

THE VANISHING UFO AND THE VANISHING POLICEMEN!

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[On August 8, 1998, Mr. Lance Druce, now residing at Bournemouth on the South Coast of England, wrote to me asking whether FSR had ever published any account of an unusual UFO experience that he had had many years earlier - "some time in the early 1960s". as he thought?

I replied that, so far as I could see, the case was not known to us and had consequently never been reported in FSR. A second letter from Mr. Druce some months later brought further details, and I give below the essence of the story, which is certainly a remarkable one.

Two features in it cannot fail to catch our attention. Firstly, the UFO at one stage proceeded to "vanish" **on the spot**. Over the years we have certainly had a few cases containing "disappearing acts" like this, though *few* they certainly have been. **But maybe, in view of what we have to tell you on page 3 about an alleged experience of President Eisenhower, we ought now to start giving the matter some serious thought!** The second notable feature is of course the reportedly speedy disappearance of two Dorset policemen! If true, that is also highly "interesting", though of course not a bit surprising.

Incidentally, I wonder whether any FSR reader in Dorset recalls a man named "Leslie" who might have claimed to be acting on behalf of FSR? (It might have been Desmond Leslie, but he can't remember.) Or is it perhaps much more likely that he was "*a man from the Ministry*"? (Or indeed perhaps an MIB?). G.C.]

MR. DRUCE'S SIGHTING.

"One evening, in the early 1960s I had been on a fishing trip near Weymouth with my brother-in-law Brian

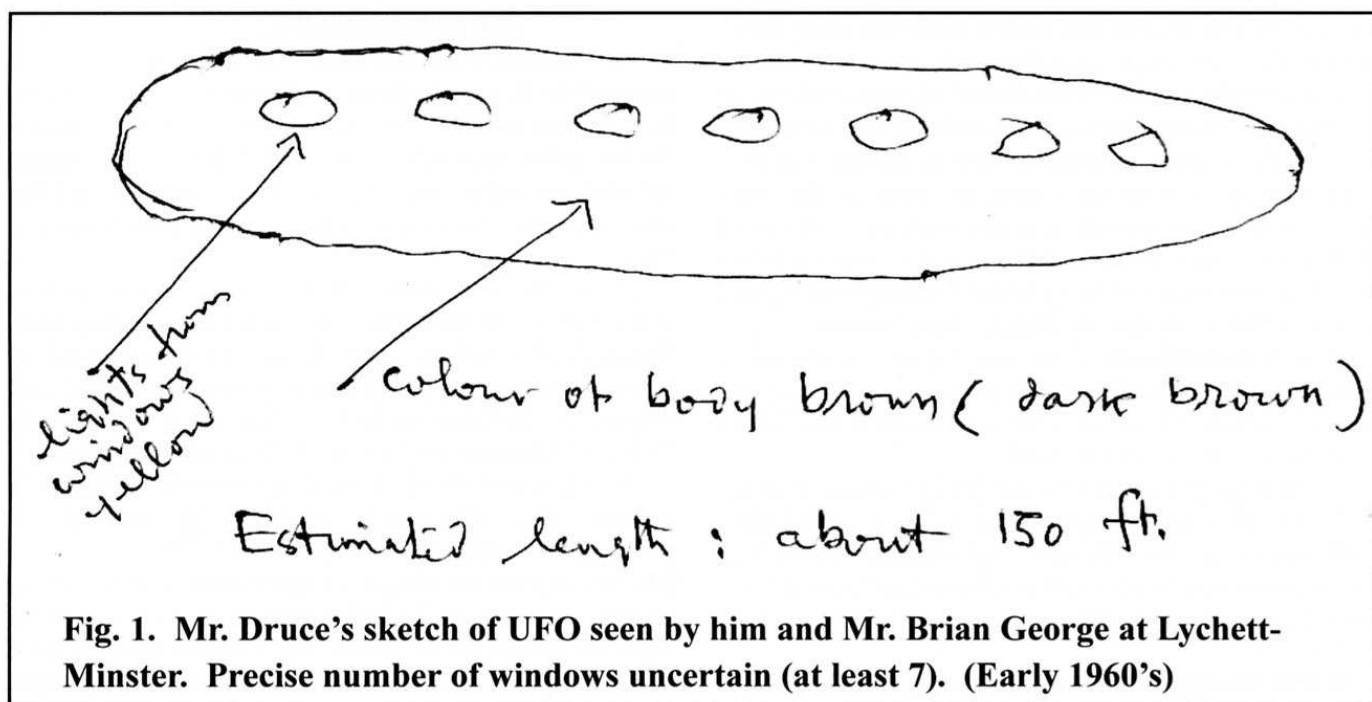
George, and I was returning home with him in his car, an *Austin Cambridge*. Actually I was teaching him to drive at that time. (so our correspondent thinks it was probably early in July.) It was his fourth or fifth lesson, and he was driving, with myself in the passenger seat. The time was about 5.30 pm, broad daylight.

