

AS OVER 5000 AWAIT THE VIRGIN MARY, UFOs "PUT ON A SHOW" IN BRAZIL.

© *Exclusive Report No. 1 by Reginaldo de Athayde, Editorial Consultant to UFO, Journal of the Brazilian UFO Research Centre, Campo Grande, State of Minas Gerais (MS). Editor: A.J. Gevaerd. Translation from Portuguese, G.C. Source: UFO No.34 (Nov/Dec. 1994)*

North Eastern Brazil continues to receive regular UFO visitations, particularly the State of Ceará, with the heaviest concentration of sightings, landings, pursuits, abductions, and other happenings, around the town of Quixadá - including at least 36 close encounters in May, June and August of 1994. Much of this recent "Wave" has been concentrated around the mountain region known as Serra de Baturité, where, in December 1993, and throughout 1994 till August, the inhabitants were thrown into a state of terror by "balls of fire or of light," scores of people testifying that they had been pursued or attacked by such things. In one place, Amontada, numerous people, including the local mayor and local priest, observed several UFO landings. At another place in the same area, Mulungu, UFOs were seen flying over the town centre by hundreds of people, including top officials. And at a spot called Quebra Pau, farmers saw a UFO hovering above a grove of banana trees, scorching the tops of them all. Several people, including one José Ernani, aged 25, claimed close encounters. Ernani claimed to have talked "with a being of light" who said she was the Virgin Mary. She said the Serra de Baturité had been chosen by her to be the scene of a whole series of appearances.

Ernani first saw her on April 23, 1993, when he and several other people were at prayer in a grotto at Vila Peri, Fortaleza. From then onwards, on Mondays and Fridays, when praying, he alone continued to see her.

Ernani described her as a beautiful girl, in appearance aged about 19, with finely chiselled features, pink complexion, heart-shaped mouth, and long brown wavy hair. He said her eyes were "of a penetrating blue".

Ernani said that whenever she appears to him, there is always a breeze that ripples her mantle, revealing her silky hair.

Around her waist she wears a sort of sash about four inches wide, the end of which falls down along her left leg like a stole, and on this stole could be seen two faces - one of them of Jesus and the other of a white-haired bearded old man and the image of a dove, all of

which Ernani took to represent the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He said her voice was melodious and slow and measured, and she imparted this message:

"Dear children, I thank you deeply for responding to my call.

Today I bring to Baturité a message of conversion. I beg of you to pray without ceasing, for only thus will you be able to come close to God and become His children, the most important gift that Jesus desires to give you today is Himself, presenting Himself to you, through the Eucharist, as a sacrifice for the remission of your sins. My children, love Jesus in the Eucharist. Today is the day of my Immaculate Heart. Do not refuse the opportunity to offer your sacrifices in defence of my Heart. To you, my favoured children the Baturité priests, I address this message: Honour your lives, dedicating them, day by day, to the sacraments to your neighbours. Today I am blessing this land chosen by God for my manifestation".

Well now, what are we to think of all this? Madness? Fanaticism?

Let us see.

On September 1, 1993, the town of Brejo, also in the Serra de Baturité region, was visited by 3,000 pilgrims, all of whom are unanimous in affirming that, at 14.10 hrs. they observed that the Sun was losing its brightness and had become like a Full Moon and had changed colour, while a soft breeze had begun to mitigate the fierce heat of the region.

Then, as the crowd of the faithful were falling to their knees, all weeping and loudly singing, and begging the miraculous Holy Mother for mercy, at that very moment many of the eyewitnesses swear to have seen various phenomena. One farmer, José Valdenir Lima, says that as he saw José Ernani kneel down, a sort of "smoke" rose up from among the palm trees and a cold wind swept the tree tops. And others say they saw the Virgin, like a transparent being, rising up into the sky.

Whatever the facts may be, our organisation, the

CPU (Centre for Brazilian UFO Research, Ceará, N.E. Brazil) has been making a close study of all these many UFO reports from that North-Eastern region of our country. Naturally we are not able yet to affirm that all these "Marian phenomena" on the one hand, and "UFO phenomena" on the other hand, are interlinked. But, in the meantime, we do believe, as is suggested by Steven Spielberg's film, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, that some sort of psychological preparation of the eyewitnesses takes place before some significant phenomenon.

Thus, in the present case at Baturité, these events may have been a psychological preparation for what would happen later, on October 1st.

What is undeniable is that "somebody" truly did interfere in the normal lives of the inhabitants of the Baturité region.

What we do now have to investigate is this: were those objects that were observed, prior to the Virgin apparition, "UFOs"? Or were Ufonauts preparing for the arrival of a higher being belonging to some "Cosmic Court"?

MARKED DATES

Owing to the enormous complexity of the subject, we have no definite answers to these questions. But we shall continue with our investigations in the North-East, and on any dates marked down for other visits by the BVM (if such she be) to the Sierra de Baturité area, we shall be there, with our cameras.

[Note by Editor of *UFO*, A.J. Gevaerd: The next date was October 1, 1994, which would normally have been after our closing date for this issue. However, since the events for that day were going to be so very important and significant, we delayed our closure in order to be able to include the article which immediately follows this one.]

