

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

Republic of China

Surge of interest in UFO reports

We learn from a headline carried by the *Beijing Wanbao* (Peking Evening News) of November 28, 1980, of the **Establishment of China's UFO Society**. The full text of the report (we apologise for the quality of the photostat reproduction of the original) has been translated by **Gordon Creighton**.

"Have you ever seen a visitor from space? What in fact are these mysterious flying objects which people describe as being like saucers?"

"Very recently a technical study group has been set up, the Chinese UFO (Flying Saucer) Research Society, to handle the investigation and analysis of all kinds of unidentified flying objects, and it has received the recognition of the Chinese Society for the Study of the Future, and has been accepted as an affiliate to the latter.

"At present the UFO Research Society has over 300 members distributed throughout 24 provinces and towns, and autonomous areas of China. As soon as it had been set up, the UFO Research Society at once plunged into the task of collecting reports of UFO sightings, and of collating and analysing all the material. To date they have received over 100 sighting reports from within China."

Credit, and thanks for sending the

中国UFO(飞碟) 研究协会成立

本报讯 你见过天外来客吗?那个被人称为象碟子一样的神秘飞物到底是什么?最近,一个从事各种不明飞物的调查、分析、探讨、研究的学术团体,中国UFO(飞碟)研究协会成立,已得到中国未来研究会的承认,并成为该会的团体会员。

目前协会已有会员三百余人,分布于全国二十四个省市自治区。协会成立后,马上投入了UFO目击报告的收集、整理、分析和理论探讨等工作。现已收到国内目击报告一百余份。

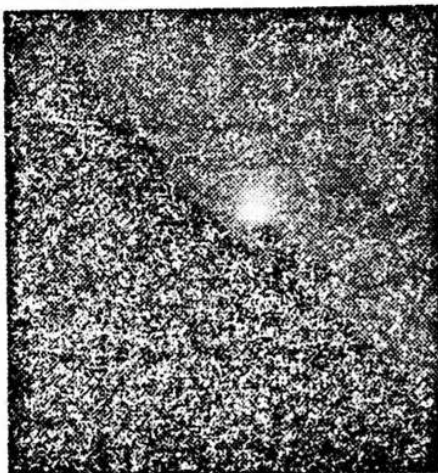
(雨村)

北京晚报

我国的第一张 UFO 照片

编辑同志:

八月二十三日我们三个同志去昌平沟壑游玩,当晚露宿在山谷之中。第二天4时8分左右,我们正在看天空中的星星,透过不很浓密的树叶,从山的轮廓线露出一个泛白光的东西。确切地说这



Chinese text, to **Yusuke J. Matsumura**, Director of CBA International, Yokohama, Japan.

First newspaper report of a UFO photograph

The establishment of the Chinese UFO Research Society, as reported in the *Beijing Wanbao*, no doubt received publicity after this and the following items, also sent to us by **Yusuke J. Matsumura**, who kindly provided a translation of the first report which came from UPI teletype No. ZCZC HTA224 XH242 NX 1 00 HUP NRS R1 received in Tokyo, datelined Peking, November 5, 1980:—

"Two campers near the Great Wall saw a bright unidentified flying object and took a photograph of it, the first ever made in China of a UFO,* a Peking newspaper reported Wednesday.

"The two campers sleeping out in the open near the Great Wall and the historic Ming Tombs said they saw a UFO over the north of Peking at 4:08 a.m. on August 23, 1980.

"In a letter to the Peking Evening News (*Beijing Wanbao*), they said they saw an object, possibly ringed, that emitted white light. The object appeared to have a darker core, and was

Reproduction of headlines, part of Chinese text and the photograph, from the *Beijing Wanbao* of November 4, 1980.

apparently revolving on an axis, they said.

"The campers, Xin Seng and Bi Jiang, said the object moved farther away and then closer for half an hour, but they heard no noise.

"The newspaper printed a photograph showing a moon-like object, with what appeared to be protusions around the middle. It hovered just above the side of a slope. The newspaper's editor said the film was received undeveloped. The newspaper processed the film and made the print of the first photograph of a UFO in China.

"Although Chinese scientists have expressed an interest in the study of UFOs they have always based their discussions on overseas reports. UFO sightings, if they ever occurred, had until now gone unreported in the mass media."

*[We feel our heading to this item is a little more cautious! — ED]

Build-up of a UFO wave?

