

FLYING
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REVIEW

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**Occupants reported in Cape
Province and . . .**

UFO DAMAGE AT ROSMEAD?

See Page 12



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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

Vol. 19 No. 1
 January/February 1973

REVIEWS AND REPORTS

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AS *Flying Saucer Review* moves into its nineteenth year we recall that it was almost eighteen years ago, at the time of the journal's infancy,¹ that Waveney Girvan asked, somewhat testily: "Where are the book reviews?" At that time books on the subject of flying saucers, or UFOs, were rarely—if ever—accorded the favour of a review, either friendly or hostile. Brief notes appeared here or there, usually designed to provoke hearty laughs, but no serious appraisals were published in which the reviewer could tell the author why his reporting and reasoning were at fault.

There has been a marked improvement since 1955. Over the years a growing number of serious books on UFOs have been reviewed, and it is noticeable that seldom have such reviews been hostile. Dr. Vallée's *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* was reviewed in a number of newspapers and periodicals, with the *Daily Telegraph* leading the way in the United Kingdom. Even *The Humanoids*, a book on a very "tricky" subject, was reviewed favourably in the mass-circulation *London Evening News*, in provincial dailies like *The Yorkshire Post*, and in a lengthy article syndicated in some Commonwealth newspapers.

These minor successes pale into insignificance when compared with those of *The UFO Experience* by Dr. J. Allen Hynek. This important work has been reviewed very favourably in *The Times Literary Supplement*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *New Scientist*, the *London Evening News*, *The Economist* and in several provincial papers like the *Glasgow Evening Times*. Furthermore there have been scores of smaller notices, as well as a somewhat lukewarm review in *Nature*: we are unaware of the score overseas, but the remarkable review that appeared in the influential American journal *Science* has been discussed already in one of our Editorial leaders.² Gradually times have changed, albeit slowly, since Waveney Girvan penned his complaint.

Now that several newspapers and journals have begun to take careful notice of the serious presentation and discussion of UFO reports, and to realize that there is a world of difference between *bona fide* researchers and the crackpot fringe, we trust that we will see an improvement in the overall standard of reporting of alleged UFO incidents. Such an improvement would be welcome in view of the fact that we have to lean heavily on them for the initial "intelligence" that something is afoot. Which point raises another matter . . .

It has been reported to us by one or two friends that "whispers" are being circulated (by unthinking critics, or malicious Smart Alicks?) to the effect that reports which we publish are suspect because they are "taken from newspapers." We cannot begin to think why this should be made the subject of back-of-the-hand whispers (of the kind that American friends might call "nit-picking"), for we have never made any secret of this fact: in both our *World Round-up* feature and in general articles which are based on news items, we have always carefully recorded the source.

Legend has it that "where there is smoke there is fire," and whether the newspaper report is good (and some are *very* good), indifferent or bad, it

points to one thing, and that is that *something* has happened. That something may be a genuine UFO event, or it may be a false trail such as a misidentification or a hoax. With our very limited finances we cannot be expected to have an "action stations" network of observers and reporters in this country, let alone throughout the world. So nine times out of ten we must rely on our initial report through the news media, and trust that if anything of value crops up, then one or more of the amateur investigators who read our magazines will learn of the case, or of our interest in it, and thereafter launch a detailed investigation. Given present circumstances this method is the best we can hope to employ, and from time to time it rewards us with "pay-dirt"—even though some of the research groups do engage in follow-up investigations and tuck the resultant information away in their files.

Successes of this kind which spring readily to mind are the report of the Trancas investigation conducted by Dr. O. A. Galíndez and Sr. A. M. Astorga,³ and the report on the Gary Wilcox case by Dr. B. E. Schwarz⁴: there have been many others similar to these examples. Again, the remarkable Valensole affair first became known to the world through the agency of press and radio, and although investigations by Aimé Michel and

by G.E.P.A. had begun before FSR was able to publish the initial news accounts, we received subsequently, and published, a whole series of reports on that unique event.

Suffice it to say that in his book *The UFO Experience*, Dr. Hynek names only one independent English language journal on UFOs, and that is "... FSR, *Flying Saucer Review*, published in London since 1954. It is a veritable treasure house of UFO reports, some of which have been investigated rather thoroughly..."

As for the other reports he mentions—which we admit are not so well detailed, and concerning which he acknowledges our limited resources and other constricting factors—we can only hope researchers will be able to follow-up the leads we re-print, and submit for publication many more reports which fall in the category "rather thoroughly investigated."

Notes

- ¹ FSR Vol. 1, No. 2 (May/June 1955).
- ² *Rallying Point*, FSR Vol. 18, No. 5 (September/October 1972).
- ³ FSR Vol. 17, No. 3 (May/June 1971).
- ⁴ FSR Special Issue No. 3, September 1969 (*UFO Perceptants*).

A HEARTENING RESPONSE

Mr. Charles Dale tells me that the members of the committee for the Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice project are delighted by the response to the appeal which was published in FSR for November/December 1972 under the title *A Remarkable Woman's Worthy Cause*. Mr. Dale says he would also like to extend thanks to those readers who sent donations anonymously, and adds that he would have preferred to have thanked them personally by letter—and to send them their receipts!

I am told that the fund for the Hospice has now swollen to more than £30,000. The Hospice was the brainchild of Mrs. Yvonne Dale, a cancer sufferer for eight years before she died last October, who devoted those years to the successful launching of the project. (The Hospice will afford periods of care for cancer sufferers, so enabling their families to take much-needed periods of rest from the trials of caring for them.)

Mrs. Dale lived long enough to persuade many prominent people to join her Organisation: Mr. E. G. Tuckwell, the senior surgeon who attended her, is President; vice-presidents and Council members include Group-Captain Leonard Cheshire, V.C., the Bishop of Guildford, the Bishop of Dorking, the Rev'd Mother Mary Benedict, the Earl of Shannon, and Sir George Edwards (Chairman of the British Aircraft Corporation) who is Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Donations, or enquiries as to how to help this project, should be addressed to The Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice Ltd., c/o Mr. Charles Dale, 15 Paxton Gardens, Woodham Lane, Woking, Surrey, England.

C.B.

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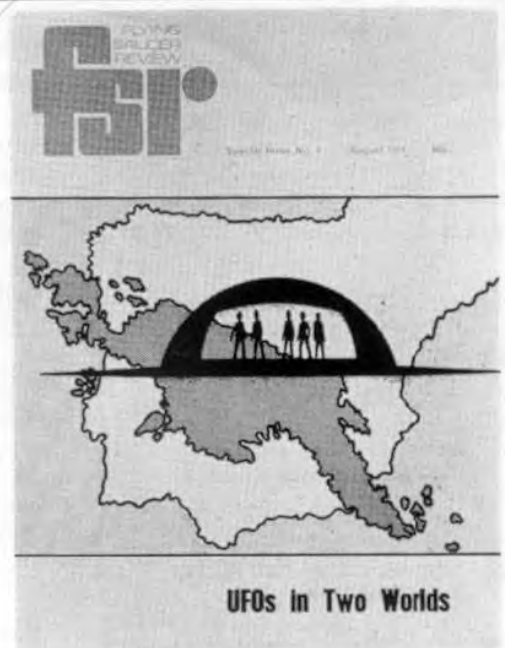
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WOODSTOCK UFO FESTIVAL, 1966 — 1

Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz*

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

—Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Act I, Sc. 2.

"The irrational richness of life has taught me never to disregard anything, even though it may violate all our (unfortunately so often short-lived) theories, or what may at first glance look completely inexplicable."

—C. G. Jung.

THE understanding of antigravity is central to the supposed method of UFO propulsion and such UFO-related effects as presumed levitation, telekinesis, and poltergeist phenomena. The solution to the *modus operandi* of antigravity could have revolutionary consequences. Although the physics of antigravity and of UFO-related phenomena has been explored with the electromagnetic and electrostatic hypotheses, and so forth, little has appeared on the possible psychiatric aspects of the people who are part of such events.

Background

In psychiatric practice the symptom of a sensation of weightlessness, or antigravity, is not common; yet it is not unknown. It is related to depersonalization, which is seen in a variety of neurotic and psychotic patterns and which can also occur in otherwise healthy people following severe emotional stress. The symptom of weightlessness is also not uncommon in various forms of delirium and drunkenness and in the aftermath of the ingestion of psychedelic drugs, such as mescaline and LSD. Examples of weightlessness, both subjective and objective, are recorded in the parapsychological literature. Also, presumed telekinetic experiences are not unheard of in the histories of patients seen in psychiatry, and such events are actually observed in *statu nascendi* from time to time during psychotherapy.^{1, 2}

With rare exceptions, it is, unfortunately, next to impossible to find someone who can control his telekinetic ability. Psychoanalytic study of telekinetic and poltergeist phenomena reveals that there might be common underlying factors of tremendous splitting anxiety, repressed hostility, and frustration occurring at crisis moments: i.e., something has to give.³

Several years ago it was my good fortune to learn of an unusual Woodstock (New York) couple, the Carriers (pseudonym), from a practising physician and his wife. This report is based on several interviews of the Carriers and others as mentioned in the text, including the referring physician and his wife, the Carriers' relatives, former neighbours, and the police. They all vouchsafed for the Carriers' honesty and absence of past deceptions, hoaxes, hospitalization for mental illness, drug reactions, etc. Four field trips were taken to the scene of the former reputed action, for further interviews and photographs. On one occasion the matter was discussed with the eminent telepathist

Joseph Dunninger, who was brought close to the locale but who had no specific impressions.

Long before the youth rock festival, Woodstock† had become well known as a beautiful arts and crafts colony in the Catskill Mountains. In her history of Woodstock, Anita M. Smith⁴ cites a legend "... that when the Indians were on long marches, they avoided passing through the Wide Clove, because Overlook exerted a drag upon their footsteps. It would be necessary for them to camp for a while before they could muster enough strength to overcome the pulling backward, and could continue their journey." Miss Smith also recorded hearsay evidence from the time of the Revolution, when, "A Tory, named Newkirk, was about to die, and he was not allowed to go in peace because the Devil threw him from his bed and he had to die alone out in the barnyard!"⁵

This modern UFO account is not a legend. It involves a young couple, the Carriers: the husband was a college



The Carriers' house

graduate and a computer systems analyst, and his wife, who had attended junior college for two years and was her class valedictorian. They rented a small cottage in a relatively isolated area on the outskirts of Woodstock.

* Consultant, Brain Wave Laboratory, Essex County Hospital Center, Cedar Grove, New Jersey.

† The Woodstock Rock Festival, August 15-17, 1969, was actually held at White Hill Lake, fifty miles south of Woodstock.

After hearing further details of this case from the Carriers' relatives and neighbours in New Jersey, I had a one-hour telephone interview with Mrs. Carrier, aged 25, on July 29, 1969. At that time the Carriers lived in another city far away from Woodstock. The initial contact was followed up by several other phone calls July 30, 1969; September 3, 1969; September 4, 1969; September 14, 1969; and on March 7, 1970, I travelled unannounced to the Carriers' home and interviewed and examined Mr. Carrier psychiatrically.

At that time Mrs. Carrier, who was upstairs ill with the 'flu, overheard some of the interview; and hardly had I begun with her husband when she shouted down that she would refuse to see me. She was still very upset about the experiences of long ago. However, from these interviews of the Carriers, plus others, it seemed that they were telling the truth as they had experienced it.

They both enjoyed good health and there was no evidence for previous emotional or psychosomatic illness or sociopathic behaviour, such as lying, stealing, or dishonesty. The young couple were completely bewildered by the Woodstock events of 1966. The husband independently corroborated most of his wife's account in the presence of a postal clerk (a personal friend), and then privately, in psychiatric interview. He expatiated on the more personal aspects of his family's experiences. There were no major discrepancies between his wife's version and his own.

Although it would be desirable if not mandatory to have had many more investigatory sessions and much more information, this was not feasible. However, because of the rarity of such an experience, its similarity to other published UFO reports, and the fact that little field work on this subject has been done by psychiatrists, I felt that even with these shortcomings, these accounts should be presented. All too often the reader is left with such eponymic generalizations as "poltergeist phenomena" rather than a genuine spelling out of what was alleged to have happened. Needless to say, the Carriers' experiences are not the type of situation that one sees in the everyday practice of clinical psychiatry.



Overlook Mountain

Woodstock: Summer, 1966

The following condensation of verbatim statements made by Mrs. Carrier were independently corroborated by her husband. Where indicated his additional comments are appropriately interpolated in the text.

"This happened in 1966, before my son was born. We lived in a remote spot off the road in a house rented from an artist, who had built it as a studio. His niece, who lived next door to us, was a licensed commercial pilot, who flew from New York to Kingston. There were open fields around the house. Approximately fifteen feet from the house was a clump of bushes, then another open field, and bushes beyond that. It is heavily forested around Woodstock. There were high tension wires going across the field.

"In the spring of 1966, we noticed from our living room strange greenish⁶ lights in the fields, six feet in diameter. One night, when a friend came to visit from Kingston we all saw something fly close to the car. There was a strange noise that I feared—a high-pitched whine—it was quite annoying. I couldn't blot it out. It was like an enormous vacuum cleaner droning. I could detect where it moved to—the wooded area—then out across the house to Overlook mountain. I heard it many times for months but didn't relate it to the sightings. Whenever a plane came over, though, the sound subsided. Then, when the plane went away, it came back to the former level.

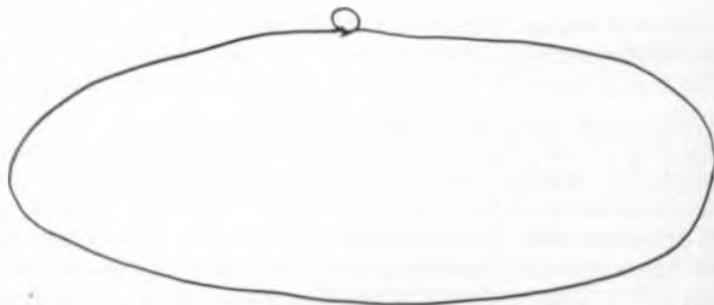


Figure 1. Witness's sketch of Delaware River UFO (see note 7 at end of article).

"One night a strange thing happened. There was a terrifically annoying sound over the driveway. It seemed about six feet above my head. I asked my husband and he didn't hear it, nor did the girl who was staying with us. It was three in the afternoon. Later that afternoon, the girl, another lady, and I were watching TV, when suddenly the sound changed, the pitch went up and down. I looked at the girl and asked, 'Do you hear that too?' 'Yes,' she said, 'I have been hearing it since three p.m., when I was in Kingston.' No one else heard it. I went all around the house checking electrical outlets, the refrigerator, putting my ears against the furniture and other things, but could find no reason for it. The sound went into a regular pattern of oscillation.⁷ Then the sound left, and from one corner of the house it went out into the open field. It was so strong that if you stood in the corner you could feel it pass through your ears. It was remarkable; I never experienced anything like it before.

"I put my ear to the wall facing Overlook mountain [and heard] funny garbled sounds like 'Tweety Pie,' then like a lot of sounds all in unison, like a voice. I'm

positive about this [husband confirmed his wife's and her friends' experiences]. It came three feet above the ground, like mice would talk if they could jabber—but three-foot mice? It went on for more than an hour. We walked around the house and saw nothing.⁸ Finally we looked out into the field and there was the bright green light. A man that we talked to about it said it was a reflection from window glass, but I went outside and it was still there. My girlfriend and I went out together and watched the light for a while. On one side of the [green] light was a red light, one-eighth the size of the green light and it moved far away from it, becoming a separate light until it disappeared.⁹ It never stood still but gave us the impression that it was being moved deliberately up and down. I was frightened. Someone can't understand this unless they went through it. The possibility of manufacturing these lights is ridiculous; it was a valid experience.

“(At times) we heard voices, or a voice like a man, thudding clumps, like someone walking. My girlfriend heard it too. Prior to this she ignored it (the other experiences). Once I fell asleep and woke up as my girlfriend screamed. There was a noise on the roof. I told my husband but he dismissed this as too unreal. It was the first time anything like that ever happened to me. We all heard something walking on the roof, one foot

was not grotesque, but it was so scary. It was in my mind—inside my head. I said, ‘Go away.’ I screamed, ‘Go away.’ It was debilitating. Finally it went away, but the noises from the roof went on. [The husband: “We were frightened. My wife didn't want me to leave for work.”]

“The next day, we went out to check. It had rained hailstones [unusual for summer?] all around the house (but that couldn't account for the strange sounds). The grass was flat and scorched. It stayed that way all summer. When I next went into the fields, I thought we might be overreacting. As the summer went on, many [UFO] reports appeared in the newspapers. The diehard sceptics and nonbelievers came back to the house and changed their attitudes [the husband confirmed this].

“A cousin, who has a cabin high in the mountain, said that he once saw a rocket ship with portholes and that he could see people in it. This was near the Ashokan Reservoir. His uncle had seen things streaking by the mountains that made a sharp 90-degree turns—it was amazing. We heard more stories. Then, when my girlfriend and I had our experience people said that strange things were going on in Woodstock and Kingston for years and years.”

[Mrs. Carrier's statement will be continued in the second part of this article—EDITOR.]

Notes and References

- ¹ Schwarz, B. E.: Telepathy and Pseudotelekinisis in Psychotherapy, *Journal of the American Society of Psychosomatic Dentistry and Medicine*, Vol. 15, 4: 144-154, October, 1968.
- ² Schwarz, B. E.: Synchronicity and Telepathy, *The Psychoanalytic Review*, Vol. 56, 1: 44-56, 1969.
- ³ Fodor, N.: *On the Trail of the Poltergeist*, The Citadel Press, New York, 1958.
- ⁴ Smith, Anita M.: *Woodstock History and Hearsay*, Catskill Mountain Publishing Corp., Saugerties, N.Y., 1957, pp. 4, 6.
- ⁵ Washington Irving described in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (Washington Square Press Books, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1962) an area on the eastern bank of the Hudson, not too far from the Catskills, where, as folklore has it, the good people are bewitched and are given “to all kinds of marvellous beliefs: are subject to trances and visions; frequently see strange sights, hear music, and voices in the air. The whole neighbourhood abounds with local tales, haunted spots, and twilight superstitions; stars shoot and meteors glare oftener across the valley than in any other part of the country, and the nightmare, with her whole ninefold, seems to make it the favoured scene of her gambols” (page 6). And in Irving's *Rip van Winkle* the episode of Rip's time compression should be recalled, “for the whole twenty years had been to him but as one night” (page 55).
- ⁶ Schwarz, B. E.: Possible UFO-Induced Temporary Paralysis, *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol. 17, 2: 4-9, March/April, 1971.
- ⁷ After preliminary telephone interviews (12/7/68), I made direct studies on March 1, 1969, October 18, 1969, and May 12, 1972, of a family, at their home situated near the Delaware River, who had a series of close sightings and other UFO-related experiences including strange humming oscillations. The couple were artists. The wife was also a registered nurse. Some of their sightings were independently confirmed at different times by the mother-in-law and two English girls (babysitters), who were not told of the previous UFO events. The couple were afraid



Fig. 2. Inca head found in Peru similar to hypnogogic visual hallucination reported by Mrs. Carrier. This symbolism is unusual when one considers the fact that Mrs. Carrier was not a devotee of ancient cultures

after another—not like animals scrambling. It went on for a while, and I became frightened. Before I went to sleep they tried to contact me telepathically—this never happened before! My mind blanked out. (In my mind's eye) there was a stone image of a face (see Figure 2). It

of alarming them, since they had a problem of getting help for their children, who included newly-born identical triplets.

