

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ARGENTINA

Important scientific claim

According to *La Razón* (Buenos Aires) of August 25, 1972—"Dr. José Alvarez López, director of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Physics at Córdoba, Argentina, recently delivered an important lecture on Space Propulsion and Relativity. He said that their researches and discoveries in the Córdoba Institute in connexion with *Lorentz's Force* would invalidate Newton's Third Law, and would mean that the costly rocket would soon be superseded. As evidence of the importance of their work at Córdoba, he quoted the NASA scientist Corliss as having said that, with the type of force achieved in Córdoba, based on de-phased high frequency currents, 'rockets could be consigned to the garbage-heap.'"

Credit: Miss Jane Thomas, Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA

Mystery UFO pictures

The following extract is taken from the *West Australian* (Perth) of September 21, 1972. The report is datelined Melbourne, Wednesday (September 20).—

"Civil Aviation, R.A.A.F. and meteorology experts were baffled yesterday by a series of photographs of an unidentified flying object. They could not explain the phenomenon.

"The pictures, by a staff photographer on the Melbourne paper *The Age*, were taken in the vicinity of Broadmeadows North, an outer suburb, late on Tuesday night.

"What was described as a fast-moving, brilliantly lit object was visible for 15 to 20 minutes.

"The R.A.A.F. officer in charge of UFO sightings in Melbourne said after studying the photographs that he could not offer any explanation.

"They seem unlike other photographs of reported UFO sightings," he said.

"The R.A.A.F. would study the incident.

"A spokesman for the Bureau of Meteorology said: 'We can't put forward any logical explanation for this.'

"The photographs were taken about 10.10 p.m.

"A Department of Civil Aviation spokesman said that an aircraft left Tullamarine Airport at 9.53 p.m. and one landed at 10.24 p.m.

"The photographer said that the

object appeared to be 500 feet to 1,000 feet up. There was no sound and no vibration. It was throwing a brilliant light in all directions.

"When I first saw it, I thought it was somebody playing a prank with a kite, because it was so close to the Tullamarine air lines," he said. "It was moving very very fast, much faster than any aircraft I've seen. At one stage it did five to seven loop-the-loops in less than three seconds, just like a rolling coin."

CANARY ISLANDS (SPAIN)

Disc and beam observed

According to the *Diario Femenino* (Madrid and Barcelona) of September 27, 1972, a report dated the 26th from Arrecife de Lanzarote (most northeasterly of the Canary Islands) a large luminous disc, emitting a powerful beam of white light, was observed, by several people, in the sky above Arrecife in the early hours of the morning.

The eyewitnesses, who included an official of the Banco Central and a college professor, said the unidentified object was quite low and that at times a small tail, also luminous, could be seen.

The object was in view for over an hour. Its low altitude and its strange shape rule out the possibility that it could have been a star.

Credit: Sr. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos.

CHANNEL ISLANDS— GUERNSEY

Circle/triangle UFO at l'Anresse

Our next item is a report taken from the *Guernsey Evening Post* of November 28, 1972.—

"An unidentified flying object, which was about the size of a Viscount aircraft and in the shape of a circle imposed on a triangle, with a white light at the front and two white lights at the rear, was seen by a couple taking their dog for a walk at L'Anresse Common, on Sunday evening.

"The man spotted a yellowish light on the horizon, in the centre of the bay. As the couple watched, the light came towards them and as it came nearer began to zig-zag in the sky.

"At first the man thought it was a balloon but it was travelling fairly fast and took only seven to 10 minutes to pass overhead, heading south.

"There was no noise until the object was directly overhead, when a faint humming could be heard."

ENGLAND

Observers, including police, see objects over Beoley

From the *Sunday Mercury* (Birmingham) of November 12, 1972, we take the following report,—

"Police were last night investigating reports of an Unidentified Flying Object sighting over a lonely stretch of Midland countryside.

"The sighting was reported at Beoley, near Redditch, when a housewife and a young farmworker claimed to have seen three lights hovering about 600 feet in the air over a belt of woodland for a period of four hours.

"Police from Henley-in-Arden visited the scene twice, and a spokesman said: 'Two of our officers also saw these lights. They are still investigating the matter.'

"Last night, the farmworker, 15-year-old Keith Harris, of Ullenhall Lane, Beoley, said that he went to see the lights from the home of Mrs. Rita Tallis, who lives half-a-mile further up the lane, when she telephoned him.

"I saw three lights—apparently from three separate vehicles—hovering backwards and forwards about 600 feet up half-a-mile from the back of Mrs. Tallis's house," said Keith. "They were like radiating lights and kept changing colour from red to white and back again. They kept hovering backwards and forwards—disappearing over the horizon and reappearing again. 'Sometimes they were travelling very quickly and at other times quite slowly. We were watching them from the back garden and there was absolutely no sound from them.'