Our intention is to dissect the phenomenon thoroughly and attempt to provide scientific explanations for the facts. If we don't manage to get them then we shall have to recognise that something far, far beyond our powers of imagination is occurring in that remote and isolated corner of our world.

But we have also other important phenomena to record:-

A few years ago, the town of Pacajus, (also in the State of Ceará, N.E. Brazil) had a UFO visitation in which - just as had happened in the State of Pará - people in lonely places were attacked by craft which sucked their blood and left the bodies. The people of the region called the craft the "*chupa-chupas*" - the *bloodsuckers*, and there was a lot about the subject in the local newspapers at the time.

Well now - just lately, a new happening has shaken the small town of Pacajus. Joaquina Nogueira de Sousa, a young woman aged 28, was coming back from Pacajus to Pedra Branca when she saw "a weird light, very powerful, lighting up an entire grove of cashew nut trees". She halted and watched, and thought the whole thing very odd indeed, seeing that there were no elec-

tricity power-lines anywhere there to account for what she was seeing. The place is lonely, the highway there is dark, and unpaved, with areas of enormous cashew trees.

Suddenly, appearing as it were "out of nowhere", Joaquina saw two "luminous beings" ahead of her.

They were tall, in phosphorescent tight-fitting clothing. They were standing there just looking at her, at a distance of about ten metres. Then, as they came closer, she was able to see them by the light of the Moon. She told our team of investigators: "*They were a man and a woman. The man was powerfully built and tall, very tall. He had black fluffy hair combed back, and he spoke to me*". She said he had slant eyes and arched eyebrows ("like an inverted V"). His ears were larger than human ears, and slightly pointed. He had a prominent chin and darkish skin (*pele de cor parda*) - "almost transparent."

He spoke in a grave and assured tone. "*Don't be afraid. We are not going to do you any harm. We don't want anything from you: keep calm.*"

She saw his lips moving. However, they did not appear to be speaking, but rather to be inserting the words into her head. He went on: *I am Karran. We are just passing through here. We have already been here before. Don't be afraid*", and Joaquina grew ever more astonished.

The other figure, which seemed to be a woman, also had black hair, combed back, and the same physiognomical features as the man who called himself Karran.

The woman also said something, which Joaquina did not understand. She perceived however that the woman's voice was soft and gentle. Speaking with a mixture of astonishment and fear, Joaquina told us: "*She had a sculptural looking body and tight-fitting clothes, revealing a well-delineated silhouette. She was smiling slightly, and showed gentleness*".

After this slight attempt at conversation, the woman stepped away and drew something out of the wide belt which she, like the man, was wearing. It started to click, and she put it to her right ear and said a few words that Joaquina thought sounded like "*Ami, "Sabatan", and "Radan"*".

Meanwhile, louder sounds were coming from the device, as though someone was communicating.

Then Karran drew something from his own belt and gave it to Joaquina, gesturing to her to raise it to her mouth. She obeyed, but it was sour. Her mouth quickly filled with saliva and she began to feel nauseated and spat several times, thinking she might have been poisoned. She felt herself dominated by the eyes of the male visitor, who came closer still to her and put something into her ear. She does not remember whether it hurt, but only that she began to be aware again of what was happening as her own brother, José de Arimatéia, who had remained at home in the village and was now travelling over the same route as she, dashed up to her when he saw she was face to face with two unknown and luminous beings.

Seeing him coming, the two beings withdrew the

apparatus from Joquina's ear and then, turning away with their backs towards her they vanished as though evaporating before her eyes, just as they had first appeared to her.

The brother, Arimatéia, declared that, as he had been approaching the spot he had perceived two quite tall persons, strangely luminous, and he confirmed that they had indeed vanished as though by magic.

In our interview with Joaquina and her brother we were able to verify that they had previously never talked to each other about UFOs or had ever known anything whatever about the subject. *Likewise we ascertained that being - as they both are - simple folk from the Brazilian Interior, they had never heard talk about the case of the married couple Herminio and Bianca Reis which had occurred during the 1970s, and in which an entity had also said that his name was Karran* *

What we did discover in the course of our enquiries was that something very significant had indeed happened to the brother and sister. From the details given to us by them both it was evident that they had indeed both been confronted by beings resembling humans, *but not of this world.*

On that very same day other people also testified that they had seen a UFO in that same district. They included another brother of José and Joaquina, and also an uncle and a brother-in-law of theirs. There was also a thirteen-year-old boy named Manuel, who had been pursued by an object emitting a powerful hot beam of light that burnt his right arm and caused him to drop a parcel he was carrying.

None of the eyewitnesses consented to hypnosis, but they passed all the tests that we were able to apply, including psychological examinations carried out by ac-

credited psychologists linked to our Investigation Group.

The case is certainly a much disputed one, but we do not think that there is any kind of fraud involved, because the people in question are simple, humble, honest folk who could in any case reap no benefit from the story, quite apart from the fact that they know nothing whatever about "matters ufological".

However, we are carrying on with our investigation so as to secure every scrap of detail, and always bearing in mind the dictum that, so long as the contrary remains unproven, we shall be obliged to accept this story as true.

