

HUMANOIDS ENCOUNTERED AT LA BALEIA Part 1

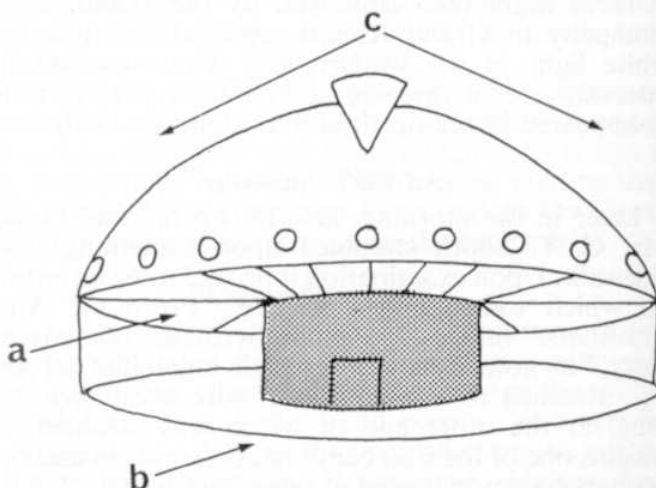
By Professor Hulvio B. Aleixo

Dr. Aleixo is President of C.I.C.O.A.N.I., the Civilian Centre for the Investigation of Unidentified Aerial Objects (Centro de Investigaçao Civil dos Objetos Aéreos Nao-Identificados), Belo Horizonte, Capital of the State of Minas Gerais, Brazil. Translated by Gordon Creighton.

Translator's Note

This excellent report, a model of scientific investigation and careful sifting, deals with what seems to me to be one of the more important encounters with UFO entities recorded in South America. It appeared originally in Portuguese in CICOANI's Special Bulletin of February 1968. I have also seen the case reported in three Brazilian press-items which came to me from Mr. Nigel Rimes and other correspondents in Brazil. Two of these reports told how Professor Aleixo and CICOANI had been called in by the police to conduct an investigation.

Figure 1. The "craft".
(a) Intermittent flashing beams of red, yellow and blue light from flat base of dome. (b) Movable "glass" curtain surrounding dark central column, in which aperture which opened upwards can be seen. (c) Width of cupola: 20 m.
Colour: brown.



AT approximately 12 o'clock noon on September 14, 1967, we received a call to go to the Police Headquarters (Departamento de Vigilancia Social) in Belo Horizonte. When we got there, the Commissioner, Dr. David Hazan, brought before us the young student Fábio José Diniz who, displaying powerful emotional reactions, with typical symptoms of shock or fear, was trying to explain what had happened to him about an hour previously. We took a preliminary statement from him and then, when the lad's nervous state had improved a little, we were taken out with him in a police car to the football field belonging to the Baleia Hospital which, as had been indicated to us, was the spot where the incident had occurred.

Throughout the whole of that day the lad remained with the Director of CICOANI, so that further questions could be asked and his behaviour could be noted.

His account (résumé of tape-recorded statement)

Fábio J. Diniz, aged 16, says that he arrived at the terminus of the "Baleia" bus route, near the Hospital of the same name, at somewhere around 10.30 a.m. on Thursday the 14th of September. From there he proceeded, on foot, to the farthest blocks of the Hospital, where he was going to try to sell some metal window shutters.

Having walked quietly along an asphalted path between two rows of

poplar trees, he arrived at about 10.50 a.m. opposite the football pitch which you come to before you reach the building. At that moment his attention was drawn to the presence of a strange object (Fig. 1), roughly of the shape of a mushroom, which was standing in the middle of the pitch. Curious, he went over to it, thinking it was some experiment connected with the Military Recruiting Week. Suddenly, with a faint and indefinable sound, from the sides of the cupola, there dropped down to the ground a transparent screen which appeared to him to be made of glass. Visible behind this screen was a sort of drum or cylinder, which was the base of the spherical dome-shaped cupola. In a fashion which he found it impossible to explain, there appeared in the cylinder, opening slowly from the bottom upwards, an aperture through which two strange individuals emerged side by side. Fábio says that he stepped backwards at that moment, but a voice made him come back: "Don't run away! Come back!"

