

FLYING
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July August 1971

Thirty pence

UFO over Stourhead ?

See page 2





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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

Vol. 17 No. 4
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ETERNAL PROBLEM

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1971

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For subscription details and address please see foot of page ii of cover

WHEN it comes to the business of examining UFO reports it has always been the aim of this journal to separate the "signal" from the background of "noise", which, in this case, is the mass of false reports, misinterpretations, misidentifications, wild claims and hoaxes. We endeavour, in effect, to reduce the noise-to-signal ratio by detecting the signal and amplifying it for all to see or hear. For the public to see, or hear, it is not only necessary that *Flying Saucer Review* exists, but also that it is made interesting enough for people to want to pass it round.

Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos is a young Spanish researcher who seems destined to become a leading light in the investigation of the UFO problem. A study by Señor Ballester in collaboration with Dr. Jacques Vallée forms part of our new Special Issue No. 4, *UFOs in two Worlds*. Yet another example of his work appears elsewhere in these pages. These, and forthcoming reports of other investigations which are scheduled for future issues of the *Review* and *FSR Case Histories*, will help greatly in the maintenance of a lively interest in our journals.

Señor Ballester's ideals for the "post-Condon era", which are put forward in page 00 are, furthermore, fair and reasonable. However, although we would not wish in any way to discourage an eager young researcher who brings to this weary, battle-scarred subject all the drive and fresh enthusiasm of youth, we do feel that he might have been better advised to have called for a reduction in *wild or irresponsible* speculation, rather than just in speculation alone, for speculation is both reasonable, and valid, when closely linked to the reported facts.

This is indeed the "post-Condon era", and much public interest has been diverted, some even stifled, by the widely disseminated effects of the Condon conclusions. Accordingly, it is our experience that if we are to keep alive journals which are not backed by wealthy societies, or other vested interests, we must strive to attract new readers, and to retain old ones, by keeping our journals interesting and attractive. To this end it is imperative that, in addition to the publishing of news reports, research items and statistical studies, we permit a degree of reasonable speculation *on a broad front*. Within reason the mind needs the relief of occasional flights of fancy, and, after all, what do we know about this subject anyway? All we know is what those thousands of reports contain, and when we start wondering about those contents, and the patterns they reveal, we are bound in the end to speculate about them.

An editor with his finger on the pulse has to be aware of the kind of interesting material and controversial views which will keep the debate lively and maintain the interest of his lay readers as well as the dedicated researchers. It is his eternal problem to produce a balanced and interesting list of contents for a magazine in a field in which publishers who work "part-time or spare-time" walk tightropes to keep their publications in print. Dry listings, complicated tables and sparsely-worded catalogues may be very necessary for research, but a surfeit of these can become an editor's nightmare. There are

those who fail to understand this, with the result that on occasions heat is generated under a few collars.

It should never be forgotten that it is the subscription of the ordinary reader which provides the wherewithal

for maintaining the journal which is to be the vehicle for those works which will help solve that other eternal problem, how to detect the signal amidst the noise.

Cover illustration:

UFO OVER STOURHEAD

IVAR MACKAY
writes . . .

"The Frys were unaware of anything in the sky at the time and only noticed the object on projecting their holiday 'snaps' later in the year. I am told they know nothing about the subject—being only vaguely interested. It was through the good services of Mr. D. R. Hamilton, a Bufora member of Twickenham that the transparency was brought to my notice."

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Colour Transparency taken by Mr. G. F. Fry of Staines. Present—Mrs. Fry; also unknown man (shown in photograph).

Date—Tuesday, September 29, 1970.

Location—Entrance to Stourhead Park, Nr. Mere, Wiltshire.

Time—1 to 2 p.m.

Conditions—Bright Sun—clouds about.

Camera—Exakta VX 1000.

Lens—50 mm. Tessar.

Film—Agfa CT 18—18 DIN—processed by Agfa.

Exposure—1/125 sec.

Aperture—Not known.

PERCY HENNELL
comments . . .

Mr. Mackay of Bufora brought a colour transparency into me a week or so ago containing what appeared to be a UFO in the sky. I have examined this in great detail and there is no doubt that it is not an abrasion on the emulsion and would seem to be something that was actually photographed.

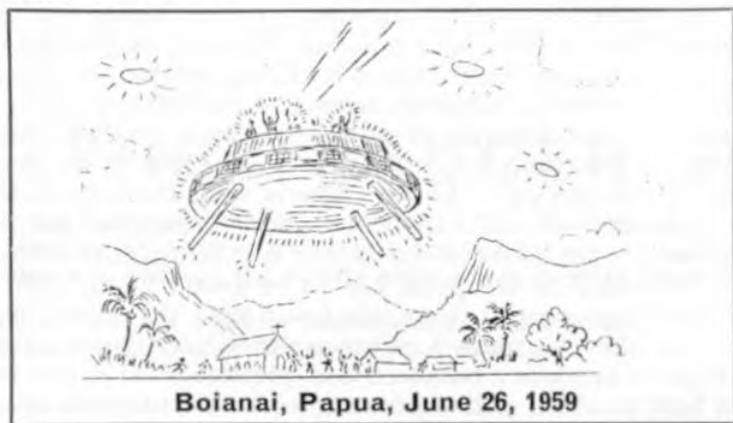
There is little point in me enlarging the negative any further as it is so indistinct that nothing would be gained by it. However, it does appear to me to have (and I emphasise that this may be entirely accidental) a similarity in structure to one of the objects in the group photographed at St. Leonards.

Whether in fact this is evidential I could not say, but I do examine all these photographs looking for parallels in structure. I am afraid that there is little I can add to this comment, but I hope that it may be of some use.

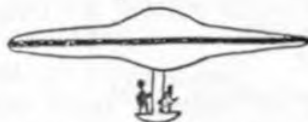
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CALLERY UFO AND OCCUPANTS

A new report from Pennsylvania

Robert A. Schmidt

Our contributor is secretary of the UFO Research Institute of Pittsburgh.*

THIS account gives details of a UFO, with "occupants", seen near Callery, about seven miles from the scene of the Butler humanoids case,¹ on April 14, 1971.

The witnesses are well-known to me. They are my wife's cousin, Marion, aged 28, and her fiance Dennis,² a serious young man, a gentleman in every sense, who lives in Evans City, a small country town between Callery and Butler, and about 37 miles from Pittsburgh, the largest city in South-West Pennsylvania.

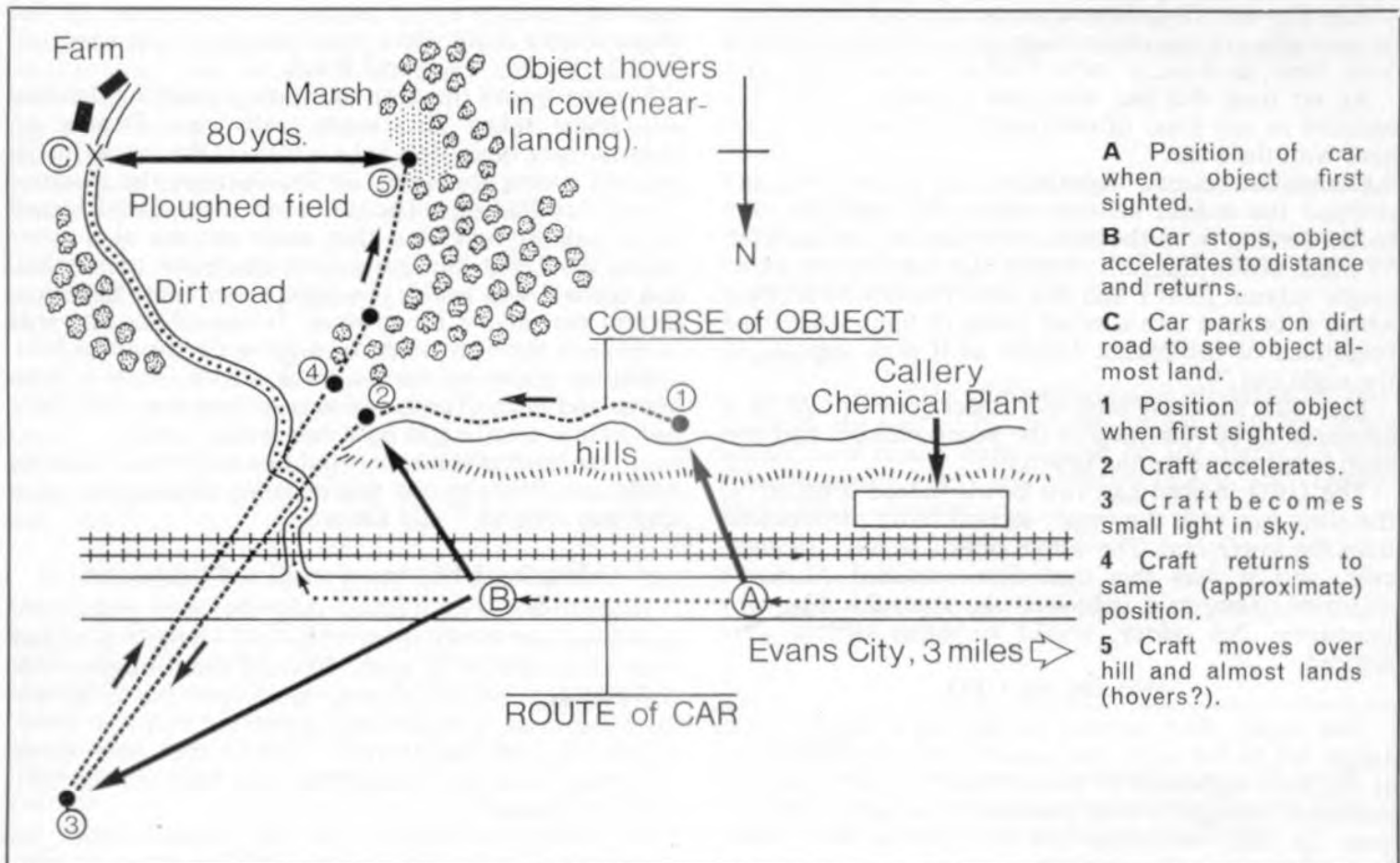
That night, when I heard of the affair, I immediately recorded their stories. We all went out to the site next day, and still shaken, they again related their accounts. These I have pieced together in a whole.

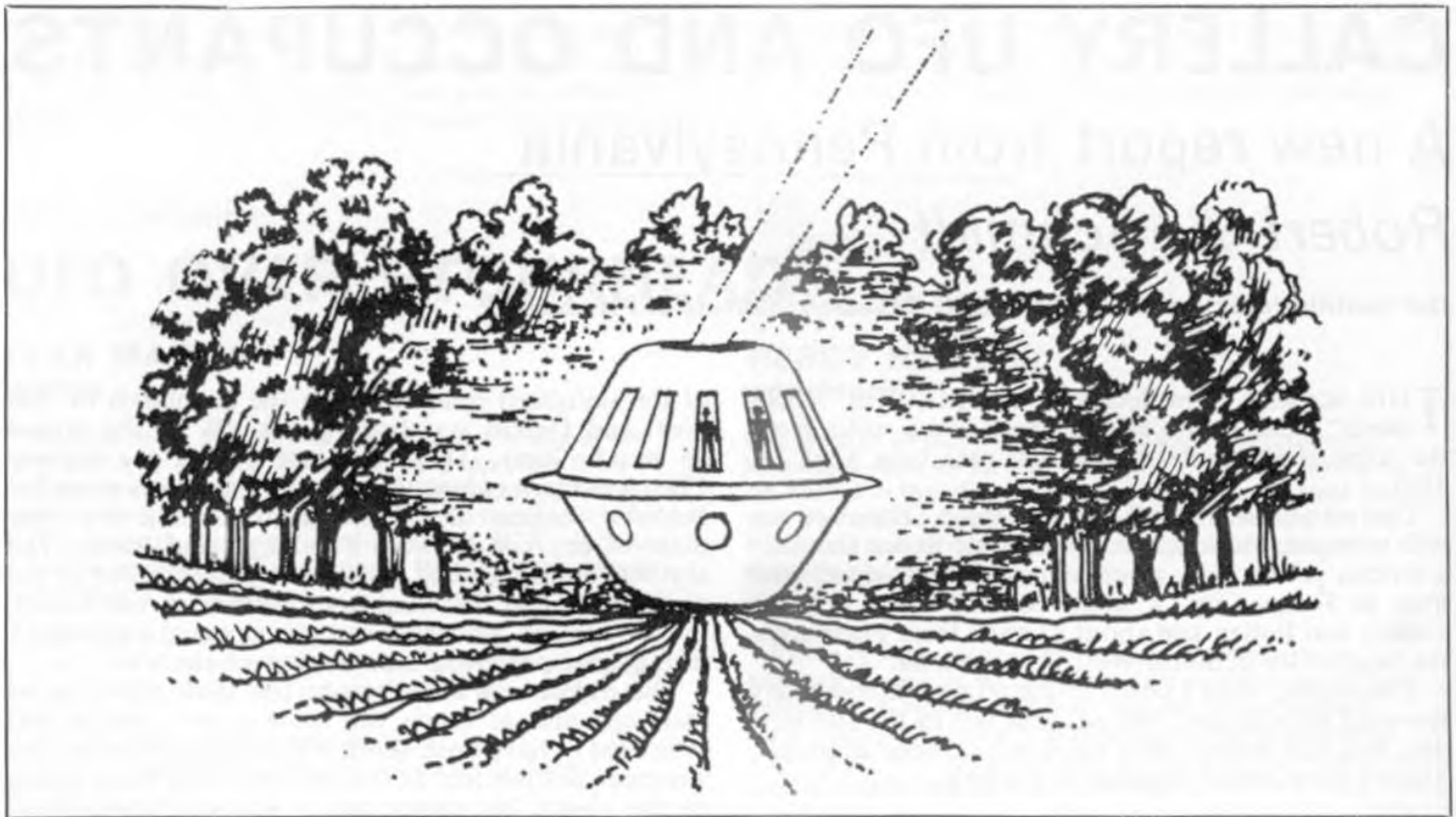
Initial sighting

The time was 8.00 p.m. E.S.T. Dennis was driving Marion from Evans City to her home in Pittsburgh. They were travelling on a two-lane highway, typical

of the unlighted roads through the farmlands of that area, and Dennis was holding the VW to the posted 35 m.p.h. limit. They had just passed the Callery Chemical Plant (where the first space fuel was made for NASA's rockets of the Vanguard series), the only plant of any size between Pittsburgh and Butler. The sky was cloudless, and, as the temperature was in the sixties they had the windows lowered for ventilation. It was Marion who first saw the unusual sky object, through the passenger side window of the VW.

The object was travelling in the same direction as their car and at much the same speed, and it was estimated to have been about 100 yards from them. The witnesses did not feel as though they were being paced by the object, but rather that it was just flying along. It was the glowing yellow-white colour and low altitude that caught Marion's attention, and she thought she was watching some kind of aircraft. However, even with the window down she could hear no noise. It was obvious





Artist's impression of object as seen by witnesses from point 'C' on map

that Marion was excited about something outside the car, so Dennis slowed down to about 10 m.p.h., and then he too caught sight of the object.

Said Dennis: "It followed the contours of the hills off to our right, staying above them and always equidistant from them, as if using some kind of radar technique."

At no time did the witnesses experience any discomfort or any kind of mechanical or electrical problems with their car.

Dennis continued: "I pulled off on to the berm and stopped the engine so that we could listen for any sound coming from the object. It then shot away from its place above the hills, across the road at the same height (about 100ft.) and out into the sky to a point where it became like a small point of light, about the brightness of the planet Jupiter as it now appears in the night sky."

Less than a minute later the object grew in size, as it appeared to be returning to the point where it had last been in motion over the low hills.

The UFO looked like two bowls placed together at the rims, but with the upper section more pronounced than the lower one. The whole object seemed luminescent, and it was this that first attracted Marion's attention. They said it looked the size of a 1½-storey bungalow. No odour, sound or other effects were noticed.

Pursuing the UFO

The object then seemed to slew as it went over a larger hill to the right, and about 100 yards distant. As it did so it appeared to drop behind the hill, and the witnesses thought it may just have continued over and past the hill, becoming lost to sight in the "dead" ground due to its low altitude.

Dennis re-started the car without any problems, and drove down the road to a junction with a dirt road. This narrow track takes off to the right and crosses the railroad tracks of the regular service route of the Pennsylvania R.R. which runs parallel to the road and past the Callery Chemical Plant.

Marion wasn't too keen to follow something that had just about taken her breath away, but Dennis, an adventurous type, decided to follow the track in the hope of seeing the object in the distance (he assumed it had travelled on). The dirt road twisted and turned for a quarter mile, but they soon arrived at a point where the UFO had gone over the brow of the hill, and there it was again, this time hanging, or hovering, several feet above the ground. It was about 80 yards away over the downslope of a farmer's ploughed field.

Dennis drove on up the track which led to a farm house and barn. The house was in darkness, and there was only a small night light beside the barn.

"I was hoping someone would be at home so that we could get others to see this peculiar object, but not a soul was around," said Dennis.

Hovering UFO, sweet smell and light beam

Below the dirt road where they were now parked, the farmland was in the form of a field—freshly ploughed—of about 15 to 20 acres. Beyond the ploughed field there is an area of wooded land, and the UFO was hovering close up against the woods, in a sort of "cove" flanked by tall maple trees. Dennis was sure it was hovering, because he could see light between the UFO and the ground.

According to Marion the air smelled sweet and clean, much as it does after rain. (When investigating, I

found that manure had been spread, but on checking with the farmer, learned that it had been scattered the day following the sighting, in other words the day of our visit. We also checked the field carefully for marks of any sort, but found nothing. This was done by daylight as the area is pitch black at night.)

"We had parked on the road nearby a couple of trees," said Dennis, "and it was while we watched the object with widening eyes that we smelled the unnatural aroma." (Later it was ascertained that there had been no rain within three days of the incident.)

The object was still glowing with a whitish-yellow hue, and a mist was seen about it. Next day I attributed this mist to a small marshy area which was located some twenty yards behind the ground over which the UFO hovered, and which would provide a good deal of rising dampness in the gully where the object had settled.

