

reports on one Señor Martinez, an illiterate, who after being contacted by a flying saucer crew, became gifted with a high educational level. In his comments at the end of the article Gordon Creighton says that one should watch for other cases of this type.

With this in mind, may I refer you

to FSR Vol. 7 No. 4, where a report is given of two girls being contacted by the beings of a landed "Saucer" in Wales. As a result of this, one of the girls who had been hopeless at maths became a genius. If true, this early case shows that this process could have been going on for some consider-

able time.

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# THE HITCH-HIKER FROM SPACE

Jane Thomas

SEVERAL Buenos Aires newspapers of the end of August and early September 1972 carried accounts of the weird experience of an Argentinian mechanic, who claimed that during the early hours of Sunday, August 27, he gave a ride in his car to an extraterrestrial being. The fullest account was in the Buenos Aires magazine *Así* of September 1, 1972, and I give below a full translation which I have made of this. There are a few minor discrepancies in the other press accounts, as frequently happens. For example, *La Razón* (August 29) gave the mechanic's name as Eduardo Fernando de Deugd, while *La Nación* of the same date gave it as Eduardo Fernando de Deuce.

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From the *Así* correspondent in Bahía Blanca<sup>1</sup> comes the fascinating story told by a local mechanic, to the effect that he carried an extraterrestrial being in his car. The story has created a great commotion here.

The mechanic is Eduardo Fernando Dedeu, aged 32, and married, who owns his own mechanical repairs shop at No. 19 Calle de Córdoba, Bahía Blanca. The occurrence took place in the early morning of last Sunday, on the highway from Médanos to Bahía Blanca.<sup>2</sup> Sr. Dedeu is getting no rest now. Neighbours, investigators, newspapermen, and also the Police, are constantly questioning him in order to get him to recall further details of the incident.

## THE MEETING

In the early hours of Sunday, August 27, Eduardo Fernando Dedeu was returning home after attending a dinner in Médanos. After travelling a short distance from that town, he noticed someone flagging him for a lift. This was a man wearing a coat with the collar turned up, and a cap covering his head. His face was somewhat more elongated than is normal. (Other versions state that he wore a roundish hat and that his chin was so large that it almost reached to his chest.—J.T.)

Dedeu decided to stop for him, and the man stepped into the car in silence and sat down beside him. The mechanic asked him whether he was going to Bahía Blanca, and the man answered with something unintelligible.

Then Dedeu asked him whether he was from Médanos, and the stranger made some sort of incomprehensible



reply. Dedeu thought that the man must be a local peasant who could not talk well, and who possibly was too shy to express himself loudly and clearly.

The trip then continued without further conversation. But when they reached the 710 km. mark, the car's lights went out and Dedeu was obliged to stop. He then noticed what he at first took to be some kind of bus overturned on the highway. It had a large blue light in the middle and two more lights, somewhat smaller and white, at the sides.

Dedeu went on to relate how he had got out of the car, when a powerful white flash of light dazzled him, and he felt intense heat. He took shelter behind the door of the car, and when he was able to look up he saw that the object, which had white lights in its windows and a green light on its underpart, was moving towards the left. He says that all this happened in a few seconds, and that when he stepped back into the car he found

that the seat where the unknown traveller had been was empty. The door was open, and the handle was on the floor of the car. At that same moment the car-lights, which had gone out, came on again.

Nervous and shaken, he drove on to Bahía Blanca.

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The variant reports in the other newspapers said that the car is an old 1938 or 1939 model (Ford?) and that Dedeu had stopped to fix up a wire to serve as a radio antenna, so that he could listen to the radio, when the other individual had signalled to him. These other reports also contain the statement that the radio was on the whole time during the journey and that maybe it was due to this, plus the noise of the engine, that Dedeu had not understood what the other person had said.

Now, let us return to the *Así* account:

#### OTHER WITNESSES

The mechanic made his report on the affair at the Second Police Precinct Headquarters, where he was questioned for four hours in the presence of a doctor. As was learnt subsequently, he presented no abnormality, and his story is serious and coherent.

Sr. Dedeu states that he was twice seen UFOs, some time ago. One occasion was when he was in his teens, and the other was while he was on his honeymoon in San Juan Province (near Mendoza, in the S.W. of Argentina.—J.T.).

