

A STRIKING SIGHTING OVER THE ISLE OF MAN

Ordinary reports of things seen in the sky have become too numerous (and also a little too boring) to be recorded in detail in our journal, but reader A. Pilling in the Isle of Man (lying between Britain and Ireland) recently sent us an unusual account of a UFO observed over Laxey Bay, on the north-east side of that island, late on the night of Tuesday, May 29, 1984.

The object, described as "saucer-shaped", with two startlingly bright lights at the front, smaller lights at the side, and six long vapour trails from its back, was seen by a Mr and a Mrs Black who live at Fairy Cottage just before 11.00 p.m. Mrs Black said the two huge front lights "looked like massive car-headlights". Still eerily silent, the object hovered briefly over Laxey Bay, and then made towards the Blacks' home, passing overhead, still totally silent. They were able to see that its shape was that of "a flat, saucer-shaped disc".

According to this, the only press report seen (*Isle of Man Courier*, Friday, June 1, 1984) the local Police seem to have received no other sightings of such a craft, and the local Coastguard too said that they had seen and heard nothing.

Our reader (to whom go our thanks and credit for the report) comments that, "while the geographical locations given in the newspaper are confusing and irreconcilable, it would seem that the UFO approached the Isle of Man from the East (i.e. from the direction of the British mainland) and departed in a north-westerly direction".

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STOP PRESS FLASH! FSR A "GONNER" TOO?

Following the exaggerated accounts of the transitions of Aimé Michel and John Keel, a reader recently caught a whiff of rumour along sour grapes alley that FSR itself has also now "gone the way of all flesh". The sad truth we have to report is that we are very much alive and kicking, and no doubt a great disappointment in this respect.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

The Problem of Protection /The Mantell Case

Dear Sir, — In a recent Editorial (FSR 29/4, *The Problem of Protection And The "Call From Sleep"*), you gave a brief list of some 'saintly' people who suffered persistent demonic attacks or poltergeists, etc.

You overlooked one name very well known in the Western and Protestant World — that of the great Methodist leader *John Wesley*, whose harassment lasted for many months.

I read with interest the article on the Mantell Crash, in FSR Vol. 29, No. 5, and they brought back to my memory a few statements on the case from two books now long out of print.

1. In Harold T. Wilkins' *FLYING SAUCERS ON THE MOON* (published by Peter Owen, London, in 1954 and issued in the U.S.A. under a different title — *FLYING SAUCERS ON THE ATTACK*), we read that three of the pilots flying with Mantell exclaimed that the size of the object was "tremendous". At 3.15 p.m. Mantell made his final radio statement: but an observer present on that airfield that day subsequently admitted to Wilkins that not *all* of the report from Mantell had been revealed by *Project Saucer*. The two other pilots radioed that the object had vanished into a cloud *at terrific speed*. As they broke off the pursuit, Mantell continued to climb; he must have been above 20,000 ft. when he radioed back (and this does *not* appear in the official report by *Project Saucer*) "Am not gaining on it. I shall have to break off the chase soon." Wilkins then says that it is believed that Mantell added remarkable details about the tremendous speed and size and appearance of the weird object, but that even Mantell's widow was not

given *the whole* of his last message. The author adds a footnote, quoting from a mechanical engineer, to the effect that a *P51* plane, such as Mantell was flying, does not crash when the pilot drops the controls, *but glides*. The inference is that this was something far more mysterious than a crash.

2. Arthur Constance, who lived in the West Country in Britain but was born, as it happens, here in Victoria, British Columbia, was one of the great British pioneer writers on UFOs. In *THE INEXPLICABLE SKY* (Werner Laurie, London, 1956, and the Citadel Press, New York, 1956) he says (p.197):- "Captain Mantell's last words — not given in reports at the time, but revealed in a lecture to the British Flying Saucer Bureau at Bristol by one of the ground-observers who had heard them over the inter-com, were: '*My God! There are men in it!*'"*

Yours faithfully,
Dr. P. M. H. Edwards,
3835 Clarndon Road,
VICTORIA, B.C.
CANADA V8N 4A4
July 17, 1984

*Another version which I read at the time was: "*It's got windows! My God — there are men in it!*" EDITOR

Mantell Case, Invisible UFOs, etc.

Dear FSR, — Just got Vol. 29, No. 5. Lots of interesting stuff. The legendary "skyhook" balloons were the "swamp gas" of their day, and were blamed for many UFO incidents, not just the Mantell case. Actually, the skyhook balloons didn't have much purpose, and were used in only a few tests. I well remember how, *two weeks* after the burst of continuous UFO sightings

over Farmington, New Mexico, (March 17-19, 1950, when literally hundreds of witnesses reported sightings of massed flights of *hundreds* of flying discs), all was blamed on an exploded skyhook balloon. The U.S. Air Force tried to convince us that the good people of New Mexico were seeing tiny pieces of the balloon floating around the area for two weeks!

Re the famous giant UFO flight detected by radar over the Pacific during World War II (FSR 29/4), this was reported in an article, "*Our Skies are Haunted*", in the *Saturday Evening Post* in 1947. I came across it when researching for my *OPERATION TROJAN HORSE*. Unfortunately I can't recall the date or author and my notes are long gone. Keyhoe had just lifted it. (Actually, considering his great fame in the field, Keyhoe did very little original investigation and research.)

