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**TELEVISION INTERVIEW
WITH ADMIRAL THE LORD
HILL-NORTON**

See page 2

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CONTENTS

BBC T.V. Interview with Admiral
of the Fleet The Lord Hill-Norton,
former First Sea-Lord and former
Chief of the British Defence Staff
Timothy Good 2

The UFO Crash/Retrieval
Syndrome: Status Report II:
New Sources, New Data. Part II.
Leonard H. Stringfield 4

U.S.A. to step up the Search for
Alien Life in Space 11

UFOs over the Andes
Oscar Adolfo Uriondo 11

Entities reported inside a Shop in
Argentina
Jorge Eduardo Catoja 14

In Search of a Stereotype
W. P. Dillon and J. Randles .. 16

The Airship over the Strawberry
Fields
Margaret Fry 20

UFO Reports from China (2)
Anthony Lee 23

A Close Encounter With
Unpleasant Consequences

Russian Editor due for work on
the Oil Pipe-Line? 24

A Close Encounter with
Unpleasant Consequences 25

Early Brazilian Reports 26

Mail Bag 27

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For subscription
details and address
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page ii of cover

THE "E.T." PLAGUE

IN a recent letter one of our American readers writes as follows:—

"I believe that we are being conditioned to accept aliens by the most powerful and persuasive tool available — the motion picture industry. The block-buster films *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *E.T.* are cases in point.

Ask anyone who has seen either of these films how they now feel about aliens? I wonder if it is a coincidence that Steven Spielberg produced both films? It would probably be worth investigating how the films came into being and who is behind them. Could it be a subtle way for the U.S. Government to introduce aliens to the world?"

Our correspondent raises a grave question indeed. In the early days after 1947 there was considerable evidence in the close encounter reports indicating the possible presence here of alien beings of truly human appearance and (far more important) of truly human inner content. Such evidence seems far thinner today in the UFO Phenomenon. On the contrary. We now have much greater evidence of the presence here of something that is totally non-human and is anything but friendly. In Argentina, in April 1965, one Felipe Martínez dashed enthusiastically towards a landed craft shouting "Amigo!, Amigo!", and was promptly felled by a paralysing weapon. (With "friends" like those, who could need enemies!) From every country in the world today come reports of people who have had terrifying experiences with utterly unprepossessing and non-human creatures, and those experiences should by now be serving as a salutary warning to all.

But what do we see? We see millions of dollars being poured into films which seem designed precisely to inculcate the idea that, *however uncouth and nasty something looks, it is our bounden and automatic duty to love it at first sight.* One shudders at the possible consequences. And one can only wonder what really are the influences that lie behind such a policy.

Our correspondent asks: "Could it be a subtle way for the U.S. Government to introduce aliens into the world?". What we should be asking ourselves however is rather: "*Could it be a subtle way for facilitating a take-over by something out of the Pit?*"

It seems inconceivable that the government of any human society could be so irresponsible as to lend any sort of *conscious* support to such a wildly dangerous idea. As to where the real control of affairs in our world lies — well, that is of course a very interesting question indeed, and we are all free to speculate. (*Or are we?*)

From what we already know about such matters as suggestion and telepathy, it is not difficult to arrive at the thought that *other* agencies than human governments or film companies might be capable of seeing that such films as "*E.T.*" are made.

And if seemingly "handsome, human, and benevolent UFO entities" were allegedly more in evidence here thirty years ago and are apparently no longer so much in evidence here today, we are free to speculate as to what this fact might possibly mean for our species. ("Free to speculate", of course, provided that we ourselves are not already "under control.")

THE BBC TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE LORD HILL-NORTON, FORMER FIRST SEA-LORD AND FORMER CHIEF OF THE BRITISH DEFENCE STAFF

Timothy Good

READERS of FSR who were unable to see the BBC RTV 'Out of Court' programme, transmitted on 10th March 1982 (1), which included an item on the legal aspects of the cover-up of UFOs by the British Government, may be interested in a résumé.

The Earl of Clancarty, Chairman of the House of Lords All Party UFO Study Group, began by referring to his 'starred' question on the subject, which took place in the Lords on 4 March 1982 (after his interview was recorded). There followed a brief interview with the Earl of Kimberley, an active member of the Lords Group, who alluded to the statistical probability of life in our galaxy, stating his conviction that the withholding of information on the subject by the Government was likely to be more harmful than the release thereof.

Documents shown

As an independent researcher assisting the UFO Study Group, I was interviewed, and showed two hitherto classified documents obtained from the U.S. under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, supplied to me by the Scientific Bureau of Investigation Inc (2). The first item I showed was the now famous FBI memorandum, in which former Director J. Edgar Hoover referred to the fact that the U.S. Army had retrieved a crashed disc in 1947, and had denied the FBI access to it (3).

The second item I showed was a little-known cablegram from former U.S. Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, to the U.S. Embassy in La Paz, referring to a report of a 'fallen space object' in May 1978. Although the object referred to may only have been part of a satellite or rocket, the cable stated: "... No direct correlation with known space objects that may have entered the earth's atmosphere near May 6 can be made..." I stressed the fact that copies of this cablegram had been sent to the National Security Council (NSC), Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Depart-

ment of Defense (DOD), National Security Agency (NSA), as well as NASA, and that this was a clear indication of the seriousness with which the subject is treated at top level.

Lord Hill-Norton

The most significant interview on the BBC programme was with ex-Admiral of the Fleet and former Chief of the Defence Staff, the Lord Hill-Norton, an outspoken member of the House of Lords UFO Study Group. I reproduce the interview verbatim. The interviewer was Sarah Caplin:

CAPLIN: As a former Chief of Defence Staff, wouldn't you have known if there was information available which hadn't been released to the public?

HILL-NORTON: Well, let me put it like this: I think I ought to have known, but I certainly didn't, and, had I known, I would not of course be allowed on an interview like this to say so. So that in itself seems to me significant. What I do believe is that information has come to the Ministry of Defence — probably over a period of 20 years or even longer — which is not available to the public, and was not available to me while I was in office. Information has been released in the United States under the Freedom of Information Act — which we don't have — which gives credence to the fact that there has been an elaborate investigation there, and also in France. What we want to do is to get our own Government to tell us the results of an investigation which simply must have happened here too.

CAPLIN: What do you think is the best way that you can obtain the information you want?

HILL-NORTON: I suspect the best way is to pursue the American line where a lot of information is now having to be released by law, and, with the aid of that sort of information from other countries, we must be able to say to our Government: 'Surely you have a similar set-up? Please tell us what it's all about.'

Plans of the House of Lords Group

Concluding the programme, the Earl of Clancarty stated that the Lords Group is considering introducing legislation in the U.K. similar to the Freedom of Information Act. Alternative considerations, he said, are a Private Members' Bill or another debate on the subject in the Lords. (4)

Programme by BBC (Bristol)

As a consequence of the 'Out of Court' programme, BBC TV (Bristol) included an item on UFOs in its 'RPM' programme, which was transmitted on 24 March 1982. Lord Hill-Norton's interview was shown once again, and a telephone interview with Mr. Peter Gersten, the lawyer representing the Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS), in the U.S. was relayed.

I was again interviewed, and discussed the role of the secret services in the cover-up, mentioning that in the U.S. alone there are about eight intelligence agencies, most of which are engaged in UFO research. (5) I pointed out that the National Security Agency was withholding 135 documents on UFOs, and that both the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (18 November 1980) and the U.S. Supreme Court (7 March 1982) had ruled that the Agency was fully justified in withholding the documents in their entirety. (6) I also drew attention to the allegation that the NSA has excellent liaison with its British counterpart, the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), based at Cheltenham, which also specializes in electronic intelligence gathering, as well as code-breaking. (7)

I also mentioned that I had been reliably informed, by sources which I cannot name, that there is indeed an elaborate cover-up by officialdom in this country.

My interview in Bristol was not edited in any way, and the BBC are to be congratulated for their presentation. Let us hope that more such programmes will be forthcoming.