In the English-language edition of the Tokyo newspaper *Mainichi Daily News* of November 12, 1980, we read how —

"What are commonly known in other countries as unidentified flying objects (UFO) have been observed by the Chinese people on more than 100 occasions, according to a Shanghai magazine.

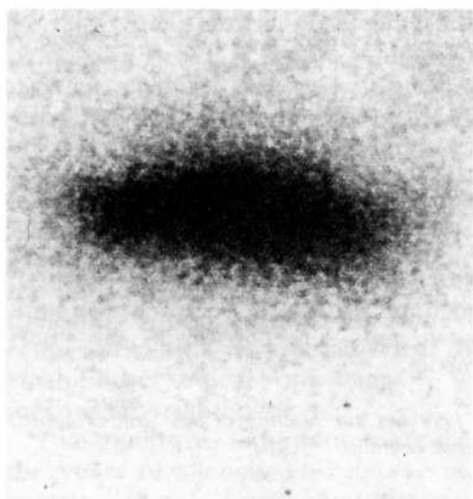
"The *Nature Magazine* said people in 15 provinces, cities and autonomous regions have sighted the UFOs, most of them round-shaped pans or balls emitting silver glare in the daytime and orange light at night."

Credit: **Yusuke J. Matsumura**

A UFO photo from the past

Our correspondent, Mr. Matsumura, writes to inform us that 18 years ago his

CBA International magazine published what they claimed to be the first UFO photographs taken in China. He states that his colleague visiting China at that time was a Chinese merchant living abroad. Again we apologise that our reproductions are taken from photostats. The original caption is appended.



“UFO over People’s China!

“A strange object hovers over the outskirts of Kaifeng, Hounang province, China mainland, on the morning of October 28, 1961, watched by several people. The object appeared low in the sky and occasionally moved slowly and sometimes was almost stationary. They stopped work and gazed upwards, when Chang Ching-lai, a young engineer, managed to snap a few pictures with a camera. They watched it for about 7 minutes, until it disappeared out of sight.”

UFO Fever!

The English-language edition of the Tokyo *Mainichi Daily News* of Saturday December 6, 1980, carried a UPI item from Peking which reported that:—

“The official *Xinhua* news agency said Thursday that people in all walks of life have been gripped by curiosity toward unidentified flying objects.

“‘Sightings of these intriguing phenomena are reported in the Chinese press from time to time,’ it said.

“‘UFOs have long captured the imagination of the West, and they are arousing the interest of increasing numbers of people in China as well,’ it said.”

“The agency said some 300 ‘ufologists’ have organized themselves into China’s first academic society investigating the strange blips of lights dashing across the sky. The society, whose members include workers, students, teachers, journalists, doctors, and researchers, is headquartered in Wuhan in central China.

“It has branches in Peking, Shanghai, and the provinces of Guangdong, Sichuan, Shanxi, Shaanxi, Hubei and Guangxi, the agency said.

“The society has even come out with a journal called *UFO Exploration* which reports on sightings in China and abroad.

“The head of the organization is a 26-year-old student in astrophysics.

“Research and discussions on UFOs from the points of view of physics, astronomy, technology, philosophy and psychology have been conducted, *Xinhua* said.

“There has been an outburst of UFO reports in the Chinese press in the past few months following years of silence on the subject.

“The popular *Peking Evening News* last month carried a photograph, reputedly the first taken in China of a UFO.

“Newspapers in Tianjin have also reported sightings of UFOs off the coast.”

Credit: Yusuke J. Matsumura

Sweden

Humanoid visitation at Västervik

The following report, taken from *AFU Nyhetsblad* No. 19, of April-September 1980 (see the article on the Imjärvi skiers elsewhere in this issue of FSR) is based on a report from the newspaper *Västerviks-Tidningen*, edition of September 22, 1980:—

“The latest issue of the Swedish UFO magazine *UFO-Information*¹ features a story about Lilli-Ann Karlsson, a young girl from Västervik² who on the night between December 3 and 4, 1979, experienced something out of the ordinary on the Brevik Hills, a recreation area of the town. What she saw paralysed and shocked her.

“Lilli-Ann (whose surname is now Thorsson, and who lives in Linköping) tells how she — at one o’clock in the night — felt the urge for a walk before

going to sleep. Being a moonlit night she intended to walk around the Brevik Hills, directly behind her place of living at Langrevsgatan 43.

