



LIGHT PHENOMENON AT STUTFIELD GLACIER

W. K. Allan

Our contributor has been described as the "tireless UFO investigator of Calgary." It was Bill Allan who was responsible for the reports of the UFO experiences of both the Calgary "doctor" and his horse, and the schoolteacher whose car "floated" along, which were published in *FSR Case Histories Supplement 6* of August 1971, and *Rosedale Humanoids* in Supplement 10 of June 1972.

MOST important of the results that accrue from my monthly radio programme on UFOs which goes out on station CFCN, is the steady flow of leads on puzzling, unpublicised events, that comes to me. People write to me to tell of experiences about which they have kept quiet because they have seen what has happened to others who have blurted out their stories in public. I hear also from people who are shy, who shrink from the wide exposure sometimes given to UFO accounts, and people who have not thought overmuch about their experience until they realise, when they listen to the broadcast, how it can fit into the general pattern of UFO reports.

As soon as I can, I make the trip to visit the witnesses and interview them, recording what they have to say and, if possible, obtaining their permission to publish their accounts in specialist journals like *Flying Saucer Review*, *Canadian UFO Report* and the *APRO Bulletin*. Here is an example of an unusual, puzzling item, that came to me in just this manner:

Mr. Jack Bryant and his wife had taken a weekend trip to Jasper National Park, in the Rocky Mountains alongside the boundary line between Alberta and British Columbia. While driving home on September 6, 1971, Mr. Bryant decided to stop to take photographs

of the Stutfield Glacier—which, as readers will observe, he referred to as "the phenomena" in the taped interview. The time was 11.00 a.m., Mountain Standard Time. He saw nothing unusual, but later found that the camera had recorded a weird light phenomenon, one that was particularly intriguing to me because the light appeared in two separate frames on the film, the shots being taken from different positions.

A UFO? Well your guess is as good as ours, but we feel that this is definitely something for the record. Here follows a transcript of my interview with the Bryants:

Bryant: "My wife and I had spent the September first long weekend in Jasper, and because the weather was very inclement, in that it was very heavy fog with rain showers, we decided to leave a little earlier than planned. We started home, oh . . . sometime between 10 and 11 o'clock in the morning.

"Before leaving the trailer park I had put a new film in my camera in the hope that maybe on the way home the weather would change and I would get some good pictures. However it didn't. I wasted the first picture of course, as I usually do with any new film, by taking just a picture through the windshield of the car.

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RECENT REPORTS FROM ARGENTINA AND PERU

Jane Thomas

We are greatly indebted to Miss Jane Thomas, who works for the Moore-McCormack Shipping Line in Buenos Aires, for selecting these reports. She tells us that she is the translator for the Buenos Aires group of investigators which includes Fabio Zerpa, Pedro Romaniuk, Sigurd von Wurmb, Commodore Eduardo J. Palma and Mrs. B. Bagú. We look forward to publishing further reports from them. It should be noted that we have copies of the original newspaper accounts of all these incidents.

OUR first report is from the newspaper *La Unión*, of Catamarca, for March 22, 1972. It was given by Mauricio Zelman Grinberg, and is datelined Lujan, Province of Buenos Aires, March 21 (Special from SIC).

Landing near Lujan

"The presumed landing of a flying saucer in a field close to Luján and General Rodríguez, places in this Province, and the unusual features of the case, as alleged by the witness, Luis Exequiel Bracamonte, a truck-driver, native of Carmen de Areco, are continuing to provoke excited local comment, much of it polemical. The writer of this report listened to an account of the affair from the lips of Bracamonte himself, and there were also other witnesses.

"For there are in fact other inferences that provide food for thought, inasmuch as additional witnesses who have come forward testify that they too saw the UFO, presumably prior to its landing, or after it had taken off for an unknown destination.

"It so happened that I was on vacation in Luján (approximately 62 km. from Buenos Aires), and that I was visiting the Namuncurá restaurant there, at the place known as Granadero, not far from the town of General Rodríguez, in the company of Alberto Fuentes, editor of the weekly paper *Aquí Luján*, and his assistant, Sr. Mussi. Just at that time they were completing the work of modernising the restaurant, and those present were the person in charge, Sr. Teodoro Lamenza, an electrician named Lutscher, and a few chance customers.

