

UFOs IN THE SOVIET WATERS. © By PAUL STONEHILL, Director of the Russian UFO Research Centre, (5700 Etiwana Avenue, Suite 215, Tarzana, California 91356), and FSR Consultant.

INTRODUCTION BY EDITOR OF FSR.

The author of this interesting article is a Soviet-born UFO researcher who came from the Ukraine to the U.S.A. in 1973, and is now a U.S. citizen. He has maintained close contacts with the "underground" scene in the U.S.S.R. -now Russia- and since 1981 he has been writing and lecturing on the subject. In 1991 he set up his Russian UFO Research Centre. The most important of his publications is his book *THE SOVIET UFO FILES: PARANORMAL ENCOUNTERS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN*, ISBN 1-85833-858-1, published in 1998 by Quadrillion Publishing Inc., New York, and by Quadrillion Publishing Ltd., Godalming, Surrey, England.

When studying this material, FSR readers should always bear in mind the tremendous number of similar reports of "mystery submarines" and of craft seen arising out of or entering the seas, which we have published in FSR especially in the early years -and these reports have come from all parts of the world -including even Argentina, where the Navy made fools of themselves when they spent about a week trying in vain to "depth-charge" and destroy or force to the surface one of these mystery visitors inside one of their own large bays (Puerto Nuevo Gulf).

We must have published at least a couple of dozen reports of this sort in FSR. One of them was about a UFO seen emerging and resting on the surface of the sea near Rio de Janeiro, and another about a submarine-shaped craft that was reported as having been seen to emerge in broad daylight from the sea near the Canary Islands and pass low over a Norwegian ship, whose crew all saw it. Very many of these reports of "underwater craft" certainly did come from the seas around Norway and Sweden, and of course in every single case, if the event ever got into the news it was attributed to the clandestine activities of "spying Soviet submarines". It is interesting however to note that, so far as I know, in not one single case were we ever told that, after massive efforts, a single real Soviet submarine had ever been depth-charged and forced to the surface, or crippled, or damaged in any way whatsoever.

Finally, I hope our readers will also bear in mind the excellent recent reports by Tony Dodd about mysterious and unidentified underwater craft active in the seas around Iceland and about the astonishing accompanying operations of British and American warships -one American vessel having even "vanished"! Does it not look abundantly clear that some sort of "WAR" is already in progress here? G.C.

Dear FSR,

The secret files of the Soviet Navy contain much valuable material on UFO sightings, and in our Research Centre we have assembled a good collection of their specially interesting "maritime" and "underwater" cases.

The Soviet Military were quite thorough in their investigations!

Even after the Soviet Union had fallen, these files remained largely *inaccessible*. Here is a small selection from them, and more are given in my book, *THE SOVIET UFO FILES*. Paul Stonehill, December 2, 1998.

"SUBMARINES."

A man named V.V. Krapiva attended lectures given by veteran officers of nuclear-powered submarines from secret Soviet naval bases and installations in the northern Arctic Waters. Sometimes the lecturers deviated somewhat from the planned presentations, and many spellbinding tales got told!

For instance -about episodes when Soviet sonar operators (military hydroacoustic technicians) were 'hearing' -at great depths- strange targets. Their own submarines were actually being chased by other ... "submarines"! The pursuers changed their speeds at will -speeds that were much, much faster than the capabilities of any submarines in our world at that date.

On one occasion, when lecturing to the audience, a Lt. Commander Oleg Sokolov made a very special revelation. While serving in submarines he had himself observed, through the periscope, the ascent of a strange object through the water. Seeing it only through the optical system of the periscope, he was quite unable to identify it. This case of an "underwater take-off" occurred in the 1960s.

SEVASTOPOL.

A few years ago the same Mr. V.V. Krapiva had a meeting with Professor Korsakov of Odessa University. The Professor told him of a conversation that he, Korsakov, had had with one of his friends, a Soviet naval officer who had served at the Sevastopol Naval Base. Back in the 1950s, this officer had personally sighted a UFO. The object rose up from behind a Soviet battle-cruiser. It happened in the Black Sea, and it was his impression that the UFO had come up out of that Sea.

Moreover, Professor Korsakov now possesses a photograph of that UFO.

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS.

1. In August, 1965, the crew of the Soviet steamer *Raduga*, while crossing the Red Sea, observed an unusual

phenomenon. At a distance of about two miles from them, a fiery sphere shot up out of the sea and commenced to hover, illuminating the surface with a beam. The sphere was estimated at being possibly 60 meters in diameter, and it remained hovering there, at an estimated height of about 150 meters. As it rose up out of the sea a gigantic pillar of water emerged with it, collapsing again some moments later.

