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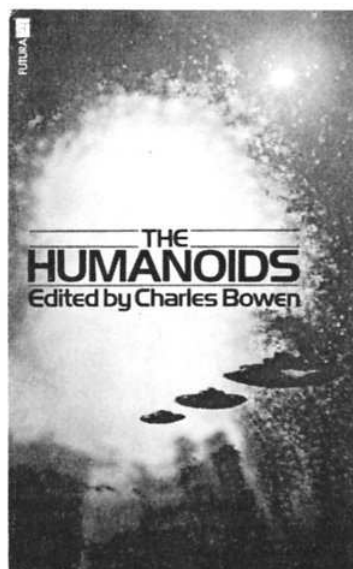
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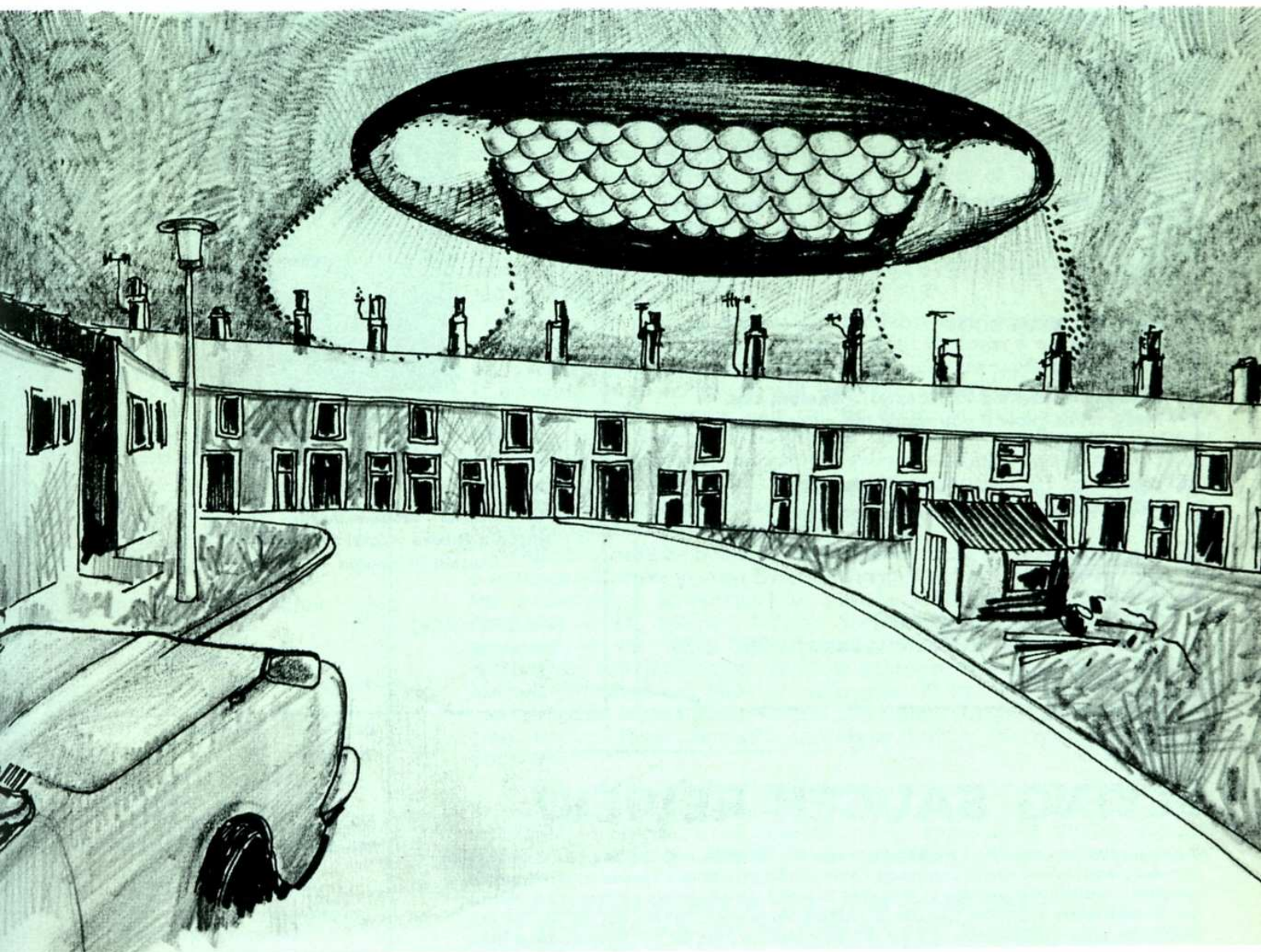
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Volume 23 No. 2 1977

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"Let's get away now" said the passenger when the lights dimmed and his engine cut out . . . They got back in but the driver found the starter motor was dead . . . as the enormous object, 'bigger than a bus', approached them. The passenger's legs were shaking with fright . . .

CAR STOP NEAR NELSON, LANCASHIRE

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

UFOIN

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR wafts across the face of British ufology; indeed it could even be described as a "Breeze of Change."

A group — but no! "Group" is a tag that would not be appreciated, for those involved in this change eschew the idea of being just another "club." So we'll start again.

A number of investigators situated in many parts of Britain whose aim is improvement of their specialised endeavours, wish to see the results of those endeavours brought to the notice of Britain and the rest of the world. While they are in favour of the scientific treatment and assessment of the reports of their enquiries, they object to the fact that the fate of most of those reports is to languish in some exclusive filing cabinet, or to be transferred to the bowels of some remote computer — and nothing else.

So with the aims of improving standards and bringing about greater universal recognition, they have associated to form a national network of investigators with members covering areas throughout the country. If possible these members will establish a working relationship with their local police forces — it can be done, as will be seen in a contribution from Essex in this present issue of *Flying Saucer Review* — and generally keep their ears to the ground and eyes to the press, ready to investigate anything that comes to their notice. At the same time they will be prepared to look into other cases when alerted to do so from the focal point of the network.

While it should be borne in mind that because several individuals and a number of active groups from different parts of the country make up the network, it is essential to have a focal point, and this is the Northern UFO Network whose Secretary, Jenny Randles, acts as secretary to the new, larger organisation, helped closely by Peter Warrington and Jeff Porter. In close association with them are Robert Morrell (Nottingham) and his colleagues, Philip Rogers (Birmingham) and his team, Messrs. King, Collins and others (Essex), Leslie Harris and John Ledner (Bournemouth) and Omar Fowler (Surrey), to mention but a few.

In view of their desire that their reports, and the state of ufology in Britain, should become universally better known by publication in a reputable, well-circulated journal, they approached *Flying Saucer Review* to gauge the depth of our possible interest in the proposed liaison.

The position of FSR in this world of burgeoning interest in the UFO phenomenon is that we need not only to present the international aspect of the subject and to continue to use the journal as a platform for informed debate, but also vigorously to present our home "product," the British UFO reports, to the world — a field in which our scope has usually been somewhat limited.

So, when the suggestion was made that we might be interested in having an effective and reliable source of UFO reports on our own doorstep, it goes without saying that FSR was interested. Again, we

were not unaware of the fact that it was the dedicated and energetic secretary of Greater Manchester's Northern UFO Network (NUFON) who, as a Council member of BUFORA, and Research Co-Ordinator, had been instrumental during the last two years in channelling reports in our direction with the approval of the then chairman, Roger Stanway. Miss Randles had observed that our "World Round-up" column frequently carried, where local British cases were concerned, only a few sparsely-detailed newspaper accounts. Certainly FSR was interested.

The approach to FSR had been made soon after the resignation of Mr. Stanway from BUFORA, and in February this year an exploratory meeting was held in Birmingham between Mr. Jonathan Caplan and the Editor, for FSR, the NUFON trio, and Mr. Philip Rogers of the Birmingham-based UFOSIS group. It was decided that the proposed organisation should be known as the UFO Investigators Network (UFOIN)*.

With a British UFO wave building up it was deemed essential that something effective should be organised as quickly as possible, and to this end a remarkably well-attended meeting was held on March 12, 1977, again in Birmingham, with 40 or more of those interested attending from places as far apart as Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Nottingham, Cheshire, Birmingham, Essex, Lincolnshire, Dorset, Wales, London, Kent, Surrey, Middlesex and Oxford. There was also absent support from Northern Ireland, Cornwall, The Channel Islands, Norfolk, Staffordshire, Tyne & Wear and Yorkshire. Dr. Ivor Grattan-Guinness and the Editor were present as observers on behalf of FSR.

Once a working basis for UFOIN had been agreed it was decided that, first, unless they were seen to be part of some more important incident, or possessed a high strangeness rating, investigators would not concern themselves overmuch with random mundane lights in the sky of the balloon, or aircraft, or satellite, or Venus-explainable types; secondly, that members of the network would endeavour to make full use of each other's specialised skills or knowledge; thirdly, that FSR should be kept informed about promising new cases either by telephone or in written abstract form. Should any of these be considered suitable for publication, a full investigation

would be conducted and a publishable report prepared. The "World Round-up" column of FSR would benefit from selected abstracts of cases not chosen for investigation in greater depth. The major reports — if required — and the used and unused abstracts would all be available for the smaller, amateur journals run by members, the major cases after publication by FSR.

And so the hopeful new project was launched, with FSR providing funds to help with exceptional expenses incurred during investigations. The fruits of this enterprise have already been seen to advantage in this and in recent issues of FSR.

Already the ranks of UFOIN have been strengthened by the acceptance of new members from Canada (Gary Lanham, who also returns to the UK later this year), Norfolk (Peter Johnson), Kent-Beckenham (Tim Good, when free from London Symphony Orchestra duties), Kent-Thamet (Sqd. Ldr. A. Prevost) and Oxford University (Ann Morris). Meanwhile we have been advised by the Chairman of BUFORA that Miss Jenny Randles has been asked to resign from the Association and this, we gather, she has done. This means she will have more time to devote her enquiries to UFOIN matters, which is as well for it is this matter of energy — with which Miss Randles seems to be blessed to a remarkable degree — which will be one of the keys to the success of this enterprise. Would-be applicants to joint UFOIN should realise that the requirements are strictly those of dedication, skill and tremendously hard work; at no time should they look upon the Network as just another social club.

The volume of interesting and valuable work being directed our way from UFOIN is such that we may have to consider the resurrection of *FSR Case Histories*, appearing perhaps less frequently than heretofore but with an increased number of pages. However, such a venture could only be undertaken provided there is sufficient support, and that would mean we need to know of, say, at least 2000 would-be subscribers. Meanwhile we watch with great interest the rapid and welcome growth of this vigorous new initiative, UFOIN.

* UFOIN address: 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester M30 6NJ. Telephone: 061-775 4749.

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FRIGHTENING CAR-STOP NEAR NELSON

Tony Grimshaw & Jenny Randles

This report has been specially prepared for UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN) and publication in *Flying Saucer Review*. Miss Randles is Secretary of UFOIN, whose address is 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester M30 6NJ, Telephone: 061 775 4749.

A CLOSE ENCOUNTER with possible physical effects, and a vehicle stoppage incident are embodied in this report. It occurred towards the close of an intense flap in Central and Northern Lancashire during late February and early March 1977, but is the only one of those incidents which can reasonably be termed a close encounter.

Location

The events took place at about 3.10 or 3.15 a.m. on the morning of March 9, 1977. There are two witnesses, 38-year-old textile worker Brian Grimshaw and his friend Jeff. The full name of the latter witness will not be given as he was severely disturbed by the affair, and does not wish to discuss the matter any further.

The witnesses work on the night-shift at a menswear factory in Nelson, a central Lancashire town in the heart of the cotton industry. The surroundings are somewhat bleak and industrial, with the hills of the Pennine range forming the backdrop to the scene.

Mr. Grimshaw was starting to drive his 1968 Vauxhall Viva car back towards the factory having just dropped off a canteen assistant.

The events

Jeff was the first to spot the object. It appeared to him as a light in the low cloud.

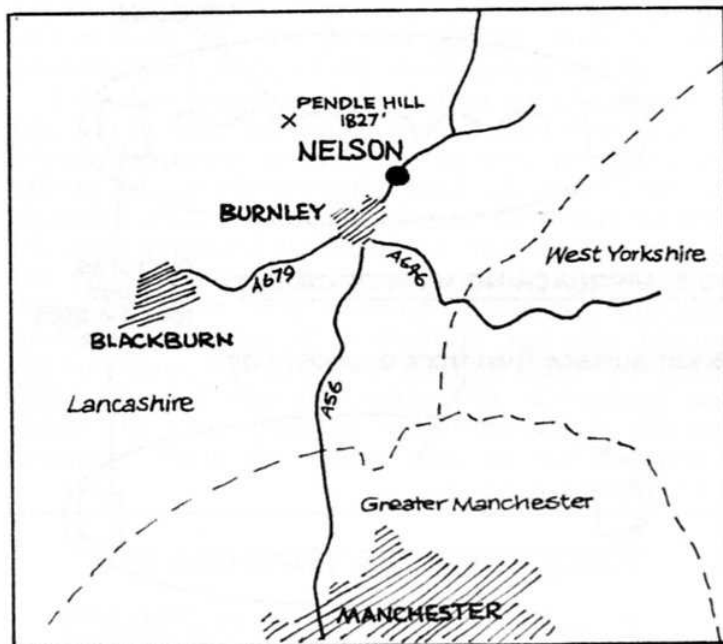
"What's that?" he asked, and pointed to a brilliant glow which was in the sky over Pendle Hill (a well-known landmark with some considerable traditions in folklore). The object then dropped down out of the clouds and hovered for a few seconds before moving towards them. Mr. Grimshaw describes its speed:

"I don't know how fast aircraft go, but from the speed of the car I would say that the speed of this thing was about 5 mph."

As the object began to approach them the witnesses realised that it was something very strange and stopped the car. They did *not* switch off the engine, but simply put on the handbrake and got out of the car, standing in front of it watching the object come towards them through the silence of the night.

In the words of the driver:

"When we first saw it it looked like a round ball of light. There were no rays coming off it. It came towards us slowly and then just stopped, near to us."



There was now a very definite shape in evidence. This was described as like a cigar with pointed ends, coloured shiny black against a dark black sky. It stopped within feet of them and its size, when close to them, was immense. When asked to compare the apparent size to that of a golf ball or coin at arm's length the investigator was told:

"Oh, none of them would have covered it. It would have to be something big. A double-decker bus probably wouldn't have been big enough."

This may have been an exaggeration however, for, what the estimate is worth, they guess that the length of the object was some 90-100 feet.

They were able to see all aspects of the object as it approached, hovered, and subsequently moved off. There was an array of lights on the underside, two peculiar structures which stuck out at the ends, windows on the front side and nothing on the back (see Figs. 1, 2 and 3). These were described thus:

"There were thousands of them (lights). They were not pulsating. They just seemed to be moving. They were not all going in a straight line. They were all different. It looked as if you were looking at the exhaust of a car when it is red hot ... The red and orange stood out a lot ... (there were) red, pink, green, blue and black ... (black) was included in the colours. They were criss-crossing, going straight.

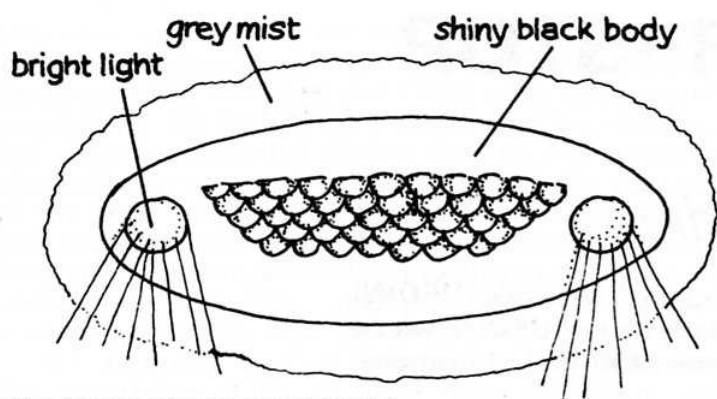


FIG1. UNDERSIDE OF OBJECT

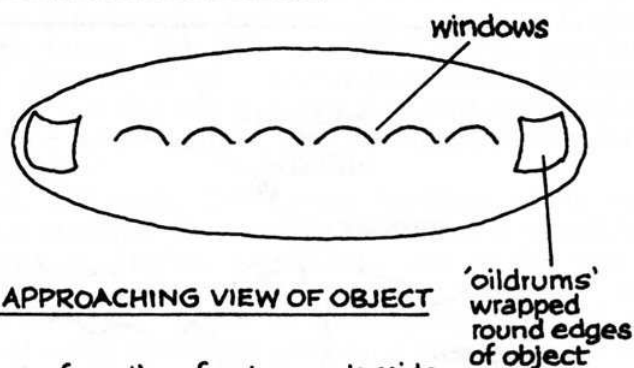


FIG2. APPROACHING VIEW OF OBJECT

darker surface than front or underside

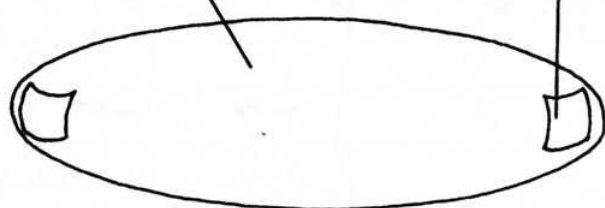


FIG3. VIEW OF OBJECT AS IT DEPARTED

It's hard to explain. Red and orange seemed bigger and stood out ..."

"We thought there were windows on the side. They were oval-shaped, and lit up. They didn't go right along it, (but) just in the middle. They were on the side of it, at the top end ... It was like looking into an empty room. The light (through the windows) was the same colour as the rest, but not as bright."

The only thing visible on the back were two objects which stuck out from the ends, and were described as looking like oil drums attached to the extremities of the craft.

During the course of the sighting the object was surrounded by a grey mist. This went up to the edges of the object, but did not appear to cover it. The object was not, in effect, seen through the mist.

A sound was also heard whilst the object hovered. This was at first described in familiar terms as a humming, but a more descriptive reference to it was made by Mr. Grimshaw in that it was like "the tide coming in and out." He found it very hard to accurately describe what to him was a very unusual sound.

After hovering for about five minutes (this is probably slightly overestimated) the object began to move away slowly in the direction of Manchester

(some 30 miles south). It eventually disappeared over the horizon and the witnesses returned to work (a few minutes drive only) arriving about 03.20. The duration of the sighting was probably between five and ten minutes, therefore, although they estimate fifteen.

The effects on the vehicle

You will recall that Mr. Grimshaw and Jeff had left the car engine on and had got out of the car. As the object came within close proximity of the car the headlights, which were dipped, dimmed until just glowing — but they did not go out entirely. The car engine then cut out also. It did not shudder, as when petrol runs out, but stopped instantly "as if someone had ripped the wiring out."