“She was walking with her hands in her jacket pockets and looking down at the ground. As Lilli-Ann suddenly raised her eyes she stopped, paralysed. Ahead she spotted a luminous object hovering about one metre above the ground. She felt herself observed, and soon two creatures came around from behind the object. They were tall like human beings, about 180cms, but much thinner.

“‘I couldn’t hear it, but in a strange way I sensed that they were discussing my person. I felt ridiculous in their presence, but suddenly I heard a voice beside me saying I shouldn’t be afraid.’

“The aliens went up to her and one of them gave Lilli-Ann its hand. She saw something in the hand, like a bar of chocolate. She didn’t move from her spot, however, and did not raise her arms either.

“The creatures continued to talk among themselves and after a while they returned to their vehicle. They disappeared behind it just as they had appeared. Lilli-Ann noticed a weak cloud of smoke coming from the object. Then, all of a sudden, the object was gone. She cannot describe how this occurred.

“At the same moment the paralysis discontinued, and she could move freely. Crying, she ran to her apartment. She was close to collapse when she arrived home. Her friend confirmed that she behaved in a very strange way.

“On one of the following days she visited the place of the encounter in the company of a local inhabitant, who is a ufologist,³ to see if there were traces left by the object. No traces, like depressed or burnt grass, were found.

“Lilli-Ann made a sketch of her sighting as well as taking notes.* She thought the creatures were completely white and velvety. No facial features, but large ears. The experience may have lasted about five minutes. The creatures didn’t seem to have any intention of frightening her. She rather felt as if someone was laughing at her expense, and she felt “ridiculous” in the company of the strangers.

Notes:

1. UFO-Information, Box 16, S-596 00 Skänninge, Sweden. Issue nr 4/1980 pages 12 and 10.
2. Västervik is a small town on the Swedish east coast (57° 45’N 16° 38’E).
3. The article in *UFO-Information* further states that Lilli-Ann’s brother knew a local ufologist — Tor Wiklund — who conducted the investigation and wrote the report for *UFO-Information*.

*[We do not have a copy of the sketch — ED]

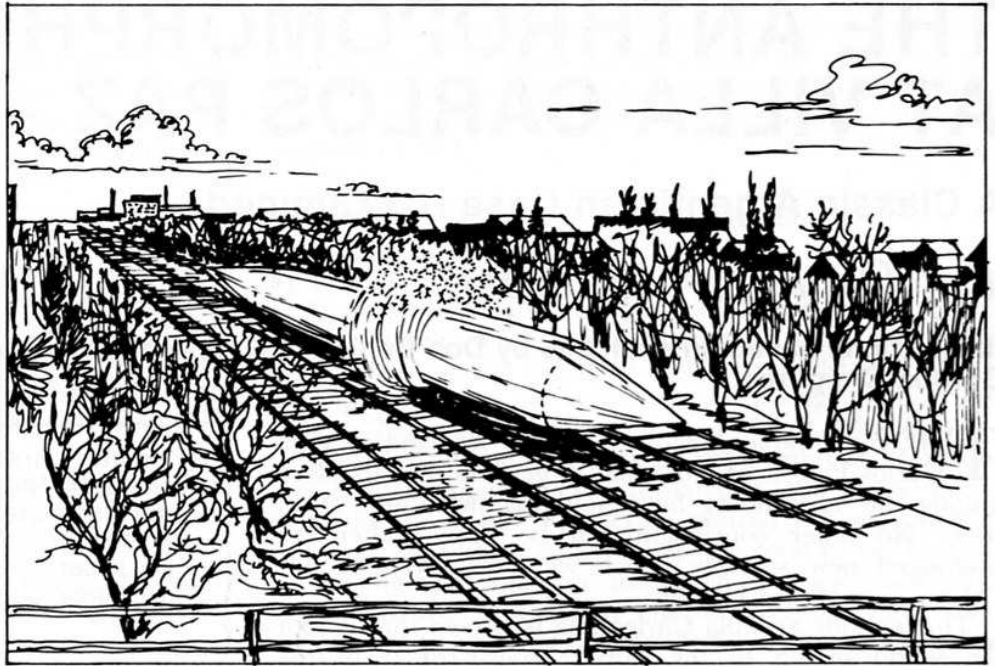
Denmark

Low-level 'cigar'

The following account is a précis translation, from the original Danish report, made by **Gordon Creighton**:—

A lady named Aase Trautner, residing at Balles Gard 20, Arhus, in Denmark, has reported to the Danish UFO Study Group, FUFOS, that on March 11, 1975, at 1.30 p.m., as she was travelling in a taxi over the Fredericsbro (Frederick's Bridge) in Arhus, she looked down towards the railway tracks below and, to her great astonishment, beheld the craft portrayed in the accompanying drawing based on the artist's reconstruction as published in FUFOS's journal, *UFO-Aspekt*, Vol. 11, No. 3, (June 1979).

