out when two youths and two girls came in. The girls were together, clutching each other and weeping. The whole party seemed extremely nervous. They told Señor Muñoz that they, the two couples, had been at a more or less dark and deserted spot, where



Photograph of landing mark at Aluche taken by Antonio San Antonio and published in *Informaciones* on February 6, 1966.

they saw a circular red object which flew over their heads and touched down on the ground briefly before flying away again.

By this time Señor Muñoz was already down off the step-ladder. And hardly had the two youths and the two girls finished telling their story when in came a middle-aged man and a woman younger than himself who was showing signs of extreme nervousness. The man, calmer than she, gave an account that was similar to what the young men had just said, and in addition he made a sketch of the object which, so he said, had a mark on its belly like a big letter H.

Confronted with so many witnesses in succession, Señor Muñoz had lost his initial scepticism, and realised that something out of the ordinary really had taken place. As he explained later to Farriols, the alarm of these various witnesses was not feigned; all spoke with absolute conviction of something that they had seen. He made a mental note to visit the site of the alleged landing next day. But his business made it necessary for him to go to Madrid, and the person who went to look at the place

described by the witnesses was in fact not he but his brother-in-law, who found three rectangular marks there (of the same shape and size as those at Aluche), forming the points of an equilateral triangle with sides measuring a little over 6 metres.

The Nickel Tubes and the Plastic Strips

And now we come to one of the most baffling aspects of this whole affair that is already so baffling in so many ways. It appears that at the landing site some mysterious metal tubes were found; they were less than 15 cms. long and had seemingly come from the machine. A few days after the landing, Señor Muñoz and a number of business people in the area received a strange circular, signed by one "Henri Dagousset", stating that, having learnt from the Spanish press that a UFO had landed at Santa Mónica and that the said UFO or flying saucer had dropped some metal tubes, and being possessed of a scientific interest as regards those tubes, he, the said Monsieur Dagousset, was offering, in the name of the group whom he repre-

sented, 18,000 pesetas¹ for each tube forwarded to his secretary, M. Antoine Nancey, giving as address a Madrid post office box-number through which he could be contacted up to June 15. The circular was even accompanied by a photograph of one of the tubes and a sketch with details of size.

Among those who received this circular there was yet another witness of the landing. This was a businessman named don Manuel Rivero, of Calle Sedano 33, Colonia de Santa Mónica. And his neighbour doña Eugenia Arbiol de Alonso had also had a perfect view of the landing from a window of her apartment on the second floor of Calle de Campo Florido, No. 4.

The story about the strange little tubes was picked up by the Spanish press. Then "Antonio Pardo" turned up in Santa Mónica to investigate the affair, and had the good fortune to acquire for a small price part of a tube from a lad who had found it just by chance and had opened it with a pair of pliers. The boy told him that when he had opened it a liquid had escaped from it and evaporated. The tube contained two green strips, apparently of plastic, bearing a curious embossed emblem reminiscent of the mark on the belly of the UFO.

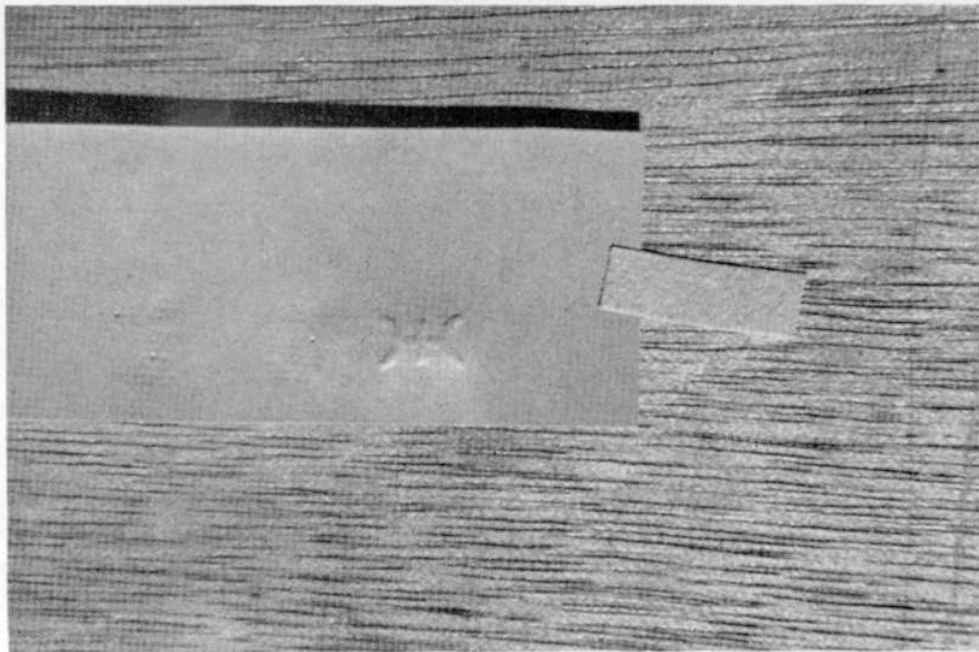
"Antonio Pardo" sent one of the strips and a piece of the metal tube to Lleget, who passed them on to Farriols and myself. We in turn decided to send them to the laboratories of the I.N.T.A. (the Spanish National Technical Institute for Aeronautics and Space Research) in Madrid. The I.N.T.A. analysed them, and sent us a very detailed report on their findings. According to those findings, the metal sample was nickel of an extraordinarily high degree of purity, while the plastic strip was polyvinyl fluoride, a type of plastic not yet available commercially. Consulting the technical literature of the subject, we discovered that this material, up to that date, had been manufactured only by the American firm of Dupont Nemours. It had been made in a pilot plant by them for the American National Aeronautical and Space Administration (N.A.S.A.). The latter were using it as a facing for the cones of earth-satellites, in order to protect them