"Keith said that the lights were most active early in the evening, but they kept flying about over the area for more than four hours. He added: 'I am certain they were not planes otherwise we would have heard the noise from the engines.'"

Credit: J. Harvey of Derby and E. G. Marriott of Birmingham.

Whitstable "glowing object"

The *Whitstable Times* of December 1, 1972, published the following item (together with details of the Faversham report printed above).—

"Strange things have been happening in the sky over Whitstable and surrounding area recently. Several sightings of flying objects have been reported on different days over Faversham and Tankerton.

"On Friday, 17 November, at about 6.10 p.m. Mrs. P. Parks, of Highgate

Road, Chestfield, was walking home from work over the bridge at Ham Shades Lane when she spotted a 'glowing object' in the sky.

"She described it as changing colour from red to white to green, and it was revolving.

"The object made no noise and it moved at about tree-top level. It was travelling very slowly—about 10 mph—said Mrs. Parks. The UFO moved across the Thanet Way towards Chestfield and then zig-zagged over to Herne Bay.

"Mrs. Parks said she noticed it because of its brilliant and beautiful colour. She knew it was something abnormal because it made no noise.

"Another sighting was made in Faversham last week."

Credit: Mrs. V. Martin of Tankerton.

Another Kentish UFO

The *Faversham Times* of December 7, 1972, carried yet another report of an object which, on Tuesday, December 5, puzzled—and alarmed—the witnesses who gave a somewhat lyrical description of their experience,—

"Another UFO sighting, this time at Oare, has been reported to the *Faversham Times*.

"An unearthly light, like a beautiful diamond flashing' is how Mrs. Joan Patching, of 3 Colegates Road, Oare, described a mysterious object she and her husband Melvyn saw last Tuesday evening.

"She (said) on Friday: 'We were out walking with our Alsatian at about 9.30 p.m. It was a very cold, frosty night and the stars looked lovely. I was looking for the Eastern star, as I always do at this time of year, when suddenly, as we stood there on the top of Colegates Hill, I saw it—a flashing, bright, twinkling light which was stationary over Oare Village.

"It was a silvery, bluish light that seemed to be revolving, but it stayed in one place. It was definitely not a balloon or a 'plane.

"We carried on walking home and kept looking at it from time to time. I couldn't believe it was a star because I've not seen a star that bright. When we got to our garden gate, we turned in and walked up the path. My husband went to see if the milk we had put out for a hedgehog had been drunk.

"As he was doing this I stood on the lawn and looked up again. I had the shock of my life because the light was moving towards us at a terrific pace. We could hear the purr of an engine, but we both knew this was no helicopter or aircraft from this planet. We were frozen to the spot and could not move. I had the feeling that they were coming down to get us.

"My husband, who is a very

down-to-earth person, was frightened. He became very cold and suddenly we could not watch any longer and both had to go indoors. When I last saw it the object was moving off in the Sittingbourne direction, still flashing this unbelievably bright light.'

"Mrs. Patching said she told many Oare villagers of her experience the following morning, but 'they laughed at me and said I was seeing things.'

"Then we saw the *Faversham Times* on Thursday and now people do not think it is a joke."

UFOs over Faversham

The *Faversham Times* of November 30, 1972, carried the following account, signed by reporter Laurence Young,—

"Mysterious unidentified flying objects are being sighted in the skies above Faversham. And so far no logical explanation has been given for their presence on three consecutive afternoons last week.

"The riddle is currently being investigated by the Ministry of Defence after reports of sightings from employees at Faversham Shipyard had been made to the police and RAF Manston.

"Are the 'flying saucers' experimental aircraft, visitors from another world observing Earth or merely weather balloons? These are questions that, so far, remain unanswered.

"The men who have seen the objects are frankly baffled by what they have seen. But they emphasized to the *Faversham Times* that this was definitely no hoax. In fact more than 30 shipyard workers saw the objects quite clearly last week.

"Suddenly, when it seemed to be over the middle of the Creek a vapour trail came from it. It changed its shape, from circular to something like a cigar, as if it had turned round and we were getting a side view, and zig-zagged to a stop.

"Red lights appeared around it. You know what an atom looks like highly magnified . . . well, it was like that. Then it went straight up into the air until it was the size of a pin head and disappeared.

"Earlier I thought it was a weather balloon. At first it seemed to be drifting, moving towards the north."

"That is how Mr. Henry Blow of Durham Close, Canterbury, summed up one of several mysterious sightings in the sky over Faversham last week that have set the whole town talking.