Face to face with the strange beings, at a distance of about 5 metres from them, he watched one of them make a complete turn around the cylinder, while the other one said to him, in perfect Portuguese: "Appear here tomorrow, otherwise we will take your family."

The other individual had now joined the first one again, and he was able to observe him too, and saw that he was

carrying on the right arm an instrument (Fig. 3) that was pointing at him, like a weapon. Then the man who had spoken to him turned towards the door, gesturing to the other to follow him into the cylinder. When they had disappeared into the darkness of the opening, the opening closed up and the transparent curtain went up into place again with the same creaking sound that it had made when descending. The sound, resembling the call of the little brown Brazilian bird known as the "scissors-grinder" or *araponga*,* ceased entirely. Then the machine began a slow, silent, vertical movement. As he started to run, terrified, the lad says he caught a glimpse of it, flying at an oblique angle and still slowly, when he looked back the first time. When he looked back a second time, the object had already vanished.

Description of entities

The individuals are described (Fig. 2) as being from 2 metres to 2 metres 10 centimetres in height, with human form and human proportions and robust build. Clad from head to feet in green tight-fitting clothing similar to that of divers, all that was visible of them was part of the face, with greenish skin, two large round eyes set wide apart, with no visible white part (sclerotic), and surmounted by thick triangular-shaped eyebrows. The mouth and nostrils were not visible;

* Procnias (Chasmorhynchus) Nudi-collis.—G.C.

there was a dark part of the helmet running across in front and screening them off.

From the base of this "screen" there was a tube which ran down over the chest and as far as the right heel and then rose up the back to the nape of the neck. The heels were swollen in a strange way. The fingers of the hands, which were likewise covered by the clothing, seemed to be thick and to be four in number. The only differences noted by him between the two individuals was the antenna projecting from the head of the one who had spoken and who seemed to be the leader, and the "weapon" carried by the other.

His attention was caught by the ease with which the individuals moved: long rapid strides, the feet lifted very high from the ground. On the bottoms of the heels it seemed to him as though they had a sort of "iron heel", which flattened the grass when they trod on it.

As regards the object, the saucer itself, it consisted of four parts: there was the spherical dome, 20 metres in diameter, coloured brown, with a row of apertures resembling portholes. This domed cupola, together with the

apertures, was seen by him to be revolving at the moment of take-off. At the flat base of the cupola there were luminous beams, red, yellow and blue, which flashed intermittently. The cylindrical part of the craft was black, shining, more than 3 metres wide and over 2 metres high. A good proportion of its width was taken up by the door and, beyond the door, nothing was visible in the interior of the object. The thing which seemed to be like a "glass curtain" was perfectly transparent, and showed no reflections, despite the curvature.† Pointing in his direction, on the upper central part of the cupola, there was a horizontal triangular protuberance which remained stationary while the spherical cabin was revolving.

Fábio declares that after the object had taken off, he ran to the bus stop, to go home and tell his mother of the threat hanging over him, and of his terror. But once he was inside the bus, he reflected on the state of health of his mother and decided to try to see the Police, and he got to the Police Station about 45 minutes after the incident had occurred.

Such, in brief, is the boy's statement. The taped account will supply the minutiae on certain secondary details.

Working hypotheses

In conducting an investigation, the hypothesis adopted from among various alternatives is normally the simplest working hypothesis, i.e. the one most consistent with empirical observation or logical reasoning.

To start with, the simplest explanation for the boy's story seemed to us to be the subjective one. In this field, two possibilities would have to be investigated: the possibility of *conscious* fantasy, which in this case would be synonymous with a hoax, a trick—or *unconscious* fantasy, involving the processes of illusion or hallucination, in this latter case at a frankly psychopathic level.

Elimination or minimisation of the subjective hypothesis would, if it came to that, necessarily imply that the remaining hypothesis had prevailed, namely the hypothesis that the incident had objective reality.

I. COLLECTION OF DATA

(a) Examination of the field and description of the locale

The gathering of data had begun immediately with our first interroga-

† Note by Prof. Brant Aleixo: The shape of the cupola and the absence of reflections exclude the possibility that the "curtain" can have been of polished material of the consistency of glass.