Notes & References

- (1) See FSR Editorial, Vol 27 No 5 (Postscript)
- (2) Scientific Bureau of Investigation Inc., PO Box 193, Staten Island, N.Y. 10312
- (3) See *The Roswell Incident* by Charles Berlitz & William Moore (Granada Publishing, 1980).
- (4) On 7 April 1982 another 'starred' question on UFOs was asked in the House of Lords by the Earl of Cork & Orrery. I had the honour of attending the debate, at the invitation of the Earl of Clancarty. The question was as follows:

"To ask Her Majesty's Government how many of the 2,250 sightings of UFOs reported to the Ministry of Defence in the years 1978-81 were, and still are, classified for reasons of security."

Viscount Long, replying on behalf of the MoD, stated flatly: "None, my Lords." An interesting exchange followed, during which Viscount Long stated that he hoped that the MoD reports could be made available to the House of Lords Library. Although some of the ensuing questions were facetious, others were serious: these were asked by The Earl of Clancarty, The Earl of Kimberley, Lord Strabolgi, Lord Shinwell, Lord Besswick, and Lord Wade. (Hansard, Vol 429 No 71, publ. by H.M. Stationery Office, London)

(5) These agencies include:

- Central Intelligence Agency
- National Security Agency
- Defense Intelligence Agency
- Air Force Intelligence
- Army Intelligence
- Naval Intelligence
- State Department (Bureau of Intelligence & Research)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Atomic Energy Commission (Division of Intelligence)

(6) See FSR Vol 28 No 1: 'Continuing Evidence of Retrievals of the Third Kind' by Gordon Creighton. Also, in a letter to me dated 16 October 1981, the National Security Agency, in response to my enquiry as to the precise reasons for the documents being withheld, stated:

"... the United States District Court for the District of Columbia indicated that the communications intelligence documents withheld clearly related to NSA/CCSS activities and, thus, fell squarely within the protection of the claimed exemptions. The court found that release of this material could jeopardize the work of the Agency ..."

(7) Sunday Times, 14 March 1982: 'Secret UK base spies on telephone calls.' This article referred to a book on the NSA by James Bamford, entitled *The Puzzle Palace — A Report on America's Most Secret Agency*, (Houghton Mifflin, Boston 1982), which shows that "the relationship between the NSA and GCHQ is stronger than any between the NSA and other American intelligence agencies."

Note by Editor of FSR

Mr Good's original suggested title for this piece was "*BBC Covers the Cover-Up*", but in view of the more recent BBC *Horizon* TV programme, "*The Case of the UFOs*", we are driven to abandon the naive idea that in setting up such an interview anyone could have had it in mind to assist in revealing a cover-up! The only conclusion left to us is that on this occasion somebody blundered in permitting the interview with the Admiral to take place, and whoever this was will undoubtedly have been reprimanded later for it. Such blunders have not been unknown in the past, and we may have something to say about one of them in a future issue.

THE UFO CRASH/RETRIEVAL SYNDROME STATUS REPORT II: NEW SOURCES, NEW DATA. PART II: NEW SUPPORT DATA

Leonard H. Stringfield

I, OR any of my research contemporaries, may never live to see the day when all the facts are bared to either verify or completely squash the story of UFO crashes, retrievals, and of the little nondescript bipeds that are kept under official wraps in cryogenic catacombs. The whole truth is beyond my meagre range of inquiry. The data I present here are hardly sufficient to change the hard crust of our scientific community. And, if everything I know is true, then perhaps it is also true that other information unknown to me would "blow the mind," as the former C.I.A. employee once commented on tape. If, then, the real facts are so unsettling, is it socially wise to hide the truth until the day may come when disaster strikes or a docile segment of our humanity is converted to fear or worship a fetish that doesn't even exist?

In the meantime until the official facts can be bared, or if what I have revealed, short of documentation, can be believed, then UFOlogy must continue to live with the UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome until its frustrations can be relieved by seeing a humanoid, like King Tut, on exhibition. But my story is not yet finished. It is not all dominated by anonymous first-hand informants, whose reports of a UFO crash/retrieval may be diagnosed as syndromic of a sick mind. There are others of a growing legion of credible people, in and out of research, who have provided valuable data. Consider the following:

ITEM B-1 (REVISED)

Clark McClelland, formerly Director of NICAP, Florida Unit-3, during the period he worked at the Kennedy Space Center as a member of the Apollo Programme, informed me on October 5, 1979 of an alleged UFO crash/retrieval incident occurring near Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, December 9, 1965. McClelland has since correlated old and newly acquired data, relative to the incident, which is contained in the following report for this paper:

Just before sunset on the evening of December 9, 1965, a fiery object causing a brilliant glow was observed by thousands of frightened and mystified residents of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and Ontario, Canada. A loud aerial explosion occurred causing several shock waves that were experienced by private and commercial aircraft pilots flying over Michigan and Lake St. Clair, east of Detroit. During the explosion, pilots and peo-

ple on the ground observed something detach from the glowing form and fall to earth near Lapeer, Michigan. Other parts of the object eventually came to earth near Elyria, Ohio; Midland, Pennsylvania, and finally the remainder fell into a rural wooded area near Kecksburg, in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Retracing the flight of this unidentified flying object reveals some startling facts. Looking at a map of the overflight one can trace the object's path in a straight line from its initial observation above Lapeer, Michigan, and as it continued over Lake St. Clair, to Elyria, Ohio, in a southeasterly trajectory. As the UFO flew over Elyria, it made an apparent course change of twenty-five degrees which appeared to be a controlled adjustment. This would obviously kill the usual explanation that it was a meteor or a bolide. This conclusion was later advanced by Dr. Paul Annear, professor of Astronomy at Baldwin-Wallace University, and immediately drew agreement from some Pentagon sources even though the witnessed fall of physical material from the object to the ground over several cities verified the actual flight path.

Calculations show that the UFO was most probably between 40 and 60 miles altitude when first observed over Michigan. Assuming the object was 60 miles high, it could easily have been observed from Indiana to Ontario.

Amassing all the distances where witnesses claimed to have observed the glowing mass we find that it was puttering along at about 17 miles a minute or, 1,062.5 miles an hour. This is considerably slower than the astronomically recorded speed of 27,000 miles per hour or the maximum, 144,000 miles per hour that meteors have been measured to be travelling during their plunges to earth. So the college professor and the Pentagon called this mysterious object a meteor or bolide, Hah! Ask yourself — who is kidding who?

Another possibility exists to explain the mystery object. An inquiry was recently made through the records maintained by the United States Air Force Space Defense Center which is the headquarters of the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) in Colorado. On January 11, 1980, Mr. Del Kinchey, the Base Public Information Officer assisted in searching the satellite and space debris re-entry archives for recorded tracking data on the date of the Kecksburg impact. He discovered that on November 23, 1965, the Soviet Union launched one of their spy

satellite series designated Cosmos 96. What is interesting about this is that it either aborted or was recalled to re-enter into the earth's atmosphere sixteen days later on the day of the Kecksburg incident — December 9, 1965. Further inquiry concerning the re-entry data where the Air Force expected the device to impact will be forthcoming in a future edition of this publication.

Even if this does prove to be an explanation for the Kecksburg object, it is common knowledge by those experienced in aerospace science and rocket development that no spacecraft or nose cone in 1965 had the capability of a twenty-five degree adjustment in flight direction during earth re-entry.

Within an hour following the impact of the object at Kecksburg, a large contingent of military specialists arrived at the scene almost as swiftly as the Pennsylvania State Police and local volunteer fire groups. They quickly cordoned off the area and ordered all on-lookers to leave. One armed forces spokesman was reported to have said, "We don't know what we have but there is an unidentified flying object in the woods."

