

tive or subjective judgments about speed, height, etc., but does he note what coloured words the witness uses? By coloured words I mean those likely to carry emotional overtones. To give an extreme example here is part of a fictitious account of a contact of the "evangelical" type: the spaceman radiated a feeling of warmth, well-being, peace and calmness. His voice was soft and melodious and his expression echoed his words: "We of the Brotherhood wish you Earthlings to cease your nuclear explosions."

The coloured words tell us what type of person we are dealing with and hence what possible ulterior motives he might have for a hoax. As I am a lover of a peaceful life I do not intend to put forward here any conclusions that I have come to as to the veracity of the classic cases such as those of Adamski, Allingham, etc., but may I suggest for the open-minded reader an exercise that might help him to decide for himself in such cases?

Some non-contact sightings have a greater probability of being true than others. For example, one where there were several independent witnesses; radar or photographs to back up a visual sighting; one in an orthotenic series, etc. Take several of these sightings where the actual words used by the witnesses are recorded and place their descriptions alongside descrip-

tions of landings. The former we may take as being representative of the language used by the normal honest human-in-the-street who has seen something he cannot understand or readily categorise.

When this exercise is completed I think that the reader cannot fail to notice that several of the contactees do not talk at all like our man-in-the-street. One is tempted to follow on from this with the following deduction. Either these people were picked to be contacted by the spacemen for just those characteristics that distinguish them from the plain man, or they belong to that group of hoaxers and self-deluded persons we have discussed above. If in addition to this semantic evidence there are doubts engendered by the internal facts of the story appearing suspicious, then we are justified, I feel, in writing off the account as a hoax.

For the reasons stated at the beginning of this piece, I feel that this sort of analysis, conducted by someone who is open-minded and prepared to work on the supposition that the latest astronomical evidence on the surface conditions of the planets is to be preferred, as a yardstick, to the vapourings of suspected liars, is the only way we have of weeding out the trash from the valid evidence on this most important aspect of the subject.

## Space gremlins?

Strange things have been happening in some of America's space vehicles and puzzled scientists can give only one explanation: there must be gremlins up there. Experts at a satellite conference in Blacksburg, Virginia, this week were asked about these odd happenings. Lights on the ANNA goetic sphere resumed flashing after months of inactivity;

Blinking beacons on the Fire-fly satellite began fading last year and finally stopped. The beacons mysteriously reappeared this week. Telstar 2 ceased transmitting on July 17. Last Monday it came back to life. The first Telstar also recovered

by itself after going out of action. Power in the Venus-bound Mariner spacecraft cut off after it had apparently been struck by a meteorite—and then suddenly returned.

Commenting on the ANNA mystery, Mr. Richard Kershner, of the Applied Physics Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University, which developed the satellite, said: "We have no explanation of the lights coming back on. We don't like to believe in space gremlins, but we've reached the point where that's as good an explanation as any."

From the Nottingham *Guardian Journal*, August 15.

# MORE NEWS OF SIRAGUSA

by Gordon W. Creighton

In accordance with its declared policy, the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW refuses to suppress reports of contacts. It is, of course, impossible to confirm or to deny the truth of Sr. Siragusa's statements for which there appears to be no corroborative evidence. Having made this point clear, the REVIEW prints the following account with an open mind.

IN the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for January-February of this year I gave an account of the experiences of Signor Eugenio Siragusa, the Italian Customs official who claimed that he had twice met and spoken with extra-terrestrials during 1962.

In the *Domenica Del Corriere* for September 1, the journalist Renato Albanesi returns once more to the Siragusa story. He explains that Siragusa has written him a letter dated August 13 to say that he has now had a third encounter with the spacemen. He says that this took place between 9.15 and 9.45 p.m. on August 9, beside an un-frequented road that runs from the vicinity of Mount Etna to Ragalna.

The saucer, some 15 metres in diameter and surrounded by a faint light which was constantly changing from blue to greenish-yellow, remained suspended a few feet above the ground. Two beings, dressed in exactly the same way as those whom he had met on the two previous occasions, descended by a sort of stairway projecting from the under-part of the machine, and approached to a point two metres distant from Siragusa. Having delivered a fraternal greeting, they then requested him to listen attentively in order to memorize the important message which they wished him to convey on their behalf to all the peoples of the Earth. They mentioned, in particular, that before 1967 official contact between them and us would possibly take place.

They urged him to join with them "in joyfulness of heart and mind, for it is true indeed that, if love prevails over hatred and peace prevails over war, days of great happiness await you. . . ."

They then gave him an account of their cigar-shaped and disc-shaped craft. They said that their maximum speed when within the atmospheric envelope of a planet was 300,000 km. per second, but that in interstellar space they

attained a *hundred times that speed*. They said: "The Constellations which you behold above you teem with intelligent life, but there are still thousands waiting to be colonized by intelligent beings, provided, of course, that these are sufficiently highly evolved."