NOTE BY EDITOR OF FSR

* I recall very well the details of this extraordinary case, and it is still among the mass of untranslated Brazilian material that I have in my files. It was my firm intention to translate it, and Irene Granchi, one of our Brazilian Consultants, made a point of seeing that I got the whole story, and indeed she even published a short book about it. This too I had hoped to be able to give to our readers, even if only in an abridged form. But the flood of material over these many years has been too much for me to attempt to handle it. I will now dig out the *Herminio and Bianca Story* and try to make a translation of it soon. It is certainly one of the strangest that we have ever seen, and the alien entity in it did say that his name was "Karran". So far as I can recall the encounter was *not* in the far North-East of Brazil, but, in the more southerly part of this vast country, probably in or near the state of Minas Gerais. ■



Left: The man who gave his name as "Karran".

Right: His woman companion who gave no name.

STATEMENT BY THE CPU INVESTIGATORS OF THE INCREDIBLE UFO MANOEUVRES OVER CEARÁ (NORTH-EASTERN BRAZIL).

© *Exclusive Report No. 2 by Reginaldo de Athayde.*

(Translation from Portuguese: G.C.)

(Source: Brazilian UFO Magazine No. 34, Nov/Dec 1994)

It was 8.00 am on October 1st, 1994, when our CPU investigation party arrived by car at the place, in the Municipality of Brejo lying in the Serra de Baturité hills, in the interior of the State of Ceará (North-Eastern Brazil). The whole atmosphere there was "mystical": people with beads and Bibles in their hands, along with blind and with paraplegics, entoning hymns to Mary and struggling to get as near as possible to the altar being erected for the Virgin on the spot where, according to the visionary José Ernani, she had already stood, on September 1st, 1994.

Marcos Rabelo, one of our CPU investigators, was also there at Brejo that day, and documented the entire event so far as he could, though of course it has not been possible as yet to confirm the *reality* of any of it.

According to Rabelo, what was observed - and at the time and hour previously announced by the visionary José Ernani - was simply a cloud that covered the sky above the place, and multicoloured beams of light that streamed out all over the sky, and even down as far as the tops of the trees. This conjunction of phenomena obliges us, confronted as we are with the innumerable photographs and the mass of statements collected, to attempt to clarify what the truth about the episode might conceivably be. Our great opportunity was about to arrive, on the date pre-announced for the return of the Virgin, namely October 1st (1994).

The scene of all these happenings is known as the Sitio Labirinto (meaning "Labyrinth Site"), a depression surrounded by ranges of low hills and covered by immense plantations of sugar-cane and mandioca.

On the day in question, the temperature of 40° was insufferable. From time to time the Sun would be blotted out briefly by darkish clouds though that did nothing to diminish the heat.

Anyway, having duly got our filming and photographing paraphernalia all set up - with static energy detectors, magnetic field detectors, etc., etc., our teams

began taking interviews from members of the public crowding around the hymn-singers.

By 11.00 am the whole place was full. More folk were arriving with supplies of water. On foot, on horseback, on bicycles, on buses, they were streaming in, many coming from the most distant parts of the land - Maranhão State, Piauí State, Pernambuco State, State of Rio Grande Do Norte etc., etc., and from many other cities. It was a mad scene: more than 5,000 people anxiously awaiting the hour predicted by the visionary, - precisely 1400 (2.pm). According to him, the Virgin would descend then from the sky before the devoted believers.

EXPRESS ORDERS

The precinct was roped off and guarded by the Baturité Boy Scouts, who had received express orders to permit nobody to approach the spot - not even the Press. At precisely ten minutes before the 1400 hours deadline, a procession arrived. Leading it is the 25-year-old visionary José Ernani dos Santos, with two assistants. He prays, and takes up position at the spot where the BVM is to appear.

He calls on everyone to be calm and asks those around him not to touch him, and then continues (in his own words) that he "*is only a sinner chosen by the Virgin to transmit her message and that he will perform no miracles.*"

At five minutes before 2.00 pm he kneels down and starts to pray. Speaking into the microphone, he tells the faithful that, in consecrating them, the Holy Virgin will be consecrating all the objects and all the animals that are there. On this second visit the Virgin would bless all those present, and on the third visit, she would be blessing the town of Baturité and particularly the monks of the Jesuit Monastery there.

It was a dazzling spectacle.

At two minutes short of 2.00 pm., the crowd were gazing at the sky and awaiting the signal from the visionary. High above them, in a very curious way, some clouds appeared to be being propelled by the wind towards the site for the apparition. Two of the biggest of these clouds, as though controlled "by something superior", were moving towards each other, and finally joined together as one, seemingly as though fashioned for it. This mysterious resulting single cloud was dark and charged, and blotted out the Sun, which was at that moment right overhead. This cloud seemed to go on slowing down in its movements, while the rest of the clouds were sailing along in their normal course. An agreeable breeze sprang up, charged with electrical energy, and we felt our hair beginning to "stand on end".

This breeze circulated among the crowd as though desirous of refreshing the tired and sweaty faithful.