against the severe effects of the atmosphere, this plastic possessing extraordinary properties and being virtually everlasting and immune against damage by any corrosive agency.

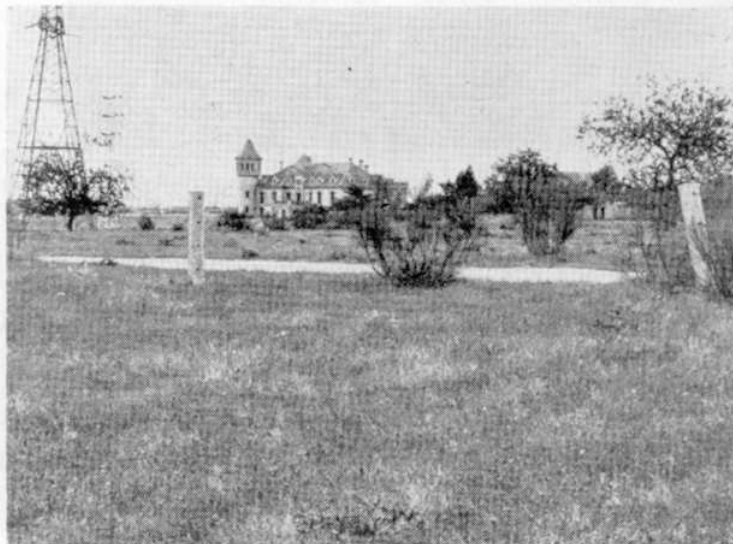
Such, in its broad outlines, is the case of San José de Valderas, and such is its surprising outcome.

Was it an extraterrestrial craft? Only time will furnish the reply to this question. But one thing is certain: the object "was there" all right. For such is the only deduction that we can draw from the statements of these witnesses, statements of the most complete integrity, and from the astonishing confirmation provided by the photographs.

¹ £108 or U.S. \$259 approx.



Photograph 7: Winter Scene, December 1967. Compare the short grass with the long summer grass of photograph 3.



Photograph 8: June 1, 1968. Long grass and leaves as in photograph 3.

Note by Gordon Creighton. I first saw the San José de Valderas photographs in 1967, and I wrote to Antonio Ribera asking why the trees looked wintry and leafless in the 'Pardo' photographs 3 and 4 (cover illustration), yet relatively 'summery' in photographs 1 and 2. Sr. Ribera,

over a space of time sent me the two accompanying pictures by Sr. Farriols of the San José de Valderas scene at different times of the year.

With regard to photographs 1 and 2, I have a note that the unknown young man delivered a number of negatives at a photographic laboratory on the

Calle de Dr. Esquerdo in Madrid "for the attention of Sr. San Antonio of the Madrid newspaper *Informaciones*." The photographer/reporter collected them after a phone call from the young man and our photograph 1 appeared in *Informaciones* on June 2, 1967.

Comment by Percy Hennell

I met Sr. Ribera and Sr. Farriols during a visit to Spain in June this year, and I returned to England with a

very favourable impression of these two gentlemen. I can say here and now that the prints I saw were genuine photographs of *something*. I did not

see the negatives, but the prints were enlargements to the point where grain structure is visible and at which stage it is impossible to hide a fake.