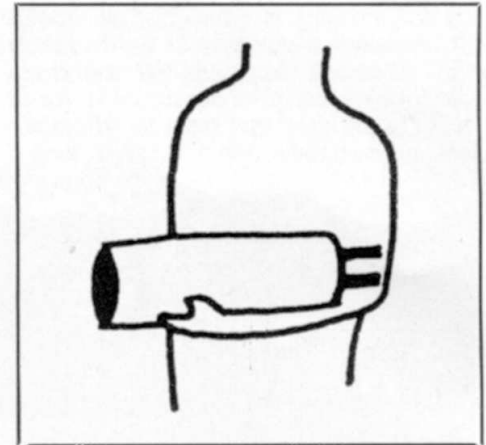


Figure 3. Object (weapon?) carried by one of the entities.

tion while we were still in the Police Station. It continued with our first visit to the locale. There, in the presence of Police Commissioner Dr. David Hazan and his assistants, and the chauffeur of the car and ourselves, the student re-enacted the scene, and again displayed a violent emotional reaction, particularly when describing the part where, according to his statement, two strange individuals had emerged from the UFO.

Searching around for some evidence or other on the dried ground and the bone-dry grass, we perceived two small depressions, in the form of an arc of a circle, lying a considerable distance the one from the other. Near one of them there was a slight depression shaped like the heel of a rather large shoe, which Fábio reckoned was a footprint of one of the individuals. The nature of this mark was not such as could either confirm or eliminate that possibility.

Throughout the whole of the reconstitution of the scene, the spot and the immediate vicinity, including the approach road and the windows of the large hospital building, remained totally deserted.

The Baleia Hospital stands on the outskirts of the suburb known as Bairro da Saudade, to the east of Belo Horizonte (State Capital of the State of Minas Gerais). It is a quite lonely and hilly area, lying on the slopes of the mountain range known as the Serra do Curral, and the Hospital consists of a group of pavilions arranged around an open square. One pavilion, for tubercular children, lies apart, isolated, on the south side, at about 900 metres from the main group of buildings. In order to reach the pavilion in question you go along an avenue bordered by luxuriant vegetation. In front of the building, and on the right-hand side of the avenue of poplars, is the football pitch. The whole horizon consists of mountains and vegetation.

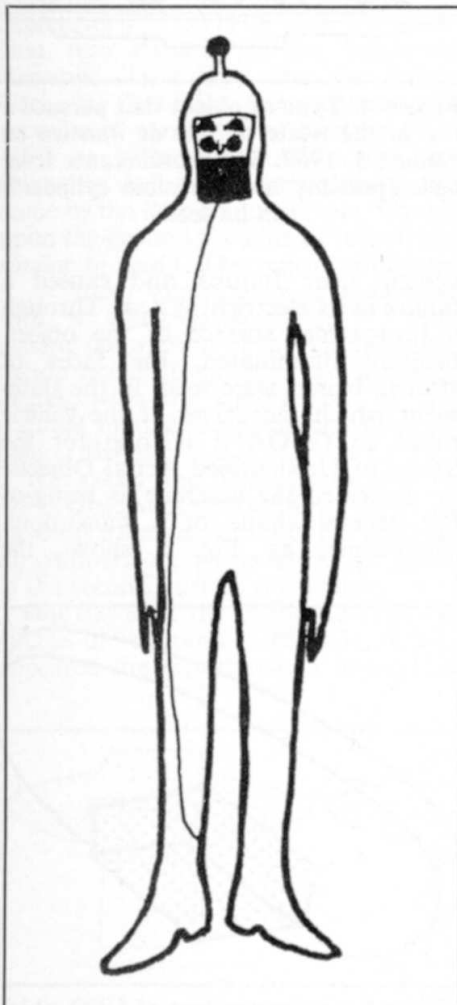
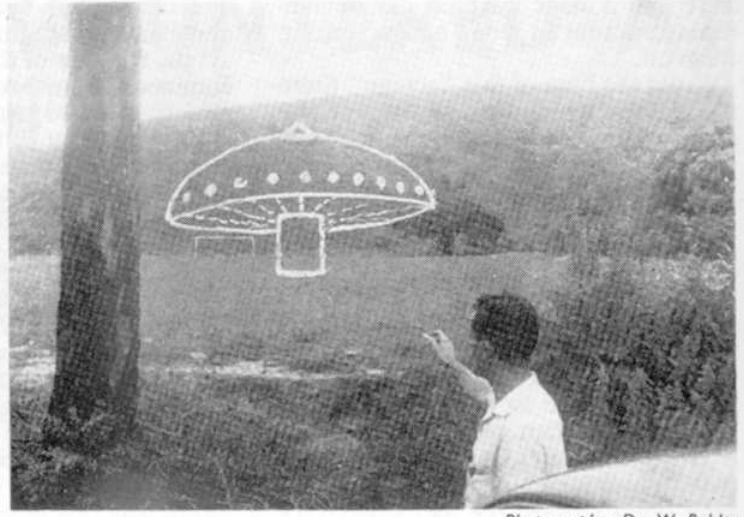
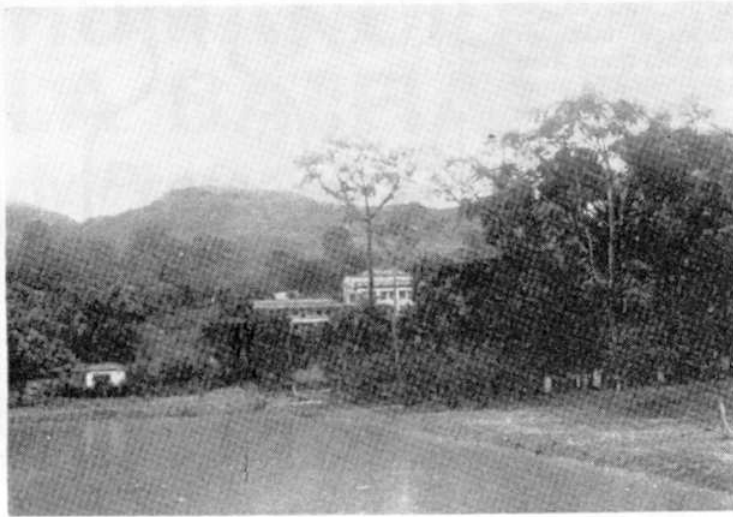


