A NEW BOOK ON THE UFO SITUATION IN CHINA

FSR has now made contact with the UFO researchers on the Mainland of China, and is receiving their journal, FEIDIE TANSUO (Fei-Tieh T'an-So, Journal of UFO Research), published in Lanzhou (Lanchow), N.W. China. Its first issue, dated February 25, 1981, selling at Y 0.30 (its print was said to be 300,000!) was allegedly sold out in no time. However the merest cursory examination of the journal (in size and format resembling TIME Magazine) shows that No. 1 was taken up almost entirely with translations of congratulatory messages from foreign investigators or with generalized discussions of "Life in Space", etc. Of real reports from China of any great interest (other than the run-of-the-mill "lights in the sky") we have seen little so far, and one may doubt whether we shall see anything very spectacular published in that quarter, if only because of the strong and evident Marxist fear of "being laughed at" or of stepping out of line. One particular sky phenomenon reported in the journal is however a sort of gigantic "Catherine Wheel" in the sky, of which both photographs and sketches are given. This is interesting, as there was a recent Swedish report of something apparently identical, which we hope to publish in due course.

Establishment of C.U.R.O.

In the autumn of 1982, Mr Paul Dong (real name LIN Wen-Wei), the representative in the U.S.A. of the FEIDIE TANSUO and the scientific adviser to its publishers, the *China UFO Research Organization* (CURO), announced that the group had now gathered a total of 600 Chinese UFO sightings of all dates, which they proposed to translate into English and publish in due course.

The Assistant Editor of FEIDIE TANSUO is a 42-year-old Chinese journalist named SHI BO, born in Shanghai and now working in Peking. A typical feature of this gentleman (the Chinese are the world's most brilliant linguists while the Japanese are probably the worst) is that, although he has scarcely ever set foot outside of China (not an easy thing to do these days, Comrades!) he writes perfect French.

Although the evidence for "ufological phenomena" runs in abundance right through the vast literature and historical records of China (the writer of this note was unfortunate enough to see a UFO himself over Western China in the summer of 1941 and has since

paid a heavy price for it) the Chinese did not even become aware of the "UFO Problem" until the more acute abominations of the so-called "Cultural Revolution" were over — in other words not until about

1978 (more than thirty years after Kenneth Arnold's famous sighting which initiated the UFO furore in the Western world).

In September 1978 Shi Bo started to set up a UFO reporting network throughout China, and even began to make contact with researchers in the U.S.A: — that centre, as Aimé Michel observes, of all that is evil and imperialistic and reactionary in the eyes of the Comrades. Shi Bo also made contact with Henri Bastide in France, which in turn led to a suggestion that he write a book on the UFOs in China. This he has now done, and the work duly appeared early this year (Mercure de France, Paris) under the title La Chine et les Extraterrestres, with a preface by Aimé Michel. The book has footnotes added by a French scientist of high repute who, not surprisingly, wishes to remain anonymous "in view of the venomous and personal quarrels so characteristic of UFO researchers".

(What a wise chap.)

Curious current "freedom" in China

Ruminating on this curious "loosening up" in China on UFOs, just at the time when everywhere else there is a clamping down on them, Aimé Michel speculates that it might indicate that the Chinese authorities are doing this deliberately in order to break an American-Soviet "concordat" on silence about the UFOs. He may of course be right, but it is surely far, far more likely that the new Chinese Ruling Class have hitherto been much too busy oppressing their own people to dwell upon or learn about UFOs, and that when in due course they do find out a little more about them they won't lose much time in putting an end to all this nonsense of UFO investigation just as is being done in Russia where (to our immense pride) FSR was recently banned from the mails. (Though if you do absolutely have to see FSR in connection with your work, you can still travel to Moscow from Siberia or Kazakhstan or wherever you are, and "sign the book", and be permitted to consult us in the august precincts of the USSR Academy of Sciences who, for some very curious reason, still take quite a few copies of each issue of our journal!)

