

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.

From Dr. Nathaniel Micklem, C.H.

Dear Bowen,—The accomplishment of 20 years, though the F.S.R. came of age many years ago, is a proper occasion for warm congratulations and for the expression of great gratitude to you. It was Waveney Girvan who put me on to it years ago.

I am one of your very grateful and very sceptical readers — very sceptical about all *explanations*, but not sceptical about the urgent necessity for a proper scientific enquiry into many inexplicable facts.

My scepticism rests partly on an experience of my own. I have to this day the clearest visual memory of seeing in the north transept of St. Alban's Abbey the recumbent figure of a bishop in full canonicals, and I remember my surprise at seeing that he bore my mother's family name. My visit to St. Alban's with a family party was a fact (some 75 years ago), but there never was such a recumbent figure, and none of my mother's family was ever a bishop there. I can only suppose that after the visit I dreamed of what I thought I saw; but unless I knew for a fact that what I saw never actually existed in any form, I should to this day assert with complete assurance that I saw that statue. I do not doubt the integrity of those who report what they have seen but am doubtful of all uncorroborated evidence, but you report many events for which I see no explanation at all.

Much power to your arm!
yoursever

Nathaniel Micklem,
Abingdon, Oxon.
6th May, 1975.

On the Ummo affair

Dear Sir,—I wish to thank Mr. Gordon Creighton for his translation of my article *The Birthplaces of Prominent People in Relation to Bavic* (FSR Vol. 20, No.1).

I have also read with much interest Mr. Creighton's translation of Antonio Ribera's long article on the UMMO Mystery (FSR Vol. 20, Nos. 4-6 and Vol. 21, Nos. 1-2.), for I have myself been for some time in correspondence with Padre Enrique López Guerrero about this affair, and I have on my files a good many copies or translations of the famous UMMOAELEWE letters. In my opinion Father Guerrero is undoubtedly an important element by reason of his great knowledge of the

intricacies of this strange UMMO business (and what a foul affair it is!).

In July 1973 I wrote to Father Guerrero, and enclosed an account of the events that had been taking place at Les Nourradons, in France, in 1971, as described in my article *A French Repeater Case: Events at Les Nourradons*, which appeared in Mr. Creighton's translation in FSR Vol. 19, No.3 (May-June 1973.)

In due course I received the following very interesting reply from Padre Guerrero:

Dear Sir,

Going through the copious correspondence heaped up in my office (I receive a tremendous lot of letters) I have before me your letter of July 12 last, and I apologise for the delay in replying.

The landing of the first three UMMO spacecraft did indeed occur on March 28, 1950, at a spot situated some 10 km. from Digne, in the Departement des Basses Alpes (Provence).

All you tell me in your letter is very interesting, and I should be grateful for all information that you can give me on the affair.

There — at the French landing — they remained for three months or so, living in an underground base which they made themselves. In the vicinity a "strange" robbery is supposed to have taken place around that time at a rustic farm. It would be very useful to consult the files of the local press for that period. At any rate I shall be grateful for further word from you.

With my greatest esteem and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Enrique López Guerrero,
*Párroco de Santa María de la Asunción,
Mairena del Alcor, Sevilla, Spain.*

Well now, *it is a fact* that there are, in the close vicinity to the spot, two or three dilapidated farms and barns. And one wonders how it is that Padre Guerrero knows this?

It seems likely moreover that a cave or subterranean chamber does indeed exist beneath the house and the landing area, for two dowers,* working quite separately, have both indicated that there is such a cave or chamber there.

I do not claim to know myself what lies behind all this UMMO business, but one thing is certain, and

that is that there is far too much evidence of strange people involved in that 1971 landing at Les Nourradons (on which I reported to FSR as mentioned above), and Les Nourradons (Var) is not very far to the south of Digne (Basses Alpes). And there have been far too many "saucer" reports from that whole area of south-eastern France in recent years for us not to think that something very strange is going on. I hope to make a further investigation when I visit the region again later this year.

Yours sincerely,

J.C. Dufour

13 rue Cynos, 20000 Ajaccio,
Corsica, France.

(Note by Gordon Creighton: I have taken the liberty of re-arranging Monsieur Dufour's letter, which was in English, and of adding a little to it here and there in order to bring out the points which he wishes to emphasise. A photostat of Father Guerrero's letter was enclosed by Monsieur Dufour. It was in the original Spanish, and I have therefore translated it from that language.)

* The French call dowers *radiaesthisia*, and dowers *radiaesthisists*.)

Ummite philosophies?

Dear Sir,—Whether or not the "Ummo" documents are true, a fantastic fabrication, a deception on the part of alien entities, or the product of somebody's highly imaginative mentality, they do have, to my mind, a curious resemblance to our own terrestrial philosophies (superimposed, of course, on to an extra-terrestrial format).

In particular, there is a marked resemblance in some of the words and phrases to the critical philosophy of Immanuel Kant, among others. For example, from Part 4, (FSR Vol. 21, No.2), the following: 'dialectic' 'transcendent', 'necessary', 'necessary being', 'schematology', 'categories', and 'we create the (Universe) when we think of it.'

If the planet Ummo exists one can but say: small universe indeed!

Yours sincerely,

Raymond E. Cox

59 Briery Road, Halesowen,
West Midlands, B63 1AS
21st September, 1975.

[We showed this letter to Dr. Ivor

Grattan-Guinness, who nodded agreement and added "Much closer correspondences even than those quoted by Mr. Cox."—EDITOR.]

Underwater bases

Dear Sir,—I was extremely interested in Mr. Gordon Creighton's article "Underwater UFO Base off Venezuela?" in FSR Vol.21, No.1.