Some of the observations of this couple were also confirmed via a letter to me from their neighbour, a prominent psychiatrist, and an exponent of Wilhelm Reich's researches. He wrote me about his own UFO experience:

"On September 2, 1967, according to notes I made at the time, my wife and I were walking our dogs about midnight, as is often our custom on nice evenings. We had not gone very far when we noticed what looked very much like the moon rising over the ridge about one quarter of a mile behind our house. In colour, lumination, and size, it looked very like the moon as it apparently appears to the naked eye when far enough above the horizon to appear white. This object was, however, football-shaped and had a brilliant, pulsating or turning red beacon on top. There was no undercarriage or other observable protrusions when seen with binoculars through 7X. The illumination of the surface (it seemed to glow from within) was homogeneous to the naked eye, but on close examination with binoculars it appeared to be eight large windows which took up most of the surface of the object. It slowly "drifted" from west to east, but we—and my brother who joined us—were able to follow it for about an hour by going up a nearby hill.

"I later read in the Delaware Valley News that the Goodyear blimp had been sighted in the area that night. When I checked on this with the local Goodyear office, I received a confusing answer. Essentially they weren't sure, and I could only find out for sure by calling Ohio, which I didn't feel like doing. I have since seen a Goodyear blimp and know it is the same size (apparently it has an undercarriage and does not have a beacon on top). Also, it would apparently illuminate in letters or words rather than the way we saw the UFO. Furthermore, what is a blimp doing drifting not more than about one or two thousand feet above ground at midnight over some rural land? Oh, yes, the object made no detectable sound. Since the experience with the [couple], I have seen many peculiar phenomena out here, [and] very often an inexplicable movement of what appeared to be a stationary star. But what I have described above is the most unequivocal."

At the same time that the psychiatrist had his experience, the couple saw "a dirigible-like luminous jelly fish with a red light in the middle (see Figure 1). It must have been at least as big as my studio (size of a small summer cottage)." Late one cold wintry night, when the artist was working in the hilltop studio and his wife was at home in the hollow, the artist had a funny feeling as though someone were looking over his shoulder, and which seemed to tell him that there was something outside.

Finally, he couldn't resist it any longer and he checked. At that point (this was about midnight), his wife telephoned from the hollow and they both observed from their respective vantage points, for a long time, "... a Christmas-ornament-like object with revolving brilliant lights about fifty yards away, and about 12 to 15 feet in diameter, sparkling and radiant. There was no noise. My wife said that she had originally gone to bed but then she 'felt' the presence and this compelled her to go to the window [from where she] was watching the object for quite a while before phoning me."

The couple noticed that it dropped a parcel, like a brown paper bag, that floated down very slowly. When they searched for it the next day, however, they found nothing. Additional sightings included a luminous disc that changed shape into something like a perfect chrysanthemum, and then after a "puff" movement a second, similar object was formed next to it. After several sightings, the husband and

wife felt they were in telepathic contact with the saucer.

One night the wife had "an awful dream that the UFO landed." There were occupants that were soulless. They treated everyone and everything in a heartless way. "All my wife could remember was that they were in black. Everything was meaningless to them, like we were a tree or something. They had no sensitivity."

About two nights after the wife's dream, the husband was awakened at 3.00 a.m. by a very strong vibration. He related this to a UFO directly over the house. "It was a suction sound. Extreme vibration. A sort of great undulation. It was a hum that could come and go. I thought of my wife's dream. I felt that the UFO occupants wanted me to dress and go outside and meet them. I thought of my family responsibility and I had a healthy fear. I told them in my thoughts why I couldn't join them and that they shouldn't return. After that, I heard it going away and it left. Since that time there have been few sightings."

The man did not wake his wife during his experience but told her in the morning. And gradually, with the passage of time, they both became deeply involved in religious works—a distinct departure from their past attitude and non-involvement. Although both were accomplished artists, neither of them ever drew (nor would they) what they saw. This was similar to another situation that I studied where I asked an amateur artist to draw what she experienced. Although she diligently tried, she finally destroyed her canvas and phoned me that she couldn't do it (*Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey*, Vol. 66, No. 8: 460-464 (August), 1969; Case 1).

8 Contactee Stella Lansing, while photographing strange aerial objects, once noted what she interpreted as a chorus of strange, bizarre voices chattering in an unintelligible babble. Her account of this experience was substantiated by an independent interview of several families who lived close to her area and who also reported strange, terrifying auditory effects at different times (see FSR, Vol. 18, 1: 3-12, January/February 1972).

In an unidentified newspaper article of February 28, 1965, mention was made of "reports of weird music heard floating across Yellowstone Lake, in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. . . . The sounds resembled the singing of telegraph wires or the hum of bees, beginning softly in the distance, growing rapidly plainer until directly overhead, and fading rapidly in the opposite direction. . . . the mysterious music has been likened to the dirge playing on a giant pipe organ, but echoing of distant bells. The sounds have been heard most distinctly in the early mornings on cloudless, breezeless days. The park's naturalist reported that no one 'has the faintest proof of what causes them.'"

Whatever their cause, the great variety of humming sounds are frequently associated with UFOs. A recent article summarizes many similar strange auditory effects experienced by the astronauts (Beckley, T. G., and Salkin, H.: *Apollo 12's Mysterious Encounter With Flying Saucers*, *Saga Special UFO Report*, Vol. III: 8-11, pp. 58-62 (issued August, 1972).

9 Schwarz, B. E.: *Beauty in the Night*, *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol. 18, No. 7: 5-9, 17, July/August 1972.

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OCCUPANT SYMBOLISM IN PHOENICIAN MYTHOLOGY:

Speculation concerning UFO-related rituals in ancient amulets

Jacques Vallée

THE purpose of this article is to place before the readers of *Flying Saucer Review*, who may be in a better position than I to clarify and document them, a series of observations of a speculative nature. If these observations can be confirmed we may be led to a revision of our concepts relative to the UFO problem, similar to the revision which followed Aimé Michel's discovery of Palaeolithic UFO shapes,¹ and we may have before us a new and significant piece in the "contact" puzzle.

My observations will be concerned with the nature of the scenes depicted on magical or religious objects of Phoenician origin that have been discovered and preserved, and need to be placed in the perspective of a short historical summary concerning the civilization which produced them.

Classical books tell us that the Phoenician civilization was established at a time, much anterior to the Hebrew migrations, when several Semitic tribes founded a series of cities on the Mediterranean littoral: the main ones were known as Tyre, Sidon, Tripoli, Byblos . . . and each was governed by an oligarchy or by a king. At the height of its development, Phoenicia itself extended through that part of Syria that goes from Nahr-al-Kabir (Eleutherus) on the North to Mount Carmel on the South.

Their language was close to Hebrew (it descended from the old Canaanite language) and their alphabet, possibly the oldest form of Semitic writing, is generally regarded as the predecessor of the Greek and Latin alphabets and, indirectly, of all Western alphabets.² It may itself have derived from either the Babylonian characters or from Egyptian hieroglyphs.

Sir E. A. Wallis Budge³ states that "the Phoenicians were not a literary people," but there are indications that their literature may not have been negligible, although it is true that practically nothing has survived. A notable exception is the universal theological history compiled by Sanchuniathon⁴ (1200 B.C.) which Philo of Byblos translated into Greek. Some artifacts have been discovered which are dated to the third millennium B.C., and the best known monuments of the Phoenicians are burial places.

Unlike most Semitic peoples, the Phoenicians loved the sea. They used the numerous forests nearby to supply the timber for their ships. Their work was exceptionally refined and their products were sold by their merchants throughout the ancient world, in Europe, Asia, Africa, and India. They had learnt from Babylon the art of dyeing, from Egypt the craft of glassblowing, and they used accurate systems of weights. Little is known of their

religious beliefs, although it is often pointed out, on linguistic grounds, that the names of their gods showed direct Babylonian, Egyptian, and Greek influences.

Of their ritual practices we are told that they sacrificed their first-born children in times of trouble; that they similarly killed their prisoners of war on the altars of their gods;⁵ and that their women sacrificed their virginity in the sanctuaries of Astarte.⁶ For their personal magical protection the Phoenicians appear to have adopted the type of amulets used in Babylonia and Assyria, and a small collection of cylinder-seals has been preserved in the British Museum (Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities) which I urge my London readers to visit at their earliest opportunity. These artifacts, which are shown in Figures A through E, with an enlargement of about 1.5 times the actual size, may date from a few centuries B.C., probably from about 400-300 B.C.

All five of these cylinder seals depict the Winged Disc, often with appendages. Figures which are referred to in the literature as "divine beings" are seen emerging from these discs in four cases. And in every one of them human figures in ceremonial dress appear to be involved in rituals that contain Assyrian features.

Figure A

This cylinder seal shows a hero holding with each hand a fore-leg of a winged beast. One of these two beasts (the one on the right) has horns on its head, and

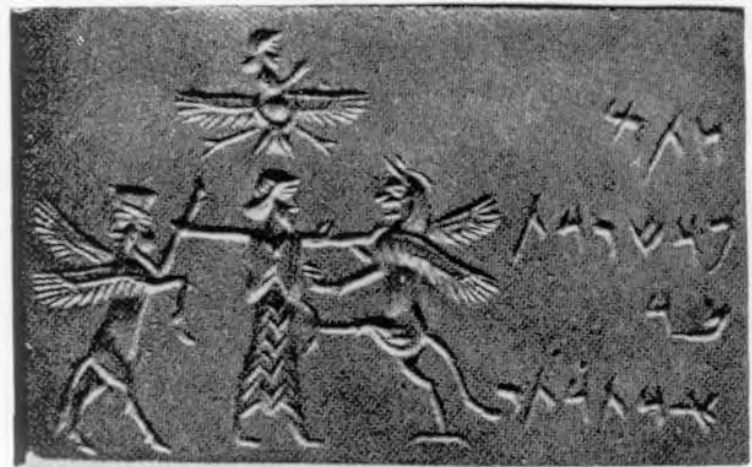


Figure A

a tail. Above the human being is the winged disc, from which a god is emerging. ("Ahuramazda or some Assyrian god," writes Sir Wallis Budge.)

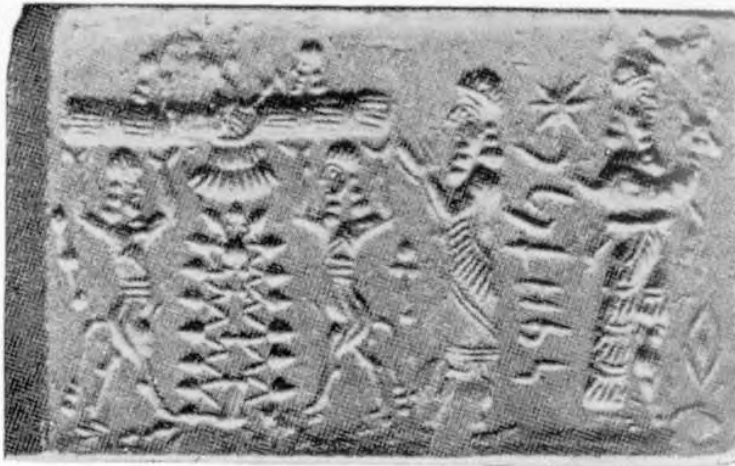


Figure B

Figure B

The interpretation of this amulet, as given in Sir Wallis Budge's book *Amulets And Superstitions*, involves Scorpion-men and sexual symbols. It is apparent that two strange creatures, obviously males, are supporting a winged disc above a sacred tree. To



Figure C

the right is a worshipper, while another person is bringing some sort of animal as a sacrifice. Here, again, two divine figures are to be seen, emerging from the disc. The inscription reads "Belonging to PLTHAN."⁷

Figure C

Two large winged figures—classically interpreted as "priests wearing winged garments"—frame a large disc with extended legs; directly beneath the disc is a symbol



Figure D

of lightning or thunderbolt, before which a man appears to be standing in adoration. There is something on top of the disc, which is interpreted by authorities as "a lion's head" . . . The inscription reads, in translation: "YRPAL, the son of HR'DD."⁸

Figure D

A sphinx and a goat stand on either side of a sacred tree above which is a winged disc. Two men are performing a ritual in connection with the scene . . .

Figure E

Again two of the strange dwarfish figures which authorities call "Scorpion-men" (despite their quite obvious breasts on this particular seal) are supporting a "winged disc from which project the heads of three divine beings." Two men are in adoration before the disc, beneath which a sort of vaulted door can be seen. To the left is a very strange figure interpreted as "a god holding a gazelle or goat under each arm."

All five seals are about one inch in height.

This collection of artifacts raises several questions that are important from an historical point of view. In the first place, is it common for the winged disc (a frequent symbol in Antiquity) to show several beings



Figure E

emerging from its upper part? In what context are such representations encountered?

If the disc is interpreted as some mythological symbol of flight connected with the Cosmos (as is indicated by the abundance of astronomical symbols in the seals: stars, crescent moons), should we think of the appendages of the disc in terms other than biological? In other words, should we speculate that the representation of a winged disc with extended claws may in fact be associated with the vision, or observation, of a flying disc with landing-gear, of the type so frequently described in more recent history?

Tempting as it is, this speculation does not answer certain important questions connected with these remarkable scenes, but it is certainly fascinating to read that the best accepted interpretation for the zigzag symbol in Figure C is "lightning or a thunder-bolt." Why should a thunder-bolt be associated with a winged disc, and why should three people in elaborate magical garments stand in adoration before it? The scene suggests plan and purpose rather than a chance occurrence or the observation of some purely natural phenomenon.

Equally fascinating to the student of close-encounter UFO cases are the scenes in which animals are carried to the hovering disc, as in figures B and E: in the latter case, a god is seen holding some horned animal under each arm—a scene certainly reminiscent of Alexander Hamilton's cow⁹ and of many a claim of animal-kidnapping by UFO occupants. Three of the cylinder seals (B, D, E) show approximately the same thing: a disc above some elaborate ground structure; a human in adoration; someone bringing a horned animal towards the centre of the scene.

A third class of observation which we can make concerns the beings themselves:

1. The first category consists of human beings that Assyriologists call "worshippers," "priests," "kings," etc. Sometimes they are wearing winged garments.

2. The Gods. They are shown either emerging from the disc, and wearing in some cases elaborate head-dresses, or walking outside the disc as in Figure E, where the figure at the left seems to be wearing its hair in three long tresses on either side of the head.

3. The "Scorpion-Men," who have phallic attributes in Figure B but in Figure E would more properly be called "Scorpion-Women," are only seen supporting the disc. It would be interesting to find out where this word "scorpion" comes from in connection with these figures. The "Scorpion-Men" are consistently about two-thirds of the height of the "men" and the "Gods."

4. Various monsters, such as the horned creature in Figure A, the sphinx in Figure D, etc.

I have stated above that certain important questions were left unanswered by this interpretation of the scenes shown on the cylinder seals. If we assume that the Phoenicians were thus transmitting recent or ancient knowledge of the details of UFO landings, why should such knowledge be preserved in seals rather than in other types of inscription? Of what importance would be such a reference to "YRPAL, the son of HR'DD," who was probably the owner of a glass-blowing shop somewhere in Sidon, or perhaps the captain of a sailing ship from the harbour of Tyre?

More important, why should the observation of a UFO be represented in the context of an obviously magical ceremony that does not appear to have any traditional character of Phoenician religion? We are told, for instance, that they held the same view as the Hebrews concerning the survival of the soul; that they buried their dead with great care; and that their sacrificial ceremonies involved the killings of human beings and sacred prostitution. Why then is it that, if the seals are associated with spiritual or religious values, they depict nothing of this, but do instead show winged discs which appear to come from a star, which contain strange beings who carry off Earth animals, and which emit lightning-bolts? And why are the human assistants wearing special vestments with wings on them?

Notes and References

¹ FSR XV, 6, November/December 1969, pp. 3-11.

² [Gordon Creighton points out that North Semitic is now regarded as probably the ancestor of not only the Greek and Latin and other Western alphabets, such as the Russian Cyrillic, but also of all other alphabets, including the Arabic, the Sanskrit and other Indian alphabets, the

Armenian, the Georgian, the Burmese, the Tibetan, etc.—EDITOR.]

³ Sir Ernest Alfred Wallis Budge, Kt., M.A., Litt.D., D.Litt., D.Lit., F.S.A.: *Amulets and Superstitions*, Oxford University Press and Humphrey Milford, London, 1930; pp. 250-251. This great scholar, who lived from 1857 to 1934, was, from 1885 to 1924, Keeper of the Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities in the British Museum.

⁴ [Dr. Vallée has Sanchoniathon, which may possibly be the usual French form for this name. We have however rendered it as Sanchuniathon, which is the English form that we find used in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.—EDITOR.]

⁵ Diodorus Siculus: XX, 14.

⁶ I Kings XIV, 24.

⁷ Sir E. A. Wallis Budge, *op. cit.*, p. 255.

⁸ Sir E. A. Wallis Budge, *op. cit.*, p. 256.

⁹ [For this classic case of "steer-rustling" by UFO occupants see Chapter I of Dr. Vallée's *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (1965). At 10.30 p.m. on the night of April 19, 1897, at Le Roy, Kansas, Kansas State Representative Alexander Hamilton, his son Wall, and his tenant Gid Heslip, watched one of their two-year-old heifers hoisted out of the paddock by a rope dangling from a 300-foot-long cigar-shaped craft containing some "very hideous people" and hovering at a height of only 300ft. above the farm. Gordon Creighton's *New FSR Catalogue, On The Effects of UFOs on Animals, Birds, And Smaller Creatures*, of which thirteen instalments have recently appeared in FSR, beginning with the issue for January/February 1970, contains several other cases in which animals were allegedly carried off by entities from UFOs.—EDITOR.]

