# THE MYSTERIOUS "UMMO" AFFAIR—PART I

# Antonio Ribera

# Translation from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton

I N the spring of 1967, at my home in Barcelona, I received a telephone call from an unknown gentleman who said his name was Julian Delgado, said he was from Madrid, and said he desired very much to meet me in order to talk of a matter of the greatest interest. We arranged to meet at a centrally located café here in Barcelona, the Capital of Cataluna, namely the Bar Cosp, in the Galerias Condal, and it was there that I made the acquaintance of my unknown caller. He turned out to be a young man of pleasant appearance and somewhat nervous manner who, so he told me, came to Barcelona frequently in connection with his business activities.

Senor Delgado said he had turned to me because he knew my name already thanks to my book El Gran Enigma de los Platillos Volantes,1 and because the matter he was going to disclose to me was connected with that subject. Then he went on to tell me about a friend of his, don Enrique Villagrasa Novoa, a civilian construction engineer engaged in public works who, like himself, was a resident of Madrid and who, as he told me, had had lengthy conversations with extraterrestrial beings who telephoned him at his home and offered to send him reports on technical subjects to be indicated to them by him, Senor Villagrasa. Then, a few days later, Villagrasa would receive by post the report for which he had asked, typewritten on folio size sheets, each page bearing a curious seal marked with a thumbprint and showing an H-shaped form with curving arms with a shorter vertical bar intersecting the horizontal bar of the H. In fact it resembled the alchemical symbol for Uranus (See photograph No. 1).

And thus it was that I came in contact with the disconcerting, irritating, and mysterious business of UMMO, which is still going on, and which I am still very far from having "got to the bottom of."

But let us take it as it developed.

Gradually I began to gather together the various parts of what was to become a complicated puzzle, and before me there arose this initial picture of the problem: since about 1965, so it appeared, a group of some twenty or so persons, the majority of whom lived in Madrid, with one in Valencia, two in Barcelona, and possibly one more in Bilbao, had been receiving the enigmatic "Ummo reports" through the post.

From what my valued friend and collaborator Rafael Farriols and I could ascertain, this group turned out to be a cross-section of the population of Spain, in which were represented people who for the most part were engaged in liberal activities: a well-known playwright, an engineer, a young lady employed in the American Embassy, an official of the Telegraph Department known for his interest in extraterrestrial studies, a lawyer, etc. Subsequently

Rafael Farriols and I myself also received communications from Ummo.

# The San José de Valderas UFO photographs

Rafael Farriols and I investigated in due course some UFO sightings which occurred in Madrid on February 6, 1966, and June 10, 1967,2 and which would eventually result in our book, written in collaboration and entitled Un Caso Perfecto.3 The disconcerting thing about it all was that, several days beforehand, the mysterious "gentlemen from Ummo" had announced to three of their Madrid correspondents the arrival of the machine scheduled for June 10, 1967, and even gave, with striking accuracy, the geographical coordinates for the spot where it would land. About forty people, present at a gathering in the Café León, where they were wont to meet to hear Professor Fernando Sesma, President of the Society of the Friends of Space, gave their written confirmations that, on the evening before the day on which the landing took place, they had already read the announcement of its forthcoming arrival. Rafael Farriols, who has now become the leading specialist in the world on the Ummo question, still has in his files the original paper bearing this important declaration.

This, plus the fact that the craft which performed evolutions in the sky over the Madrid suburban estate of San José de Valderas and landed briefly in the estate of Santa Mónica on the day in question (June 10, 1967) displayed upon its belly a symbol most closely resembling the emblem used to "authenticate" the Ummo documents, establishes between both these sets of events a link which would seem to be indissoluble (Photograph 2).

### Fernando Sesma and the "reports"

Using the dozens of reports which he had received from 1965 onwards, Professor Sesma published, in 1967, a book entitled *Ummo*, *Otro Planeta Habitado*.<sup>4</sup>

The fact that it should have been Fernando Sesma who first divulged the disconcerting Ummo affair in printed form did not exactly contribute towards conferring a character of verisimilitude upon the business. Far be it for me to wish to reproach Fernando Sesma, but what is absolutely certain about him is that he has the reputation of being a man of fantasy given to speculations without much real basis, already expounded by him in earlier articles and books, such as the one entitled: Sensational! The Extraterrestrials Speak: (Revelations and teachings from men of Other Planets), 5 also published by Editorial Espejo.