Similarity of Chinese and foreign UFO reports

As Aimé Michel emphasises, what is most striking about Shi Bo's book is the fact that, although the thousand-million-odd Chinese know virtually nothing about the great world outside, have never heard, until recently, of UFOs, and have never read or heard of

any of the foreign reports of UFOs over these past 36 years, nevertheless their eyewitness accounts of UFO sightings, as gathered by Shi Bo and his friends, are more or less identical with what has been reported throughout the rest of the world. So the psychosis is a very interesting one. As Aimé Michel comments: "Un fait massif, stupéfiant, dont il faudra désormais tenir compte." ("A massive, astounding fact of which it will be necessary to take account in future.") China had always been a world apart — but now even more so under its new tyrants. Our clever sceptics will have to explain how this figment of the mind, the "UFO", could have appeared and taken root in China precisely as it has done elsewhere in the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe and with (so far as we can see) precisely the same features. "Mental contagion" and "infiltration of decadent western bourgeois ideas" is no doubt the answer. Like jeans. And pop music.

Shi Bo's book has a dozen UFO photos and several sketches — all very run-of-the mill and inconclusive, just about what we have seen from the rest of the world, except perhaps for the gigantic "Catherine-Wheel firecracker", which may possibly be something

new?

Chapter 1 deals with reports received from the Chinese Army; Chapter 2 covers reports prior to 1980, and Chapter 3 describes a UFO wave in China in 1981. Chapter 4 deals exclusively with reports of humanoids and close encounters, and as many folk realize that these are the kernel of the UFO problem I shall confine myself to giving here a résumé of this one chapter.

Humanoid and close encounter cases

1. "A Man with a big Head". End of August 1971. Szechuan Province, Far West of China (probably in the vicinity of the city of Chungking).

An oldish peasant named Zhang Rongchang was on guard over a field of maize. Suddenly, at noon, as he was on the road to the village to get his lunch, he perceived a man with a huge head approaching. When they were no more than five or six metres apart, the entity halted. Alarmed, Zhang shouted twice: "What do you want?", but got no reply. He said the entity looked well proportioned and very human in general appearance apart from the head. It was wearing a thick, one-piece "Space-suit" type of garment, from feet to neck. This garment seemed to be made of metallic sheets which shone so brightly in the sunlight that it dazzled Zhang and made it difficult for him to see many features of the being such as the arms and legs, etc. The gait of the being was stiff and totally silent, but it walked more rapidly than humans do. His huge head was three times the size of a normal human head, and encased in a helmet, so that the witness could see no details of the facial features. Terrified, the peasant took to his heels and fled. After running some distance, he stopped and looked back, but the creature had mysteriously vanished. Zhang gave the alarm in the village and some of the younger peasants sallied out to investigate, but found nothing.

The experience left Zhang Rongchang prostrated with shock and his fear and tension never left him. His health collapsed completely, and he died in

January 1972.

(Shi Bo admits that he has no doubt whatsoever about the veracity of this case, but he also admits that he did not dare to publish it in FEIDIE TANSUO.)

2. "A Luminous Black Man." July 29, 1974. Lanzhou (Lanchow) Gansu Province (Far N.W. China).

Ke Jingzhi, a student at the construction workers' polytechnic at Lanzhou, met a luminous black being in 1974 but was far too frightened to mention it to anybody until he heard of the appearance of the journal FEIDIE TANSUO. (It happens to be published in Lanzhou. G.C.)

At about 9.00 p.m. on July 29, 1974, in the district of Genqing (Gansu Province), Ke was walking through some vegetable gardens to the workers' canteen for his evening meal when he beheld a tall robust man (about 1 m. 80), all black, standing right in front of him. As it was dark he could see no facial features, but the entity was plainly visible in the darkness because its whole body was faintly luminous. Ke thought it must be another peasant coming to inspect the irrigation system, and shouted: "Who's there?" The luminous entity remained motionless and silent. Ke then shouted: "Come here, or I'll knock your block off!" At once the entity began to glow more brightly, and then he vanished into the nearby tall grass, where Ke sought for him for some time in vain. Then, overcome with panic, Ke Jingzhi fled.

Owing to the so-called "Cultural Revolution" then in full spate, Ke did not dare to tell anybody. But, two days later, two of the leaders of his production-brigade reported that they had encountered a black man, faintly luminous, at precisely the same spot. After that, all the peasants were in such a state of panic that nobody dared to go near the vegetable gardens even in broad daylight. Not long afterwards, Ke Jingzhi saw a copy of FEIDIE-TANSUO, and finding in it an article about M.I.B.'s in the U.S.A., decided to

report his experience to the journal.