Dennis estimated that the object was about 25-30ft. in diameter, and about 20ft. in height.

The time of this second, hovering sighting of the UFO was about 8.20 p.m., and the sky was not completely dark. The tree outlines could be seen silhouetted against the twilight skyline to the West, in which direction Marion and Dennis were facing. The trees near to the UFO were not illuminated by it; just the misty area immediately adjacent to the object. At this point a shaft of white light shone from the top of the object and went straight up!

Humanoid "occupants" seen

"The object had several 'windows' in the upper portion," continued Dennis. "They were the shape of vertical rectangles. The bottom half had three round windows spaced equally across the 'front.' How many vertical ones there were I don't know, but I'm sure at least four. There appeared red lights from within the top windows and the bottom ones: reddish flickering lights from within like those which one sees dancing across computer screens in Science Fiction movies. That's my impression . . . computer flickers.

"It was Marion who first saw the figures in the windows . . . humanlike forms, two of them. Along with her I took about three seconds to get into the car and beat it out of there.

"They were large figures and, from the distance—which I think was some 80 yards—they must have been about 10 feet high. They stood silhouetted in two of the upper windows, and it was this that turned inquisitiveness into unadulterated fright. The UFO was still in the same position as we went out of sight of it down the dirt road."

* * * * *

Marion and Dennis returned to the site next day (April 15) together with D. Hillman and myself as investigators for the UFO Research Institute, and our observations have been inserted in the report. As I have already indicated, Marion and Dennis are well-known to me, and I can confirm that they are straightforward people with respectable positions in the business world. I have no doubts at all that they saw something that alarmed them, for Marion was as white as a sheet, and still shaking, when she told me of the incident on the night of April 14. Neither of them drink or smoke.

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They consented to the publication of this report as, on reflection, they feel that all who are interested in the careful study of this subject would wish to know of their experience.

Notes

¹ Robert A. Schmidt, *Humanoids seen at Butler* in FSR Vol. 14, No. 5, September/October 1968.

² These two young people have agreed to publication of this report on the understanding that their names are withheld. (Full names on file with FSR.)

Postscript

Since this article was received and prepared for production, the author has written to say that his wife's cousin and fiancé have agreed to the publication of their names. They are: Marion Lang and Dennis Donaldson—EDITOR.

* Address: Suite 311, 508 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219, U.S.A.

NOTICE

The name of the Company which publishes *Flying Saucer Review* and associated magazines has been changed from Flying Saucer Service Ltd. to FSR Publications Ltd.

FOLLOW-UP ON THE MORRO DO VINTEM MYSTERY

Gordon Creighton

IT will be recalled that, in two articles published in 1967¹ and 1968² respectively, Charles Bowen discussed the curious affair of Miguel José Viana and Manuel Pereira da Cruz, the two young Brazilian TV and radio technicians who died in decidedly mysterious circumstances on a hill at Niterói, near Rio de Janeiro, on, or some time soon after, Wednesday, August 17, 1966. Beside each body, when they were found three days later in a thicket on the hill, was a leaden half-mask without eye-holes (see sketch). Also found on the bodies were notes, some giving simple electronic formulae, and others containing cryptic instructions, in an unidentified handwriting, such as:

"Sunday, one capsule after lunch; Wednesday, one capsule at bed-time",
and:

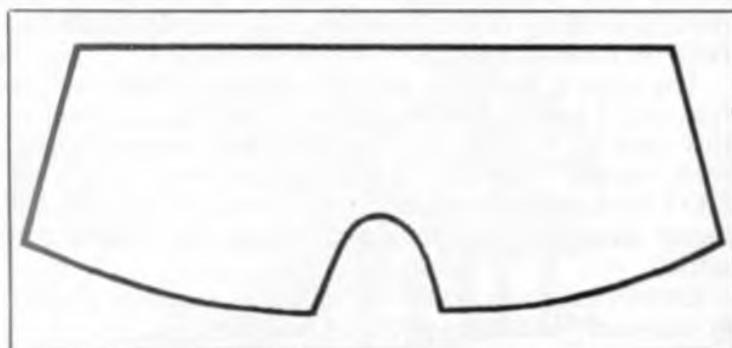
"Be at the place arranged at 16.30. Take capsules at 18.30. After feeling the effects, protect half the face with lead masks. Await the agreed signal."

The case naturally gave rise to a welter of fantastic speculation in Brazil and all sorts of theories were advanced, one of the most popular being that the two victims had made some kind of rendezvous with UFO entities and had been killed by them. This particular theory was moreover reinforced considerably when it became known that a prominent Rio de Janeiro lady, Senhora Gracinda Barbosa Coutinho da Sousa, had told the police that she and three of her children had been travelling by car near the Morro do Vintém on the evening of August 17, when they saw an oval-shaped object of an orangy colour, with a band of fire around its edges, hanging stationary above that hill and emitting vivid beams of light. They had stopped and watched it for some three or four minutes, during which period it made no lateral movement, but rose and fell in the air several times. And there was also much rumour about other—*secret*—details which this lady had allegedly divulged to the police. Other witnesses also came forward and said they had seen the UFO.

Other press comment made much of the fact that, a little over two months previously (June 13), Miguel and Manuel had engaged in some mysterious "experiments" on the nearby beach at Atafona, in the course of which an intensely luminous object came down over the shore. An explosion and a blinding flash occurred a few moments later, and local fishermen in due course testified that they had seen a "flying saucer" fall into the sea at the time.

Other sensational revelations and allegations suggested that the unfortunate pair had been active members of a group of "scientific spiritualists" who dabbled equally in voodoo and spiritism, explosives, and "communication with Mars".

By mid-September of 1966 the case had slipped into oblivion. Charles Bowen concluded his first article with



Shape of the lead masks

these words: "For the time being the clamps are on, but in Brazil things often have a habit of leaking out after a while. Maybe one of these days we will learn a lot more about this absorbing case."

After the bodies (already partly putrified) had been found on the hillside on August 20, 1966, the Brazilian newspapers stated that no signs of violence had been found on them and that autopsies had been performed which revealed no signs of poison in the internal organs. Likewise no known cause for cardiac failure had been found.

After a year had elapsed the Brazilian press reverted to the affair and reported (August 19-26, 1967) that the bodies had been exhumed for certain organs to be examined again for poison. The papers also reported the arrest of an associate of the two dead men. This was a civilian air line pilot named Elcio Gomes—the "third man" involved in the mystery "experiment" on the beach at Atafona. Gomes was now taken into custody, the papers said, for having made contradictory statements to the police. Under interrogation it seems that he had allegedly made all manner of revelations—one of these being that the two dead men had operated a clandestine radio station.

All this was related briefly in Charles Bowen's second article, which concluded with this question: "Was the case allowed to re-appear briefly, so that the police could project the idea of a 'murderer'? After all, down-to-earth human mayhem is so much more reassuring than wild hints about spiritist dabbings with dark forces, or any suggestion that the men in the lead masks were done away with by a UFO, or even by a great big glob of plasma."

Another long silence seems to have followed. One of the frustrating and disappointing facts about the job of producing FSR is that we are so totally dependent on the reports which have to reach us *from the source*, and that means from all the far corners of the earth. If, as so often happens, we print no follow-up on a case, however exciting or interesting it may have been, commonsense would surely indicate that this must be because we have not got any further reports. It is

curious that so many readers, who are perfectly well aware that FSR is a publication produced on an almost totally voluntary and unpaid basis, in their spare time, by a tiny group of dedicated people, get so impatient and write to enquire why we have said no more about this or that case. A little reflection would surely show that operation on such a scale would call for vast funds and resources and a global research organisation such as FSR certainly does not possess. (And indeed such as only powerful corporations or governments could possess.)

More news filters through

In this particular case of the Morro do Vintém I am happy however to be able to report that the ghosts of the unfortunate Miguel and Manuel still continued to walk after 1967, refusing to lie down as it was no doubt hoped they would. And a few further press items about them have come our way.

Thus, on June 28, 1968, under the headline AFTER THE ATOMIC TEST, the newspaper *O Globo* (Rio de Janeiro) was writing as follows:

“A blond man now emerges in the mystery of the leaden masks, just at the moment when science had given up, as unattainable, the last hope of securing a technical clarification of how precisely the radio workers Miguel José Viana and Manuel Pereira da Cruz met their deaths.

“The unknown wanted man, whose appearance is that of a foreigner, was seen, by a witness, sitting at the wheel of a jeep and conversing with Miguel and Manuel on the road up to the Morro do Vintém, on the day before the bodies were found.

“Yesterday the atomic scientists in São Paulo gave their verdict—a *negative* one—on the tests they have been conducting on the hair from the corpses. And with that the Rio Police Delegate in charge of homicide cases, Sr. Romen José Vieira, has closed the enquiry and forwarded the dossier to the Ministry of Justice.

“The text of the report issued by the Atomic Energy Institute in São Paulo is as follows:

‘As an exceptional measure, the Radiochemical Division has conducted an analysis, by neutronic activation, on some hair sent to them by the Medico-Legal Institute of the State of Rio de Janeiro. Four elements were sought in the hair, namely arsenic, mercury, barium, and thalium. The results are as follows: arsenic, 0.0000041%; mercury, 0.0001%; barium, 0.0001%; thalium, 0.0001%. This result proves scientifically that the deaths of Miguel and Manuel were not due to ingestion of these poisons.’”

Official explanation

Eight more months passed, and then, in the first quarter of 1969, a few more press-clippings on the case reached FSR from Brazil. The following paragraphs are a translation which I have made from one of the fullest of these reports (*Correio do Povo*, Pôrto Alegre, February 23, 1969), but I should add that for convenience I have also incorporated into it a number of minor features and clarifications, which come from several other press-reports of about the same date but for which

we have no precise indication of day or of the name of the newspaper.

LEADEN MASKS MYSTERY SOLVED AFTER THREE YEARS

“Rio. February 22. The mystery of the two electronic technicians found dead three years ago on the Morro do Vintém with lead masks beside them (masks which subsequently came to be considered as having originated on another planet) has now been cleared up, with the confession of the underworld figure, Hamilton Bezani.

“Hamilton Bezani, notorious criminal, smuggler and car-thief, already serving a sentence of over 50 years in São Paulo, had told a woman relative of his who lives in Rio that he had been connected with the murders, and when Delegate João Antônio da Silva of the Rio de Janeiro Police went to the São Paulo prison to interrogate him, he freely admitted it—as the woman relative had told the Police he would do, if skilfully questioned.

“Hamilton Bezani’s story is that, wanted by the São Paulo authorities, he was hiding in Rio de Janeiro, where he was approached by three other criminals known by the nicknames of ‘Espanhol,’³ ‘Wilson



Map of Brazil

Alemão,’⁴ and ‘Acácio,’ who asked him to ‘do a job’ in Niterói, which would yield good dividends for the four of them.

“So off they went to Niterói, where they first engaged a taxi and then, at a certain spot, they changed to a private car which took them to a spiritualist centre. There they met the proprietor of the place, a woman called Helena.

“Inside the spiritualist centre, Hamilton Bezani was next introduced to Miguel and Manuel, who were already there. ‘Espanhol,’ ‘Wilson Alemão,’ and ‘Acácio’ indicated to him by gesture that these two people were to be the targets.’

“During the séance which followed, the criminals learned that Miguel and Manuel were in Niterói en route from their homes at Campos to São Paulo, where they planned to buy electronic equipment and a new

car, and that they had plenty of cash on them. Pointing to a briefcase carried by one of the targets, 'Wilson Alemão' sagely remarked to his companions: 'See. *The Spirit of Fortune has descended. But it will shortly incarnate in other bodies!*'

"Hamilton Bezani told the Police that at the close of the séance he was instructed to take the wheel of the car standing outside, and drive the party, 'Espanhol', 'Wilson Alemão', 'Acácio', Helena, and Miguel and Manuel, to the foot of the Morro do Vintém. There the others forced the two men to get out and go with them into the thickets on the hillside while Hamilton Bezani stayed with the car (a stolen one).

"Half an hour later, the three men and the woman returned to the car, looking nervous. Holding the briefcase, containing NCr \$6,000.00,⁵ 'Wilson Alemão' told Bezani: 'We have killed them both. We forced them, at revolver point, to take the poison.'

"The party then drove off to Guanabara, fixing a rendezvous together for next day, which Hamilton Bezani, fearing a trick of some kind, did not keep.

"The Police say they are on the track of the group and will have no difficulty in apprehending them as they are notorious criminals."

(One of the press reports said that the police already had the Voodoo woman, Helena.—G.C.)

And there, for the moment, I fear we must leave the matter, as no further news about the case has reached me.⁶ It may well be that all have been apprehended, have confessed, and the dossier is closed once and for all time. If so, I have not heard about it from any of the correspondents in Brazil.

Views of correspondents

Great pressure of work and lack of time have prevented earlier examination and translation of all of the South American UFO material of recent years. When, early this year, I had run through this lot of 1969 clippings, I at once wrote off to Brazil to ask several of the correspondents for *their* views. Did they, I asked, knowledgeable people about Brazil and about the Brazilian UFO scene, really feel satisfied that this was the truth at last about the Morro do Vintém?

Their replies are negative. One of them made a particularly interesting comment, which I quote:

"As for the Lead Masks case, we are all pretty certain that the explanation put out by the authorities in February 1969 was *faked*. It was at that precise time that the big drive against all UFO investigators in Brazil began in earnest. The authorities were doing everything they could to 'debunk the flying saucers.'

"It would therefore have been very unwise indeed for any of us to have looked any further into the Morro do Vintém case just then. Ufologists in Brazil were even being linked with the activities of the terrorists, and consequently we were all most careful not to attract attention to ourselves!

"As you say, the official 'explanation' does smell to high heaven. FSR might of course publish the whole story again, with full details, adding the official 'explanation' as a footnote, and ending with the words: CASE CLOSED. This might give your readers a chuckle or two."

So there it remains. Brazil, like every other country for that matter, certainly does have its "seamy side", and, just as has happened elsewhere, it is very easy for criminal elements to make use of psychic séances and spiritualistic activities as a cloak for something else. (In addition to this, we must not overlook the evidence, already strong, from many other quarters, that the parapsychical or ultraterrestrial entities which could be behind the so-called "UFO Phenomenon" are not over-addicted to the practices of morality and virtue themselves, *but are indeed using terrestrial criminal elements to do their work for them.*)

Dino Kraspedon

It is most unfortunate that genuine parapsychical research and enquiry and genuine psychic work, so much of which is devoted to *healing*, should suffer a backlash from all this. But, if we bear in mind the business about Aladino Felix ("*Dino Kraspedon*")⁷ who, so we understand, turned out to be a terrorist who was going to "bring in the Venusians to help him," then it is not one whit surprising if, in the past two or three years, we should have seen the Brazilian authorities stamp very heavily on all psychic and spiritualistic activities—including spiritual healing—as well as on everything relating to UFO research.

At first glance, I suppose the story allegedly told by Hamilton Bezani might seem reasonable and likely enough. *But is it?* The two victims had left their homes in Campos by bus for Niterói at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 17, saying that they were going to São Paulo to buy a car and electronic equipment. Their bus reached Niterói at about 2.00 p.m. the same day, and at 5.00 p.m., after they had bought raincoats as it was raining and had bought mineral water in a bar, they were allegedly seen, by a boy, sitting at a point high up on the Morro do Vintém. The same boy detected their putrefying bodies on August 20 when he was bird-nesting on the hillside.

What I personally find sticking in my craw is the idea—which we are apparently expected to buy—that the criminals already had their plans worked out to the extent of having prepared the lead masks and the notes—which we are to presume were already in their pockets when they met their victims at the séance centre. It is true that there remain serious discrepancies in all the reports that I have seen. For example, in 1966 the press said the two men had left their homes in Campos on *August 17*. But I note that in 1969, some of the press reports were saying they had set out on *August 15*. In the latter case, they would obviously have been in Niterói, and perhaps hanging around and visiting the Morro, and perhaps even the spiritistic centre too, for several days—long enough, admittedly, for the murderers to learn all about them and prepare the lead masks and so on.

At any rate, regardless of my own feelings, it is to be noted that our trusted observers in Brazil say that they too view the "explanation" with much reserve.

If Hamilton Bezani and his trio of friends with the fabulous Damon Runyonesque names⁸ really do exist, and if Bezani really was, as we are told, in 1969 serving a gaol sentence of 50 years in São Paulo, then the

thought occurs to my suspicious mind that such a man as Hamilton Bezani would be a Heaven-sent gift to any government desirous of making troublesome ghosts lie down and stay down. What hardened old lag, doing a 50-year stretch, would be averse to earning a little remission (indeed, why not full liberty?) by making any nice little "confession" so long as it pleased the authorities? After all, the reports do not represent Hamilton as being one of the actual murderers, but only an accomplice.

From my own experience of matters relating to the way in which the police sometimes operate in Brazil (and I had some very interesting experiences which, alas, cannot be related here) I have more than a sneaking feeling that this fine old lag, Senhor Hamilton Bezani—if he exists at all outside the columns of the newspapers and the police statements—is at full liberty, out and about: perhaps enjoying himself on the beach at Copacabana with his other *spiv* pals, while Officialdom heaves sighs of relief and fervently hopes that it will never be necessary any more to think about the Mystery of the Dead Men with the Leaden Masks on the Morro do Vintém.

As for the enigmatic "blond man", it will be observed that he seems to have got lost somewhere along the way, together with the pilot Élcio Gomes. Or, being a blond, was he, in fact, "Wilson Alemão"! (One must admit of course that *Wilson* does not sound a convincingly Teutonic name.)