The result of all this was that the public held Sesma's little book on "Ummo" to be a product of



Photograph No. 1. The seal, with H-shaped form, marked with a thumbprint

pure fantasy and sprung from Sesma's own head. Yet the fact remains that, as Farriols and I were later able to verify, Sesma merely confined himself to reproducing the reports and the drawings (some of these truly very curious) that he had been receiving from the "Ummites". That this was so was proved by Farriols, without leaving any room for doubt when, on one of his recent visits to Madrid, he managed to get Sesma to hand over to him all the precious originals, a whole bulky trunk suitcase full of them.

Sesma admitted to Farriols that the "Ummites" had now ceased to interest him much, since they represented an excessively technological civilization. His present preferences, he explained, were inclined towards the inhabitants of Auco, a planet which so he, Sesma, explained, was on a much higher spiritual plane.

#### Incredible telephone conversations

Enrique Villagrasa, a charming man with whom Farriols and I soon became very good friends, gave us a detailed account of his own first telephonic conversation with a "man from Ummo." This took place on November 28, 1966, and the conversation lasted almost exactly two hours, from ten minutes after midnight till 2.15 in the morning. The mysterious caller spoke slowly, in a voice without inflections and with a foreign accent. Without hesitation and with staggering precision he answered the questions put to him by Villagrasa. These



Photograph No. 2. The craft which allegedly hovered over the Madrid suburb of San José de Valderas on June 10, 1967

questions dealt with the most diverse subjects: history; sciences; archaeology; various techniques, etc. The unknown speaker replied without hesitation, "as though he were reading the answers out of a dictionary." At times Villagrasa had the impression that he was talking to an electronic brain.

Villagrasa was however not the only person to have long conversations with the mysterious and unknown callers. Another of the correspondents from whom Villagrasa heard was — to cap it all — a police officer, and he too had had long conversations on the telephone with the "gentlemen from Ummo."

The irritating thing about the whole business is that the communication was always established only on a one-way basis; that is to say, it was impossible to communicate with them, and one simply had to rely solely on calls from them.

## More "reports"

Some of the correspondents turned out to be members of Sesma's group, and it became known that they too had been receiving the mysterious mimeographed communications. Among these communications there were several dealing with the following themes:

"The biogenetic bases of the living beings that

inhabit the Cosmos" (24 pages);

"Description of the Ummo craft or OAWOOLEA UEWA OEMM" (43 pages, with sketches and illustrations);

"Structure of the UMMOALEWE, or Social Structure of Ummo" (8 pages);

"Panorama of Terrestrial Psychology (4 pages);
"Theory of the IBOZOO UU, or a New Concept

of Space". And so on.

Some of these reports were of a high scientific level, as, for example, were the first and last of the examples given above. The first of these offered no less than an explanation of the cause of mutations, by which the various species living in the Cosmos are enabled to evolve. This cause for the mutations, so it stated, is connected with a cosmic cycle, the dimensions or scope of which cycle are so vast that terrestrial men have not detected it. There is also mention in the same report of a mysterious chain of 84 atoms of crypton which, located in the hypothalamus, form the link between the soma

(body) and the psyche (soul).

As for the report on the IBOZOO UU, this offers a truly revolutionary view of Space, based upon a physics that has no relation whatever to terrestrial physics. The Ummites describe our conception of Space as simplistic and not corresponding at all to the true reality of the Cosmos, being based on mathematical and geometrical abstractions. The Euclidian three-dimensional space is, say they, a purely mental creation. Our Theory of Relativity added to that Euclidian Space a fourth dimension called *Time*, but even so our conception of Space is too superficial. Space, say they, consists in effect of *n* dimensions, of which the gentlemen from Ummo are acquainted with at least ten, several of which they utilize in practice.

They say the subatomic particles which our science is constantly discovering are an illusion: that they are in actual fact the result of the various orientations which can be assumed in Space by the three axes composing what they call the IBOZOO UU. According to the manner in which these axes are orientated, we see the production of matter, energy, mass or of any other type of radiation.

Furthermore, they say that there exist in Space certain folds or warps which, when the isodynamic circumstances are right, enable them to make interstellar voyages in a time that is incomprehensible for our physicists, as their craft perform a dimensional change by reversing their IBOZOO UU, which permits them to take a "short cut" without following the illusory straight lines of the propagation of light. By this means they are enabled to come here in eight or nine months from their planet UMMO, which, according to the reports supplied by them, is in orbit around the star IUMMA, located at 14.6 light-years from Earth and identified provisionally by them as the star Wolf 424 of our stellar catalogue.

The foregoing is a very rough and incomplete résumé which I have tried to make of the fascinating theory about the IBOZOO UU. The IBOZOO UU (plural) theory has aroused great interest among a number of scientists, not only here in Spain, but

also in France.