Bracamonte

"It was in the early hours of dawn, last Thursday. The Namuncurá restaurant lies on National Highway No. 7, and in view of the alterations that he was making in the place Sr. Lamenza did not expect much traffic, but suddenly, after a heavy truck had drawn up, a tall, thin man came in who attracted the attention of those present by the evident signs of anxiety displayed in his behaviour, which was otherwise completely normal. This was, as we subsequently learned, Bracamonte. Approaching the counter, he asked for a glass of tea and an aspirin.

"Lamenza explained to him that, owing to the altera-

tions in the installations that Lutscher was making, it was not possible at the moment to prepare the tea for him, but he offered him a drink of spirits instead. Nervously, the truck-driver declined this, declaring that he was not accustomed to drinking alcohol. When they asked him the reason for his nervousness, he replied that he was already getting over it, and then immured himself in an obstinate silence, from which they were able to draw him only after repeated attempts, and not without resistance on his part: 'No, no . . .' he protested . . . 'people will think I am crazy or drunk.'

"Finally, in somewhat disjointed fashion, as though in order to liberate himself from some profound feeling of anguish over some absolutely inconceivable happening, he stated that he had been travelling along Highway No. 7, coming from Olavarría,² with a load of cement and stone for the Federal Capital, Buenos Aires, when, a few kilometres before reaching the Namuncurá restaurant, he saw appear, over the fields, a sort of sparkling mist, which he at first took merely for the result of eye-fatigue. He therefore decided to stop his truck on the shoulder, and he got out to take a rest. The mist was then replaced by an intensely vivid light which all but blinded him, and, when he opened his eyes again, he beheld, on a pasturage and about at a 100 metres from him, what he at first took to be an aeroplane, but which turned out to be a large oblong machine, opaque in colour, with a rim on the upper part and wide projections in the under part.

Occupants

"He said: 'I saw three of them come out . . . they were like men, but with very broad shoulders and angular forms, and they walked with difficulty, as though suffering from lack of air (altitude sickness). Their faces looked like Chinese or Mongols, but with sharper features. I noticed this only when we were nearer to each other . . . I stood there frozen, because there can't be, anywhere in the world, people like that, with such enormous shoulders. I wasn't even able to think . . .'"

"'Couldn't it have been a hallucination?' I asked.

"'No, no . . . I was well awake,' he replied. 'They were of flesh and bone. One of them touched me and, without knowing why, I did the same to him. He took

me by the elbow, as though it were a greeting. They spoke to me, all three of them at once. I was scared. They talked a strange language, but I managed to understand that I should not be afraid of them, that there was nothing wrong with their machine, and something about the distant lights and the highway. That's all. Then one of them extracted from his breast a plaque with two shining symbols on it, which he showed me.'

"As for the rest, Bracamonte, who hesitated quite a bit before giving us his name, said that he was at present unable to remember anything, but he was able to reproduce on a piece of paper, somewhat crudely and nervously, the strange symbols.³ Other persons are now stating that they saw strange lights and heard weird humming noises that same night."

This case from Luján is still under investigation.

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The second of our reports is taken from *Esquel*, a newspaper published in Esquel, in the Province of Chubut, Argentina, the edition being that for March 24, 1972.

In a previous report readers were introduced to Señor Dante Cafferatta, president of the Group of Observers of Space Phenomena, who is at present living in Esquel—a number of eyewitness accounts of singular interest had been gleaned from him. This is one of them.

Señor Martínez

"One of the most fascinating experiences I have had in the years that I have been investigating UFOs,' said Cafferatta, 'was meeting Martínez,⁴ who has been through everything imaginable.

"Martínez was an illiterate, who was living at that time in Monte Grande, in the Province of Buenos Aires, and one fine day he sees a flying saucer . . .

"Great was his terror, and all he was able to say to two small beings that descended from the machine was: 'What do you want?'"

"Don't be afraid," was the reply. "We only want to talk to you."

"From that time onwards, Martínez was transformed into a totally different person. In less than six months he learnt to read and write,⁵ and reached an educational level such as can be acquired after completing a secondary course of studies; he learnt to do complex algebraical calculations with entire facility and, what is most notable of all, to maintain easy contact with *them* . . . the beings from Beyond.⁶

"There is proof of this, in what once happened to me personally.