2. In December 1977, not far from Novy Georgiy Island [somewhere up in the Arctic. G.C.] the crew of the Soviet fishing trawler *Vasily Kiselev* also observed something quite extraordinary. Rising vertically from out of the sea came a doughnut-shaped object, the diameter of which they estimated at anywhere between 100 and 500 metres! And it remained hovering at a distance estimated at around four to five kms. The trawler's radar was instantly put out of action. The object hovered over the area for three hours, and then suddenly vanished.

3. The Russian magazine *Zagadki Sfinska* ("Mysteries of the Sphinx") issue No. 3, 1992, Odessa, carried the report of a Russian seaman named Alexander G. Globa, who said that in June 1984 his ship, the Soviet tanker *Gori*, was in the Mediterranean, some 20 nautical miles from the Straits of Gibraltar. The time was 16.00 hrs., and he was on duty, on watch on the bridge with S. Bolotov, the Second-in-Command of the ship, when they observed a strange multi-coloured object approaching. When it had come astern of them it suddenly halted. Immensely excited, Officer Bolotov shouted, waving his binoculars, "*It's a flying saucer, a real saucer, My God, hurry, hurry, look!*".

Globa saw it through his own binoculars. Some distance astern of them, he beheld a flattened-looking object which put him in mind, as he later described it, of an "upside-down frying-pan", gleaming and with a greyish-metallic shade. Its under-part had a precise round formation, and he estimated its diameter at maybe no more than 20 m. Around its base he observed what he described as "waves of protuberances on its outer plating".

He described the body of the craft as consisting of "two semi-discs", the smaller one being on top, and these two discs appeared to be revolving in opposite directions. Around the base of the bottom (larger) disc Globa said he observed numerous brightly shining "bead-like" lights. It was on this lower part that his attention was chiefly centred. He said it looked completely smooth and even, and of the colour of an egg-yolk, and in the centre of it he felt he discerned a "round, nucleus-like stain". On the craft's base, which he could see very clearly, he thought he could see something that "looked like a pipe".

The craft was "glowing with an unnaturally bright rosy colour -like a neon lamp". The top of the upper, smaller, disc appeared to bear something that was triangular-shaped. This object seemed to be rotating in the same direction as the lower disc, but much more slowly.

Suddenly the object performed several "leaps" -"as if moved by some invisible wave". Lots of lights came on, on its lower portion. The crew of the *Gori* tried to get a response from it by using a signalling light. By then the *Gori's* skipper, Captain Sokolovsky, had joined them on

the bridge. He and his Second Officer observed the UFO attentively. Soon however the UFO switched its attention to another ship that was approaching on the port side. This was a cargo vessel, Arab-owned, bound for Greece. The Arabs confirmed that the UFO had hovered above their vessel. Finally, about 1½ minutes later, the UFO changed course, veered off to the right, accelerated, and rose rapidly. The Soviet seamen noted that, as it climbed away among the clouds it shone as it caught the rays of the sun. Then it seemed to "flare up", and was instantly gone.

SOME HISTORY.

The earliest Russian mention of "giant beings" goes back to the early 1900s. Several boys in Georgia (Caucasian part of the Russian Empire) discovered a cave among the mountains which was full of large human-like skeletons about 3 m. in height. In order to reach the cave the boys had had to dive into a lake. The incident was recorded by George Papashvili and wife in a book published by them in New York (St. Martin's Press) in 1925. (Title: *Anything Can Happen*).

THE SOVIET UFO RESEARCHER VLADIMIR AZHAZHA.

The naval engineer Vladimir Georgiyevich Azhazha is known today as a prominent personality in the Russian Ufological Association. But he was of course not always a ufologist, and when he first became one he called down upon himself the wrath of the Communist Party against all those who studied forbidden topics.

With the help of highly placed friends in naval circles he managed to publish an article about the "*Bermuda Triangle*" in the respected Soviet scientific journal *Nauka I Zhizhn* (*Science and Life*). He was himself a marine navigator, having on numerous occasions been able to study the depths of the Atlantic Ocean when he was serving aboard Soviet submarines (with many features actually designed by him himself). However other mainstream Soviet oceanologists "would of course not touch such a 'questionable' subject as Ufology."

In his search for the facts, Azhazha found two valuable sources of information. One was Charles Berlitz's book "*The Bermuda Triangle*" -the only book mentioning UFOs that he could find anywhere in the libraries -and the other source was Vice-Admiral Y.V. Ivanov, Head of the Directorate of Soviet Naval Intelligence. (*In this way Azhazha discovered that Soviet Naval Intelligence had long considered UFOs to be a subject for very serious investigation*).

But Azhazha rapidly found that this newly acquired interest of his in UFOs was "putting him on to very thin ice", and he was soon a target for attacks from both scientific officialdom and the functionaries of the Communist Party. His name was smeared throughout the Soviet media, his works blacklisted, and his lectures outlawed. He was successively fired from several jobs, and banned from speaking publicly.