Figure 2. Sketch, by witness, of one of the humanoids.



Photographs: Dr. W. Buhler

Left: The Hospital, La Baleia. Right: The author looks towards the football field. UFO drawn in approximately in position seen.

(b) Reconstruction of the scene next day

At 10 a.m. next day a team from CICOANI, consisting of five members and three observers, went with the boy to the football field, where a fresh and most detailed reconstruction of the scene was enacted, with filming and photography, in the presence of two members of the civilian Police and two men from the Military Police.

A compass was used in an endeavour to find some clue in the local magnetism. The variations of the needle were, however, not significant. The lack of a Geiger counter made it impossible to do a radioactivity test.

A small quantity of material, apparently scorched and granular in form, was gathered near the centre-line of the football field.

We were able to establish, from the information supplied by the nuns and officials of the Hospital, that nobody in that whole neighbourhood had noticed anything abnormal at the time indicated by the boy. On the other hand it was elucidated that in fact, at the time in question, all the children in the building, the employees, and the duty-guards, were all concentrated inside the building, either having breakfast or working.

2. EXAMINATION OF THE DATA

Two days after the boy had made his statement, the case began to catch the attention of the press. An important aim in our investigations would be to situate the incident within the context of UFO sightings, either contemporary or distant in time, in order to verify whether it was a case of an isolated occurrence or, should the contrary be established, then to discover any correlations that might exist.

First of all, let us see what is revealed by the documentation on

occurrences happening contemporaneously with the Baleia Case.

A. Contemporary Occurrences

(i) Contemporary Cases in Adjacent Areas

Taking as our point of reference the date of the Baleia Case (September 14, 1967), examination of the documentation shows that there was a whole series of incidents grouped around that day, both in the immediate geographical vicinity and in distant areas.