"On a certain occasion I told Martínez that a friend of mine named Duarte had a daughter who was gravely ill. The child had been born with a deformity of the digestive system, and there was no connexion between the oesophagous and the stomach. She was fed through a tube, while, in the meantime, they were hoping for her to grow strong enough for them to operate and try to make a union. But the little girl was getting worse daily.

"Martínez gave me a look and said: "Let them put

her in the Children's Hospital and worry no more about it."

"She was put into the hospital, and the doctors got ready to operate. When the operation had started, the chief surgeon had the sensation—as he admitted later—as though someone were dictating to him the steps he should take, and his hands were moving in an almost automatic fashion. A few hours later the little girl was taking a soft drink, and before many days were past she returned home completely cured.'

Señor Aroni

"Martínez was engaged to a girl whose father, a very powerful man physically, and a great lover of sport and the open air life, found himself prostrate after a serious heart attack.

"The moment came when, as they were discussing the situation, in the bosom of the family, Martínez said to his future father-in-law: "Sr. Aroni, you are going to feel very ill, very uncomfortable, for a week. Then I shall come to you and you will be cured."

"On the eighth day after that, Martínez appeared at the house and said to the sick man: "Come. Let us go out into the patio." When they had got out there, he came and stood beside the patient, and the latter felt as though his whole body was being shaken by an electrical discharge.⁷ This electrical charge continued to be felt for some minutes, and in the meantime Martínez urged Aroni to look upwards, telling him again and again not to be afraid.

"What can you see?" asked Martínez.

"Nothing" said Aroni.

"Take a good look!" replied Martínez.

"Then the patient saw, but far, far away, a shining disc which seemed to emit a very special gleam.

"Shortly after that, an electrocardiogram was taken, and, to the astonishment of the cardiologist, Aroni seemed entirely as though he had never suffered a heart attack at all.'

The film

"If all this seems a bit extraordinary,' said Cafferatta, 'it can however easily be corroborated since all the parties involved in it are alive. The most fantastic thing of all however is the business of the film.

"At the invitation of Padre Reyna, director of the Adhara Observatory and the greatest authority⁸ on UFOs in this country, I was able to be present, along with ten journalists, at the showing of a film taken inside a flying saucer, and in which Martínez could clearly be seen inside the craft. It seems unbelievable, but I saw it.

"The most important features of that film are as follows: as it starts, it seems as though you are inside a car, but what at once catches the attention is the colour. It is such a strange colour—in between reddish and brown—I have never seen anything like it on earth. In the film you can clearly see planets, and then flying devices, flying about just like conventional aeroplanes, but I, who am myself a civilian pilot, can guarantee that they had some resemblance to aeroplanes and that is all. Their structure was completely different, and their wings had some resemblance to the Delta type of wing, so as to permit great speeds.

“You might also ask whether some portion of the film might not perhaps have been *drawn*. But I can assure you that trickery would have been impossible, as it could have been detected quite easily.

“The projection of the film lasted roughly about two minutes, and the impression that it gives is something that no words will describe.

“Unfortunately the film was destroyed by Martínez, goodness only knows for what strange or important reason.”

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Report number 3 appeared in *Sur Argentino*, a newspaper published in Neuquén, Argentina, on Saturday, March 25, 1972. Here are extracts from the article:

Extraterrestrial beings?

“The present is just the right moment to explain . . . an event whose involuntary protagonist was in fact a resident of our State Capital, a man of the name of Franklin Altamirano . . . who has considerable connexions in Neuquén and who is regarded by us as a perfectly normal person, despite the interpretation of certain events and certain circumstances that otherwise might be labelled as absurd, indeed even ridiculous, were it not precisely for that high degree of seriousness which we presume to underlie the statements and descriptions given to us.

“Before entering upon the details of the story, and visiting in the company of Sr. Altamirano the places where the ‘event’ occurred, we wanted to know why he had kept silent for so long about an episode of such a nature . . . He replied as follows: ‘I did not make any



From sketch of the three entities by Kigne Sanchez Vera, staff artist of “*Sur Argentino*.”

of this public because I feared the jeers of those who, ignorant of the true meaning of such apparitions, would consider me to be mad or think I had been seeing visions.’

Near Altas Bardas

“Sr. Franklin Altamirano is a man who has a very good grasp of what he is talking about, has a sense of responsibility, and does not seem bent on creating strange and fanciful stories. ‘The fact is,’ he said, ‘that roughly somewhere around the middle of February of last year (1971), I had gone out of town to test my car, a Ford *Falcon*, at a place called Altas Bardas, just outside of Neuquén. It was about 2.00 p.m.