In conclusion, let us say of this whole affair, as an Italian might: "Se non è vero, è molto ben trovato."⁹

Notes

- ¹ Charles Bowen: *The Mystery of the Morro do Vintém*: FSR Vol. XIII, No. 2 (March/April 1967).
- ² Charles Bowen: *No Easy Solution to the Morro Mystery*: FSR Vol. XIV, No. 4 (July/August 1968).
- ³ "Spaniard".
- ⁴ "Wilson the German".
- ⁵ 6,000 New Brazilian Cruzeiros (or Cr. \$3,000,000 as given in the first press reports, i.e. 3 million *Old* Cruzeiros). The Brazilian Cruzeiro being greatly inflated, the value of what the two men had with them was in fact not more than about £485 in English currency.
- ⁶ For all these reports now quoted we express our profound thanks, as always, to Dr. W. Buhler, Mr. Nigel Rimes and Senhor Jäder U. Pereira.
- ⁷ On Aladino Felix ("Dino Kraspedon") (see FSR Vol. XV, No. 1 (January/February 1969), p. 32 (World Round-up), which quotes a letter from Nigel Rimes to the following effect:

"At the beginning of August 1968, Aladino Felix, alias Sabado Dinotos, alias Dino Kraspedon, appeared on television in São Paulo and stated publicly that his book *Meu Contacto Com Os Discos Voadores* (*My Contact with Flying Saucers*) was nothing more than sheer invention.

"At the end of August he was arrested, together with a number of other people, charged with being the leader of a terrorist group in Brazil. It now seems pretty certain that he was deeply involved in terrorist activities, but was by no means the leader of the group. The press has been full of his testimony, and indeed on September 10 the São Paulo paper *Última Hora* devoted the whole of three pages to it, with headlines five inches high. He has been 'singing like the proverbial canary', but what he has said is so fantastic and so contradictory that there can be no doubt that the poor chap is extremely unbalanced. He has even gone so far as to say that his arrest will have serious consequences for humanity, as the Venusians will soon attack Earth in order to free him and his friends."

In connexion with this highly interesting and significant report from Mr. Rimes I feel however that it would also be wise to bear in mind the suggestion made by John Keel in his *Operation Trojan Horse* (Souvenir Press edition, pp. 280-281) that "Dino Kraspedon" was not simply a hoaxer who had invented a UFO story, *but a man who had most probably had some kind of genuine experience with ultraterrestrial UFO entities, who had taken control of him, caused him to develop psychic powers so that he could even appear on the Brazilian television and predict the forthcoming assassinations of Senator Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, and who finally led him into courses of action that were calculated to spell total disaster for him.*

In other words, "The Others" were the hoaxers—not their tool "Dino Kraspedon".

Such considerations as these must likewise never be absent from our minds when we contemplate such cases as the Mystery of the Morro do Vintém.

- ⁸ Among the charming Brazilian people, one encounters many delightful, colourful, even pompous or high-faluting names and nicknames like these, and I made a collection of them. I knew a State Governor whose name was *Sylvester Pericles*, and the huge and immensely genial Negro taxi-driver whose cab was usually parked in front of my Consulate was called *Napoleão* (Napoleon).

And may I add here, for the edification of readers (and perhaps also for posterity) that I shall never forget that splendid evening which I spent in a bar in Miami in 1942 drinking *Cuba Libres* with the gentleman who was the *original* on whom Damon Runyon had modelled his immortal character *Harry the Horse*. *Harry the Horse* was wearing the uniform of the U.S. Army, and was in training at one of the great military camps in the Deep South before going to a theatre of war overseas. I have often wondered whether he came through it all.

- ⁹ Or, as we might put it colloquially: "If it isn't true, well at least it *sounds* good!"

We have a job to do and we rely on you to help!

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**FLYING SAUCER REVIEW
& FSR CASE HISTORIES**

LANDINGS IN SPAIN IN 1958

A report on two factual Type-1 UFO incidents from first-hand sources

Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos

Our contributor, who is President of CEONI,* is one of the leading figures in the field of UFO research in Spain, and he also works in close collaboration with Dr. Jacques Vallée. The translation of this article is by Gordon Creighton.

DURING the last eighteen months I have focussed the whole of my attention on the problem of Type-I sightings in Spain and Portugal. As most of you are probably aware, this, in terms of Dr. Vallée's classification, means landing cases. In a two-part investigation project, covering the data-gathering and analysis, I have compiled over 150 reports, out of which about 30 have been identified. In a recent study,¹ one hundred Iberian cases of this kind have been presented, and the data analysed. Although we have published summaries for all the cases, complete details of most of them remain unknown outside Spain—and, indeed, even to many Spanish UFO researchers. From time to time, I shall endeavour to remedy this, as requested by the Editor of *Flying Saucer Review*. Here are two incidents which happened in 1958.

(1) Rocket-shaped UFO takes off from the ground

The first of these two reports was sent to the Madrid branch of the CEI† by a witness whose name is known, but cannot be published, on April 7, 1970.

In August 1958, at about 7.00 or 8.00 p.m. (local time) three friends were on the summit of "Mojón Alto", a 3,000 metres peak right in the midst of the Sierra Nevada Range ("Snowy Mountains") in the Province of Granada. The sky was totally clear, the visibility absolute. The weather was dry, and the surrounding temperature was about 10 or 15 degrees. It was dusk, as the Sun was just going down behind the peak known as "La Veleta". Looking over towards the valley of the Rio Genil they observed, at a distance of about 4 kilometres from them, an object shaped like a conic trunk, standing on the ground. For a moment they took it for a pluviometer (apparatus for measuring rainfall). It was standing, vertical, on three supporting

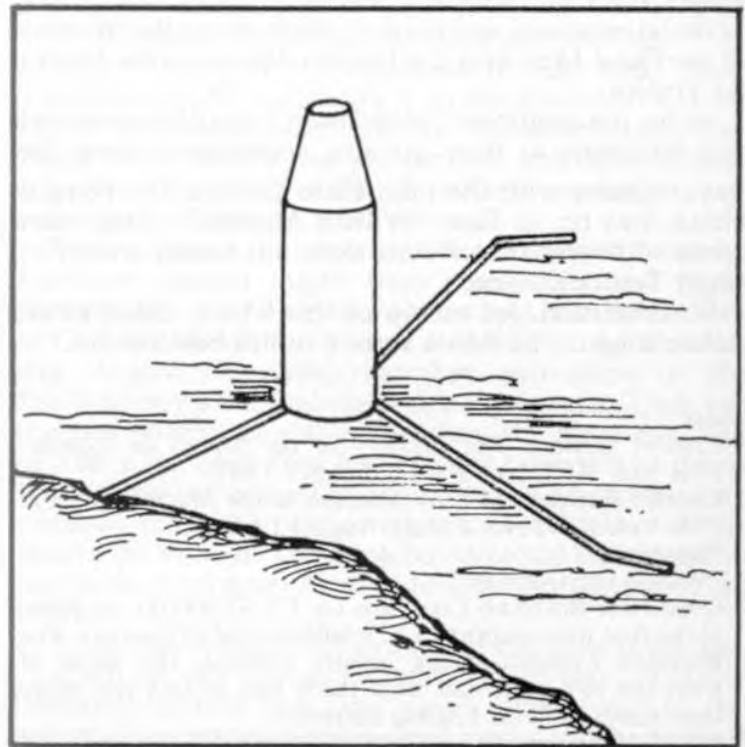


Fig. 1. Object seen Aug., 1958, Granada, Southern Spain

legs, on an area where the ground was sloping. Its height seemed to be between 6 and 10 metres, and its appearance was of burnished metal (like stainless steel). When they looked at it again, it was no longer in the same place, but *was rising from the ground*, producing no sound. Its ascent was slow to begin with, until it entered the zone of sunlight, and then it developed great speed and, moving away over the "Mulhacen" Peak, it vanished in the direction of Africa. The total duration of the sighting was around 15 minutes.

Before proceeding, I would like to record another case, a poorly documented one, which fits the Type-I category. It is dated April 30, 1958, and the location is the village of El Padul, also in the Province of Granada.

Our source is a National Spanish Radio broadcast of May 1, 1958:

* Círculo de Estudios sobre Objetos No Identificados, Colegio Mayor A. Salazar 23, Valencia—10, Spain. Please address all letters to CEONI.

† Centro de Estudios Interplanetarios, Apartado 282, Barcelona, Spain. CEI publishes the professionally-produced magazine *Stendek*.



The El Padul and Mulhacén sightings April and August 1958 (?), Granada

In the vicinity of the mountain village of El Padul (also in the Sierra Nevada Range) yesterday evening just at nightfall, Ignacio Jimenez Leyva and the shepherd Torcuato Sánchez saw a very brilliant object, some 10 metres in diameter, which settled on a hill near where they were standing talking. A few moments later the strange object began to rise and it vanished at a staggering speed in the direction of the town of Baza, flying at a considerable height and leaving behind it an orange-coloured trail.

(2) Two more strange "shells"

The second of the main reports of this article is dated December 31, 1958, just a few minutes before the end of the year. My source is that excellent field investigator, my good friend Señor Manuel Osuna, national teacher in the pretty little village of Umbrete in Sevilla. Osuna has done a painstaking job endeavouring to root out all possible information, and all subsequent data has come from him.

The time was a few minutes before midnight on December 31. Señor Rafael Salas, a businessman, an honest and reliable person, had hired a truck in Huelva for the purpose of transporting marine salt to Seville. The loaded lorry was approaching Sanlucar la Mayor (Province of Sevilla), but had not yet begun the climb up to the long and dangerous slope of Las Doblas. They were at a point about 1 kilometre before coming to the bridge over the Rio Guadiamar, from which the slope in question begins.

After looking at his watch, Señor Salas gave the order to halt and, without getting down from the truck, to "take the twelve ritual grapes" to celebrate the close of the year. The driver parked right against the culvert

on his right-hand side, on the other side of which there is a piece of land enclosed by a wire fence to stop the fighting bulls from getting out.

Before they stopped they had seen nothing abnormal on the ground there. But no sooner had the truck stopped than, at a distance of 1½ metres from the right side door, a cylindrical object with pointed end, shot, as though fired, straight up and absolutely vertically into the air. The witness then tried to get out, and had got the door open, when a second and similar object shot up from the ground. He got a better view of this one than the first object.

The diameter of the objects was about 30 cms. and their height about 2 metres. It was not possible to say whether they had any illumination of their own. They appeared a phosphorescent red colour, and the witness said that their illumination came from the headlights, which had not been turned off when they stopped the truck.

The noise made by the "firing" of both the objects was compared by the witness to the sound of a sudden burst from an electric saw. Even had they been luminous,



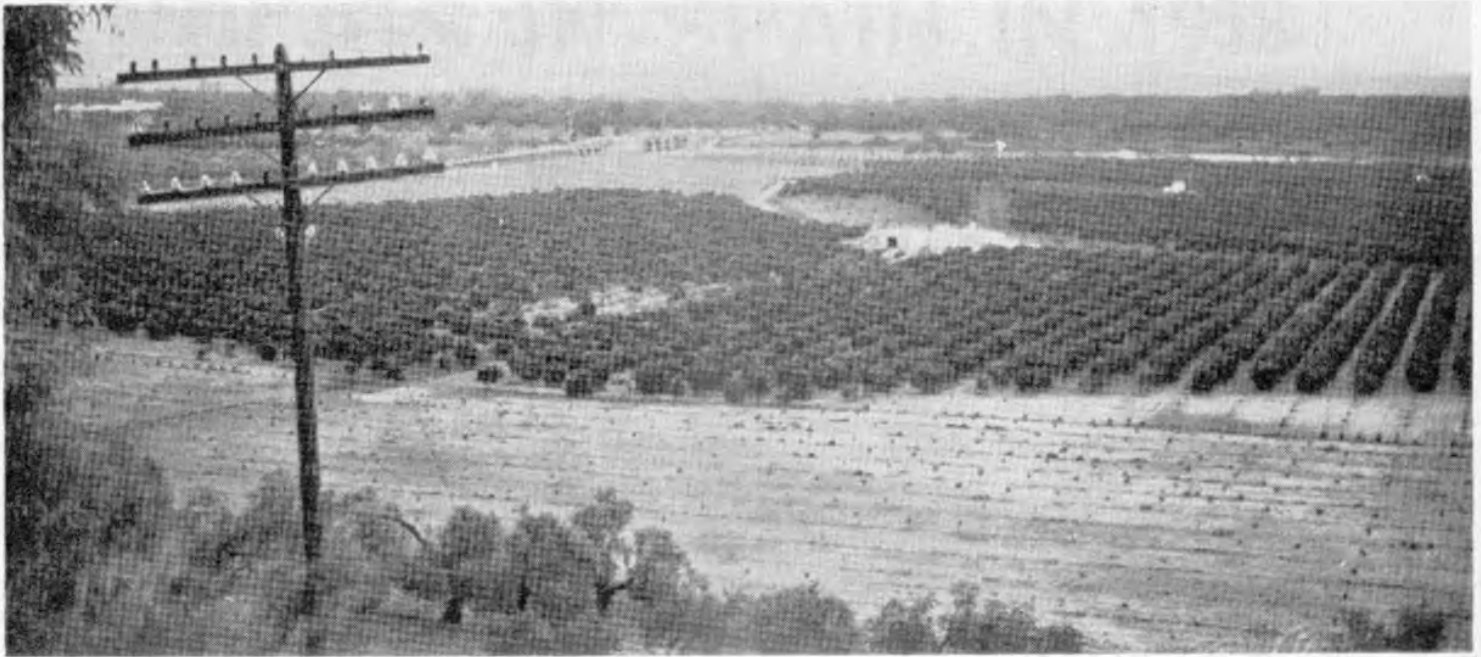
The reported sighting was at a place very near this point

it would have been impossible to follow the objects in their trajectory owing to their very high velocity. It was a clear night, with little light from the Moon, the latter not yet having reached the first quarter.

Comment

We have thus seen two pretty well detailed reports of what appear to be sightings of an unusual kind of aerial object: cylindrical-shaped, or tronco-conical-shaped. In the bizarre gallery of UFOs this is not the first time such alleged "craft" have been reported. "Shell-like" objects are to some extent known to us throughout the European UFO literature, but they are not numerous. Perhaps it may be of significance that in the year 1958 two of the three known landing reports were of this "rocket" shape. As to the nature or origin of the UFOs, we can only conjecture, and it is far too early yet to try to discuss the idea by *a posteriori* reasoning.

Let us, finally, propose a drive for specialisation in



Panoramic view of the area where the second incident took place

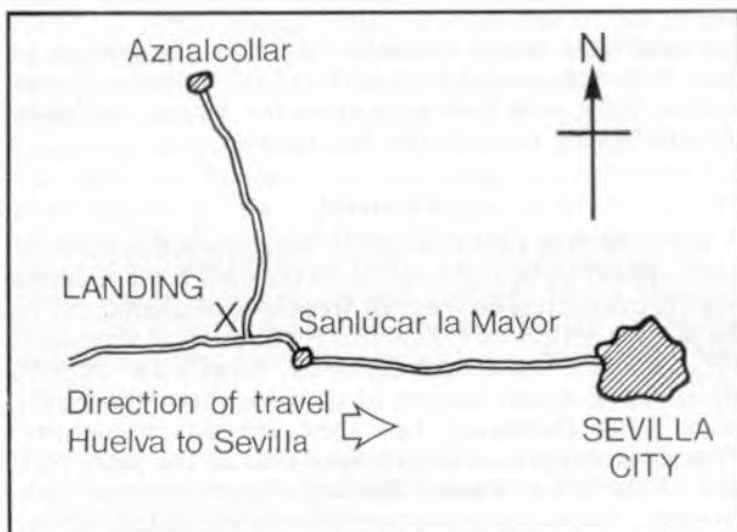
the UFO field. For many years now a lot of people in practically all countries have been interested in this problem: they have accumulated data and cases galore, but a great mass of unorderly "evidence" does not lead us anywhere. We must introduce order into the chaos: catalogue and check all our data, exchange listings between centres and researchers, focus our attention on the UFO phenomenon as it has occurred in our own countries. If possible we must use computer time for the processing of the data and for other tasks [*that's all very well if we can afford it!*—EDITOR]. We cannot afford another 21 years of confusion. The post-Condon era must be noteworthy for the following characteristics: a

reduction in speculation and a speeding-up of data gathering and cataloguing, and for a reduction also in the noise-to-signal ratio as discussed by Hynek; above all for the promotion of specific, concrete, well-programmed analytical work on the UFO problem.

All work must be published, in a well-ordered fashion, at the earliest opportunity. The publications *Data-Net*² and *Flying Saucer Review* (and its companion journal, *FSR Case Histories*) are the obvious vehicles for this: the first for initial, brief recording; the second for complete and detailed presentation.

Notes

- ¹ "Type-I phenomena in Spain and Portugal; a survey of 100 Iberian landings" by V-J. Ballester Olmos and Jacques Vallée. A study published simultaneously in Europe and America. See *FSR Special Issue No. 4, UFOs in two Worlds*.
- ² *Data-Net*: a monthly 20-page duplicated journal (of the Data-Net UFO Amateur radio network) which contains essential listings, catalogues, analyses, etc. Write to: Michel Jaffe (radio call-sign WB6RPL), 624 Farley Street, Mountain View, California 94040, U.S.A.



On the road to Sevilla, Southern Spain.
31st (?) Dec., 1958

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.

IS BAVIC REMARKABLE?

David R. Saunders

THE BAVIC configuration of UFO reports was first described by Michel,¹¹ and is defined by the geographical locations of six particular UFO sightings, all occurring in France on September 24, 1954. The phenomenological details of these sightings serve to establish them as more or less typical UFO reports, and are otherwise irrelevant to this discussion. BAVIC takes its name from BAYonne and VIChy, located at the extremes of the configuration; the other pertinent observations were at Lencouacq, Tulle, Ussel, and Gelles.

The BAVIC configuration is of interest because of its apparent linearity. The close conformity of all six geographic locations to a single straight line (or great circle) is striking. Confronted by his discovery not only of BAVIC but of other strongly linear configurations occurring on other dates in the fall of 1954, when France experienced a major UFO-flap, Michel concluded that such linearity is a meaningful feature of the UFO phenomenon, and in 1958 he introduced the concept of orthoteny to the literature. Since then, Condon,¹ Davis,² Fontes,⁴ Julian,⁵ Maney,⁶ Mebane,⁷ Menzel,^{8, 9, 10} Michel,^{12, 13, 14} Ribera,^{17, 18} Seeviour,²¹ Vallée,^{23, 24, 25, 26} Vogt,²⁸ and others have debated the merits of this concept.