The witness says it was a fine sunny day, with no wind. Her account goes: "Down below, on the right-hand side as we passed over the bridge, I saw a 'machine' floating along at treetop-level. It was a long, narrow, dull silver-coloured and cigar-shaped craft, with pointed ends. It seemed to be drifting along, entirely silently. Around its middle there was a dense cluster of beams of light shooting out, as though rotating around it at high speed. The rays from it met those of the sun and it threw off pale red and pale blue sparks. Just as the object neared the bridge, it suddenly vanished."



Our artist's impression of the scene by Fredericsbro in Arhus, based on the FUFOS artist's reconstruction of the event.

The witness estimated the length of the craft at between three and five metres, and she thought it was moving at about three or four metres below the level at which her taxi stood on the bridge. She was totally convinced that what she had

seen was a space-craft.

The Danish Study Group have put out enquiries in the hope of discovering whether any other people in Arhus saw anything at the time and date in question.

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THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (f.1962) continues to publish six lively journals a year, investigations UK reports, operates a library service, holds monthly lectures, and is co-ordinating the 2nd London International UFO Congress, 24-25 May 1981. Please send S.A.E. for details of membership, meetings and publications to: Miss Wood, 6 Cairn Avenue, London W5 5HX.

UFO INTERNATIONAL are making available their 1977/78/79 UK Sighting Report Catalogue and Statistical Tables. Prices (incl. p&p): Catalogue £3, Tables £1. Remittances to Mr. A. Parsons, 160 Courtney Rd., Kingswood, Bristol.

FOR SALE: *Behind the Flying Saucers* by F. Scully (Gollancz edition, 1950), one copy — £30. Bidwell, Devon, Ilington, Newton Abbot, Devon.

THE ANTHROPOMORPHIC ENTITY AT VILLA CARLOS PAZ — Part 1

A Classic Argentinian Case re-examined

Dr. Oscar A. Galíndez

Illustrations based on sketches by Don Benjamín Galíndez Senr. Translation from Spanish by Gordon Creighton.

THE remarkable phenomenon that occurred at Villa Carlos Paz, near Córdoba, Argentina, has its place among the outstanding humanoid manifestations of all time. No other conclusion can be drawn after the prolonged new scrutiny which we have given to this "classic" in World Ufology.

This episode at Villa Carlos Paz is known throughout the world owing to the initial reports of it in the newspapers and magazines of Argentina, but the various accounts of the case that were disseminated around the world have been mere repetitions of the sundry original Argentine newspaper versions. Consequently, up to the present date, to the best of our knowledge, no serious ufological analysts or groups either inside Argentina or abroad have made a study of it.

For this reason, and also because we have been conscious of the need to publish, as and when a suitable opportunity might offer, all this fresh corroborative material gathered by our organisation (CADIU) on the site, we have thought it right to set it down now in all its detail, confident as we are that, in doing so, we shall have rescued from oblivion, for the UFO researchers of the world, one of the most notable cases in the whole gamut dealing with this problem with which we are all concerned.

The main lines of our enquiry were carried through in a

This story first appeared in *Flying Saucer Review* Volume 14, No. 5 (September-October 1968) as one of three items presented in my article "Strangers about the House." That version depended entirely on newspaper reporting, so this new and in-depth investigation is very welcome.

CHARLES BOWEN

number of stages, and this enabled us to assemble a formidable mass of documentation. All the principal interviews with the key figure in the story, Senorita María Elodia Pretzel, and the investigations now embodied in the following article, were carried out by my Father, Sr. Benjamín Galíndez, President of CADIU, and by myself, in my capacity as (current) Secretary of CADIU.

The present article has been submitted to Senorita Pretzel for her approval and its contents may therefore be taken as a truthful rendering of her story. All other versions previously current and diverging from this one should consequently now be discarded.

I. The Scene of the Happening

The town of Villa Carlos Paz is one of Argentina's most important tourist centres. It is exceptionally well endowed as regards routes and hotels and possesses numerous

