

a copy. The handwriting of the notes matches that exactly of other notes in Smith's own long-hand." A copy of Dr. Sarbacher's letter of November 29, 1983 to Mr. Steinman is enclosed for your information. The only copy Mr. Steinman says he gave anyone was to U.S. UFO researcher Mr. William L. Moore in December, 1983 (in fact, within one week of receiving it in the mail on December 5, 1983). You can take it from there how all the others, including myself, in the grapevine finally obtained their copy. A

more in-depth article with Mr. Steinman's approval will be published regarding the above affair in my UFO publication, *The Sixth Quark Journal*, this Spring.

Sincerely,  
**Tom Benson,**  
P.O. Box 1174,  
Trenton, N.J. 08606,  
U.S.A.  
January 16, 1986

(See photostats  
on Page 25 and 26)

---

## SPINNING SAUCERS GAIN CREDIBILITY

*Paul Whitehead*

THE *Flying Saucer Review* took its name from those UFOs spotted by the pilot Kenneth Arnold in 1947.<sup>1</sup> The concept of a flying saucer is, however, much older, dating back at least to the 19th century, when an American farmer spotted what he described as a "saucer" flying over his property.<sup>2</sup>

Saucer-shaped objects were seen in the USA in the 1930s (and later sketched) by Richard Keeler. A report of the case appears in Dr. J. Allen Hynek's "*The Hynek UFO Report*", published in 1978.

Certain authorities, such as the American and British governments, would have us believe that flying saucers are seen only by those among us unfortunate enough to be suffering some mental aberration. "Mental patients" probably make the ideal spotters, as far as these authorities are concerned!<sup>3</sup>

However, the French Government, whose Minister of Defence, Monsieur Robert Galley, revealed in an exclusive interview on the French Radio programme *France-Inter* in February 1974 that his country took the UFOs seriously and had long had a department secretly studying them, continues to conduct research into the subject. (See *OMNI Magazine*, February 1986.) And it seems to be common knowledge that the American Government, among others, still conducts its own research programme too. But this, since the publication of the *Condon Report* in October 1968, is no longer said to be done by the U.S. Air Force (who seem never to have been seriously involved), but most probably by America's most secret Intelligence body, the NSA (*National Security Agency*) who may in fact have been the people really in charge of it all along.<sup>4</sup>

Before we move on to an article written recently by Dr. Frank Close, of Britain's Rutherford Appleton Research Laboratory, which discussed anti-gravity, spinning masses and even "spinning saucers", let us briefly recap on what flying saucers are theorised to be.

For some they are spiritual messengers from a distant galaxy, inducing the gullible among us to part

with money from our pockets to assist in bringing salvation to the earth. Some adherents to this philosophy believe the UFOs themselves are pure spirit, others think they just carry the Gods.

For others, UFOs reside within a hollow Earth, and are currently making exception to pollution, nuclear tests, too much "*Dallas*" on TV, etc.

The more rational explanations propose that UFOs carry visitors ("beings", robots or a cloned version of the two) from another world, who are monitoring our progress, much as a zoo-keeper keeps an eye on his various broods. Visitors from another dimension or from a parallel world are also not discounted.

Many reports of UFOs have been reported by high calibre and reliable witnesses. These include military personnel, police officers, pilots, etc — even astronomers.

One of the classic features of flying saucers is this:— *they spin*.<sup>5</sup>

Until now, the sceptics have happily thrown this feature, along with all the others, onto the refuse tip. Why, after all, should an advanced spacecraft have to spin? What does the spinning do? And anyway, we all know you didn't see a flying saucer, so it couldn't have been spinning!

*But will they reject this feature of flying saucers quite so easily again?*

Enter Dr. Frank Close. In his article "*Gravity — has the penny finally dropped?*" (*The Guardian*, March 14th 1986), he discusses at some length a proposal to experiment with antigravity.

"As any UFO buff knows," he states, "flying saucers spin rapidly so that their antigravity drives are effective."

Some scientists, he adds, were now suggesting that they could be right about the spinning producing antigravity. He goes on to describe how scientists were planning to experiment with antigravity particles produced by man, to see, among other things, if

(continued on page 27)

# WASHINGTON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

OCEANOGRAPHIC AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

DR. ROBERT I. SARBACHER  
PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF BOARD

November 29, 1983

Mr. William Steinman  
15043 Rosalita Drive  
La Mirada, California 90638

Dear Mr. Steinman:

I am sorry I have taken so long in answering your letters. However, I have moved my office and have had to make a number of extended trips.