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THE LITTLE SINGING CREATURES AT ARC-SOUS-CICON

Joël Mesnard

Here, to get the record straight, is a contribution from issue No. 13 of *Phénomènes Spatiaux* (September 1967). Translation by Gordon Creighton.

ON Wednesday, July 19, and Thursday, July 20, 1967, press and radio referred to a report that strange small beings had been seen by several children near a village in the Doubs Département, and by a fifteen-year-old girl named Joëlle Ravier.

As several of the details of the sighting were at variance in the separate reports, we accepted it with a certain degree of scepticism. It appears in fact that these differences which are to be seen in the various accounts are due to differences in the interpretations put upon Joëlle Ravier's declarations rather than to any contradictions on her part.

In the course of the enquiry which I carried out on the spot on Sunday, July 23, 1967, Joëlle Ravier gave a coherent description of the facts and explained the points that might have seemed suspect in the various published accounts.

The village of Arc-sous-Cicon, some 20 kilometres from Pontarlier, lies in the middle of an undulating plateau surrounded by hills covered with conifer forests. Almost the whole of the plateau is cow-pasturage.

Shortly after 3.00 p.m. on Monday, July 17, 1967, a group of young children left the village to go for a walk through fields which, dotted with bushes, lead upwards in a gentle slope to the pine forest that flanks the plateau on the north. A little girl aged five, Patricia Bépoix, who was a few score metres or so ahead of her companions, suddenly turned back, terrified, and made her way back home to her parents as fast as her feet could carry her. Sobbing, she told her mother that she had surprised several "little Chinamen" sitting behind a bramble-bush, and that one of them had stood up with the apparent intention of seizing her.

INTRODUCTION: CRAZY EVENT ON A CRAZY NIGHT

On the morning after what was described as "the crazy night" of July 17-18, 1967, French and Swiss newspapers,¹ and also Radio-Luxemburg, carried a report about a strange incident that had happened at Arc-Sous-Cicon.² In this village in Doubs (adjoining Switzerland, in Eastern France), which has a total of 700 inhabitants, some children, of whom the eldest was Joëlle Ravier (15), daughter of the village carpenter, claimed that they had seen some mysterious beings that were rapidly labelled "Martians."

The versions of the affair as given by various newspapers were at times very different. In one the "Martians" had heads the size of a potato, and in another it would be heads shaped like a potato—which is not at all the same thing! According to certain of the press reports, Joëlle Ravier had said that she had seen either four or three beings, while other reports said she had only seen one.

L'Est Républicain, a paper which had published these contradictory figures on successive days and emphasised the discrepancies, seemed to be suggesting that the young girl's truthfulness was questionable, and Charles Garreau, who was aware of these contradictions about the number of beings, wrote to us saying that, in all probability, this was indeed a case of a piece of fancifulness conceived in the mind of an over-imaginative lass.

As several of the papers had said that Joëlle had seen her "Martians" on Tuesday, July 18, some people found it easy to believe that the story had sprung to birth in her mind after she had read, in the newspapers of that date (July 18) articles about UFO sightings during the previous night. But this argument is untenable. For, as various media attest (newspapers *L'Est Républicain* of July 19 and *La Suisse* of July 20, and the report broadcast on the *Europe-Midi* Service on July 19) the incident at Arc-sous-Cicon occurred on the afternoon of Monday, July 17, and, consequently, before the other sightings referred to.

It is however to be noted that, on Joëlle Ravier's own admission, in the recording made by *Radio-Europe No. 1*, it was only when she read the newspapers of the 18th, which spoke of "flying saucers," that she was led to think that the very strange being that she had seen the previous day might possibly be an extraterrestrial.

We ourselves had seen several articles about the case, and we were quite inclined to fall in with the sceptical view of Charles Garreau when our friend and collaborator Joël Mesnard informed us that he had been to Arc-sous-Cicon, had talked to Joëlle Ravier and the children who were with her on the day of the incident, and that he had made a tape-recording of the essential parts of his interview with the girl.

Joël Mesnard then sent us—and we thank him most warmly for it—a very sincere report. We can certify that this report agrees with the statements of Joëlle Ravier that were tape-recorded, as our fellow-investigator sent the tape to us and we have made our own copy of it.

Having thus taken a fair and honest note of what has been said in the press and on the radio about the incident at Arc-sous-Cicon, we shall now give below the full text of Joël Mesnard's account of it and leave it to our readers to form their own opinion about the case.

RENE FOUERE, Editor of *Phénomènes Spatiaux*.

The next thing was that Joëlle Ravier's brother, aged ten, had seen "smoke" (*fumée*) coming out of a bush. In his description it sounded more like a vertical, luminous, yellowish beam of light.

Their curiosity aroused by what Patricia had reported, Joëlle Ravier and her companion Marie-Reine Mairot now set out from the village towards the field where the children were, at a distance of some 300-400 metres from the houses. Arriving at the spot, they saw a strange little creature running from bush to bush, very fast, with a leg movement that was distinctly faster than the leg movements of a human being. The astonishing little creature, which seemed to be about one metre high, was black, and seemed to be wearing a sort of short jacket (*veste*) which floated behind him as he ran. He had a protuberant belly and, while his legs seemed to be very short, the two girls were unable to describe his arms and indeed were not sure that he had any. They were likewise unable to make out any details of his face.³

Joëlle and Marie-Reine then went over to the bramble-bush where the little "Martian" had disappeared, and heard somebody talking in a strange sing-song fashion. Gripped with fear, they quickly rejoined the other children.

Joëlle Ravier denies having said that the little being had a head shaped like a potato. Likewise, she denies that she ever said she had tried to chase him on her bicycle.

When one journalist asked her whether the beings were numerous, she had replied (thinking of the "little Chinamen" seen by Patricia) "Three or four." This led one newspaper to state that she had seen "three Martians," and another paper to say that she had seen four. In actual fact, little Patricia was the only one who saw several beings, but her tender age, and the emotion that she felt, make it impossible for us to expect any very precise description from her.

On July 23 (six days later), it was still possible to see, around the bramble-bush where the strange little creature had vanished, a dozen very pronounced marks where the grass—which was very green everywhere else—was of a yellow, straw colour, and dry. One could actually feel that the grass on the stained areas was quite warm to the touch, whereas the surrounding grass felt cool. Moreover the stained areas still gave off a certain odour.

The shortest route to the forest, from the spot where the creature was seen, is through a succession of clumps of shrubbery. And along the extent of 400 or 500 metres from the spot to the pine forest, six other marks, roughly in a straight line, were found, which seemed as it were to blaze a trail. Nowhere else in the fields around about were such marks found.

According to Joëlle Ravier's parents, who have known the district for a long time, these marks have an altogether unusual character owing to the way the grass is coloured, and owing to the sharp outlines of the marks, and it is impossible to consider them to be due to the urine of the cattle, which merely produces a brownish colouring which is far less pronounced.

Joëlle Ravier seems to enjoy the esteem and confidence of everybody in the village, as do the other witnesses also. Their story cannot be attributable to any sort of possible psychosis created by the many sightings

of the night of July 17-18, inasmuch as the incident at Arc-sous-Cicon occurred during the afternoon of the 17th.

We would mention also that, according to the newspaper *Le Parisien Libéré* of July 20, 1967, two astronomers at the observatory at Besançon saw, on the evening of the 17th, "a luminous, round object which, after remaining stationary for thirty seconds over the horizon, made off towards the south and vanished at high speed."

Finally, we may note that Arc-sous-Cicon is only about ten kilometres from the place near Evillers where Monsieur Tyrode saw a flying saucer on May 22, 1967. (For the report on this case, see *Phénomènes Spatiaux* No. 12, pp. 28 and 29.)

Notes

(R. Fouéré's introduction)

¹ *L'Est Républicain*, July 19, 1967; *L'Aurore*, *L'Est Républicain*, *La Feuille d'Avis de Neuchâtel*, *France-Soir*, *Ouest-France*, *Le Parisien Libéré*, *La Suisse*, all of July 20, 1967.

² The village of Arc-sous-Cicon lies on Route D 41, at 4.5 km. from the junction of this road with the N 462, this junction itself being 2 km. to the north of Saint-Gorgon.

(J. Mesnard's article.)

³ It is true that Joëlle Ravier did a sketch, for a newspaper, of a being with arms terminating in fingers, but she explains that she did this in order to conform to the description given by little Patricia Bépoix.

POSTSCRIPT TO THE ARC-SOUS-CICON CASE

by GORDON CREIGHTON

ACCORDING to a further note by Monsieur René Fouéré, Editor of *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, with whose kind permission we print the Arc-sous-Cicon article, he was interviewed by a reporter from Radio-Luxemburg about the case. In view of our own experiences with the BBC, Monsieur Fouéré's comments on this interview make interesting reading, and I shall quote them:

"Socrates said that a living word can defend itself, but that a written word could not. This is equally true in the case of a word registered on a magnetic tape. Of this whole interview, which lasted a good twenty minutes, all that was selected and broadcast were a few sentences about the various types of beings encountered by witnesses in various countries, in the close proximity of flying saucers on the ground or almost on the ground. The magnetic tape being unable to talk back, these sentences were played over in the twinkling of an eye, and with no possibility of appeal, like a final court verdict, by Lucien Barmier who thus—in our absence—won a too easy victory over them."

Readers of FSR may find that this case sounds familiar to them, and they will be right, for Charles Bowen included a brief and, as it turned out, slightly garbled advance version of it in his article *More Unusual Humanoids* (see FSR, May/June 1968, p. 18). The garbling was due to the fact that at the time the story had reached us only via a Brazilian newspaper (*Notícias Populares*, São Paulo, July 20, 1967, sent in by Nigel Rimes) which described Joëlle Ravier and the rest of the children as all being *boys*.

Commenting upon the case, Charles Bowen said it might be tempting to ask whether or not these particular creatures seen at Arc-sous-Cicon were like those seen by the French farmer Monsieur Masse at Valensole on July 1, 1965, he having spoken of little men with "pumpkin" (*courgourdo*) heads whereas Joëlle Ravier's experience involved "potato heads."

LANDINGS AND HUMANOIDS REPORTED IN CAPE PROVINCE

Speculation on the cause of the damage to Rosmead Tennis court

Charles Bowen

THE wave of UFO reports which in the winter months of June, July and August 1972 had given the South African press unforeseen opportunities for weeks of lively writing, much speculation, and some investigation, had seemed to have fizzled out by September. Then, quite suddenly, the furore was building up again.

There were one or two "linking" reports, a little low-weight, between the main wave and the new outbreak. (The word "outbreak" is used somewhat guardedly, for at the time of writing there are no indications that the flap will be prolonged: the ingredients, nevertheless, are intriguing.)

Two Pretoria UFO reports

Typical of the "linking" reports were two that were published in the *Pretoria News* of October 23, 1972:

1. A Permanent Force soldier, Pte. M. A. Raubenheimer, was sitting on the verandah of his house in Pretoria Gardens. With him were five other people, and the time was 7.10 p.m. on Saturday, October 21. They saw a bright light in the sky shaped like a figure-of-eight. The light dimmed and grew brighter, and so on, and moved from east to west and back again. The party rushed to Pte. Raubenheimer's car and drove towards the object to get a better view. The object was soundless, and Pte. Raubenheimer says it was neither a flare nor a helicopter: he is well acquainted with these, and other devices used by the forces. After 15 minutes the object dimmed and disappeared.

It will be seen that a number of elementary points are

missing from this report, namely (i) the direction in which the witnesses were looking when they saw the object; (ii) estimates of size; (iii) estimates of altitude and speed; (iv) colours. (For the witnesses to have "driven towards" the object suggests it might have been close and sizeable.) Some attention to these details would have improved the report, and facilitated analysis.

2. Mr. Dick Richards, ex-Spitfire pilot and managing director of a motor firm, who lives in Hatfield, saw the second object over Pretoria at about 1.50 a.m. on October 23. Awakened by the noise of the wind, he and Mrs. Richards got up to close the windows: they saw a light, which they thought was a satellite, climbing slightly at an estimated distance of 4 km. and at a speed of about 800 km.p.h. It was moving north towards the centre of the city. Mr. Richards hurried to fetch his binoculars. He saw the light continue to burn for three seconds, then "blink off" for about a $\frac{1}{2}$ -second: it was then at an estimated altitude of between 300 and 450 metres. The object now slowed and stopped, then hovered for some 30 seconds before moving away to the North East.

These two reports were gentle heralds for what was to follow in mid-November.

Rosmead

Mr. J. du Plessis of Middelburg, Cape Province, claims to have seen a UFO "flying about" in the Karroo sky for some three months. The *Daily Dispatch* reported on November 18 that Mr. du Plessis said

THE LITTLE SINGING CREATURES (Continued from page 11)

From the fuller story now available, I think we can take it that there is no great resemblance to the Valensole case, where, so I believe, the facial colouring of the small creatures was described as being rather "white," or "European," and certainly not "black."

On the other hand, it strikes me very forcibly that there are at least two other cases with features that are much more in agreement with this one. The first one is the case of the small black beings seen (also by a party of children and in a country pasture) on the Cussac Plateau of South Central France on August 29, 1967 (the same year). This case was fully described in *Phénomènes Spatiaux* for June 1968, and John C. Hugill's translation of it appeared in FSR for September/October 1968. The original French account was by Joël Mesnard and Claude Pavy, and the title under which the case was given in FSR is *Encounter With 'Devils'*.

The second case—and here I think that in some respects the resemblances are more striking—was reported by our colleague Bryan Winder in *The Little Blue Man On Studham*

Common (in FSR for July/August 1967). This case, in a village in the Chiltern Hills lying to the North-West of London, also involves a party of children, a puff of smoke, shrubs and bushes (including brambles), an incomprehensible "foreign-sounding" babble or talk heard coming from inside the bushes, and a small being also described as being about one metre, i.e. about 3ft., in height.

As at Arc-sous-Cicon, so also at Studham, the children did not claim to have seen a "flying saucer" or UFO.

As I pointed out long ago (see page 83 of the hard-cover edition of *The Humanoids*), there is a vast accumulation already, from every part of our globe, and for centuries past, of reports of similar experiences, involving similar types of small creatures. One of the sad myths of our time is that in some fashion or other we are "better educated" than our forebears were. Such, alas, is certainly not the case. Previous generations, in all cultures and in all parts of the world, would have recognized these creatures for what they are. There would have been less silly talk about "Martians."

he watched it fly upwards, downwards and backwards, to go quite "crazy" at times, and to disappear. It shone with varying colours—green, blue and red—and it "shot off rockets."

Mr. du Plessis had seen the object approach Middelburg from differing directions, from Graaff-Reinet, Cradock and Rosmead. It may or may not be significant that this witness volunteered his information after a flurry of sensational headlines had hit the news stands on November 13 and 14 . . .

"UFO LANDS IN SCHOOL GROUNDS" (*The Argus* Cape Town evening newspaper of November 13, 1972); "UFO RIPS UP TENNIS COURT" (*Cape Times* of November 14, 1972); "FOUR EYE-WITNESSES TO ROSMEAD UFO" (*The Argus*, November 16), and so on.

Rosmead is a small town in the Eastern Cape Province, about 15-20 km. to the east of Middelburg. The tennis court which was so heinously treated is in the grounds of Rosmead Primary School (described in some reports as a "High School") where it adjoins the residence of the School Principal, Mr. Harold Truter.

We are indebted to Mr. Philipp J. Human for sending us a translation (from the Afrikaans) of a report published in the Johannesburg Sunday newspaper *Rapport* of November 19, 1972, and to the Editor of that newspaper for so kindly sending photographs of the site of the alleged landing:

"The Light at Rosmead"

"As silently as it had happened, just as silently the tennis court at the little town of Rosmead hugs its secret. A young bluegum tree close by used to be lush and green, but now it is dying; its fellows are as green as ever.

"The C.S.I.R. scientists in Pretoria are busy analysing twigs from the tree and pieces of tar from the tennis

court. They hope to solve the mystery of the 'Light' at Rosmead and what had churned up the tennis court.

"There are many theories, but each one has holes as large as those on the tennis court. Few residents are willing to admit it, but many believe that a strange flying object had landed there.

On Sunday night (November 12) three army trainees were lying on the lawn at the military base. They were Gerrie Buitendag, Fanie Rosseau and Petrus Nel. Massive petrol storage tanks were being guarded there. Shortly after 8 o'clock Gerrie pointed in the direction of the tennis court a few hundred metres away where a red light, similar to that on the rear of a motor car, was circling. They were surprised but took no further notice.

"At the same time Sergeant John Goosen and Constable Koos Brazelle of Middelburg police station, reached for their binoculars. They focused towards Rosmead, 18 km. away, where a strange light was hanging in the sky. It was changing colour all the time. Other people saw it too.

"'Actually, we had already noticed this light on Friday night,' Miss Betsie Coetzee explained to *Rapport*. 'We were travelling to Rosmead. We stopped and watched for a full 15 minutes.'

"Mr. Harold Truter, the school principal at Rosmead, arrived home at 8.30 on Sunday night. He was speechless when he saw the tennis court next to his residence. There were large holes in the tar, but the gate was still secure, and the wire fencing was not buckled or torn in any way. He then noticed a long vertical light in the sky and then it suddenly vanished. He rushed to the telephone and dialled the police at Middelburg.

"Sgt. Goosen and Const. Brazelle were still watching the light through their binoculars when the telephone rang. When they heard what had happened, they rushed to Rosmead. The area was searched. There was nothing except another long light which hung horizon-



Colonel B. J. Van Heerden tries to simulate the damage with a spade

[Our cover picture shows Mr. Harold Truter inspecting the damage.]

Photos by courtesy of Rapport

tally in the sky; it then moved vertically and suddenly disappeared.

"There are five large holes in the tennis court which form a distinct pattern. At the bottom end of the court there are two almost oval-shaped holes of about 3 metres in diameter with a tail and a smaller hole. In the centre of the court is a circular hole about two metres wide. At the top end again there are two near-oval-shaped holes with a tail and smaller holes. There are also two small holes that seemed to have been caused by a spike.

"One of these holes was carefully 'lifted', and, together with pieces of tar and twigs from the tree, was sent to the C.S.I.R. for analysis.