At this point, with the phenomenon of the abrupt change of temperature, all were praying and shouting hysterically, imploring the Virgin's pardon for their sins.

Some were dropping to their knees, or rolling on the scorching hot ground with their eyes still fixed on the sky and glazed as though in trance.

The cloud now seemed to have halted, and right above the spot known as the Sitio Labirinto. From around the edges of the cloud the Sun sent multicoloured beams onto the treetops.

Alongside of the Sun, a silvery circle, of the size of the Moon, began to form and showed itself normally and then slowly vanished, throwing everyone into an emotional tumult. The hysteria was total. The screams for pardon, the weeping and the singing blended together to create an indescribable and disturbing mystical atmosphere.

The visionary, in trance and on his knees, with his head thrown back, was rapidly writing down the message that - so he said - was being dictated by the Mother of Jesus.

Around 2.05 pm, everything returned to normal. However, the crowd remained hysterical, while the visionary rose again to his feet, and started to read out the message that he had received.

Then, suddenly, a new cloud formed itself, and it all began to happen once more. At this point, even though anxious about burning our retinas, we fixed our gaze upon the area of sky. And there, fantastic and disturbing, was to be seen - right beside the Sun - a silvery disc of the size of the Moon, while the flashes of light coming out around the edges of the cloud imparted an artistic touch such as could never be imagined.

Then, in a matter of minutes, it all slowly vanished and the sky was normal again, adorned by a few clouds.

Then Father Andrade from the Monastery at Baturité says the Mass, and the crowd of devotees break into songs of praise to Mary while still watching the skies to see if anything further might occur.

POWERS OF GOD

It was all over. After the Mass, the visionary declared that the Virgin had promised that she would be there

again once more on November 5, 1994 to confirm the powers of God over this world's unbelievers.

[*Note by Editor A.J. Gevaerd of the CBPDV UFO Magazine: this edition of our journal should have gone to press by November 5, 1994, so if anything significant happened on that date we will publish the full details in our next number, UFO 35 (January 1995)*] *

When, at the climax of events, someone pointed to the sky and shouted "*Look! The beads of the Virgin's Rosary!*", our investigators Paulo César Távora and Hélio Loyola aimed their cameras and secured shots of four camouflaged UFOs which, having calculated the distance, we subsequently estimated to have been about 30 metres or so in diameter. Three of them were ranged in a row, while the fourth one, apart, was less covered by cloud and could be seen to be a disc, and metallic and solid, and clearly outlined. From its left side this fourth UFO was emitting a kind of smoke. All four UFOs were stationary, as though observing events - or, maybe - who knows? - perhaps they were *producing* the phenomena.

The clouds then moved further apart from each other, in the same sort of strange and questionable motion, and revealed the four objects clearly, with all the features of authentic "flying saucers."

Then natural clouds began to cover them once more, and the UFOs were lost to sight, no doubt making use of these natural clouds to take their departure from the reach of our cameras, *but nevertheless leaving us anyway with the photographic proofs that they had indeed been there!*

The event was witnessed by more than 5,000 people, and some of them, when questioned by us afterwards, said it was the Virgin Mary who had descended from the sky and that the phenomenon which they had seen could never have been caused by flying saucers. By the "true-believers", the UFOs were identified sometimes as "*tears of the Virgin*" and sometimes as "*strings of beads from her necklace*".

While we did manage to get excellent photos of the entire event, our lady colleague who was in charge of the filming unfortunately did not capture the four UFOs. However, she did record three columns of something looking like dust descending from above behind the two palm trees on which the Virgin was supposed to be.

The fact of the matter is that something unbelievable *did* happen at the Sitio Labirinto and that we, the CPU investigators, have no doubt whatsoever that we were present at the most gripping ufological phenomenon of recent times, especially when clouds, weather, sky, images and people, were all being controlled by a superior intelligence with over 5,000 persons as eyewitnesses.

It is now our hope that on the next occasion (November 5th, 1994) we shall once again be able to make an exhaustive documentation of these phenomena which - according to the visionary Ernani, will once again appear in the skies of the Serra de Baturité.

ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCES

The electrical engineer Paulo César Távora, one of the CPU members locally resident in those parts, had, scattered about around the area, a number of devices that he had made, with a view to observing the possible existence of electromagnetic interference extraneous to that milieu. These devices were detectors of dynamic magnetic fields, of electrostatic energy, and of infra-red.

At the moment when the visionary said he was conversing with the Virgin (i.e. when the phenomenon of the "breeze" circulating among the eyewitnesses was occurring) there was no alteration in the detectors of dynamic magnetic fields. However, the electrostatic field detector registered 10 pulsations per second, thus confirming the presence of powerful static electricity there. Dr. Paulo said: "*What caused the greatest surprise of all was the fact that this electricity was pulsed, and not with a longer intercalation, as it should have been. Before the event, the instruments were silent, without pulsation. The equipment was tested before the phenomenon and also after it, and we found that it was not defective. We do not know how to explain what happened at the Sitio Labirinto!!*" Such are his final words.