We have had a massive UFO wave here in the north-eastern U.S. this year, beginning in March and continuing through May. Unfortunately, few investigations have been made and the news media are in general disinterested. In fact our newspapers and TV stations offer very poor coverage of everything these days. They have fewer reporters than they used to have, and the whole news-gathering network is slowly collapsing. Major news events are now slighted. Hundreds of newspapers, large and small, have quietly gone out of business throughout the country. This is, of course, just part of the larger cultural breakdown which is occurring worldwide.

Yours,
John A. Keel
P.O. Box 20024,
NEW YORK,
N.Y.10025-9992,
U.S.A.
July 13, 1984

Censorship and Mail Interference

Dear Sir, — We are definitely being watched these days. Some considerable time ago I found my copy of FSR was being opened by the New Zealand postal authorities and stamped with the official postal stamp "PASSED BY CENSOR". I thought you might like to know this and to realize that New Zealand too is just one more country where freedom of the mails is a thing of the past.

Our local newspaper has had quite a lot of comment from other people who have also had their mail tampered with.

I sent to John Magor, the Canadian UFO researcher and writer, photostatic copies of some documents about the alleged U.S. Navy experiments with invisibility ("*Philadelphia Experiment*") and also copies of material discussing the two rarefied planets (dark) said to be between the Earth and the Moon. The letter reached him, but the photostats had disappeared.

Then again, I sent to Timothy G. Beckley, editor of *UFO Review* in New York, for some books, and enclosed a bank draft in payment. He received my order, but no bank draft. So I had to send him a fresh one by registered post, but my remittance was returned to me with the U.S. postal authorities' stamp "PERMIT EXPIRED".

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Phyllis D. Hall (née Dixon),
2/16 Tamariki Avenue,
Crewa,
Hibiscus Coast,
New Zealand,
July 11, 1984.

All quite "normal". "PASSED BY CENSOR" sounds most flattering! The marvel is that we get *anything!* Earlier this year a parcel of ten FSRs posted to my home from West Malling were "liberated" en route. No explanations offered. Regularly applied, these methods can no doubt be relied upon to keep readership low.
EDITOR

The Vanishing UFO books

Dear Sir, — Two New Zealand readers of FSR have written to me commenting on my letter (FSR 29/3) about vanishing library books.

The first is Mr H. L. Cooke of the Tauranga UFO Research Group, Tauranga, North Island. He says that my difficulty in getting Bruce Cathie's *Harmonic 33* through my library here in Devonshire is "by no means uncommon". He goes on to say that printers in New Zealand will not print anything relating to UFOs if they can avoid it, and that Captain Bruce Cathie, who is a personal friend of his, discovered some time ago that, on the staff of one of the larger publishing houses in New Zealand, there is an ex-MI5 man whose function it is to rule on what can be published.

He adds that Captain Cathie, who has now retired from flying and has just taken over the management of a supermarket in Auckland, had tremendous difficulties in getting his last (and fourth) book published. The title of this is *Harmonic 371244: The Bridge to Infinity*. "In the end he was obliged to form his own publishing company and print the book at his own expense. It is now into its second printing, and requests for it have come from the USA, Britain, and even Argentina. It is his best work so far, and covers some of his earlier findings."

The titles of Cathie's three earlier books are: *Harmonic 33: Harmonic 288: The Pulse of the Universe:* and *Harmonic 695: The UFO and Anti-gravity.*

The second New Zealand letter to me is from Mr John C. Thompson of 57 Dillon Street, Blenheim, South Island. He reports the same unavailability of UFO books in the public libraries. He mentions also the curious and interesting fact that "*10,000 copies of Captain Cathie's books were recently destroyed without explanation.*"

Mr Thompson gives Captain Cathie's address as:

158 Shaw Road,
Oratia,
Auckland,
N. Island,
N.Z.

and adds that the name of his private publishing venture is Quark Enterprises Ltd., of the same address.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Joan Amos (Plymouth UFO Research Group),

Lucy Cottage,
Peter Lauy,
Nr. Tavistock,
Devon, PL19 9NN.
July 23, 1984

Vanishing UFO Books and Magazines

Dear Sir, — The report on vanishing UFO books at libraries by Mrs Joan Amos (FSR 29/3) was quite interesting.

I live in a small town (population 5,000) in the north-eastern part of the U.S. We haven't had any UFO books disappear from our library, but then they never stocked the really informative ones in the first place. However, it has become difficult to obtain such books from them through the inter-library loan system. They have not been able to obtain Bruce Cathie's books.

Our county library uses a library card with the Bar Code on it. In this way, a record of *who* takes out *which* books is kept and computerised. (This could turn out to be an Orwellian nightmare!)

But more noticeable is the complete absence of UFO magazines on the news-stands throughout the country since the middle 1970s or so. Many of us have wondered why this has happened. All you can find now is comic books featuring "E.T." Even *Fate* magazine, which in the past was commonly found on the magazine racks in stores, has disappeared from public display and can only be obtained through subscription.

But the *popularity* of UFO magazines has certainly not decreased; there are many new ones coming out all the time, but one must learn of their existence and subscribe to them.

There *does indeed* appear to be a UFO "black-out", and it's being done internationally! What organisations would benefit from this? Do the "*Men in Black*" have a hand in it?

Sincerely,
Audrey Patrick, Ph.D.,
347 North Union Street,
Kennet Square,
Pennsylvania 19348,
U.S.A.

August 29, 1984

We continue to receive a steady flow of letters about the varying picture relating to library books in Britain. Space does not permit publication of all these letters, but in due course we may be able to give a digest of them.—EDITOR