"Only the layer of tar about 10 cms. thick was ripped up. The layer of ash on which the court was built was not disturbed in any way. Pieces of tar were also picked up some 50 metres away in the direction of a nearby hill, but none was found on the wire fence itself.

"There was no indication that spades or shovels had been used, nor that the tar had been melted or scorched in any way. Also, the gate and wire fencing had not been tampered with.

"One theory is that the court had been damaged by an explosion and it sounds very plausible, but only the tar had been shattered; the layer of ash was intact. No explosion had been heard.

"At one end of the court, and facing a small hole, it seems that a tree is slowly dying from the top end. Similar trees in close proximity are undamaged. The man who constructed the tennis court says that if gas had built up until it inevitably exploded, large and deep gaps would have been torn everywhere. But he has never heard of such an eventuality."

Further information gleaned from the *Daily Dispatch* of November 18, 1972, is that . . .

(a) Col. B. J. van Heerden, District Commandant of Police at Middelburg, stated that the dying bluegum tree showed signs of scorching;

(b) a theory that a whirlwind had caused the damage to the tennis court was discounted because none of the pieces of tar was overturned;

(c) soldiers guarding the petrol tanks 400 metres away had reported to the police that they saw red lights (like car tail lights, but illuminated independently, for no lights from headlights were visible) moving in circles on the tennis court;

(d) the red lights then "disappeared, and the whole petrol dump was illuminated with a strange incandescent light";

(e) Riflemen P. K. Nel and S. J. Rosseau (see the *Rapport* account) said the lights were on the court, and not next to it;

(f) No tyre marks were found on or near the tennis court.

Landing, with "occupants", reported near Middelburg

The *Daily Dispatch* of November 18 carried a "Stop Press" item close to its Rosmead report with a heading "MEN FROM MARS?" It seemed that a Mr. Gert Pretorius had seen two "little red men" emerge from a glowing object.

The East London *Evening Post* of the same date told

how police chief Col. van Heerden and the Middelburg Postmaster, Mr. George Anderson, had searched for an hour on Ouberg a mountain on the outskirts of Middelburg, after receiving the report. They found nothing.

"The colonel and I were quite prepared to talk to anyone in the object, whether earthling or from outer space," said Mr. Anderson. "I would not be scared for I do not think they would harm us. We would not shoot at the object like they did at Fort Beaufort," he added.

There were other witnesses besides Mr. Pretorius, including a Mr. and Mrs. Coetzee, and Mrs. Nola van Deventer, who told how a child called to her to see "the thing on the mountain." The boy was very frightened.

For amplified detail we again have recourse to an account from *Rapport* of November 18, translated by Philipp Human:

"A saucer lands at Middelburg"

"Two little men, a metre tall, glowing red and wearing rucksacks on their shoulders, stepped out of a flying saucer at Middelburg, Cape. A few people watched wide-eyed and terrified, and then ran for the police. Nothing was found.

"Mr. G. Pretorius, senior Post Office official at Middelburg, together with his wife and baby son went for a drive at about 8 o'clock on Friday night (November 17). That very day he had teased Miss Betsie Coetzee, also from the Post Office, who had told *Rapport* how she had seen a light above Rosmead on the night their school's tennis court had been ripped into shreds.

"Mr. Pretorius said: 'It was my wife who first drew my attention to a brilliant light—a circular one—which lit up the mountain above which it was hanging. Suddenly it just disappeared and I raced to the police station.'

" 'This brought us closer to where the light had been seen. Suddenly it flashed again barely a kilometre from us. It was then that we saw two glowing red little men alight from an object. They wore something like rucksacks on their backs, and it seemed as if each carried a small torch in his hand. Then everything vanished as if a light had suddenly been switched off.'

"His wife, Anna, said she was paralyzed from shock. She had seen everything precisely as her husband had described it. Whilst the two were still seated in their car, scared and shaking, Mr. Koos Coetzee arrived on the scene. All at once the one asked the other if he had seen 'it' too. Mrs. Pretorius could not utter a sound. She sat there wide-eyed and biting her fingers.

" 'The thing lit up the whole area like daylight, but to me it didn't appear to be little men who emerged. It seemed like legs on which this 'thing' had landed. Underneath the legs were little lights,' said Mr. Coetzee.

"Shortly after that Col. van Heerden, district commandant, climbed the mountain himself to have a look around. He and other curious persons found nothing. And yesterday the police and hundreds of others fine-combed the mountain. There was no sign of anything unusual.

"Mr. and Mrs. Pretorius, and Mr. and Mrs. Coetzee

DRAGONS AND UFOs AT LOCH NESS

F. W. Holiday

ONE evening at Loch Ness in August, 1972, Dr. Robert H. Rines, President of the Massachusetts Academy of Applied Science, came up with two colleagues to Strone where I was staying with my friends Wing Commander and Mrs. Cary, to tell us that he had just obtained what he hoped were underwater colour pictures of a large moving object which had broken the sonar-beam being generated by the Loch Ness Investigation research boat *Narwhal*. The object had been filmed using a strobe-light attached to the submerged camera. He asked us to treat the matter as confidential until he could have the film developed and intensified in the U.S.A. and examined by leading experts.

Eventually this was done and a press conference was held on November 1, 1972, at Boston, Massachusetts, sponsored by the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers, The Boston Museum of Science, The Academy of Applied Science and The Loch Ness

LANDINGS AND HUMANOIDS

(Continued from page 14)

were not the only people who had witnessed this landing. In the coloured township, men, women and children fled screaming into their homes and locked the doors as soon as the light had appeared. At the military base at Rosmead, where the tennis court is situated, African people fled into the night when they saw the light. One man ran slap-bang into a tree and was knocked unconscious.

"Hundreds of cars are converging on Middelburg and Rosmead. Every field glass is being polished . . . but no one has yet thought of grabbing a gun!

"'You can make fun of my *red little men*, but I know there was something no one can explain. I'll take an oath on the Bible,' said Mr. Pretorius."

Comments

One FSR correspondent, Mr. G. D. B. Williams, is uneasy about the Rosmead tennis court affair: he wonders if the damage is part of an elaborate hoax. Such a possibility must be borne in mind, although at first sight there are factors that would seem to militate against the hoax theory: the lack of vehicle marks, the absence of noise which might have alerted others in the vicinity, and the strangeness of the damage to the top tarred surface only.

This article is based on newspaper reports. Where distances are involved such as those in a vast country like South Africa—and indeed, as far as we here in England are concerned, on a global scale—we have no alternative but to rely on the media for our initial information. We are grateful for the courteous co-operation that has been offered by a number of newspapers, and particularly in this instance by the newspaper *Rapport*.

Investigation Bureau, at which the pictures were exhibited. The film had been processed by Eastman Kodak, and analysed by Professor H. Eggerton (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), H. Gillespie (California Institute of Technology), Dr. L. Katz (Astro-Dynamics, Inc.) and Dr. C. W. Wyckoff (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute).

The colour photographs show "sections of a large object with a rough textured surface of a dark green-brown colour."¹ In one group of pictures a triangular "appendage" appearing to contain five digits is visible and if this group is seen in sequence the "appendage" appears to change position in relation to the rest of the object. These photographs were "synchronous with the sonar traces obtained aboard *Narwhal*."

The experts considered that the "appendage" in the pictures was at least 20 feet away from the camera. "The total length of this "appendage" is estimated by one group at 6 feet, a maximum of 3 feet in width and drew the comment that it looks like a flipper; another group estimated the length at 8-10 feet with a width of 4 feet." The report also states: "Subsequent frames show another appendage which resembles a tail-like structure of similar dimensions."²

The sonar-echoes obtained simultaneous with the pictures were analysed by six leading experts including P. Sitzki, President of the Raytheon Company; Martin Klein, President of Klein Associates, sonar manufacturers and designers; Professor Harold Eggerton; Dr. R. Eide of the Simrad Company; Dr. J. Bouyoucos of Hydro-Acoustics, Inc., and Professor I. Dyer, Head of Oceanographic Engineering.

Even before seeing the photographs the Raytheon Company stated: ". . . it may be determined from the record at 0105 hours, 0117 hours and 0157 hours that the animal(s) has (have) a dimensional extent of approximately 20-30 feet as determined by the length of the echo-returns."³

When these traces appeared on the sonar-screen a quartz iodine searchlight was played on the surface of the water along the line of the sonar beam. "When the light was switched on the object seemed to come towards the transducer for a short distance and when it was switched off the object moved away. This occurred several times and more work should be carried out to see if any correlation exists."⁴

This latest evidence that the phenomena in Loch Ness are objective is the most conclusive and best-attested to date. Even so, it tells us nothing we do not already know. It is most tempting to adopt the conclusion that the objects are animals. Yet long-line fishing, dredging, netting, scuba-diving and submarine investigations have failed to produce a particle of organic evidence in support of this. Moreover, strange phenomena in the sky have been observed.



Graham Snape (right) interviewing Frank Searle at Loch Ness about his sightings of unexplainables

One evening about midnight in August, 1971, I was standing on the path above Strone talking to Graham Snape, a young schoolmaster who teaches science subjects and who at the time was acting as Group Leader for the Loch Ness Investigation. I was just about to go up to my caravan and bed when Snape gave an exclamation and pointed at the sky. I looked immediately but could see only broken cloud. He said he had just glimpsed several spherical objects moving from west to east between the cloud-cover.

While we were looking round trying to catch another glimpse of the objects a land-rover driven by Mrs. Pat Crowesdale—a well-known local resident—came up the lane. She also had seen the objects. Interested, we inquired around and found that they had also been seen from the Bureau's camp at Achnahannet. They were described as reddish balls moving slowly at low altitude and showing a distinct diameter. The Achnahannet witness was under the impression that one or more of the objects had entered the loch.

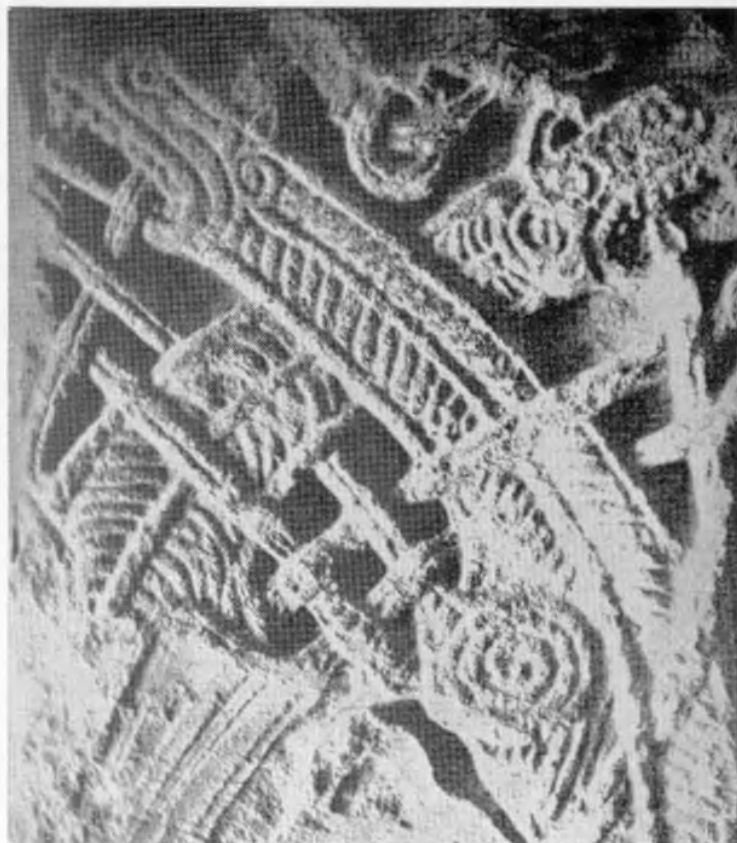
Frank Searle—an observer who has lived three years by Loch Ness and whose pictures of monsters have appeared in *The Daily Mirror* and other newspapers—told me about an incident in daylight. He was chatting to a visitor on the shore when an object, high in the sky, was seen approaching slowly from the west. At first they thought it was some sort of balloon, especially since the wind was from that direction. However, instead of drifting across the loch it hovered for a while and then retraced its path and disappeared from whence it came.

I then asked Mrs. Cary to undertake a watching brief and to let me know if anything of a similar nature turned

up during the winter. She had, she told me, once or twice seen odd coloured lights in the sky but had no opinion about their nature. One night in November, 1971, however, she saw something quite extraordinary. Coming fairly fast up the middle of Loch Ness at low altitude was a glowing, golden, oval object with a distinct reddish aura, its size being perhaps 20 feet on its long axis. It was lower than the crest of the background mountains and quickly shot out of sight behind the hill moving towards Fort Augustus. She had it in view only for seconds.

We have here in all this, I think, a pretty remarkable situation. In my view there is not the slightest doubt that the things in Loch Ness (and other waters) are what used to be called dragons. And as a definition of "dragon" we can only take the descriptions and depictions in world religious art as our criterion. All of it is there—the humps, the serpentine shape, the hairy neck and horned head and the rest. But the thing that makes the situation bizarre in the extreme is that the objects in the sky are also depicted and described. And they are described in relationship to the things in the water.

Mackenzie says: "The great dragon festival of China has been held for many centuries on the 15th day of the first month. On that day a dragon is carried through the streets and a man marches in front of it with a large red ball. De Groot, Hirth and Di Visser have written regarding this mysterious ball which was sometimes depicted by artists between two dragons. The ball has been referred to as the sun, the thunder symbol, the moon and a pearl. Sometimes, Di Visser notes, it is



Detail on a 9th-century stone cross-shaft at Colerne, Wilts., showing long-necked Loch Ness-type dragons with associated spiral

represented as a spiral emitting flames or as a ball on which something like a spiral is delineated."⁵

The spiral has long been associated with dragons, particularly in the Scandinavian Jellinge-style sculpture of pre-Norman church art⁶ and on many Chinese tapestries. It was a sacred symbol and appeared on the ancient Egyptian crown. Iron Age spirals appear on ornamented stone balls found in Scotland. Long before these, the spiral was used extensively by the Bronze Age in religious symbolism.⁷

The late Guy Underwood, a dowser, claimed that various mysterious lines of force he called "geodesics" are often grouped in spirals in a form determined by a mathematical law based on the number seven. He believed that these geodesics are a natural force probably akin to magnetism although this has been contested.⁸

He wrote: "One of the most interesting problems about the White Horse of Uffingham is the fact of its being known as a horse when it is clearly a dragon, i.e. a serpent with legs."⁹ After investigating the Bronze Age hillside figure he found that the animal's eye was marked by a spiral of geodesics over a blind spring.

I learned to dowse four years ago under the tuition of Mrs. Cary who is a member of the British Society of Dowsers. She has been dowsing the location of monsters in Loch Ness for many years. Most people of course were highly sceptical, especially scientists, until they pointed sonar-beams at the predicted locations and recorded echoes from unknown objects in the water-column. I have already had some success using this technique but have really no idea how it works.

With this whole thing—the dragons, the UFOs and the geodesics—we seem to be wandering in a limbo between objective science in a material world and psychic effects in a mental world. Some people consider dowsing to be an ESP faculty but even if this is agreed then we have still explained nothing.¹⁰ The late Dr. C. E. M. Joad wrote: "As so frequently occurs when one is investigating so-called abnormal phenomena one finds it equally impossible to withhold credence from the facts or to credit any possible explanation of the facts. Either the facts did not occur or, if they did, the universe must in some important respects be totally other than what one is accustomed to suppose."¹¹

I accept the latter because one has really no option. Dragons are real because sonar waves bounce off them. UFOs are real because they intercept radar waves.¹² But how real is real? Even more important, what does it all mean? In pondering these questions and conducting further experiments we may find that our horizons have extended magically to include concepts at present not even dreamed about. Perhaps this is the object of the exercise?

Throughout medieval and Celtic literature dragons are referred to frequently as phantoms and apparitions. The existing data does not make this impossible. Dr. Raynor C. Johnson said: "I am of the opinion (as is Tyrrell) that there is no essential difference between an apparition and a ghost, but I differ from him in regarding both as physical. I would maintain that they do reflect in a limited degree ordinary light waves."¹³ If true, perhaps we should now add "and sonar impulses."

What we find in this grandfather of all enigmas is an interlaced mass of legends, traditions and scientific observations which have so far defied all analysis. The male dragon—according to D. A. Mackenzie (*Myths Of China And Japan*)—has whiskers and under the chin or in the throat is a luminous pearl. The Chinese used to call this object "the precious pearl" or "the moon-pearl" and, under Buddhism and Taoism it became "the pearl that grants all desires." Under the Sumerian and Egyptian cultures it was depicted as a winged disc and was the symbol of life. I feel we have no option but to regard these objects as the UFOs of modern report. Parallel with this we have dragons allegedly emerging from wells or holes at which points spiral geodesics can be detected by dowsers.¹⁴ Is it mere chance that spiral effects have been detected deep in Loch Ness?¹⁵

In 1484 Felix Faber wrote: "But on our holy mound the heights are fit for mankind; on it there is no terrifying monster; light and darkness follow each other as in nature generally; there are no dragon-apparitions but all is divine and holy."¹⁶

This is the background against which the mystery of the Loch Ness monster is being enacted.

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for details of F. W. Holiday's new book,
to be published in April 1973. . . .

THE DRAGON & THE DISC

ANTHROPOIDS, MONSTERS AND UFOs

Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman

REPORTS of hairy anthropoidal creatures comparable to the legendary *yetis* of Tibet are as old as, or older than, American history. Loren Coleman and Mark Hall, in a study published in *The INFO Journal*, have written: "A vast folklore and a belief in a race of very primitive people with revolting habits is found from northern California up into the Arctic lands themselves. This tradition covers not only the whole stretch of the Pacific coast, but much of the rugged territory to the east, even into Greenland. Generally, these sub-hominids are described as very tall, fully haired and retiring. Sometimes they are described as carnivorous."

The first known written account dates back to 1811 and appears in the journal of one David Thompson, surveyor and trader for the Northwest Company of Canada. The *Memphis Enquirer* of May 9, 1851, reported an Arkansas sighting of the previous March, noting: "This singular creature has long been known traditionally in St. Francis, Greene and Poinsett counties, Arkansas sportsmen and hunters having described him so long as 17 years since."

Sightings of these anthropoids have continued up to the present day. The Bigfoot/Sasquatch of the American Northwest and British Columbia is only the most famous such creature and just about every state and province in North America has logged its share of reports. Curiously, there is every indication that such accounts are growing in number. In the past several years sightings have increased dramatically and probably will continue to do so. In 1970 Illinois underwent a prolonged anthropoid scare, complicated by repeated stories of large, mysterious felines allegedly seen in some of the same areas. Oklahomans in late 1970 and 1971 were running into ape-like beasts sometimes encountered in populated areas like the city of Lawton. During 1971 anthropoids appeared in Missouri, California, Florida and other states.