The car remained in this condition for the total duration of the close encounter, from just before the object stopped and hovered until it had moved quite considerably into the distance.

Mr. Grimshaw describes his efforts to restart the car, having got back inside while the object was still hovering overhead.

"...It was still over the top of us ... My mate was frightened, his legs were shaking. He said, 'Let's get away now ...' I said, 'What can we do?' Then I got in the car and tried to start it. Even the ignition light wouldn't come on ... I put the key in and nothing happened. It didn't turn over. Nothing happened. It was dead."

When the object moved away the car restarted, after several further fruitless attempts while the object was still close by. Mr. Grimshaw continues:

"The first thing I noticed when it moved away was the lights. The lights came back on again properly. The engine then just started up."

The effects on the witnesses

The witnesses noticed physical effects during, immediately after, and some time after the sighting. It is not known if they are all related to the event itself but they are worth recording.

Jeff, the second witness, is not prone to becoming frightened so easily, but Mr. Grimshaw was able to tell that he was intensely afraid. He went white in the face and his legs were shaking. This is why, during the sighting itself, Mr. Grimshaw tried desperately to restart the car. He wanted to get his friend out of the area. He was frightened himself, he admits, but not to the same extent. Whilst standing outside the car they noticed a peculiar sensation, as if something were pressing down on them from above 'like the wind', although it did not feel like the wind.

On returning immediately to the factory both witnesses had very bad headaches, with a pounding sensation in the forehead. Mr. Grimshaw also developed a weeping in the right eye. This was still in evidence at the interview 15 days after the event; it began during the morning after the sighting. He also realised that he was off his food for a while. All of these he had put down to a bug of some kind that he had caught. He had never connected them with the actual encounter.

Mr. Grimshaw is reasonably relaxed about the

affair now, though still puzzled. His workmate, however, has been deeply affected and remains very frightened and unwilling to give out much information about what happened. He wishes to forget that the whole incident ever happened.

The investigation

The incident was reported on return to work, where it was noted that both men were very shaken. The story was eventually given to the local press by Mr. Grimshaw, in the hope that corroborative witnesses might come forward. In fact one apparently did, a businessman from Manchester who claims to have seen the same object whilst driving over the moors that night. Unfortunately his name was never recorded by the press and efforts to trace him have so far not succeeded. After the publication of the story in the *Burnley Evening Star* on March 11, 1977, the witnesses received some ridicule at work so, apart from telling close friends, they stopped talking about the affair.

The weather details at 03.00 on the date in question were:

Wind: Southerly, 15 knots; Cloud: Strato-cumulus broken at 3000-4000 ft. with Alto-cumulus at 10,000 ft.

* * * * *

Manchester Airport, the only major airport in the region, controls all flights in the area. They had no aircraft in the vicinity which could possibly have accounted for the observation. The closest was a DC-9 which would have passed to the east of the area at 02.45 at the latest.

The car itself has a 1200cc petrol engine and the battery was in excellent condition. New plugs and power points had been fitted five weeks before the sighting; there were no apparent defects to the car after the events. It was, in fact, in excellent order. There was, however, one defect which *may* possibly have had something to do with the incident (this cannot be confirmed). The radio was found, after the sighting, not to work. It would not light up. New fuses were put in to no effect. It had worked perfectly before the encounter, but had not been used much, and it had been some two weeks or so before that when it had last been switched on. It being used so little the driver had not bothered to have it repaired, and did in fact sell the car some weeks after the incident, so that he could replace it with a newer one. The deal had been negotiated before the sighting.

* * * * *

Editor's note: I understand that the first investigator on the scene was Mrs Hilda Rogals, from the Rossendale Investigation Group for Aerial Phenomena. The case was then taken over by Tony Grimshaw (no relation to the witness), who followed it through in detail for UFOIN. The above account was written by Jenny Randles, and is based both upon the witnesses statements and on transcripts of Mr. Grimshaw's interview tapes.

Conclusions (by Jenny Randles)

While typing this review of the case for FSR I decided to have a further talk with the car driver to clarify some points. This interview took place on May 4, 1977 (almost two months after the event). He had not had any further experiences of any kind, nor had he been contacted by the Ministry of Defence. He had often looked at the sky to see if he could see "it" again, but in his own words, "All I have seen were satellites."

I was interested to know if he was aware of the Winchester landing and car-stop incident (see later), but although he was vaguely aware of "something funny down South" I believe he genuinely did not know any details. Certainly the drawings of the object made by Mrs. Bowles and Mr. Pratt had not been featured in any of the media articles on the case.

I further requested information on the sensation felt whilst the witnesses were outside the car. It became apparent to me that he was describing the effects of an electrostatic field of some kind, although I doubt if he realised this. He described how his hair appeared to stand on end, and talked of the pressure on his head and shoulders from above although there was nothing apparently physical pushing him down. This reaction was also felt by his colleague, indeed it was a prime reason for Jeff's fright. It was also felt whilst Mr. Grimshaw was inside the car trying to restart it, and it did not disappear until the object was in the distance.

(continued on page 12)

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THE LITTLE HAVEN HUMANOIDS

Randall Jones Pugh & F. W. Holiday

ON a morning in late April, 1977, we drove to interview Mrs Rosa Grenville, owner of the Haven Fort Hotel. The hotel stands on a knoll on the shore of St. Brides Bay and is midway between the Pembrokeshire villages of Broad Haven and Little Haven. As we ground up the steep driveway the superb seaward view unfolded with lichen-covered cliffs running out for eight miles to Wooltack Point and Skomer Island.

Mrs Grenville led us into a corner of the empty dining-room. She turned out to be a Spanish lady who speaks excellent English. With her husband she took over the hotel about six years ago in spite of warnings by villagers that the building was haunted by a 'White Lady'. During the intervening period however she has never seen the phantom.

On April 19, 1977, however something even stranger than a ghost occurred. A UFO landed beside her house and two humanoid beings were observed through binoculars. About a fortnight later the same area was visited by a circling blue light.

At this point Mrs Grenville contacted Randall Jones Pugh who is South Wales co-ordinator for BUFORA and a correspondent of UFO Investigators Network. It was during the interview concerning the blue nocturnal light that Mrs Grenville mentioned the humanoid incident. She told us that the reason she had not mentioned it earlier was because she is trying to build up an evening restaurant service for local residents during the winter and thought that such a story could only undermine her efforts. After the blue light incident however she decided to seek whatever aid she could find.

Mrs Grenville struck us as a vivacious and logical witness who was vigorously forthright concerning the details of her story. Vividly she described how she tried to yell to her husband, who was asleep, but found herself speechless. In the end she virtually dragged him from bed to come and witness the fantastic visitation only to discover that the UFO and occupants had vanished while she was thus engaged.

A question and answer session was taped from Mrs Grenville which is reproduced below.

Interviewer: What is your full name, please?

R. Grenville: Rosa Grenville, Haven Fort Hotel, Little Haven.

Int: And your occupation?

R.G: Hotelier.

Int: Can you describe for me the extraordinary events of Thursday, April 19, 1977.

R.G: About 2 o'clock I went to bed and picked up a book to read, and I realized I was getting a humming noise similar to the one I get from my central heating.

Int: This was not normal at this time of the morning?

R.G: Yes, it is normal if I leave it switched on. But owing to the explosions of gas and what-have-you I have been very cautious. Last thing at night I always switch off the central heating and all electrical appliances for safety's sake. I thought at that point I had forgotten to switch the central heating off.

Int: So this noise resembled the sound from your boiler, motor and so on?

R.G: Yes. So I was debating for a good ten minutes whether to get up and go down and look.

Int: So this sound was present all the time?

R.G: All the time, yes. Eventually I decided "Well, I'd better" and got up. I then decided to go to a point above the boiler to listen if I'd left it on. So I came out of my bedroom, past the public bathrooms and to the fire-escape door which is just above the boiler-house. I realized then that the noise was not exactly like my boiler. Although it sounded the same in the bedroom, on coming nearer to the boiler I realized that it was different. I then thought of a ship — because we do get a lot of ships in the bay — and I went to look out. When I had got to bed it was quite damp and dark — it wasn't a nice night. But now when I looked out I saw it was quite lit-up — a moonlight night. (New Moon was on April 18, the day before — R.W.H.)

Int: So when you drew your curtains apart you saw a light in the field?

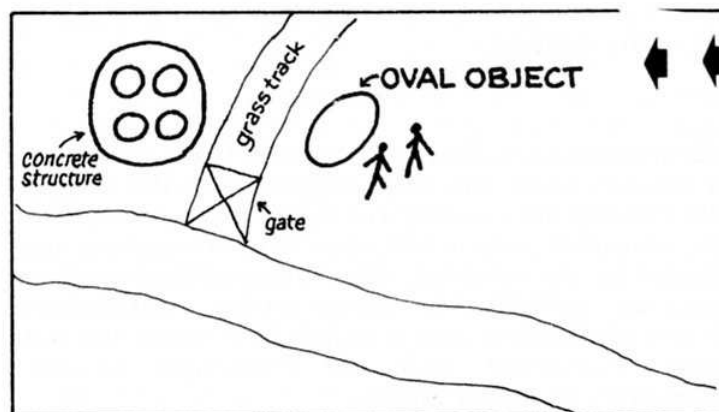
R.G: In the field, yes. I looked and saw this light was like a painter's blowlamp, you know — it was a sort of bluey colour, sort of off and on.

Int: Pulsating?

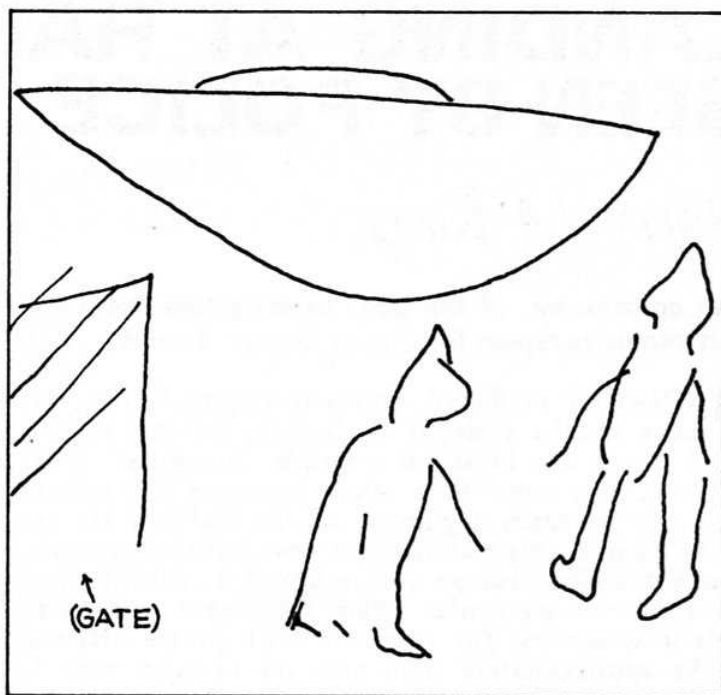
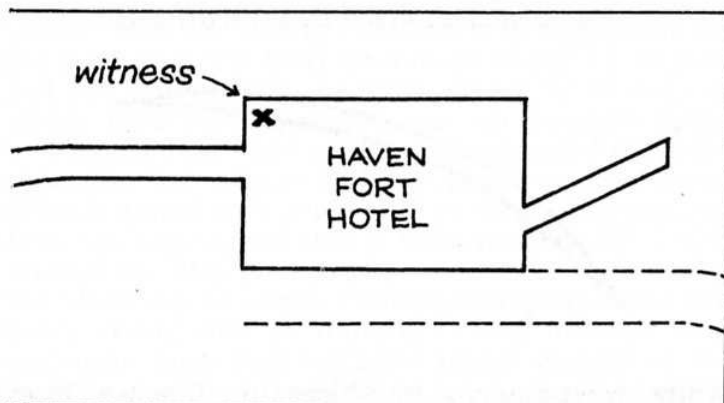
R.G: Yes. So I thought "Oh, dear — someone is trying to break in here!" I've got a cottage out there and chickens. So I looked again — I'd got my binoculars by this time — and I saw two figures. But first of all I saw this object.

Int: It had a shape?

R.G: Yes, it was a round object.



Int: Large?
 R.G: Oh, yes.
 Int: What would you say the size was?
 R.G: Well, I would say about two yards.
 Int: I see. It was a round object the size of ... cart-wheel size or something like that?
 R.G: It was an ovalish thing, you know — ovalish-round.
 Int: Like a rugby football?
 R.G: Not quite. Give me a pencil and I'll draw it for you.
 Int: I see. So it was resting on the ground.
 R.G: Yes. This part was resting on the ground and this part was upwards, you know. Now in this corner of the field there's a gate and between this object and the gate were two long-legged figures.
 Int: How tall would you say they would be?
 R.G: Oh, six and a half or seven foot. Rather tallish men.
 Int: And what were they dressed in, Mrs Grenville?
 R.G: It was a sort of white, plasticated ... I don't know what it was. It was definitely not silvery.
 Int: What did the clothes resemble?
 R.G: Boiler-suits.
 Int: Did they have anything round the waist?
 R.G: No, I can't remember that. It looked like a boiler-suit. It was as if it was from head to toe, the same thing.
 Int: Presumably they had arms and legs?
 R.G: That is what I am trying to tell you. They had rather longish legs.
 Int: Were they thin or stout?
 R.G: Medium, I should say. They had longish arms because they seemed to be measuring something and then climbing the bankside ... at least this is how it seemed to me and don't forget that this was at half past two in the morning.
 Int: Did you see the features?
 R.G: Yes, they did turn round. They were turning round and observing ... but they had no features at all — it was just a blank face. They also had pointed heads.
 Int: No eyes, or ...?
 R.G: Nothing! I couldn't even see a spot! They had just a blank face. They were definitely not ghosts.
 Int: Did you go and examine the spot the next morning?
 R.G: What happened when I saw it was that I was very frightened — I thought something was going to happen to this house. So I switched all the lights on.



UFO and Humanoids, based on Mrs. Grenville's sketch

Int: You switched the lights on and then went back to the window.

R.G: Yes. And it was pitch dark. I tried hard with my binoculars to see if I could see something — if I could see them hiding. But there was nothing.

We all went out and examined the alleged landing-site foot by foot. No impressions could be detected although, on the morning following the sighting, Mrs Grenville claimed to have observed a crescent-shaped pressure-mark on the grass. The distance between the landing-site and the wall containing the window from which the sighting was made is 120 yards.

The witness's binoculars turned out to be a rather non-descript pair of 7 x 30s.

Mrs Grenville told us that, at one point during the sighting, she saw one of the humanoids climbing what she at first thought was up the side of the UFO itself. Then she realized that it was in fact going up the adjacent grassy bank. Immediately behind this bank is an unusual concrete structure belonging to the Ministry of Defence whose purpose we are still investigating through parliamentary channels. This is on someone else's land and was there when the Grenvilles came to the hotel.

Further questioning on subsequent occasions brought to light the fact that both the witness's bedside radio (a mains power set) and her bedside clock (mechanical) stopped running on the night of the encounter. The clock may well have run down since it stopped at 3.30 a.m. However Mrs Grenville insists that the radio cut off before she got out of bed and it was because of this that she heard the humming. This sound, she says, undoubtedly came from the UFO and it stopped the moment the UFO went.

* * * * *

The subsequent sighting of a blue pulsating light
(continued on page 15)

LANDING AT HAINAULT SEEN BY POLICE

Barry M. King

Our contributor, of the UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN), has prepared this exclusive report for *Flying Saucer Review*.

HAINAULT FOREST, similar to Epping Forest, but on a smaller scale, is the setting for this report. Both areas are ideal for possible "secretive" UFO activity, but once in a while someone somewhere manages to catch a glimpse of the activity. We are lucky that in this instance not one, but three people, saw something strange and reported it, two of these witnesses in particular being intelligent and competent observers, for they are both police officers.

At approximately 3.55 a.m. on Tuesday May 3, 1977, an emergency 999 telephone call was made by Mr. Samuels who claimed to have seen something strange over Hainault forest, near the Lake. He was at a public call box close by the public house which overlooks the forest. It is not known why this person was up and about at this time in the morning, but as luck would have it he had the sense to report what he had seen at once. The call was directed from Scotland Yard (MP) to Barkingside to deal with, and the police unit despatched to the scene consisted of PC 369J and a colleague who wishes to remain anonymous. In view of this it was decided on the request of PC 369J to obtain all relevant data directly from him. Similarly PC 369J, although freely giving all the details of the case, refused to let us know his name and address. A minor disappointment but, having made good contact with his station, it was felt unwise to push the matter any further.

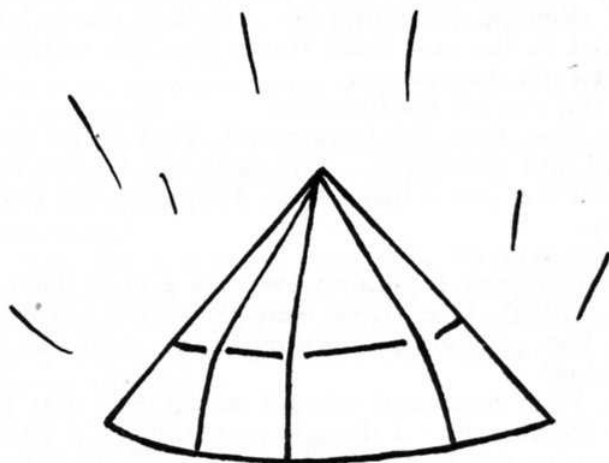
Back on the scene, PC 369J had radioed the station that he could deal with the report, and headed off towards the "forest" which, as will be seen in the sketch, is in reality a recreation area, with woodland interspersed here and there. Being such, it is in effect a park in a built-up area beyond the fringe of London's East End, and is mostly fenced in, with gates which are locked at certain prescribed times. When the constables arrived there they decided to look in the grounds first before speaking to the informant, Mr. Samuels. So, at about 4.12 a.m. they unlocked the gate, for which the police have copy keys. They then proceeded up the small road leading into the grounds. They had only gone a short distance when they noticed to their left a large bright red light, to the eastern side of the lake. They stopped the car, switched off the engine, got out and stood watching the object.

PC 369J estimated the distance between them and the object as being about 300 yds. It was at ground level, and partially obscured by small trees near the bottom of the object. It was red in colour and its shape was likened to that of a bell tent, the apparent size of which was that of a thumbnail at arm's length.

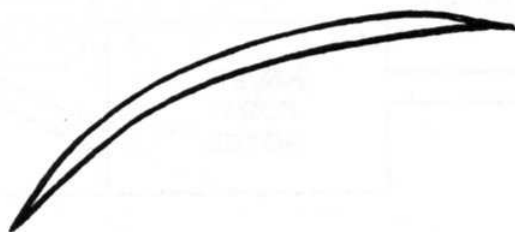
During the two or three minutes the officers had the object in view it continuously "pulsated", the effect being that the brightness changed from a dull to a very bright red, not unlike car rear lights with the brake light going on and off, as seen at night. All the time the object seemed to hover silently.