The pivotal issue in this debate has typically been approached by "calculating the probability" that such orthotenic configurations could have occurred "by chance." Various members have been proposed as estimates of such a probability—some smaller and some larger. Comparatively large estimates, such as Menzel's,⁸ may be obtained by using a crude index of the linearity of the configuration in combination with an elegant correction for the effect of selecting the best-looking result(s) for discussion. Comparatively small estimates may be obtained by reversing these biases. Even granting the assumption that the concept of probability may be applied, a proper estimate of its magnitude could be obtained only by being thorough on both sides. In fact, the assumption is invalid and arguments based upon it are irrelevant.*

It is suggested elsewhere²⁰ that the remarkability of an empirical result is the excess of information in that result over what might have been expected on some relatively simpler basis, such as pure chance. In order to determine whether BAVIC is remarkable in this technical sense, we will need to obtain two quantities in informational metric: (1) the amount of information, I_o ,

Dr. Saunders writes that his mailing address is: Department of Psychology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80302, USA, and adds that the computations reported in this paper were performed on the Sigma 3 machine of the Computer Laboratory for Instruction in Psychological Research (CLIPR), for which thanks are due.

represented by the linearity observed in the six-point configuration itself, and (2) the amount of information, I_e , that could be expected because these six points are selected from a larger pool so as to maximise I_o . If I_o exceeds I_e by a sufficient margin, it will be reasonable to conclude that I_o reflects some effect, such as orthoteny, not accounted for in I_e . Within limits,¹⁹ the meaning of "sufficient margin" is a matter for personal choice; however, in a research area claiming few established facts, to require a 10-bit excess is moderately conservative.

Calibration of the Observed Information I_o

The basic problem here is to define an index of linearity that will have certain desirable properties: (i) It must be computable for any number of observation points—not just three-point combinations. (ii) It must vary continuously as a function of the data alone, without the mediation of arbitrary constants, such as, for example, the width of a "corridor." (iii) It must be independent of the absolute size of the configuration to be evaluated. (iv) The relative likelihood of obtaining different values of the index under chance conditions must also be obtainable. All of the previously proposed indices are deficient in one or more of these reports.

An index of linearity which does meet all of these requirements may be obtained in the following way, for N points in a plane: (1) Let X_i and Y_i be the horizontal and vertical coordinates of the i^{th} observation, as measured in any convenient but consistent units. (2) Find the centroid (centre of gravity) of the observations; this is simply the point whose X -value is the average of the given X_i -values, and whose Y -value is the average of the given Y_i -values. (3) Find the line (which will always go through the centroid) for which the sum of squared deviations from the line is a minimum. (4) Relocate the coordinate axes so that the new origin is at the centroid and the best-fitting line is used as the x -axis. Call the new coordinates of the i^{th} observation x_i and y_i . Then y_i is the deviation of the i^{th} point from the line, and the sum of squared y 's has been minimised. (5) For the required index, calculate

$$F = \frac{(N - 2) \Sigma x^2}{(N - 1) \Sigma y^2}$$

* The essential reason behind this assertion is that when we consider the *past*, particular events either did occur (probability = 1) or did not occur (probability = 0); intermediate values for probability become meaningless in this situation. This point is more fully discussed in Chapter 22 of *UFOs? Yes!*¹⁹

Combinations of points that display good linearity will yield large values of F ; random combinations of points will yield F 's of approximately unity. By measuring x_i and y_i in radians, we may define F in identical fashion for observations made on the surface of a sphere.

It will be evident from its construction that F meets our first three requirements; it is a dimensionless ratio, free of arbitrary constants, and will produce graduated results for any N greater than 2. (If N is less than 3, F will always reduce to the mathematically indeterminate form, $0/0$; this need not concern us.) Statisticians will recognise that F also meets our fourth requirement, as it is in the form of a "variance ratio for specified degrees of freedom." The distribution of F -values that may be expected from random sampling, making certain reasonable assumptions, is well known and has been extensively tabled.¹⁶ Translating the "reasonable assumptions" into the present context, they merely require us to conceive a *random* set of observations as drawn from a bivariate *normal* distribution having *zero* correlation between the X and Y coordinates. This assumption actually seems more reasonable than the assumption of a uniform probability density throughout, say, France, although the latter assumption has often been made.

Suppose we now compute F for the BAVIC data. The result will depend on the precise values taken for the X_i and Y_i coordinates, which will depend in turn on their method of determination. Three cases will be considered. In Case 1, we have used all the coordinates available in the *Times of London World Atlas*,²² hereafter abbreviated TOLA; these values are both relatively imprecise (as they are reported only to the nearest minute) and relatively free of any conscious or unconscious bias caused by feedback from the hypothesis motivating our analysis. (Gelles is not listed in TOLA.) In Case 2, we have used the coordinates published by Vallée,²⁶ who has studied BAVIC extensively. In Case 3, we have used the coordinates from our own reading of the large-scale Michelin maps,¹⁵ as recorded in UFOCAT-70 prior to any of these analyses; this reading *does* take account of some information more precise than mere place-names, principally for the Vichy sighting, but this information appears to be independent of the other observations associated with BAVIC.

The major computational labour has been performed by computer, according to instructions written in the Fortran language, and producing results as shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3, respectively. Without reproducing the entire Fortran code here,* a few comments seem to be in order:

(1) Menzel⁹ has noted certain difficulties with Vallée's²⁴ computational solution for least squares great circles; Menzel's recommended solution enjoys similar difficulties! Menzel's errors are measured by moving north or south from point to fitted circle, rather than by moving perpendicularly the shortest distance. Theoretically, this does not affect the positioning of the fitted circle. However, even for a constant configuration of observation points, the *apparent* goodness-of-fit gets worse and worse as the inclination of the circle increases.

When the inclination is close to 90° the estimated coefficients of the circle do become unstable, and in the limit at 90° they become mathematically indeterminate. Once noted, these problems are easily overcome. The errors given in the Tables are stated in kilometres, measured perpendicularly from point to line; the signs of the errors may be interpreted by noting that positive errors are for data points on the same side of the fitted great circle as the earth's rotational north pole.

(2) The most convenient specification of a least squares great circle is obtained by stating the coordinates of either pole. Point to circle distances are easily calculated by taking 90° minus point to pole distances; poles are specific locations that may be listed along with other geographic coordinates; poles may themselves be used as data points in subsequent analyses. The computed positions of both BAVIC poles are given in the Tables.

(3) When a good combination of data points has been reduced to F , the resulting F will be beyond the range of existing tables. In view of the very small "probability" values that will be encountered in this part of the analysis, the computer programme that substitutes for the F -table³ may be written "double-precision." The output from this final section of the programme is expressed in "bits" of information, and is the I_o we set out to obtain.

Determination of the Expected Information, I_e

I_e is much simpler to obtain than I_o . It may be shown quite generally that if chance prevails and we repeat an experiment K times, the average probability level associated with the most extreme result will be $p_e = 1/(K + 1)$. Upon transformation into I -metric according to the relation, $I = \log_2 ((1 - p)/p)$, this gives $I_e = \log_2 K$.

In the present problem, K is the number of ways we could have selected six different observations dated September 24, 1954, from the available French data. The larger the pool of such observations, the larger I_e will be, and the less excess information we will recognise in the corresponding I_e .

The maximum number of admissible observations appears to be 15^\ddagger ; this means that $K = C(6 \text{ out of } 15) = 5005$, and $I_e = 12.29$ bits; this figure will be used for Cases 2 and 3. In Case 1, since 4 of these 15 locations, including 1 of the 6 BAVIC locations, are not listed in TOLA, $K = C(5 \text{ out of } 11) = 462$, and $I_e = 8.85$ bits.

Interpretation of I_o minus I_e

Considering Case 1 first, we find that I_o exceeds I_e by more than 17 bits. This difference is the weight of the evidence favouring a non-chance explanation for the BAVIC configuration. A remarkability of this magnitude implies that we would have to replicate the entire procedure over 100,000 times just to obtain a fifty per cent probability of matching or bettering the linearity of BAVIC with random data; in this context, "entire procedure" means picking 11 locations randomly from a bivariate normal distribution having zero correlation

* A listing of the Fortran programme may be obtained from the author.

‡ All but one of these observations may be found in a single source (reference 26, p. 119); the fifteenth observation was at Becar (reference 27, Case 153).

Case 1

Menzelian Least Squares Great Circle for BAVIC Using Tola Coordinates

N = 5

Raw Data in UFOCAT Format

Station	Coordinates	RF	Time	Lat	Long	Weight	Other	Error
1 Tola	Bayonne	RF64	1'28	43'30				1.542
1 Tola	Lencouacq	RF40	0'23	44'05				-1.705
1 Tola	Tulle	RF19	-1'46	45'16				-0.90
1 Tola	Ussel	RF19	-2'18	45'32				-0.897
1 Tola	Vichy	RF03	-3'25	46'07				1.153

42.01455 = Node
 -55.57047 = Inclination
 132.01455 34.42953 = Northern Pole
 -47.98545 -34.42953 = Southern Pole

RMS Error = 1.573
 RMS Length = 198.116
 Variance Ratio = 15856.943
 Information Level = 26.093

TABLE 1

Case 2

Menzelian Least Squares Great Circle for BAVIC Using Vallée Coordinates

N = 6

Raw Data in UFOCAT Format

Station	Coordinates	RF	Time	Lat	Long	Weight	Other	Error
1V1A139M	Bayonne	RF64	1.474	43.491	7 3 5			-0.29
1V1A141M	Lencouacq	RF40	0.408	44.102	1 1			.287
1V1A143M	Tulle	RF19	-1.750	45.260	1 1 2		*	-1.63
1V1A142M	Ussel	RF19	-2.309	45.547	3 1			-1.87
1V1A372M	Gelles	RF63	-2.765	45.771	1 1 1		*	-7.44
1V1A140M	Vichy	RF03	-3.433	46.119	7 1 1			.837

42.18454 = Node
 -55.49056 = Inclination
 132.18454 34.50944 = Northern Pole
 -47.81546 -34.50944 = Southern Pole

RMS Error = .591
 RMS Length = 189.755
 Variance Ratio = 102953.475
 Information Level > 30.000

TABLE 2

Case 3

Menzelian Least Squares Great Circle for BAVIC Using Michelin Coordinates

N = 6

Raw Data in UFOCAT Format

Station	Coordinates	RF	Time	Lat	Long	Weight	Other	Error
1M2 096	Bayonne	RF64	4.24 M	48.32	M 3 +1		H	-0.82
1M2 095	Lencouacq	RF40	3.05 M	49.00	1 1		L	.183
1M2 094	Tulle	RF19	0.64 M	50.29	1 1			-2.84
1M2 093	Ussel	RF19	0.03 M	50.61	3 1		H T	.305
1M2 092	Gelles	RF63	-0.48 M	50.86	+2 1		G	-2.51
1M2 091	Vichy	RF03	-1.22 M	51.23	M 1			.130

42.24673 = Node
 -55.45732 = Inclination
 132.24673 34.54268 = Northern Pole
 -47.75327 -34.54268 = Southern Pole

RMS Error = .271
 RMS Length = 189.915
 Variance Ratio = 491814.380
 Information Level > 30.000

1V2 200	Bayonne	RF64	4.24 M	48.32	1 20			-0.82
1V 1008A	Dôle	RF39	-5.496	47.092	1		4A	1.581
1M2 006	Dôle La-Carondelet	RF39	-3.51 M	52.33	2 1 10		G	2.044
1V 1079A	Vichy	RF03	-3.433	46.119	1		4A	1.309
1V 1087E	Paray-Le-Monial	RF71	-4.119	46.452	1		4A	1.532
1V 1103D	Dôle	RF39	-3.51 M	52.33	2 1		4A	2.044
1V 1125D	Brive-Le-Gaillarde	RF19	0.89 M	50.18	1		4A	1.317
1M2 127G	Montagney	RF25	-4.41 M	52.76	+3 1		G	4.418
1M2 128G	Rigney N486	RF25	-4.26 M	52.65	1 1		G	.742
1M2 161	Vichy	RF03	-1.22 M	51.25				1.765
1V 1406D	St. Marcel	RF71	-2.84 M	51.97	X		4A=	-2.365
1V 1583D	Chalon	RF71	-4.848	46.787	+ 1		4A	.843
1H3 465M	Les Brosses-Tillots	RF71	-2.38 M	51.78	1		E	-3.25
1V 1640A	Brive-Le-Gaillarde	RF19	0.89 M	50.18		45	+	1.317
1V 1636A	Tulle	RF19	-1.750	45.260	1		4A	.136
1V 1704M	Dôle Gray	RF39	-5.496	47.092	3 1		4A	1.581
1M2 340	Cisternes-La-Forêt	RF63	-0.42 M	50.88	2 1		L	3.813
1M2 339	Gelles	RF63	-0.48 M	50.86	1		L	-2.51
1V1A 500E	Le Vauriat	RF63	-2.920	45.860	3 4 10			.723

TABLE 3

ana isolating the best 5-point line that may then be formed.

On the information scale, *proof* is the same as infinite information. Since experiments are finite, empirical proof is generally impossible to achieve. As a practical matter, in most fields of research, a remarkability of 5 to 10 bits suffices to reject chance in favour of some alternative explanation; judgment may enter at this point. However, even dealing with UFOs, 17 bits should be more than enough. As a practical matter, it is entirely reasonable to conclude from the TOLA analysis alone that BAVIC is not a chance happening.

If this conclusion is valid, the Case 2 and 3 analyses should look even better than Case 1. If this conclusion is not valid, the Case 2 and 3 analyses should look about the same as Case 1 for, if BAVIC is really just a random sampling fluctuation, the provision of more "accurate" coordinates for the sightings would be at least as likely to blur the linearity as to enhance it. It is important to observe, therefore, that the remarkability for Case 2 is about 19 bits and for Case 3 is about 24 bits. The gain of 7 bits as we go from Case 1 to Case 3 may be interpreted as confirming the correctness of the previous conclusion.

Under the assumptions of our analysis, the main conclusion seems to be inescapable. Let us make the assumptions explicit and examine them.

(1) We have assumed, in keeping with Michel's initial formulation of orthoteny, that we may legitimately confine our analysis to the UFO reports of a single date. Certainly it is imperative that we count *all* the reports of that date, or even potentially of that date, as members of the pool from which the BAVIC observations are selected. No one, to our knowledge, has ever cited more than 15 French reports on the date in question, so we have regarded this as the correct number. However, if the true number were 30 instead of 15 (and if none of the new reports fitted BAVIC), this would increase I_e by only 6.89 bits for Cases 2 and 3, and would not alter the conclusion.

(2) September 24 is only one of the dates in the French flap of 1954 for which numerous reports have been collected. It is not unfair to suggest that, in effect, this date has been selected for analysis because the comparable results for other dates are less remarkable. If this is so, and we recognise a total of from 16 to 32 dates potentially suitable for analysis, it is proper to augment I_e by 4 to 5 bits for each Case. This might again act to reduce our feeling of confidence, but would not be enough to alter the conclusion.

Moreover, having allowed such increments in I_e , we may now also note that there *are* positively remarkable linear configurations for various of the other dates, even though the pertinent computations are not reported here. On balance, the gain from these other lines will more than offset the indicated increase in I_e .

(3) Perhaps the very idea of associating BAVIC with a date is inappropriate. Linearity, after all, is a spatial property and not a temporal one. Perhaps we should regard BAVIC as selected from all the reports in the whole 1954 flap. Approximately 500 such reports are known. Certainly if I_e were based on combinations of 6 out of 500, this would kill the conclusion.

However, if we open the door to observations from

other dates, it is no problem to find numerous other reports that do fit the BAVIC line just as well as the first six—such reports that are also known to UFOCAT-70 are listed in the bottom section of Table 3. BAVIC apparently includes about 5 per cent of all the reports in the 1954 flap, with a root-mean-square deviation for witness location of approximately 1 kilometre. Again it turns out that reanalysis of the data from a broader perspective actually increases the net remarkability and strengthens the conclusion. We see no prospect of cancelling BAVIC's remarkability by increasing I_e .

(4) It is reasonable to observe that the distribution of potential UFO sighters in France does not exactly conform to a bivariate normal frequency model—nor to any other mathematically specifiable model. So be it. This is not a devastating observation. The *exact* specification of what we choose to mean by randomness is important only if we wish to state *exactly* the amount of information represented in I_o . If our bivariate normal assumption is only approximately true, then our estimate of I_o is likewise approximate. This is one of the reasons for insisting that I_o exceed I_e by an appreciable margin. Nevertheless, whenever the margin is big enough we are simply going to discard the random model—if it is incompatible with the data, it holds no further interest. Our goal is always to work towards the specification of a model that *is* compatible with *all* of the data.

In this connection it is important to note that our calculation of I_o by way of F is particularly sensitive to only *one* kind of non-randomness, namely, linearity. Departures from randomness in other ways will have only trivial consequences. Thus, to be effective, criticism of the model of randomness must specifically indicate how the real situation is relatively too capable of yielding highly precise linear configurations.

In fact, the BAVIC line does not correspond to any natural or artificial feature, such as a mountain range or river or highway. Neither does it correspond to an alignment of important population centres. It seems unlikely, therefore, that our conclusion results from use of a poor model to represent chance. We see no prospect of eradicating BAVIC's remarkability by reducing I_o .

Summary

Our answer to the original question is, "Yes, BAVIC is remarkable." The body of this paper spells out our rationale for this answer, which is based solely on the internal properties of the BAVIC configuration and on the circumstances of its discovery. If this is more than a methodological exercise, then our scientific purpose has been to decide whether new research presupposing the "reality" of BAVIC is likely to be fruitful. The results here reported are distinctly encouraging for such research.

BOULDER, COLORADO, January 23, 1971.