Fine, you say, but what has this to do with UFOs? A great deal, apparently. Consider the following:

On the evening of May 18, 1969, a power blackout blanketed a small rural area outside Rising Sun, Indiana. For two hours the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Kaiser was without electricity. The Kaisers did not connect the blackout with sightings of mysterious lights along a nearby ridge which had been made in previous weeks.

The next evening, around 7.30, the Kaisers' son George was walking through the farmyard on his way to a tractor when he was startled to see a weird figure standing about 25 feet away.

"I watched it for about two minutes before it saw me," young Kaiser said later. "It stood in a fairly upright position although it was bent over about in the middle of its back, with arms about the same height as a normal human being. I'd say it was about

five-eight or so and it had a very muscular structure. The head sat directly on the shoulder and the face was black, with hair that stuck out on the back of its head; it had eyes set close together and a very short forehead. It was covered with hair except for the back of the hands and the face. The hands looked like normal hands, not claws."

When Kaiser, who had been standing transfixed, moved, the creature made "a strange grunting-like sound," turned, leaped over a ditch and disappeared down the road running at great speed. Subsequently investigators made plaster casts of footprints found in the dirt by the ditch. These casts show three toes plus a big toe.

The following evening, around 10.15, neighbour Charles Roling watched a glowing greenish-white object for eight minutes as it manoeuvred in the sky above him.

A power blackout, an anthropoid and a UFO on three successive evenings. An interesting coincidence, at the very least.

A remarkable incident from Vader, Washington, a year and a half later adds a fourth piece to the puzzle.

On December 4, 1970, Mrs. Wallace Bowers heard her children calling for her to come outside. Stepping out the door, she was astounded to discover huge footprints in the inch-deep snow covering her yard. When she looked at them closely, she found that the tracks sank all the way through the snow to crush the gravel underneath down about an inch and a half. The prints measured 15 inches in length and nearly six inches across. She called the sheriff's office immediately. Vader, Washington, is in the middle of Bigfoot country and Mrs. Bowers was uneasily recalling how strangely the family dog had behaved the night before.

At 7.15 a.m. three days later, on the seventh, Mrs. Bowers again heard her children calling, "Mommy, come look!" The children were at the window staring out at something moving across the sky. At first, according to their mother, it "looked like a bright star" but then it got closer and for ten minutes the observers were able to view it carefully.

It appeared to be centred by a dome around which a larger circle seemed to be revolving. It was deeper orange in the centre, with the light diffusing toward the outer edge, but with a definite bright rim.

Mrs. Bowers said it seemed slightly tipped sideways, rather like an aeroplane banking, and then hovered briefly over the nearby Bonneville power lines. After it left the power lines, it changed from orange to a bright clear light and at one time seemed to make one last sweep closer, again turning orange. The children thought they saw a "grey shape" drop away from the UFO just before it vanished in the distance.

During the sighting Mrs. Bowers switched on the

intercom in the house only to hear a peculiar "sharp" sound. "And the funny thing is," she told a reporter for the *Centralia-Chehalis Chronicle*, "we tried to use the intercom the night before and we got that same sharp sound."

But that was not to be all. Later in the week (the UFO sighting occurred on a Monday) Mrs. Bowers was putting a log in the living-room fireplace when she saw the curtains moving in the boys' bedroom, which was visible from where she stood.

"All the children were in the living room with me," she said. "And all I could think of was getting them safely out of there. So I loaded them into the car and we left, but I definitely saw a shape in the bedroom as we drove away." They returned only after Mr. Bowers had come home from work.

"I feel sure that was probably a prowler," Mrs. Bowers remarked. "We've had trouble in our neighbourhood and I don't think it's related to the others. But the footprints and the saucer—I don't know . . ."

Nonetheless the "prowler" was a strange one: he took nothing. He rummaged through the bedrooms but afterwards the Bowers could find nothing missing. While it is of course impossible to prove anything, we cannot help thinking of the mysterious "grey shape" the children thought they saw, and then of those enigmatic entities John Keel has called "bedroom invaders."

Two other incidents briefly noted:

1) **Monongahela National Forest** (near Marlinton, West Virginia), October 1960. A nearly incredible story related by W. C. "Doc" Priestley has it that the witness, while driving along a road behind a group of friends in a bus, encountered an eight-foot hairy ape-like "monster with long hair standing straight up." Just moments before he saw the thing, his car engine suddenly had ceased working. "I don't know how long I sat there," Priestley said, "until the boys missed me and backed up the bus to where I was. It seemed the monster was very much afraid of the bus and dropped his hair and to my surprise, as soon as he did this, my car started to run again. I didn't tell the boys what I had seen. The thing took off when the bus started."

Priestley and the bus resumed their journey. Soon, however, the car began to sputter again. "I could see the sparks flying from under the hood of my car as if it had a very bad short. And sure enough, there beside the road stood the monster again. The points were completely burned out of my car." The bus backed up again and the creature fled into the forest.

Priestley's was only one of a number of anthropoid sightings made in West Virginia that year.

2) **Erie, Pennsylvania, July 31, 1966.** Five persons in a car parked on a Presque Isle beach saw a UFO land; shortly afterwards a tall, evidently anthropoidal figure shambled up to the car in the dark, terrifying the witnesses and leaving large footprints in the sand. The incident by now is a well-known one and has been reported in *Flying Saucer Review* and in several UFO books. A few days later a large hairy biped appeared near Edinboro, a city 18 miles from Erie.

* * * * *

Northeastern Missouri has had its share of mysteries.



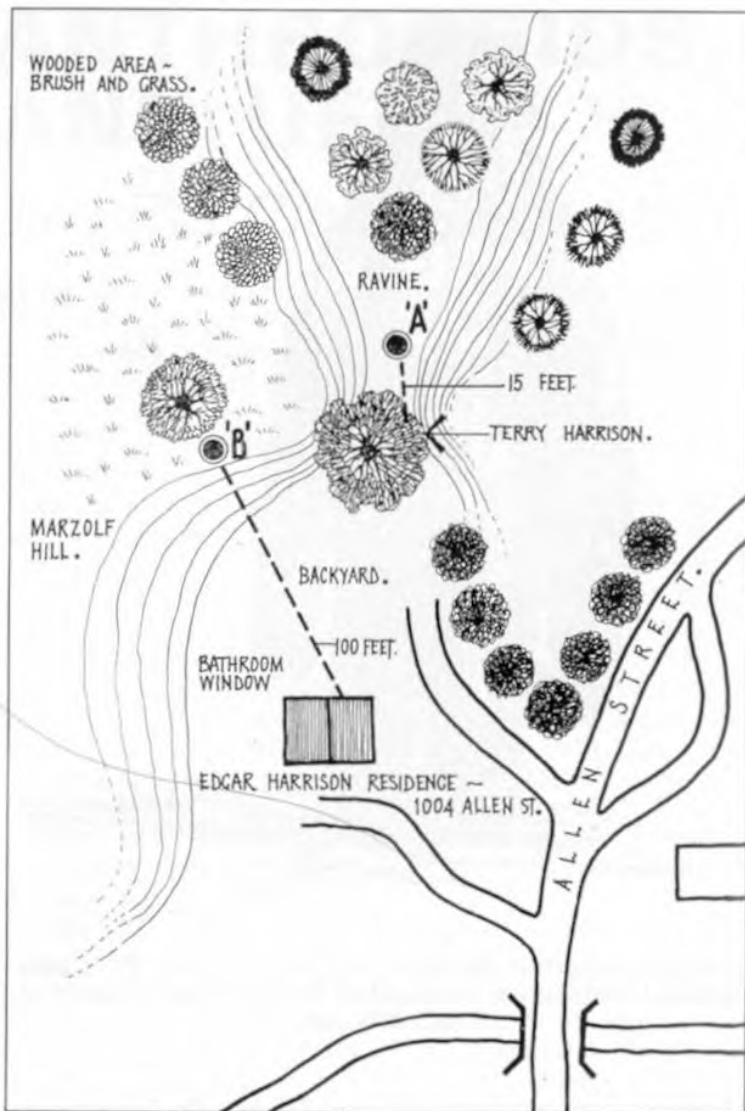
Creature reported on June 30, 1972: drawn by Larry Hanna at interview conducted by John Schuessler at Troy, Missouri

"Momo," as the monster of July-August 1972 was to be called, is only the most recent.

Along River Road, which stretches north from Highway 54 along the Mississippi River and past the mouth of the Salt River, there is a longstanding tradition about a phantom man who walks across the road and vanishes. In the 1940s travellers and residents repeatedly heard what sounded like a woman's screams emanating from the general vicinity of an abandoned lime kiln. The screams came always around midnight and were never explained.

In addition to recurring reports of fireballs or "swamp gas" there have been a number of mysterious deaths. The strangest of all occurred during the winter of 1954, when a man and a woman were found dead in a car along the roadside. The woman sat on the passenger side and seemed to be asleep. The man lay crouched under the steering wheel completely nude, his clothing piled neatly 20 feet behind the car. The coroner listed the deaths as caused by "asphyxiation" even though the window on the driver's side was open all the way—this in ten-degree-below-zero weather.

Joan Mills and Mary Ryan were not on River Road that day in July 1971 but they were not far from it. Highway 79 is a backwoods road which runs north of Louisiana, Missouri, a place that a year later would achieve a measure of immortality in Fortean annals. They had taken the highway on their way back to St.



A: Position when first observed by Terry (aged 8 years)

B: Position when observed by Doris and Terry from within the house

Louis because they were looking for a picturesque spot for a picnic. When they found a promising spot, they turned off on a dirt road, put out a blanket and brought out the food. "We were eating lunch," Miss Ryan recalled, "when we both wrinkled up our noses at the same time. I never smelled anything as bad in my life."

Her friend suggested they were smelling a whole family of skunks. Suddenly her jaw dropped and she pointed toward a brushy thicket behind her companion.

"I turned around and this thing was standing there in the thicket," Miss Mills said. "The weeds were pretty high and I just saw the top part of this creature. It was staring down at us."

Miss Ryan added, "It was half-ape and half-man. I've been reading up on the abominable snowman since then, and from stories and articles, you get the idea that these things are more like gorillas. This thing was not like that at all. It had hair over the body as if it was an ape. Yet, the face was definitely human. It was more like a hairy human."

"Then it made a little gurgling sound like someone trying to whistle under water," according to Miss Mills.

It stepped out of the brush and proceeded to walk

toward the young woman, who dashed for their Volkswagen and locked the doors. The beast, continuing to gurgle, caressed the hood of the car and then, in a clear demonstration of intelligent behaviour, tried to open the doors.

"It walked upright on two feet and its arms dangled way down," Miss Ryan stated. "The arms were partially covered with hair but the hands and the palms were hairless. We had plenty of time to see this . . ."

The women were terrified—all the more so because Miss Mills had left her car keys in her purse, which she had abandoned outside in the flight to the safety of the automobile. "Finally," said Miss Mills, "my arm hit the horn ring and the thing jumped straight in the air and moved back." She kept on beeping the horn.

"It stayed at a safe distance, then seemed to realize that the noise was not dangerous," Mary Ryan said. "It stopped where we had been eating, picked up my peanut butter sandwich, smelled it, then devoured it in one gulp. It started to pick up Joan's purse, dropped it and then disappeared back into the woods."

Joan Mills ran out of the car to retrieve her purse and returned to roar on down the highway at 90 m.p.h. Subsequently, once back in St. Louis, they submitted a report to the Missouri State Patrol.

"We'd have difficulty proving that the experience occurred," Miss Mills wrote, "but all you have to do is go into those hills to realize that an army of those things could live there undetected."

A dramatic enough introduction to the events scheduled to erupt exactly a year later. Joan Mills and Mary Ryan were due to have their story confirmed in startling fashion.

The "Momo" (after "Missouri monster") scare began on Tuesday, July 11, 1972, at 3.30 p.m. on the outskirts of the city of Louisiana (pop. 4,600). Terry Harrison, 8, and his brother Wally, 5, were playing in their yard, which sits at the foot of Marzolf Hill, and had gone off by some old rabbit pens in the woods next to the Harrison property. Suddenly an older sister, Doris, who was inside, heard them scream and looked out the bathroom window. She saw something standing by a tree—"six or seven feet tall, black and hairy. It stood like a man but it didn't look like one to me."

The thing was flecked with blood, probably from the dead dog it carried under its arm. Its face could not be seen under the mass of hair covering it and it seemed to be without a neck.

The Harrisons' dog got very sick shortly after the incident. Its eyes grew red and it vomited for hours afterwards, finally recovering after a meal of bread and milk.

The same afternoon Mrs. Clarence Lee, who lives half a block away, heard animal sounds, growling and "carrying on something terrible." Not long afterwards she talked with a farmer whose dog, a recent gift, had disappeared. He wondered if the "monster" had taken it.

Three days later, on July 14, Edgar Harrison, Terry and Doris' father and a deacon in the Pentecostal Church, conducted the regular Friday evening prayer meeting at his house. Around 8.30 it had started to break up, and as Harrison and a dozen or so of his

congregation lingered, talking, they sighted two "fire-balls" soaring from over Marzolf Hill and descending into the trees behind an abandoned school across the street. The objects appeared at a five-minute interval. The first was white and the second green.

About 9.15 Harrison heard ringing noises such as might be caused by the throwing of stones on to the metal water reservoir which stands at the top of the hill. The reservoir, which holds a million and a half gallons of water, is in an area where neighbourhood children often play. After one especially loud ring "I heard something that sounded like a loud growl. It got louder and louder and kept coming closer. At that time my



Edgar Harrison's sketch of the monster, made under the direction of Doris and Terry Harrison.

family came running from the house. They began urging me to drive off.

"I wanted to wait and see what it was that was making this noise. My family insisted that I drive away and so I drove down Allen Street across the Town Branch.

"I stopped the car and my wife and family told them, 'Here it comes!' And those 40 people turned and ran down the street."

Police officers Jerry Floyd and John Whitaker went to the Harrison home, poked around for a while and found nothing. That night, however, UFOs were reported in nearby New Canton, Illinois.

Late that evening Harrison, along with several others, explored Marzolf Hill and came to an old building from which a pungent, unpleasant odour was emanating. Harrison subsequently described it as "a mouldy, horse smell or a strong garbage smell." This was not to be the only time he encountered it—in the days ahead he would find it whenever he approached an area where the strange noises seemed to be coming from.



Louisiana, Missouri, creature observed by Doris Harrison and Terry Hare on July 11, 1972. Interviewer: Walt Andrus.

Around 5.00 the following morning Pat Howard of Louisiana saw "a dark object" walking like a man cross the road near the hill.

On the 19th Police Chief Shelby Ward led a search through Marzolf Hill, accompanied by Harrison, State Conservation officer Gus Artus and 17 others. Nothing was uncovered.

But the next day Richard Crowe, a reporter for Chicago's *Irish Times* and also for *Fate* magazine, and Loren Smith went up the hill with Harrison for another look. Near the tree where Doris had seen the monster, Crowe was to write, "There was a circular spot in the brush where leaves and twigs had been stripped from the branches." Further along Crowe found evidence that someone or something had been digging in an old garbage dump and not far away Harrison showed him two disinterred dog graves with the bones scattered about. Higher up the hill they came upon two tracks some distance from each other. The first, over ten inches long and five inches wide, appeared to be a footprint; the other, five inches long and curved, was evidently the print of a hand. The prints had been made in hard soil (there had been no rain for ten days) and Crowe estimated that it would take a minimum of 200 pounds of pressure to create such impressions.

Harrison led Crowe to an abandoned shack which Harrison thought might serve as a resting place for the monster. While they were there, Harrison's dog Chubby

suddenly ran away; "then," Crowe wrote, "we smelled an overwhelming stench that could only be described as resembling rotten flesh or foul, stagnant water."

"That's him, boys!" Harrison exclaimed. "He's around here somewhere." They shone their flashlights through the surrounding trees but saw nothing. In the distance they could hear dogs barking furiously. (While the monster was about, dogs would refuse to go up the hill but would run up and down the street in agitated fashion.) Within five minutes the odour had subsided. Harrison, Smith and Crowe smelled it twice more before the night was over.

On Friday, July 21, Ellis Minor, who lives along River Road, was sitting home alone around 10.00 or 10.30 p.m. when he heard his bird dog start to growl. At first Minor thought the stimulus was another dog passing through the yard, but when the dog growled again, Minor snapped on a powerful flashlight and stepped outside—where he saw a six-foot-tall creature with long black hair standing erect. As soon as the light hit it, the thing turned around and dashed across the road, past the railroad tracks and into the woods.

For his part, Edgar Harrison by now had become obsessed with finding the solution to the monster mystery. His family had refused to come home again after the howling incident on the night of the 14th and had taken up residence in the restaurant the family runs in the downtown section of the city. Harrison took a leave of absence from his job at the water works to devote full attention to the monster; in the company of assorted friends, reporters and curiosity seekers he camped out at the foot of the hill for 21 straight nights. Evidently even the negative report of Oklahoma City's zoo director Lawrence Curtis on the plastercasts of the prints did not shake Harrison's firm conviction that something very strange was taking place. "It does not seem to be an actual print made by a natural living animal," Curtis said on the 25th. "It appears to have been made by one of those rubber-type gloves women use to wash dishes with—either that or a snow mitten."*

Though he never saw the monster himself, Harrison did succeed in making two startling discoveries which add a whole new dimension to the riddle. First, he noted that the obnoxious odour always appeared just when searchers appeared to be on to something, leading him to believe the odour was really a stink gas used to distract the searchers' attention. On several occasions witnesses reported seeing a small glowing light which would explode leaving the stench in its wake.

On the night of the 29th Harrison and a group of college students, standing on top of the hill, heard what sounded like a shot from near the road. They rushed down the hill until they got near the road, where they all distinctly heard an old man's voice saying, "You boys stay out of these woods."

The voice seemed to have come from a nearby clump of trees no more than 20 feet wide by 50 feet, but an immediate and thorough search failed to turn up anything.

A week later, on August 5, another evidently disembodied voice spoke to Pat Howard and a friend, who were camped out in Harrison's back yard. The two were drinking coffee when someone or something said, "I'll take a cup of your coffee." Again a search

produced no results.