On January 11, 1980, James Mayes, former Assistant Fire Chief and Melvin Reese, former fireman for the Kecksburg Volunteer Fire unit at the time of the impact, were interviewed. They had both accompanied an unidentified Pennsylvania State Policeman to within 75 yards of the wooded hollow where the crash occurred. Both men report seeing an object flashing. They could not determine the exact shape of the object. Both men agree that there was no fire associated with the impact. James Mayes also recalls that the military unit did set up a command post at the Kecksburg Volunteer Fire Hall. He said that information concerning the affair was relayed to an Air Force Base west of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, possibly Wright-Patterson in Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Mayes was not positive, so this disclosure is uncertain.

Mr. Mayes also said he had heard that a large military truck was cleared to enter the restricted area and that hours later the truck reappeared with a large object under the tarpaulin. Other residents of the area recall hearing of the truck hauling something during the night.

The truck rumour was unsubstantiated until Robert Bitner, the Fire Chief in 1965, offered the following information. Mr. Bitner was working at the time of the fall and arrived later than other volunteers who were assisting the State Police and military unit. Later, during the night, Bitner was present near the impact site when a large 10 ton military truck appeared coming from the wooded area. It had a tarpaulin spread over a large object that appeared to be 6 feet high, 7 feet wide and 17 feet long. Mr. Bitner was approximately 25 feet from the truck and the military had personnel standing guard around the entire vehicle. Eventually the truck, under escort, left for an undisclosed destination.

Was that place Wright-Patterson Air Force Base or someplace else? No one knows.

The Kecksburg incident was not caused by a meteor or anything astronomical. Of this we can be sure. Perhaps further study of re-entry data will determine an association with the Cosmos-96 that returned to Earth on December 9, 1965. This remains to be proven. Was it a craft alien to Earth? Information gained so far may eventually favor this theory. What is certain is that something important was apparently retrieved by the military and as yet, the object and its origin remains a mystery.*

Clark McClelland
January 17, 1980

*On November 16, 1979, I was interviewed on the John Signa Show, Radio Station KDKA Pittsburgh. Other guests were Clark McClelland, Betty Hill, and Travis Walton. During the 3-hour session, the Kecksburg retrieval incident was aired. To our surprise, we received four calls from people who allegedly were at the site following the crash. Some claim they saw the flatbed truck under tarp leave the area. Another later saw the hole caused by impact. Three witnessed the military security team who sealed off the area, and one, who got too close, was ordered to leave. Although one military spokesman said the retrieved object was a "meteorite," McClelland emphasised that he was aware of the UFO's flight pattern prior to the crash which ruled out that explanation.

ITEM B-2

Randall Clement serves as Dispatcher in a Communications Centre for a law enforcement agency in Northern California. He told me on September 11, 1979, that a possible UFO crash, or landing, had occurred on the previous evening at approximately 7 p.m. in the general area of Modesto, California. He was on duty at the time when two officers of his unit observed a green, luminous object flying at low-level over Shasta County descending gradually in a southerly course. While linked by phone with the National Alert Warning System, Clement heard that the UFO was confirmed by radar at Vandenberg AFB and that jets were scrambled from an air base. The UFO was described by observers as wobbling in its flight like a pendulum. This he referred to as the "falling leaf syndrome," a behaviour that is speculated to be associated with a malfunctioning UFO. From other sources, too, I have learned that the wobbling effect, possibly indicating a troubled UFO, is also discernible by certain effects appearing on radar.

ITEM B-3

Randall Clement first contacted me by letter in January 1978 to relate a meeting with a friend several years ago who had served in the Air Force as a technician, which brought him to the underground facility

in Colorado Springs, Colorado. There, for reasons unexplained, he claims to have seen a dismembered and charred body of an alien humanoid. Efforts are being made to elicit more details.

ITEM B-4

Bette Shilling, working on a college UFO project, first heard of my "Retrieval" paper when I was interviewed on a Los Angeles radio station in the Fall of 1978. She wrote to me and I responded by phone when I learned that her friend, an Air Force officer, had told her that he knew of a crashed alien craft occurring in the Spring of 1975. At that time, she said, he was Communications Officer at a "station" in Detroit, and was responsible for transmission of a coded message to the Commanding Officer at another base in Ohio (Wright-Patterson?) about a crash in a rural area near the Ohio border in Michigan. Two dead bodies, and one still alive, were retrieved. Name withheld by request.

ITEM B-5

William D. Leet of Texarkana, Arkansas, long-time respected researcher, former Major, Air Force Pilot, WWII and Korea, and co-author of *To Rule The Sky*, knowing of my UFO crash/retrieval research, reached me by letter in December 1978 to relate that he had a lead from Mr. Lynn Ward, which concerned a relative who had seen a captured flying saucer in a Navy hangar in 1950. The witness was Durward "Buddy" Haak, CPO Radar Observer, while stationed at a Naval Air Station in Sunnyvale, California. In 1952, Buddy Haak was on an ill-fated flight out of San Diego. His aircraft disappeared; no trace of it ever found.

Buddy Haak, according to testimony received from members of his family, had accidentally entered a door of a large hangar, temporarily unguarded, and saw a huge, round saucer-shaped craft with a row of windows. A guard shut the door in his face and ordered him to forget what he had seen, or else. By June 1979, through the efforts of Bill Leet, I had received written statements from two members of the family who recalled the story, and managed to get the phone number of Durward Haak's mother. On June 25, 1979, I called Mrs. Haak, who, requesting that her full name and address be withheld, recalled her son's concern about seeing the flying saucer. "It was certainly no aircraft of ours," she remembers him saying. Although other members of the family connect Buddy's strange disappearance with his knowledge of the UFO, Mrs. Haak did not.

ITEM B-6

Richard Hall, Editor of the MUFON UFO Journal in a letter dated March 23, 1979, wrote "...Don Berliner (aviation writer) just returned from visiting an aviation historian friend in Illinois, Truman Weaver.

While there, Weaver showed him a copy of a letter dated March 1978 from a good friend of Weaver's in the aviation business ... who worked as a technician at Wright-Patterson, retiring in 1954. This gentleman said that he worked "across the alley" from where they kept the bodies, and that in 1953 they had 13 of them in a room on the third floor. A strong odor used to waft across the way, and upon inquiring they were told it was embalming fluid. The bodies he said, are now stored at a small Air Force Base (Langley) at Hampton Roads, Virginia..."

On April 3, 1979, I called Truman Weaver, a former Air Force Major, who, himself had an UFO experience while flying in Korea in 1952. He and crew saw a daylight disc, 12 feet in diameter under intelligent control, off his wingtip. Without hesitation, Weaver gave me the phone number of his friend, Robert Thompson, whom he knew through mutual aviation interests. On the same day I phoned Thompson. He confirmed the data Berliner had related to Hall about his work at Wright-Patterson. He added... "Suddenly, the building nearby became very busy, trucks drove up and right into the building. This was before airconditioning was installed and with windows open I could smell the strong odor of formaldehyde. It was sickening."

Thompson said he never saw a flying saucer or a little body personally, but he did claim to see what he called an "interim report". His boss, named McAdams, showed it to him and fellow workers, which he said confirmed the rumours that alien craft and bodies were on the base. The next day he said the paper was snatched from McAdams and officials denied it even existed. Thompson couldn't remember if the report was on official stationery or marked Secret, or if it was mimeographed. Curious, I called Weaver about such a document. He was not aware of such a report for general circulation unless it was a document that leaked out without authorization. On April 5, Thompson sent me a note which stated briefly: "The building number was 18F, 3rd floor. The 13 bodies and 2 saucers are at a small air base at Hampton Roads, Virginia, if they have not been moved again."

Thompson said he heard about the transfer to Hampton Roads from a source now in Canada and unreachable.

ITEM B-7

On June 25, 1978, James Minton, his wife and I, breakfasted together in a motel in Carlyle, Illinois, on the day Betty Hill, Charles Hickson, and I each addressed the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, hosted by Mrs. Rosetta Holmes, at the Fish Hatchery grounds. Jim and I, over several coffees, discussed our respective interests in the UFO and have since that day "kept in touch" as I continued to develop new material about the UFO crash/retrieval syndrome. In

September of 1979, Jim called to relate that he had talked with a former Air Force friend, William Draeger of Austin, Texas, who had uncovered some information about a 1950 crash incident occurring in Mexico.