Again, however, his pals in the Navy were able to help him to get employment, and he found himself writing about UFOs, but doing so for the practical use of those

contacts in the Navy.

In a brochure which he published for them in 1991, *ATTENTION: UFOs*, he stated that, as a result of a Soviet UFO "Wave" starting in 1989 (and, so he said, still in progress in 1991) many of the ideological barriers and censorship barriers that had been erected against Ufology in the U.S.S.R. were beginning to be swept away. But, due to the years of silence, he said the country and the people were totally unprepared for facing up to the UFO Phenomenon.

He therefore set about helping to organize the new body known as the SOYUZUFOTSENTR (USSR UFO CENTRE) and designed to promote the scientific study of the subject. Created originally by members of the actual Soviet Academy of Sciences, the new Centre rapidly distanced itself and broke away from the Academy, because Azhazha (along with many other people) was quite convinced that those Academy members who were supposed to be in charge of UFO research *were actually blocking all true and unbiased research.*

ANCIENT HISTORY AND UFOs.

In the early 1970s a Soviet historian, A. Gorbovsky, published a book with the title "*Enigmas of Ancient History*". For many people in the Soviet Union that book became an introduction to the forbidden world of Ufology, of "palaeocontact" (a Russian term for the "Ancient Astronaut Hypothesis") and of other mysteries of our ancient Past. Gorbovsky mentions, for example, an incident supposed to have taken place long ago in the Mediterranean, when a strange underwater vehicle was seen to surface at high speed and shoot up out of the water and vanish.

A SHARK-HUNTER IN THE BLACK SEA.

A man named B. Borovikov had for many years been

hunting sharks in the Black Sea. Then something happened that put an end to his hobby. Diving in the Anapa area, he went down to a depth of 8 m. and saw three gigantic beings rising up from below. The beings were milky-white in colour, but with humanoid faces, and something like fish-tails. Then leading one apparently noticed Borovikov, and halted. It had gigantic bulging eyes, as though wearing some sort of spectacles. The other two beings joined it. The first one waved her hand at Borovikov (Paul Stonehill's article states clearly here that it was "*her*" hand, so it sounds very much like a tale of *mermaids*. G.C.) All three of them came up close to the diver, and halted there briefly and then turned away and swam off. Borovikov's experience was recently published in the "XX Vek: Khronika Neobjasnimogo" ("*Twentieth Century: Chronicles of the Unexplained*"), Moscow, 1996.

"GIANT SILVERY SWIMMERS."

A man named D. Povaliyayev was hang-gliding over the town of Kavgolov in the Leningrad area one day in the early 1990s. The region has many lakes, and in one of these lakes he observed what seemed to be three "gigantic fish". He descended in order to get a closer view, and was able to observe "swimmers in silvery garb". He mentioned the episode in his book *Letuchi Gollandets (The Flying Dutchman)*, published in 1995.

In that particular area of Northern Russia there have been many UFO sightings.

[For further Russian "anomalous underwater cases" of this kind, see also Paul Stonehill's principal book, *THE SOVIET UFO FILES: PARANORMAL ENCOUNTERS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN*, ISBN 1-85833-858-1), Quadrillion Publishing Co., 1998]. ■

WHY NO CROP-CIRCLE REPORTS IN FSR NOW?

© By DR. PIERRE GUÉRIN.

(Translation from French. G.C.)

Dear Mr. Creighton, not long ago our mutual friend Joël Mesnard (Editor of *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, FSR's counterpart in France. G.C.) showed me some postcards from England with aerial photos of some recent crop circles that are absolutely fantastic. [Enclosed were photostats of three of the 1996 formations - at Windmill Hill; at Alton Barnes; and near Stonehenge.]

Three questions need to be answered:-

1. Who is producing these immense designs of such perfect regularity?
2. What do the designs mean?
3. How have they been made?

Obviously, of course, to the third question it is so very

easy to reply: "*Made with a scythe and a piece of rope attached to a stake*".

And it is in fact downright scandalous that -citing a couple of old-age daddies (Doug n'Dave". G.C.) as the culprits -at one stage this method of doing it was actually being seriously suggested!

BUT Joël Mesnard tells me that in fact some of the country folk in Britain, bent on really getting to the bottom of this business, have been sitting out at night to watch what was happening in their fields. *And that there have been cases where this policy has borne fruit. For they have observed a luminous globe (a "UFO") flying around over the field, and all at once -in a second- as though "by magic" the standing wheat all falls down and the entire crop formation is produced.*

And, in order to explain all this, our Monsieur Velasco of the S.E.P.R.A. - (under our French National Council