The water depths in the Bonaire and Cariaco Basins off El Litoral Central vary to about 800 fathoms. The Continental Shelf in this region runs fairly close to the shore, so the deeper portions of the Basins lie comparatively close to land.

The pressure at a depth of 510 fathoms is the same as that at the surface of the planet Venus. If I were looking for an extraterrestrial underwater base in the area I would start by concentrating on areas where the depths are around 500 fathoms. Sincerely,

Stuart W. Greenwood

University of Maryland, College of Engineering, Department of Aerospace Engineering, Glenn L. Martin Institute of Technology, College Park, Maryland 20742, U.S.A.
August 16, 1975.

Poltergeists and UFOs

Dear Sir,—I refer to Carrington and Fodor's *The Poltergeist down the Centuries*, in particular the chronological index of outstanding "poltergeist" phenomena commencing with an incident in A.D. 355 (p.23).

It has been suggested that the "anti-gravity" involved in the violent movement of solid objects which occurs during poltergeist activity could be connected with the proximity of a UFO.

May I recommend the reading of this chapter to subscribers to *Flying Saucer Review*. I am sure they will find some interesting correlations with ufology.

Yours sincerely,

Gay Mosley

Flat 26, Norman Court,
154 Lower Richmond Road,
London SW15.

Full citation:

Carrington, Hereward and Fodor, Nandor: "The story of the Poltergeist down the Centuries." London: Rider, 1953.

From Dr. Dave Saunders

Dear Sir,—The photograph taken by Stephen Pratt on March 28, 1966 (FSR, September 1966), bears a "remarkable resemblance" to that taken by Nigel Birch in February 1962 (first reported in FSR for September 1962). The resemblance was noted by FSR in September 1966; I am aware of no other similar-appearing pictures. Moreover, in each case, we are dealing with

the work of a single teen-age photographer, though their homes are only about 14 miles apart!

The Birch photo is now an acknowledged hoax (FSR, November 1972). Is there any reason to believe this acknowledgement does not apply equally to the Pratt photo?

Sincerely,

David R. Saunders

Research Associate, The University of Chicago, Industrial Relations Center, 1225 East Sixtieth Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637, U.S.A.

April 17, 1975.

Creed

Dear Sir,—In response to your creed in the last 1974 edition of FSR (Vol. 20, No.6), I agree completely with your conclusion. I have been studying Ufology for the past two years, and have done quite a bit of research in a Seminarian Library which has proved to be very fruitful.

There's a book that's recently hit the news stands entitled *UFO's and Their Mission Impossible*, by Dr. Clifford Wilson (Author of *Crash Go The Chariots*). In his book he states that many people will be turned off it's religious significance (demonology and the Second Coming of Christ). But serious research will lead you in that direction.

He makes the statement that the answer to the UFO mystery is not a scientific but philosophical one, and the reason that scientists make no headway is because their fields are so demanding they don't have time for educating themselves in liberal arts (history, religion, philosophy).

I believe the answer to the possibilities in your creed are philosophical, in which everyone must answer for himself: Do good and evil exist only in the minds of men (due to fear and guilt etc.) or are they a real force in the universe?

I think the sad condition of our world is a legitimate hint.

Henry Schmidt

3509 Locklee Road, Louisville,
Kentucky 40214, U.S.A.

July 13, 1975.

[*UFOs and Their Mission Impossible*, a Signet Book, is published by the New American Library, New York, at \$1.50

Crash Go the Chariots was published in 1972 by Lancer Books, Inc., New York—EDITOR].

Lansing's Clocklike Patterns

Dear Sir,—I continue to keep an open mind on this subject, among others; but while I certainly don't go along with Bowman's extremely rude letter on the subject (about which you have rightly protested) I have recently seen

on television an identical clocklike formation which I am sure was the result of an effect of light, and will put this on record for what it is worth.

The month was July this year, just before we went on holiday. The channel was ITV, the time about 8.30 p.m., and the film was some ghastly effort called 'Hit Woman' which I think was one* of those quickies made cheaply in Italy with dubbed American dialogue.

In the first third of the film the Hit Woman has just bumped off a rich rancher and is making her getaway in a car across sparse desert-like terrain. At one point in this sequence the car shows in the lower right-hand half of the screen. As it approaches the camera and gets close up, a clocklike pattern which seemed to me identical with Lansing's appeared just slightly above the car's roof. I thought then (and still do) that it had been produced by the effect of brilliant sunlight striking up from the reflective roof of the car. The duration of the flash was a split second only.

I wonder if anyone else may have noticed it — though few people with an I.Q. of more than —45 are likely to have been watching the film.

ITV could readily give precise details as to date and time of showing (and the making of the film etc.) in case anyone thinks it worth looking into. They are repeating so much junk lately a re-run is possible.

Yours faithfully,

Barbara D.G. Steer,

London SW1

September 17, 1975

* Title has been euphemised to 'Hit Lady'. Sorry.

UFOs and metal-benders: that noise

Dear Sir,—"Somewhere a bell is tolling in my head..." Reading your editorial *Signal Success* in FSR Vol.21, No.2 (1975), in which you write about the address given by Prof. J. Taylor, I take note of the link by a sound of special phenomena. And now I remember having read somewhere about a great noise accompanying the movements of heavy stones in ancient times, used in the erection of monuments such as Stonehenge and The Pyramids. Where did I read about that? In the Bible? I don't think so. As it could be a very important clue to overcoming gravity, can anyone put me wise?

At time of writing I have had time to read little else in FSR Vol.21, No.2, but as I mentioned in an earlier letter, both Professor Dr. W.H.C. Tenhaeff of Utrecht and I consider the book *Uri* by Dr. A. Puharich as sheer nonsense: too many convenient