I knew the incident well, and that it had been disputed by some researchers, however, I had not pursued the case beyond having referred to the alleged crash in my previous paper. At that time, I had used information related by Todd Zechel to the *Midnight Globe*. Since, further research into the case by Zechel and others has revealed that not only the year of the incident was wrong, having changed from 1948 to 1950, but also the crash site has changed.

Whatever the status of the case, I was eager to learn anything new, so Minton made arrangements for me to call Draeger the same day. One call led to another as Draeger had hoped to gather information from still another backup source. Like his friend Minton, he was willing and able to probe — and is resourceful. And being also honest, Draeger said he was unable to get his other source to talk, but agreed to submit a statement for this paper relative to his investigation in Mexico (names withheld). His letter, dated October 11, 1979, follows:

Todd Zechel called me in Austin, Texas, on Sunday, August 13, 1979. He was acting as consultant to a Japanese television crew from Nippon Television Network taping a UFO documentary. They were in Del Rio, Texas, researching the alleged UFO crash which occurred in 1950 (and has at times been erroneously reported as having occurred near Laredo, Texas). On Monday August 14 I was employed as interpreter for the Japanese crew due to the fact that I was raised in Del Rio and speak Spanish fluently. The retired Colonel who witnessed the UFO in the air and later on the ground was also in Del Rio with Todd and reported that the soldiers surrounding the crashed craft were Mexican troops. I contacted the Mexican Army General who had command of that specific area of the border and initially talked with him by telephone. I identified myself and my position and related that in 1950 a UFO was reported to have crashed 30 miles north west of Del Rio, that we had along a pilot who had seen it in the air and later on the ground being guarded by Mexican troops until American Air Force units arrived to retrieve the craft and a body that was found aboard. Without pause, the General answered in Spanish, "Yes, I know about that. I don't have any papers or documents to prove it, but due to my position I know about that."

When I asked if he would consent to an interview he paused and said he would be busy for 30 minutes but afterwards would be free for an interview at his home. When the 7-man crew, the retired colonel, and myself arrived and we talked with him, he totally denied any knowledge of the incident and on camera he denied and evaded any questions dealing with the in-

cident and UFOs. The General is a military celebrity and began his career as a young Lieutenant serving under Pancho Villa during the Mexican Revolution. He was acquainted with several movie stars, like John Wayne, and became friends with General George Patton when he was stationed at Fort Clark, 35 miles from the border. They played polo together. I believe the General is beyond reproach and that he "slipped" on the telephone but maintained strict security for the interview.

I, William H. Draeger, do hereby swear to God that the above statement is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth." (signed) William H. Draeger.

ITEM B-8

The case of the mysterious flying object crashing into the mountains bordering Argentina and Bolivia, May 8, 1978, is well known by research. Was it a meteorite, part of a satellite or spacecraft? Rumours say nothing was ever found after extensive search on the precipitous slopes by Bolivian and Argentine military teams and by NASA.

In June 1979, I received a stack of clippings from Argentine newspapers with stories that claim otherwise. The sender, Nicholas M. Ojeda of Rosario, Argentina, stated in his letter, "...As you know, our country is one of the most visited areas in the world by OVNI's as we call them in Latin America. Last year, May 8, we had a very significant case in the Salta Province in the north of the country. A long object crashed into the mountains. Although some people think it was a meteor or part of a satellite, the case is not closed yet. There is a report of a group of investigators who vanished mysteriously in the area. I really think something big happened in Salta. NASA investigated, but there was not news of it. I have to tell you that in La Paz, Bolivia, a huge USAF Hercules C-130 carried "something" from the area where the UFO crashed. What was it?"

When this question and the news of the cargo plane being there was put to Bob Barry's former C.I.A. contact, he confirmed the flight and admitted, "I was aboard that plane." He offered no answer to, "what was aboard?"

ITEM B-9

Lee M. Graham, researcher, and by occupation, an infrared research technician for Aerojet Electro Systems Co., in California, made considerable effort in 1979 to reach a medical doctor (name withheld) through a friend, a school teacher, who had discussed with him privately some aspects of the research that had been conducted on a recovered live alien body some years before. The doctor, said Graham, knew a colleague who still had the records of his work. Graham and friend, together, finally reached the doctor for an interview, hoping to be given clearance to call the out-of-town colleague. The reply: The colleague

had passed away — and so had his medical secretary who knew about the secret records.

It was not all in vain. The Doctor, who did talk briefly, recalled certain factors disclosed about the circulatory system. The skin was pliable, or stretchable, over smooth muscles; that there was no perspiration or loss of liquid through the skin and no body odour. This information tallied with characteristics made known by my other medical source in Case A-7.

ITEM B-10

The Honorable Barry Goldwater, a long-time Senator from Arizona, once Presidential candidate and a forthright spokesman on military and political affairs, is respected for his candor for speaking on the UFO, but, alas, what he relates is limited. Response to inquiries contain the same general information; however, couched in each there is a variation in the text, perhaps significant.

Goldwater's letter to me, dated December 3, 1974, follows:

...Let's get this whole UFO thing straight as far as my relationship is concerned. Many years ago, more than I can remember, someone asked me if I believed in UFOs. I said that I neither believed in them nor disbelieved in them because I felt that with the billions of planets in our universe there had to be at least another on which lived creatures that could accomplish things with their brains or whatever they used as brains. I have never seen a UFO, I've never had a personal friend that's seen them, although I've read accounts of reputable pilots who have seen what they describe as UFOs. That was about the extent of my statement on UFOs, but since then — and that was a long time ago — I made an effort to get in the room at Wright-Patterson Field where the information was stored and I was denied this request, understandably. Frankly, I'm no expert on this subject, I've never made lengthy statements on it. What I've told you just about sums it up...

In a letter received by a researcher (S.A.), dated March 28, 1975, Goldwater states:

...The subject of UFOs is one that has interested me for some long time. About ten or twelve years ago I made an effort to find out what was in the building at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where the information is stored that has been collected by the Air Force, and I was understandably denied this request. It is still classified above Top Secret. I have, however, heard that there is a plan underway to release some, if not all, of this material in the near future. I'm just as anxious to see this material as you are, and I hope we will not have to wait too much longer...

Then, in a letter dated April 11, 1979, Lee Graham (referred to in Item B-9) who had questioned Senator Goldwater about my letter in *Situation Red*, received the following response:

...It is true that I was denied access to a facility at

Wright-Patterson. Because I never got in, I can't tell you what was inside. *We both know about the rumors.* Apart from that, let me make my position clear. I do not believe that we are the only planet, and of some two billion that exist, that has life on it. I have never seen what I would call a UFO, but I have intelligent friends who have, so I can sort of argue either way...

The emphasis in each letter is mine. In essence, Goldwater is saying that he was denied access to the facility where Top Secret information was stored which he believed concerned the alien craft and bodies. Recall in Case A-3 that my informant, who was stationed at Wright-Patterson during the Goldwater visit, states that the incident caused quite a fiasco among ranking personnel.

ITEM B-11

The following letter, quoted in part, dated June 22, 1978, was received from a source in Florida, who prefers that his name and location be withheld:

...this letter is in reference to your book, *Situation Red* ... To the point, what really grabbed me was the letter published on page 252, which was a reply from the Air Force to Senator Goldwater ... It is an outright lie.

In 1951 I became a very good friend with a major in the Air Force, now deceased. I decline to mention his name on paper, but he was an influential person, known throughout the world. I worked for him part-time, and while I was in his house one day, he casually tossed a book to me to read. Even though this was over 25 years ago I still remember distinctly the words on the cover, "Classified." I read the book and thought that it was science fiction ... I don't remember much of what I read, but one picture I'll never forget. The photo showed three or four Air Force personnel holding saucer objects by their rims. The objects were about 3 or 4 feet in diameter and were identified as UFOs. Printed on the bottom right-hand corner was "Official U.S. Air Force photo."