"Mr. Blow and several of his workmates first spotted the unidentified flying object last Tuesday afternoon while they were working on a new trawler, being built at the Southern Shipbuilder's yard by the Creek side.

"And, seemingly not content with one appearance, the UFO was again sighted on Wednesday and Thursday.

"On Wednesday the sighting was of two identical objects, which repeated, exactly, the actions of the UFO of the previous day.

"All three sightings took place at the same time of day—between 4.00 and 4.30 p.m.—and all were seen by workers at the shipyard. No reports of sightings by other members of the public have been made.

"After Wednesday's view, Mr. Blow telephoned RAF Manston to report the matter and they dismissed the possibility that it was an aircraft. There were no planes over the area at the time. The following day they telephoned Mr. Blow and asked him to give them a full report on the matter.

"This report, a spokesman at the RAF station told the *Faversham Times*, is being forwarded to the Ministry of Defence for investigation.

"Mr. Joe Taylor, a Sheldwich man working with Mr. Blow at the time, corroborated his story. He said that he found it difficult to judge the height of the object, but thought in the course of its zig-zagging it dropped at least 1,000 feet.

"It started off pure white and then changed colour as it altered shape until it was glowing red. Then, as it rose in the air, it reverted to white again," he said.

"On the first night only a handful of men saw the object, on the second night about 30 viewed it and on the third night nearly all the yard's work force waited with upturned eyes; many having brought binoculars along.

"I couldn't believe my eyes. At first I thought I was going batty. I thought I was seeing things, until I said to the blokes with me: 'You're seeing this as well aren't you?' and they said 'yes,'" declared Mr. Blow.

"It could have been a trick of the light or something. But if you had said anything to me last week about flying saucers I would have just laughed but now . . ." he said and shrugged his shoulders.

"We are deadly serious—this is no hoax."

Acknowledgements to reader who sent this item with an unsigned letter.

LATE NEWS

It is with regret that we learned of the death of Mr. Ivan T. Sanderson who died on Monday, 19th February 1973. It is good to hear that the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained, formed by Mr. Sanderson, will be continuing its work. An appreciation will be published in a future issue of FSR.

MAIL BAG

Welsh "UFOs" in 1905

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in the two articles written by your correspondent Roger Sandell on UFOs in Wales in 1905 (FSR, July/August 1971 and March/April 1972). For those ufologists interested in this period, a veritable hive of accounts of the "Revival Lights" of 1905, with accompanying parapsychological phenomena, is to be found in the *Proceedings* of The Society For Psychical Research, part LI, Volume XIX, of December 1905 under the title, "Psychological Aspects Of The Welsh Revival," written by the Reverend A. T. Fryer. *The Occult Review* for March, April and June 1905 also apparently contains accounts of what a Caernarvon journalist, Beriah G. Evans, and others, had seen.

On page 102 of the work by Fryer the suggestion was made that the mind of Mrs. Jones (the key figure in many sightings), was the originating cause of the appearances of lights. This suggestion was based on the fact that in so far as the cases of collective hallucinations quoted in his work were true, they had a strong family likeness, and that the seers were all in sympathy with Mrs. Jones.

Fryer also suggested a connection between the naturally caused (or otherwise) lights which had appeared frequently along the coast of Tremadoc Bay, from Pwllheli round to Barmouth in previous years (1869, 1870, 1875, 1876 and 1877), and the forms of the subjective appearances described in 1905. To quote:

"The traditional, collective memory of the objective lights (which may or may not have been UFOs—A.C.W.) may act as a guide to the imagination, providing it with materials for picture formation when it is stimulated by a sufficiently exciting cause. Mental imagery can only employ stored up impressions; however incongruous the various elements, they all may be drawn upon when occasion serves, and the lights of Dyffryn are sufficiently common and familiar to become the mnemonic material of religiously excited minds. Mrs. Jones' obiter dictum, "lamp flashing and going out and injuring nothing at all," reads like a reflection of the subconscious memory upon the lights of 1694 (quoted as 1692 by Mr. Sandell—A.C.W.), which did injure material objects. Of those lights and their effects, Mrs. Jones had most probably read or heard."

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.

It would be interesting to hear what the parapsychologists have to say about the Rev. Fryer's suggestions.

That mediums (ectoplasts) can produce ectoplasmic forms in seance rooms when conditions are right, is undisputed in parapsychology. Is it not too difficult to believe that certain ectoplasts—and perhaps Mrs. Jones of Islawrffordd was such an example—when suitably excited by religious fervour, can produce ectoplasmic forms at a good distance from themselves (teleo-ectoplasty), or, to cause those who were in sympathy with them to see lights also, this being achieved by a mental stimulus, that is, direct stimulation of the visual cortex of the percipient.