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(Continued on page 25)

MYSTERY AEROPLANES OF THE 1930s Part III – The Landings

John A. Keel

ON Wednesday, January 10, 1934, the Scandinavian "Ghostfliers" reportedly landed in several isolated areas in northern Norway and Sweden, according to *Dagens-Nyheters* (Stockholm) and the other newspapers* which were closely following the wave of mystery aeroplane sightings. Item 20 in our catalogue is datelined January 11, 1934, from Skellefteå, Sweden: "A report was received from the village of Norsjo, Monday evening, describing a bright light which was visible over the entire area. It was exceptionally strong and moved over the southern horizon. A man employed by the Royal Telegraph Service in Norsjo watched the mysterious light over the swamp at Kvammar. He saw it from his car on the highroad. The police searched the swamp during a violent snowstorm but found nothing... An unconfirmed rumour from Anderstjarn, south of Norsjo, tells of a landing by the ghostflier on the ice. Some traces were found after the machine was seen."

The "unconfirmed rumours" were quickly replaced by substantial eyewitness reports which prompted the Norwegian government to dispatch the cruiser *Eagle* to the landing sites.

22. January 11, 1934. Trondheim, Norway. Two landings of ghostfliers were reported from northern Norway, Wednesday evening. One machine landed near the island of Gjeslingen, outside Rorvik, and the other at a place called Kvaloj in the area Namndal. The report from Gjeslingen says that the people there saw a great beam of light and heard the sound of a strong engine. The machine landed and remained on the water quietly for an hour and a half. Its light went out after it landed but the general opinion of the witnesses was that the object was still there. The second ghostflier took off 15 minutes after landing at Kvaloj and vanished southwards.

27. January 13, 1934. Oslo, Norway. An attempt to catch the mysterious flier ended in failure on Friday. One mysterious flier was seen to alight near the island of Sleipskar on Friday evening. The island is only a few kilometres south of Gjeslingen, where one of the machines was seen to land the day before.

Earlier in the evening beams of light and engine roars were reported in the same area. When the aeroplane was seen to land on the water a message was sent immediately to Rorvik. The cruiser *Eagle* was docked there. Unfortunately, a pilot was not available when the message was received. These waters are too dangerous, because of the many reefs, for a ship to sail them without a pilot.

People all over Rorvik saw the mysterious aeroplane between two and three in the morning. It seemed to be heading towards Sweden. Around 10.00 p.m. the plane flew over Isfjorden, near Adalsnas. It was a biplane, equipped with pontoons, and vanished over Romsdaksfjorden. Five persons witnessed its flight. It was at high altitude.

28. January 14, 1934. Rorvik, Norway. Two aeroplanes have landed near Rorvik, reported the police of the state.

One landing place is situated near Vikna, Kvalpsundet, and the other at Oksbosen in Flatanger.

The duty-cruiser *Eagle* left the harbour at high speed for a close investigation, but an accident occurred as the ship neared the landing site. The cruiser ran aground. A salvage vessel was sent from Rorvik but the *Eagle* disentangled itself under its own power.

The search for the aeroplane was futile, but people on the nearby islands still seriously assert that an aeroplane had landed at Vikna.

Futile hunt

The ill-fated *Eagle* never did catch up with the ghostflier. Nor did the Swedish Air Force squadron which was sent to northern Sweden to track the planes down. Police and army units turned out repeatedly in the flap areas in futile attempts to locate the planes and their possible bases. Some of the eyewitnesses said the planes were equipped with pontoons or skis, and several reports described formations of two or three planes.

36. January 15, 1934. Skellefteå. For the past two months a person in Skellefteå has been watching three aeroplanes flying in formation over the area. One plane usually flies in front of the other two and at a slightly higher altitude. It looks, says the observer, as if the lead plane directs the others with light signals. The witness asserted that this has been going on for a couple of months and the aeroplanes' routes follow the railways in the area.

Classic UFO-style "searchlights" were a common feature in many of the reports, and, like modern UFOs, the objects frequently visited rugged mountainous regions. The lights, accompanied by engine noises, were widely seen over the Nedelpad (Sweden) area on Thursday, January 11. One group of witnesses said a phantom plane circled over the mountain of Bykullen that night and the mountain top was "bathed in light". Approximately thirty minutes later it appeared over Tyndero on the sea coast.

There was a brief lull in the sightings in mid-January 1934. Then, on Sunday, January 22, the planes returned with a vengeance and were widely seen throughout northern Norway and Sweden. At 10.00 a.m. there were daylight sightings over Vindeln and Viriajam. "The plane flew over at low altitude on a course towards Norway. No marks or insignia of any kind were visible," according to one report. At 6.00 p.m. the busy pilot entertained the people of Bengtsforsen, Jamtland and Indal, circling as he splayed his bright lights about the countryside. At midnight, a group of 30 soldiers near the fort of Boden reported seeing the object. Authorities were upset over the repeated appearances of the ghostflier over the "restricted" Boden area. That same night the residents of Repvag, Norway, "saw an aeroplane

flying in circles at very low altitude."

The next day, January 23, 1934, Finland received its first visits from the ghostflier when he roared over the village of Kemi at 6.00 p.m.

48. January 25, 1934. Vasa, Finland. Two workmen saw a mysterious aeroplane in Laitakaro, near Kemi. It came from the north of Finland following the Kemi-Rowanjemi railway. The workmen had no ideas about the identity of the craft. On Tuesday, two aeroplanes were observed. One of them was visible about Kemi and the other appeared over the little village of Kuivakangas. A blinding light swooped over Kuivakangas for a brief moment and when the machine veered to the right a green light was visible. The plane then flew over Tornealy to Boden on the Swedish side.

The Finnish Air Force dispatched two planes to the Kemi area to search for the ghostflier. Meanwhile, some Finnish witnesses were reporting huge three-engined planes, and the crew of a Norwegian freighter claimed a rare occupant sighting.

Ghostflier pilot observed

53. January 28, 1934. Oslo, Norway. The following report comes from Tromsö on the Norwegian seacoast.

The freighter *Tordenskiold* returned to Tromsö from Kabelvag on Saturday. The Captain, Sigvard Olsen, and a sailor, Olsen, relate the following: "When they had left Tromsö last Tuesday and were on their way home, a plane appeared suddenly in front of the vessel. He was following a course straight towards the ship. When he reached only a few metres from the ship, the plane turned to the right and flew directly over it. A beam of light swooped over the deck, turning darkness into broad daylight for 15-20 seconds."

The plane was a great greyish machine exactly like the French plane *Latham* which Roald Amundsen used on his last expedition. In the cabin of the craft Captain Olsen saw a person, probably the pilot, dressed in some sort of "anorak" [hooded jacket]. He wore big glasses and had a hood over his head. The machine had no marks or insignia. It circled once around the vessel and then vanished.

Despite the fact that the combined armed services of Norway, Sweden and Finland had been mobilised to track them down, the ghostfliers continued to ply regular courses and indulge in blatant manoeuvres at low level over the towns and villages of northern Scandinavia. They were, in fact, *too deliberate*. It was apparent that the planes were meant to be seen. And they flew in the most severe weather, when all conventional planes were grounded.

52. January 28, 1934. Haparanda. The personnel of the Haparanda newspaper watched for several minutes, around midnight Saturday, as an aeroplane flew back and forth several times over the city. Because of the foggy weather, no light could be seen, but the sound of a very powerful engine was heard by everyone on the editorial staff. The aeroplane looked like a giant shadow in the air. One hour earlier, ten persons observed a plane over Haparanda, flying back and forth.

One favourite, though suicidal, stunt of the ghostflier was to cut his engines as he circled low above the witnesses. Among the rash of sightings around Umea, Sweden, on January 11, is this example: "Rortrask, northeast Norsjö, saw the machine . . . People there observed the engine stop three times as it passed directly over them. The machine was flying so low that the whole forest was bathed in its light. It seems that the plane wished to land, but suddenly he increased his speed and followed the Skellefteå river instead."

On January 31, 1934, Lieutenant Colonel Snellman,

chief of the Finnish Air Force, told the press, "There is no longer any reason to doubt the existence of the ghostflier."

Crash in the Norwegian Alps

One of the best-reported incidents of the ghostflier wave was the apparent crash of a plane on top of the "nearly inaccessible" Fager mountain about ten miles from Tromsö, Norway, on Monday, February 5, 1934.

57. February 7, 1934. Oslo, Norway [condensed]. The following message was received by *Dagens-Nyheter* from Tromsö: An unknown aeroplane has crashed or made an emergency landing on Fager Mountain in Malselv, Monday evening. People in the valley watched the machine as it went down on the mountain. The next morning the plane was still there and two men were visible beside it, apparently clearing away the snow. Moments later the machine made two attempts to take off, but without success . . . When the *Dagens-Nyheter* received the message they talked with the head of the county constabulary in Malselv, Valderhaug, and he said he felt the message was reliable. The accident, or the landing, had been seen from both sides of the mountain, he said. Very reliable people had witnessed and reported the occurrence.

When the plane landed on Monday evening no engine sounds were heard but a raging snowstorm at the time may have smothered the sounds. On the other hand, an engine sound was heard from the mountain today. A woman on Mr. Martensson's farm heard the engine this morning as she fed the animals . . . Later other people heard the same sound and that kind of noise is very uncommon up there. That was probably when the plane tried to take off and failed.

Eight men struggled up the mountainside that day and failed to find any trace of the craft. That night, at 10.00 p.m., four persons reported seeing an aeroplane passing over Malselv on a south-west course "straight from the area of the Fager mountain." Three more search parties climbed the mountain the next day and the Norwegian newspaper *Tidens Tegn* reported: "Farmer Martensson of Fugleli said that one of the patrols discovered two parallel traces in the snow 300-400 metres north-west of the point where the aeroplane had been seen. The traces were about 75 metres in length and 80 cms. wide . . . The patrol also found footprints of people around the traces. The search will begin again tomorrow at dawn. Lieutenant Kjaer, a specialist from the Defence Department, will command the operation."

The ghostflier appeared again at midnight on Thursday, February 8, over nearby Sigurfjord, according to the paper *Norlands-Nytt*. "It was approximately 500 metres high and projected a very powerful searchlight

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on both sides of the nearby hilltops. Observers noted a red lantern on the machine before it vanished in a south-westerly direction."

Meanwhile, a lighthouse keeper named Bjornsen was watching a "mysterious vessel" near the Makkauer lighthouse, Vardo, Norway. The ship first appeared on Tuesday afternoon, February 6, pursuing an easterly course. Then it changed directions and moved out of sight toward the west. It reappeared on Wednesday. Bjornsen said it reminded him of the inspection ship *Frithof Nansen* and was approximately the same size. "No foreign ship has requested permission to call at Norwegian harbours," the newspapers noted.

While the stalwart *Eagle* charged up and down the Norwegian seas searching for phantom ships and ghostfliers, the rugged climbers on Fager mountain threw up their hands in disgust. It was impossible, they said, for any plane to land or take off from the high, snowbound plateau. Norway's *Adress-Avisen* had the last word on the incident when it reported on February 10 that "one of the men who took part in the search of Fager mountain said in a telephone interview that the mysterious aeroplane on the plateau was a stone!" Had the long-time residents of the valley mistaken a stone twenty feet long by twelve feet high for an aeroplane?

The ghostflier reports began to trickle out by the middle of February, even though the planes seemed to be getting larger.

71. February 15, 1934. Melbo, Nordland, Norway. Several persons reported watching an aeroplane near Borøy-sund in Melbo at noon Thursday. The machine was flying so close to the water that the witnesses thought it was

going to land. But it did not.

This machine was much bigger than the other planes which had been seen over the community earlier. It was two-winged and followed a course southward . . . The sound of an engine was reported at several places along its route.

Reports became sporadic during the remainder of 1934. But the ghostflier never really went away. The mystery aeroplanes were sighted infrequently throughout the 1930s.

75. April 1, 1934. Oslo, Norway. Five persons have reported seeing a very large aeroplane over Sandnessjoen, according to *Tidens-Tegn*. One witness, a sixteen-year-old boy, said he saw the machine in the brilliant moonlight over Altenfjord. It was a very large aeroplane, he said, and the engines stopped when it suddenly descended towards the water. Eight propellers were observed. Instead of landing, the craft started to move in wide circles so the boy was able to view it from all sides. He noticed that the cabin windows were all lighted.

An eight-propeller-engined aircraft would be a remarkable sight even today.

[*There was the DoX, a twelve-engined (six pull, six push) Dornier flying boat, which was quite a sight in the 1930s—EDITOR.*]

The fourth, and final part of Mr. Keel's article will be published in the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

* Most of the reports in this article are from *Dagens-Nyheter*, Stockholm, except where cited. Other newspapers providing material for this study are named in Part One, FSR, May/June 1970, and Part Two, FSR, July/August 1970.

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DEFENESTRATION AT KEMPSEY

Bizarre levitation effect during UFO flap in New South Wales

Eileen Buckle

A town in the northern part of New South Wales, Australia, has been the centre of a spate of UFO incidents in recent months. We are indebted to Miss Patricia Riggs, Associate Editor of *The Macleay Argus*, Kempsey, for notifying us about this and sending us the newspaper reports upon which this article is based.

WHEN Miss Patricia Riggs of *The Macleay Argus* first wrote to the *Review* on April 27, 1971, she mentioned that a journalist had found our address in a copy of *Honey* magazine in which an article on UFOs had appeared in January. At that time she did not know of any Australian organisation such as ours as they were not listed in any directory to which she had access. Her letter ran:

"At the present time, my newspaper is receiving an abundance of reports about bright lights and strange objects which cannot be explained at all.

"The purpose of this letter, then, is to enquire if you want clippings

of the sightings (and of a man who claims he was sucked through a window by an irresistible force) and whatever information we are able to obtain.

"One of the curious things about these events is that a great number of them appear to have occurred in a particular area . . . Anyway, which way—the whole thing is curious indeed."

We replied by return, and shortly afterwards received a wealth of cuttings whose contents, to do them justice, would take up more space than could be spared for one article. However, I have selected here the earliest sightings of the Kempsey "flap", most of which were re-

ported to have occurred on April 2. The subsequent incidents will be dealt with in other articles.

The Face at the Window

A few hours after a number of Kempsey people reported sighting a strange bright light in the West Kempsey sky, a man at Greenhill claimed on the night of Friday, April 2, that he had been sucked or drawn through a window pane in the kitchen of his home. The man, whose name was not published to protect him from unwanted publicity, was an aboriginal aged 34. He vowed, according to the newspaper account, never to live in the house again after his terrifying experience.



Witness's flight path: up and away, horizontally, through the kitchen window (above), to come to ground on the steps (right).

He went to Sydney and wanted his wife to go there with him, but she said she could not because of the children. She preferred not to stay in the house, but had nowhere else to live.

The report on page one of the *Argus* of Thursday, April 8, ran:

"The woman said her husband had been drinking early in the evening and, although affected by liquor, was not drunk.

"She said: 'We came home from the neighbours at about 10 o'clock after watching television. My husband went to bed and was playing with the baby. He got up and went into the kitchen to have a drink of water. He didn't turn on the light, but he said afterwards he tipped his head back and saw this little face pressed up against the window. It had no hair and it looked like a small saucer. It had features but he did not describe them.

"He doesn't remember much about going through the window. He said he was sucked out by some force. He fell out at the bottom of the steps on his back.

"I ran outside. I thought he would be stunned, but he wasn't. He wasn't even winded. He jumped up and ran like hell down to the gravel (a stockpile near the Green-hill houses)."

"I ran after him and he was crying and shaking. I thought he had the horrors and told him so. I went to go back to the house and he asked me not to leave him there, he was so frightened."

"The woman said she had gone to the hospital with her husband where a stitch was inserted in a cut in a finger of his right hand. She had to leave him there to go home to her children.

"Later, the police were called and they took the man away and kept him in a cell for the night. He insisted to his wife that he was not mad, that he had really seen something. She believed him and stated: 'I know he saw something. He's not superstitious. He doesn't believe in ghosts or men from space. He does now.'"

On April 7, an *Argus* reporter (probably Miss P. Riggs, who has told me that she personally investigated the incident) went to the home and came away puzzled by the bizarre incident:



Map of Eastern Australia showing the location of Kempsey

"The man, about 5ft. 3ins. tall and weighing about 8½ stones, was standing at a sink about 18 inches wide. His wife insists that he was in a horizontal position going through the window and that he was not 'struggling or thrashing about at all—just going through like that, straight out.'

"The pane of glass he went through is 4ft. 6ins. from the ground. His leap, which shattered the glass but did not break the frame, would be impossible from a standing position. He went through a glass pane 32 inches wide and 10 inches deep, touched nothing on the sink in front of him and tumbled 7ft. 2ins. to the bottom of the back steps. He was not hurt in the fall and had no soreness that night or the next day.

"He did not put the light on in the kitchen and no light was being reflected from the bedroom next door. The street lighting outside is strip lighting. The moon that night was in the first quarter. There was also a light cover of cloud.

"The man repeatedly told his wife of his terror, yet could not run from the object of his fear. He went to it.

"He had a clear recollection of the incident that night, but his wife said the next day he thought he had put a fist through a neighbour's window and wanted to go and mend it."

A Mysterious Light in the Sky

The *Argus* of April 8 also gave details about the strange bright light that a number of Kempsey people had seen earlier on the evening of April 2.

At 6.10 p.m., Mrs. Ina Murray, her son David, daughter Rowan and nephew Ric Cooke saw a bright light "reddish in colour with purple overtones" travelling low in the north-western sky. David watched the light through binoculars and saw a smoke trail behind it. They then saw the light make a controlled and deliberate descent somewhere near the hospital, whereupon it disappeared from view. At first they thought the light came from a landing helicopter, but discarded this idea because the light was too big and bright.

At about the same time, Mr. Arnold Nelson saw a reddish light over the Macleay river. He had been saying farewell to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Cyril Adamson, on the veranda of his house. They watched the light descend slowly into the river between West Kempsey reservoir and the hospital. Mr. Nelson said the light was very low and appeared to be about 4ft. in diameter. He saw a smoke trail following the descent.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, who live opposite Mr. Nelson, also saw the light whilst driving in the area. It was in the south-western sky, "a beautiful red light like a setting sun" hanging between two heavy black clouds. Mrs. Andrews called her husband's attention to the "sunset", and he tersely informed her that the sun set in the west, not the south.