“I was going along the old road, the one that used to be taken for going to Centenario. Just as I was driving along one of the tracks leading to the place called Terrón de Azúcar, I saw that there were three people coming along the track towards me. In view of the time of the day and the road I was on, there was no reason to think there was anything strange about this. But as I got nearer to the people (well, anyway, I *thought* they were people) I realized that they weren’t walking or behaving like normal human beings; that is to say, I understood that there was something strange about them, both in their clothing and in the way they were behaving, and their height, and the strange phosphorescence which their eyes seemed to emit.

“When I saw that they had not the least intention of stepping off the road—and indeed I even think they had not noticed the presence of the car—or at any rate they regarded it as of no importance (and this when I had reached a point only a mere distance of ten metres or so from them) I decided to turn round, by running off the road, and return whence I had come. You may well imagine the impression that my encounter with these unknown beings produced on me. When I was back in town again I told my friends about the *apparitions*. My friends, Quesada, Bouza, and Juan Schell can all vouch for what I am saying.

“Thus, while we were discussing whether we should go back there and try to find out whether what I had seen was reality or figment, much of the afternoon had passed. But I myself was sure that I had seen the beings, so I went back there alone. I was unable to find any footprints, the ground there being very stony so that it is impossible to make out footprints on it.

“Three days later, I again went back to the spot to convince myself that I was not mistaken and had not seen a vision. *And I proved it. For there, walking along the same road, but in the opposite direction to the first occasion, was one of those beings that I will be so bold as to dare call extraterrestrial!*

“My intention was to advance to meet him and even to invite him to get into the car so that I could have a close view of him. But, I don’t know whether my courage failed me, or whether I finally came to have my doubts as to the consequences of such a decision. That I did see those strange and weird beings I have not the slightest doubt.’

“Such is the account given by Señor Franklin Altamirano regarding the strange apparitions of unknown

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Dog affected by "electric bulb" UFO

The *Northern Daily Mail* of Hartlepool carried the following story in its edition for June 9, 1972—

"A mysterious 'flying electric light bulb' puzzled Wingate residents last night. For shortly after 10.30 p.m. an unidentified flying object brought people out of their homes, and caused motorists to halt as it lit up the night sky. One eyewitness, Mr. James Anderson, of Lake View, Wingate, told the Mail today: 'I was driving down through Wingate when the car in front of me pulled up in the middle of the road. The people jumped out and looked up at the sky.

"There was a brilliant light in the sky—like an electric light bulb. There was a terrific noise with it.

"It seemed to fly along, then it stopped for two or three seconds, and then it shot up vertically at great speed.

"I've never believed in flying saucers and that sort of thing before, but now I don't know.

"My wife Rita, who was in the car with me, was terrified."

"Other people heard the noise as far away as Peterlee. One said: 'It was very loud, and my dog went mad, I thought it was an aircraft.'

"Another motorist who saw the 'light bulb' was Mr. Richard Roberts, of Roberts Tours (Wingate) Ltd., who was driving home with his two sons from the Fir Tree Inn. He said: 'It came from the west towards the east coast. We thought it was a rocket at first. It seemed to hover for a few seconds and then it did a vertical climb. It had a hell of a rumble with it.

"It was like a brilliant spinning light, with a centre and a sort of flare

around it. It disappeared upwards in a flash, and must have been travelling faster than sound. Quite a few people stopped to watch it.'"

Parachute-shaped object

In the *Leicester Mercury* of May 16, 1972, we read how—

"Kirby Muxloe had a strange visitation last night—according to retired nurse Mrs. Florence Freestone, who lives at 3, Cherry Tree Avenue. She saw an unidentified flying object, like a car headlamp in the shape of an umbrella with something attached to it.

"She watched the glowing image for about 10 minutes around 10.55 p.m. It looked like a burning parachute, she said, but remained stationary until covered by clouds. It was positioned near the moon.

"Mrs. Freestone wrote down what she saw and drew a diagram.

"Leicester county police said today

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beings. He assures us that his friends testify to it. We ourselves are able neither to underwrite nor to contradict his views. We take them simply as one more report; as a piece of news that must of necessity find a vehicle in the press if it is to be disseminated."

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Finally, here is a report taken from *La Crónica* (Buenos Aires) of April 16, 1972.