Suddenly the object seemed to "dissolve on the spot." At least the observers could not see it anymore, and they decided, reluctantly, to go and investigate, for they were already a trifle apprehensive.

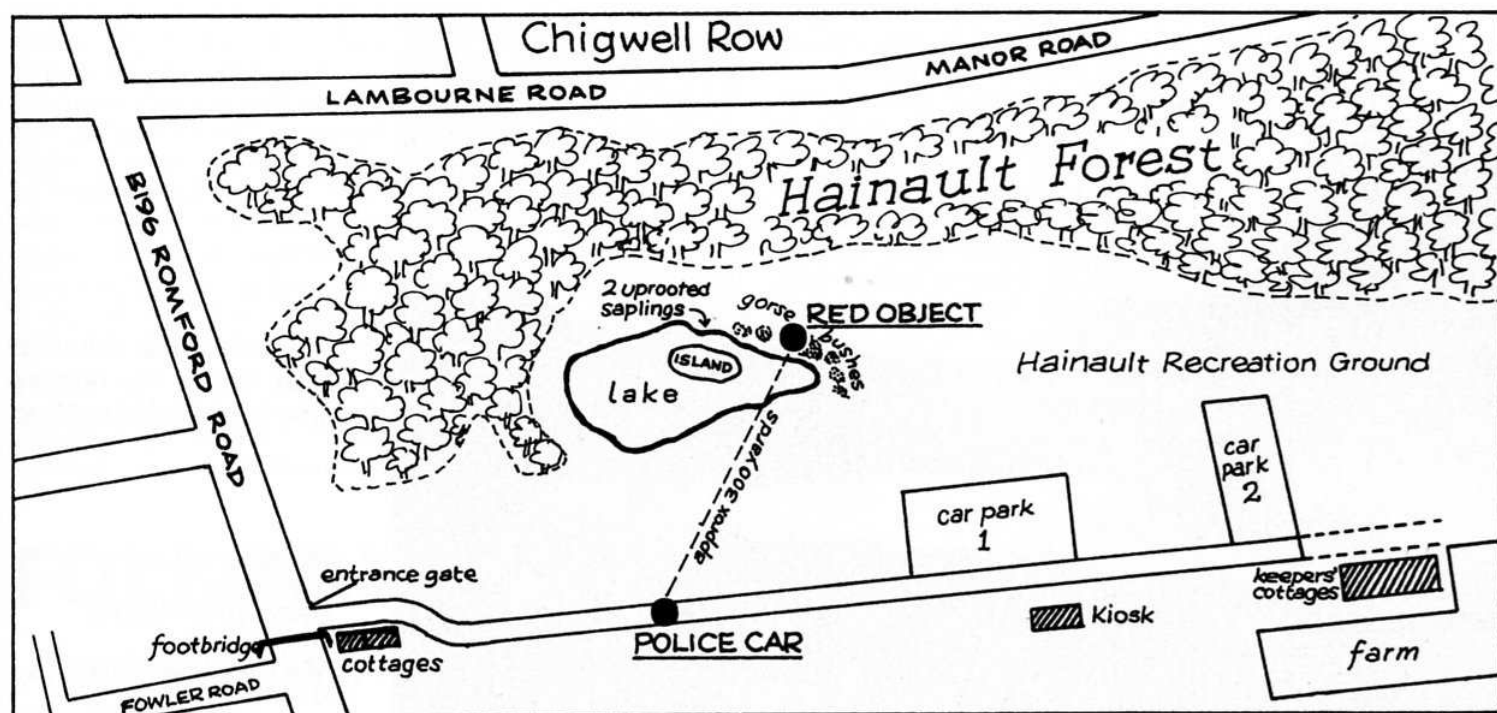
The officers split up to search the area and it was during this time that PC 369J's colleague looked above him, on instinct, and observed for a few seconds only a large white-coloured inverted crescent shaped object, directly above him. The officer was dumbfounded, and was only able to call out to PC 369J when this UFO also "dissolved" on the spot. The officers found nothing at all at the location, but did notice a rather strong, small area, smell of burning,



Red object observed by both officers



White object observed by officer from Chadwell Heath



which was confined to the Eastern side of the lake. They could find no cause for the smell.

They then made their way back to the car and PC 369J radioed in his report. They had temporarily forgotten about Mr. Samuels, and immediately set off to find him. They drove to the call box specified by him but he was nowhere to be found. It is assumed he either got scared and put distance between himself and the park, or more likely, he simply got fed up with waiting for the police; it was over 25 minutes from the time of his phone call to the time when the officers eventually arrived. All our attempts to locate this Mr. Samuels have proved hopeless, even the police have just his name, call box number and brief details of what he claimed to have seen.

After dropping his colleague off, PC 369J went back to his own station, Barkingside, to complete his report; he was also to finish his shift. It was some time before he was reminded of our direct UFO reporting "Essex Hotline" telephone number, and he made the call to my home at 6.30 a.m. and asked me to be at the station at 11.00 p.m. that night to see him, when he would be on duty again.

I called at the station at just before 11.00 p.m., but had to wait as the officer had been called out. At 11.20 p.m. one of the other officers stated that he would radio him and get him back to the station for the interview. PC 369J arrived at about 11.35 p.m. and the interview lasted until almost 12.15 a.m., at which time he was called out on business again.

I would have liked to have tape recorded the interview, but the officer and one of the station senior officers stated this could not be done. Anyway, we have the report, and that is what matters. Next day, Wednesday May 4, I drove over to Hainault during the afternoon to check the site, and spent about two hours doing this. A thorough check revealed that one large bush had sustained recent damage at the location specified by PC 369J. This was flattened in

the centre, and damaged in several places, and had been burnt slightly here and there. One part in particular was broken almost in half at a height of about 5ft, and it was a clean fresh break. Without disturbing anything I took between 35-40 photographs in all, including to and from the place where the two officers stood observing the object.

Going straight home, I telephoned Andy Collins, asking him to bring out the checking equipment, and to go over the site, and I made arrangements to pick him up at Wickford and drive back to Hainault that evening.

We went over the area very thoroughly with the equipment, and spent some time there in the pouring rain gathering samples and obtaining a few more photographs. Before we left the grounds we spoke to the head keeper, a Mr. Baker, who lives in one of the keepers' cottages near the farm, but he was unable to assist us as he knew nothing of the sighting, nor did any of the other keepers. We also spoke to a man who lives in one of the two cottages situated near the main road, at the edge of the grounds, near the entrance. He too was unable to help as he is a heavy sleeper and certainly would not have heard or seen anything at that time in the morning. The cottage next door to his belongs to the dog handler, but he had seen nothing either. The grounds are patrolled by this man and his guard dog between 8.30 p.m., the time of closing, and midnight.

Andy Collins made the various standard procedure checks but came up with negative results. See separate report by Andy on the physical traces aspect, investigated by us on Wednesday evening, the 4th, and again on Sunday morning, the 8th May.

The "Essex Hotline" direct UFO reporting telephone number is widely circulated in our region to police, newspapers, airports, airfields, and so on, and is a 24 hour, 7 day a week reporting system.



Hainault: the lake, as seen from the landing site, camera facing West

**Photographs by courtesy of —*
DRPG UFO PHOTO ARCHIVES
 550 Goresbrook Road,
 Dagenham, Essex
 RM9 4XD England
 Phone: 01-593 4670

An odd sequel to the police sighting

On the evening of Sunday, May 8, at about 7.00 p.m. my younger brother Steven was driving home from Stapleford Airfield, near Abridge, and was travelling down the B196 road which runs alongside Hainault forest. He had just passed the entrance when a car emerged through the gates and turned in behind him. It was a blue and white Austin A60 *Cambridge*, with two men in it. Suddenly the driver of the *Cambridge* began to flash his headlights as though indicating my brother to stop, and this he did at the foot of Hog Hill. The two men got out, walked

over to Steve, and explained that they had seen the DRPG Sticker* on the windscreen (both our vehicles are marked thus) and having some knowledge of our interest, wanted to tell him of an experience they had had shortly before.

The two men, neatly dressed, were described by Steve as being about 35 — 40 and 55 — 60 respectively. They told him briefly what had happened.

It seemed they had parked their car over the other side of the forest, near the public house, about a half mile from the lake, near the area known as the "Swamps" and very near Taylor's plain and Cabin Hill. This place is marshy, and is densely wooded. It is

Gorse bush with damaged branch at the site. With camera facing South the view from the site is towards line of trees behind which runs the road from which the police officers observed the red UFO



usually dark in among the trees, which tend to obscure the sky. The two men were walking their dog. Suddenly they heard a rustling which seemed to be caused by something quite close to them, and for a few seconds they observed a large figure loom into sight, just as quickly to disappear among the jumble of bushes and shrubs. This figure was dark blue, and was *brighter than its surroundings*. It resembled a large person in outline, but no arms or legs were discernible. According to the claimants it was about 8 ft. tall and 4 ft. wide, and it crossed their path at 90° to the direction they were taking, and at a distance of about 25 feet. Apart from the rustling noise the figure passed silently. It is not known whether any lower extremities touched the ground. Nothing was said about the possible behaviour of the

dog. It was raining at the time, so the interior of the woods would have been darker than normally was the case, and the witnesses were adamant the figure stood out boldly against its background. There was no mention of any aerial object.

Arrangements were made for me to join my brother at Hainault, and to meet the men. I carried a recorder and photographic equipment. They never showed up, which is unsatisfactory, and leaves this unsolicited report to be taken only at face value. However, before dismissing it as completely unreliable, it is important to remember that the men who reported this anthropomorphic phenomenon, this humanoid, had no knowledge of the incident reported by the police officers, as we were the only people who knew about it.

FOLLOW-UP AT HAINAULT

Andrew Collins

**Our contributor conducted this investigation of the site on behalf of
UFO Investigators Network (UFOIN)**

THE damaged bush is a variety of gorse and is situated to the rear of the large lake in Hainault Recreation Ground. It is about thirty metres away from the lake's edge and is surrounded by similar bushes. Two copses are also nearby, the first roughly thirty metres away from the bush on the far side from the lake, and the second on the other side of the lake and approximately 100 metres away. Hainault Forest is on the north side of the recreation ground and at its nearest point is approximately 300 metres from the site.

The physical traces

The damage to the bush is quite extensive and can best be described as looking as though a large and heavy weight had been placed in its central area, the result being that all branches over a height of 1.5 metres have been broken or bent in a circular pattern outwards. Spreading out 25 metres one way and 20 metres the other. The central upright branch has been snapped off, and was only attached to the main stump by a few strands. The diameter of the central branch was over 3 centimetres, and it would have taken some considerable force to break it. The height of the bush had been reduced from approximately 3 to 1.5 metres by the damage.

There was no real evidence that the bush had been burnt or scorched in any way, although some inner branches did appear darker than the rest, but it is thought that this was caused by collecting dust and dirt. A few branches did show evidence of bark being removed, although the bark came away from the branches easily, and it is not known whether that had anything to do with the other damage. It must also be noted that one branch of the bush stood undamaged at a height of approximately 2.5 metres.

Samples of the bush were taken on Wednesday,

May 4, at 7.00 p.m. but, due to very bad weather, controls were not taken until 11.00 a.m. on Sunday May 8, as also were the soil samples.

The control samples were taken from a similar gorse bush approximately 37 metres from the site. A wide variety of pieces were taken from the damaged bush, including the snapped-off central branch, live and dead branches, samples of bark twigs, and dead organic matter from around the roots. Soil was taken from ground level, and approximately 40 centimetres down. The analysis of the soil samples is at present being carried out, and the results of which will be published as soon as they are made available.

The immediate area around the bush was checked for any radiation traces with a standard Ex.MOD Meter Contamination No. 1 (5scg0012) Geiger counter at 6.30 p.m. on May 4 in the pouring rain, but a negative result was obtained. The area was also tested for any deviation in the magnetic field. This was done with a compass, and again the results were negative. The general area around the site was checked for any physical abnormalities, and it was noticed that two saplings planted on a large mud bank on the lake's edge, had been uprooted and were lying in the direction of the lake. These were about 50 metres from the site towards the north-west. There was a third sapling on the same mud bank, but this stood about eight metres away from the others, completely unscathed. One other abnormality was that on the same mud bank, near a large puddle, two bore-like holes protruded into the ground. These were approximately 10-15 cm. apart, 4 cm. diameter, and seemed to be quite deep. A third hole was also evident on the other side of the puddle, although this one had no fixed shape, and appeared to be only shallow. These 'bores' were approximately 10 metres from the two pushed-down saplings, and about 50

metres from the damaged gorse bush. No other marks at all were noted on this mud bank. It must be stated that the pushed down saplings and the 'bores' or 'holes' may not have anything at all to do with the damaged bush, but it was thought relevant to mention.

Check with the recreation ground

Mr. Baker, the head warden of the ground, said he had not seen or heard anything of either of the incidents in the park, and claimed that no one would have been in the park at 04.15. For the ground's gates close at 20.30 and a guard dog is used in the park upto midnight, after then the park is deserted. He also went on to say that had it been 'In season', the park would have been open to fishermen come in to fish all night in the lake.

Checks made with authorities

The Ministry of Defence, London, Stanstead, and Southend Airports received no sighting reports in that area for around the beginning of May, although none could confirm whether anything odd was noted on radar for the 3rd May.

Weather report

The London Weather Centre report for 04.00 on May 3, 1977 in the area concerned is as follows:—

Very wet, with light to heavy rain

Temperature was warm at 9°C.

There was a light south-easterly wind at a speed of between 5-10 knots.

8/8 cloud at 800 ft., and multi-layer cloud above that.

Further follow-up investigations

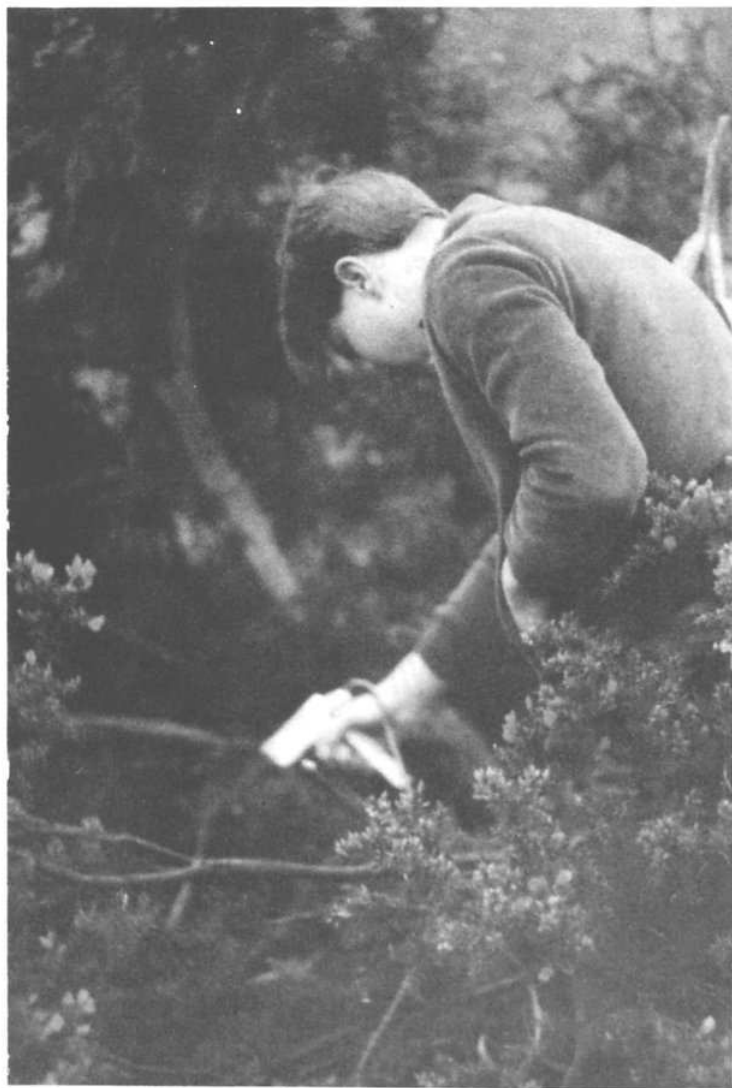
An extensive search of the possible area where the anthropomorphic phenomenon was said to have been seen on Sunday May 8, 1977, was made during

Frightening car-stop near Nelson *(continued from page 5)*

Concerning the physical effects, the weeping of the eye was still noticeable, although more sporadic and less pronounced. It had never been serious enough for him to contact the doctor, and he had only come to believe that it might be connected with the sighting after ufologists had talked with him.

In researching some recent literature I found that the most striking parallel was with the Winchester landing². This occurred some four months previously, at the very start of what proved an extensive nationwide flap. Similarities include most notably the object itself. Compare the Bowles/Pratt drawing on the FSR cover with the one in this case. In addition the vehicle was allegedly oppressed by some type of force and there were subsequent facial effects on the right hand side of one witness. The predominance of the orange/red glow is also noteworthy in both cases.

The witnesses themselves are both working men with major cares for their families and little time for the UFO phenomenon. I believe that they do



Andrew Collins checks damage with geiger counter

the evening of Monday May 9, although no evidence was found to support the appearance.

This report was completed on May 17, 1977.

not have anything like the required knowledge to fabricate the details of the story. In addition there are clear reasons as to why they would not have done so. Not least of these is the fact that it is not a very wise policy to arrange to sell your car and then claim it has stopped for no apparent reason just before the transaction!

In conclusion I believe that this is another example of the rare, but important, vehicle interference cases. An understanding of these cases could well lead us some way to an understanding of the physical principles behind whatever it was that hovered over Nelson that night.

References

1. Several past cases refer to the apparent presence of a similar field, and the 'tingling' sensation described agrees well with Mr. Grimshaw who said, "I were all a tingle". Note particularly the car stop incident at Docking, East Anglia (FSR Case Histories No. 5, p.1) and a more extreme case in Tasmania (FSR Vol.21, No.5, p22).
2. See detailed accounts of the Winchester landing in FSR Vol.22, No.5.

POLICE ENCOUNTER AT BURY

Jenny Randles & Peter Warrington

This report has been specially prepared for UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN) and exclusive publication in Flying Saucer Review.

ALTHOUGH superficially only a sighting of a light in the sky, this case is of high strangeness for several reasons. The witness is a highly experienced and reliable police officer. The object performed some extraordinary motions, and the sighting almost exactly parallels one from the same area some eight months previously also involving police witnesses.

The event

The witness is 32-year-old Norman Collinson, from Heywood. He is now Detective Inspector in the Greater Manchester Police force, and at the time was a Detective Sergeant for the CID at Salford. He has had considerable experience of night time observation and has proved a most lucid witness.