To answer your last question in your letter of October 14, 1983, there is no particular reason I feel I shouldn't or couldn't answer any or all of your questions. I am delighted to answer all of them to the best of my ability.

You listed some of your questions in your letter of September 12th. I will attempt to answer them as you had listed them.

1. Relating to my own experience regarding recovered flying saucers, I had no association with any of the people involved in the recovery and have no knowledge regarding the dates of the recoveries. If I had I would send it to you.

2. Regarding verification that persons you list were involved, I can only say this:

John von Neuman was definitely involved. Dr. Vannever Bush was definitely involved, and I think Dr. Robert Oppenheimer also.

My association with the Research and Development Board under Doctor Compton during the Eisenhower administration was rather limited so that although I had been invited to participate in several discussions associated with the reported recoveries, I could not personally attend the meetings. I am sure that they would have asked Dr. von Braun, and the others that you listed were probably asked and may or may not have attended. This is all I know for sure.

3. I did receive some official reports when I was in my office at the Pentagon but all of these were left there as at the time we were never supposed to take them out of the office.

4. I do not recall receiving any photographs such as you request so I am not in a position to answer.

5. I have to make the same reply as on No. 4.

I recall the interview with Dr. Brenner of the Canadian Embassy. I think the answers I gave him were the ones you listed. Naturally, I was more familiar with the subject matter under discussion, at that time. Actually, I would have been able to give more specific answers had I attended the meetings concerning the subject. You must understand that I took this assignment as a private contribution. We were called "dollar-a-year men." My first responsibility was the maintenance of my own business activity so that my participation was limited.

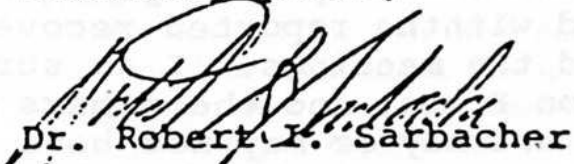
About the only thing I remember at this time is that certain materials reported to have come from flying saucer crashes were extremely light and very tough. I am sure our laboratories analyzed them very carefully.

There were reports that instruments or people operating these machines were also of very light weight, sufficient to withstand the tremendous deceleration and acceleration associated with their machinery. I remember in talking with some of the people at the office that I got the impression these "aliens" were constructed like certain insects we have observed on earth, wherein because of the low mass the inertial forces involved in operation of these instruments would be quite low.

I still do not know why the high order of classification has been given and why the denial of the existence of these devices.

I am sorry it has taken me so long to reply but I suggest you get in touch with the others who may be directly involved in this program.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Robert I. Sarbacher

P. S. It occurs to me that Dr. Bush's name is incorrect as you have it. Please check the spelling.

they shoot up or down when released from the strong magnetic field in which they are stored.

(This is the only way to store these particles. If they "touch" anything, they and whatever they touch, are destroyed. Scientists keep them in a circular tube, whose inside is as airless as the Moon, and where powerful magnets stop them from hitting the sides of the tube.)

Now comes the interesting bit. Dr. Close argues that it may also be possible to create antigravity by spinning.

He writes: "This is where the spinning saucers come into their own. Just as rotating electrical charges feel magnetic forces, so will spinning masses experience 'magnetic antigravity'. The faster you spin so the bigger the effect.

"Gravity may win out when you sit in your chair, but spin round fast enough, and antigravity might begin to take over. Spin fast enough, and you could become a high jump champion."

Can we now look forward to the great Golden Age, when spinning will become fashionable, even respectable? Perhaps we should dust down some of those long-forgotten "I saw a spinning flying saucer" reports and have another look...

Here are three, taken from an article written by the astronomer (and FSR consultant) Dr. Jacques Vallée, and published by Futura in "The Humanoids" (Ed. Charles Bowen) in 1969.

These three cases were reported in 1954.

1. October 9th. At Bayreuth, Germany, the representative of a German firm, M. Max Favell, saw an object land. It gave off a white light. It took off vertically, with a spinning motion, and was lost to sight.