Colonel José Celso Cutrim Luande, Vice-President of the Alcântara Rocket Launching Station in the State of Maranhão, said that the phenomenon was caused by the launching of *Nike Tomahawk* rockets in "*Operation Guerá*". According to him, "at an altitude of 300 kms. these missiles release *barium* in order to measure luminescence in the upper strata." We have been carrying out these experiments in recent months," he concluded.

And, indeed, in actual fact CPU did, in the days prior to the Baturité phenomena, receive countless phone calls from people who had seen balls of multicoloured light in the skies over Ceará. We explained them as being the result of these experiments with *barium*, which we ourselves had indeed observed in the company of two staff members of the Herschel-Einstein Astronomical Observatory run by Professor Cláudio Pamplona and his assistants.

The experiments referred to are always carried out at between 6.00 and 6.30 pm, when the sky is no longer lit by the Sun, and they do present a fantastic spectacle. *But it is totally different from the phenomenon documented and recorded by the CPU at Baturité.*

IONOSPHERE

According to Professor Pamplona, an experiment with *Abarium* between 12 noon and 5.00 pm. would be useless in connection with studies of luminescence of the upper atmosphere.

And for us to have a spectacle "high up overhead" and visible in Baturité the launching of the rockets would have had to take place at Barrera do Inferno, in the State of Rio Grande do Norte, because, if launched at Alcântara (Maranhão State) the resulting phenomenon would have

to be observed on the horizon towards the N.E. and not right at the zenith, overhead, as was the case at Brejo.

Another detail is that, according to Pamplona, "*the phenomenon would be visible at various points in the State of Ceará and would not be localised solely at Sitio Labirinto. We would also have seen it at Fortaleza.*"

It would be interesting if the person responsible for the launchings of rockets at Alcântara would inform the public in Ceará, and the general public of all Brazil, what exactly were the solid metallic objects which, at a great height, kept camouflaging themselves in the clouds and then re-emerging from them, and which were in due course photographed by our CPU group.

Likewise it would also be very timely if he would explain the joining together of the clouds above Sitio Labirinto, as though "pushed" towards each other, or likewise whether he could explain the agreeable "breeze" that enveloped the site, not to mention of course the necessity of explaining to us the presence of the curious electrostatic field that suddenly arose there, in addition to the three columns of smoke descending towards the ground and seen by all. *All these are phenomena that are totally alien to any rocket launchings or experiments with barium.*

NOTE BY EDITOR OF FSR

When I came to examine Issue no 35 of the Brazilian *UFO Magazine* (January/February 1995) I was surprised to find nothing further about the Marian apparitions and the UFO sightings in the Serra de Baturité, from which I suppose we must conclude that in fact there was no "follow-up", and the Virgin had failed to turn up again at Brejo on November 5, 1994. Instead, however, we find a "*Special Edition*", consisting of 29 pages is devoted entirely to the "greatest UFO Wave ever yet seen in Brazil," namely the absolute "invasion" of the vast North-East of Brazil, and especially the State of Bahia, with the UFOs appearing daily in great numbers over all the main cities and towns of that State, which lies roughly midway between Rio de Janeiro and the State of Ceará where so much was happening just previously.

Having skimmed through Issue No. 35 a couple of times, I think I can say that while the stories of people who saw UFOs or were pursued or swooped down on by them are very, very many, nearly all seem to follow patterns already quite familiar to FSR readers, so I do not think I can spare any room at present for saying more. There is however one exception - the story of a man, Francisco Costa, nicknamed "Neno", who was taken in December 1994 to Salvador (Capital of Bahia) by the UFO Investigators' Group so that he could be regressed hypnotically by the doctors and psychiatrists there. But the attempt ended in complete failure, because "Neno" showed evidence of having had a tremendously powerful "block" put on him. If anything else is learnt about him later, I will report on it.

One thing seems certain - the current "wave" or "Invasion" of UFOs over the North-East of Brazil is the greatest yet observed in that country, and is being described by their researchers as fully comparable to what has recently been happening in Mexico.

N.B. I have also looked through the next four issues of *UFO* after No.35 that I have received (No.37 is missing) and find no mention in them of any further happenings in the Serra de Baturité. G.C.■

"MARIAN PHENOMENA", WITH UFOs APPEARING OPENLY, ARE INCREASINGLY FREQUENT.

© EXCLUSIVE REPORT NO. 3, BY A.J. GEVAERD,
Editor of *_UFO (Brazil)*.

(Translation from Portuguese, G.C.)
(Source: Brazilian magazine UFO No. 34, Nov/Dec 1994)
With collaboration of Sandra Hassman.

Throughout all Brazil, and also abroad, the phenomenon is being repeated, time after time. Visionaries or mediums believe they are receiving holy messages from the Virgin Mary, and summon up gatherings of the Catholic faithful — where what then appear are — UFOs!

What is happening now in Ceará can perhaps be the key to one particular mystery within the vast field of ufological research.

The appearance of the Virgin Mary — or what is believed to be the Virgin Mary — to members of the public prior to the manifestation of some phenomenon connected with UFOs is already something well known.

So far as we are aware, the first such case on record happened at Fátima in Portugal in 1914 ⁽¹⁾ and was at once transformed by the Catholic Church into a religious event ⁽²⁾.