On the evening of September 16, two days after Fábio had told his story, a circular UFO, dark in colour and with clearly perceived outlines, was seen rotating upon its own axis and moving on a spiral course, the witnesses being in two different parts of Belo Horizonte and neither known to each other nor have they communicated with each other.¹

At 11.20 a.m. on September 24, one of the three luminous points of light that were floating above Itajubá in the State of Minas Gerais assumed a shape described as "a cupola with an appendage below", of the general shape of a mushroom. *This appendage grew as the object approached the ground (to a height of 2,000 metres) and "gave the impression of withdrawing inwards again when the movement of the craft was upwards, presenting then merely the shape of a flattened disc."*²

On August 3, in the State of Rio de Janeiro, the car of a Rio lawyer was followed by a UFO, the description of which fits the Baleia Case if (see Fig. 4) we take the small protuberance on the lower surface to be the visible extremity of the cylinder that has slid up into the interior of the spherical cabin. (Be it noted moreover that the description, with the illustration as shown, appeared in the pages of the Rio de Janeiro magazine *O Cruzeiro*

only after Fábio J. Diniz had made his statement.³)

In the early morning of June 7, 1967 a UFO approached close to a motor

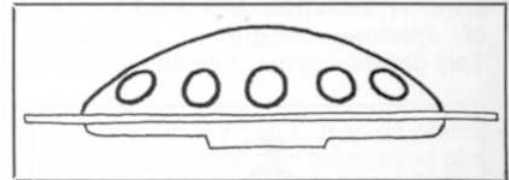


Figure 4. Type of object that pursued a car in the State of Rio de Janeiro on August 3, 1967. The protuberance from base (possibly an extrusible cylinder?) can be seen.

vehicle near Itajubá and caused a failure in its electrical system. Through a transparent surface of the object, brightly illuminated, the faces of strange beings were seen. In the statement which the driver of the vehicle made to GEOANI (Group for the Study of Unidentified Aerial Objects) he described the machine as being of the general shape of a mushroom. Meanwhile, as Fig. 5 shows, the

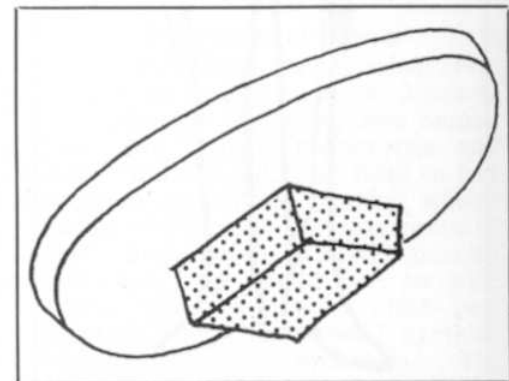


Figure 5. Under position of UFO which halted the engine of a motor vehicle near Itajubá early on June 7, 1967.

protuberance underneath was in this case quadrangular.⁴

On August 15, 17 and 18, UFOs were observed in the vicinity of Belo Horizonte. The August 15 case refers to a landing beside highway BR-135. The sighting of August 18, in broad daylight, involved a UFO at a height of about 300 metres from the ground, and in the vicinity of that same highway.⁵

In October 1967 also there were significant happenings in Belo Horizonte and vicinity. One of these cases concerns a UFO which flew, skimming the rooftops, in the early hours of the morning across the central part of the city. One of the witnesses, being jolted out of his sleep by the experience, suffered a curious psycho-physiological effect while the UFO was passing overhead.⁶

The bulk of these cases—as well as of others that we have not quoted—have remained at the confidential level, that is to say, they have not been published.

(ii) Recent Cases in Distant Areas

We thought it worthwhile to investigate the similarity between the Baleia Case and the one that occurred on September 11, 1967, at Villa Constitución, near Rosario, in the Argentine Republic. Two days after the Baleia Case, the Brazilian press carried the account of a night-time landing by a UFO at Villa Constitución. On the following day, when approaching the scene of the landing, observers "found upon the ground remains of something similar to coal". The report continues . . . "these were grains of something with a disagreeable smell."⁷ This generic description of the Villa Constitución material agrees to a surprising degree with the description of the residual matter found on the football field at Baleia.

We asked the Rosario Group of UFO Observers (GRODOV) to let us have any eventual results of the analysis for comparison. These results are given in the second part of this article.

One day after the Baleia Case, at the village of Alamosa, Colorado, USA, appeared the report that a horse had

been struck dead by a flying saucer. The animal's body, part-stripped of flesh, with the bones exposed but showing no sign of burns, was found at a spot where various other marks or incidents suggested that a UFO might have landed. This case,⁸ by the nature of its location, is particularly accessible for investigation by the Condon Project Commission of the University of Colorado.

B. Incidents Remote in Time and Place

Going back in time in our bibliographical researches, we found a basic correspondence between the Baleia Case and four other cases in distant areas.