2. October 10th. M. Bon, a mathematics professor in Lisieux, France, observed early in the afternoon, in the vicinity of Saint-Germain-de-Livet, about 200 or 300 metres from the side of the road, a silvery disc, about 7 or 8 metres in diameter, which rose without making any noise. The object was spinning. It dived to the ground from an altitude of about 800 metres, then flew off horizontally at a "dizzying speed".

3. October 29th. In Mesple, near Montluçon, France, a disc standing on edge and spinning rapidly came swiftly towards the ground. There were two witnesses as it suddenly vanished in mid-air.

UFOs which suddenly vanish before the eyes of witnesses are not a rarity. Sir Francis Chichester saw cigar-shaped UFOs while flying from New Zealand to Australia in 1961. He reported later that he had been genuinely puzzled by the incident, the most marked feature of which was the abrupt disappearance and re-appearance of the UFOs.

#### Postscript

After the recent Challenger Shuttle tragedy in Florida, British scientists announced that they were studying the possibility of using charged particles to launch spacecraft. In the

long term this mode of propulsion would be cheaper and safer than conventional fuel-fired rockets, they said.

UFO theorists have claimed that UFOs may be powered by charged particles (such as ions) and a photograph<sup>6</sup> taken in Ireland some years ago seemed to support the idea; the UFO appeared to be surrounded by an elongated halo, which was not visible to the naked eye but showed up on the photograph. The halo was similar to the sort of "ionised force field" which would accompany a craft powered in this way, the theorists said. (More will be reported on this subject when the scientists make their research work public.)

#### Footnotes (Editor, FSR)

1. What Kenneth Arnold actually told the journalists, when he landed in his private aircraft at Pendleton, Oregon, on Tuesday, June 24, 1947, was that the diagonal, geese-like line of nine UFOs which he had just seen near Mount Rainier (in the Cascade Range) "*flew like speed-boats on rough water, or similar to the tail of a Chinese kite blowing in the wind... or like a saucer would if you skipped it across water*".

(See *The Coming of the Saucers*, by Kenneth Arnold and Ray Palmer.) (Privately printed by Ray Palmer, Amherst, Wisconsin, 1952.)

2. Nearly twenty years ago Dr. J. Allen Hynek brought and presented to us at FSR a photostat from the archives of the American provincial newspaper *Dennison Daily News* (pub. at Dennison, Texas), showing that their issue of 25 January 1878 contained the account, under the heading "*A Strange Phenomenon*", of how, on the previous day, 24 January 1878, a local farmer named John Martin, described as 'a gentleman of undoubted veracity', had seen a dark flying object travelling 'at a wonderful speed' over his property six miles north of Dallas. He told the newspaper that when it was right overhead it looked "*about the size of a large saucer*". This, therefore, was the first use of the word "saucer".

3. Some years ago, Dr. Hynek told me that somebody had made a survey in some of the American mental hospitals, in order to find out how many of the "*nut-cases*" were avidly discussing "flying saucers", at a time when there was a big UFO "flap" on, and that it turned out that the mental hospitals seemed to be the only places where not a soul had anything to say on the subject!

4. What is "magnificently interesting", were one able to coin such a phrase, is the fact that, although the U.S. Air Force (which was *never* really investigating UFOs, anyway!) has not even *nominally* been concerned with the UFO Problem since the completion of the Condon Report in October 31, 1968, its sanctions and penal provisions still remain in force!

The Directive *Joint Army Navy Air Publication-146* (known as *JANAP-146* for short) lays down in great detail the procedure to be followed by the personnel of the Armed Forces in reporting UFOs. And it also provides that, should anyone, having made such a report, then divulge anything of that report to third or unauthorized parties, he shall be liable to *up to ten years imprisonment and up to a \$10,000 fine!* When we last saw Dr. Hynek, a couple of years ago, he confirmed to us that this regulation was still in force. So far as we know, it still is in force today.

5. It is true that many eyewitnesses have said that they saw a UFO which seemed to "*spin*" or "*rotate*". *There is how-*

ever considerable evidence that it is not the entire craft that spins, but only an outer part or flange. In such a case, the inner capsule or cabin, containing the crew, would presumably not spin at all.