Another witness was Mrs. Richard Blight and her children who thought the light was a flare from an aeroplane coming in to land. Enquiries revealed that there were no civil defence exercises taking place, and no night flying in the area.

Parachute attached

On Thursday, April 15, the *Argus* had further news about the light. Around 6.00 p.m. on April 2, Mrs. Ailsa Summerville saw the light as it passed outside her window and watched it for several seconds before it disappeared. Her house is very near the Macleay River and overlooks it. Like many others, she described it as a brilliant pink light with lighter tonings on the outer parts of the sphere. She described the incident for the *Argus*:

"The light was no more than 50-60ft. from the house and about 40ft. from the ground. The light was so intense that I could see the outline of a parachute. It seemed to be attached to this glowing ball by cords or some other material. These were also very distinct.

"The light glided smoothly past the house and seemed to go towards trees. I kept watching it until it went out of sight. No, I wasn't frightened, just fascinated by the brilliance of the colour."

Mrs. Summerville mentioned her sighting to her husband, Mr. Darrel Summerville, secretary of the Macleay River Co-operative Dairying Company. He made a search of the river bank and undergrowth in the region where the light disappeared, but was unable to find anything.

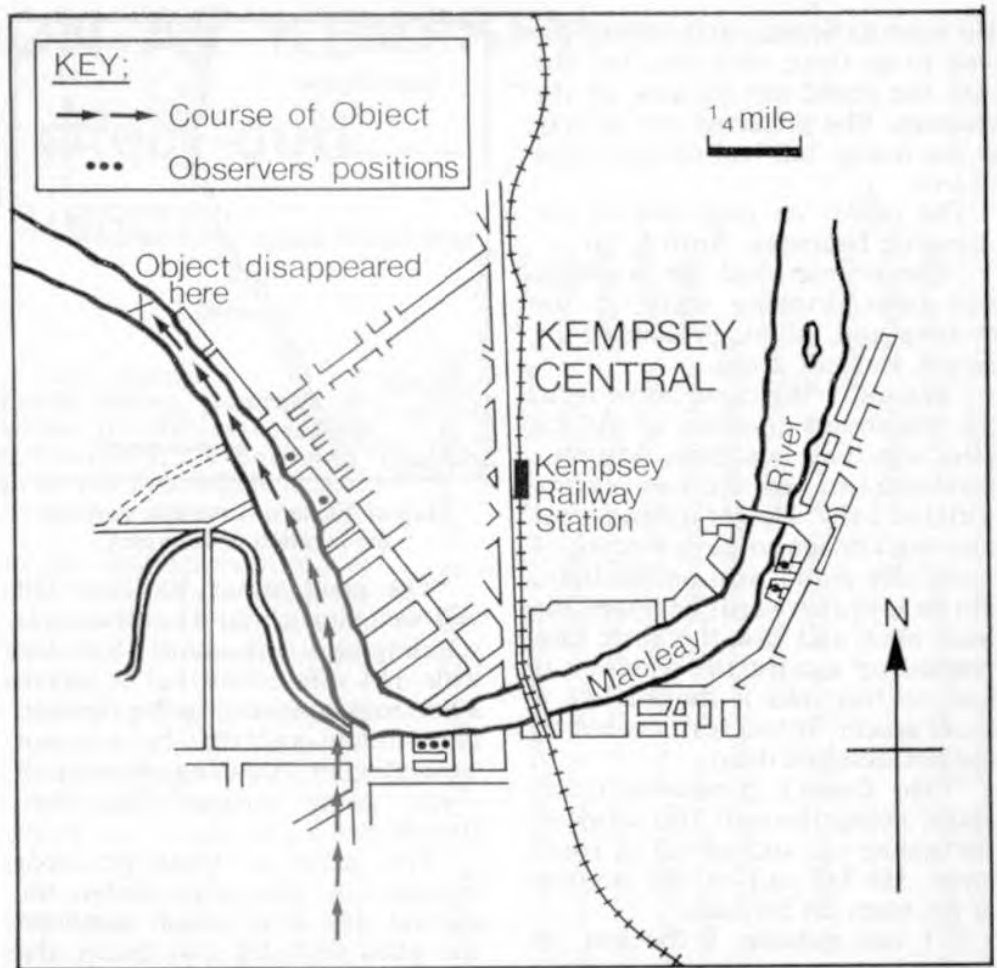
A taxi-driver, who preferred not to be named, also claimed to have seen the light. He and his three passengers had it under observation for about five minutes:

"It seemed to be a rusty orange colour like a sunset. We thought it was an aircraft, but the light went over the aerodrome and travelled towards Greenhill. It disappeared at Greenhill and we knew it was Greenhill because we could see the lights there."

Ball of Fire near the Bowling Club

The *Argus* of April 17 reported that a resident of South-West Rocks claimed to have seen a brilliant light on March 25, but had been reluctant to report it earlier "because people would say I was mad."

Mrs. A. Laws said she had been awakened at about 10.00 p.m. on Thursday, March 25, when her room was illuminated by a brilliant burnt orange colour. She described



Map showing observed course of object and positions of some of the witnesses

her experience thus:

"My bedroom overlooks a bowling club and Arakoon and the old jail. I got out of bed and pulled back the blinds and saw a huge, bright light eight or ten feet in diameter near the bowling club. I thought the club was on fire and then I saw this was a great ball of light like a beautiful sunset. I thought that it might have been a flare from a ship in distress or that I was having a nightmare. Then I saw the light come down slowly to

earth and disappear behind the bowling club. I didn't see it again. I watched this beautiful light for five, maybe ten, minutes. I have never seen anything like it before."

Mrs. Laws' youngest son, Douglas, had come home from work between 10.00 and 10.30 p.m. and had awakened his brother, fearing someone was in trouble at sea. He had gone to the pilot and reported the incident, but was assured that no one would be using a flare such as the one he saw.

PERSONAL COLUMN

WANTED. BOOK AND RECORD "Flying Saucers—Serious Business"; any FSRs before 1968, *also* Nos. 1, 5 and 6 of 1968; Donald Keyhoe paperbacks *except* "F.S. from Outer Space". C. S. Carson, Glebe House, 30 Belfast Road, Hillbrook, Larne, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland.

"1971 MIDWEST UFO CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS" published by UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis Inc., Box 9, O'Fallon, Missouri 63366 USA: \$3.00 USA/Canada; \$3.75 elsewhere.

YOUNG UFOLOGIST would like to hear from anyone

interested in the 4th dimension, also anyone interested in the idea of Time Travel. Jeffrey Brown, 16 Linden Road, Skeebby, Richmond, Yorkshire, England.

WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT a few old friends reading *Flying Saucer Review*: Frederick Tuck, 48 Phyfield Road, Burnt Oak, Edgware, Middlesex, England (Tel. 01-952 6817).

WANTED, FSR 1967, Nos. 2 and 3, 1966 No. 2, 1964 No. 1, 37½p each offered. UFO detectors also wanted. P. Dunn, 41 Bournemouth Road, Folkestone, Kent.

UFO BOOKS. Will sell my complete English collection of 160 pieces. Free List against international reply coupon (also 50 books in French). Box 31, 1211 Chatelaine, Switzerland.

PSYCHIC SURGERY AND HEALING BY UFOs

Is there a link?—The question is ours after a close look at 'Beyond the Senses', a new book

Charles Bowen

DURING the last ten years a growing number of people have been considering the possibility that UFO phenomena may be closely linked with psychic phenomena. It is suggested by some that UFOs are but one small part of the overall scene of paranormal, psychic events, and that these events are triggered by "ultraterrestrial", or elemental denizens of this planet. Others propose that UFOs are either straight-forward visitations by extraterrestrial craft, or effects *created* (by induction) by such visitors, who may also be responsible for much of what falls in the category of psychic phenomena. There are others who feel that the UFO picture could be an admixture of each of these, with the two "sides" locked in what is to us an incomprehensible struggle for possession of this planet, with human observers occasionally catching a glimpse of the participants, or perhaps being deluded by their imitations, deceptions and hoaxes.

Such speculative essays are all very well, but until our collections of data have taught us more we can only ponder these possibilities. However, in both UFO and psychic realms it does seem that we humans are the target for both good and evil forces, and that many features in both realms are very similar; even, perhaps, common to both realms. One of these is in the field of healing, where there have been many UFO-caused instances—one of the most recent being the affair of the French doctor who, in one weird UFO encounter, was cured of both a partial paralysis and an ugly flesh wound (described in FSR Special Issue No. 3, *UFO Percipients*). All of which prompts the suggestion that serious UFO researchers should remain ever mindful of the remarkable "breakthrough" events reported in the field of psychic surgery.

A book published in June this year introduces the subject of psychic surgery—as well as psychic healing and other matters—and it should be of great interest to FSR readers not only because of the possibility of a link, but also because Gordon Creighton features prominently, and sensationally, in its pages. Another friend who is involved is Mrs. Anne Dooley, a lady who has given invaluable assistance both to the late Waveney Girvan, and to the present editor of *Flying Saucer Review*.

The book is the first of the new series (edited by Dr. Paul Tabori) "Frontiers of the Unknown—A Library of Psychic knowledge," and is entitled **Beyond the Senses**. By Paul Tabori and Phyllis Raphael, it is a report, in 218 pages, on psychical research and occult phenomena, and is published by Souvenir Press Ltd., at £2.00. The book is highly recommended.

The authors tell how Mr. Creighton underwent psychic surgery, without anaesthetic, in the presence of a large group of people. Brazilian taxi driver Lourival

de Freitas was the medium, and with a penknife and a spoon handle he removed a growth about the size of a marble from the back of one of Mr. Creighton's eyes. Lourival said the growth would have caused blindness in a couple of years, and would ultimately have proved fatal. Gordon, who had only asked for treatment for chronic sinusitis, was totally unaware of the presence of the growth. During the operation he said he felt discomfort, but no pain.

I did not witness the first operation, but was present a few days later, together with my daughters Pauline and Elizabeth, other members of the FSR team and scores of other observers, when Lourival de Freitas performed an exploratory operation on Gordon Creighton's other eye and discovered nothing untoward. It was a staggering experience to see our old friend with the blade of a penknife inserted between eyeball and eyelid while he translated observations made by Lourival in Portuguese!

The authors also refer briefly to a film of that other remarkable psychic surgeon, Zé Arigo, while at work. A group from FSR, namely R. H. B. Winder, G. Creighton and myself, were invited to Dr. Andrija Puharich's presentation of this film, when B.M.A. members and a number of journalists were present. Dr. Puharich has been leader of a team of N.A.S.A. scientists who have been in Brazil searching for leads to E.S.P.: one of the fascinating things they found was Arigo, who had a following about as large as that of the footballer Pele.

* * * * *

We must not forget that the connection between UFO phenomena and psychic phenomena is purely hypothetical. However, we know from first-hand experience that psychic healing and surgery is not done by trickery, and we know that it works. The stories of UFO-caused healings are powerful ones, and we know that in some cases the intervention of UFO entities has been reported.

Thanks to Gordon Creighton and Anne Dooley, and to Dr. Puharich, as well as to the book *Beyond the Senses*, we know that both Lourival, and Arigo (who was killed, tragically, in a road accident in January this year), claim that they are guided by entities, the spirits of long-since-dead "physicians".

Arigo's guide was of particular interest, for it was stated that he was a "German doctor, killed in 1918"—a Dr. Fritz. Now Arigo, a man of small learning, knew only his native Portuguese, but when Dr. Puharich contrived to get him to repeat word for word the instructions that he received from his "Dr. Fritz", the tape-recorded results were found to be in German!

The question remains: are these "guides" the same entities who sometimes manifest themselves in certain UFO incidents?

UFOs IN WALES IN 1905

Roger Sandell

EARLY in the year 1905 Wales was in the grip of a religious revival accompanied by mass hysterical behaviour. One of the centres of this revival was Egryn, Merionethshire, where a woman named Mary Jones had a series of ecstatic visions. As she was later to describe them to the local newspaper, they consisted chiefly of dreams of angelic beings. However, on one occasion while walking home, she had encountered a sinister black-clad man whom she identified with Satan. When she sung a hymn the figure vanished (*Barmouth Advertiser*, March 30, 1905).

As Mary Jones, inspired by her visions, began to preach at local chapels, a strange rumour started to circulate. Her meetings, so it was said, were accompanied by strange lights in the sky. When an interview between Mrs. Jones and a clergyman, the Rev. E. Lewis, was published in the *Barmouth Advertiser* for February 2, 1905, Mrs. Jones described these lights and claimed to receive guidance from them in much the same manner as do members of modern UFO contactee cults:

"She answered that she had seen, almost from the first, each evening, a light between her and the hills. It had revealed to her what to expect at the meetings. One evening she had interpreted the sign to mean four converts. But only three responded in the chapel. 'But there must be four,' she said. No fourth could be found until the door was opened and one stood there, halting between two opinions. The opening of the door brought the stranger in. The four were complete."

The Rev. Mr. Lewis was impressed by Mrs. Jones' sincerity. He also noted:

"That some mysterious lights have been seen on the shore in the past few weeks is beyond doubt. Nor is this the first time for this bay to be visited. They have been reported before, especially one winter in 1649."

Mrs. Jones was interviewed by the *Barmouth Advertiser* again shortly afterwards. However this time the reporter, whose account appears in the paper's February 16th issue, was more fortunate. He was actually present at Mrs. Jones' house when one of the lights appeared. He described it thus:

"Apparently a couple of miles away flashed a brilliant white light in the form of an enormous star. The sky was overshadowed with clouds, no other star being visible."

The same report also noted that several other witnesses had seen the lights at different times:

"The lights were seen by dozens at Portmadoc as the Rev. Llewelyn Morgan will testify. At Aberdovey the lights were seen by a group accompanying Mrs. Jones to the chapel."

An even stranger phenomenon accompanied another of Mrs. Jones' meetings according to the February 23, 1905, *Barmouth Advertiser*.

"After the meeting a gentleman saw a gigantic human figure rising over a hedgerow. Then a ball of fire appeared above and a long ray of light pierced the

figure which vanished. This extraordinary manifestation was witnessed by a prominent farmer from another standpoint."

The ray of light from the fireball, and the sudden disappearance of the strange being, are both very reminiscent of a large number of UFO and occupant cases previously covered in FSR.¹ These features have led to suggestions that some, at least, of the occupants are, in fact, some form of projection from the UFO.

Meanwhile the Egryn manifestations had come to the attention of the national press. The February 13th issue of the *Daily Mail* carried a story by a reporter who visited the village in search of the lights. After a brief description of some of the previous reports, he tells how he decided to stay for an evening to see for himself. His patience was soon rewarded.

"At twenty past eight I saw what appeared to be a ball of fire above the roof of the chapel. It came from nowhere and sprang into existence instantaneously. It seemed to be about twice the height of the chapel, about 50 feet. Suddenly it disappeared, after having lasted a minute and a half."

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES FOR SALE

GODS OR SPACEMEN? by Raymond Drake	£1.20
MYSTERIOUS WORLDS by Dennis Bardens	£1.90
NOT OF THIS WORLD by Peter Kolosimo	£1.85
OLD STRAIGHT TRACK by Alfred Watkins	£3.35
OPERATION TROJAN HORSE by John Keel	£2.10
PASSPORT TO MAGONIA by Jacques Vallée	£1.85
RETURN TO THE STARS by Erich von Daniken	£1.60
SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF UFOs (Condon Report)	£4.30
WE ARE NOT THE FIRST by Andrew Tomas	£1.85
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CANADIAN UFO REPORT No. 8, 40 pages	35p
Ray Palmer's FLYING SAUCERS (USA)	32p
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Fifteen minutes later, more lights appeared:

"Two lights flared out, one on each side of the chapel. They seemed about 100 feet apart. I made a rough guess that they were 100 feet above the roof of the chapel. They shone brilliantly for 30 seconds and then began to flicker."

After these lights vanished the reporter began to walk back to Barmouth. On the way he witnessed yet another strange light:

"It was about 300 feet up the hillside and about 500 feet from where I stood. It shone dazzlingly with a deep yellow brightness. It looked like a solid bulb of light six inches in diameter and was tiring to look at."

The reporter ends by confessing himself baffled. The only explanation that occurred to him was that the lights may have been marsh gas from a small marsh in the area. However he states that he had questioned residents who told him that the lights had never been seen around the marsh.

The *Daily Mail* was not content to leave the matter there. A couple of days later it carried a report from Mr. Bernard Redwood, a scientific researcher, whom it had sent to investigate further. Mr. Redwood describes how, equipped with instruments capable of measuring electrical discharges, he had spent a night's vigil at Egryn (perhaps the first properly organised skywatch in UFO history!). Like the "Mail's" previous reporter, he was fortunate enough to see the lights and reported that his instruments failed to register any unusual electrical condition. Having thus ruled out any unusual form of lightning, Mr. Redwood, in spite of the earlier reporter's enquiries, was inclined to dismiss the lights as marsh gas.

At present it is not possible to say whether or not this

interesting series of reports forms part of a larger wave. That this may be so is suggested by the fact that Charles Fort gives details of two other Welsh observations from this year. One is of an object like a red-hot iron bar seen over Cardiff on March 29 and the other is of a somewhat stranger object, described as resembling a flying pig, and seen over Llangollen on September 2.

Only detailed examination of the Welsh press for 1905 will establish how many other cases there were.

Whether or not the Egryn events were part of a larger pattern, they are of great interest in that, unlike other late nineteenth century and early twentieth century UFO waves, they were interpreted in religious terms rather than as the work of unknown airship pioneers. As a result they appear to have given rise to a cult similar to some modern UFO cults. Like modern UFO reports, the Egryn lights engendered visions and rumours of wise and benevolent beings, and of sinister black-clad individuals (for not only Mary Jones, but several of her followers experienced these visions). However, in 1905 these were interpreted as "angels" and "demons", while today they are "extraterrestrials."

Whatever the explanation, it is apparent that these matters were as much part of the UFO mystery in 1905 as in 1971. The study of the psychological and social patterns behind these events is a task which UFO researchers cannot neglect.