These were remote-controlled UFOs that had been captured by the Air Force, that much of the book I do remember ... and, they do have humanoids and UFO craft in their possession...

COMMENT

I phoned the source and got identification of the Major who was a well known figure. I also got other details relative to the document he was privileged to have read.

ITEM B-12

In the long history of the UFO, chroniclers and story tellers representing all levels and from all doubtful depths have surfaced to espouse a theory or an experience. They range from the professional and the authoritative, who have measurably contributed a lasting message, to the opportunist and the charlatan who

have done everlasting harm. One, a professional writer, and one of the earliest to release a rhetorical bombshell, was Frank Scully. His only UFO book, *Behind the Flying Saucers*, (published 1950), was the first to deal with the UFO crash/ retrieval syndrome. But his glory as author was shortlived; his sensational exposé became a sensational hoax. Indeed, the fate of Scully was to change the course of research for almost three decades. As a result of Scully's scandalous smear, which got maximum publicity when the saucer craze was peaking in the early 1950's, it became unfashionable for any respected researcher to write or talk about a crashed UFO or their "little green men." Contrary to today, as records will attest, even Encounters of the Third Kind were scantily reported in that early era. So completely was Scully's story put down that some researchers today wonder, in retrospect, if the book and/or its exposure was contrived. Little new information about Scully since his death surfaces for today's evaluation. Any item concerning his life may provide a clue. I have uncovered two letters written by Frank Scully in 1954 that deserve review. They came from a collection of saucer memorabilia, bound in hard cover, discovered by an Australian while browsing in a bookstore in Florida. While I was writing my book he obligingly sent me the material for my research.

Scully's letter on masthead, Desert Springs Chamber of Commerce, dated April 12, 1954, follows:

Dear Rev. — Thank you for your letter of April 4 which I had better answer immediately or it will never be answered, I'm so in arrears. I just returned from a convention held in Giant Rock where 5000 persons held a Saucerian convention. It is 35 miles from anywhere, in the Mojave Desert. All shades of opinion were represented.

But to get to your letter. My chief witnesses as you describe them have not repudiated one sentence of *Behind the Flying Saucers*. Dr. Gee was a composite of 8 different scientists, whose stories were tape recorded and then synthesized by me where they were in substantial agreement. As for others who have similar stories, there are a whole slew of them. Mine dealt with three saucers and dead crews. George Van Tassel, a former Lockheed test pilot, has out a book, *I Rode A Flying Saucer*, George Adamski tells a personal experience in *Flying Saucers Have Landed*. Another man has one out called *Aboard A Flying Saucer*. He claims he was aboard 11 times. Another, Williamson, has one out, *The Saucers Speak*. There are altogether about 10 books. Many go beyond mine, but their authors are not writers as such. I am. That's my only profession. I claim to have seen nothing. I simply reported what others claimed they saw.

Right now I am gathering material for *This Side of Saucers*. It should prove more sensational than *Behind The Flying Saucers*. I do not know when I will get it finished. Next Spring, probably ... Faithfully (signed)

Frank Scully.

Letter on VARIETY masthead, dated June 10, 1954, follows:

Dear Rev. — Thank you for your letter of May 21. I've not seen any response to that resolution to turn the saucer inquiry over to civilians, have you? At the Giant Rock Convention 5000 people endorsed this view and you might try your Congressman, or your Senator, this being an election year, to try his hand at pushing it through.

As to the Hunrath-Wilkinson disappearance, I'm afraid it was a planned suicide on Hunrath's part. They had gas enough for only three hours and could hardly get over these high mountains with that. If they lost their bearings and got over the Pacific they might easily be drowned without trace.

I'm in the position of a pathologist having reported on grounded saucers and dead crews, and listening now to personal histories of those who have talked with live crews and even flown in their saucers. My personal history continues to be much more prosaic. I've been very ill for several months and have been doing much research and little writing, but I hope to get on to the latter this summer in the desert. With renewed thanks for your interest, I remain ... Faithfully (signed) Frank Scully.

ITEM B-13

In my first UFO crash/retrieval paper I made a brief reference to an alleged incident occurring in the Spring of 1977 in southwestern Ohio which involved an encounter between a landed or disabled alien craft and its crew and a U.S. military detachment dispatched to the site. Since it made news and drew inquiry, the town nearest the site has been identified as Lumberton, on Highway 68, southwest of Xenia, Ohio. The incident is one of violence, ending in a western-style shoot-out. Word was that it resulted in 11 American casualties and an unknown number of aliens. To add fuel to this story, which emanated from a research group in Pennsylvania, I learned from another source in Cincinnati that a person working in an "off limits" area at Wright-Patterson claims to have seen "bodies on litters" arriving at the base during the same time frame.

Researchers involved in the investigation of this sensitive incident prefer anonymity. It all began when a respected researcher in Pittsburgh overheard the story during a luncheon from an engineer who worked for the city's school system. He, in turn, knew of another person who was supposed to have been involved somehow in the macabre experience. But the key person, despite repeated attempts, could never be reached. Bob Pratt, a highly respected reporter for the *National Enquirer*, also tried to pursue the case and hunt down the key source. He, too, talked with the secondhand source but he would not reveal the identity of the principal source.

In October 1977, I also tried to get a new lead by calling many law enforcement agencies covering three counties. I got nowhere. It is understandable, if this case is true, that it would be kept under the tightest security.

ITEM B-14

February 12, 1979, was a day like all days in my quest for a new material relative to the UFO crash/retrieval syndrome. I had called David Mannweiler, columnist for the *Indianapolis News* who featured a story about an anonymous source with information about the recovery of an alien body from a saucer crash in 1948. He promised he would try and arrange an interview but his source dried up.

I also got a call from a New York reporter for *The Village Voice* who desired an interview with me for an article concerning my UFO crash/retrieval material. This also vaporized. And, there were other calls, but the real eye opener came about midnight from Larry Moyers, State Director of Ohio for MUFON, in Akron. Moyers pardoned his late call, and as I tried to recover from a half sleep, he jolted me with news so extraordinary that I wasn't sure if I were in a dream. Moyers had just an hour earlier received a call from a person named Ron Johnson who made the claim that he had recovered a small humanoid body appearing to be injured but still alive, from a roadside while driving through the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. Confused as what to do next, he put the creature into his car and drove on. About 3 hours later, when he stopped to check the body, he found it motionless and presumed that it was dead.

Johnson described the creature as humanoid, about 3 feet tall, without nose and only one ear. The other ear appeared to have been sheared off. The biped covered with a downy fuzz, had only three fingers with webbing in between, and the feet were "neither left nor right, not in the sense that humans are." A metallic cloth covered the entire body. Johnson's main concern, said Moyers, was his fear of legal consequences for allowing the entity to die while in his possession without notifying the police. In desperation he drove on to his home in Akron, and placed the cadaver into a deep freeze. Johnson explained that he remembered hearing of a local UFO research group and finally got Moyer's telephone number and called him for advice. Because of the lateness of the hour, and fatigue, he agreed to see Moyers early the next morning and gave him his address, and his phone number. Moyers, concerned, called me.

My advice, in the play against time, was for Larry and a trusted friend to go to Johnson's at the earliest next day. Take a camera, I suggested, to photograph a

variety of shots of Johnson and his cadaver as proof, then call an attorney and a medical doctor for their expertise. In the meantime, I told Moyers, I would head for Akron and be on hand to advise the authorities, key researchers, and the media. But, Larry and I both smelled a hoax.