It must be pointed out that there are other people who declare that they saw the same UFO that Sr. Dedeu saw in the early morning of Sunday, August 27. Aníbal Pato and his wife reported that they had seen the strange object near the town of Algarrobo. And Sr. Juan Carlos Oro, a young man residing at House 73 in the Marine Corps Base at Baterías, made a similar statement.

Investigators from the Universidad Nacional del Sur (Southern National University) are looking into the case and are making an exhaustive inspection of Sr. Dedeu's car in order to see whether any traces of the extraterrestrial being remain.

Another piece of testimony which coincides with the statements of the above-mentioned persons comes from Sr. Roberto Maisterrena, who works at a factory located in the area where the phenomenon took place. Maisterrena reported the matter to the Médanos Police Headquarters. He told them that at approximately 3.00 a.m. on the day in question he saw a strange craft emitting flashes of white light and stationary above a hill near National Highway No. 3. He described the vehicle as being "like a kind of bus," including also the detail that it had openings similar to windows.

As always happens in these cases, not everybody who heard Dedeu's account believed it. Some even thought it a hallucination such as occurs with a person who is perhaps drunk or given to fantasy and to spectacular jokes. But such is not the case with Dedeu. Those who know him all agree that he is a serious person, who never drinks.

#### A STRANGE VISIT

This is not the first time that a terrestrial has said

that he has beheld an extraterrestrial. Let us recall, for example, the experience undergone by a young lady of Villa Carlos Paz, in the Province of Córdoba, on June 13, 1968. That night, María Eladia Pretzel,<sup>3</sup> who was 19 years old at the time, was in the kitchen of her father's motel called "La Cuesta."

The girl noticed that there was a powerful light in the entrance hall and went there to see what was happening. Her surprise was immense, as there was a very tall man there, blond and good-looking. His hair was combed back from the face and he was wearing a sort of meshed garment of a phosphorescent light blue colour. From the nails of his hands came luminous rays directed forwards and backwards. In his left hand he was carrying a sort of crystal sphere that emitted powerful flashes. On the right hand a ring could be clearly seen, resembling a gauntlet, which covered half the hand and was fitted tightly on to his fourth finger. Each time that he raised this hand, in a gesture that seemed friendly, he gave the impression that he was rising from the floor and hanging suspended in the air. When this happened the girl felt her strength leaving her and she began to reel. But when the being lowered his hand she recovered immediately.

According to María Eladia's account the man started to walk towards her with a fixed, inexpressive smile. He also moved his lips gently, emitting sounds in a language that she could not understand. The girl said that she felt as though her head was full of bubbles, and that beads of perspiration were running down her neck. However she managed to touch herself, and found that her skin was in fact completely dry. She said that she received a sort of telepathic message from him telling her not to be afraid. She stated that at one moment the man approached the counter where she was standing and that when he did this the luminous sphere that he had in his hand was in constant movement. Then the light in the sphere went out, and he stopped, and turned towards the exit door.

Seeing him from behind, the girl noticed that he had a sort of skirt covered with silvery scales. When the being got to the door it opened automatically, and closed again afterwards without his having to touch it.

Feeling that she was going to faint, María Eladia managed to get to her bedroom, and threw herself, face down, upon the bed. Her father, who was just coming back to the house at that moment, stated that he saw two large vivid red lights on the road. At first he thought they might belong to some vehicle, but then he noticed that they were too far apart to belong to a vehicle. On entering the house, he found his daughter in a swoon. When he had brought her round again she told him this fascinating story, which caused a tremendous commotion at the time.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Southern part of Buenos Aires Province, near the Atlantic Ocean, 562 miles from the Capital, Buenos Aires.

<sup>2</sup> National Highway No. 3.

<sup>3</sup> For the full account of this case, see Charles Bowen's *Strangers About the House* in FSR for September/October 1968.



# GOBBLEDYGOOK

*Gordon Creighton*

ONE evening in the latter half of the 1950s, with Brinsley le Poer Trench and Alec Heathcote, I went to an apartment in Mount Street, in London's fashionable Mayfair district, to interview some French people who claimed that they had just had an extraordinary experience.