On April 2, 1976, he had finished his shift at 1.50 a.m. and was driving home via the M62 and M66 motorway. He had just turned north on to the M66 when to his left (in the west) he saw a white disc of light. It moved very fast, crossing the road ahead of him and flying towards Knoll Hill, to the east of Bury, Greater Manchester. It was a quarter the size of the full moon, and the disc shape was very clear; it was this which immediately made him realise that it was not an ordinary aircraft. He did, however, continue to believe through almost all of the sighting that he was seeing an unusual type of aircraft (possibly a military one) with full lights on.

Detective Sergeant Collinson watched the object as it moved towards the horizon. It then turned at a sharp 90 degrees and slowed down perceptibly, heading now South, South East. He turned off the motorway to the east, heading towards Heywood, and temporarily lost sight of it. He then picked it up once more as it came from the left ahead of him on the road, pursuing the same course as before but very slowly.

Curiosity had now got the better of him and he parked his car and got out. The road was still and silent, and he had indeed passed almost no traffic as this area is commonly very quiet at that time of night. The object approached, moving overhead with relation to the car, and stopped.

One peculiar thing which he did notice was that the size of the disc, which he estimates as that of a one pence coin at arms length, did not vary. *It looked the same size when overhead as it did when in the distance.*

As the object was stationary overhead it pursued a series of 'box' manoeuvres, which lasted thirty seconds. The witness is well aware of optical distortions including movement, but insists that the object clearly moved about, making sudden right angle turns. The length of each side of the box was

roughly six times that of the object itself. Speed remained constant throughout. The object then stopped for several seconds, and then headed east towards Heywood, quite slowly.

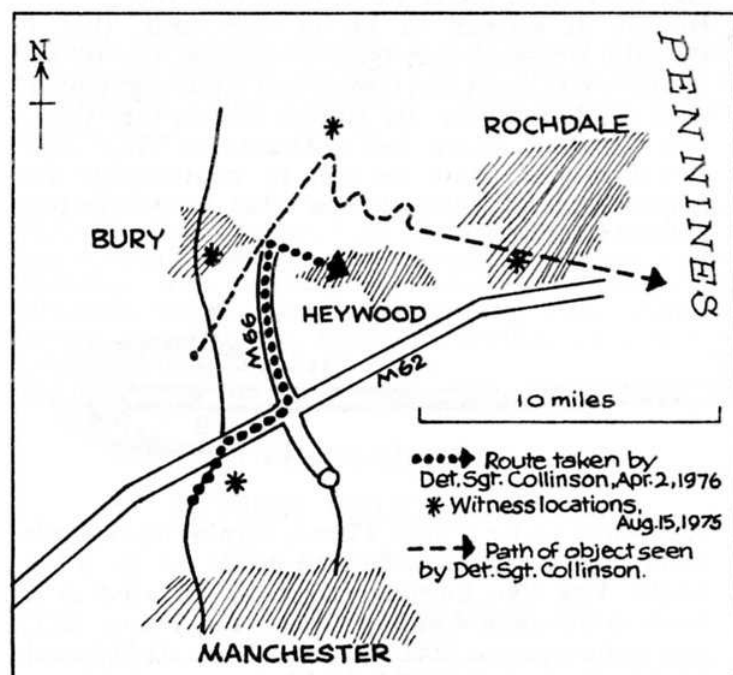
The witness now returned to his car and pursued the object, catching it up in about a quarter of a mile. Here it stopped once more and again performed manoeuvres as before. Still believing it to be an aircraft, despite the total lack of sound, Detective Sergeant Collinson frantically searched around for someone to corroborate his observation. There was nobody in sight. It was at this point only that he finally realised that the object was not an aircraft. He had it in full view when it suddenly streaked away eastwards, reaching the horizon in less than two seconds. The acceleration was instantaneous.

The sighting was reported to the Ministry of Defence, who gave a standard non-committal response. Detective Sergeant Collinson also telephoned Manchester Airport and they took down details on to a form, promising to call back if they could identify it. They did not.

The witness is a very puzzled man, because he knows that he saw something which he cannot explain in familiar terms and yet nobody seems to have been trying to find out what it was.

The story only came to light after general publicity for the phenomenon in the *Manchester Evening News*, although the witness had earlier tried to get in

(continued on page 15)



THREE SIGHTINGS FROM LONG AGO

/ Grattan-Guinness

THE UFO literature, especially the writings of Vallée, shows that information and even speculation on the subject is older than might be imagined, and that scientists have been among the witnesses. In this short note I record three elderly cases. The first has been mentioned in the literature, but the other two may be new.

1. *The philosophical transactions of the Royal Society of London*, no less, records a sighting; and, moreover, one by one of its then secretaries, the physician Cromwell Mortimer (d.1752). He reported his sighting as an addendum to a description of a meteor sighting by someone else. Here is his text *verbatim* save for the rendition of 18-th century 'r's as 's's), together with his diagrams:

As I was returning home from the *Royal Society to Westminster*, on Thursday, Dec.16. 1743. h. 8. 40'. *p.m.* being about the Middle of the Parade in *St. James's Park*, I saw a Light arise from behind the Trees and Houses in the S. by W. Point, which I took at first for a large Sky-Rocket; but when it had risen to a height of about 20 Degrees, it took a Motion nearly parallel to the Horizon, but waved in this manner,

and went on to the N. by E. Point over the Houses. It seemed to be so very near, that I thought it passed over *Queen's Square*, the Island in the Park, cross the Canal, and I lost sight of it over the *Haymarket*. Its Motion was so very slow, that I had it above half a Minute in View, and therefore had Time enough to contemplate its Appearance fully, which was what is seen in the annexed Figure,



A seemed to be a light Flame, turning backwards from the Resistance the Air made to it. BB a bright Fire like burning Charcoal, inclosed as it were in an open Case, of which the Frame CCC was quite opaque, like Bands of Iron. At D issued forth a Train or Tail of light Flame, more bright at

D, and growing gradually fainter at E, so as to be transparent more than half its Length. The Head seemed about half a Degree in Diameter, the Tail near 3 Degrees in Length, and about one Eighth of a Degree in Thickness.¹

2. *The Gentleman's magazine* for 1793 contains the following communiqué from one J.O. to its editor, Sylvanus Urban (alias John Nichols (1745–1826)):
Mr. Urban, Jan.19 [1793]

Perhaps some of your learned correspondents in astronomy can account for the following extraordinary appearance on the Sun, on this day, Saturday 19, Jan. 1793. It having been very clear and frosty, till about 12 o'clock; a fog arose, by which the sun, as is usual, appeared like a red globe. The attention of many people, myself among the number, was excited, by observing an oblong opaque body, nearly on his center. It was so visible, as to be seen without any assistance of a telescope, and even when the fog dispersed, and the Sun became very luminous, the spot was still very visible, although the power of light was very great upon the eye, which will dazzle and weaken the sight. As so extraordinary a phaenomenon must create great wonder and surprize to those who are not involved in the profound researches of philosophy, an explanation of the above cause would give great satisfaction.

Those whose minds are affected by superstition may be led to believe it is a sign of some tremendous event.²

3. The great mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777–1855) corresponded extensively with the astronomer Heinrich Christian Schumacher (1780–1850). On 18 September 1845 Schumacher communicated news that he had heard of an apparent sighting (my translation):

Erman³ sends me a report of Capocci⁴ about bodies, which he has seen pass in front of the sun on 11. to 13 May ... he has also seen bodies of indeterminate shape like shadows pass, and for this reason the idea occurred to him that there could be nearer bodies and therefore that one must pull out the eyepiece [of the telescope] further in order to see them clearly. In fact, when he pulled out the eyepiece 1 to 2 centimeters, he saw these bodies pass by with a very definite outline. They had irregular shapes. A few went quickly like shooting stars, others remained visible 2 to 3 seconds and so on.

Schumacher goes on to express doubts as to the possibility of such a sighting, but in reply on 22 September Gauss did not entirely rule it out.⁶ It seems from this exchange that Capocci's sighting was reported in the local press.

I. Grattan-Guinness: Notes and References

1. C[romwell] M[ortimer], Appendix to 'Part of a letter from the Reverend Mr. Geo. Costard to Mr. John Catlin, concerning a fiery meteor seen in the Air on July 14, 1745', *Phil. trans. [Roy. Soc. London]*, 43 (1744-45: publ. 1746), no. 477, 524-525. This has been reprinted in Harold T. Watkins, *Flying Saucers on the attack* 1967, Ace Star, 198-199.
2. *The gentleman's magazine and historical chronicle*, 63 (1793), 8. I am indebted to Professor J.N. Crossley for this item.

3. G.A. Erman (1806-1877) worked chiefly in terrestrial magnetism and related fields, and also undertook many expeditions. His father-in-law was Bessel.
4. The witness, Ernesto Capocci [de Belmonte] (1798-1864), was the first astronomer at the Capodimonte observatory in Naples until 1848, and so presumably saw this effect there.
5. See C.A. Peters (ed), *Briefwechsel zwischen C.G. Gauss und H.C. Schumacher* 6 vols.: 1860-1865, Altona, vol. 5, pp.46-47 (letter no. 1012). I am indebted to Dr. T. Gerardy for the details of this reference.
6. *Ibid.*, 50.

Little Haven Humanoids (continued from page 7)

circling the same field was at 1.00 a.m. on April 27. The light was in the air and somewhat higher than the hotel TV mast. Mrs Grenville at once switched off all the lights and waited in the dark with a camera for half an hour but there was no further activity.

Mrs. Grenville also told us that her daughter, Francine, had complained about a violent and un-

usual rattling of the window of her room at 1.00 a.m. on a very calm night. Abnormal rattling of windows on calm nights has been described on four occasions during the current Broad Haven wave of sightings. There have also been numerous complaints about TV interference for no obvious reason.

Mrs Grenville summed up her reaction by saying: "I don't know what it is, but I was petrified. If I see it again I am definitely moving from here."

Police encounter at Bury (continued from page 13)

touch with a UFO study group via the Universities, and so on. They had told him 'not to bother with them'!

It is most interesting to compare this report with one which occurred at 03.25 on August 15, 1975. This involved several independent witnesses, who saw a remarkably similar phenomenon. There were two policemen in patrol cars, one north of Bury and one in Bury itself (who followed the object eastwards towards Heywood). It was additionally discovered that staff at the Rochdale Infirmary, and

security men who were driving in North Manchester, saw the same thing. Piecing together all of their accounts (which were recorded the same night as the sighting occurred by investigator Jeff Porter) a clear picture of the path of the object was recorded. No aircraft were found to account for it, and it remains one of the most baffling LITS* cases on the files in the UK. The addition of this report makes it even more remarkable.

* LITS: Light in the sky.

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TALKS WITH BETTY HILL: 1 - AFTERMATH OF ENCOUNTER

*Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D.**

JOHN FULLER'S *Interrupted Journey*¹ describes Betty and Barney Hill's† abduction aboard a UFO, where they were intensively studied and examined by the occupants. Because of emotional psychosomatic complications following this experience, the Hills sought psychiatric assistance and were seen in hypnotherapy by the eminent psychiatrist, Benjamin Simon, who treated them over an extended period of time.

Little has been written about related experiences of the Hills before or after the initial contact in 1962. Fuller wrote an earlier book describing UFO activities in Exeter, N. H.,² an area 14 miles from the home of the Hills and Simon³ prepared a short article for a psychiatric journal.

Barney died February, 1969, age 46, of cerebral hemorrhage, the same disease that his father died of. Since then Betty has continued to appear on various TV interviews as well as to lecture to various UFO, university, and scientific organizations.

Earl Neff, Cleveland ufologist, showed me Xerox copies of the Air Force Manual, "Introductory Space Science," Chapter 33, which is used in an elective course, Physics 370 at the Air Force Academy. This chapter explores the UFO problem and contains interesting paragraphs on the Hills. He also showed me Xerox copies of a subsequent edition which is highly diluted compared to the first. However, official government correspondence omitted mention of an original and detailed chapter which was only discovered by Neff's persistent sleuthing.

Beyond such official recognition, the significance of the Hills' experience assumed enormous scientific importance when in 1968 Marjorie Fish⁴ constructed a model and analysis of Betty Hill's star map. Betty had seen the star map aboard the UFO, and two years later (1964) she recalled it following post-hypnotic suggestion and drew it during automatic writing. Miss Fish showed that Betty's star map was correct and that some of the stars Betty drew were not known to astronomers in September 19-20, 1961, having been discovered later. Of all aspects of the case, Marjorie Fish's tour de force more than any other has excited the interest of scientists.

Having studied people who have had alleged close UFO sightings, contact with occupants, etc., I was naturally curious about Betty Hill, by far the most thoroughly studied, and most famous of those who have had UFO contacts. My curiosity was further whetted when I met Betty and her mother at an APRO symposium in Baltimore, January 23, 1971, and later at an APRO meeting in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, June 15, 1974, when I again visited with Betty and also met Barney's sister Lillian. I learned

that Betty had had many unusual experiences that might have been related to her UFO contact. These events might give clues to the kind of person Betty is and how they might fit into the jigsaw puzzle that comprises the UFO mystery.

Betty impressed me then, and more recently when I visited her home in Portsmouth, N. H. (January 18, 1976), and in a study in my office+ (March 11-13, 1976), as a highly intelligent, open, straight-talking, good-natured lady of unquestionable probity. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire and a social worker for many years, Betty has a splendid sense of humour and a good grasp of reality. She graciously consented to these studies and experiments.

The anecdotal nature of much of the experiential data which preceded and followed the UFO abduction is an admitted shortcoming. However, because of the uniqueness of the Hills' UFO capture and the subsequent Fish confirmatory analysis of the star map, it is essential to record material that has been hitherto either omitted or overlooked. Since the person should not be studied apart from the other data, the UFO experience might be more fully understood if all its segments are included. To omit some material because it is subjective or anecdotal, and not the more desirable objective data, is folly and wasteful, and blurs the total picture. Therefore this report describes apparently relevant events that followed shortly after, and long after, the Hills' abduction as well as some possibly related situations that occurred long before the abduction. In a concluding section, a clinical experiment in audio taping is reported.

Home Sweet Home Potpourri

Occasionally, after the abduction, when Betty returned home she would find that although other coats would be in the living room closet, *her* coats would be unaccountably thrown in a pile in the middle of the living room and topped with Barney's scarf.

Other disruptive household events included this recent (1975) situation: Betty returned home and noticed that a kitchen clock had been set back three hours and 15 minutes. It was an electric clock, made by her mother, and although she has four other

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† For ease in communication Mr. and Mrs. Hill, as well as some other persons in this article, will be referred to by their Christian names.

+ A 10-channel electroencephalogram taken at this time was normal.



Betty Hill

electric clocks made by her mother, nothing happened to them. Once before Betty had problems with another electric clock. "It stopped running about a week after Barney's death, at 7.20 p.m., which was about the time he died. I left it. Several months later, the clock started running again, but the amazing thing was the fact that the clock started at the exact moment to correct in time."

Sometimes Betty would come home to find "... someone must have adjusted the gas burner, because when I turned it on the flame went up quite high. One time I came home and all the water in the house was shut off. Another time all the sinks had the plugs in and the water was running full force, flooding the house. I have an oil furnace with a circulator pump, and the pump motor has springs in it. I'd come home and find someone had pulled the springs out and I'd hear the clack-clacking. Another time when I came home, the wires were pulled out of the pump.

"Last August (1975) I was gone all day and had the burglar alarm system on. When I came home, the girl who rents the front apartment came down, all excited, and said the police had been there. At two o'clock in the afternoon the alarm had gone off. The police came and looked around but couldn't see anything. When I got home, the side door (the burglar alarm was still ringing) was wide open. Whoever it was must have gone in the side door, tripped the alarm, and then when the police went by must have ducked down, and later ran out and left the door open. That's the only way I could figure it out. [Nothing was missing.]

"One night when I came home (August, 1975), my refrigerator had stopped functioning. I was told a repairman couldn't come for 3 to 4 days or a week. So I cleaned everything out and transferred the food to a basement refrigerator. Two days later the broken refrigerator started functioning, and I've had no problem since. It's like something is done and the electricity starts malfunctioning. Irons, toasters, radios, and TVs shut themselves off. Once I came home, turned on the TV, but there was no picture. I tried it two or three times — still no picture. I called the TV repair service and when he finally came (I hadn't turned the TV on for days), he just turned it on and said: 'What's wrong with it? Look at that, you've got a beautiful picture.' So, I'm the only person in the world who has self-healing electrical appliances.

"Things got so bad after Barney died (1969) that my niece and her husband — students at the University of New Hampshire — gave up their apartment and moved into my basement apartment, to keep an eye on the house. But so many strange and mysterious things happened that they couldn't take it. They heard noises in my apartment as if someone was moving around. When they investigated, they didn't find anything. They had a feeling that someone was there. When they went downstairs, they heard a bang: the front door opened, a man walked down the front hall, went out the front door, got into his car and drove away. They checked to see what the bang was, and the clothes pole in the corner of the closet had been knocked over. Apparently the man was hiding in the closet: which was the only place they didn't look. I wondered why anyone would be interested in going there.

"All kinds of characters have followed me. One of them looked very much like one of the men who went to jail on the Watergate thing — he looked so much like him. He was baldheaded and on the chunky side. I found him in my front hall, and asked what he was doing there. He said he was selling subscriptions to magazines. When I asked where his magazines were he laughed and left. I saw him again in the parking lot at the Welfare Office where I work. He was reading the *New York Times* — holding it up to his face and putting it down, and up again. Then, instead of going into my office, I went upstairs to the ladies room which overlooks the parking lot, and I watched him again. He then came up into the hall, looked around, went down to the parking lot and drove off.

"During the McGovern election campaign I had kids from all over the country come to my house one day. One was a little guy who introduced himself as Donald Simmons. He said he was a law student, but he kept trying to get away from me. Later I learned that Donald Segretti used the name of Donald Simons when he was in NH and closely resembled the man who came to my home."

The blue dress and blue earrings

The first mysterious event happened six weeks after the abduction. On the night of the capture Betty was wearing a blue dress and blue earrings. One

night, six weeks afterward, when Barney and she had just come home from an evening out and entered the kitchen, where they have a snack bar, they noticed a pile of leaves. In the leaves were Betty's blue earrings. She grabbed them, put them in her jewelry box, and hasn't touched them since.

Recently (1975) while studying a spectacular contact case in New Hampshire, Betty was intrigued to learn that the chief protagonist was a woman who was wearing, at the time of her alleged UFO apprehension, the exact shade of blue dress and same kind of fabric that Betty had worn the night of her capture.

The iceman cometh?