Notes

- ¹ For a recent case with both these features see "A Huma-noid was seen at Imjärvi" in *FSR*, September/October and November/December 1970.
- ² See Charles Fort: *New Lands*, chapters 30 and 32. Also J. Vallée: *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, chapter 1.

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(Continued from page 16)

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- ²⁸ Vogt, C. (See 26, p. 91.)

GREEN WATER FROM SAAPUNKI

Result of water sample analysis

THE recent March/April edition of *Flying Saucer Review* carried an account by Elis W. Grahn of the "landing", or "near-landing", on Sunday, January 3, 1971, of a "light-phenomenon" at Kuusamo, Saapunki, in North-Eastern Finland. The object, which had approached slowly at tree-top height, was seen close to his house by farmer Mauno Talala and other observers at neighbouring houses. Unnaturally bright

and blinding, it lingered for about a minute before disappearing upwards into the sky.

Snow which had been beneath the light was found to have melted, and then frozen into needle-shaped, fragile particles of ice over an area of 2 × 3 metres. The colour of this ice was dark green.

Samples of this ice were collected by engineer Ahti J. Karivieri: one was sent to *Flying Saucer Review*, and an

TEST	RESULT	CONCLUSION
Solid S		
1. Ignition	All matter was vaporised	Suspended material entirely organic
Liquid L		
1. pH	5.3	Not unusual
2. Evaporation at 100°C for 24 hours	Residue equals 0.031% w/w (310 ppm)	Dissolved salts?
3. Microscopic examination of residue	Semi-crystalline	Dissolved salts
4. Residue treated with dilute HCl	Residue soluble giving a reddish/pink solution	Manganese and/or Cobalt salts? (see below)
5. Borax bead test on residue	Negative	Inconclusive
6. Flame test on residue	Positive for sodium	Sodium present (see below)
7. Silver nitrate test on liquid L	Cloudiness	Chloride present
8. Barium chloride test on liquid L	Cloudiness	Sulphate present
9. Treatment with dilute acids	No effervescence	Carbonates and bicarbonates absent
10. Flame emission* (air/acetylene flame)	Positive results for sodium	24.5 ppm
	Negative results for caesium	Caesium absent
	Negative results for calcium	Calcium absent (see below)
11. Atomic absorption (air/acetylene and nitrous oxide/acetylene flame depending on element)	Indication of calcium	Less than 0.5 ppm
	Positive result for magnesium	Approx. 2.6 ppm
	Positive test for aluminium	Approx. 50 ppm
	Negative result for silicon	Silicon absent

* Instrument used—Pye Unicam SP90A Atomic Absorption spectrophotometer

In addition, tests were carried out for Titanium, Manganese, Cobalt, Copper and Chromium but all gave negative results and therefore assumed absent.

analysis of this sample was arranged by R. H. B. Winder. Another sample was very kindly sent by Mr. K. Pusa of Tapiola, but this, unfortunately, arrived after the first sample had already been analysed. Again, in spite of the infinite packaging precautions, some of this second sample had leaked, and furthermore, as analysis is a very expensive business, we couldn't run to a repeat performance. C.B.

Result of the analysis carried out on April 5, 1971

Description of sample

Approximately 50 ml. of a clear water-like fluid were supplied. The fluid contained blue/grey solid matter, "fluffy" in appearance.

Analytical approach

The analysis was carried out in several stages:

1. By means of filtration and centrifugation the suspended matter was removed from the clear liquid. The solid we designate S and the clear liquid L. It was very difficult to obtain a perfectly clear liquid sample even after spinning in the centrifuge at 3,000g for 1½ hours. It could be that some suspended material was colloidal in form.

2. Investigation of solid S.
3. Investigation of liquid L.

The test methods and results are given in the accompanying table. A complete analysis of liquid L was *not* carried out as sample volume was limited. However, tests for specific metals and anions were performed.

Conclusions and Comments

Sodium and aluminium were by far the predominating cations and chloride and sulphate the anions. If we make the assumption that these ions originate from sodium chloride and aluminium chloride respectively then we should expect a total solids content of 293 ppm. in the liquid L. This is close to that measured (310 ppm.) and the difference could be accounted for by traces of magnesium salts such as sulphate or chloride.

It is not in the least unusual to find sodium, chloride or sulphate even in snow. The presence of aluminium is a little odd but its concentration is still very low.

Our results do not explain the pink colouration which the isolated residue from liquid L gave when dissolved in acid. Manganese and cobalt salts give pink solutions in acids but their presence was not confirmed.

THE CASE OF THE U.S.A.F. ACADEMY TEXT BOOK

This item (which we feel will be of great interest to our readers) is taken from *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. 1, No. 1, of April 1971. This publication is edited by Gordon I. R. Lore, Jr., and circulated by UFO Research Associates of Washington D.C.*

THERE is no evidence that UFOs are extraterrestrial. So the U.S. Air Force has been telling us for nearly a quarter of a century. Yet, the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado, has, for several years, been teaching its budding young officers just the opposite—that UFOs are *probably* extraterrestrial probes.

Major Donald G. Carpenter, Academy instructor, wrote Chapter XXXIII of the Academy's Department of Physics textbook, *Introductory Space Science*, Volume II, entitled "Unidentified Flying Objects." Its contents leave no doubt as to its belief in the validity of many UFO reports and cadets are still being taught its contents more than two years *after* the negative conclusions of the Air Force-sponsored University of Colorado UFO Project report and more than a year following the demise of Project Blue Book, the official Air Force organ that had investigated UFO reports for more than two decades.

"The most stimulating theory for us," its author proclaims, "is that UFOs are material objects which are either 'Manned' or remote-controlled by beings who are alien to this planet. There is some evidence supporting this viewpoint."

Modern reports cited as evidence include some of the most startling cases on record.

● August 21, 1955. Kelly, Kentucky. About 8 p.m. Witnesses heard dogs barking and saw a bright UFO land. Then they saw a three and one-half foot tall creature with a round head, long arms, webbed hands and claws, approach. Grabbing shotguns, the observers expended about 50 rounds of ammunition at this and other creatures. One was knocked down, but got up and ran away.

● July 24, 1957. Kouril Islands. Russian anti-aircraft batteries fired on luminous, fast-moving UFOs, but no hits were reported.

● November 4, 1957. Fort Itaipu, Brazil. A large object emitting a "humming sound" shot a heat ray at two sentries. One collapsed, the other roused the rest of the troops, who were in a state of panic. "Both sentries were

found badly burned . . . one unconscious and the other incoherent, suffering from deep shock."

● September 19, 1961. Near Portsmouth, N.H. Betty and Barney Hill saw a huge UFO, then had a two-hour mental blackout. More than two years later, while undergoing hypnoanalysis, both related a remarkable, science fiction-like experience of being abducted on board a spacecraft and minutely examined by its occupants.

● April 24, 1964. Socorro, N.M. Police Officer Lonnie Zamora saw a UFO resting on four stilt-like legs in a gully. Beside the craft was a white, small "figure." The UFO took off, leaving a burned out area and four holes in the ground. An intensive Air Force investigation caused the case to be listed as "unidentified" in Air Force files.

"UFOs are a global phenomenon which may have persisted for many thousands of years . . ." Major Carpenter wrote. "UFO sightings . . . appear to extend back 47,000 years through time . . . One has the feeling that this phenomenon deserves . . . valid scientific investigation . . ."

* Address: P.O. Box 34252, Washington D.C., 20034, U.S.A. By subscription \$7.00 per annum. (U.S. and Canada); \$8.00 overseas.

The evidence cited here, too, is astounding. From the ancient Indian Book of Dzyan: thousands of years ago, a group of extraterrestrial beings orbited the earth, landed and began to colonise. One faction settled in one city, the second in another and, soon, an incredible aerial war was launched between the two, which destroyed one city, horribly burning its occupants and causing an ecological disaster.

Other reports: (a) a University of Peking professor discovered granite carvings on a Hunan Province mountain and a Lake Tungting island reputed to be 47,000 years old that showed "people with large trunks" (here Major Carpenter suggests that the trunks could be breathing apparatus, obviously of space people); (b) the rope of a "demonship" was caught on a church spire in Ireland about 956 A.D. and its occupant attempted

to free it; the townspeople seized him, but the bishop released him; (c) three men and a woman from "an airship or spaceship" were killed by a mob for being wizards in 10th Century France; (d) a respected farmer and former state legislator saw a huge airship with occupants that lassoed his cow at Yates Center, Kansas, on April 21, 1897 (see *Mysteries of the Skies; UFOs in Perspective* (by Lore and Denault).

A NEW FSR CATALOGUE

The effects of UFOs on animals, birds and smaller creatures Part 10

THIS section of our Catalogue covers a year of considerable activity. Although the events of 1968 should be relatively fresh in our memories, it is still a source of surprise to read through this list and realise that there were so many reports recorded where animals were said to have been affected by the appearance of UFOs. This is a vitally important, albeit tiny section of the growing mountain of "evidence".

The catalogue has been prepared by Gordon Creighton, and we have now reached the stage where there are still *many* new reports coming in, and for which there will be no chance of inclusion in this list. For instance, there were a number of cases in the Spanish wave of 1968 which have only just become known to us during our preparation of FSR's Special Issue No. 4, *UFOs in two Worlds*.

THE CATALOGUE—(x) 1968

152. Redlands, California, U.S.A. (7.20 p.m., February 4, 1968).

Many people ran out of doors to find the cause of an unusual and disturbing sound which had set up barking by all the dogs in the neighbourhood. They then saw a round object, estimated to be about 50-60ft. wide, moving slowly towards the ENE at a height of about 300ft. There were what seemed to be glowing portholes around its perimeter, while jet-like orange flames, or something resembling flames, were coming from various sources on its under-surface.

NICAP: *UFOs: A New Look* (1969), p. 38.

153. Bengough, Saskatchewan, Canada (just before noon, February 19, 1968).

Canadian farmer's wife, Mrs. Martha Hegg, living five miles west of Bengough, was working in her kitchen when she became acutely aware of a high-pitched whine that had the intensity and the penetrative effect of a mild physical electrical shock, causing a tingling sensation throughout her body. Looking out of the window, which faced south, she saw an object, about 100 yards distant. It was immediately above, and circling around, a 29ft. pole with an electrical transformer on it. The UFO moved right around the house and farmstead, vanishing from her view twenty minutes later. Her husband came in shortly afterwards and found her

white as a sheet with fear. She told him that when she had first noticed the UFO, their dog was lying cowering in the snow and trying frantically to cover its ears with its paws. As soon as the UFO had gone the dog made a dash to get into the house.

Sixteen head of cattle in the farmyard bolted into their sheds on the approach of the UFO, and did not emerge again until at least half an hour after it had gone.

NICAP, *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV, No. 11 (May 1969), p. 4, and *UFOs: A New Look* (1969), p. 11.

154. Province of Liège, Belgium (9.00 p.m., April 18, 1968). Two witnesses observed a UFO, which was constantly changing colour and projecting beams of light towards the ground. Both witnesses were particularly struck by the sounds of general alarm which they could hear among all the animals of the district.

Lumières Dans La Nuit, January 1969, p. 13.

155. South Ohio, U.S.A. (end of April 1968).

According to the newspaper *The Light Herald* of May 2, 1968 (published at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada), a herd of cattle on a farm in South Ohio were thrown into panic one night by a dazzling bright UFO hanging stationary over the field.

FSR, July/August 1968, p. 33.

156. Evillers region (Doubs), France (midnight, June 29/30, 1968).

At around midnight the dogs of this village began barking—normal barking at first, but soon increasing to a deafening din, and by 2.00 a.m. it was unbearable and all the villagers were thoroughly disturbed. One lady, leaning out of her window to try to calm her dogs, saw that the ground and a part of her chicken-house were lit up by a vivid rectangular orange-reddish light, "like a car headlamp", which was shining down from above. She awoke her brother, who turned on his bedroom light, whereupon the orange rectangular light at once vanished and did not return. It was now past 2.30 a.m. The two witnesses returned to their beds, but the frantic barking of the village dogs continued until 4.00 a.m. One man's dog broke its chain and fled.

Lumières Dans La Nuit, February 1969, p. 8.

157. Olavarria, Argentina (11.30 a.m., July 2, 1968).

Fifteen-year-old boy Heriberto Antonio Iriart was riding a horse on his father's ranch, accompanied by a dog, when he encountered a landed UFO and, standing near it, two of its crew, about 1 m. 70 in height. When the boy went to mount

his horse after his conversation with these beings, he found both horse and dog paralysed, and it was some minutes before either animal could move at all. What however is odd in this case is that the boy himself does not seem to have had the usual paralysis, though he was very badly frightened and subsequently displayed symptoms of severe shock.

FSR, September/October 1968, p. 26.

158. Wooler, Ontario, Canada (10.00-10.30 p.m., July 2, 1968).

Fred Coulthard Jr. and his brother Wayne observed a bright red light which seemed to descend from the sky and vanish behind the Murray Hills. They noticed that some horses in a field 100 yards from them were in a state of panic, running in circles round the field. Returning to the house, they found one of their three cats lying on its back with all four legs straight up in the air. They could neither rouse the cat nor bend its legs. Later, it suddenly snapped out of this seeming trance condition, ran out, and was never seen again. Their second cat also vanished. Their third and last cat was run over by a car shortly after this and killed. But in this too it was felt that there was an element of the mysterious, for it was thought odd that so normally alert a creature as this particular cat should not have moved from its position on the road when it heard the vehicle (a police car) being started up, but remained where it was while the car backed over it.

Mrs. W. Graystone, *Canada's UFO Poltergeist*. In FSR Special Issue No. 2, BEYOND CONDON, June 1969.

159. Hearings Before the Committee on Science and Astronautics, U.S. House of Representatives (July 29, 1968).

Discussing the ridiculing of witnesses, Dr. Hynek said to the Committee:

"Or if it is reported . . . over the world, by reputable and competent persons . . . that they heard the barnyard animals behaving in a greatly disturbed and atypical manner and when, upon investigating, found not only the animals in a state of panic but reported a noiseless—or sometimes humming—brightly illuminated object hovering nearby, beaming a bright red light down on to the surroundings, then clearly we should pay attention."

From the published Report, *Symposium On Unidentified Flying Objects*. Washington, D.C., July 1968.

160. Claremont, New Hampshire, U.S.A. (after 1.30 a.m., July 30, 1968).

A man and wife, busy moving into a new home, retired to sleep at about 1.30 a.m. Their children were in a separate bedroom; a pet poodle was with the man and wife; and their German shepherd dog was in the garage. "Lights" outside in the field caught their attention. Looking through the window they saw a round UFO moving slowly around over the field at a height of about ten feet, shining a beam of light down on to the ground, and emitting "a buzzing sound like the noise of a transformer." The pet poodle was shaking and nervous. The shepherd dog in the garage whined and whimpered. The UFO remained over the field nearly two hours, at a distance of about 230ft. from the house. Then the UFO began to glow brightly, and it took off at an angle, just over the tree-tops. As it left it made a loud humming noise, and the dog in the garage again whined desperately.

NICAP: *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV, No. 12 (June/July 1969), pp. 4-5.

161. Scarborough, Near Lake Ontario, Canada (evening, September 7, 1968).

Mrs. Shirley Shaw of Scarborough reported that her terrier had become extremely nervous as she and neighbours were watching "three small amber buttons" darting about in the sky. ("Dancing apricots" was another description used by her.)

Coral and Jim Lorenzen: *UFOs: The Whole Story*, pp. 296-297

162. Carora, Venezuela (September 15, 1968).

Many farmers had great difficulty in controlling their cattle and horses when a saucer-shaped object with flickering yellow lights flew over the area at high speed and low altitude.

Coral and Jim Lorenzen: *UFOs: The Whole Story*, pp. 299.

163. Medulla, Florida, U.S.A. (7.30 p.m., October 18, 1968).

The McMullen family looked outside when their dog began to bark and howl, and they saw a purplish-red object hovering in the air about ten feet above the ground. It was completely transparent, and inside it they could see two normal-sized men. A strong odour of ammonia was in the air. The two men inside the object were pumping a horizontal bar up and down. As the McMullens watched, the 30-foot wide sphere slowly ascended and flew away. Mysterious explosions were reported in the area about this period, and some other witnesses reported that, a few minutes earlier than the McMullens' experience, they had seen a bright light rising from the grounds of the Medulla School, which lies just north of the McMullen home.

John Keel: *Operation Trojan Horse*, pp. 63-64 (U.S. edition, 1970. British edition, published by Souvenir Press, London, April 1971).

164. Marcellus, N.Y., U.S.A. (6.00 p.m., November 25, 1968).

Mrs. Elaine B. Peichy and her young son and her dog were travelling by car along Route 174 near Marcellus, when she perceived five "red blinking lights", and heavy static appeared on the car radio. The UFO was flying at a distance of about 100 feet in front of her car. "Then our dog started crying, fighting, clawing, first to get out of the window, then into my lap, covering his eyes and ears, falling off the back seat." Returning shortly afterwards along the same road, without the child but with the dog still in the car, she again encountered the UFO, the engine lost power (as it had done previously) and the dog again whined and barked.

NICAP: *UFO Investigator*, Vol. IV, No. 10 (February/March 1969), p. 3.

165. Renton, State of Washington, U.S.A. (evening, November 30, 1968).

At a distance of some 300 yards, teenagers Scott Sylte and Steve Walker took seven photographs of a brilliant orange-coloured UFO estimated by them to be about 50-60ft. in diameter, 40ft. thick, and at a height of some 100ft. from the ground. The photographs are reported to show "port-holes or porthole-like markings with specific definition". While this was going on, all the dogs in the area were yapping and howling furiously.

Dr. W. Gordon Allen: *The 1968 UFO Surveillance of Seattle*. In FSR Special Issue No. 2, *Beyond Condon*, June 1969.

166. Lima, Peru (early hours of December 9, 1968).

César Seminario, customs inspector, and Carlos Moreno Ramírez, observing from different positions in the city, both saw a UFO. In Seminario's account he mentioned that he had been awakened by the desperate barking and whining of his two dogs. He looked out through the window, and saw an object with a round base and an oval-shaped top, floating in the air at a height of about 100ft. A reddish-violet light came from an opening in the lower part.