Early the next morning, Moyers joined by Mike Candusso got to Johnson's house as planned. While parking to check the house number, they saw two women leaving the house. When asked if they knew Ron Johnson, both said they never heard of him, then Moyers checked the neighbours. No one knew of Johnson. Moyers then phoned the number given him by Johnson. To his dismay, the phone had been disconnected. When Moyers called me to explain his dilemma, I, too, called the "Johnson" number. Said the Operator: "The number you have dialed has been disconnected temporarily at the customer's request."

Hoax? Probably. Who is the real Ron Johnson? Was his game a ploy to test Moyers with an ulterior motive? And, why was the phone number he gave Moyers disconnected and on whose request? Hoaxes, although rare, and other inexplicable acts, are not new to me and others investigating mysteries of the syndrome. Another case in point, and so typical of following a new lead, involved a dentist in Bloomington, Indiana, to whom I was referred as having UFO crash/retrieval information. When I called the dentist he recalled that his brother, a retired Navy Captain in Washington, D.C., had discussed with him, several years before, his part in the transportation of a crashed alien craft. Seeming eager to help, he gave me his brother's phone number. But when I called the retired Navy Captain, he said he didn't remember ever talking about such an affair with his brother.

There are many other leads bearing promise of information to come by mail, a return phone call, or a visit. Weeks, months, a year may pass. So often the response is nothing; a silence rooted in fears of reprisal or ridicule, or, a desire for privacy — or, all three combined. This is understandably human. Indeed, I feel privileged to know what I do know and for what I can relate. This is my inspiration. I hope to learn still more with new leads now on hand, and if I persist with patience in this endeavour.

This, the *second major Status Report* by Mr. Stringfield, will be completed in the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*. However, as soon as circumstances permit, we shall continue this series by reprinting the whole of Mr. Stringfield's *third Status Report*, **UFO CRASH/RETRIEVALS: AMASSING THE EVIDENCE**, which was published by him in June 1982.

U.S.A. TO STEP UP THE SEARCH FOR ALIEN LIFE IN SPACE

According to various reports in the British press at the end of 1982, NASA have secured an unexpected blessing from the U.S. Congress. This means far more funds, and it is reported that they are now to forge ahead with a radio search programme for alien civilisations in Space which will be "*millions of times more extensive than any such programme previously undertaken.*"

With a new annual budget of the equivalent of a thousand-million pounds sterling, the astronomers hope in the next few years to scan eight million radio frequencies in search of signals likely to be of artificial origin.

The search will be concentrated upon some 773 stars which lie within 80 light-years of Earth and whose age and stability would appear to be such that there might be inhabited planets in existence around them.

Giant telescopes, controlled by NASA and located in the USA (California), Australia, and Spain will also

assist in the programme and be linked up to a special computer.

The radio-frequencies that have been selected for scrutiny lie in or near the "water-hole", where there is the least loss in signal-strength as it traverses the vast tracts of interstellar Space. It includes the frequencies of hydrogen and hydroxyl, which combine to form water.

The Congress decision to agree to an expansion of NASA's Space Search effort resulted from a discussion between Professor Carl Sagan and Senator William Proxmire. The latter had previously always been one of the principal opponents of the idea of spending more cash on the search for alien life, saying that it was nothing but a stupendous waste, but apparently Sagan was able to convince him, not only that it would be cheap at the price, but also that it might be highly dangerous for mankind to remain ignorant of what there was in the Space around us.

UFOs OVER THE ANDES: OFFICIAL ARGENTINE GENDARMERÍA REPORTS REVEALED

Oscar Adolfo Uriondo (Buenos Aires)

South American Representative of STENDEK-CEI of Barcelona

(Translation from Spanish)

I AM in a position to furnish some important information deriving from the *Gendarmería* of Argentina, who are a military body charged with the duty of surveillance of the nation's frontiers. These reports came to me via the lawyer Antonio N. Baragiola, who, in turn, had got them directly from an officer of the *Gendarmería*. As many years (14) have elapsed since the events described herein, I am now venturing to make the reports public. The manner in which they are presented has been modified somewhat, but all the facts have been strictly respected.

I have already had the Spanish version of this article published in the journal STENDEK (No. 42, December 1980) under the title: *Misteriosos Fenómenos Luminosos en Neuquén (Argentina)*, and now forward it to you for publication in FSR.

* * * * *

During the year 1968 Argentina had one of the most important UFO waves ever experienced in the Southern Hemisphere. It reached its peak in the winter months (July-August). This exceptional degree of UFO activity was extremely widely reported in the press, so much so that at first it might well have been suspected that the unusual increase in the volume of reports was of purely sociological origin — that is to say, triggered off and then kept going by the media, and actually devoid of any factual reality. However, at that date it was still quite unknown to the public that, several months previously, right at the beginning of 1968, there had, in fact, been a veritable "minor wave" that was quite unknown to anybody outside certain small circles of the Military. The eyewitnesses who had observed this substantial series of sightings — none of which was ever made public — were all members of the Argentinian *Gendarmería Nacional*, and their reports, all official, and all directed to their own

service superiors, today constitute a highly valuable documentary source. The incidents covered in these reports all relate to the extreme far north-western districts of the Province of Neuquén, in a mountainous, Andean region, where the terrain is precipitous and in some parts totally inaccessible.

A Type — 1 Sighting at Pichi Neuquén

At 8.00 p.m. on December 28, 1967, something carrying a powerful white light flew over the Pichi Neuquén Gendarmería Section Headquarters and then landed on the central part of the mountain range at a spot some three or four kilometres distant, towards the south-west. Those present in the Gendarmería Headquarters at the time were Sub-Ensign Carlos Rodolfo Michaux, Sergeant-Adjutant Manuel José Ramos, Sergeant Oscar M. Aguilera, First Corporal Gualberto Ginez, Corporals Angel Gutiérrez and Antonio Lorenzatto, and Gendarme Gregorio Riquelme.

Throughout the next few days a similar luminous phenomenon occurred in the same area, its time of appearance varying between 10.00 p.m. and 10.55 p.m. On these occasions there were colour changes in the phenomenon, passing from a vivid red all the way to white.

Almost a month later, on January 23, 1968, at 10.30 p.m., the personnel of the same unit of the Gendarmería Nacional were once more witnesses of a phenomenon presenting very strange features. This time the eyewitnesses included Major Juan B. Farías, First Corporal Carlos B. Leguiza, and Gendarme Ramón N. Penros.

There is a fundamental agreement in the descriptions given: namely a light of unknown nature, described as a powerful glow, of great size and changing hues, stationary at the foot of the peak known as El Funicular, distant some 3,000 or 4,000 metres from the Gendarmería Section Barracks at Pichi Neuquén. When shots were fired into the air to see whether there would be any reaction from the phenomenon, the white light vanished, and in its place a reddish light appeared for a very brief time.

One of the eyewitnesses, Deputy-Sergeant Ramos, reported that on the following night there was a repetition of the phenomenon. He also stated that prior to that date, on some 15 to 20 occasions starting from December 1967, he had already seen bright glows above the same mountain peak and over several other peaks in the region.

On one particular night he saw an "incandescent red ball" flying low and very fast over the Gendarmería Barracks, blinding witnesses with its glare, and leaving a fiery trail behind it, after which it flew off and seemed to settle on the flank of the El Funicular Peak.

At the same time, namely at 00.45 a.m. on the same

day, January 23, 1968, at Las Termas de Copahue, a place some 140km further to the south from Pichi Neuquén, an unidentified luminous object was sighted by a group of witnesses who included a number of members of the Argentine Army.

The object settled on a peak near Las Termas de Copahue, and remained there for three hours, finally departing silently and at high speed. When, some time later, the landing site was inspected, it was found that bushes over an area of some 180 metres in diameter were burnt. A report of the matter was published in various Argentine newspapers, including *La Voz del Interior* (published in Córdoba), and *La Razón* of Buenos Aires.