We found them to be a highly intelligent, refined, and wealthy family consisting, if my memory is reliable,<sup>1</sup> of an elderly lady (the mother), and two or three of her daughters, all women of mature age.

None of these ladies claimed to have the slightest knowledge of, or interest in, the UFO phenomenon, but they were all obviously extremely excited about something that they said they had heard a few nights before in a radio news broadcast from Paris. They said that, as they sat there listening to the news in French, an excited voice broke in on the programme, and announced that a "flying saucer" had landed near the town of Samarra, in Iraq, and that a great crowd of people, including officers of the Iraq armed forces (Air Force I believe), had observed several tall beings that had emerged from the machine. The report went on to say that some of the officers had gone forward and had had some sort of communication with the beings, which had stated that the political and military situation on this planet was causing them great concern. One of the Iraqi officers had been so unnerved by the experience that he had collapsed on the spot and had to be removed to hospital. He was quoted as having said that, on approaching the beings, he had become "aware of his own thoughts," which he could see in front of his eyes, outside his body, and had become aware of what seemed to be a "wheel"<sup>2</sup> rotating on, or in front of, his forehead.

I wrote at once to the broadcasting authorities in Paris, explained the details of the above story, and enquired whether they could throw any light on it. I also asked for a full list of all the emissions, in all their services, during the week in question, and I was careful also to enquire whether they had put on any science-fiction programmes or stories about flying saucers.

In due course I received a reply from the Director, enclosing the French equivalent of the British *Radio Times* for the week in question and assuring me that the matter I had raised was totally unknown to him and his staff, that he had made enquiries, and regretted he could throw absolutely no light on it.<sup>3</sup>

It seems that nobody in France had heard the curious, excited, breathless interruption and the announcement about the flying saucer landing near Samarra. Nor could the French ladies in Mount Street produce any other people who could vouch for their extraordinary story, and confirm that they too had heard the "report from Iraq."

So far as I know, the matter was never solved. It may very well have been a hoax. If so, by whom? And if so, why does nobody else appear to have heard the hoax?

Of only one thing am I absolutely certain, and that is that these elegant and distinguished French ladies, with whom we spent at least two hours, hearing all details of the case, cannot possibly have been lying or hoaxing. They all definitely thought that they had heard what I have reported above, and nothing would budge them from their story. *They may well have been hallucinated. If so, by whom, and for what purpose?* They were not "flying saucer buffs".

If they were the victims of an auditory group hallucination, it is interesting that we have never heard of anyone else who participated in their hallucination.

## An American Case

Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz, M.D., has just given us, in his article "*Beauty of the Night*,"<sup>4</sup> details of a similar occurrence claimed to have befallen Mr. B.C., a fifty-three-year-old university graduate in engineering and business administration, and his wife, during a six-to-nine month period in 1958. The account is as follows:

"My wife and I heard a WOR radio news bulletin which interrupted the regular programme for a few minutes but which no one else heard. We were driving from Montclair to Pluckemin, New Jersey, where a meeting on saucers was held every week. While I was listening to the regular programme, an announcer cut in and said: 'It's been reported that the British have communicated with a saucer in England and have made arrangements to meet with the occupants.'"

"I turned to my wife and was stunned. When I asked her, 'Will you tell me what was just said on the radio?' she gave it to me just the way I had heard it.

"I enquired about this when we arrived at Pluckemin, and although the people there were also listening to that particular radio show, they hadn't heard what we did! I could hardly believe what I had heard. I never had an experience like that before or since. A hoax would have been very unlikely."

Well, now. Let us note that here again there was allegedly an interruption in a regular news broadcast and an announcement concerning flying saucers. An interruption that apparently nobody else noticed and an announcement that apparently nobody else heard. The features of the French case and the American case are identical.

## A New British Case (1972) Involving the Telephone

The following story appeared in the British edition of *Fate* magazine.<sup>5</sup> I have checked every detail of it by telephone with Mr. Eric Pummell of Eastern Counties Newspapers, who is the gentleman concerned, and he assures me that the *Fate* story is entirely correct, that it happened this year, and that so far it remains totally unexplained.