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Williams,

24 Caerynydd Road, Waunarwydd, Swansea, Wales.

September 23, 1972.

Who'd shoot a UFO?

Dear Sir,—The recent extraterrestrial activity in South Africa, concomitant with the terrestrial proclivity for attacking that which it fears ("A hot reception at Fort Beaufort," *FSR Case Histories* Supplement No. 11) prompts me to quote from a telephone poll conducted by an American newspaper, the *Detroit Free Press*, in August 1971: "If a flying saucer landed in our country today, would we shoot it or welcome it?"

74.3% voted WELCOME, with sample comments as follows: "They may be coming in peace . . . No-one shot at our astronauts . . . Give them a chance to show themselves and shoot later if they don't behave . . . I'd welcome them. Maybe they'd take me back with them. They couldn't be any stranger than what's walking around Detroit . . . Maybe all they want are some rocks."

25.7% voted SHOOT, with comments: "It's the American way . . . If they landed in Detroit they'd probably get mugged . . . The Pentagon would have a field day . . . I'd teach them to stay on their own planet. We've got enough people on welfare without supporting a bunch of Martians."

Yours faithfully,

Timothy Good,

20 Morley Court, The Avenue,

Beckenham, Kent BR3 2EY.

December 10, 1972.

A reader, FSR, and UFOs

Dear Sir,—I'm looking forward with mixed feelings to the Aimé Michel

article on the Palaeolithic Cave Paintings. I sometimes seem to go into a fog while reading him . . .

Michel just marches in and settles somewhere about the back of my head, gnawing away. After countless readings, I still sit with his article, *Of Men, Cats and Magonia* propped up before me while I'm alone, having my morning coffee. Maybe it's really a combination of all the FSR articles and assorted books. I don't pretend to understand half of FSR. I mumble a lot while reading each issue, notably while tiptoeing through the strictly technical articles. I'm not helped by statements such as Mr. Creighton's on disappearing UFO photographs. He seems bent on tangling any coherent reasoning one might summon up when he writes, "We may be very sure that the beings who are so anxious to remove the evidence are *not* the beings whose existence is proved by the evidence, and that we are here getting very near to the nub of the whole UFO mystery." But still, I'm stuck with sharing my breakfast with Michel's precocious cat. Now after receiving the latest FSR, I expect a Saint will be joining us at table.

Since I read my first book on UFOs about five years ago, reality and possibility have taken on a different look. I was vague about them, at least those visible lighted objects seen in the sky, until one summer night in 1964 while we lived in Apalachin, New York, an enormous zeppelin-shaped object gradually appeared directly before us in the sky. Several variously-coloured lights lined its sides in rows. Shortly, three domed disc-shaped objects, also lighted, flew from it straight ahead making incredibly sharp left-angle turns, one after the other, soon disappearing towards the south. The large object still hung there, silent, lighted, immobile. Then it, too, disappeared or dissolved. It didn't move position-wise, but gradually faded from the exact spot where it had materialized. Later that same year and the one following, I saw many swiftly travelling lights and a blazing fireball tumbled erratically before the car.

It is difficult to think of those first objects I saw in the sky as anything but physical objects. They were visual—material objects. They occupied a space—a space somewhere. Yet, even though I'm certain that what I saw was a material something, was this a material similar to an apparition? Perhaps if we could touch them our

hands would go through air but that "air" would be *our* air. Not theirs.

I've grown up, and have always been familiar with (to use words), poltergeists, voices, telepathy, psychic whatever, etc., and accepted it as a part of life. But after witnessing those UFOs and then reading somewhere of a

possible relation among them all, I felt clobbered. *That* had never occurred to me. Then I came across Vallée's *Passport to Magonia* and Keel's books. Now, completely confused, I sit here, staring over cold coffee in this crowded room.

Looking forward (I guess) to the

next FSR, I send my best wishes to you all.

Sincerely,
Beverly Connelly,
Binghamton, New York 13905,
U.S.A.

August 18, 1972.

MORE TELEPORTATIONS AND LEVITATIONS

Continued from page 29

this looks like one of the best sets of Brazilian names that I have come across yet. In an illiterate farmer, they have a richly comic quality. But I think they also convey something of the homespun simplicity and honesty of these pleasant Brazilian folk.

3 The *gambá* is a rat-like type of opossum (marsupial) found widely in South America. Known in some other parts of Brazil as the *mucura* or the *timbú*, and in Argentina as the *comadreja*. (*Didelphis Aurita*; *D. Marsupialis*; and *D. Paraguayensis*.)

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