6. This photograph was taken on Sunday, December 26, 1965, near Cappoquin, County Waterford, Eire, by Miss Jacqueline Wingfield, a British Museum colleague of FSR Consultant the late Charles Gibbs-Smith, MA, FMA, Hon. Companion of the Royal Aeronautical Society. As FSR readers will know, Mr. Gibbs-Smith was recognized as the leading British expert on the subject of human flight, and his handbook on the question, published by H.M. Stationery Office, has been for years the standard

authority on all matters pertaining to the history of aviation. After close examination by numerous British and American experts, the Cappoquin photo was published as the lead-story in FSR Volume 12, No.2 (March/April 1966). The great "plume" or "elongated halo" (not seen by either Miss Wingfield or her companion, Miss Lisbet Mortensen from Denmark), is a remarkable and powerful feature in the photograph, the authenticity of which has never been placed in doubt by anyone. To my knowledge, because I was present, it was seen and inspected and analysed, and "blown up", by numerous very qualified people, British and American.

## MAIL BAG

Correspondents are asked to keep their letters short and give full name and address (not necessarily for publication). It is not always possible for the Editor to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Dear Editor, — So Dr. Hynek died on Sunday, April 27. What he achieved in Ufology — a word that, if I am not wrong, he himself coined — will be remembered as long as things unknown to man will fly in our skies and in our minds. May I evoke some personal recollections of this man whom I was happy to know — on two occasions I think he showed himself to me deep down in his heart.

The first time was on the occasion of my first meeting with him, in my apartment at Vannes, the old quarter in the southern part of Paris where I was living then, at the close of the 1950s, and where all my files since the Scandinavian Wave were stored.

It was not without emotion — a feeling of something historical if I dare so to put it — that I was awaiting his arrival, though I knew that he would be 'piloted' to my apartment by my old friend the astrophysicist Pierre Guérin, as well as by the celebrated Franco-American astronomer Gérard de Vaucouleurs and one of de Vaucouleurs' assistants, the best interpreter I could have dreamt of.

Dr. Guérin had already warned me, the evening before, that what they wished to do was to verify whether, and in what measure, the UFO case-histories with which I had documented my books were *actual*, or were invented, or were embellished.

Dr. de Vaucouleurs' assistant was a photographer.

The three of them spent two days in reading through my files and in photographing the material, but it was not long before I had perceived that Hynek was not only a learned astronomer, but also a thoroughly intuitive man, well able to sound out the hearts of people. In appearance, he did not in fact look like an American, but, with his elegant little "goatee" beard, rather like one of those Central European\* masters in Psychology, such as Freud.

After two days of scrutinizing, photographing, and debating, there came a (for me, at any rate) solemn little silence. Then Hynek gave a sigh, and said: "Well, now I can tell you. Until now I had been convinced that you had invented all these landing cases."

Then, after another silence, he continued: "Well... and now, *so what?*"

I felt at the time, and still feel, that at that very moment Hynek had changed his mind.

I do not mean to say that he had suddenly "become a *believer*" something which, incidentally, I myself was not then, and still am not. (As always, my motto is "LOOK AT EVERYTHING, AND BELIEVE NOTHING").

But I mean that, from that very moment onwards, he had decided to "LOOK AT EVERYTHING". And this is precisely what he did from that day onwards, devoting the whole of

his life to Ufology, with that courage which we all know, never caring a fig for the gossip of his professional colleagues, but guided always by one aim — the search for the *truth*.

The other recollection which I shall always have of him and of what sort of a man he was dates back to the time when, later on, I visited him in his home-town, Evanston, and went with him to his Observatory, near the lake, (Yerkes Observatory, University of Michigan), and there beheld what I had dreamed of seeing once in my lifetime, when, as a child, I had built my own first little telescope — the biggest astronomical lens in the world!

Of course I enjoyed the chance to see that famous lens, but, most of all, I think I enjoyed the chance to discover Hynek in his private life; to meet his children, who are now grown up, and, above all, to meet his wife, Minnie. Mrs. Hynek, running her house and home and family with the age-old wisdom of womankind, struck me as one of those paramount American women of History, endowed with insuperable personality.

It can scarcely be said that we Ufologists let our wives have a completely quiet life, free of bickerings and annoyances.

I think of her and her dear ones with grief, and I share their sorrow, as so many of us do all over the world, to whom the name of Hynek remains as that of the leading character in the