CRYPTO-SENSORY RESPONSE

A new concept in parapsychology and exobiology

C. Maxwell Cade

Mr. Cade, who is scientific consultant to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, is an acknowledged expert in the field of radiation medicine, and is also a specialist in physics, electronics and astronomy. In a note to the Editor about this, his latest essay touching on UFOs and the "contact" problem, he wrote: "I think it contributes one or two new, but scientifically 'respectable' ideas."

THERE are two ways in which parapsychology and exobiology present similar facets. Firstly, there is their potential impact on terrestrial society: one single parapsychological phenomenon—no matter how relatively unimportant nor how small a part of the field of parapsychology—provided only that it could be proved in a rigidly scientific way acceptable to orthodox thinkers, would swiftly modify the whole tenor of civilised life. This is well worth bearing in mind: prove beyond the shadow of a doubt one case of psychokinesis or of clairvoyance and there would be a massive revival of interest in religion, superstition and magic. Similarly with exobiology. Once the existence of intelligent life elsewhere is conclusively proven, politicians throughout the world will unite to see how best they can take advantage of the situation.

Secondly, even if we put both parapsychology and exobiology at their lowest possible terms, and say that they are the groundless beliefs of unorthodox minority groups, there is still the hard fact of the size of these minority groups. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of people, firmly believe that they have seen ("with my own eyes") ghosts, accurate visions of the future, or the saucer-shaped space vehicles of alien races. Like the witchcraft beliefs of the Middle Ages, these are important psycho-sociological problems. Witchcraft, said Sir James George Frazer, was "a pathetic fallacy"—but it was a fallacy that cost the death by incredible torment of millions of human beings.

Crypto-Sensory Response

In Part V of my series *A Long Cool Look at Alien Intelligence* (FSR, Vol. 14, No. 2, March/April 1968), I discussed some evidence for animals, including man, being able to sense various forms of electromagnetic radiation directly, i.e. without the mediation of the usual sense channels. Since then, I have received more than a hundred letters from all over the world, giving fresh evidence of the many ways in which animals and the radiation environment interact. Also there has been much recent work in the field of bio-meteorology, the study of how the weather affects living organisms. These are only two of many ways in which man's sensitivity to external things has been found to extend far beyond the five conventional senses, and even beyond the twenty-three sensory channels which physiologists recognise on the basis of specific neural response.

In order to distinguish these sensitivities from *extra-sensory perception* (with its aura of dubious "occult"

phenomena) I use the term *crypto-sensory response*, meaning actions initiated by external stimuli, but not through any of the familiar channels.

Bio-meteorology

Perhaps the first person seriously to consider that the weather has a real influence on physical health was Hippocrates (c. 460 - c. 375 B.C.). For example, "North wind brings coughs, sore throats, constipation, retention of urine. . . . When this wind is prevalent such things will be encountered among the sick." This Hippocratic tradition has always had a certain following, and in 1934-38 a four-volume treatise was published by W. Petersen entitled *The Patient and the Weather*, which was frankly based upon the Hippocratic thesis. Today, many surgeons in Switzerland and southern Germany try to avoid operations during the Föhn wind.

Dr. Reiter, in Munich, reported some seven or eight years ago that accident rates go up during the passage of weather-fronts, and related this to an increase in reaction time (which implies an effect upon the central nervous system). Professor Moos, of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, noted in 1965 that "people become moody, nervous-tension builds up, and accidents occur frequently", as much as four to eight hours before instruments show the weather change. Another group at the same University showed, in 1967, that infrasonic waves (very low frequency sound waves which can be generated by high winds and tornadoes) can be correlated with an increase in the accident rate at places as much as 1,500 miles away from the storm itself.

It has also been found that meteorological stress may raise or lower a patient's sensitivity to drugs by altering membrane permeability or affecting the thermoregulator efficiency.

In 1964 the World Meteorological Organisation made a special study in conjunction with the international Society of Biometeorology, and reported some strange findings. For example, such hazards as slippery roads, fog and frost, "played an appreciably smaller part in causing accidents than the simultaneous disturbance to the human body caused by the direct onset of the weather stimulus". They reported the odd electrical effect that hamsters will anxiously drag their young away from an alternating electrical field, and they noted that the largest number of legitimate conceptions occurs in June, whereas the largest number of illegitimate conceptions occurs in May.

In addition, weather affects the arterio-venous system