"At a place called Lychett-Minster, close to a pub on the right-hand side of the road called the *St. Peter's Finger* (as shown on the hanging pub sign outside) Brian suddenly shouted 'what's that!?' and himself pointed upwards and the engine began to falter and sputter and ran a bit roughly but did not, I think, quite stop. I put my head down to look up through his side-window, and saw a huge dark-brown cigar-shaped thing with a lot of yellow lighted portoles just hanging there stationary and silent in the sky - not a sound audible from it. (As a crane-driver, used to erecting 90 foot jibs, I probably have a good eye for making such a estimate, and my feeling was that the object was about 150ft long). (See Fig. 1, drawn by witness.)

"We pulled up and got out to watch it, and we were stunned. And all the other cars behind us stopped too and their drivers got out to watch it, and frankly, I was starting to feel nervous!

"I happened to remember that there were a couple of Police Houses about a mile further up the road on the left-hand side, so I told Brian to get up there fast and I shouted to the folk in the cars behind to do so too.

"As we roared off up the road, the 'cigar' moved and began to follow us, and when we had reached the Police Houses it took up position just above them, still silent as ever, and at a height of about 200ft or so.



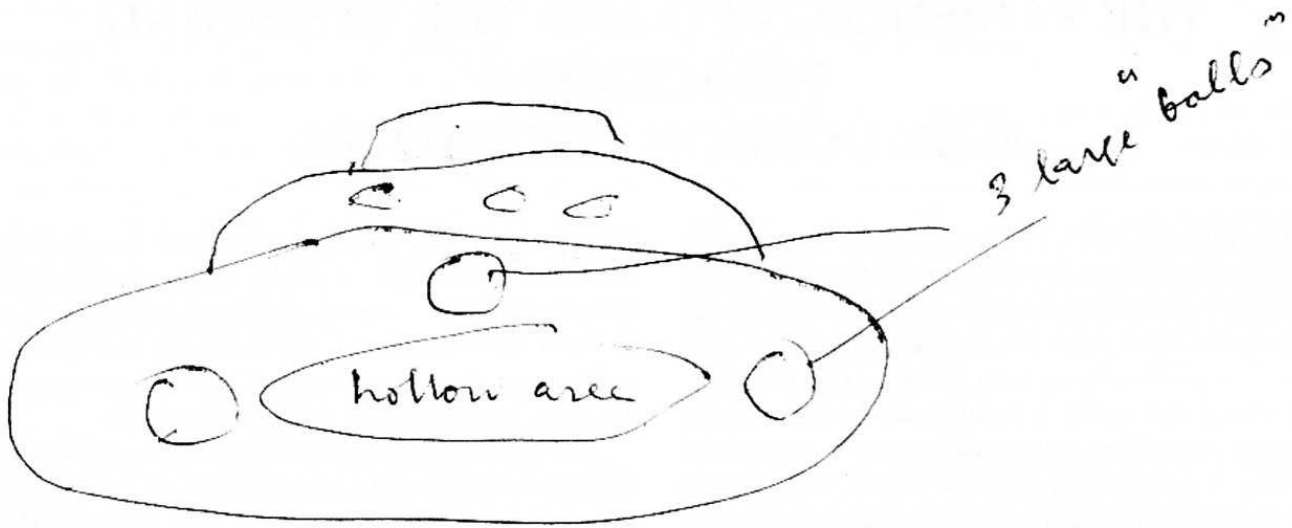


Fig. 2. Mr. Druce's sketch of the UFO seen by him a year or so later over the Winchester By-Pass Road. The sighting lasted about ½ minute, and the height of the UFO was no more than about 50 ft!