On that occasion, some innocent little Portuguese children saw a series of phenomena in the sky. A few days after the events had started, the children, already regarded as “chosen”, or “saints”, or “predestined”, were joined by a fantastic pilgrimage of religious devotees.

This entire multitude observed, in the sky, a great spherical object in broad daylight, manoeuvring around over the fields and pastures. At a certain moment, the object was said to have approached the Earth and the children were able to see a being of small stature wearing a cloak and carrying a luminous globe in one hand.

The being was said to have communicated with the children by means of telepathy and informed them of a number of things concerning the planet Earth in the near future. ⁽³⁾ After that, the being departed in the same way as it had come: it dematerialised in front of the children.

According to a Portuguese woman writer and investigator, Fina d'Armada, this is indeed what did hap-

pen. She discovered impressive details about the episode when she was studying on a UNESCO scholarship and had access to certain hermetic archives of the Vatican.

However, what does the Catholic

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Church say happened at Fátima? According to the Catholic clergy, who hastened⁽⁴⁾ to transform the episode into something sacred, so as to be able to reap benefit from the situation, what happened was that, in order to give demonstration of God's power, the Sun "danced in the sky". The Sun was said to have performed several movements and then, at a given moment, the Virgin Mary appeared before the children. According to the Church, her cloak was a sacred mantle and the luminous ball in her hand transformed itself, through the agency and grace of the Vatican editors, into the Heart of Jesus. In short, everything was done so that the case would become something pertaining exclusively to the domain of the Church.

However, nothing could be more ridiculous than this religious interpretation of the event: with what conceivable purpose in mind would the Virgin go and show herself to three ignorant children in Portugal, holding the heart of Jesus in her hands and spelling out prophecies to them? What we *do* know however is that *the Sun did not move* as the far-fetched religious interpretation says it did. Fina d'Armada discovered that the Church was perfectly aware that the Sun had remained where it was, unaffected.

A GIGANTIC OBJECT

What *did* move was another gigantic, round object, of the approximate apparent size of the Sun - and certainly a spacecraft. On the other hand, the observation of entities carrying luminous globes in their hands is quite common. Often these globes have the function of serving as a translator between the extraterrestrials and their terrestrial contactees. In other cases, it seems that the globes are used by the ETs to enable them to float and move around in the air, as though the device was a sort of anti-gravitational machine.

There are hundreds⁽⁵⁾ of such cases like this registered in the Case Studies of UFOs.

Finally, the stature of the being seen by the children, — somewhere between 0.90 cms and 1.10m in height, — is just one more factor corroborative of the extraterrestrial theory.

So - let us now agree - can anyone of sound mind even believe that the Virgin Mary would lend herself to the whim of wrenching out the heart of Jesus and taking it to three Portuguese kids?

And similar cases, more or less approved and distorted by the Church, have been recorded in other places all over the world, from Yugoslavia to Paraguay, from Japan to Alaska - including countries where the Catholic faith is *minimal*. In Yugoslavia, for example, the Virgin has been appearing regularly for more than thirty⁽⁶⁾ years. The town is now totally destroyed⁽⁷⁾ by the war there, and little now remains that can be verified.

And in Paraguay, right now, in the town of Orqueta, an extraordinary phenomenon repeats itself every now and then. [Note by Author: Our issue No. 28 of *UFO Magazine* contains material on it.] The little

Paraguayan town, 60 kms. from the frontier with Brazil (Mato Grosso do Sul), is regularly the scene of a religio-mystical phenomenon that combines Ufology and Parapsychology. The place is extremely poor and devoid of resources, but, *for years past*, hordes of the faithful have been making it their objective, for all of them hope to obtain healing of their sickness in the daily sessions of "laying on of hands" by a young girl of 16. She speaks to nobody and knows no other language but her own native Guarani⁽⁸⁾ and doesn't even know why it is that she is producing these healings, which have been tested and proved by scholars from various universities in the USA.

It all started when, according to her mother, the girl had a vision of Jesus Christ. "One day Jesus came, *in a little white cloud* which descended from the sky and settled over there - in that field. And then *a little ladder came out of that cloud* and Jesus came down it, and sought for my daughter and touched her head," said the old lady, speaking Spanish with a terrible Guarani accent. The story is quite fantastic, particularly as it concerns such a desolately impoverished little place.

Starting from that vision of Jesus, the *Menina de Orqueta* (*The Girl of Orqueta*) as she is known, began to be visited by the sick and she showed that she could heal them. The news spread, and her patients are now rushing to the place in vast numbers, without even the slightest complaint or murmur about the awful conditions under which the journey has to be made, or even about the long, long waiting for hours and hours under the burning sun.

All in order to receive a little of the mysterious grace that a crew member from a UFO imparted to a poor little Third World girl who accepts no money for her cures.

Those who go there seeking a solution to their problems believe that Jesus did indeed come down a little ladder out of a cloud. And if we search through the records of Ufology of the last three or four decades we shall find countless cases like this one.

IN BRAZIL TOO

A few cases seem to be occurring at present in Brazil, and on a scale that may become a "wave". It is not known whether it all started up in Brazil's North-East, with the happenings in the Serra de Baturité, but the fact is that visions of the Virgin have become more or less common.