Signor Siragusa seems to have given no information on this occasion as to the size of the visitors, but as the saucer was a small one of only 15 metres diameter it seems logical to assume that they were the smaller men (about 5 ft. 4 in.) met by him on the first occasion (April 30, 1962) and not the seven-foot giants who came out of a saucer over 80 ft. wide and spoke to him at the second meeting (September 4, 1962).

Nor is there any precise information as to the nature of the message which Siragusa was to pass on to mankind, but we know that the messages of 1962 had to do with the nuclear dangers now facing us, and we may assume that this third message was of the same tenor. (Incidentally, in the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for November-December, 1962, I reported that according to a story that had leaked out of Russia, in 1961 a Soviet woman had been "captured" by a saucer while making a parachute-jump, and had landed three days later, "with a message for mankind.")

In his letter to the *Domenica Del Corriere* Signor Siragusa goes on to say: "Once again it has been my privilege to serve as the mouthpiece of beings from other worlds. I fully realise how difficult it is to overcome the obstacles of doubt and scepticism, but, believe me, what I describe is true, the very essence of truth. From the replies that the space visitors gave to my own questions, it is abundantly clear that they possess a perfect wisdom, a truly vast and prodigious scientific knowledge in respect of all the realms attainable by the human mind. . . . They come with the sole desire of imparting to us, in a disinterested spirit, the knowledge of their existence and of the pos-

sibility for us to receive, from their profound knowledge in every field of enquiry knowable to man, an impetus which could help us serenely upwards to higher and nobler levels of being."

In conclusion, I will say a few words about the position of this important Italian newspaper, *Domenica Del Corriere*, in this matter of the UFOs, and about the views of Renato Albanesi himself. Albanesi endeavours in this issue to convey the impression that he is still a complete sceptic. However, he admits that saucer reports are still coming in from various parts of Italy, and from all over the world. He says it is absolutely astonishing what a large proportion of the Italian public now firmly believes in the existence

of the saucers, and he feels therefore that, as reporters, he and his colleagues owe it to the public to give the facts. He promises that he will give further Italian sightings in a future issue. In the meantime, he emphasises that his paper have had careful enquiries made in Catania about Eugenio Siragusa, and that all who know him—including Siragusa's office colleagues in the Customs, and the local doctor, and the local Chief of Police—have testified that he is an excellent and thoroughly sane person, highly respected, efficient in his work, and that there is not the least ground for considering him capable of lying, or committing a hoax, or of being under any sort of delusion.

## ANOTHER SPEECH BY WILBERT B. SMITH

In the September-October issue of the **FLYING SAUCER REVIEW** there was printed a speech by the late Wilbert B. Smith, head of the Canadian Project Magnet and one of the most honoured of UFO investigators. He died two years ago and we are grateful to Vancouver Flying Saucer Club for permission to reproduce in print extracts from this speech which was delivered to the Club in March 1961.

Much of what Mr. Smith said must be regarded as controversial and the **FLYING SAUCER REVIEW** is endeavouring to discover the facts behind the assertions, but it should be remembered that Mr. Smith occupied a responsible position in the Canadian Government and was highly respected even by those who disagreed with him.

**M**UCH of the information which we obtained from extra-terrestrial sources casts some serious doubts on the validity of some of the basic concepts of our science. For one thing, they told us that the velocity of light was not a constant. As a matter of fact, they seemed to be rather pointed in their statement that light does not travel—*it is!* We told them that from our point of view, it appears to travel with a certain definite velocity of a hundred and eighty-six thousand miles per second. They said: "That's the way it looks to *you* because you are looking at it in and from a region having certain conditions, certain influences. But if you were to get away from this region (meaning the vicinity of the earth) you would find that a different set of figures prevailed."

Another thing they told us cast a great deal of doubt on our ideas of time. They told us that time wasn't at all what we thought it was—namely, something that might be marked off with a ticking of a clock. That time was, in fact, a field function—the result of there being a Universe. That it was something that was derived from the

basic primordial concept which brought this Universe into being, and that it differed as you went from one part of the Universe to another.

Also, it could be altered, sometimes by natural means, sometimes by intelligently controlled means in various parts of the Universe, so that in any given interval—evidently, what our clocks mark off are intervals, not chunks, of time—in these intervals we can have all sorts of lengths of time. In other words, if one of you here checks his clocks with mine and finds they are synchronised, and I then climb into a flying saucer and take a little trip well clear of the earth and I watch my clock as I come back in, say, three hours' time—we again compare clocks. Maybe your clock says I've been gone one hour—my clock says I've been gone three hours. Both clocks are strictly correct. You, in that given interval, in the time the big hand of the clock went round once, experienced one hour. In that *same* interval, between the ticks of the clock, I experienced three hours, and they were three real hours, not an illusion. The Theory of Relativity talks about time dilation, but this leads to a para-