Diário da Noite, Rio de Janeiro, December 13, 1968. Extract in World Round-up, FSR, January/February 1970 (credit to Mr. Nigel Rimes).

167. Brazey-en-Moryan, France (1968).

A UFO landed not far from a flock of sheep. Three sheep subsequently died, cause unknown, and two were missing. At the landing-site, hundreds of slugs changed colour and all died very soon after the landing.

FSR, January/February 1969, p. 11. (From *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, October 1968 and December 1968.)

168. Franois, France (7.10 p.m., December 12, 1968).

A number of witnesses, including a Monsieur Froidevaux and his daughter and a Monsieur Marchand and his wife, saw a round, orange, luminous cloud rising slowly into the sky, and a long ribbon-like orange object subsequently leave it. Monsieur Froidevaux's cat, which was inside the house, while the party of humans were in the loggia, was meanwhile displaying great agitation and miaowing plaintively. The cat's distress grew steadily worse, and by the time the

sighting ended (it had lasted for several minutes) the cat "was literally screaming the place down and it was impossible to calm it".

When the UFO had disappeared the cat at once reverted to its normal placid state.

FSR Case Histories Nos. 2 and 3 (December 1970 and February 1971) from *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, No. 100 (June 1969), p. 18.

MAIL BAG

Dear Sir,—I am a long-standing subscriber to FSR and a close follower of the UFO Problem. (I am also a Scientific Correspondent to NICAP, Physics Consultant to APRO, etc.)

I had an opportunity to visit Valensole, on 4/7/70—five years after the sighting—at the scene of the famous case with which you have already dealt extensively in FSR (November/December 1965, p. 7; January/February 1968, pp. 6-12; January/February 1969, p. 7; July/August 1969).

Enclosed herewith I send you a photograph† which I took from the top of the hillock behind which M. Masse hid when he saw the machine.

Alas, there is no longer a vineyard, nor a field of lavender, but a huge field of wheat, without a trace of variation in the crop. I was visiting the scene (prior to arranging some infra-red aerial photography there) to see if it was worth my while, but the few shots* I took from the top of the hillock showed nothing in particular of interest. Yours truly,

René J. Hardy,
Docteur Es Sciences,
"Le Kallisté"-D,
Boulevard Charles-Barnier,
83- Toulon,
France.

† Kodacolor. Rolleiflex 6 × 6.

* These were in Infra-red Ektachrome + No. 16 Wratten filter on 24K36 Affar Contarex Zeiss. Obj. F2.50 mm.

(Translation by John C. Hugill.)

[Dr. Hardy also enclosed a most interesting cutting from the French Press of April 14, 1969, announcing that he was shortly to receive in Paris the silver-gilt medal of the Society For Arts, Sciences and Letters in recognition of his scientific work for France. As a "boffin" Dr. Hardy has to his credit no less than 250 inventions patented in various countries

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.



A new look for the field at Valensole

of the world, and he has played a distinguished part in connexion with French work in radionavigation, teleguided missiles, radar, acoustics. As far back as 1954 his work on the infra-red photography at night of armoured vehicles and on teleguided anti-tank weapons had put France well to the fore (indeed in second place in the world) in this kind of defence work.—EDITOR.]

Any news of Angelic visions?

Dear Sir,—I am collecting information on cases where a being (often recognised as "Our Lady") has appeared as a "vision" before a number of people, often children, and often in peasant Catholic areas. The most well-known case of this type is that which occurred at Fatima in 1917, but such visions have been seen in many other parts of the world. If any of your readers know

the details of any such cases, particularly less publicised ones, I would be grateful if they would write to me:

Janet Gregory, 34A Barnsdale Road, London W9 3LL.

That Warminster Mystery photo

Dear Sir,—In the March/April FSR you have an article headed "Unexpected effects at Warminster," by Michael Samuels, in which he concludes that the mysterious object that appeared on the film must have been emitting ultra-violet radiation and so appeared on the film. I must point out that ultra-violet affects film by turning it black, this would be reversed in printing resulting in a white blob and not black as it appears in the photograph. Also I am told by my father, who is a professional photographer, that the meter reading taken at Cradle Hill (14+) is not impossible under the conditions mentioned and need not have been caused by ultra-violet radiation.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Village, 27 Shenstone Road, Hollywood, Birmingham.
(June 1, 1971)

What were they?

Dear Sir,—I think the following may be of interest to you:

On April 2, 1971, at about 8.30 a.m. I was driving down the South Coast Highway in Corona Del Mar, California, toward Laguna Beach. Three trucks, I believe they are called flatbed trucks, were going in the opposite direction. On each truck was a vehicle that looked like a flying saucer. Each one was covered with green canvas which had large white letters which said "Experimental". The wind was blowing and I could see the outlines of windows in the centre part. These vehicles were quite large. They looked about twelve feet in circumference, but not being a good judge of size, I could be off a foot or two one way or the other.

Do you have any information as to what these are?

Thank you,

Y.W., P.O. Box 364, Corona Del Mar, California, 92625, U.S.A.

[I cannot begin to imagine what information Mr. "Y.W." thinks we could have about these things. We were some 6,000 miles away, so he was much nearer to them, and more able to judge whether they were a deliberate hoax, or experimental equipment which just happened to look like flying saucers, or "mock-ups" for a fairground. Perhaps some American reader can help!—

EDITOR.

Lake Anten data correction

Dear Sir,—Thank you for publishing the Lake Anten case in the January/February issue this year. I read the comment by Mr. R. H. B. Winder and I confess I was a little astonished, but then I found out what was wrong. There had been a very sad fault in my translation into English. I hope you and your readers will accept my apology.

It is not ^{137}Ce but ^{137}Cs . That is Caesium, not Cerium. Cerium has the atomic number 58, while Caesium has the number 55. As you will understand, this is quite another thing, and I would appreciate very much if you could make it known to your readers. I think it would be very good if Mr. Winder could make another comment when he knows about this.

Concerning a chemical test, we have of course discussed it with our expert, but he has not yet done it. As the amount is so small, there are some problems in doing a test.

Once again I am very sorry about this trouble.

Yours sincerely,

Sven - Olof Fredrikson (GICOFF),
Kjellmangatan 9-415, 413 18 Göteborg, Sweden.

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Leicestershire auto-stop effect

The *Leicester Mercury* of May 26, 1971, carried the following account which could be very important, and one which we hope will be investigated in full—

"A mysterious light in the sky near Ibstock terrified a young Hinckley housewife as she drove alone in a car along the main Ashby to Hinckley Road.

"Now, Mrs. Eunice Rose, of 26 Welwyn Road, Hinckley, wonders if anyone else saw a mystery object in the sky. It was, she said, about the size of a double decker bus and passed above her car moving in the direction of Oddstone and lighting up the countryside.

"The frightening feature of the incident for Mrs. Rose was that as the object went over the engine of her car began to fade out. All the car lights including the headlamps were dimmed

and a transistor radio that was playing in the car at the time faded out completely for a few minutes.

"I was so frightened that I could feel the hair on the back of my neck bristling up," Mrs. Rose said.

"I am not the sort of person who believes in unidentified flying objects. There must be an explanation for what happened and I should like to know what it is and also if anyone else saw this incident."

"Mrs. Rose had been visiting friends at Oddstone and left to drive back to Hinckley at 10.50 p.m.

"As she went along the country road from Oddstone to join the main road at Belchar's Bar, she saw a glow in the sky in the direction of Ibstock and at first thought it could be the headlights of a ditched car shining up into the sky.

"The glow persisted, and it was after she had turned right on the main road and was driving towards Hinckley

that the bright object crossed the road approximately above her car."

Credit: **John C. Tate** of Halesowen.

"Meat on a plate" UFO

The following item is taken from the *Bolton Evening News* of May 31, 1971—

"Six people at Harwood spent three hours last night watching an object 'like a lump of meat on a plate' hovering in the sky a mile from the bottom of their gardens.

"Amazed by what they thought was an unidentified flying object, they reported it to the police and then returned for their vigil.

"One of the six, Mrs. Christine Campbell, aged 23, of Hazlewood Avenue, Harwood, said the object appeared over Winter Hill about five minutes after midnight. It hovered high above the television mast and glowed amber and made a buzzing noise, she said.

"It was like a great lump of meat on a plate," said Mrs. Campbell. "It disappeared later but we stayed at the back of our house, watching and waiting for it to come back but it didn't."

"Another of the night-time watchers, Mrs. Janet Bond, aged 26, of Dewhurst Road, said they had reported the object because it worried them. 'We just didn't know what it was,' she added.

"Mrs. Campbell said that none of the group which included next-door neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Eccleshare, had ever seen a UFO before and none believed in them.

"We know we saw something but don't know what it was," she said."

Credit: John Peers of Little Hulton.

Plate—no meat

Close on the heels of the previous report came this item in the *Bolton Evening News* of June 1, 1971—

"Harwood's 'meat on a plate' UFO spotted by six people yesterday may have been visiting the area for the second time.

"Mrs. Jo Ward of Seaford Road says she saw a similar object six days ago, but 'Ours didn't have the meat on,' she said.

"The orange-coloured object appeared over Bromley Cross about midnight, said mother-of-two Mrs. Ward. 'It was very low, just above the trees, and it seemed to be coming towards me.'

"She and her husband Kevin watched the object for half an hour. Mrs. Ward said she had not talked about it before because: 'How can you expect other people to believe it when you hardly believe it yourself?'"

Credit: John Peers.

Surrey UFO like the sun

We take this account from the *Surrey Advertiser* of May 30, 1971—

"A strange light was seen in the sky in the early hours of the morning by a Godalming resident, Mrs. C. E. Taylor, of Ashted Lane, Godalming.

"Mrs. Taylor said that just before 2.30 a.m. on Wednesday [May 26] she awoke and saw a patch of light in the hall.

"On looking out she saw what appeared to be a brilliant ball of light which gave the impression of hovering above the Wormley area, 'slightly to the left of King Edward's School.'

"She woke up her husband, who also saw the phenomenon. The light was too steady to be caused by a fire, said Mrs. Taylor, and, since it threw no beam, could not have been that of a searchlight.

"She had a closer look at it through binoculars and said it was 'like

looking into the sun in broad daylight.'

"The light was still showing when she returned to bed.

"Comparatively recently, four residents in the Hascombe and Munstead area reported having seen an unidentified object in the sky at night. They described it as appearing to throw a beam of light on the trees."

Credit: P. A. Richards of Dunsford, Godalming.

WEST GERMANY

Officers' wives' sighting

This item is taken from the English-language section of *Die Harke-Nienburger Zeitung* of April 26, 1971—

"Not so very many years ago, before the age of the Sputnik and the publication of the voluminous morass of information gathered by eye witnesses of fantastic occurrences, before the detailed information tabulated in Air Force Files, products of inexplicable incidents of the air and radar screen, and long before man's own more recent hazardous, sometimes desperate, journeys into space and to the moon itself, a report such as this, the account of a recent experience by two 'seemingly sane' local army wives on the evening of the 4th February, would have been considered the product of vivid imagination, the witnesses laughed out of court or the dreamers subjected to the psychiatrist's couch.

"Time has passed since the incident, yet despite attempts of reasoned argument from others, sceptics, to sow the seeds of doubt, the minds and convictions of those concerned remain steadfast, never wavering.

The witnesses' account

"The evening of the 4th February, 1971 was dark and cloudy, not particularly cold for a German winter evening; in fact a very ordinary evening. Perhaps that is why the events here recalled seemed even more extraordinary. My friend and I, both rational (most of the time) and sober people, were driving from Nienburg to Liebenau thinking and talking of nothing more startling than a child's birthday party. As we rounded the bend on Oyle Hill we noticed well over to the right a large red glow on the horizon. We commented that there must be a fair-sized fire somewhere and temporarily forgot it.

"Approaching 'Five Ways' at Liebenau the glow—even larger—appeared to be straight ahead and for a moment we thought the Station Workshops had gone up in flames. However, as we neared our destination, Pinewood Camp, the glow was still straight ahead and being curious by nature we decided to carry on and find the source of the pulsating glow. About

a mile further on we found that we were not getting any nearer and stopped to get our bearings. Here we come to the eeriest and possibly the most inexplicable part of the whole business. Ahead of us, beyond the car headlights, was a strange white glow, stretching right across the road. And yet there was no moon, no street light, no house, no possible source of light, apart from the red glowing light which we could still see ahead of us.

"Slowly, and somewhat nervously now, we drove on through the white glow. It was at this point that we began to realise that it was rather an odd fire which we were seeking; no smoke or flames, just an enormous pulsating glow. After taking one or two wrong turnings and driving along a muddy farm track in order to get to the source of the glow, we found ourselves on the road to Deblinghausen. Then suddenly, way over still on our right, there it was!

"A fantastic sight, at ground level like a vast inverted electric light bulb, brilliant, glowing, and orange red, no flames, just a throbbing light all round lighting the sky. We estimated that it was at least a mile away, maybe more. We found this phenomenon quite shattering, in fact rather frightening. It was like nothing either of us had seen before. Then deciding we needed a man's opinion we turned the car intent on driving home at speed. We turned for one last look and saw—nothing. It, whatever it was, had completely disappeared, leaving nothing but a prickly feeling on our scalps."

Summary

"The witnesses were closely questioned. Their journey has been retraced several times and their story retold. It has been strongly argued by the more rational of us that oil wells, common features of the landscape in that region, might well account for the occurrence. No one else seems to have reported this particular incident. None of us has seen anything similar since, but most of those who questioned them seem willing to believe that there might be something in it after all, particularly when faced with their clear, calm and precise account of the phenomena and the unquestionable assurance they radiate when referring to the strange light, seemingly without source, which caused the eerie tingling of the scalp, and has left the sharp imprint on their minds and certain knowledge that they have witnessed the appearance of a UFO."

Credit: Brigadier G. W. Worsdell (retired), who writes that the names of the ladies concerned are Mrs. Valerie Wills and Mrs. Susan Haworth-Wood.

Watkins

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IMPORTANT!
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More mystery circles . . . and UFOs

We read in the edition for Tuesday, May 4, 1971 of *NZ Truth* that—"Five more Ngatea-like circles have been discovered—this time in the Taupo area.

"They were found by a helicopter pilot, Mr. R. D. Nairn, and last week *Truth* flew to an area about 17 miles south-west of Taupo to investigate.

"At the same time, reports have come in from the same area of several sightings of unidentified flying objects.

"They were seen over the Napier-Taupo highway, Acacia Bay, Wairaki Valley and Taupo itself. Dozens of people saw the phenomena.

"Now interested parties are asking whether there is a connection between the UFOs and the puzzling circles. It seems strange if there isn't.

"Auckland pilot Captain Bruce Cathie is a man particularly interested in UFOs. He also has visited the area east of the Rangitaiki River, and on the edge of the Kaingaroa Forest and near the Taupo-Napier highway.

"He landed on one of the circles in a helicopter and collected specimens of the weird plant growth there. It is now being analysed.

"*Truth's* chartered helicopter, piloted by Mr. Nairn, flew over the area and took aerial photographs of the circles. Four of them were in a straight line and just over a mile apart.

"The fifth was about a mile to the west but lined up with the last of the other four.

"*Truth's* helicopter also landed briefly on one of the circles. They range from between 200 and 300 feet in diameter and each covers up to 6,000 square feet.

"A fungus-like growth, only about three or four inches high, covers the circles like a carpet. There is no other vegetation.

"Captain Cathie told *Truth*: 'There is no direct evidence that the circles are made by UFOs, but they certainly are not man-made. But they are in a pattern and spread evenly apart, which suggests that they are artificially made. Otherwise, they would be spread out in a haphazard fashion.'

"He said that another strange factor was that whatever retarded other growth did not affect the fungus-like plant.

"A spokesman for the 12,600-acre Lilburn estate, on which the circles were found, told *Truth* he knew nothing about the mysterious patches.

"The estate carried about 10,000 sheep and between 600 and 700 cattle, but none of it was on the area where the circles were discovered. They certainly had not been made by anybody connected with the estate, he said.

"So the mystery deepens."

Credit: Mrs. P. D. Dixon of Te Atatu North, Auckland, N.Z.

A 19th century landing?

Cornwall is famed for its "little people", but the Lake District has them too—the dobbies. Through past centuries, they have been widely accepted and believed in by the country people of Cumberland and Westmorland, and so it is not surprising that a sighting in 1850 of strange little people should be explained as dobbies.

Jack Wilson of Martindale was returning home in the moonlight and, when he neared Sandwick Rigg, he noticed a large company of dobbies "intensely engaged in their favourite games" (no other indication of exactly what they were doing!). They noticed him as he approached, and climbed a little ladder into the sky. This description sounds suspiciously

like many reported sightings of UFO occupants, and this also raises the old question of whether all "little people"—be they called leprechauns, fairies, dwarves, goblins, brownies or pixies—are the old-time ufonauts.

Story taken from *Ghosts of the Lake Counties* by Gerald Findler.

Credit: Janet Gregory.

Musical UFO, poltergeist, or what?

This bizarre story comes to us via the pages of the *Bournemouth Evening Echo* of May 21, 1971, and the courtesy of a Honiton reader—

"This was the UFO to beat the lot. It couldn't be seen, but it kept Mrs. Barbara Williams awake for one and a half hours.

"For this time our friends from another world came in the form of a 'terrifying noise' which hovered in the middle of the night over the Williams' house in Watcombe Road, Southbourne.

"Mrs. Williams can't quite make up her mind how to describe the noise. 'It was like the repeated sound of a train crash,' she mused. 'Or maybe the roaring of a prehistoric monster . . .'

"And she's baffled, because the only other people to hear the noise were her next door neighbours. 'We almost rang the police, but we thought they would already be inundated with calls,' she said. 'But when my husband saw the police the next day, they said they had heard nothing.'

"Mrs. Williams was too frightened to look out of the window. Her husband Edward poked his head out and heard what his neighbour described as 'interplanetary music' floating through the night air.

"The noise kept repeating itself, and there was a continual hum overhead,' said Mrs. Williams. 'Eventually it faded away.'

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