At Guaraciaba do Norte, another little place at the back of beyond - and likewise in the State of Ceará, eyewitnesses are prepared to swear that the Virgin is there, looking after us.

And in the interior of the State of São Paulo, away down in the more southerly part of Brazil, another Virgin — or maybe the same one! — has contacted other individuals.

According to the newspapers in Jacareí, the Holy Virgin is sending signals to her faithful ones. The "celestial attentions" in that particular case appear to be cen-

tred on a youth named Marcos Tadeu, through whom the Virgin has promised that she will send her signals to all who believe in her.

Marcos Tadeu holds gatherings several times per week, and in these meetings, with huge crowds, both he and several of the other individuals present aver that the Mother of Jesus is appearing to them and speaking to them.

On the evening of September 7 of this year (1994), one of the dates that the Virgin was said to have given for a future appearance, many people claim that they “saw the Sun spinning in the sky and making little circles” — precisely in accordance with the pattern seen at Fátima.

That night (September 7, 1994) over 300 people gathered together at the home of the young visionary, and many assert that they saw the waning Crescent Moon lying horizontally, just as it is shown in pictures of the Virgin of the Immaculate Conception. Still others aver that they have seen the Moon making movements like those that we make with babies — rocking them in our arms! Astounding, isn't it!

But what is most impressive of all is the number of people who appear at these sessions conducted by Marcos Tadeu. On September 7, over 300 were there, awaiting the signal promised by the Virgin. At a certain moment, after a series of prayers, the visionary called the attention of the congregation to the shape and colour of the Moon. Most of them were able to perceive the phenomenon, according to reports from various people published in the journal *Semanario*, including many young folk. After that, the Virgin is said to have appeared to those present, and Marcos held a sort of dialogue with her. On these fantastic occasions, those present ask questions and the entity replies to them. It was in one of these sessions that the Virgin is said to have asked all of them to pray much, because very difficult days are coming.

Marcos Tadeu avers that he has been receiving messages from Our Lady for about four years, but he says he is not the only person doing so in the town of Jacaréi. There are *at least three* other persons who affirm that they have had direct contact with the Virgin. However, the patterns of the contact appear to differ.

In the meeting held by Marcos at which they were all asked to pray, she is also said to have declared that all who showed their hands would be marked by the angels, meaning that “they would be protected in such difficult days as would be coming”. Generally the messages received all call for much prayer, and affirm that we are near to difficult times. Let us wait and see!

NOTES AND COMMENTS BY EDITOR OF FSR

1. I am surprised to find that Sr. Gevaerd is incorrect as regards this date. It was not 1914, but 1917.
2. I think that if Sr. Gevaerd will make a more careful study of the literature on Fátima (the core source material is, after all, *all* in his own language, Portuguese, he will find that he has been over-hasty and over-simplistic in his judgement. The truth is that the Vatican is *invariably* highly embarrassed by such phenomena, as the famous case at Lourdes in 1858 had already proved! Over both

Lourdes and Fátima the top authorities of the Catholic Church were *deeply embarrassed*. Only a very few Catholic clergy at first accepted the phenomena at Lourdes and at Fátima. In both cases it seems that gradually the overwhelming and enthusiastic response of the *common people* was what induced the Vatican to perceive that something truly paranormal was occurring. *By saying this, I am not suggesting as Sr. Gevaert does, that in 1917 the Vatican was striving to cover up the truth about “UFOs”! In 1917 nobody had heard of “UFOs” or “flying saucers”! We had to wait until 1947 (precisely 30 years later) for that. So it is absurd for Sr. Gevaert to attempt to suggest that in 1917 the Vatican was trying to “hush-up” the “UFO content” at Fátima and convert it into “something religious”. In 1917 something “religious” (or something “diabolical”!) was the ONLY possible label that the human mind could have been able to devise for it. And incidentally - let us not forget that in 1917 - and also ever since - there were, and there have been and there still are - plenty of “religious” people in all denominations of the Christian Church, who would opt for the “demonic theory” about Fátima! And I fear that it is quite possible (I hate to have to say this) that after reading about these events in the Serra de Baturité in Brazil maybe some of you will also start to veer towards the “demonic” theory after all!*

3. This is another pretty slipshod statement. Apart from the prediction of the early deaths of two of the three children (both of whom did die very soon afterwards) the prophecies about the political and geophysical and climatic features of our planet and of mankind *did not deal with the “near future” at all, but referred to astounding changes that would come about during the next hundred years and particularly after 1990.*

Whatever the final truth will be about the relationship between “UFOs” and “Marian Phenomena”, it does now seem highly likely - in my opinion at any rate - that before long we are going to see powerful evidence of the accuracy of the extraordinary prophecies “channelled” through both Edgar Cayce and the being - whoever “she” or “it” was - encountered by the children at Fátima in 1917.