3. "A Man in Black." 1963. Yangquan, Shansi Province.

Li Jingyang, a worker of Shansi Province, told a journalist who was investigating UFO reports that, in 1963, when aged six, he was playing with some other boys in the street among mine-workers' houses near Yangquan, when they saw a shining, silvery disc hang-

ing stationary and silent in the air very close to them. It was about seven or eight metres wide and shaped like one plate reversed on top of another plate. No portholes or windows were visible. It looked hermetically sealed and its metallic surface was very smooth. The boys surmised it must be some new type of aeroplane.

The next day, when he was alone on the street, a very tall man dressed entirely in black came up to Li Jingyang and barred his path, and demanded to know whether he had seen a disc in the sky on the previous day? The boy did not understand at first, so the question was repeated. The boy replied: Yes, he had seen a disc. The man in black raised his right arm and pointed to the precise area of the sky where the disc had been, and asked: "Was it there?" The boy answered: Yes. Thereupon the M.I.B. advised him never to tell anyone else what he had seen, and refused to let the boy pass until he had extracted a promise from him to this effect.

Describing this M.I.B., the witness said the creature's skin was extremely dark, but he recalled few other details. He added that many other people in the neighbourhood saw the M.I.B. and everybody was discussing him and his queer behaviour. When the M.I.B. walked, it was "in a mechanical fashion", and when he spoke, his mouth did not move. When he vanished from sight, he did so suddenly, turning a corner.

When questioned, Li Jingyang said he felt sure that the black entity was connected with the disc he had seen.

(Shi Bo and his colleagues were very, very loth to publish this one too, until it dawned upon them how often precisely similar cases had been recorded in the U.S.A and Europe!)

4. Three Trips in a UFO. May 1-3, 1981. Peking.

The name of the protagonist in this case ("A"), is being kept secret. He is a man who already took a great interest in such matters as UFOs and Parapsychology. He told investigators from the C.U.R.O. that at the end of April 1981 he went from his home town to Peking, where he was lodged in a hostel of the research institute for whom he worked.

One day, along with a woman ("B"), and another man ("C"), both of whom have extraordinarily unusual psychic powers ("B", for example, reads Chinese characters with her ears), he took part in an experiment to try to contact a UFO by telepathy. He got no answer, it seems, but "B" heard a voice saying: "You will receive the answer tonight."

On the night of May 1, 1981, "A" went to bed before 9.00 p.m., sleeping in a hostel dormitory with many others. Suddenly a voice whispered in his ear: "Our craft is too small for two people. When you come aboard, we will put you under hypnosis."

A UFO then entered the room, passing right

through the wall of the building, and a beam of light shot out from it and seized "A" and took him into the UFO, which then slowly rose into the sky and finally moved off at high speed.

Through a porthole "A" viewed the pitch-black sky speckled with stars. (The porthole was constantly opening and closing.)

He looked around him in the circular chamber and noted that everything was bathed in light as though it were broad day.

In the centre of the compartment there was a screen showing constellations and stars. Seated at the screen was a blonde girl, who said to him: "As a reward for your ardour in studying the UFOs we are taking you today for a trip through the immensity of Space." She then advised him to do the minimum of talking and concentrate on watching. He replied that he was feeling an uncomfortable sensation of suppression (French suppression: presumably what is meant is pressure? G.C.) But no sooner had he said this than he began to feel quite all right again.

The UFO soon approached a launching area. The blonde girl requested several times permission to land, but was refused each time. The UFO meanwhile was circling around over the launching area. Looking out, "A" saw that the area below was covered with lights, and that many UFOs of various shapes were standing parked near the control-tower. (Apart from the girl, he said he saw no other extraterrestrials.)

Half an hour later he was returned to the place from where they had taken him.

Second UFO Trip (May 2/3, 1981)

During the night of May 2, while he was asleep, "A" again heard the voice inviting him to enter the UFO, and felt himself lifted up by some unknown force and taken into the craft through a porthole.

This time he saw two girls there, two real Chinese girls from Peking. He seemed somehow to know them both, and yet could not recall their names.