Later in July mysterious three-toed tracks made by something with an oval foot appeared on the Freddie Robbins farm eight miles south of Louisiana. On August 3, just before dawn, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Suddarth, who farm northwest of the town, heard a high-pitched howl in their yard, grabbed flashlights and headed outside. In the middle of the garden mud they observed four tracks of some three-toed creature.

Suddarth quickly phoned Clyd Penrod, a hunting buddy, who drove over to make a plaster cast of the best print. Penrod was puzzled by the whole affair. "It was 20 to 25 feet from the tracks to anything else," he said. "I can't understand how they were made." They began nowhere and ended nowhere, and no other tracks were to be found anywhere else on the property.

The Suddarth prints were different from the ones discovered at the Robbins farm in being narrower, longer and more perfectly formed.

Crowe's investigation uncovered a number of Louisiana UFO sightings which did not make the papers, presumably because reporters were already busy enough running down monster stories and rumours. Nonetheless, on the night of the 26th, a "fireball" alighted on top of a large cottonwood tree at the first railroad crossing on River Road. It shot out two spurts of red light and then zoomed out of sight. On the following three nights coloured lights were observed along the top of the limestone bluff at the northern end of River Road. The witnesses, the Harrison and Shade families (Mrs. Shade is Mrs. Harrison's sister), thought the lights were signalling back and forth to each other. Sunday night, the 30th, at 9.00, an orange, glowing UFO with lighted "windows" landed in the thicket at the top of the bluff and sat there for five hours before it "went straight up into the air and disappeared," in Mrs. Lois Shade's words.

That week the Shades' seven-year-old son Rossie came home with two pieces of paper with writing on them. He said to his mother that "something in my head told me" to pick them up and take them with him.

The first message, written with blue ballpoint on good quality white paper, read:

Explain away my fears, answer my questions and relieve my heart. I ask, I want, I seek and I punish. The sweet, good delightful, beautiful are destroyed as I see only devastation (sic) and feel sorrow for myself & bitterness. Is askance the answer? I don't know? *I'm lost* & forlorn though I desperately try to see the good. Turning to God to music & love I feel relief (sic) & I feel guilt What is it? And the second:

I can't realize the finality of the affair I don't realize the futility of my fondness My adoration is wanted but not

* Presumably Curtis is referring to the smaller of the two alleged tracks.

Lest readers be tempted to dismiss his testimony out of hand, I should like to say that in the past I have had dealings with Curtis (involving several long telephone conversations) on a related matter, namely Oklahoma's 1970-71 anthropoid scare, and found him to be an unusually open-minded and fair man whose considerable scientific training has most decidedly not prejudiced him against the possible existence of these unknown animals. See my article, "'Manimals' Make Tracks in Oklahoma," *Fate*, September 1971.—J. Clark.

myself as a whole, and as someone said "you can't have the cake & the icing too." Making the cake the good part and the icing: although not bad, the show, it's hard to see why you can't have both! Only on rare occasions I've been told do both come together. For the icing though by far the most romantic & sweet looking is very deceptive for it has a bitter taste if not taken in stride. Oh, but I feel like turning away the cake too. I've been advised and I've sought many answers from other mens words but the decision is mine. Yeah, you who read this, only I shall understand my writings take from me not the pleasure of my work, leave it still.

Both were written by the same hand. Mrs. Shade searched for other possible messages but there were no others. Both she and her brother-in-law, Harrison, believed they were penned by either the monster or the intelligence controlling it. To an outside observer, however, the "messages" sound like nothing so much as the ravings of a deranged rejected lover.

The Shades not long before had been subjected to an equally strange experience: The evening of the partial eclipse (July 26) the entire family had seen "a perfect gold cross on the moon," Mrs. Shade said. "The road was lit up as bright as day from the cross." They interpreted the sight as an omen from heaven.

* * * * *

"Momo" was not the only monster to frighten Middle America that summer. In the extreme northwestern part of Arkansas, a state which borders Missouri from the south, the summer brought several reports of an imperfectly-observed, vaguely-described "creature." It first appeared, according to an article in Fayetteville's *Northwest Arkansas Times*, some time in January, when on two occasions Mrs. C. W. Humphrey of Springdale heard dogs barking loudly, looked out the door of her trailer home and saw a "creature" strolling on by. In the following months several other persons in the neighbourhood caught a glimpse of the thing, but only in the dark, and so they did not get a good look at it. Early in July Pete Ragland shot at the creature with a .22 pistol.

Then, starting at 10.15 on the evening of July 20, the climatic events took place. Mrs. Humphrey, her three sons and a daughter-in-law were sleeping when they were awakened by pounding on the trailer. Mrs. Humphrey quietened one of the children and went outside to find the cause. There she encountered the "biggest looking thing I ever saw"—something that alternately walked upright and crawled on all fours.

Shortly afterwards Bill Hurst, who lives just south of the Humphrey residence, sighted the creature in his garden. It was staring at him with "two great big eyes." He was sure it was some sort of animal (others had thought it might be a huge man). When he yelled at it, it took off running.

The night of September 6 Mrs. Barbara Robinson of Springdale called police to report that a prowler had peered through a bedroom window of her house. The policeman who investigated remarked that the prowler "had to be at least seven feet tall" since the window was that high and there was nothing in the immediate area on which he could have stood.

The *Peoria* [Illinois] *Journal-Star* for July 26 relates the claim of Randy Emert, 18, who reportedly saw a monster two different times over the previous two

months. Emert said the thing resembled the Missouri beast in most particulars although its height was between eight and 12 feet and it was "kind of white and moved quick." When it appeared, it brought with it Momo's rancid odour and also seemed to scare the animals living in the woods near Cole Hollow Road. Emert said: "It lets out a long screech—like an old steam-engine whistle, only more human."

Emert asserted that a number of friends had seen either the creature or its footprints. "I'm kind of a spokesman for the group," he said. "The only one who has guts, I guess."

Mrs. Ann Kammerer of Peoria corroborated Emert's story, stating that all of her children, friends of Emert's, had seen the thing. "It sounds kind of weird," she admitted. "At first I didn't believe it, but then my daughter-in-law saw it."

According to Emert, there was an old abandoned house in the woods with large footprints all around it and a hole dug under the basement. Readers will recall the empty shack in Louisiana where Edgar Harrison thought Momo might be staying.

July 25th, announced the *Pekin* [Illinois] *Daily Times* two days later, "Creve Coeur authorities said a witness reported seeing 'something big' swimming in the Illinois River." The Illinois River flows through Peoria. On the night of the 27th "two reliable citizens" told police they had seen a ten-foot-tall something that "looked like a cross between an ape and a cave man." A United Press International account describes it as having "a face with long gray U-shaped ears, a red mouth with sharp teeth, [and] thumbs with long second joints . . ." It smelled, said a witness, like a "musky wet down dog." The East Peoria Police Department reported it had received more than 200 calls about the monster the following evening.

Leroy Summers of Cairo, Illinois, saw a 10-foot, white, hairy creature standing erect near the Ohio River levee during the evening hours of July 25. The Cairo police found nothing when they came to investigate and Police Commissioner James Dale warned that henceforth anyone making a monster report would have his breath tested for alcoholic content.

A series of several "monster" reports in the Vineland, New Jersey, area apparently were caused by the sight of a 6ft. 5in. bearded swimmer as observed by a group of excitable teenagers. By the fourth week of July "monstermania" evidently had taken a grip on the consciousness of many Americans.

* * * * *

It is not our purpose here to analyze the many strange stories recounted above, but some brief observations might be in order.

We are confronted with three presumably separate questions: mysterious anthropoids, UFOs and, perhaps most important, psychic phenomena. Clearly, to us at any rate, the answers do not lie in conventional flying saucer buff theorizing, and Hayden Hewes' much-publicized theory that Momo and his relatives might be experimental animals dropped by extraterrestrials from their saucer-spaceships proves only that there is much of which many ufologists are unaware.

For example, there is the Russian folk tradition about

BUT I READ IT IN A BOOK!

Gordon Creighton

IN two Soviet propaganda-publications¹ issued in the English language in 1967, a curious tale was reported by the popular-science writer Vyacheslav Zaitsev.² It was to the effect that, according to remarkable revelations made in a *German* publication called *Das Vegetarische Universum*, Chinese scientists exploring caves high up in the Bayan-Khara Uula (Mountains)³ in Central Asia in 1938 had found graves with many strange skeletons, rock-drawings of beings wearing round helmets, and a total of 716 mysterious 2-cm. thick granite discs, all with a very high mineral (mainly cobalt) content and all having a central hole, as modern long-playing gramophone records do. These granite discs, so the story went, bore patterns and hieroglyphs, "incised in double-grooved spirals" which represented the "oldest language in the world." This incised script "ran out spirally to the edge of the plates."

After racking their brains for two decades in attempts to decipher the mystery writing, the Chinese scientist Tsum Um Nui⁴ and four colleagues had finally been successful, but the results with which they came up were "so shattering that the Peking Academy of Prehistory banned publication." Later however the ban was relaxed and the story was finally published in 1963. It related how, about 12,000 years ago, a group of alien beings in a spacecraft had crash-landed on our planet and had lacked sufficient power to take off again. They had come into conflict with the local Earthlings and most of the visitors had been wiped out, though enough of them had survived to leave traces of their stock in two debased local tribes. In the rock-drawings and the rows of graves containing weird skeletons the Chinese scientists had found corroboration of ancient

Chinese legends that once upon a time small, ugly, big-headed, spindly-legged yellow-skinned beings had descended from the skies and, on account of their revolting appearance, had been liquidated. Even to this day, said the account, the region of the Bayan-Khara Uula was inhabited by the "Ham" and "Dropa" tribes—"frail, stunted men, averaging four feet two inches in height" who "so far have defied ethnic classification."

Since much of my work involves the part of the world in question and seeing that the story was one in which considerable linguistic investigation might be required, involving German, Russian, Chinese, Tibetan, etc., I decided that I would put some effort into following it up to its source, and see where it led me (just as much hard work by Western explorers had to be expended in the selfsame area before the source of the famous Yellow River was finally established). My immediate reason for giving now this résumé of my findings is that



China, showing the Provinces of Tibet and Ch'ing Hai

ANTHROPOIDS, MONSTERS AND UFOs *Continued from page 23*

"Wild Women." The legend reminds us unmistakably of our anthropoids—up to a point—when suddenly we discover that the other half of the tradition is just as unmistakably out of the fairy-faith. Using Hewes' logic, might we then assume that anthropoids are a kind of fairies? Of course not. Not any more than we can assume, because in recent years Irish countryfolk have reported viewing "leprechauns" stepping out of flying saucers, that fairies are really UFO beings.

Fairies, anthropoids, UFOs: in a sense all are the same, each no more and no less real than the others, and all are part of a vast riddle whose answers do not wait on another planet but much, much closer to home.

* * * * *

One last item, a letter from Mrs. Beulah Schroat of Decatur, Illinois, published in the *Decatur Review* of August 2, 1972:

"To the Editor:

"In reference to the creatures people are seeing, I am 76 years old. My home used to be south of Effingham. My two brothers saw the creatures when they were children. My brothers have since passed away.

"They are hairy, stand on their hind legs, have large eyes and are about as large as an average person or shorter, and are harmless as they ran away from the children. They walk, they do not jump.

"They were seen on a farm near a branch of water. The boys waded and fished in the creek every day and once in a while they would run to the house scared and tell the story.

"Later there was a piece in the Chicago paper stating there were such animals of that description and they were harmless. This occurred about 60 years ago or a little less.

"My mother and father thought they were just children's stories until the Chicago paper told the story."

a lady correspondent has just taken me to task because I am not a fervent believer in the *Hams* and *Dropas* from Space and their reverberating discs. She explains that the story *must* be true, and the reason she gives: "Because I read it in a book!"⁵

While I will yield place to nobody in my enthusiasm for Wang Chieh of China who, on May 11, 868 A.D., issued the oldest surviving example of the printer's art, and for his successor Johann Gutenberg of Mainz, I regret to have to point out that, most unfortunately, the existence of something in print confers no guarantee of its authenticity, and that nowhere is this warning more necessary than in the murky field of "Ufology," where we have been regaled during the past quarter-century with some of the most phoney, slipshod, and half-baked stuff that has ever found its way on to paper.

My enquiries started with a letter in February 1968 to the Soviet engineer in Moscow who is my regular correspondent and who, being the unofficial secretary of the Russian group of UFO investigators, performs the function of serving as the link with some of us in the West. I asked him for any information that he could supply about this story. He replied in due course that, although the two English-language Soviet publications where I had seen it were not available to the Russian public, he had been able to ascertain that Vyacheslav Zaitsev had done no original investigation of his own and had simply taken the story as it had appeared in the German publication *Das Vegetarische Universum* (no date given) and in the German publication *UFO-Nachrichten*, No. 95 (of 1964). He also said he thought it had appeared in a "French" (sic) UFO journal described by him as "BUFOI⁶ journal No. 4, of March/April, 1965). My Soviet correspondent confirmed that, according to the original German version, the discovery of the discs had been in 1938, the finder being "the Chinese archaeologist Chi-Pu-Tei."⁷

The next step, in November 1969, was to make enquiries in Germany about *Das Vegetarische Universum*, and in due course I was informed that it was an obscure vegetarian affair produced by a firm known as the Vegeta-Verlag (in English "Vegeta Press") of 7291 Grüntal b/Freudenstadt. So hopefully I wrote off to them too, saying how anxious we were to learn more about the marvellous stone discs. The date of my letter was November 21, 1969, and the result was precisely *nil*. Evidently the Vegeta Press was unwilling to divulge its secrets.

I wrote next to the Soviet *Novosti News Agency's* London office, and asked to be put in touch with the Editor, in Moscow, of *Sputnik*. They replied that the Editor was Mr. Oleg Feofanov and that his office was in the headquarters of the *Novosti News Agency* on Pushkin Square, Moscow.

So I wrote off to Comrade Feofanov, asking for details as to the authenticity of the wonderful tale.

Result: again *nil*.

My next letters went to the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Peking (Red China) and to the Chinese Academy of Sciences at T'ai-Pei, in T'aiwan (Free China). I also buttonholed several visiting Chinese professors and academic types, and received some more than usually astonished glances when I whispered the tale of the spindly-legged Spacemen who had dropped in on

China all that long time ago.

Results: *nil* again all round. No reply from either Peking or T'aiwan.

It did not look as though the story enjoyed too much credit anywhere.

Meanwhile the years were passing, and we have been favoured with a fantastic spate of books by Messrs. von Däniken, Peter Kolosimo, and a shoal of imitators. According to the startling new thesis propagated by these gentlemen, virtually every prehistoric scratch nicked on a rock by our shaggy ancestors or by African or South American primitives, and every portrayal of a big-headed monster, demon, or tribal deity, is in reality a representation of one of our Elder Brethren from the Cosmos, a "Space-man." Likewise, it now turns out that wellnigh every hitherto unexplained mystery, be it archaeological, palaeontological, anthropological, theological, geographical, topographical, or toponymical, simply *has to be* connected with "Outer Space" and "Flying Saucers." So, "Flying Saucers" are at the bottom of the Baalbek Temple of Jupiter; the Great Pyramid; the Piri Re'is map; the Nazca desert images in Peru; Stonehenge; Atlantis; the Old Straight Track, and so on. It looks as though "They" have been responsible for pretty well everything except perhaps Coventry Cathedral and the Pentagon. The agencies at work everywhere—the whole lot of them, Uncle Tom Cobley & All, have been "Space-Men." And the only fools have been you and I, who failed to perceive these self-evident truths.

One can imagine no doctrine more likely to bring down upon us the scorn and wrath of all honest investigators in the fields of Archaeology and Anthropology, and more calculated to put paid for ever to any claim by the "Ufological" fraternity that the archaeologists and anthropologists should take them and their crackpot theories seriously.

One of the most enthusiastic propagators of the New Evangelium is of course Herr von Däniken, who tells us in one of his books that in May 1968 he went to Moscow specially to hear all about the stone discs and the *Hams* and *Dropas* from another Russian popular-science and space-science writer, Aleksandr Kazantsev.⁸

Kazantsev told von Däniken that the plates and all the documentation about the whole story were "preserved in the Peking Academy and the historical archives of Taipei in Formosa." (Vyacheslav Zaitsev, in his original article, had said however that the discs "had been sent to Moscow for study.")

It seems improbable that Comrade Kazantsev knows any more about the matter than does his colleague Zaitsev.

Let us now return to our granite discs and, since we can find nobody anywhere who will vouch for them or show us a photograph or drawing of one of them or of one of the famous Space-men's skeletons, let us examine some of the features of this well-loved, well-parroted tale.

According to Vyacheslav Zaitsev, there was even in existence an age-old Chinese legend⁹ to the effect that, thousands of years ago, a horde of "small, gaunt, yellow-faced men came down from the clouds." The locals (presumably the ancestors of the Chinese or of the Tibetans or of the Mongols in the area) took a

dislike to the ugly gentry with their huge heads and thin, weak bodies and spindly legs, and there was soon conflict. Evidently the struggle did not end in the total liquidation of the aliens, for, while the graves in the Bayan-Khara Uula contain their skeletons, Zaitsev goes on to tell us that the present inhabitants of precisely that very area of China, who are known as the *Ham* and *Dropa* peoples, evidently contain much of the alien blood still, for they are "frail, stunted men, averaging four feet, two inches in height," who "so far have defied ethnic classification."

Well, of course, it is undeniably a humdinger of a story, and how lovely it would be if it were true. Because my own work involves this precise area of Central Asia, I have, most of the time, on my desk in the House of the Royal Geographical Society in London, the maps showing the journeys of all the foreign travellers (including Russians) who have ever been in any part of Tibet or Ch'ing-Hai in general or near the Bayan-Khara Uula in particular, and I am familiar with, and have read, the official accounts of most of them. Not one of them, and not a single Chinese writer of whom I have heard, has a word about any "small, stunted, big-headed, spindly-legged" race or people or tribe known as either *Hams* or *Dropas* and who "defy ethnic classification."

The sad facts of the matter are rather more prosaic and here they are . . .

Let us take first the word *Ham*. This is obviously a garbled rendering of a perfectly ordinary Tibetan word which the Tibetans write *Khams*¹⁰ and pronounce *Kham*. And this word is in fact nothing more than the normal, indeed the only, Tibetan name for the eastern portion of their country. So everybody living there is a *Khams-Pa* (pronounced *Khamba*), meaning "a man of Khams."