The San Casciano Case

The first of these cases, on April 10, 1962, involves, as witness, Mario Zuccala, aged 26, married, a tailor, residing in San Casciano, near Florence, Italy. At night, returning home along a deserted street, the witness felt himself struck by a blast of air and beheld a UFO, 8.50 metres in diameter, of a grey colour, and in the shape of two plates stuck together. The object (Fig. 6) came to a halt at a short distance from him, and at a height of 2.50 metres from the ground. From its lower portion emerged a cylinder, 1.50 metres in width, until it reached the ground. The witness had the impression that, when it had touched the ground, a cylindrical sheath then re-entered the machine, leaving exposed an inner cylinder, in which a door slowly opened, from below upwards. Two beings emerged through the opening. Height: 1.50 metres, human shape, entirely covered in a kind of shining metallic clothing. Two vertical antennae on their heads. The two individuals took the witness aboard, politely, into an empty enclosure that was all lit up. Then he heard a voice that did not come from the two individuals, but from the central part of the object; it resembled a voice amplified by a microphone and as if resounding in a vast space. The voice was speaking in Italian. According to the witness, the message was as follows: "At the fourth

Moon we will come at 1.00 o'clock in the morning to give you a message for mankind. We shall give notice of this to another person in order to confirm the reality of what you have seen." The object left no trace whatever on the ground.⁹

The Catania Case

This case concerns the government employee Eugenio Siragusa, aged 43, married, residing at Corso Province 146, Catania, Italy. It involves two contacts, both at night, investigated by the journalist Renato Albanese of the *Domenica del Corriere*. After having seen flying saucers pass over his house several times, Siragusa entered into contact, by what he terms "mental probes", with strange individuals on two occasions.

On the night of April 30, 1962, he says he met, on the slopes of Mt. Etna, two individuals 1.65 metres in height, of human shape, clad in divers' suits of metallised tissue, made of one piece, and with belts emitting intermittent yellow-green-blue light. He said that, at a distance of only 1.5 metres, one of the individuals dictated to him, in Italian, a message for the powerful ones of the earth, exhorting them to peace. The voice did not have a human timbre, and seemed to be from a tape-recording, and had a metallic tone, says Signor Siragusa. Coming to the edge of a crater, he next observed an object about 15 metres in diameter, the shape of which was indistinct because of the dazzling light from it.

During the night of September 5, 1962, near Monte Manfrè, the second meeting was alleged to have taken place. At a short distance from Signor Siragusa appeared two individuals, whose height was not less than 2.15 metres. The light from their belts prevented him from seeing their faces. They were dressed in the same way as the first ones. There was also a message, dictated in Italian. The object is described as an enormous spinning top 25 metres wide, suspended in the air. "From the under part"—says Siragusa—"A metallic cylinder over three metres long reached down almost to touch the road, with a small door, a sort of lift".¹⁰

The Pajas Blancas Case

In April 1957 a motorcyclist was riding along the road, 15 kilometres from the International Airport at Pajas Blancas, near Rosario, Argentina, when he perceived a disc 20 metres in diameter and 5 metres thick hovering 15 metres above the ground. The electric system in his machine failing, he hid in a ditch beside the road. The disc came down to a height

(continued on page 20)

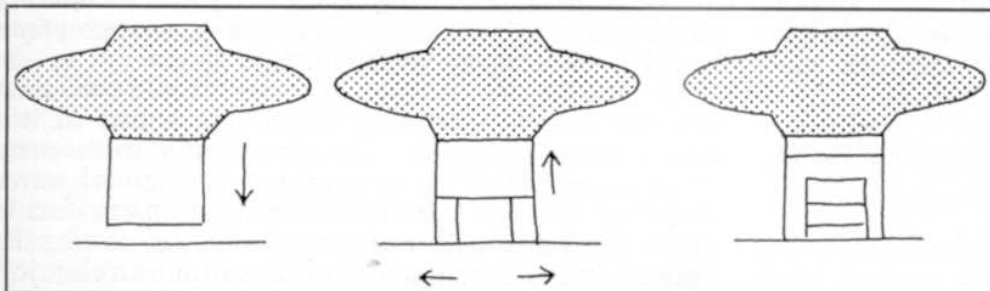


Figure 6. The San Casciano UFO, as described by Mario Zuccala, which had an extrusible central column (FSR, July/August 1962).