The same blonde girl as before was also there and came forward to greet them, saying:

"Today, you will be able to see your own ancestors, and see the original form of the Earth. You will also be able to verify Einstein's Theory."

On the screen before them, the three Chinese passengers now beheld a series of images retracing the various epochs of China's ancient history, concluding with a view of the Earth as it used to be.

Meanwhile, in the twinkling of an eye, the UFO had again arrived over the launching area, and this time the permission to land was granted.

When the UFO landed, a group of Extraterrestrials (who quite resembled Terrestrials) approached the landed craft. "A" disembarked, and found himself being transported through the air. He was then set down on a slab and subjected to a detailed physical examin-

ation involving the use of instruments. After that he was taken back to his seat inside the UFO.

Next day, May 3, "A" saw "B". She had nothing to tell him, but her younger brother had a strange thing to relate. He said that, on the previous evening, he had seen a large flying craft which came and landed in his bedroom, and from it had emerged several men dressed in one-piece garments and carrying surgical instruments in their hands. They then laid him down on his bed and opened up his stomach and then sewed it up again instantly, and departed, having uttered not a word. ("B's" brother made a sketch of the craft and gave it to "A".)

The mother of "B" also testified to the C.U.R.O. researchers that she had heard a humming noise coming nearer and nearer until finally it seemed to enter the house, and finally it died away a few minutes later.

Third UFO Trip. May 3/4, 1981

In the night of May 3/4, "A" had a long dream, in which he was chatting with some of the chief people in his Research Institute. Suddenly, somebody gave him a push. He opened his eyes, and saw a man standing there before him. This man's entire body was covered with short grey hairs and his skin looked like that of a mouse. And he had terrifying long teeth. He waved an arm and at once "A" rose up into the air and floated to the UFO, which was standing on the ground just outside the window.

Twenty minutes later the UFO landed again on the aliens' landing area and, guided by the man with the hairy "mouse skin", "A" was given a conducted tour of the place, where he saw many more "mouse-skin" creatures who were all busily engaged in the job of UFO maintenance. Then he was once more taken back into the craft in which he had come. [Compare these "mouse-skin", hairy creatures with long teeth to the creatures in the Italian report on "rat-faced" entities on page 14 of this issue. G.C.]

On the return trip to Earth, the blonde girl chatted with "A" for five minutes, and he put to her a series of questions:

- Q. "Why don't you want to enter boldly into contact with Terrestrials?"
- A. "Because there are wars on the Earth. We are

- devoted to peace. We don't want to cause harm to others."
- Q. "How much is your technology ahead of ours?"
- A. "By three or four thousand years."
- Q. "I have just seen all your UFOs on the launching area. You have lots of them. Could you offer us one for our scientific research?"
- A. "This request is acceptable, but at the moment we don't have any craft to spare. We will satisfy your request in the near future."
- Q. "Since you are able to know mankind's past history, no doubt you are able to know its future also?"
- A. "Certainly. But I must tell you straight away not to say a word about it to anybody. If not, we shall take severe measures against you."

In view of this warning, "A" refuses to reveal the rest of the conversation.

As regards the appearance of the UFO, "A" drew a sketch of it, showing two rows of portholes. The craft consisted of one 'saucer' with a second smaller 'saucer' reversed on top of it.

In November 1981, "A" was ill for several days with a feverish chill. When he was better, he heard a voice one night saying:

"We inhabit a planet. We want to exchange scientific information with Terrestrials, with a view to raising the technological level of the Earth, for your civilization is too backward in Space."

"A" is now back in his home in Xian (Hsi-An, far N.W. of China) and he realizes that his nervous system is badly deranged. He gets frequent headaches. Medical examinations have established that he is suffering from a neurosis, whereas, previously, working as a scientific researcher, he had always been in good health with a normally functioning nervous system. Today (October 1981) he is having to attend hospital regularly for treatment.

The chapter on Humanoids ends as follows:

"We beg our readers not to laugh after reading these accounts, because those countries where Ufological research is developing most fruitfully are also producing such reports. There are hoaxes, yes. But, side by side with hoaxes, there are always serious reports too."