The Bayan-Khara Uula (Mountains) lie in what is today the Chinese province of Ch'ing-Hai, or, if one prefers its Mongolian name, Kokonor. Both names mean "blue lake" and derive from a large lake there. The population of the area in past centuries included a few Chinese (it is today being flooded with them), and sparse tribes of Tibetans and Mongols. The region is not nowadays counted as part of Khams or of Tibet at all, since Tibetan influence is now in retreat there. But the region does lie on the immediate northern side of Khams, and in past times was usually considered by the Tibetans to be part of their country. The whole area is a melting-pot of Chinese, Mongols, and Tibetans, plus a few tiny minority peoples like the Muslim Salars. Since the region adjoins Khams on the north, it is not surprising that many of the ordinary Tibetans found today in Ch'ing-Hai are identical with those of Khams. They are all *Khams-Pas* (*Khambas*).

Then what about the *Ham* and *Dropa* runts, frail, stunted creatures averaging four feet two inches in height, who so far have defied ethnic classification? (To quote Zaitsev.)

The people of Eastern Tibet, Khams, far from being miserable spindly-legged little folk, are great strapping robust fellows, who make marvellous soldiers. They have long been dreaded by all their neighbours, Chinese, Mongols, and western Tibetans alike, for their martial prowess, particularly displayed as marauding bandits, robbers, and highwaymen lying in ambush on

the mountain-passes. In the great lamaseries around Hla-Sa, vast beehives where hordes of monks had to be ruled with a rod of iron, none were more turbulent than the men of Khams, the Khambas. None more loyal either to the Dalai Lama and to his theocratic government in Hla-Sa, and it is therefore not surprising that, when the moment came for His Holiness to escape into India after the rape and pillage of his country by the Chinese Communists, the bodyguard chosen to ride with him on circuitous and dangerous mountain-paths through South-Eastern Tibet were also some of the barrel-chested men of Khams.

There remain now the *Dropas*. "Well, at least they must have been Space-Men!" someone will perhaps hopefully argue.

I am sorry to have to be a wet blanket again, or to disappoint anybody, but, once more the sad fact is that, just as the word *Ham* or *Kham* does not signify any species or tribe or *kind* of men but simply a whole vast area of Central Asia, so the Tibetan word *Dropa* (correctly rendered into English under the Gould-Richardson system of transliteration for Tibetan as *Drok-Pa*)¹¹ means simply an inhabitant of the high pasture lands or high solitudes of Tibet. In other words, what we might call, in Scotland, a "highland herdsman," or a *crofter*. The primary meaning of the word is *solitude*.

Again, should anyone suffer from the misapprehension that perhaps these *Drok-Pas* may be more promising candidates than the Khambas for the description of "stunted," "frail," "spindly-legged" and so on, I hasten to add that not one of the European travellers (often terrified) who have encountered these Upland nomads, in their black tents, guarded by their fierce and positively gigantic mastiffs, has ever described them, so far as I know, in such terms. They are in fact, like their south-eastern neighbours the Khambas, some of the most impressive and robust-looking ruffians and robbers on our planet.

I hope it may now be clear that a *Khams-Pa* (pronounced *Khamba*) is a man of Eastern Tibet, and a *Drok-Pa* or *Dok-Pa* is a Tibetan Highlander, that is to say a person from the even higher region of Northern Tibet which is known as the *Chang-Thang* (written *Byang-Thang*),¹² meaning the "Northern Expanse." Neither term has, or has ever had, any sort of "tribal" or alien or exotic meaning, and certainly no "Space-Man" meaning!

All *Khambas* and *Drokpas* are Tibetans, pure and simple. To say that they are two exotic, different species is like saying that *Yorkshiremen* or *Scottish crofters* are not *British* but are "Space-Men."

It looks, alas, as though our spindly-legged *Ham* and *Dropa* "Space-Men" of the Bayan-Khara Uula are beginning to recede into the murky realms of speculation and fantasy where they were no doubt begotten. It has been undeniably most enjoyable to hear all about them and their cobalt discs inscribed in a language from out of this world, and I have no doubt that their saga will go on being repeated parrot-fashion, without checking, and without the least comprehension, by "Ufologist" after "Ufologist" for many years to come, and will feature in book after book. The Condon Report (Section V, Chapter 1) poked fun at this weakness of

the UFO Buffery, and the criticism was well merited.

I am gratified that, at any rate until today, the Hams and the Dropas do not seem to have got into the pages of *Flying Saucer Review*, and I can only express the fervent hope that the present article will suffice for them.

If of course somebody (*and somebody a little nearer to China than a Black Forest vegetarian journal*) can come up with any *real information*—and any photographs—relating to caves high up in the Bayan-Khara Uula containing evidence that Central Asia received a visitation from elsewhere 12,000 years ago, FSR will be very glad to print it. Meanwhile, I hope I have given some idea of how a nice story can get around.

As we have said before: *se non è vero, è ben trovato*.

Notes

- ¹ *Soviet Weekly*, London, February 11, 1967, and *Sputnik*, No. 1, 1967, London. The first-named is still being issued by the Soviet Embassy. The second, an ambitious and interesting glossy competitor for the capitalistic *Reader's Digest* seems to have petered out after a few numbers. During its brief existence, it had several good factual articles on the UFO problem. Did it fall foul of the authorities on this account? Soviet suppression of discussion of UFOs coincided with the Condon kiss-of-death. The timing cannot have been a matter of chance.
- ² By June 1969, poor Vyacheslav Zaitsev was in the dog-house good and proper with the Red authorities for having suggested that Jesus Christ and His Disciples were "Cosmonauts" and "Space-Men," and that the Star of Bethlehem was a "Space-ship." Jesus, he said, was the representative of "a higher civilization from another planet." Zaitsev's ideas were disseminated in a series of articles (I hope to find time one day to translate them for FSR) and in letters. This was during the years 1967 and 1968. Such ideas were naturally found to be dangerously close to the hated doctrines of Christianity, and the series of articles about the bringer of Salvation from Space was terminated most summarily, half-way through, and without a word of explanation. Since then, Russia has experienced a powerful swing back to Stalinism and atheism, an intensified suppression of all religions, *and, among other things, a total black-out on the subject of UFOs which, as stated above, was timed to coincide with the Condon liquidation of the subject in the U.S.A. There is far, far more in this than meets the eye, as the saying goes.*
- ³ At Lat. 34°.00 N., Long. 98°.00 E. The name is Mongo-

lian, meaning "the good black mountains," and more correctly rendered into English as *Bayan Har Uula*. The Chinese name is *Ba-Yen K'a-La Shan*.

- ⁴ As it stands, this name is corrupt and quite unidentifiable. Neither *Tsum*, *Um*, nor *Nui* are monosyllables used in the transliteration of standard Chinese (Mandarin) of Peking, though they might perhaps be understandable in one of the more outlandish minor dialects.
- ⁵ For the benefit of the critic who will perhaps point out that the same doubt can be cast upon anything that we publish in FSR, *I aim to show that at least we try!* My investigation of this story has gone on for five years.
- ⁶ Not identified. (It is *not* BUFORA journal for March/April 1965.)
- ⁷ As it stands this name is also corrupt and unidentifiable. *Tei* is not one of the standard Chinese monosyllables.
- ⁸ Herr von Däniken gives the name, incorrectly, as *Kassanzev*.
- ⁹ Chinese literature is vast, and to comb the whole of it for possible UFO-inspired material will be a mind-boggling job if anyone ever tries it, which I greatly doubt. I have managed to turn up (and one of these days will offer for publication in FSR) a few interesting old Chinese accounts that do seem to refer to real experiences, and involve alleged meetings or fights with some decidedly odd creatures that sound rather familiar and could possibly be our old friends the Humanoids. But I have not, so far, come across any Chinese legend about creatures landing from another world or descending from the skies in a "space-ship."
- ¹⁰ In Tibetan རཱཱཱཱ . A Chinese name formerly in use for the same region, Eastern Tibet, was *Hsi-K'ang* (西康).
- ¹¹ In Tibetan written *Hbrog-Pa* (ཨ་བྲོག་པ་). There is no such thing yet in Tibet as a standardized national pronunciation, and this word is pronounced variously as "Drok-Pa," or "Dok-Pa," or "Do'-Pa."
- ¹² In Tibetan written *Byang-Thang* (བྱང་ཐང་). The Tibetan written language is full of irregular or "lazy," silent letters, *Hbrog-Pa* and *Byang-Thang* are good examples. Likewise, the Tibetan word for "English" is pronounced simply as "In," but it is actually written དབྱེན (Dbyin), so that it has two pronounced letters and *three* silent ones! I give these examples, so that it may be understood how "*Hbrog-Pa*" is read "*Dropa*" or "*Drok-Pa*."

FSR CASE HISTORIES

Highlights of Supplement 13, due shortly:

- A Close Encounter in North California?
by William Murphy
- Alleged landing in Richmond Park
by Gordon Creighton
- High-altitude objects over Romania
by Florin Gheorghita
- Humanoids at Längemävesi
by Ilona Johansson-Paasonen
- Report from Slovenia
by Milos Krmelj

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IMPORTANT COMING EVENT . . .

Messrs. Sidgwick and Jackson announce the publication, on April 24, 1973, of

THE DRAGON & THE DISC

by **F. W. Holiday**

An investigation into the totally fantastic

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MORE TELEPORTATIONS AND LEVITATIONS

Dr. Walter Buhler

Bulletin 81/84 of the SBDEV (Brazilian Society for the study of Flying Saucers), edited by our contributor in Rio de Janeiro, contains three further reports in which activities of this kind are alleged to have occurred. Translated from the Portuguese by Gordon Creighton who discerns, in the accounts, hints as to certain culinary tastes, namely a taste for beef suet and a taste for veal.

THE details of our first case¹ came to SBEDV from the GPECE (Paraná Group for the study of Extraterrestrial Civilizations).

The "victim" was a certain Sr. João Batista Marcelino, a farmer, who is the president of the syndicate of rural workers of the Municipality of Canelinha in the South Brazilian State of Santa Catarina.

1. The Levitated Cyclist

On the night of July 16, 1970, Sr. Marcelino arrived in Canelinha by bus from Florianópolis, and set out by bicycle to do the rest of the journey to his home at a place called Papagaios, about eight kilometres distant. The night was dark and the road, of the third class, little frequented. On a particularly deserted section of it he was astonished to encounter a sort of "headlight" shining down out of the sky from an unknown object that was making a deafening noise. He felt that he was suddenly suspended in the air, and made desperate attempts to jump off the bicycle. But he was quite unable to do so, and thus remained in this immobilized state for several minutes. He could not call out for help as, try as he might, no sound would come from his throat.

Finally he felt his bicycle being set down again gently on the ground. Assuming that he was at last free, he started pedalling madly again, but was lifted up once more, this time in total silence, the episode being otherwise a repetition in all respects of the first levitation.

By the time he had got home to his brother's house, he had recovered his voice and was able to describe what had happened. Only then did he discover that a packet of *beef-suet* which had been on his baggage-carrier was now missing, presumably, as he concluded, "sucked up" by the beam of light that had held him prisoner.

2. The Abduction from the Corral

The following case was reported to SBEDV by the GIPOVNI Group of Independent UFO investigators in Gravataí, in the South Brazilian State of Rio Grande do Sul, after they had carried out a meticulous investigation.

The date was between October 25 and 31 of 1970, and the scene of the unusual occurrence was the Palma Velha ranch, owned by Sr. Ildefonso Coutinho and lying about 18 km. from the town of Alegrete, in the First District of Rio Grande do Sul.

There were two witnesses, father and son, who were employed as *posteiros* on the ranch, i.e. as duty-men whose job it is to watch after the herds of cattle. The father, 66-year-old widower Pedro Trajano Machado, is

very slightly literate. His son, 23-year-old Eurípedes de Jesus Trindade² Machado is a bachelor, and totally illiterate. Their modest dwelling is only some 150-200 metres from the spot where the event occurred, and one of Sr. Pedro's daughters was inside the house at the time, but she saw and heard nothing. A married couple and other older sons and daughters who also live there were away from the house at the time.

It was at about 4.00 p.m., and the two Machados, father and son, were engaged in carrying out veterinary treatment on eighteen head of cattle that they had rounded up in the paddock. They had just picked out one Jersey cow, which had with her a calf about one month old and weighing some 20 kilogrammes.

They had tied the cow up, away from the paddock where the rest of the herd were, and the calf was loose, about five metres away from the mother. Suddenly, as they were working on her and treating her, they noticed that the cattle were beginning to get disturbed. Since these were animals that had been out on the range and so were not used to being corraled, their being disturbed did not at first seem surprising. But now the unrest spread to the tethered cow that they were treating. She began to low persistently, turning constantly to look at her calf which was close by.

Old Sr. Pedro Machado turned round too to look at the calf, which by now was also bellowing, and found that the animal was hanging in the air, at about one metre above the ground, and otherwise in the normal posture (i.e. with its feet pointing downwards). He at once shouted to his son to look, and both were now able to watch as, in so strange a fashion, the calf began to move away parallel to the ground, still at a height of about one metre, in the same position as before, and bellowing as it headed off towards the open fields. Stupefied, the two Machados just stood there, rooted to the ground, inactive and passive, observing the extraordinary unfoldment of these events.

While the rest of the cattle were bellowing and lowing and churning about in evident fear, the calf was now moving towards the barred gate in the fence, which was open. Then it passed beneath the branches of some trees, towards the North-East, until it was now about twenty metres from its mother. It was still at about one metre above the ground. But now it began to move slowly upwards, still with its feet pointing down. It had stopped bellowing now. According to the two witnesses, this slow vertical ascent lasted for about three or four minutes until, while still far below the cloud-ceiling, the calf became invisible. (Note: We do not know what type of

clouds these were and so cannot make even an approximate estimate of their height.)

No other phenomena (noise, wind, temperature changes) were noted by the eyewitnesses, who went back to the job of treating the mother cow, now bereft of her child.

In due course the affair was reported to the owner of the cattle, who paid not the least attention to it.

On October 28, still badly shaken by the experience, Sr. Pedro Machado sought out an old friend of his, Sr. Miguel Carvalho, and unburdened his heart to him, confessing that he was at his wits' end to know what to think about what he had seen.

Details of the Investigation

This affair took place in October 1970, but it was not until the close of January 1971 that it came to the knowledge of the investigator Victor Soares (President of GIPOVNI) through some friends and relatives.

The investigation was done in two stages. The first stage was on March 28, 1971, the investigators present at the scene being Sres. Victor Soares, Adão Bastos and Luiz Carlos dos Santos Lopes. The second investigation, on March 30, was by the same gentlemen together with their colleague Sr. Adalberto Alves da Rosa, also of GIPOVNI. (All these investigators are resident in Alegrete.)

The honesty of the two eyewitnesses, who have been living at the Palma Velha Ranch for about six years, was confirmed by other people who have known them for a long period. Both are men in a humble walk of life, persons of limited background, not the sort of folk who would launch such a story in order to advertise themselves. They are quiet men, of few words, expressing themselves soberly, without exaggerations or enthusiasms. It was indeed very difficult to extract the story from them, they were reluctant, and loth to engage in explanations.

However, when the investigators urged them to tell them of any other flying or luminous phenomena that they might have observed, Sr. Pedro Machado and his son both said that on a number of occasions—including the day on which this affair of the calf took place—they had seen, at night, "red lights, coming on and going out"; "stars" in the sky, now moving about and now stopping; "even doing somersaults in the sky, either separately or in groups of three."

Sr. Victor Soares reports that there is a high tension powerline (69,000 volts) at about 120 metres from the scene of the calf-napping. This line connects with the Oswaldo Aranha Thermo-electric Plant, and runs from the town of São Francisco de Assis to the town of Alegrete. The course taken by the calf as it travelled along above the ground was in fact parallel to this power-line, and ran in the direction from Alegrete to São Francisco de Assis.

At the Palma Velha Ranch, the investigators were informed that no trace of the calf had been found.

In a letter dated April 3, 1971, Sr. Victor Soares reported to the GIPOVNI Group that there had been other cases of cattle-snatching in the adjacent areas of Uruguay, in the North of Argentina, and in the Brazilian State of Rio Grande do Sul. It is to be regretted however that none of these other cases have yet come

to the knowledge of SBEDV in Rio de Janeiro.

3. Another Levitation at Canelinha

According to a report received from the GPECE UFO Investigation Group in Curitiba (in the South Brazilian State of Paraná) this case, like No. 1, also occurred at Canelinha, in the State of Santa Catarina. The area has timber forests and also plantations of banana and sugar. There are also deposits of sulphur, graphite, and bituminous schist, all still unworked.

The occurrence took place at the end of January 1971. The man involved, Egídio Silva, aged 29 (employed in fact by the same Sr. João Batista Marcelino who figures in Case No. 1) had gone out of his house at about 8.00 p.m. to find out why his dog was barking so furiously. He thought the dog might be after a *gambá*³ in a copse of banana trees quite close to the hut where he was sleeping.

When he had gone about ten metres from the hut, his lantern went out. He then became aware of a powerful light shining down on him from above, and his whole body felt as though paralyzed. Then he felt himself being gently lifted up off the ground by some unusual force. In vain he tried to shout for help. He was unable to utter a sound. He remembers hearing a noise "as though his body was bursting," and then he fainted.

He only came to his senses again at about 8.00 a.m. next morning, awakened by his dog. He found that his shirt was torn, and all the buttons were missing from it. His lantern was damaged, as also was his belt, in the area around the buckle.

He kept quiet about the affair for three days. Then his employer, Sr. João Batista Marcelino, happened to tell him what had happened to *him* and his bicycle in July 1970 (see Case No. 1), and this gave Egídio Silva the courage to speak up about his own experience. The employer then reported the matter to the GPECE UFO Investigation Group.

On April 6, 1971, members of GPECE went to Canelinha, hoping to interview three people. Unfortunately they found that both Sr. João Batista Marcelino and Egídio Silva happened to be away on that day. They learned that the latter had gone to the Hospital at Tijucas in Santa Catarina "about an accident." They also discovered that Egídio Silva was not considered locally to be quite so honest a person as his employer, the general view being that he was given to the telling of "tall stories" and was fond of the bottle.

In order to get at the truth about this case it is absolutely essential to see Egídio Silva himself, and also to get information about him from the doctors and nurses who attended him at the hospital. It *is*, after all, quite possible that a person who is untruthful *may well tell the truth about something that has really happened to him*. And it seems to us scarcely likely that Egídio Silva would have made up the story about the behaviour of his dog *vis-à-vis* what may well have been a genuine UFO.