One afternoon, about three months after the capture, Barney had come home early. Shortly afterwards when Betty came home, Barney was still resting. Betty walked into the kitchen, and there on the snack bar, underneath a newspaper, she noticed "a frozen piece of ice in a pattern — as if somebody had taken a bowl, filled it with water, and frozen it. There were strange marks in the ice." She woke Barney up and questioned him for this nonsense, but he didn't know what she was talking about. Without thinking, she put the ice in the sink and ran hot water over it. As an afterthought she condemned herself for not putting the ice in the freezer and checking the data in the accompanying newspaper. She found this ice would melt only when the hot water was running on it and she and Barney took turns during the evening going to the kitchen to do this.

Tapped telephone

"My line has been tapped so many times. They set up a circuit telephone in the office of a federal agency so that whenever my phone rang it was like a party line. They heard the phone ring, picked it up, and listened in. Twice this happened the same way. For example, when I had a phone call and I later put the phone down and then picked it up again to make a call, my line was open, and I said, 'Hello.' Someone answered, 'Federal Agency.'

■ asked what he was doing on my line, and he said they were trying to protect me. I said I didn't need their protection, that I'd protect myself. I went down to the telephone office and told them to get a truck and take the tap off the line.

"And after that the Air Force tapped my line. Only what they did got reversed. They were getting my calls and I got theirs. My phone would ring, I'd pick it up, and some voice would say, 'I want to speak with Johnny.'

"And I'd say; 'Johnny? There's no Johnny here.'

"Well, isn't this Base Intelligence?"

"That went on for months. At first I thought someone was playing a joke on me, but when I realized that I was tapped into Base Intelligence, I had it corrected. Even when the BBC was here for a filming and a psychiatrist who was with them picked up the phone, he overheard: 'Pease Air Force Base Intelligence'."

My upstairs tenant

"Maureen Keating, my upstairs tenant, reminded me of other experiences. One was my mail, which she put on the radiator in the front hall, went to the store and when she came home, the mail was gone. At the same time, my cat which was locked in my apartment, was found outdoors.

"On another occasion, someone was in Maureen's apartment and turned on her radio. I thought she was at home, and called up to her. A man's voice answered, saying he was waiting for Maureen to come back, and she knew he was there. Later he left in a blue car. Maureen knew nothing about this, has checked with others for a year, and still does not know who this person is. Also, she does not know anyone who drives a blue car."

More odd happenings

On many occasions neighbours have reported to the police that prowlers were seen looking in the windows. Her phone frequently rings, but when she answers there is no one on the line. A typical episode occurred when Barney was alive, and his cousin Marge, who lives in Baltimore, kept dialing the Hills in Portsmouth. She did this four times until someone came on the line and said; 'The Hills are not home. They've gone to a meeting and they won't be home until 11.30.' Betty added, that the 'someone' even told Marge where we had gone for the meeting, the name of the organization — the whole bit. My guess is that the telephone operator got tired of listening to Marge dialling."

Laurie and the Air Force Manual

Betty's friend Laurie got hold of the unexpurgated pages from the Air Force Physics text that described Betty and Barney's abduction. Laurie sent a copy to Betty. However, it took more than a month to arrive, going from Boston to Indiana, to Portsmouth. In the meantime, a man visited Laurie and introduced himself as an Air Force officer. He threatened Laurie for stealing Air Force property and was nasty. He said he was going to have her arrested and thrown in jail for the rest of her life.

When Laurie's husband came home and heard about it, he was furious. He called the Air Force and asked to speak to the man, but was told there was no one on base by that name. Laurie and her husband never found out who he was. But, whoever he was, he knew that Laurie had a copy of that particular chapter. Laurie had the reputation of being a psychic and she claimed that she had once been tested at Duke University.

Mr. Geist

Barney's son by his previous marriage, Barney, Jr., was in the service, stationed in Panama. Several times between two and four in the morning, when Barney Jr. was on guard duty, he was approached by a tall, swarthy man dressed in white pants, shirt and jacket. The man had a foreign accent; yet Barney Jr., who spoke Spanish, said it was not a Spanish accent. The man said his name was Mr. Geist (ghost),

but said nothing further about himself. Mr. Geist quizzed Barney Jr., about Betty and Barney's experience with the flying saucers. Betty did not know if any of Barney Jr.'s friends had contact with this man subsequently or before. However, the military authorities soon found out about this relationship and they questioned Barney Jr. extensively about his father, Betty, and their experience. Other relatives, and Betty's two adoptive children by her previous marriage have never had similar experiences.

Men in Green

"One day Barney's sister Lillian decided to come up from Philadelphia and visit on the spur of the moment. We didn't know she was coming. I picked her up, brought her to the house, and went to work. Between 8.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. three men came to the door. The first said hello, and that he had come to check the gas meter downstairs. Lillian said, 'Fine, go ahead.' Shortly afterwards a second one came and said, 'I've got to check the gas meter.' She thought that was strange since someone had been there, but maybe he hadn't done the thing correctly, so she said, 'OK.' He went down. Finally, a third man came and said, 'Oh, Lillian, your brother told me you would be here to let me in.' She locked the door in his face, since she then realized something was wrong, for Barney did not know she was here (surprise visit). And that really scared her. Lillian went out and sat on the front steps until Barney got home from work. The men were all dressed in green shirt and green pants.

"The same thing happened to me last August (1975). When this man came to the door dressed in green, and said: 'I've come to read the gas meter.'

"I said, 'Fine,' opened the door and let him in.

"A week later another man came to read the gas meter, and I thought it was strange. A couple of weeks later a third man came to read my gas meter. When I got my gas bill it said 'estimated.' So I called the gas company and asked what was going on, and how could I get an estimated bill when they had sent three men here.

"Oh, no, Mrs. Hill, our gas meter man came around," said the clerk, 'you weren't home, and he couldn't get in.'

"And when I said there were three meter checkers, the clerk asked if they were dressed in blue, and I said no: green. She said all their men wear blue. She said, 'I don't know who you had in your house, but don't blame it on us. It wasn't anybody from our company.'

"So I had three men in my house, and I have no idea what, or who they were, or why they wanted to go downstairs!"

Possible creatures

Although Betty had neither seen nor heard Big Foot personally, she recalled an incident four or five years ago when her nephew and his wife, while camping out on a 4th of July weekend in some wooded area on her mother's property in New Hampshire, reported "That night it was particularly active. Like hearing a door slam. Metal hitting metal,

and various lights appearing. So the next morning we started walking around to see what we could find, and on one side of the old cow hole, where years ago the cows used to drink, we found a huge footprint." Betty reported that it wasn't like the wax cast that Marianne Cascio* has of Big Foot, but that she thought there was another one Marianne had that was similar — something like a duck foot.

I (BES) had seen Marianne Cascio's paraffin cast of Big Foot obtained from the father's farm near Agawam, Massachusetts, and it was entirely similar to some of the plaster casts that Stan Gordon⁵ and his group had made in western Pennsylvania. I later showed Betty a plaster cast of the abominable snowman presented to me by Bob Durant, President of the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained, but she felt this was not similar to what her nephew had seen.

* See section entitled Paranormal Tape Experiments (in a later part).

References and Comments

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4. Dickinson, Terrence: "The Zeta Reticuli Incident," in *Astronomy*, magazine, Zeta reprint, 757 N. Broadway, Suite 204, Milwaukee, WI 53202, 1975. Related material in this issue includes: Kretch, Jeffrey: "The Age of Nearby Stars," "Center for UFO Studies Established," *Astro-News*, March, 1974; and Commentary, Discussions and Rebuttals from "In Focus," by Terrence Dickinson, Jeffrey Kretch, Carl Sagan, Steven Soter, Robert Schaeffer, Marjorie Fish, David Saunders, and Michael Peck. Among her other contributions to the Hill case, Marjorie Fish, with Betty's co-operation, made an anatomically sensible drawing and models of the UFO occupants' heads. She wrote me (BES) on August 22, 1972, about the possibility that the occupants performed a pregnancy test on Betty by inserting a needle in the navel (*Interrupted Journey*, pp. 164-65). Betty wrote Miss Fish that she may have blacked out during this presumably traumatic incident. In response to Miss Fish's query to me, J. B. Skelton, M.D., a leading gynecologist, wrote that the laparoscope, a device that could provide a vision of the peritoneal cavity using fibro-optic light systems, was first introduced in the U.S. about 1964. Shortly afterwards the laparoscope was used by Dr. Steptoc in England for tubal sterilization procedures. The chronology of this information and technology was unknown to Betty in 1961, and it tended to support Miss Fish's contention that possibly the occupants were experimenting with human eggs.
5. In Schwarz, B. E.: "Berserk: A UFO-creature Encounter," *FSR*, Vol.20 No. 1: 3-11 (July 1974).

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

ENCOUNTER ON DAPPLE GRAY LANE: Part 2

Ann Druffel

IN JULY 1976 the author prepared to transcribe the tape of John Hodges' hypnotic session. It was found that most of the two-hour recording had been blacked out, and in other parts the voices played backwards. In discussing this with Dr. Dennis R. Regan, an oscilloscopic research expert, it was determined that the tape had inadvertently become twisted during recording. Hodges, who had also recorded the hypnotic session on a borrowed cassette recorder, stated that his tape also sounded like "garbage." Since the session had taken place in a hospital setting, Hodges suspected that some electromagnetic hospital equipment had caused interference. However, Hodges' tape, when played on the author's new cassette weeks later, was perfectly clear. Possibly Hodges had been unable to hear it clearly because of some undetermined malfunction in his borrowed recorder.

Before it was determined that Hodges' tape was clear, and subsequently transcribed, the author interviewed him again on July 13th for the purpose of attempting to retrieve whatever he could remember of the hypnotic session. The circumstances gave an unexpected opportunity to compare the actual hypnotic session with Hodges' now-conscious memory of it. The basic details coincided closely. He brought out additional details which he had not mentioned during hypnosis, but these do not seem to indicate "embellishment." Consciously, Hodges now remembers the date as August 31 rather than August 17, 1971. This was the only discrepancy noted.

"The weather was clear," stated Hodges during the interview of July 13, 1976.⁴ "There was a slight overcast hiding the stars. Visibility all the way over the city [Los Angeles] was clear, no smog. There were no street lights, but there was enough lighting from the city so we could see.

"I turned the car lights on. There was a kind of a mist centred directly around the objects. It didn't fog up the windows, but it looked like we were looking through a blurry mist all of a sudden. The larger object floated up, came over the hood and floated outside the windshield, more to Pete's side. Its exact words at that time were, 'Take the time to understand yourselves.' It was beyond me that such a thing was happening!

"The words, instead of originating from a specified direction, actually came from within the mind — loud, clear, crisp. The voice sounded male, but it's odd. It sounded as if it was the same voice I have to myself, when I *think*. I think in a specified voice, as I'm sure we all do.

"It continued, 'The time draw nears when you shall need to. You shall not remember these things,

but they will be in the back of your mind always. You shall not remember this incident until we meet again.'

"It floated back to the ground. I looked at Pete, and here's an added point. I was still in the process of saying, 'What the hell is that' to Peter when the creature sat down again on the road. We got out of there! At that point, Pete and I were both extremely frightened.

"I made reference under hypnosis to a 'dream.' It wasn't a dream. It was a projection, a super-advanced hologram, maybe. I was engulfed in a buzzing ... my whole body buzzed. I felt it throughout the whole 'dream', but while I was in the room it was almost imperceptible.

"I tried to look around because I was curious of the room. I remember I could see in front of me, but when I turned I couldn't see anything in back. I looked over each shoulder, about sixty degrees to the left, about forty-five degrees to the right — nothing back there, just black. Say the middle of the 'room' was northward — the 'brain' and the screen would be northwest.

"It was as if the brain were directing my attention to where he was at. He said, 'You in this world have too much power.' I was wondering what the hell 'power' was — not verbally, but I received the impression that it knew. In other words, whether they were sensing my thoughts or just going by plan, I don't know.

"His voice was like thinking. I think, though, that in 'thinking,' there's a kind of suppression or muffling to it. Like there's no question that it's coming from my brain. But in *this* case, it was definitely a question. How could it be my voice, coming from my head, and be so clear, so crisp?

"He showed me on the screen what looked like moving pictures, but three-dimensional. Atomic explosions ... on the desert, three in the ocean I think, and one in the polar regions. That one amid snow and ice — explosions like you wouldn't believe.

"The entity was brain-like⁵ ... the convolutions almost imperceptible. It had what would correspond to a patula oblongata facing me. What I call the patula oblongata ... heaven knows what it is. (Note: Correct term "medulla oblongata" — AD.)

"I call it a brain because it's the closest I can describe it. I have absolutely no idea what it is. For all I know, what I call the 'patula oblongata' could have been its head, and the 'brain' could be its body.

The four humanoids in the room ... the hands and feet weren't as clawlike as I've indicated (refer to Figure 7 in Part I of this report). That's lack of artistic talent. They were much narrower, the fingers

pointed. Their [the humanoids] purpose was unbeknownst to me. They moved very little. They were either there to manipulate the board or they were there for decoration.

"They were on my side of the board, so I got a good look at them, especially No. 2 and No. 3, who were facing me (refer to Figure 4). They had no expression, just bland. Normal body width, very humanoid, but no hair. They made minor turning movements, almost robot-like. Their appearance wasn't robot-like, only their movements. They seemed totally oblivious to what was going on.

"There were dim lights on the board, of differing pastel colours. They didn't flash, move or *do* anything, and I didn't see any switches I can remember.

"I seemed to be standing in the 'room' but cannot be sure. Logic would almost predetermine that I was sitting, but I seemed to be standing. When he said to move over to the spot, I saw the spot on the floor, and my feet, but not the position of my body. What I saw of the floor was grey. Almost everything in the room was grey-grey, but it had a sharp outline.

"I got to the point of saying to myself, 'This can't be real. This is too much to take ... I want to go home.' He told me to move over to a spot about two sidesteps to my right. There was a buildup of this buzzing, blacking out everything, and then it was gone. Then I was in the car again, but I'd moved over from the driver's seat just a little past the centre of the car. It wasn't like waking up; it was as if nothing had happened ... not even awareness. I got out of the car and went to bed.

"The buzzing is very hard to describe ... like the body was a shaver going *bzzzz*. Very weird, like being in a room with static, when your hair stands up and you get that prickly feeling. It was really bad during the transition.

"I think the entire thing was a fantastic, beautifully executed theatre ... a display solely for my benefit to convey something that right now is unbeknownst to me. I don't know how long it lasted. My sense of time was totally thwarted. I don't know if I asked to return or whether I was frightened or confused and subconsciously wanted to return home. Maybe subconsciously I didn't want to, wherein it was probably predestined for me to get a little shaky and want to go home. There's so many possibilities. Whatever manipulated this had a reason, otherwise they wouldn't have gone to all the bother."

When asked directly if he had any idea what the reason was, Hodges reluctantly answered, "I'm probably going to hate myself for saying this, but I will. As a researcher, it started clicking in my mind. Instead of taking everything [UFO reports] on an individual basis, why not look at it as an overall picture? The Betty and Barney Hill case, the Pascagoula incident ... they don't make sense individually. Then you get to Patrolman Schirmer ... they gave him almost the same exact warning as they did to me. Schirmer questioned them 'why,' and they actually came out, 'We want to confuse the people and prepare them for our invasion.' Schirmer himself interpreted that they meant this in a friendly way,

but if so, why do they want to confuse the people?

"I'm not a religious fanatic. I like to see myself as a logical human being. I may be wrong, but I started comparing the Bible and the Cabala ... 'the falling angel', 'the angel of death', 'the Beast', etc. in Revelations. You find described not so much a spiritual happening but a logical, well-set invasion that will wipe out one-third of mankind and lead up to total world dominion.

"I'm still open for evidence that will point me in another direction. But everything in UFO research, back to the foofighters, is a logical progression building up to something. The contacts and communications are to confuse, to prime the people to trust them. It's almost like a religious thing, to have people almost worship these craft. My experience fits in as a little part — a warning, telling us to get rid of our nuclear arms. There's a possibility that our nuclear arms pose a viable threat to their ability to come in and take over. They seem definitely concerned with these warheads.

"The only reason I used the Bible, specifically Revelations, is because it seems to tie in. Eliminate the spiritual hocus-pocus and there's definitely a logical link. Specifically, the Beast (AntiChrist) I would equate as the Number One Honcho above these things."

* * * * *

Leaving Hodges' interesting hypothesis and going back to the encounter on Dapple Gray Lane, it is important to reiterate that both Hodges and Rodriguez gave independent, identical accounts of their path from their friend's home to the car, the position of the car and the object(s) in the road. Both were puzzled by the fact that they walked over the very area where the creature(s) were seen a few seconds later in the glare of their headlights. Their independent sketches were similar. Details such as the time of year and weather conditions differed, but this does not change the basic agreement between the two accounts. Hodges' memory of a clear night was probably enhanced by regression. Rodriguez' memory of a misty night may have been caused because the object, to him, had a wet look. After hypnosis, Hodges remembered that the objects seemed to appear in a localized mist.

Both witnesses independently commented on the 'block in memory' during the encounter on the road. It was described in different terms but nevertheless amounts to a conscious feeling in both witnesses that much more occurred than a five-to-ten second look at the frightening creatures. It is unfortunate that Rodriguez declined to go ahead with hypnotic regression. Besides his memory block during the encounter, he has no clear memory of events after he and Hodges roared out of Dapple Gray Lane.

In the experience of the author and in that of Dr. McCall, who has regressed numerous UFO abduction witnesses, Rodriguez' reluctance seems to be part of a peculiar pattern. Time and again in various cases, a primary witness will be easily regressed, giving a vivid and full account of the experience; any corroborating

(continued on page 27)

THE LANDING NEAR BURGOS

Pere Redon

Our contributor is Deputy Director of CEI (Centro de Estudios Interplanetarios) of Barcelona. Precise translation from Spanish by Gordon Creighton. We are indebted to the Editors of *Stendek*, journal of CEI, for permission to reproduce this article which appeared in their issue No. 19 (March 1975).

EARLY in January 1975 there were two UFO happenings in the northern part of Spain. They had features in common, but what is striking is the diametrically different fashions in which they were handled by the branches of the Spanish Armed Forces which were concerned with them.

For it is a strange fact that in both cases the eyewitnesses were people connected with the Forces, in the one case with the Spanish Army, and in the other case with the Air Force. The treatment given was radically different. The Army showed themselves to be totally frank and open, permitting the eyewitnesses to supply information to the news media, while with the Air Force, in the other case, it was all secrecy and denials, with attempts being made to nullify, by means of a smoke-screen, all knowledge of what had really happened. From the outset, this policy put us in mind of the various denials issued in recent years by the U.S. Air Force.

It is because of this different approach by the Spanish Army and Air Force that we are unable, at least for the time being, to publish a study of the second case, which occurred at Las Bardenas during the night of January 2, 1975.