UFO witnesses suffer headaches

"People who saw a UFO land on la playa de Buenos Aires, a Peruvian beach some kilometres from the city of Trujillo, are suffering from strange headaches, according to the evening paper *Última Hora*. The flying saucer was so close to the eyewitnesses that Josefa Gayoso de Iparraguirre and her two sons, Germán and César, almost touched it.

"The eyewitnesses said that the saucer had the shape of a bowl upside down. Other people have remained affected by the powerful luminosity given out by the UFO, but some of them have had their eyesight seriously impaired."

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Footnotes and Comments by Gordon Creighton

¹ Luján lies due west of Buenos Aires.

² Olavarría, as readers will recall, has already figured in two reports, namely that of the case of the boy Oscar Iriart (FSR, September/October 1968, p. 26), and that of the flying entities seen on the El Carmen farm (FSR, March/April 1970, p. 26).

³ It seems that the newspaper did not reproduce these symbols in its report.

⁴ One of the more maddening facts about UFO investigation is that one so seldom ever hears again of individuals mentioned in reports. It is a pleasure, therefore, to record that this Señor Martínez is quite certainly the same Felipe Martínez who claimed many strange experiences with UFO entities in 1949, 1951, and 1965, and regarding whom I gave a résumé in Case No. 44 of "The Humanoids In Latin America" (Chapter IV of FSR's book *The Humanoids* (Neville Spearman, London, and Henry Regnery, Chicago).

⁵ Everyone is now familiar with the claims made as to both harmful and healing effects wrought by UFOs, but so far as I know little attention has yet been paid to claims that they have also been responsible for sudden changes in human *intelligence*. Among the many hundreds of South American UFO reports from the altogether astonishing year 1965 which I have in my files, and which will eventually be published, there is one extraordinary report from Mexico to the effect that many children living in areas of that country where there had recently been great UFO activity had suddenly developed high I.Qs. I think we should watch very carefully indeed for evidence that this type of "Midwich Cuckoo" effect is indeed occurring. If such reports are true they show very clearly how, at a crisis point in the development of our species, benevolent beings from the Cosmic Hierarchy—if it exists—might bring about a rapid mutation in our mental capacities. Such a rapid leap would be the very opposite of the slow process of *sortes* recently discussed by Aimé Michel in his delightful *Project Dick!* (FSR, January/February 1972).

⁶ It must not be assumed that FSR promises any guarantee as to the accuracy of any of the statements of Sr. Martínez. The earliest reports (1949-65) described this gentleman as a *shopkeeper*, and we now learn that he was an *illiterate* one too.

⁷ There is overwhelming evidence that many patients experience this sort of "electrical current" when undergoing treatment by a spiritual healer.

⁸ It will be for investigators in Argentina to confirm whether Father Reyna is indeed their *doyen*.

they had no reports of any UFOs. A spokesman said there was a lot of cloud about and this could produce strange shapes."

Mystery animal tracks

The *Southern Evening Echo* of February 12, 1972, was the source of the following item:

"The mysterious tracks of a two-footed animal, similar to those found in the garden of Mrs. H. P. Short, of Nutwood, Tatchbury Lane, Winsor, have been reported by several people, including a Cadnam resident.

"Tracks have also been seen by two of Mrs. Short's neighbours.

"In each case the tracks run close to the house. They were evenly spaced but were left by only two paws.

"Similar tracks were also reported to Mrs. Short by Mrs. J. A. Marshall, of The Cottage, Romsey Road, Cadnam, who noticed them during the recent snow.

"Mrs. Short, whose father once kept one of the largest private zoos of British fauna in the country, has sent photographs of the tracks to a friend of her father's, Dr. Maurice Burton, head of the Natural History Museum, in the hope that he can identify them.

"Mrs. Short said: 'I have been brought up with all kinds of animals but I have never seen anything like this in my life.'"

Credit: Peter J. Kelly of Hythe, near Southampton.

Odd lights over the Wash

Here is an item of interest from the *Leicester Mercury* of October 30, 1971—another of those irritating occasions when a reasonable report is spoiled by lack of precise data as to exact time or date.

"Wildfowler Terry Walker, of Anstey, is puzzled about an eerie sighting of two strange lights with an odd behaviour pattern while following his sport on Buttewick Marsh, a tract of salt marsh on the north shore of the Wash.