UFOs AND THE FOURTH DIMENSION

Part 4

By Luis Schönherr

A welcome return by our contributor whose first article in this series appeared in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for March/April 1963.

IN a recent article,¹ it has been suggested that imperfect vision on part of the "pilots" of the UFOs may be responsible for the often reported erratic movements when they try to pursue automobiles.

The author argues that the visual system of the UFO pilots may not be adapted to the density of our atmosphere; that their vision may also be affected by the daylight, this being the reason for their preference for operations at dawn, dusk or night.

One could say, however, that the peculiar behaviour of the UFOs in some cases has an even greater similarity to a disease, known in neurology as *intentional tremor*.²

Such symptoms could be caused by insufficient attenuation, or feed-back, within the control system, i.e. it responds with a disproportionate counteraction to a small deviation from the true pursuit course.

Both suggestions however are open to objections. It is true that low-level UFO-activity increases during the night hours³ but more probably the reason for this could be the same as the reason for their preference for thinly populated areas. And, what is more important, there are numerous cases of well-controlled movement, and precise and sudden evasive action both in the air and on ground level, in broad daylight as well as at night, which indicate that the sensory and controlling systems of the UFOs must be of very good definition, velocity of reaction, and coordination—be they living brains with eyesight, or highly sophisticated computers with other sensory means!

Would the UFOs shoot around at such speeds if they could not rely, under all circumstances, upon their sensory systems? Is it likely that an advanced technology could have found no means to compensate for such minor inadequacies? After all, our submarine photographers and hunters have overcome similar difficulties rather well.

But let us first enquire what could be the meaning behind such occurrences.

Those who emphasise what might be called the "Defence-aspect" of the UFO problem, imply that the UFOs are studying our transportation system. But why then are the UFOs not to the same extent interested in trains and ships, which do the bulk of our transport work? There is no reason to assume that airliner pilots and car and lorry drivers are more talkative than railway employees and sailors.

There is however another very significant relation. Of all moving objects UFOs seem to be interested mainly in those with electrical ignition systems.

How are we to interpret this fact?

Some researchers, especially those who have shown growing concern about possible hostile actions, have suspected that the UFOs want to stop traffic on some future occasion. But why have they been stopping cars

throughout the years, thus demonstrating their capabilities and giving us an opportunity to develop counter-measures?

If, finally, we search for a meaning for such occurrences not so much in possible future intentions, but rather in the individual cases themselves we are likewise at a loss for an explanation.

Admittedly many drivers and pilots have been pretty unnerved, but there are too few cases—if any at all—which would allow us to conclude that the purpose of all these pursuits was some immediate action, hostile or indifferent, with regard to the pursued object, or that such actions were intended but had failed in every case.

On the contrary, although they have stopped cars, the fact that they apparently have not so often interfered to the same extent with the ignition systems of aircraft could indicate some sort of consideration.

Could it be that some action *is* actually taking place but that we are not able to recognise it as such?

It has been suggested—even by scientists—that UFOs may be able to monitor our thoughts.⁴

But why should the UFOs repeat this operation over and over again throughout the years when the thoughts of pilots, drivers and passengers are probably always the same in such a situation?

However, if we are already speculating along such a line, why not ask whether UFOs could not be interested in the monitoring of memories? From memories they could get information they could not otherwise obtain (as well as the code in which it is expressed).⁵

Could not this aspect of the problem be of some importance in view of the alleged telepathic communications by UFO occupants?

However, although such speculations seem to offer an enticing possibility for a new interpretation of certain contact cases, they cannot be applied to the pursuit cases.

Thinking is accompanied by dynamical electrical processes in our brain. Such processes could in turn create what are popularly termed "thought waves". Although there is more than one indication that this concept is rather naïve and inadequate, it would allow us at least to understand approximately how monitoring of thoughts could work, namely by tuning an appropriate receiver to the length of the thought waves.

Monitoring the human memory would be quite another matter. Computer technology knows of two basic types of memories. The one stores information by means of a dynamical process, e.g. mechanical waves travelling through mercury between two piezo electric units. The other type works statically, e.g. storing the information by the status of switches within an electrical circuit.

According to most neuro-cyberneticists the human