4. See what I have said under 2 above.

5. **This statement is absolute rubbish. FSRs files and archives go back for more than 40 years, and over all this period I recall *only one or two* cases of entities seen carrying a globe, the most famous of course being the giant seen at Villa Carlos Paz in Argentina in June 1968 (See FSR 26/5, 26/6, and 27/1).**

What however we *have* seen very often in the earlier years, but *not at all for some 20 years past*, was reports of small entities holding “rods” or “wands” (remember the “fairy’s wand” that “enchanted” you!) with which they immobilized humans whom they met.

6. Incorrect. The apparitions at Medjugorje in Yugoslavia began on June 24, 1981. So they have been going on for only 14 years, and not for “more than 30”. Sr. Gevaerd is not very strong on dates.

7. Also totally incorrect. My information (supported by the Jesuit Centre in Farm Street, Mayfair, London) is that, although there has been plenty of fighting in the near vicinity, *the little town of Medjugorje has been totally spared during this terrible civil war, just as “the Lady of the Apparitions” had promised that it would be.*

8. The Guaranis, found mainly in Paraguay, and also in S.W. Brazil and N. Argentina, are one of the largest South American tribal groups, forming part of the Tupi linguistic stock. -G.C ■

TRACING SOUND TO UFO ENCOUNTERS

(C) 1994 By LINDY TUCKER, P.U.R.E. RESEARCH
SEBRING, FLORIDA.

("Phenomena Under Reasonable Evidence"). Sebring, Florida, USA.

[We received this article by post from Mrs. Tucker away back in August 1993, since when it has been patiently awaiting its turn in our "pipeline". It came to us with the very special recommendation of FSR's old friend and staunchest of Consultant-Allies, Dr. Bert Schwarz, MD, who is also Lindy's friend and neighbour over there in Florida. The article was simultaneously submitted to MUFON UFO JOURNAL, who beat us to it and carried it in their issue for October 1994.

Many thanks, Lindy, for an interesting and highly original and unusual piece of research, and many thanks too to Bert Schwarz for having suggested that we receive it! EDITOR]

There are plenty of sighting reports of unidentified flying objects, but very few reports of sounds associated with these sightings. This has been the major focus of my research as an independent investigator over the past few years. My observation that aerial and audio phenomena can be linked together is based on the fact that I was a direct eye and ear witness to the combined phenomena back in the mid 1970s. It was that experience that started my research and it is due to the greater cooperation and interest available in this field that I have pursued this further.

I lived in a small, rural town called Orton, in Southern Ontario back then. It was part of an area that experienced a "flap" of UFO sightings. My husband at that time had given me a daily journal for Christmas, so I happen to have the events and dates recorded. Starting on March 3, 1975, my neighbours and I began to witness aerial phenomena: brilliant white, red, and green lights would do impossible aerobic manoeuvres in the night sky, darting about in angular or triangular movements. Sometimes they would band together into one bright light, only to blink out, reappear and split again into several more bright lights. One of the more spectacular displays one night looked like The Star of Bethlehem. The rays from this "star" took up a good 60 degrees of the horizon, and there was this tiny red light that kept darting in and

out of it. My girlfriend Julie and I watched this display for a good two hours. I noted in my journal we both experienced headaches that night afterwards.

The sightings always seemed predictable, at least by me; I always seemed to be aware of when they would appear. On the evening of April 26, 1975, I heard a strange, loud, metallic beeping sound coming from the woods behind our home. It sounded mechanical, like the pings of submarine sonar, and it had a peculiar rotational quality to it, like a Doppler effect. I even wondered if someone was out in the woods with some type of broadcasting equipment; the sound didn't seem natural and it was too loud to be anything else. You could hear this sound from a quarter mile away and even from inside the house with the doors and windows closed.

Upon walking down to the woods to investigate this sound, I noticed my cats had beaten me down there and were sitting on fenceposts facing the sound and listening attentively. I decided to tell my neighbours about it. I heard later they were making fun of me; not only was I seeing strange lights in the sky, but now I was hearing strange sounds in the woods.

Several weeks later, on the evening of May 19, 1975, my neighbours and I had been sitting around a bonfire in front of our large garden. There was a restless excitement in the air: you could feel it. At 10.30 pm the roosters were crowing, the chickens clucking, and you could hear dogs barking and the pastured cows bawling for miles. I even remember remarking that Orton sounded like the introduction to an old TV series I watched as a child called "Rawhide", starring Clint Eastwood. The programme starts off in the middle of a cattle drive. It was that noticeable.

We soon ended our conversation and went back to our homes. A couple of hours later, while taking the day's garbage out, I noticed these loud, peculiar beeping sounds again and I decided to get my neighbours over to investigate. I called Bob and Lynn Adams from across the street and Cal Stodts, a paramedic who lived next to me. Standing there, we could see red lights in behind the trees while we faced the beeping sounds.

All of a sudden, the beeps stopped and everything got deathly quiet. Just as I pointed to the woods, a bright light rose out of the trees from the brush at the rear of our property and made a right-angle 90 degree turn, and started slowly to approach us in a wide arc. I ran behind a shed to get a better look at it, as our shadows were being cast over the yard by our back door spotlights, causing a glare. I could see that it was silver and disc-shaped with a soft white dome on top of it. It appeared to be larger than a long van, approximately 20 - 25