### The copyist

This was how matters stood when, one day, the regular recipients of these UMMO reports were

greatly astonished to receive a letter signed by a gentleman who introduced himself as the duplicating-machine operator who had been copying and distributing the mysterious reports. He said he was a resident of Madrid, an expert with business experience. He said it had all begun after he had inserted a notice in the newspaper ABC stating that he did copying and duplicating, and giving his address and telephone number.

As a result, he had received a visit, one fine day, from two very presentable gentlemen of Scandinavian appearance, that is to say, tall and fair. One of them, who had a singsong voice, told him that they were Danish doctors, and they put the proposition to him that he should work for them, explaining that they would dictate to him reports of a scientific nature. Adding further weight to his words, the unknown individual paid him an advance in the form of a thousand-peseta note. The copyist, alarmed, refused at first to accept it, but finally agreed.

#### Doubts and the "monitor"

And thus it was that the strange collaboration began. The soi-disant Danish doctor did in fact dictate to the copyist reports of a technical or scientific character, paying him splendidly for his work. Until one day, in the course of these proceedings, he dictated to him the following sentence:—We come from a cold celestial body called UMMO, which is 14.6 light-years from the Earth..."

The copyist, dumbfounded, went on writing it down, but thinking to himself that his magnificent

clients were maybe a lot of madmen.

As if guessing his thoughts, the "Danish doctor"

said, after he had finished dictating the report:

"Don't be afraid. What I have dictated is the truth. And I will prove it to you."

And from the inside pocket of his jacket he produced a tiny sphere, a few centimetres in diameter, which he placed in the air, stationary, between

the copyist and himself.

"This is one of our many methods of observing from a distance," he said. "I beg your pardon for having violated the intimacy of your private life, but you are now going to see and hear the scene which took place yesterday, here in your office, between your wife and yourself."

And in truth the scared copyist observed the scene on the tiny screen on the sphere, and was also able to hear the very conversation which he had had with his wife the day before. The wife had said she did not like his strange clients in the least, for she feared they might be spies, and she advised him

to notify the Police as soon as possible.

This, and other matters, was communicated by the copyist to his various unknown correspondents to whom it was his job to send the stencilled letters, duly stamped with the UMMO seal, and containing the reports from UMMO. The copyist was weighed down and oppressed by the whole extraordinary adventure in which he found himself caught up, and he proposed to all the recipients of the letters that they should meet together in order to coordinate

their actions and, should it be considered necessary,

inform the Spanish authorities.

This gathering never took place, because the "gentlemen from UMMO" knew all about it, and administered a severe rebuke to the copyist, who committed no further lapses.

#### The Professor and the box

Among the people who were due to have participated in the meeting of the recipients there was a certain professor, the holder of a chair in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Madrid. He too, like the rest, had received telephone calls from the UMMITES.

To begin with he thought that it was a joke, but when his mysterious communicant at the other end of the telephone line demonstrated that he himself was the possessor of medical knowledge that was out of the ordinary, the Professor invited him to come to tea in his house despite the absurdity, as he saw it, of the other party's assertion that he "came from another planet."

His interlocutor declined the invitation, but said he would give him, on loan, a little piece of apparatus that would convince him. An emissary would then come, a few days later, to collect the apparatus. (This emissary was to be the copyist.)

The University professor, who has related all these details in an anonymous letter which the copyist distributed among the rest of the recipients of the reports, did in fact receive a small package. When opened, it proved to contain a little square box, with no projecting parts, that is to say, with entirely smooth sides, of metallic appearance, and of a dull black colour. On one of its facets this little box had a translucent screen which was joined to the rest of the box without any dissolution of continuity: that is to say, without any mark, as though the union had been effected at the molecular level. The little box was accompanied by some simple instructions on its use, providing for the utterance of certain determined vowels in a fixed order, whereupon the mechanism was activated.

Fearing that the instrument might explode in his hands the Professor refused to do the test in his own home, and took the little box off to the Faculty laboratory at a time of the day when nobody was using the premises. Before doing so, he had borrowed from a colleague a Canon camera loaded with colour film, and his colleague was asked to explain

to him how to work it.

Arrived at the laboratory, the Professor set the little black box down on a piece of baize-cloth and, holding the paper in his trembling hands, pronounced the vowels in the order indicated. Immediately the translucent screen on the little box lit up, became transparent, and the Professor was able to contemplate, inside the box, a histological specimen, greatly enlarged, in colour, and alive, showing a neuron. Dumbfounded, the Professor filmed the device while it was in operation and then, following the instructions as they were given, he saw two more histological specimens appear.

Then, just as he had been told, one fine day a

young man with a beard turned up and stated that he had been commissioned to take back the apparatus. The colour film however remained in the possession of the Professor, whose identity it has so far been impossible for us to discover, despite all our efforts.