We will therefore confine ourselves here to the first case, which was in the early hours of January 1, 1975, at Quintanaortuno, in the Province of Burgos. As stated above, we received nothing but help from the authorities in this case, and indeed we even have on our files a letter from Major Francisco Llorente in which he offers to pass on our sighting report questionnaires to the four soldiers who were involved in the affair. Apart from that, we know for a fact that these soldiers, who belong to the Military Engineering Academy at Burgos, were given official support, which means to say that at no time was any attempt made to cover up what had happened.

Details of the case

Three of the soldiers, Manolo Aguera, Felipe Sanchez, and Ricardo Iglesias, had been to their homes in the Province of Santander for a brief Christmas leave, and a little before 4.00 a.m. on January 1 they started out for Burgos, where they were to enter the Military Engineering Academy. The party had arranged to meet in the *Lotus* discotheque at Torrelavega, where Manolo is the bar attendant. (Those anxious to minimize the importance of this sighting did not of course fail to take, as the principal plank in their argument, the suggestion that the soldiers must have been tipping copiously

just before they set out on their journey. According to the soldiers' own statements, however, Ricardo had had only one brandy, Felipe had had a little champagne, while Manolo, who was going to be the driver on the 126-kilometer run to Burgos, had drunk one Coca-cola. Naturally we have only their word for this, nevertheless all the indications are that they were entirely sober, since they are hardly likely to have wanted to turn up in any other state for their daily duties at the Engineering Academy.)

A vivid point of light in the sky

They were travelling in a Morris *Mini* (850 c.c.) owned by Manolo. Ricardo was in front beside him, and Felipe sat behind.

Forty minutes later, at the spot where National Highway No. 623 intersects with the road leading to Ontoneda, they stopped, by prior arrangement, to pick up a fourth man, José Laso, also of the Engineering Academy. Then the party continued on their way to Burgos City.

When they were about 15 km. past the Puerto del Escudo they stopped for a while to stretch their legs, and it was then that Manolo noticed a "star" which seemed to be shining a bit more brightly than the rest, and he mentioned it to his companions though without paying further heed to it. Later he would recall however that this star had seemed to him to be very low, and very near, and that its flashes as it twinkled were pinkish and bluish.

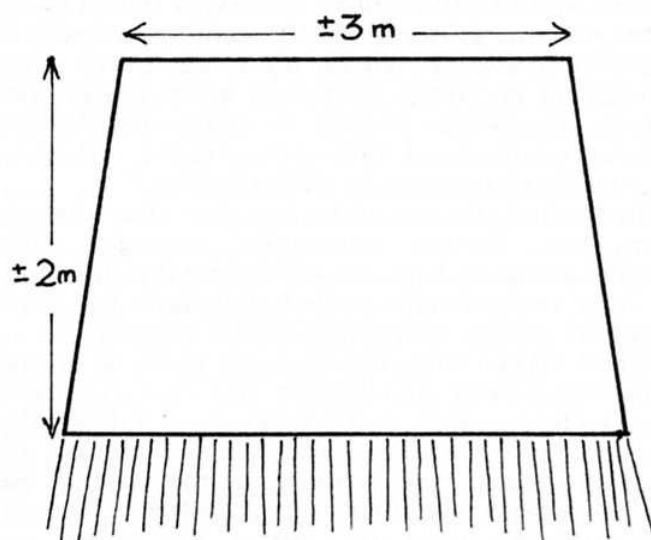


Figure 1: Truncated cone

Starting up again, they drove on. Everything was running normally. But at 6.25 a.m. Manolo was astonished to see a luminous object move in a parabolic course across the sky and descend towards the ground at high speed. He shouted to the others and applied his brakes. All four of them sat there looking towards where the thing had fallen — an area now lit up by a powerful flow which they described as comparable to the floodlights at a football field.

The spot where they had pulled up was right beside the 252 kilometre marker on the Santander-Burgos road. (This reference point was to be helpful to them later in compiling their account of what happened.)

Beyond the highway, to their left, and fairly near its junction with the country road leading to Villarcayo, stood a luminous body, shaped like a truncated cone (see Fig. 1). Making a rapid calculation, they decided that it was probably about two metres high (Manolo says he thinks it could have held a standing man), and about three metres wide. The weird object was irradiating a yellowish glow, turning almost to white in the lower part and terminating in luminous jets shooting downwards to the ground. The object was stationary, but had not touched down.

Suddenly the glow was extinguished and all was momentarily dark. Then, almost immediately, four other absolutely identical objects, apparently ranged in a line, with short distances between them, also lit up.

Opinions were divided as to what to do, but in the end they all got back into the car and drove on, but stopped again when they had driven 50 metres or so. They now perceived that another car was travelling along the rural road leading to Villarcayo, and was nearer to the four luminous bodies than they were. And, about 800 metres or so behind them, there was a third vehicle, stationary. So bright was the glow illuminating the whole countryside around about that none of the handful of motorists in the vicinity could have failed to notice it.

The four soldiers have never attempted to hide the fact that they were thoroughly scared by the sight, which must have been impressive, at 6.25 a.m. in such a lonely spot. Nevertheless, Felipe Sánchez felt that they ought to make some sort of effort at an investigation, so, after driving on again, they stopped once more, and sat there in the car, looking out at the spectacle. Then, when they decided to move on, they continued to drive slowly, still observing the four "truncated cones," until they reached Quintanaortuño, about one kilometre further up the road.

Here they stopped again. Now only two of the truncated cones were to be seen, brightly and clearly defined against the dark background. The party sat there for three more minutes or so, watching the sight. They then started up again, anxious to reach the Academy before their leave passes expired at Reveille.

(As January 1 was a holiday in the calendar, Reveille would be an hour later than usual, that is to say 8.00 a.m.) Had the soldiers remembered this at the time, they would not have been in such a hurry to get back to barracks, and maybe they would have

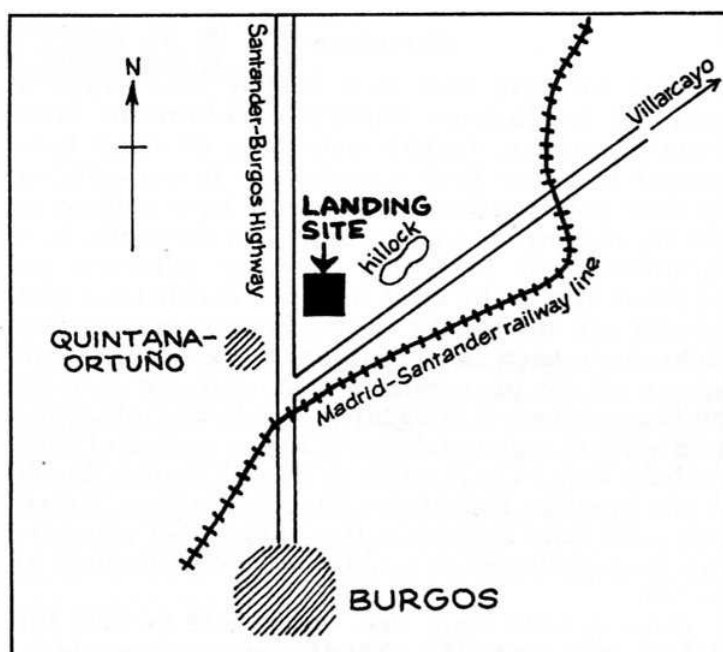


Figure 2: The Location

been able to observe the departure of the objects and to note further valuable details.)

They estimate the total duration of their observation at about ten minutes. One can imagine that, had they stayed there half an hour longer, they might have seen a lot more.

The investigation

As is logically to be expected in such cases, the soldiers decided to say nothing about it at the Engineering Academy for fear of being ridiculed. But Manolo, who was quite disturbed by what he had seen, finally told one of his friends about it, and this friend told an officer, and the officer then reported the matter to Major Francisco Llorente, Adjutant to the Colonel in command of the Engineering Academy. The latter was interested, and asked Manolo to tell him about it, and then made arrangements for all four men to give an account to a senior officer.

In the evening, the Colonel went with the four men to the scene of the sighting. (Fig. 2) They halted at the kilometre-252 marker, where the soldiers had made their first stop that morning, and from there they attempted to 'reconstruct' the sighting and determine the precise position of the luminous cones. The site, a somewhat wetish spot in an uncultivated field, had grass which seemed to be rather dry. Behind a row of bushes they discovered a scorched area about 40 metres long and about 4 metres wide. It must be emphasised that, apart from this one area, there was no other burnt area anywhere in the vicinity. The local villagers said that the last time they had burned stubble was in October 1974, in other words, three months previously, and that this related to the whole district round about.

The appearance of the large burned patch indicated that the burning had been very recent, thus offering good corroboration for the view that there was a direct link with the phenomenon seen by the four soldiers in the early hours of that same day.

Comments

What we have here is a landing case (Type I according to Jacques Vallée's classification) with several witnesses, though only four of them have decided to relate their experiences. In our opinion the four young soldiers, who would have nothing to gain by making up a story, have told the truth. It is regrettable that the other potential witnesses (in the other cars in the area) have not decided to come forward and inform the media, because maybe they might have been in a position to perceive certain aspects of the phenomenon that were not seen by the four soldiers. It is highly probable that, observing from various angles and over a longer period of time it would have been possible to furnish further details of the greatest importance for investigators. Nevertheless we fully appreciate that these other witnesses may have preferred to avoid involvement for fear of ridicule.

There is little more that we can add to what the soldiers have said. The objects seen were seemingly very sharply defined and very luminous and stationary quite near to the ground. The "jets" of light emanating from the under-parts of the objects and directed towards the ground may possibly have been the "mechanism" by which the objects were held in suspension. The burned area would have been closely linked to the "jets" of light, which in all probability would be the direct cause of the burning.

We are still hoping to secure more concrete information about what actually happened in this case, and we are sending Major Llorente some of our sighting forms, along with a number of questions. Perhaps we shall in due course learn of important details, for example whether any other kind of marks have been found at the site or whether any other sort of remains have been discovered in the district. Should such further details come to light, we shall publish them too.

Postscript

After this article had already gone to the printer, we received further reports on the case. Our good friend and collaborator, Sr. Malo Martínez, residing at Padrones de Bureba (Burgos Province), took certain action on his own initiative and then followed it up later along lines indicated to him by us.

Sr. Martínez went to Quintaortuño to try to find fresh witnesses. He also paid a visit to Burgos to interview the soldiers and secure further details from them. On this latter point however he was unsuccessful, for he was refused permission to interview them, on the ground that "there had already been too much discussion of the subject" and it had already been given sufficient coverage in the magazine *Actualidad Española*.*

In the region where the affair had happened, Sr. Martínez was only able to interview a few people, because the matter had remained totally unknown to almost all the inhabitants of the neighbouring

villages, indeed so much was this the case that he found it quite difficult to find anyone who could take him to the landing site. Finally however he managed to get the 60-year-old Feliciano Porras, a farm worker living in the Villaverde-Peñahonda area, to go there with him. In view of their interest, we give here some of the views and statements of Feliciano Porras, who knows the whole region thoroughly:—

"The pasture where the UFO landed lies between Quintaortuño and Villaverde/Penahonda and is what we call consumo, that is to say a field used as common land by both villages for grazing their cattle.

"I know even the very stones at the place and I can tell by looking at them whether the burning dates from last October or is more recent. In fact these burn marks are not from October, but later, and indeed very recent."

When they began to compare the actual terrain with the photographs published in *Actualidad*, they noted that there was a considerable discrepancy as to the burnt area, and they tried to find the explanation for this. Sr. Feliciano Porras gave his own explanation, maintaining that the disappearance of a considerable portion of the burnt patch was simply due to the fact that only the ends of the blades of grass had been scorched, without the whole of the plant being affected, and that consequently the grass had gone on growing, with the result that part of the burn had already vanished. Nevertheless numerous burnt "hollow" spots still remained. These, to be precise, were not exactly hollows, but patches where the burning of the grass had extended down to the stems.

Sr. Malo Martínez measured the area outlined by these burnt "hollows" and found it to be 60 x 12 metres. Then came a strip 15 metres wide on which there were no burn marks, after which there came a second zone of 30 x 12 metres where the burn marks appeared again. They found no trace of burning anywhere else in the whole vicinity.

The distance from this burnt area to the Santander road on which the witnesses had been travelling is 213 metres. The Villarcayo road, taken by the second lot of witnesses (to whom we shall refer later) is about 500 metres.

Sr. Malo Martínez took soil and grass samples at the site. These will be examined in a specialized laboratory.

As a result of various contacts made by Sr. Malo Martínez, we are now informed that four other people, who were in the car travelling along the road to Villarcayo, did see a tremendous glow over in the direction of the site where the burns have been found.

The four people in this other car were Don José Rivas Riaño, an official of the Secret Police, and three companions. At the time, Sr. Rivas Riaño was doing his military service in Burgos. He and his party saw a huge glow, of a colour between white and pink, behind a hillock (see sketch map Fig. 2), but they

(continued on page 27)

* Maybe Sr. Redon's enthusiasm about the greater degree of co-operativeness of the Spanish Army was not entirely justified!—G.C.

UFO ANSWERS SIGNALS OVER COLOMBIA

Gordon Creighton

WE are indebted to Sr. Sebastián Robiou Lamarche of Puerto Rico for a photostat copy of an article from the Colombian newspaper *El Tiempo*, published in Bogotá. (Date of article: February 18, 1977.) The article gives details of a number of recent UFO happenings in that South American republic, and, in particular, of an extraordinary sighting reported by an air-liner of the Avianca Company. This I have extracted and paraphrased as follows...

At 9.00 p.m. on January 21 of this year, the Avianca machine, registration no. HK-1273, had just taken off from Eldorado Airport at Bogotá, and was flying at a height of 20,000 feet. Suddenly the Captain, Gustavo Ferreira, caught sight of an extremely bright light heading straight towards them from the opposite direction. Simultaneously the radar operator, Jorge Jiménez, picked up on his screen an object travelling at 44,000 km.p.h., in other words forty times the speed of the Avianca jet. The size of the object on the screen was three times the size of a normal aircraft, and that it could be no aircraft was evident, since it was moving in a pronounced zig-zag fashion.

Other crew members of the jet liner, which was on a routine run, Flight No. 132, to Pereira, also saw the UFO. These were Pedro Tapias the co-pilot, the flight engineer, and the two stewardesses.

When he first saw the vivid light bearing down on them, the Captain said to the co-pilot: "Look, Pedro! Do you see that vivid light at — I should reckon — 25 miles or so from us and over Ibagué? What do you think it is?"

"I don't know, Skipper," replied Pedro Tapias. "It must be an aircraft", said the Captain. "Call the Bogotá Control Centre and ask them why they have put us on a head-on collision course with another plane. It's a dangerous thing to do!"

A few seconds later the radar man, Jiménez, had the Control Centre's reply: "Negative. I have no report of any traffic in that quarter, but our screen is picking up an object flying in zigzags at 44,000 km. per hour. What are you seeing?"

"We are seeing a very brilliant white light. At times it is stationary, and at other times it is moving," answered Jiménez.

Captain Ferreira instantly gave orders to put on the landing lights. As he explained later to the newspaper: "I put them on so that he would be able to see me, and although I was quite calm, I felt a weird sensation, of mingled surprise and bewilderment."

The night sky was totally clear and full of stars. Inside the cabin was in darkness; the five members of the crew sat with their eyes glued on the weird light.

Suddenly, its vivid white light changed to red. At once the Captain again switched one of the buttons on his control panel and turned off his landing lights, so that his machine was in total darkness. Then he switched on his landing lights once more, and the UFO at once replied by flashing green lights. This exchange of signals had taken some three minutes or so, after which the UFO moved away southwards and was rapidly out of sight.

The radar man shouted: "Captain, I've lost it! It did a 90° turn at a fantastic speed!" And he duly noted the strange events of this night in his log-book.

Captain Gustavo Ferreira told the newspaper that he had been flying for more than twenty years, and had never before believed in the existence of UFOs. "But I saw one during the night of Friday, January 21, and now I am certain that they exist. No longer is it possible for me to say that they are "secret nuclear weapons of a foreign power," or "the chariot of Elijah mentioned in the Bible."

The article in *El Tiempo* then proceeded to discuss other recent Colombian sightings, adding that these had been so numerous and so persistent over the last two months or so that the control tower and radar personnel at Eldorado Airport decided on February 17 that they would break their silence and open up on the subject. They said that all cases had hitherto been kept secret "...for fear of being thought to be crazy if they revealed them."

Jorge Jiménez, the radar man of the Avianca jet, was also interviewed at the Eldorado Radar Centre. He firmly ruled out all possibility that what they had seen might have been a nuclear weapon "...since those are teleguided, so that their flight is always in a straight line."

Sr. Jaime Olarte, air traffic controller at Eldorado, pointed out that Venus can never be taken for a UFO because this planet, bright as it is, maintains a definite position and a definite course through the sky. And Controller Octavio Lemos remarked confidently: "The facts of the situation are already so evident that it is clear the extra-terrestrial beings are far in advance of us. Any day now, they'll be landing right here on the Eldorado runway."

The paper went on to mention, as a point of some curiosity, that Controller Octavio Lemos is the only one of the Tower's personnel who has had a daylight sighting of a UFO. All the other sightings around Bogotá in recent months have always been at night and to the west of the Eldorado Airport.

A year and a half previously, Octavio Lemos saw four objects flying in line ahead, at an unheard-of

speed, from south to north, at midday. He said: "They looked like pearls in the sea, and were right overhead, over the Control Tower. They were out of sight in a matter of seconds."

Another case described in the paper happened during the night of Tuesday, February 15, when Eduardo Russi, the Head of the Control Tower personnel, and Controller Jaime Olarte had separate sightings of a UFO which was over Bogotá for three hours.

Jaime Olarte was in the Control Tower and, using a powerful pair of binoculars, was carrying out a routine surveillance, through the window of the Control Room. "Suddenly I found myself absolutely glued to the glass of the window. An extremely bright object held me there, transfixed. I have no doubt whatever that it was a UFO. Its entire flight course was straight from west to east. I had no report of any airborne traffic at the time."

Eduardo Russi's sighting of the same object happened when he was on his way home to his house in the suburb of Normandia after paying a visit to friends. "I saw it as I was driving along the Eldorado motorway. When you work in aviation, you are always watching the sky." He said the UFO was in the direction of La Mesa. It was of a vivid brightness, and its size kept increasing and decreasing very rapidly.

Jaime Olarte was able to confirm this when they met next day, as he had had a clear view of the direction and fashion in which the object was travelling. This explains the apparent change in the size of the object which had been noted by the chief of the Control Tower.

Another Control Tower operator who has had many UFO sightings is Danilo Zambrano. He says that only last week he saw three in quick succession, and all in the same sector of the sky.

COSMIC VOYEURS - 19th and 20th CENTURY STYLE

John Brent Musgrave

THE UFO experience is neither new nor unique.