These phenomena have occurred almost always at night. However, there have been a few that took place in the earliest hours, while it was still daylight. Thus, for example, on January 30, 1968, at 5.00 p.m., Top-Sergeant Juan de la Cruz Gomez, who was at the main entrance of the Pichi Neuquén Gendarmería Barracks, saw a strange circular, luminous, phenomenon of an orange-yellow colour and of an apparent diameter of a metre or so, sitting on the slopes of the Range about 3km distant. *It was brighter than the light of the Sun.* This sighting lasted some 30 seconds. When the phenomenon vanished, it did so instantaneously.

UFOs at Chos Malal

During the following months, glowing objects continued to be seen in other areas of the Province of Neuquén, namely in the vicinity of Chos Malal.

On May 19, Top-Sergeant Félix Alberto Fernández of the Gendarmería Section based on El Cholar, looked out through a window of the Barracks, and saw a powerful light arising on the north-eastern horizon. It was travelling towards the west, and growing larger as it drew nearer to the witness, until its apparent diameter was some 30cm. It was a circular object emitting a vivid blue light, while from its rear part it gave out a glowing trail of the same colour. No sound from it was heard, and it was flying on a fairly regular course westward as indicated, finally vanishing behind the nearby peaks. The thing had happened so quickly that Sergeant Fernández had not the time to call the rest of the Headquarters staff to see the phenomenon.

In the night of July 17/18, 1968, at approximately 15 minutes after midnight, residents of Chos Malal saw three unidentified objects in a totally clear sky, and reported the matter to the Gendarmería authorities — in this case to Major Juan B. Farías.

A banker named Juan José Olivero Jr., his wife, Olga Isabel Schouabs de Olivero, and a businessman named Calisio Brizzi, were travelling by car along National Highway No. 40 from Zapala, and when crossing the bridge over the river Neuquén, at the outskirts of Chos Malal, they saw the three UFOs sta-

tionary towards the south-west, at an angle of 40° or 50° above the horizon. The three UFOs were in line horizontally, and each of them was a luminous disc of an apparent size equal to half that of the Full Moon, reddish in colour, with no variations or peripheral shadings. The eyewitnesses remained there observing it for twenty to thirty minutes, and then drove on, and during that period the three UFOs had not moved.

Then again in August 1968 there was another sighting, reported in detail by a Gendarmería Commission party who were returning at the time from the Las Ovejas Section to Chos Malal in the Gendarmería's jeep, registration number CN 1398. The sighting occurred close to the place known as Chacay Melehue, and the Gendarmería party consisted of Top-Sergeant Luis María Elizaincin, the driver, Corporal-Mechanic Dionisio García, and Gendarme Sixto F. Mendoza.

First to catch sight of the phenomenon was the driver, Corporal García, who pulled up and pointed the UFO out to his companions. The leader of the group, Top—Sergeant Elizaincin, ordered the jeep's lights to be turned off, and the party were accordingly able to see, at a distance of 800 to 1,000 metres or so, on the edge of one of the mountains, and against a clear sky full of stars, a glowing reddish light which was moving regularly from left to right and back again and also up and down, and several times they saw it dip below the rim of the ridge. Finally, it vanished at high speed towards the south-east.

The object in this case was egg-shaped, with a protuberance on the upper part, "like a Derby hat", and of the apparent approximate size of a quarter of the Full Moon. Its light was intensely vivid, of a reddish tinge, and the under-part of it was emitting flashes. The phenomenon was patently quite different from the stars so visible in the sky at that hour — different in respect of size, of colour, of movement, etc. The sighting, timed by watch, lasted from 0807 p.m. until 0815 p.m.

Probable Electromagnetic Effects

Among this series of sightings reported by the Argentine Gendarmería there are two that seem to involve effects of an electromagnetic nature. The first of these two cases was at fifteen minutes past midnight on July 16, 1968, at the place known as Los Menucos, on the Andacollo-Chos Malal section of Provincial Highway No. 101. A Gendarmería group were returning by jeep from Las Ovejas when they observed a luminous object which crossed the road at a distance of some 500 metres in front of them, and at an angular altitude of around 40°-45°. It was travelling extremely slowly, stopping at times, and then finally descending vertically and vanishing behind a feature in the terrain not far from the party of eyewitnesses. The

group consisted of Second Lt. Néstor Arturo Palacios, Sergeant David Acosta, Sergeant Heriberto Segundo Muñoz, First Corporal Ignacio Castillo, and the driver, Corporal-Mechanic Dionisio García.

The UFO was of an elongated shape, wider at the front, about two metres in length, and of a uniform crystalline, light blue shade. It had no halo around it, and left no trail as it passed by. At the moment of its appearance, the engine of the jeep lost power markedly and moved forward with difficulty in first gear up a slope that normally is taken in second gear with ease. The driver and all the rest of the party did not fail to notice this.

It was a period of considerable snow and rain at the time of this sighting. This fact, plus the ruggedness of the terrain around about and the poor visibility made it impossible for them to search for any traces that might very probably have been left there. The sighting lasted for some 20-40 seconds.

The last of these official UFO reports from the Neuquén region of Argentina is dated September 6, 1968. It refers to a sighting that had taken place early on the previous day, and it too contains a reference to electromagnetic effects.

At 0345 in the early hours of September 5, 1968, a gendarme named Jesús P. Videla was on duty at the main gate of the Barracks (No. 30 Squadron, Chos Malal) as commander of the guard, when he caught sight, above the peak of La Virgen, of a light of the apparent size of a star of the first magnitude and of a colour that was changing from red to orange and momentarily to silvery. Gendarme José María Ayola was with him at the time. They estimated the UFO was at a distance of about 5km. They watched it for 2¾ hours, in which period they noted a slight lateral movement from left to right and then back again. When it flashed it seemed to change its shape from round to ovoid. It finally vanished behind the mountain. One strange fact noticed by both these witnesses was that during the sighting the electricity supply in the Barracks showed a change of voltage several times.

I am much indebted to Licentiate-in-Law Antonio Baragiola, one of the most serious and most efficient ufological investigators in Argentina, and author of the first university thesis on UFOs ever presented in our country, who passed this series of reports to me several years ago. In view of the time that has elapsed since the events described, we think there is now no valid reason why these reports should not be published.

NOTE BY EDITOR (FSR)

Owing to lack of space we are unable to quote from the vast quantity of material which we published in 1968 and 1969 about the extraordinary UFO activity in Argentina.

ENTITIES REPORTED INSIDE A SHOP IN ARGENTINA

Jorge Eduardo Catoja

We are indebted to the Editorial Committee of our French companion-journal *Lumières Dans La Nuit*, from No. 198 of which (October 1980) we have translated this curious item. Though many will find the report hard to swallow we think it worth recording, because it seems to smack very strongly — as so many 'UFO stories' do — of the classical *poltergeist* phenomena familiar to us from the annals of psychical research.

It is admittedly difficult to recall any good 'poltergeist cases' in which the witnesses actually claimed to have seen the causative agency. Consequently, most parapsychological investigators nowadays tend to veer away from the idea that any external intelligent factor (i.e. other than the human subject or subjects present in the case) can be involved with poltergeists, and they prefer to seek other and less bizarre explanations. Note, however, that in the present case the two causative entities allegedly vanished temporarily from sight — a feature that sounds extremely 'poltergeistic.'

The author, Argentinian ufologist Jorge Eduardo Catoja, states that he visited the scene of the phenomena and personally interrogated the eyewitnesses. EDITOR

(Translation from French)

AT approximately 4.40 p.m. on Sunday, September 10, 1978, in Las Salinas, a small town near San Miguel de Tucumán in northern Argentina, Miguel Angel Carbajal, aged 18, and his friend Miguel Ledesma, aged 23, were sitting in the home of the first-named, watching television, when the picture on the screen began to shrink, so they switched off the television set.

They then put a record on the record-player and switched on, but found the disc turning very slowly as though at 16 r.p.m. From this they perceived that there was clearly a marked drop in the mains electricity current.¹

Finally, they tried to use a portable transistor radio to listen to a local game of football, but were obliged to abandon this too, owing to interference.