# Discovery of Earth by UMMO

But, if what the mysterious gentlemen from UMMO stated in their reports is all true, then when was it that they discovered the existence of our planet, and how did they arrive here, and at what date? Let them tell us in their own words...

In a report which they sent to Fernando Sesma,

we read the following:

"In the terrestrial year of 1950 (March) we landed on this OOYAA (cold star). About two years (terrestrial years) prior to that, we had picked up a faint signal with a frequency of 413.44 megacycles which we were unable to decypher. It had been

sent out about the year 1934.

"(Subsequently we identified the radioelectrical signal as having been put out by a Norwegian ship on the latitude of Newfoundland, in the course of certain experiments carried on by scientists of Norwegian nationality and relating to the use of high frequencies in communication over great distances by ionospheric reflection. The signal was sent out between February 5 and February 7, 1934.)

"This date of 1934 is thus a historic one in the relations between EARTH and UMMO. We have photocopies of the radiograms sent out. (These were secured by certain of our brethren in Germany, who went to Bergen, Norway, for that purpose.) And, as of course you will realize, we have the signals in Morse which were unintelligible to us at that time because our technicians thought it would be a binary-system code. (DOT = ZERO, DASH = ONE, or viceversa.) You will be surprised to learn that the duration of the fraction of the radiogram picked up by us was of 2.2 UIW (about 6.8 minutes), which sufficed for us to identify, on galactic coordinates, the position of the Solar System, and our techniques gave a name to your Sun, calling it GAA (Quadrate), because the graph derived with the signal was reminiscent of the analytical equation expressing the area of such a geometrical figure.

"It was only when we reached you that we were able to ascertain that the name OOYAGAA (Cold Star of Quadrate) gave an erroneous evocation inasmuch as the nature of the original message was not

exactly mathematical.

"This then is our reply to the question of Mr. Theodore T. Polk of Pittsburgh (USA) concerning the motive for our arrival upon your planet."

#### The language of UMMO

As the reader will have noted, this message contains a number of UMMITE words. And in fact it is the custom of the authors of the mysterious reports, whoever they may be, to give the term in their own language (or rather an approximate phonetic transcription of the same) followed by

their Spanish translation of it, (frequently also approximate). Senora Dona H.N. Franz de Penelas, one of our collaborators, took the trouble to extract, from all the UMMO reports which we have been able to compile (amounting to many hundreds of pages) all the words in their language, and with these she has drawn up a vocabulary and an outline grammar. The result has been surprising: before our eyes we have watched the emergence of a structured language, with its own characteristic manner of forming adverbs and derivatives, with its verbs, its laws of

grammar, and so on.

This fact of the language is yet another feature which induces us to think that this whole business of UMMO cannot possibly be merely a simple joke. And, on the other hand, many of the UMMO reports have come to us from distant places. I myself have received an UMMO letter sent from Paris. A Spanish investigator in Melilla, the Argentinian investigator Pedro Romaniuk, and the French investigators René Fouere and Aime Michel, have all received UMMITE microfilms from East Berlin (with texts in French and photographs of a craft identical with the one in the San José de Valderas case). Rafael Farriols rec-UMMO letter posted in Adelaide, Australia. The Eridani Group in Madrid and Enrique Villagrasa have received UMMO letters postmarked in London, though of course it is a fact that most of the reports received have come from Madrid. I myself have had one of them, and, when the Apollo XI astronauts reached the Moon I received a very brief message, the envelope being postmarked at Piedralaves (Avila) and the date of

the message being July 28, 1969. The text of it is as follows...

UMMOAELEWE Languages: French English Russian Spanish

German No. of copies : 18 d.Antonio Jordá.

Italian

Men of Earth:

With profound respect we have observed this stage in your technological progress. The rupture of the umbilical cord which will permit you to go forth from your mother to explore our galaxy. With emotion, our group of expeditionaries from the solidified star UMMO salutes you.

#### Notes and References

- 1. Published by Editorial Pomaire, Barcelona, 1966.
- See my articles: The Madrid Landing, in FSR Vol. 12, No. 3, May/June 1966, and The San José de Valderas Photographs, in FSR, Vol. 15, No. 5, September/ October 1969.
- 3. Un Caso Perfecto, published by Editorial Pomaire, 1968. (There is no English or French edition of A Perfect Case yet. A Danish edition, UFOs i Fokus, has been issued by Strubes Forlag, Kobenhavn.)
- Paperback, published by S.A. Editorial Gráficas Espejo, Calle Thomás Bretón 51, Madrid (1967).
- 5. Also issued in paperback form by the same firm.

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