"'There were five of us when we had this strange experience,' said Terry, who works in British United Shoe Machinery Company's Lasting Department.

"'We had spent most of the day on the marsh and were walking off after darkness had fallen. The evening flight had not materialised, probably because it was a clear, still, cold, cloudless night.

"'When we reached the sea wall, we stopped for a breather and I thought I saw a red light drop on to the marsh about a mile away. As I stared at it, one of my colleagues asked what I had seen. He confirmed my sighting and we both likened it to a red

distress flare.

"'The marshes can be dangerous especially after dark—and as the tide was rising, we wondered if there was a fellow wildfowler or a small boat in distress. We fired four shots in the air at two-second intervals and flashed a torch towards the origin of the light, this being normal procedure for assistance recognition.

"'No reply was received, but about four minutes later a light appeared and seemed to bounce across the marsh. It was pillar-box red and appeared from different places. It approached us, then receded, the jumps appearing to be about 100 yards long and about 50 to 100 feet high.

"'We watched the phenomena for about five minutes, and then a second light caught our eyes. This was a bright white light about twice the size of a star which appeared at a 60-degree angle to the ground to the south-west.

"'It was against a background of stars and moving independently of them in a rectangular pattern, with an occasional waver. It always finished on the same point and set off again at right angles to its former course.

"'We sat watching both of these lights for about 15 minutes, and having decided that the red light was not a wildfowler in distress, we decided to report the sighting to Port of Boston authority.

"'On our way there we watched the light in the sky for a further ten minutes. The Port Authority office confirmed that there had been no reports of vessels in distress, and we have never had an explanation or seen anything similar since.

"'Jack o' Lanterns or Will o' the Wisps—pockets of inflammable marsh gas exploding—have been suggested as an explanation for the red lights moving across the marsh, but what about the bright white light?

"'Were they unconnected or not? None of us believe in psychic phenomena or in UFO's, but it certainly makes one think . . . incidentally we had not been overdoing the "something to keep the cold out," although we remedied the situation after seeing all this.'"

Credit: Geoffrey Coxon of Higham-on-the-Hill, Warwicks.

INDIA

One from the past

The following account has come to us orally from one of the senior officers of the Indian Air Force, who is a personal friend of a director of FSR. (We do not propose to embarrass the officer—or to please our anonymous Ph.D. correspondent in Dallas, Texas

—by revealing the officer's identity.)

The case occurred in 1953, and concerns the sighting of a large unidentified cigar-shaped object stationary over Delhi. Our informant adds that, so far as he is aware, this is the only report yet recorded of a cigar-shaped object over India.

Two De Havilland *Vampires* of the Indian Air Force were sent up to investigate the intruder. Our informant knew the pilot of one of these two aircraft, and subsequently had the account directly from him. He also discussed the case with the then Officer Commanding, Indian Air Force.

What the pilot told our informant is of great interest. He said that when he had approached the mystery object and was right beneath it, he was baffled to find that it had suddenly vanished from that position and was now on the other side of him, beneath him. This process went on for some time, the object literally "running rings around his machine" and appearing now here, now there, until at last, utterly discouraged, he broke off the investigation and returned to base.

SPAIN

Another Fátima?

From the columns of the *Sunday Express* for June 4, 1972, we take the following story signed by reporter Sally Brompton—

"In a Spanish mountain-top village a group of British pilgrims gazed above them in awe.

"The evening sun seemed to be surrounded by an aura of colours, spinning and pulsating in the sky.

"Forty men and women in the party are certain they saw a miracle. The group, mostly strangers to each other, had travelled to the tiny village of Garabandal in Northern Spain where, in 1961, four village children had claimed to have seen the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus.

"One of the British pilgrims, Mrs. Gwendoline Hurndall, a night sister at St. Joseph's Hospital, Hackney, East London, said yesterday: 'We found we could stare at the sun without sunglasses. The outline of a cross had been seen and I just saw a part of it before it vanished.

"'Then the sun began to spin like a Catherine-wheel, first one way and then the other. Then it started to jump like a yoyo for a few minutes before going back to its spinning again.'

"Another of the pilgrims, Miss Marina Foley, who works in a chemist's shop in Holborn, London, said: 'The sun looked like a flat, white disc and it was spinning in a clockwise direction and pulsating to and fro.'

"But a psychiatrist said: 'People who have travelled hundreds of miles on a