Translator's Notes

¹ Sources quoted by GPECE are the newspapers *Jornal de Joinville* for July 18, 1970, and *Diário do Povo* for July 23, 1970.

² With reference to my footnote 8 to *Follow-up on the Morro do Vintém* (FSR, July/August 1971), I must confess that

(continued on page iii)

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ARGENTINA

Important scientific claim

According to *La Razón* (Buenos Aires) of August 25, 1972—"Dr. José Alvarez López, director of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Physics at Córdoba, Argentina, recently delivered an important lecture on Space Propulsion and Relativity. He said that their researches and discoveries in the Córdoba Institute in connexion with *Lorentz's Force* would invalidate Newton's Third Law, and would mean that the costly rocket would soon be superseded. As evidence of the importance of their work at Córdoba, he quoted the NASA scientist Corliss as having said that, with the type of force achieved in Córdoba, based on de-phased high frequency currents, 'rockets could be consigned to the garbage-heap.'"

Credit: Miss Jane Thomas, Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA

Mystery UFO pictures

The following extract is taken from the *West Australian* (Perth) of September 21, 1972. The report is datelined Melbourne, Wednesday (September 20).—

"Civil Aviation, R.A.A.F. and meteorology experts were baffled yesterday by a series of photographs of an unidentified flying object. They could not explain the phenomenon.

"The pictures, by a staff photographer on the Melbourne paper *The Age*, were taken in the vicinity of Broadmeadows North, an outer suburb, late on Tuesday night.

"What was described as a fast-moving, brilliantly lit object was visible for 15 to 20 minutes.

"The R.A.A.F. officer in charge of UFO sightings in Melbourne said after studying the photographs that he could not offer any explanation.

"They seem unlike other photographs of reported UFO sightings," he said.

"The R.A.A.F. would study the incident.

"A spokesman for the Bureau of Meteorology said: 'We can't put forward any logical explanation for this.'

"The photographs were taken about 10.10 p.m.

"A Department of Civil Aviation spokesman said that an aircraft left Tullamarine Airport at 9.53 p.m. and one landed at 10.24 p.m.

"The photographer said that the

object appeared to be 500 feet to 1,000 feet up. There was no sound and no vibration. It was throwing a brilliant light in all directions.

"When I first saw it, I thought it was somebody playing a prank with a kite, because it was so close to the Tullamarine air lines," he said. "It was moving very very fast, much faster than any aircraft I've seen. At one stage it did five to seven loop-the-loops in less than three seconds, just like a rolling coin."

CANARY ISLANDS (SPAIN)

Disc and beam observed

According to the *Diario Femenino* (Madrid and Barcelona) of September 27, 1972, a report dated the 26th from Arrecife de Lanzarote (most north-easterly of the Canary Islands) a large luminous disc, emitting a powerful beam of white light, was observed, by several people, in the sky above Arrecife in the early hours of the morning.

The eyewitnesses, who included an official of the Banco Central and a college professor, said the unidentified object was quite low and that at times a small tail, also luminous, could be seen.

The object was in view for over an hour. Its low altitude and its strange shape rule out the possibility that it could have been a star.

Credit: Sr. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos.

CHANNEL ISLANDS— GUERNSEY

Circle/triangle UFO at l'Anresse

Our next item is a report taken from the *Guernsey Evening Post* of November 28, 1972.—

"An unidentified flying object, which was about the size of a Viscount aircraft and in the shape of a circle imposed on a triangle, with a white light at the front and two white lights at the rear, was seen by a couple taking their dog for a walk at L'Anresse Common, on Sunday evening.

"The man spotted a yellowish light on the horizon, in the centre of the bay. As the couple watched, the light came towards them and as it came nearer began to zig-zag in the sky.

"At first the man thought it was a balloon but it was travelling fairly fast and took only seven to 10 minutes to pass overhead, heading south.

"There was no noise until the object was directly overhead, when a faint humming could be heard."

ENGLAND

Observers, including police, see objects over Beoley

From the *Sunday Mercury* (Birmingham) of November 12, 1972, we take the following report,—

"Police were last night investigating reports of an Unidentified Flying Object sighting over a lonely stretch of Midland countryside.

"The sighting was reported at Beoley, near Redditch, when a housewife and a young farmworker claimed to have seen three lights hovering about 600 feet in the air over a belt of woodland for a period of four hours.

"Police from Henley-in-Arden visited the scene twice, and a spokesman said: 'Two of our officers also saw these lights. They are still investigating the matter.'

"Last night, the farmworker, 15-year-old Keith Harris, of Ullenhall Lane, Beoley, said that he went to see the lights from the home of Mrs. Rita Tallis, who lives half-a-mile further up the lane, when she telephoned him.

"I saw three lights—apparently from three separate vehicles—hovering backwards and forwards about 600 feet up half-a-mile from the back of Mrs. Tallis's house," said Keith. "They were like radiating lights and kept changing colour from red to white and back again. They kept hovering backwards and forwards—disappearing over the horizon and reappearing again. 'Sometimes they were travelling very quickly and at other times quite slowly. We were watching them from the back garden and there was absolutely no sound from them.'

"Keith said that the lights were most active early in the evening, but they kept flying about over the area for more than four hours. He added: 'I am certain they were not planes otherwise we would have heard the noise from the engines.'"

Credit: J. Harvey of Derby and E. G. Marriott of Birmingham.

Whitstable "glowing object"

The *Whitstable Times* of December 1, 1972, published the following item (together with details of the Faversham report printed above).—

"Strange things have been happening in the sky over Whitstable and surrounding area recently. Several sightings of flying objects have been reported on different days over Faversham and Tankerton.

"On Friday, 17 November, at about 6.10 p.m. Mrs. P. Parks, of Highgate

Road, Chestfield, was walking home from work over the bridge at Ham Shades Lane when she spotted a 'glowing object' in the sky.

"She described it as changing colour from red to white to green, and it was revolving.

"The object made no noise and it moved at about tree-top level. It was travelling very slowly—about 10mph—said Mrs. Parks. The UFO moved across the Thanet Way towards Chestfield and then zig-zagged over to Herne Bay.

"Mrs. Parks said she noticed it because of its brilliant and beautiful colour. She knew it was something abnormal because it made no noise.

"Another sighting was made in Faversham last week."

Credit: Mrs. V. Martin of Tankerton.

Another Kentish UFO

The *Faversham Times* of December 7, 1972, carried yet another report of an object which, on Tuesday, December 5, puzzled—and alarmed—the witnesses who gave a somewhat lyrical description of their experience,—

"Another UFO sighting, this time at Oare, has been reported to the *Faversham Times*.

"An unearthly light, like a beautiful diamond flashing' is how Mrs. Joan Patching, of 3 Colegates Road, Oare, described a mysterious object she and her husband Melvyn saw last Tuesday evening.

"She (said) on Friday: 'We were out walking with our Alsatian at about 9.30 p.m. It was a very cold, frosty night and the stars looked lovely. I was looking for the Eastern star, as I always do at this time of year, when suddenly, as we stood there on the top of Colegates Hill, I saw it—a flashing, bright, twinkling light which was stationary over Oare Village.

"It was a silvery, bluish light that seemed to be revolving, but it stayed in one place. It was definitely not a balloon or a 'plane.

"We carried on walking home and kept looking at it from time to time. I couldn't believe it was a star because I've not seen a star that bright. When we got to our garden gate, we turned in and walked up the path. My husband went to see if the milk we had put out for a hedgehog had been drunk.

"As he was doing this I stood on the lawn and looked up again. I had the shock of my life because the light was moving towards us at a terrific pace. We could hear the purr of an engine, but we both knew this was no helicopter or aircraft from this planet. We were frozen to the spot and could not move. I had the feeling that they were coming down to get us.

"My husband, who is a very

down-to-earth person, was frightened. He became very cold and suddenly we could not watch any longer and both had to go indoors. When I last saw it the object was moving off in the Sittingbourne direction, still flashing this unbelievably bright light."

"Mrs. Patching said she told many Oare villagers of her experience the following morning, but 'they laughed at me and said I was seeing things.'

"Then we saw the *Faversham Times* on Thursday and now people do not think it is a joke."

UFOs over Faversham

The *Faversham Times* of November 30, 1972, carried the following account, signed by reporter Laurence Young,—

"Mysterious unidentified flying objects are being sighted in the skies above Faversham. And so far no logical explanation has been given for their presence on three consecutive afternoons last week.

"The riddle is currently being investigated by the Ministry of Defence after reports of sightings from employees at Faversham Shipyard had been made to the police and RAF Manston.

"Are the 'flying saucers' experimental aircraft, visitors from another world observing Earth or merely weather balloons? These are questions that, so far, remain unanswered.

"The men who have seen the objects are frankly baffled by what they have seen. But they emphasized to the *Faversham Times* that this was definitely no hoax. In fact more than 30 shipyard workers saw the objects quite clearly last week.

"Suddenly, when it seemed to be over the middle of the Creek a vapour trail came from it. It changed its shape, from circular to something like a cigar, as if it had turned round and we were getting a side view, and zig-zagged to a stop.

"Red lights appeared around it. You know what an atom looks like highly magnified . . . well, it was like that. Then it went straight up into the air until it was the size of a pin head and disappeared.

"Earlier I thought it was a weather balloon. At first it seemed to be drifting, moving towards the north."

"That is how Mr. Henry Blow of Durham Close, Canterbury, summed up one of several mysterious sightings in the sky over Faversham last week that have set the whole town talking.

"Mr. Blow and several of his work-mates first spotted the unidentified flying object last Tuesday afternoon while they were working on a new trawler, being built at the Southern Shipbuilder's yard by the Creek side.

"And, seemingly not content with one appearance, the UFO was again sighted on Wednesday and Thursday.

"On Wednesday the sighting was of two identical objects, which repeated, exactly, the actions of the UFO of the previous day.

"All three sightings took place at the same time of day—between 4.00 and 4.30 p.m.—and all were seen by workers at the shipyard. No reports of sightings by other members of the public have been made.

"After Wednesday's view, Mr. Blow telephoned RAF Manston to report the matter and they dismissed the possibility that it was an aircraft. There were no planes over the area at the time. The following day they telephoned Mr. Blow and asked him to give them a full report on the matter.

"This report, a spokesman at the RAF station told the *Faversham Times*, is being forwarded to the Ministry of Defence for investigation.

"Mr. Joe Taylor, a Sheldwich man working with Mr. Blow at the time, corroborated his story. He said that he found it difficult to judge the height of the object, but thought in the course of its zig-zagging it dropped at least 1,000 feet.

"It started off pure white and then changed colour as it altered shape until it was glowing red. Then, as it rose in the air, it reverted to white again," he said.

"On the first night only a handful of men saw the object, on the second night about 30 viewed it and on the third night nearly all the yard's work force waited with upturned eyes; many having brought binoculars along.

"I couldn't believe my eyes. At first I thought I was going batty. I thought I was seeing things, until I said to the blokes with me: 'You're seeing this as well aren't you?' and they said 'yes,'" declared Mr. Blow.

"It could have been a trick of the light or something. But if you had said anything to me last week about flying saucers I would have just laughed but now . . ." he said and shrugged his shoulders.

"We are deadly serious—this is no hoax."

Acknowledgements to reader who sent this item with an unsigned letter.

LATE NEWS

It is with regret that we learned of the death of Mr. Ivan T. Sanderson who died on Monday, 19th February 1973. It is good to hear that the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained, formed by Mr. Sanderson, will be continuing its work. An appreciation will be published in a future issue of FSR.

MAIL BAG

Welsh "UFOs" in 1905

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in the two articles written by your correspondent Roger Sandell on UFOs in Wales in 1905 (FSR, July/August 1971 and March/April 1972). For those ufologists interested in this period, a veritable hive of accounts of the "Revival Lights" of 1905, with accompanying parapsychological phenomena, is to be found in the *Proceedings* of The Society For Psychical Research, part LI, Volume XIX, of December 1905 under the title, "Psychological Aspects Of The Welsh Revival," written by the Reverend A. T. Fryer. *The Occult Review* for March, April and June 1905 also apparently contains accounts of what a Caernarvon journalist, Beriah G. Evans, and others, had seen.

On page 102 of the work by Fryer the suggestion was made that the mind of Mrs. Jones (the key figure in many sightings), was the originating cause of the appearances of lights. This suggestion was based on the fact that in so far as the cases of collective hallucinations quoted in his work were true, they had a strong family likeness, and that the seers were all in sympathy with Mrs. Jones.

Fryer also suggested a connection between the naturally caused (or otherwise) lights which had appeared frequently along the coast of Tremadoc Bay, from Pwllheli round to Barmouth in previous years (1869, 1870, 1875, 1876 and 1877), and the forms of the subjective appearances described in 1905. To quote:

"The traditional, collective memory of the objective lights (which may or may not have been UFOs—A.C.W.) may act as a guide to the imagination, providing it with materials for picture formation when it is stimulated by a sufficiently exciting cause. Mental imagery can only employ stored up impressions; however incongruous the various elements, they all may be drawn upon when occasion serves, and the lights of Dyffryn are sufficiently common and familiar to become the mnemonic material of religiously excited minds. Mrs. Jones' obiter dictum, "lamp flashing and going out and injuring nothing at all," reads like a reflection of the subconscious memory upon the lights of 1694 (quoted as 1692 by Mr. Sandell—A.C.W.), which did injure material objects. Of those lights and their effects, Mrs. Jones had most probably read or heard."

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.

It would be interesting to hear what the parapsychologists have to say about the Rev. Fryer's suggestions.

That mediums (ectoplasts) can produce ectoplasmic forms in seance rooms when conditions are right, is undisputed in parapsychology. Is it not too difficult to believe that certain ectoplasts—and perhaps Mrs. Jones of Islawrffordd was such an example—when suitably excited by religious fervour, can produce ectoplasmic forms at a good distance from themselves (teleo-ectoplasty), or, to cause those who were in sympathy with them to see lights also, this being achieved by a mental stimulus, that is, direct stimulation of the visual cortex of the percipient.

Yours sincerely,
A. C. Williams,
24 Caerynydd Road, Waunarlwydd,
Swansea, Wales.
September 23, 1972.

Who'd shoot a UFO?

Dear Sir,—The recent extraterrestrial activity in South Africa, concomitant with the terrestrial proclivity for attacking that which it fears ("A hot reception at Fort Beaufort," *FSR Case Histories* Supplement No. 11) prompts me to quote from a telephone poll conducted by an American newspaper, the *Detroit Free Press*, in August 1971: "If a flying saucer landed in our country today, would we shoot it or welcome it?"

74.3% voted WELCOME, with sample comments as follows: "They may be coming in peace . . . No-one shot at our astronauts . . . Give them a chance to show themselves and shoot later if they don't behave . . . I'd welcome them. Maybe they'd take me back with them. They couldn't be any stranger than what's walking around Detroit . . . Maybe all they want are some rocks."

25.7% voted SHOOT, with comments: "It's the American way . . . If they landed in Detroit they'd probably get mugged . . . The Pentagon would have a field day . . . I'd teach them to stay on their own planet. We've got enough people on welfare without supporting a bunch of Martians."

Yours faithfully,
Timothy Good,
20 Morley Court, The Avenue,
Beckenham, Kent BR3 2EY.
December 10, 1972.

A reader, FSR, and UFOs

Dear Sir,—I'm looking forward with mixed feelings to the Aimé Michel

article on the Palaeolithic Cave Paintings. I sometimes seem to go into a fog while reading him . . .

Michel just marches in and settles somewhere about the back of my head, gnawing away. After countless readings, I still sit with his article, *Of Men, Cats and Magonia* propped up before me while I'm alone, having my morning coffee. Maybe it's really a combination of all the FSR articles and assorted books. I don't pretend to understand half of FSR. I mumble a lot while reading each issue, notably while tiptoeing through the strictly technical articles. I'm not helped by statements such as Mr. Creighton's on disappearing UFO photographs. He seems bent on tangling any coherent reasoning one might summon up when he writes, "We may be very sure that the beings who are so anxious to remove the evidence are *not* the beings whose existence is proved by the evidence, and that we are here getting very near to the nub of the whole UFO mystery." But still, I'm stuck with sharing my breakfast with Michel's precocious cat. Now after receiving the latest FSR, I expect a Saint will be joining us at table.

Since I read my first book on UFOs about five years ago, reality and possibility have taken on a different look. I was vague about them, at least those visible lighted objects seen in the sky, until one summer night in 1964 while we lived in Apalachin, New York, an enormous zeppelin-shaped object gradually appeared directly before us in the sky. Several variously-coloured lights lined its sides in rows. Shortly, three domed disc-shaped objects, also lighted, flew from it straight ahead making incredibly sharp left-angle turns, one after the other, soon disappearing towards the south. The large object still hung there, silent, lighted, immobile. Then it, too, disappeared or dissolved. It didn't move position-wise, but gradually faded from the exact spot where it had materialized. Later that same year and the one following, I saw many swiftly travelling lights and a blazing fireball tumbled erratically before the car.

It is difficult to think of those first objects I saw in the sky as anything but physical objects. They were visual—material objects. They occupied a space—a space somewhere. Yet, even though I'm certain that what I saw was a material something, was this a material similar to an apparition? Perhaps if we could touch them our

Watkins

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Artwork by Terence Collins

CHANGES IN
DOLLAR RATES
DUE TO
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EXCHANGE RATE

hands would go through air but that "air" would be *our* air. Not theirs.

I've grown up, and have always been familiar with (to use words), poltergeists, voices, telepathy, psychic whatever, etc., and accepted it as a part of life. But after witnessing those UFOs and then reading somewhere of a

possible relation among them all, I felt clobbered. *That* had never occurred to me. Then I came across Vallée's *Passport to Magonia* and Keel's books. Now, completely confused, I sit here, staring over cold coffee in this crowded room.

Looking forward (I guess) to the

next FSR, I send my best wishes to you all.

Sincerely,
Beverly Connelly,
Binghamton, New York 13905,
U.S.A.

August 18, 1972.

MORE TELEPORTATIONS AND LEVITATIONS

Continued from page 29

this looks like one of the best sets of Brazilian names that I have come across yet. In an illiterate farmer, they have a richly comic quality. But I think they also convey something of the homespun simplicity and honesty of these pleasant Brazilian folk.

³ The *gambá* is a rat-like type of opossum (marsupial) found widely in South America. Known in some other parts of Brazil as the *mucura* or the *timbú*, and in Argentina as the *comadreja*. (*Didelphis Aurita*; *D. Marsupialis*; and *D. Paraguayensis*.)

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