Whether this experience is due to extraterrestrials, ultraterrestrials, the human psyche or what have you, it's been part of the human condition for some time. I've recently come across two episodes, one from the 19th century, and one which occurred not long ago, which appear at first glance to be variations on the same basic theme and which may give some clue to understanding one class of UFO sightings. Perhaps, as some believe, all occupants associated with UFOs are coming here from some equivalent of Zeta Reticulae. But it seems to me that what I refer to as the *cosmic voyeurs* are cases which seem least like physical visitors from nearby star systems, and most like ultraterrestrials, or at least involve an interplay of the human psyche. Typically, in this kind of experience a person awakes from sleep soon to discover a figure or form standing nearby either in the house or at the window. Quite frequently at about the same time a light or UFO is seen in the vicinity, either by the person being "observed" (or who is having something displayed), or by an independent witness.

Such an episode took place in a small farming community in central Alberta during the morning of August 8, 1961, and was collected by Bill Holt, Investigations Chairman for the Edmonton UFO Society. The principle witness was awakened from his sleep about 3.30 a.m. It was already approaching dawn, and he could clearly make out the two men who were standing near him, one at the foot, the other at the head of the bed. He struggled to get up but felt paralyzed and could only wonder at what was going on in front of him. Strangely, he felt

content and fearless as the two figures spoke to each other and then to him. The two men were small, 4 or 5 feet tall at the most, and were smartly dressed in a 2-piece suit of soft, dark-coloured cloth-like material with a belt around the middle. Each had a face helmet or glass bubble pushed back behind his head. The man at the head of the bed appeared older and had a receding hair line. Both were "beautifully proportioned." Neither walked, but floated through the air. Both figures spoke with the man for what seemed a minute, and intimated to him that they would come back and see him again. All at once, one of the visitors said to the other, "I think he's waking up on us, we'd better go." The two figures then just disappeared in front of the astonished man. As this happened a hissing, like air coming out of a pipe, could be heard.

As the two figures disappeared, the man no longer was frozen to the bed. He burst up, landed on the floor, got up and rushed out to the back of the house which faces south. He saw nothing out of the ordinary, and returned to find his wife awake. She too had been awakened by the two figures, and she too felt paralyzed as she could do nothing but look on at the cosmic visitors.

Unknown to both of them, a neighbour directly to the east was awake at the same time and looked out of his window and observed a bluish brilliant globe in front of their house. The globe appeared to be at least 25 feet in diameter, and slowly lifted off the ground and gradually accelerated to the north. Like the visitors, it just suddenly disappeared before it was even a quarter of a mile away.

The second case also involves a night visitor stand-

ing watch over people as they sleep. In reading over it I couldn't help wondering if the episode wouldn't have been perceived differently if it happened today, and yet be generated by the same source. Perhaps even the fact that in both episodes the clothing worn by the visitors was noted in detail is significant. This second case took place well before UFOs were on people's minds — or at least before things called UFOs were on their minds. There are many well documented records of airships across North America in 1896 and 1897. Not quite a decade earlier two young prospectors in California went through an experience reported in the Calgary (Alberta) *Tribune* of April 8, 1887 as follows:

Mountain Mystery

"Parties returning from hunting trips to the mountains often tell strange tales of their experiences when miles away from human habitation, of conflicts with grizzly bears, mountain lions, etc., but by far the most weird story we have heard is told by two well-known young men of this place, who were on a prospecting tour, some time since, near Cobblestone Mountain, at the northern boundary of this country. The story they tell — and they are willing to take their oath on the truth of the statement — is as follows:

"One cold night they were simultaneously awakened about 2 o'clock by the noise of crackling brush that had been thrown on the fire. They arose to a sitting posture and saw the figure of an Indian woman standing by the fire. She was dressed in a robe of gayly coloured material that almost reached to her feet. A glistening necklace, evidently of gold and silver, enriched her neck and hanging pendant from this were a number of bear's claws. Her black hair reached below her waist. In her ears were large hoop earrings of gold.

"Upon seeing the form, one of the young men instinctively reached for his rifle by his side while the other started in amazement at seeing such a sight in the dead of night and thirty miles from any house. When the figure saw the motion made to

Dapple Gray Lane (continued from page 21)

witness to the same case will either resist hypnosis altogether or prove to be a very poor trance subject. Is this a significant factor in the UFO phenomenon? Whatever the phenomenon may be, is it purposely revealing itself only so far, and no further?

In conclusion, this case seems to be a rational, real experience of two reasonable witnesses. We cannot at this time find fault with Hodges' decision to remain anonymous. He remains available for selected researchers to continue investigation into the case. His

Landing near Burgos (continued from page 24)

carried on with their journey without paying too much heed to it, as their first thought was that it was simply the beginning of the dawn. However, talking it over they soon came to the conclusion that it could not be the dawn, since it was still far too early for that, and moreover the glow lay towards the West and not the East.

Reverting to the burnt "hollows" in the field, we

reach the rifle she motioned for them not to fire and moved down the trail, beckoning to them. Before disappearing from view she again beckoned to them, but they were too dumbfounded to follow.

"The next morning they followed the trail and after much difficulty traced the foot-prints to the base of a high cliff about a mile from their camp. The rest of the story is told to this effect. 'When I awoke' said one of the young men, 'I was horrified. I couldn't move to save my life. I was frozen with astonishment. The next morning we discussed the matter, and determined to investigate. So the next night we took our blankets and went to the base of the cliff. At about midnight, the same hour the figure appeared to us, we saw a bright phosphorescent light on the brow of the cliff, and I am sure we heard a voice calling Meeneeah! Meeneeah! several times. I never have believed in ghosts, but I would like to know what this was. If it was a woman how did she come there at that time thirty miles from civilization?'

"An old Indian tradition is to the effect that many, many years ago an Indian maiden — Meeneeah, the only daughter of a chief, was lost in this region and starved to death near the place called Squa Flat. It is said that different camping parties have seen the phosphorescent light spoken of in the vicinity where these young men were camped ... *Ventura (Cal.) Free Press.*"

* * * * *

Episodes such as these two from the 19th and 20th centuries may not be unique. Quite likely most who experience them either explain them away as dreams or don't remember them consciously. In many cases it's only when an independent witness observed a light or UFO at the same time in the same location, that it enters the mind that there may be something substantial to the experience. These cosmic voyeurs may ultimately be from outer space or inner space. But, as the young man said almost a century ago, "This is the strangest experience I ever passed through."

main desire is to make sense of the experience, as it might aid the UFO field in general.

Notes

- 4 Edited from a ninety-minute recording; complete transcript in MUFON and Druffel files.
- 5 Dr. McCall had stated that, strictly speaking, the entity sketched by Hodges did not look much like a human brain.

would add that these were distributed without any kind of order; They were two larger ones, 60 x 31 cm. and 1m x 31 cm. respectively. The rest were fairly regular, measuring from 21 x 21 cm to 17 x 30 cm.

Having put these further details on record, it only remains to us to await the verdict of the laboratory on the samples sent to them.

MAIL BAG

Concerning Winchester landing case

Dear Mr. Bowen,—I see from your current issue that you hope to have more details by next issue of F.S.R.

I can add the following: My god-mother who lives about 3 miles north of Winchester, saw, the same day, at about the same time "near the Sun" (so, to the NW of Winchester, I suppose) fairly low down, a bright "rectangular" (i.e. not round, but not sharp cornered) shape or object of light. It appeared at the bottom of a cloud, and was not a "sundog" she is sure, despite the fact that it had somewhat rainbow-coloured light in it. She felt it might be a reflection of something on the ground, or something actually in the cloud. Next day she hears of the landing on the TV news, phones the BBC. She is herself interviewed briefly the following day as one of the many people who saw "something" about that time.

Also, the lady in the other half of her house, personally knows the couple who were stopped on the road by the UFO and says there could be no doubt about their truthfulness or genuineness of the sighting as reported by them. They were badly shocked by it.

I hope these notes may help to confirm your fuller reports.

Yours sincerely,
John Hitchens,
The Old School, Byworth,
Petworth, Sussex.
January 17, 1977.

Governmental questionnaire forms?

Dear Mr. Bowen,—I was interested in the item on the back cover of FSR Vol.22, No.5 — "Interesting report from the Isle of Wight". It was stated in the article that "special forms" from a certain centre in London were issued to the police.

Some time ago (approximately 6 months) I heard, on the BBC radio 1 *News Beat* programme, that a special centre for UFO reports had been set up in Whitehall. The department is called S.4.F. (F.S.4. would sound more appropriate!)

May I suggest it is this department that is supplying sighting report forms to the Home Office.

I wonder if other FSR readers have similar views on this point?

Yours sincerely,
C. E. Edwards
124 Eaton Road, Brynhyfryd,
Swansea, Glamorgan.
March 21, 1977.

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Psychic photography again?

Sir,—After viewing, last night with the best-known UFO investigator in the western world, a series of astounding films of pulsating UFOs — punctuated here and there with inexplicable flashes of intricate light-patterns that the photographer *did not see* and which are definitely not due to camera-motion — the thought occurred to me that the present-day world-wide increase in psychism could, possibly, be due to the fact that, since the relatively recent discoveries of radio and television, we have been increasingly under a bombardment of radio and TV waves, that might be responsible for activating some people's psychic areas. It would be interesting to ascertain later on, whether qualified researchers can develop this idea — a thought which, less than ten years ago, I would have dismissed as ludicrous.

P. M. H. Edwards, Ph.D.
Victoria, B.C., Canada.
March 25, 1977.

Brazilian initials

Dear Sir,—In FSR Volume 22, No.4 (1976) you queried the meanings of initials of certain organizations in Brazil. I have just returned from Brazil and am therefore in a position to advise you.

ASPEG — Assuntos dos Servidores Públicos do Estado da Guanabara. (I think this is a form of trade union roughly equivalent to NALGO here, but probably of an 'official' nature);

DOPS — I'm afraid my Brazilian friends would laugh loudly at your inspired guess! This is the Social and Political Department of the Federal Police (Ordem Política e Social);

INPS — Instituto Nacional de Previdência Social, as you say, the state medical service.

Trusting this has been of assistance to you.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
G. L. Bird
4 Vicarage Road, Southville,
Bristol, BS3 1PD
February 23, 1977.

"Machines photographed on the far side of the Moon?"

Dear Mr. Bowen,—At 8.20 a.m. this morning, as I drove into the car park at work, I heard an interview on B.B.C. between a Mr. Rex Dutta, who apparently run a newsheet or mag-

in America, I think, called "U.F.O." — although I must say, he did not sound like an American!

However, the gist of this interview was that Mr. Dutta is claiming that N.A.S.A. (the U.S. space agency) has photographs of the other side of the Moon and on the photos can be seen "machines" working in craters and on the surface!

He stated that he had himself seen copies, and that former President Ford was aware of them at the time and that he hoped President Carter would be authorising release of these photos in due course.

Mr. Dutta was most adamant about the existence of these revealing photos, and said that at the time the astronauts orbited the Moon, the message was sent to NASA "Father Christmas is real", and which he now says was obviously a code to confirm this find!

Furthermore, he went on to say that some time ago, an American Air Force base was closed down for 48 hours during which time, on a pre-arranged plan, a UFO landed there, presumably for a meeting!

When closely questioned by the interviewer, Mr. Dutta stuck to his statement about the photographs showing the machines, and the interviewer was plainly astounded.

I do not know if you are in possession of this information — no doubt someone else has reported to you, but I must say, it seems a serious charge to make against NASA — Mr. Dutta was really convinced — so surely someone must either deny this or dare we wonder — confirm! (or remain silent — which would imply that perhaps Dutta is on the right track?)

Anyway can I assume that you at FSR may be able to find out something about this? I would certainly say it was a serious allegation to make against NASA or the U.S. government.

Yours sincerely,
B.C. Jones
25 Bell Road, Coalpit Heath,
Bristol, BS17 2SA
February 23, 1977.

Moon "machinery" and a hole goes missing

Dear Mr. Bowen,—Thank you for your excellent coverage of the Winchester CE; a rather remarkable episode.

I write now to ask if you can please let us have more details of the item, shown last night on *Nationwide* (BBC 1), of Rex Dutta talking about

and showing photographs of activity on the other side of the moon; he thinks huge earth moving machines were visible and unless the photos had been 'doctored' the tracks were unmistakable. He feels, and I agree, that if something of this nature is going on the public should be informed.

This reminds of an item, also appearing on *Nationwide* (I think it was last summer) of an expedition going to investigate a large hole found in the ground in the middle of a jungle (I was preparing dinner and missed the location). No one to that date had

been able to reach the bottom of this hole and this new expedition was making a further attempt, taking with them miles of rope, and the necessary equipment.

After a couple of months had gone by I wrote to *Nationwide* asking for the result of this expedition, had the bottom been reached, and if not, why not? After a couple of weeks I had a card from them saying sorry, they could find no trace of the item to which I was referring. This must have been in December because very soon after that they put on a review of the past programmes through the

year of items of special interest they had shown. This rather suggested to me that all their programmes are taped so could be referred to at any time, so why was the item I enquired about untraceable?

Good luck with your magazine; its the best I have come across.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) J. M. Battell
"Chalwood", 117 Hart Road,
Thundersley, Benfleet,
Essex, SS7 3QP
March 23, 1977.

Book Review

MORE ABOUT THE SIBERIAN 'METEORITE'

THE FIRE CAME BY, by John Baxter and Thomas Atkins, published by Macdonald and Jane's, London, 1976. £3.95 net in the United Kingdom only. Introduction by Isaac Asimov, appendices and a bibliography.

THE great Siberian meteorite made news in the West in the 1920s although it fell in 1908; little was to be learned about it because of the vast distances in Russia and lack of communications. Fortunately it is not too late to recover the facts and one of the interesting features of this book is the reporting of interviews with reindeer shepherds who were witnesses. The Tungus (now called Evenki) live in small villages and the shepherds in scattered huts and tents; one family 25 miles from the blast were thrown into the air, their tent carried away and they saw "the forest blazing around them with many fallen trees." Another man, 40 miles from the explosion, had his shirt almost burnt off his back. Many reindeer disappeared and the survivors suffered a strange disease. The elders of the tribe forbade anyone to visit the site and the shaman said that it was there that the god of fire and thunder, Ogdý, descended to the earth.

Expeditions have visited the site increasingly in recent years and photographs have appeared of the forest flattened outwards for miles around, although bare poles still stand in the centre, below the point of the explosion. For it occurred in the air and there is no crater; not until Hiroshima did similar circumstances occur and the evidence is strong that this was an atomic blast. The glowing, cylindrical object seen passing overhead that June morning altered course before it blew up and it did not behave like a natural object.

Recent analysis of glazed particles recovered from

tree trunks shows small amounts of cobalt and nickel, as well as traces of copper and germanium. Kulik's 1928 expedition reported that some Tungus had found unusual bits of shiny metal "brighter than the blade of a knife and resembling in color a silver coin." What happened to these pieces of evidence; were none of them kept or handed over to the shaman?

That the Tunguska meteorite might have been a space ship would have been inconceivable at the time it fell; it would have seemed fanciful in 1955 when FSR first appeared; it was envisaged as a possibility in FSR Vol. 8 No. 2 (1962) in an article by our first Editor, Derek Dempster, entitled "Does Siberia hold the proof?" in which he quoted a *New Scientist* article of February 2, 1961, entitled "Was it a comet that hit Siberia?" in support of the official Russian view; however, he shows how this theory fails to fit the evidence then available and anticipates a further change after examining the results of that year's expedition; now it has become the most likely explanation in 1976, when "The Reader's Digest Book of Strange Stories, Amazing Facts," in its section on the enigma of the UFO, asserts that about 26 astronauts have reported seeing them. Was an alien space ship in trouble and did it try for a safe landing in Siberia? The answer could be in the records of some advanced race able to travel in our solar system. One day we might learn the full circumstances, if we persevere.

JOHN M. LADE

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

England

Possible Clayton EM disturbance case

We are indebted to UFOIN for the following report—

"Mr. Paul Exton of Clayton, Staffordshire, is an AA Engineer. In the early hours of the morning of February 4, 1977, he was driving his van along the A500 towards the junction at Basford. A colleague was driving about 50 yards behind him and the two were communicating with each other by radio on a frequency of 72.8 MHz.

At 2.25 a.m. their conversation suddenly became swamped by static. This was composed of two definite levels of noise. There was a general background hiss, and a high pitched note. Both men heard the sound and had to tune their sets down because of the volume of this interference.

"Looking out to the side of the road one of the men saw an orange light moving westwards parallel with the road. At first it was seen over the Shelton Iron and Steel plant, but it then hovered for four to five seconds. As it did so the noise on the radio increased in volume. The object then continued its path westwards towards the M6. As it moved away the noise on the radio gradually faded out.

Derek James was able to complete some of the details of this report from the witness for NUFON. He also made efforts to check other companies in the area which utilise radio vehicles, with a view to finding corroborative evidence. There were no problems reported by the West Midlands Gas Board, although they had no call outs around that time. However, the police at the Stafford Headquarters confirmed that on the night in question their radios had been heavily inundated with very bad static between 2.15 and 2.25 a.m. They had been unable to find any cause for this. Their radio operates on a frequency of 102 MHz."

Doughnut-shaped object over Cheshire

The following is a UFOIN report—

"13 year old Nigel Blagg lives at Alsager in Cheshire and is very keen on looking for high flying aircraft through his binoculars. At 6.55 p.m. on April 15, 1977, he was in the dining room of his home scanning the clear blue sky. There were no aircraft visible and he decided to look a little higher in the sky, at an elevation of about 80 degrees. Here he spotted

an object which looked like a silvery metallic diamond with two short stubby wings.

"Nigel called to his mother and father to look at it. With the naked eye the object appeared as just a bright white light. His father is a company director and a former RAF test pilot with photo reconnaissance experience. After satisfying himself that the object was something unusual he went with his son into the garden through the french windows.

"Mr. John Blagg borrowed the binoculars from his son and described what he saw as like a doughnut with a bright silver outside and a dark grey middle. The object appeared to be very high and practically stationary. He estimated its diameter as 100–150 feet at a height of 40,000 feet plus.

"After viewing for about one minute the object suddenly disappeared into a puff of cream coloured smoke. This change occurred momentarily, and out of the smoke came three smaller oval shapes, placed in a formation with two on top and one in line some distance underneath. This relative position remained throughout the completion of the sighting.

"To the naked eye the puff of smoke was not visible. Nigel simply describes two objects suddenly appearing where formerly there had been one. It is probable that the two upper ones were too close together to be separated by the unaided eye.

"The objects took about forty five seconds to move slowly away and then suddenly travel upwards at some speed, growing smaller and disappearing from view. In all the observation had lasted nine minutes."

The report was investigated for NUFON by Derek James and Allen Gillies.