"At the Police Houses we stopped and I rushed out and knocked on one door, and out came a lady. I said: 'There's a strange Space-ship above your house!'. The look that she gave me showed that she thought me a bit silly, but she called her husband and he came out and watched it for a minute or so and then went to get his colleague, who came out with some field-glasses.

"In the meantime, while the first policeman was getting his colleague, a weird thing was happening. For the 'cigar' was slowly becoming invisible.

"Then, after the two policemen had come out again, an even weirder thing began to happen, for bands of light seemed to be coming into view from the sides of the thing - which, although we could now not see it, was still somehow *still there*, for we could somehow *feel its presence*! These bands of light moved around for a while and then seemed somehow to disappear again up into the lower part of the cigar.

THE PRESS GET TO HEAR OF IT.

"To cut a long story short, the local newspaper got hold of the story, and then, some time later, a man came to my house and asked to interview me and I consented. Then, about a week later, he came back and informed me that my story could not be substantiated, because he had been unable to contact the two Police Officers to secure their confirmation and also to ask for their help in securing the names of some of the other eyewitnesses in the cars who had seen the thing. And he told me that the Chief Constable of Dorset had moved the Police Officers to new accommodation and that they expressly desired to have no further contact or publicity about the case.

"As for this interviewer - whoever and whatever he was - I had learned from him only that his name was Leslie, and that he would write to *Flying Saucer Review* about the case, which he said was 'very rare and unusual'.

"Although it was all so long ago that I no longer recall the date, this unforgettable experience has left an indelible impression on me. I'm very, very sure that nobody who has had a UFO experience like that will ever be able to forget it, for it was truly 'out of this world'!

TWO FURTHER SIGHTINGS BY THIS WITNESS.

Mr. Druce took the opportunity to give brief details of two subsequent UFO sightings.

FIRST SIGHTING.

"About a year or so later, very early one morning, I was driving my lorry to London. I think it would have been at about 6.00 a.m. to 7.00 a.m., and I was on the Winchester By-Pass Road, when I was drawn to look up through the panoramic window of the *T.K. Bedford* truck, and, for the space of about 25 to 30 seconds or so, I saw this object above the tree-tops. I saw it extremely clearly and, once again, I must emphasise that *I will never forget it.*" (See Fig. 2)

[NOTE BY EDITOR OF FSR. Readers can see for themselves that here again, once more, we have THE TYPICAL ADAMSKI SCOUT SHIP WHICH FOR THE PAST FIFTY YEARS ALL THE "EXPERTS" HAVE BEEN TELLING US IS A CHICKEN-INCUBATOR, OR A TOBACCO-CURER, OR THE OVERHEAD LAMP IN THE OPERATING THEATRES OF U.S. HOSPITALS!]

SECOND SIGHTING.

"Once again, some time later, I was in the area known as Canford Heath, again with my brother-in-law Brian George, and this time we were shooting rabbits. I was standing in a thicket, just behind a tree, and spotted this object hanging stationary beside a cloud. It certainly seemed to be just the same as the one that I had seen earlier on the Winchester By-Pass.

"It was mid-afternoon, the clarity of the daylight was perfect, and we both stood and watched this one for about half-an-hour. We had failed to find any rabbits there, so we moved on and sat down again about a mile further on to have our drinks and sandwiches. And then suddenly we both saw it once more. It flashed vividly across the sky, much faster than any aircraft.

In conclusion I should add that I have not seen Brian George for some years, but I understand that he has since taken a photograph of a saucer of this type."

[Mr. Druce gave me the latest known address of Mr. Brian George, and I have now written to the latter in the hope that we might manage to see the photo. However, he seems to have moved, the Post Office have returned my letter, and Mr. Druce himself now is no longer in contact with Brian George. G.C.■]