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POSTSCRIPT TO THE REPORTED ARGENTINIAN CRASH-LANDING OF 1950

In Close Encounters of an Unthinkable and Inadmissible Kind (FSR Vol. 25, No. 4, July-August 1979) we gave a brief note about the report carried by the Venezuelan paper El Universal of May 7, 1955 to the effect that, in 1950, near Bahía Blanca in Argentina, an Italian-born architect named Bessa, formerly an Italian Air Force pilot in World War II, had come upon a crash-landed disc containing three charred bodies about 3 feet high. (An earlier account of this case was given on page 4 of FSR Vol. 1, No. 4 of July/August 1955 and had reached us via the APRO Bulletin.)

In a letter dated August 14, 1982, which we have only just come across in the accumulated back-log, and which was not dealt with earlier owing to the illness of Charles Bowen, we now find that Mr. Richard W. Heiden of Milwaukee, Wis., has the following comment on this case, and we think it important to place it on record here:—

"As translator/collaborator with Sr. Roberto E. Banchs of Argentina in his book Los OVNIS y sus Ocupantes (The UFOs and their Occupants) I am very interested in this case which was reported on pp. 9-10 of FSR Vol. 25, No. 4.

My other sources are C. Lorenzen's The Great Flying Saucer Hoax (pp. 54-56) and The Startling Evidence for the Invasion from Outer Space (pp. 58-60 — the witness is referred to as "Dr. B.", but Coral Lorenzen says his identity is known). I also used her article in Ray Palmer's FSS of December 1958 (pp. 26-34), where the name of the Italian witness was given as Enrique Carotenuto Bossa. Another source was Saga's 1975 UFO Annual, p. 93 (Lucius Farish told me that his source had been Palmer's FSS.) I also had Leonard Stringfield's Situation Red (pp. 80-83.) Len Stringfield told me that "Botta" was the pseudonym that the publisher had requested him to use. And there was also a letter in Nahon's Le Courrier Interplanetaire (No. p. 2), from "Enrico Bossa" of Caracas. Editor Nahon added, in a footnote: "He has requested us not to make his surname public."

There are some discrepancies in the various versions as to the precise date and the place of the incident, and we have these three versions of the name, Bessa, * Bossa, and Botta. If anyone can throw any further light on this case I shall be very grateful." Richard W. Heiden.

NOTE

*Bessa may conceivably have been a simple misprint

that crept in somewhere along the line for *Bossa*. In any case, it seems evident that all the versions, *Bessa*, *Bossa*, *Botta*, "*Dr. B*", are a cover-up, and that the true name has not been divulged. What also seems evident, moreover, is that although the incident allegedly took place in Argentina in 1950, the witness was residing in Venezuela at the time when his story was made public in 1955.

No "American Monopoly"

As will be noted, this alleged crash-landing in Argentina in 1950 is additional to all those listed so far (total tentatively 22) by Leonard Stringfield in his three Research Status Reports. Of these 22 cases, three are described by him as foreign, namely: (1) The British case reported by Dorothy Kilgallen and said to have taken place before the end of World War II; (2) a case at Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1953; and (3) another Argentinian case from the year 1978, when an object crashed in mountainous terrain and was retrieved by the U.S. Air Force. This cannot be our Argentinian case, which was allegedly 28 years earlier, not in mountainous terrain, but on the flat pampa lands around Bahía Blanca.

Our Argentinian case is certainly an interesting one not only for its very early date and its great resemblance in respect of quite minor details to many of Stringfield's reports, but also because it should come as a further refutation of the stupid claim which we have heard put around so much lately that "Stringfield cannot possibly be telling the truth because none of his cases are outside the USA." There have in fact also been rumours of crashed craft (unfortunately without details so far) from both China and Russia. With the South African case and the British case revealed to the American columnist Dorothy Kilgallen by Lord Mountbatten at a cocktail party in London in May 1955 (see our original report in FSR Vol. 1, No. 3, July/August 1955) plus the two reports from Argentina, it would seem that we now have a total of four alleged UFO crashes outside the territory of the United States.

The Alleged Landing at Cosford, England

A British correspondent wrote recently to say that we should also not overlook the case of the UFO that came down on the tarmac at the RAF Training Camp at Cosford, near Wolverhampton, in 1964. (See A Landing at Cosford, in FSR Vol. 10, No. 2, March/