Spain

Statement by a Spanish Air Line Pilot

The Madrid morning paper, *Sociedad*, carried a report in its issue of Sunday, November 21, 1976, about a UFO which accompanied a *Boeing 727* aircraft of the Iberia Airlines on a regular flight from Santiago de Compostela (in the far north-west of Spain) to Madrid on Friday, November 19, 1976. The UFO accompanied the plane for twenty minutes, and was also seen by witnesses aboard other aircraft.

Comandante Parreño, the pilot of the *Boeing 727*, declared in an interview with a representative of the news-

paper *El País* that, while the sighting might conceivably be due to some optical phenomenon, it was at any rate not something that he had ever seen before.

Obviously choosing his words carefully, Captain Parreño was quoted as follows:—

"I do not think it was a UFO, but it certainly was also not a cloud. My interpretation of it is that it was a phenomenon of reflected light (un fenómeno de reflexion luminosa). It was too big to have been a UFO. It displayed, moreover, a certain degree of transparency."

This 'image' accompanied the Boeing over a distance estimated at about 300 kilometres, with the aircraft travelling at a speed of 900 km.p.h. at a height of about 5,000 metres. It was always seen to the right of the plane, at a varying distance.

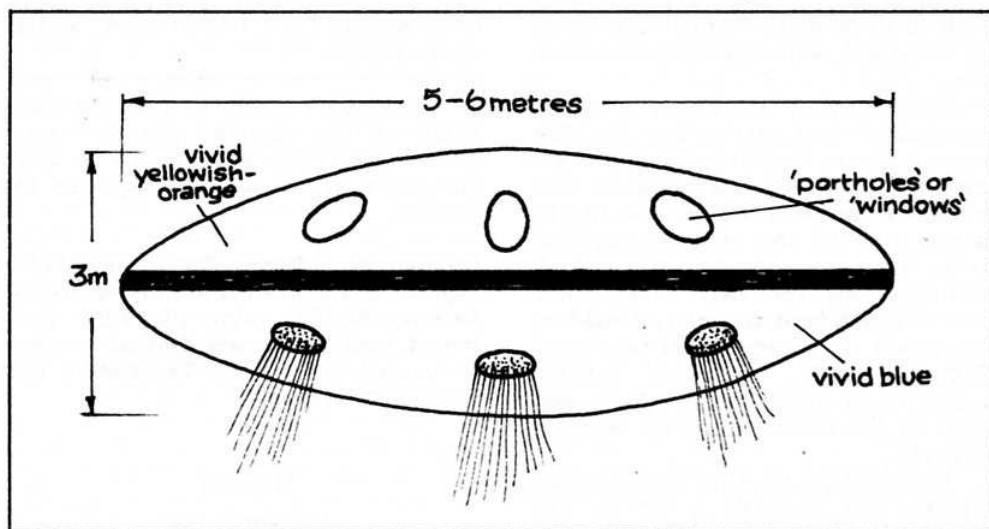
Captain Parreño continued:

"Probably it was an optical phenomenon. The existence of layers of air at different temperatures and pressures can cause differences in the passage of light through them, producing this sort of image. But, in the twentyfive years that I have been flying, I have never before had a case like this. Phenomena of this sort need to be observed directly by scientists. Science knows that these things exist. All these matters need thorough study. In the course of these twentyfive years that I have been flying, I have heard my colleagues relate many things. They are reliable and credible professionals, who have described things that they themselves have experienced, and that obliges me to consider the possibility that UFOs do exist."

Credit: Russell Guérard y Holmes of Madrid. (Translation by Gordon Creighton.)

UFO chases truck for six kilometres

According to a report from Gerena published in the newspaper *El Correo de Andalucía* (Seville) for November 23, 1976, a local peasant named Antonio Alfonso Casado was driving his truck along the road from Guillena to Burgillo at 4.30 in the early morning of November 10, 1976, when he had a harrowing and unforgettable experience. (Before commencing his account of it, the Gerena correspondent of the newspaper, José Ortiz, who questioned him, adds that he knows the witness very well indeed, that he is highly thought of in the local community, and that there is every reason to



regard his story as entirely trustworthy.)

The interview ran as follows:—
Q: What was the flying object like? What colour was it?

A: Like a flattened egg, divided into two parts. The upper part of it was a yellowish-orange colour, with three concavities that looked as though they might be round windows or portholes. The underside of it was a vivid blue, with light coming out at three points (see sketch).

Q: How were you able to observe these details when you say you were dazzled by the powerful lights?

A: Bear in mind that I was able to see the thing in three different ways; from the front, from the side, and from the underneath. The first view was when I caught sight of it for the first time. The second, was when it flew around the truck, and the third time was during my stop in Burguillo. Its outline was very well defined and I was able to see that its shape was as I have stated. Its length would have been around 5 – 6 metres, and it was 3 metres high. When it was stationary I detected a sort of metallic noise which still continued although it was immobile. Then I drove on my way, but the machine remained there where it was.

Q: Didn't you see it again?

A: No. Thank God. I managed to get back to our town feeling a lot calmer, though I could not relax properly until I was inside the house.

Q: Another point. There are high tension power lines along that road, aren't there?

A: Yes. The place where I first encountered the object was where the electricity cables are that supply power to these towns.

Joaquin Mateos Nogales and Manuel Filpo of the Garena "Geos" UFO Investigation Group have also seen the witness, and have supplied a report which shows discrepancy in a few

points. For example, they report him as saying that the UFO made its approach to him not from straight ahead, but at an angle of 30° from his left. As it approached it seemed to be gaining speed. It passed right across the road in front of him at a distance of but a few metres, then swinging around to take up position behind him. Over the distance of six kilometres or so for which the UFO pursued him, he felt not only terror but a strange feeling of intense cold, followed by an intense heat. His diesel truck was not affected by it.

This report of the UFO seems more likely to be reliable, as it describes the orange colouring as coming from the upper portholes and not as the colour of the upper part of the craft itself. The under-part of the craft is described as having blue light of various shades coming from a larger number of openings (some eight or so, as opposed to the three given in the newspaper's sketch). [Due, perhaps, to a degree of artistic licence?—EDITOR]

The "Geos" investigators found the witness, a man in his 30s, a serious and reliable sort of person.

He told them that as the UFO passed right in front of him, at a distance of only a few metres, he fully realized that it could not possibly be any sort of aircraft or helicopter, but must be an "OVNI" (term for "UFO").

The sketches made by the "Geos" Group show an object which (unlike the newspaper sketch) does not have a reversed under-part completely matching the top, but is rather of the "flattened" type, with the usual dome with 3 portholes, on top (but flatter than Adamski's) and with the under-side completely flat and emitting bluish light from many apertures. The sketches indicate that when the craft was stationary these lower lights turned white.

From yet another incomplete photostatic report (name and date of paper not given) the witness is quoted

as giving the same account as related by the "Geos" group, namely that he was stricken with terror when, looking in his driving mirror, he saw that the UFO was following close behind him. This happened some 4 kilometres beyond Guillena, on the road to Burguillo, and the UFO continued to dog him for about 15 minutes until he entered Burguillo, where he stopped briefly to survey his situation. The UFO was now, as he perceived, right above his truck, at a height of some 50 or 60 metres, and emitting a powerful blinding light.

Asked what he did next, he said his first thought was to stay there in Burguillo, but as everything around was closed up and there was nobody on the street, he decided to drive on. He said he was so nervous that, lighting a cigarette, he inadvertently put the lighted end into his mouth and burnt his lips.

Credit: Sr. Ignacio Darnaude of Sevilla.

Spain Laredo landing?

The newspaper ABC (Sevilla edition) for September 11, 1976, carried a Europa Press Service report from Santander to the effect that, at 1.00 a.m., more than 200 witnesses, including many foreigners, at a camping site near Laredo, in the Province of Santander, Northern Spain, observed a UFO which was stationary for five minutes, at a distance of 150 metres from them and very close to the ground.

They described the UFO as about 15 metres in diameter, disc-shaped, and totally silent. It emitted a bluish light and two yellowish beams came from its two extremities, widening considerably as they reached the ground. When it vanished, the UFO went instantaneously and inexplicably.

Credit: Ignacio Darnaude.

Fuengirola monster

During the night of July 9/10, 1976, in a mountain chalet at Fuengirola, overlooking the Málaga region of southern Spain, five young people had an extraordinary experience which in some respects recalls that of the famous "Sutton monster" in Virginia, U.S.A., of September 12, 1952.

The party, all young folk around the age of 20, arrived by car at the summer house (owned by one of them) at about 1.00 a.m. One of them mentioned to the others that a UFO had been seen passing over the area one night a couple of months previously.

Some of the party were professional photographers, and it seems that they set about taking photos of the rooms of the chalet. While they were

engaged in this, they began to hear what seemed like "deep and powerful breathing," as though some strange animal were panting outside. They at once rushed out, one of them taking his camera, and some of them taking torches, but no sooner had they turned on the torches than the sound of breathing ceased. Finding nothing out of the way or abnormal around the place, they went back indoors, finished their task of photographing the rooms, and then all turned in, to sleep.

At 5.00 a.m. Manuel Linares was awakened by noises. He alerted the rest of the party, and they all now heard the deep, heavy "breathing" again, along with a very loud whistling noise, which one of them subsequently linked to the sound of the brakes of a car being applied very abruptly.

Three of the photographers made towards a corridor, or passage, at the end of which there was a window, in order to look out and see whether there was some animal or maybe a burglar whom they might capture *in flagrante delicto*. They looked out through the window, and caught sight of the source of the "panting" and the "whistling."

Standing beside a tree was a "something" which they described as: "Very tall, bigger than the tree, and with two bright lights at the level where the eyes would be."

The features and outline of the face were unclear. "There were just the eyes, and then everything below them was black, as though the thing were wrapped up in a black blanket."

Manuel Linares emphasised the extreme luminosity of the "eyes", which seemed to have a glow of their own, like lamps. Shaken, the three went to get the axes and machetes which the party had got ready on the earlier occasion when they heard the "breathing" just after entering the house at 1.00 a.m.

When it was suggested to him by the investigators that the thing might have been an owl, Manuel Linares replied: "But an owl doesn't have a powerful respiration like that, and it doesn't whistle, and an owl's eyes don't have such a powerful glow as that!"

Manuel Linares has in fact had prolonged experience of camping out at night, when he was working near Villanueva del Rio y Minas, and so says he is well accustomed to the sounds of nocturnal animals and birds. "We had *wolves* at night there, and around the house too, but I was never scared by them as I was this night up in the chalet at Fuengirola... I was really shaken!"

By the time the three had gone for the axes and machetes and got back

into the garden where the "thing" had been, it was gone. The rest went back to sleep, while Manuel Linares sat up on guard, with his machete beside him.

Then a terrific *heat* began to invade the chalet — a shattering heat, and this was not due to the temperature prevailing at the time. (Listening to the witnesses' account of it, the investigators recalled the asphyxiating heat in the Trancas case in Argentina.) And, accompanying the awful heat, there now came a persistent *smell of sulphur*, for which no source could be found. Then, suddenly, "someone" outside began to hammer on the doors and walls of the house as though wanting to get in.

Manuel Linares, who was standing looking out through a slit in the shutters (the moon was shining outside and illuminating the garden) saw a shadowy form move across the area of moonlight. Then he turned on the lights in the house and the party all sat tight and waited.

Finally, at 9.00 a.m. in the morning, when it was already broad daylight, they again heard the hammering, this time on the roof. Whatever it was that was doing it, was walking about on the flat roof of the little house. When the party went out and got up on to the roof however, there was nothing to be seen.

But nobody felt like dallying there any longer. They got into the car and made off as fast as they could.

The investigators asked the young men if they had felt that the occurrences had a link with the UFO problem and they replied in a generally negative fashion. They admitted however that when they first went out of the chalet to investigate the "breathing" they thought of the story that one of their party had told only a few minutes earlier about a UFO having been seen in the vicinity two months previously. **Investigators' Postscript:** As we have stated, this case recalls those at Sutton and Trancas, and it also puts one very much in mind of the Como de Vaca case reported by Antonio Ribera in one of his books) in which two men sleeping in a mountain hut in the Pyrenees were alarmed by something which banged on the doors and walls as if trying to get in, and then walked about on the roof of the hut. Rushing out in the early light of dawn, the two men saw a UFO in the sky close by.†

As regards the scene of the happenings at the chalet, it may be mentioned that about a year or so ago a number of mysterious deaths of animals began to be reported from the area around Málaga and Fuengirola — killings for which no explanations were ever found. The whole area around Málaga has in fact been notable for the great

volume of UFO sightings there during the past two years, and there have been several Type I cases there, and a contact case.

† **Translator's note:** I have the full details of this case and plan to translate it when time permits. So far as I am aware, it has not yet appeared in English.

Credit: Sr. Miguel Peyró and colleagues of the C.I.E.F.E. Investigation Group, Sevilla, who prepared this report, and Sr. Ignacio Darnaude who forwarded it to FSR. Translation by Gordon Creighton.

Holland Christmas flap

The following account is extracted from a summary of news items prepared for FSR by reader P.C. Molenaar, to whom we are greatly indebted. He writes:

"There have been many UFO visitations of Holland and Belgium since June 1976. Areas affected were the Air Base at Deelen, near Arnhem, the districts of Twente and Brabant, and the towns of Bergen op Zoom and Putten.

"During Christmas and the following days, December 27 to December 30, 1976, there was a considerable flap, the first sighting, of a green object, was reported in a news broadcast on December 25 on the radio. The main event, however, happened on Christmas night, above the Air Force Base of Deelen, where two unknowns hovered and manoeuvred silently, displaying white, yellow, red and green lights. Personnel of the Air Force guard were the witnesses, but nothing was picked up on the radar screens. The Royal State police and the Arnhem Municipal police were alerted, and a State police department of Schiphol Airport investigated officially. Citizens of Arnhem and Enschede also saw the strange luminous objects.

"Sergeant N.A. Garritsen commented: 'I was driving in a jeep together with Pte. G.J. Sarink near the KNAC driving school when I saw the first UFO appear above the edge of the forest: it was easily as big as a helicopter, and at some 300 metres altitude. It was then 2.15 a.m. The weather was very cold, with a clear, starry sky. The object emitted green, red and blue flashes of light in rapid sequence, and it certainly could not be confused with stars or other sky phenomena.'

"Sgt. Garritsen contacted another patrol over the 'mobilofoon' and alerted the commanders, Corporals W.F.F. van Ottele and G.F. Nieuwenhuizen, and they saw the UFO.

When the two patrols joined up and took stock of the situation they could see that there were two UFOs, hovering some distance apart.

"Said the sergeant: 'We stopped the car engines and switched off the lights. All was quiet, and there was nothing to smell. The "thing" [presumably the first one seen—ED] turned behind the forest then, as it returned to the Base, we thought its speed was faster than that of a jet. Four of us went up into the traffic tower and stayed there watching events.'

"Said Cpl van Ottele: 'From the second UFO there came a flash of white light to the ground. This light was repeated every 20 seconds and illuminated a big area in a sort of triangle.'

"The Base is out of use at the moment. The UFOs' actual shapes could not be seen because they were hidden behind the powerful light flashes. The radar headquarters at Nieuw-Milingen and the air traffic centre Schipol were alerted, but stated that their screens showed nothing.

"Sergeant-Major Munnik who was in the guard room at Deelen also saw the lights moving towards the National Park 'De Hoge Veluwe.'

The reports were translated and condensed from the newspapers *De Telegraaf* of December 27, 1976, and *Nieuws van de Dag* of December 29, 1976.

Credit: P.C. Molenaar of Amsterdam, with thanks for the translation.

Venezuela

Saucer causes blackout in Acarigua

The following account is taken from *Ultimas Noticias*, Caracas, of December 21, 1976. It describes an incident which took place on the evening of December 20,—"The swift flight of an unknown luminous object over this city, coincided tonight with a general blackout which lasted approximately 10 minutes. Commotion was caused in the city as many people observed the flight of the luminous object. The incident occurred at 8.05 p.m., according to the declarations made by various persons who called the local radio stations. The blackout also silenced the radio transmitters.

"When Radio Acarigua came back on the air, a woman identified as Lucinda de Rodriguez spoke with the reporter/commentator Fernando Gonzalez and told him that where she lived — Cerrito de Araure — the luminous object passed at a considerably low altitude, giving off blue flashes.

"According to declarations made by various persons, the unknown

object crossed the air space in a south-northerly direction, and was lost in the distant mountains of Lara state. No specific reasons for the blackout were given." [from official sources that is.]

Credit: Mike Da Silva Caracas, Venezuela, with thanks for the translation.

Another UFO...then blackout!

From *El Universal*, Caracas, of January 15, 1977, we learn of another incident from Acarigua late in the evening of January 13,—"Two girls who were chatting in front of a house in the urban area of La Goajira, saw an object last night flashing multicoloured lights, and which descended almost to tree-top level. At the same time the area was thrown in a blackout. It is the second time this phenomenon was observed in the area, and in the early hours of the night, 10 p.m."

Credit: Mike Da Silva.

Italy

Extraterrestrial dwarf near La Spezia

According to an EFE report in the Sevilla edition of *ABC* for September 11, 1976, a mysterious "extraterrestrial dwarf" caused widespread alarm among the inhabitants of a mountainous area near La Spezia in North Western Italy. The eyewitnesses were said to have been able to give very precise details of the creature, described as 1 metre 20 cms in height and wearing a sort of opaque black overall. He walked with a "gliding" motion. The face was described as having "two fissures."

Police had made a search on Mt. Paroi, where the creature had been sighted. The Chief of Police was quoted as considering the story to be of "very relative credibility." Nevertheless various witnesses claimed to

have suffered from "magnetic distortions" inflicted on them by the creature.

Credit: Ignacio Darnaudé of Sevilla.

United States of America

Jupiter puzzle

According to Dr. Carl Sagan — who professes to be unable to buy the idea of UFOs or UFO occupants appearing on this planet — there may be life on Jupiter.

The *Daily Telegraph* (London) of March 10, 1977, carries the following intriguing item by their Science Correspondent:—

"Giant flying creatures, several miles in diameter, may exist in the atmosphere of Jupiter, say Professors Carl Sagan and E.E. Saltpeter, of Cornell University, New York. They suggest that the redness frequently seen in Jupiter's atmosphere may be caused by floating balloon-like animals.

"In the *Astrophysical Journal Supplement*, they say such creatures could grow to huge sizes, and could move by expelling helium gas behind them. Two unmanned craft, *Mariners 11* and *12*, fly past Jupiter next year and may provide evidence."

Uranus has 100 moons!

According to a report by the Science Correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph* (March 16, 1977) a swarm of moons has been discovered in orbit around Uranus.

The discovery was made independently by two American astronomers, Dr. J.L. Elliot and Dr. Robert Millis. One used a telescope aboard an aircraft seven miles above the Indian Ocean, the other a 24-inch reflecting telescope at Perth, Australia.

Dr. Elliot said there were about 100 satellites, ranging in size from 20 to 60 miles in diameter.

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