The parents of Miguel Carbajal, absent from the house at the time, having gone to spend the afternoon with relatives in San Miguel de Tucumán, are the owners of a shop, and the shop adjoins the house. Both the young men are employed in the shop. Miguel Carbajal has had three years of primary school education, and one year of secondary. The extent of his daily reading does not go beyond the local newspaper, *La Gaceta*, and he is not a UFO buff or an addict of Science-Fiction. As for his companion, Miguel Ledesma, the latter is quite illiterate. There was nobody else in the house apart from one disabled member of the family.

Just as the two young men were abandoning their attempt to get the portable radio to work, they heard noises coming from the adjoining shop. Thinking that thieves had broken into the premises, the boys first got the disabled relative out of the house, and then they opened the connecting door which led directly

into the shop, where the first things to come to view were a smashed bottle of wine and some broken jars of mayonnaise strewn about on the floor.

Proceeding a little further into the shop, they came upon a pair of scales thrown down onto the floor, with the glass smashed, and they noted that the electronic till had been shifted some distance from its normal position.

Encounter with Entities

At this point they became aware of the presence in the shop, standing at a distance of about six metres from them, of two beings resembling humans in their general appearance.

In the words of Miguel Carbajal, as reproduced in the article published in the Buenos Aires newspaper *La Razón* (Sept. 12, 1978): "I was thoroughly scared... for I suddenly saw them. I was unable to speak... I thought they must be Martians, because I had read in *La Gaceta* that there had been UFO sightings in the district."

The two entities were about one metre in height, and 'dressed in bright blue one-piece suits like frogmen wear'. On their heads they had dark blue helmets. Their faces were brown, and the complexion freckled. The eyes of the entities were straight and level. Their noses, though the two witnesses could not describe these quite precisely, seemed to be 'flattish'. Their hands, arms, and legs all seemed 'normal' by human standards. As regards their sex, the witnesses were unable to judge for sure.

The clothing of the entities (see sketch) was, as already described, a one-piece garment, close-fitting, and a helmet. On their feet they had what seemed to be high-boots, bright blue in colour. On their arms they had shiny black gauntlets up to above the elbow.

One of the entities was holding a weapon of some sort, which he was pointing at them threateningly, and which Carbajal said was like a hair-drier.

Entities Communicate

"Do not shout, or we will take you to the saucer!"

This warning, heard by both the witnesses, seemed to come from the entities, though they saw no movement of the lips of either of the two beings, so that the message was probably given telepathically.

Carbajal's account goes on to say that at this point one of the beings raised a hand and put the index-finger to his nose, whereupon they both promptly vanished from sight. (The outer doors of the shop were locked).

Miguel Carbajal dashed over to the till to get out the keys to the doors of the shop, and as he did so the entities reappeared, in precisely the same position as before. Ledesma grabbed a knife and an iron bar and he and Carbajal, the latter with the store keys in his hand, made for the door.

Violent Contact

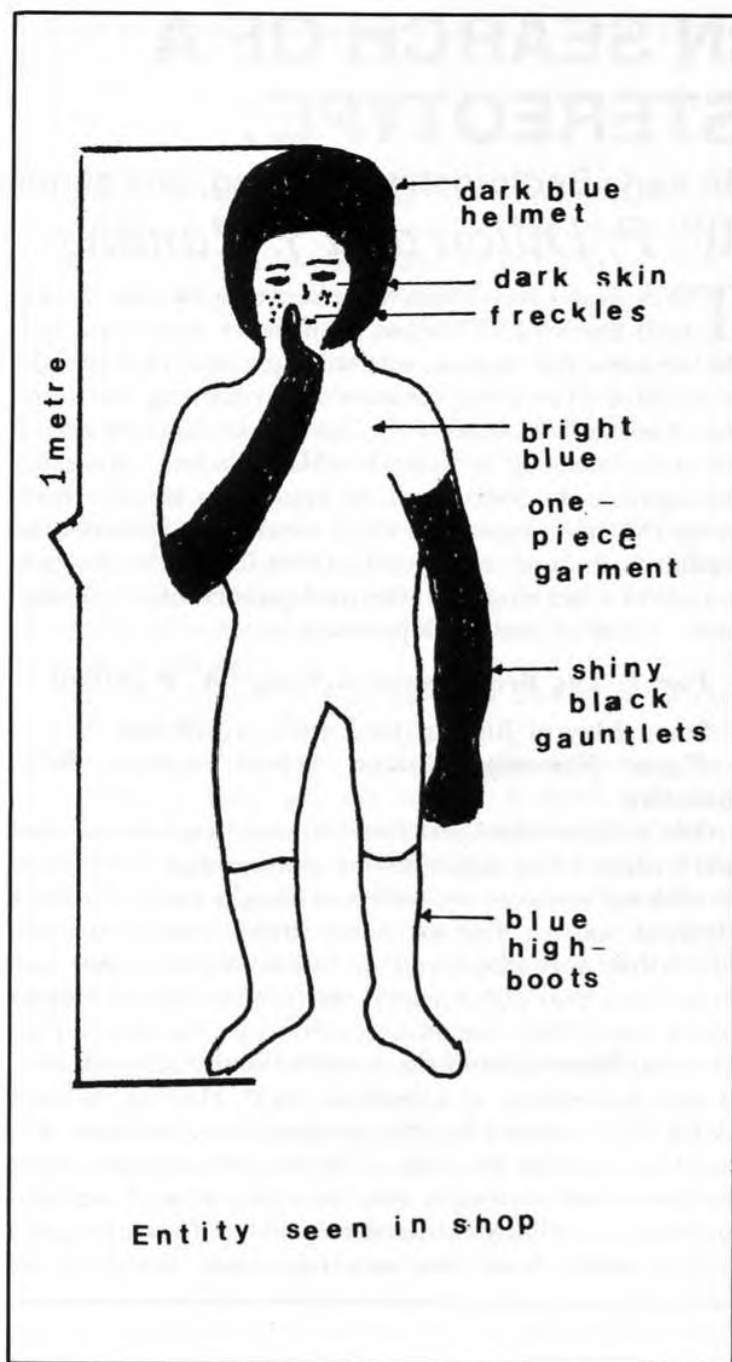
Again the entities vanished, Ledesma told the reporters: "I stepped over lightly to the store-room and there they were again, in there. And they threw a crate of cigarettes at me. It missed, passing in front of me. At once I made a dash for the exit, which Carbajal in the meantime had managed to open."

The two men were asked by reporters whether they had heard any sort of sound when the entities were materializing and dematerializing. "Yes", said Carbajal. "There was a sort of sound like TIN ... TIN ... TIN ..., but only when they were vanishing."

Once out of the shop, they secured the door with padlock and chain and dashed off into Tucumán in the firm's van to find Manuel Carbajal Senior and tell him that thieves had broken into the shop. Then all three returned to the shop and reported the affair to the local police station, at El Timbó. Police Commissioner Miranda at once proceeded with them to the shop, but when they got there, the entities were not to be seen. They checked the contents of the till, and found that no money seemed to be missing. The witnesses estimated that the episode had lasted about 5-10 minutes.

UFO Investigator's Visit

Argentine investigator Jorge Eduardo Catoja, who prepared this report after making a personal inspection of the scene and after interviewing the two witnesses, made a number of interesting discoveries when questioning people living in the neighbourhood.



For example, he found that, two weeks previously, two strange lights had been seen over a near-by salt mine (the only local industry.) And the occupants of a house near there told him that they had recently been the victims of a mysterious plague of stone-throwing.² Other people whom the investigator questioned recalled that three years ago there had been UFO landings at a place known as Ramadeda de Abajo, lying to the east of Las Salinas.

Notes

1. The 'shrinkage' of the TV picture would also have been a typical result of such a drop in the current. — G.C.
2. And here we have the most characteristic and typical of all the features found in cases of poltergeistic infestations — namely *stone-throwing!* — G.C.

IN SEARCH OF A STEREOTYPE:

An early Bedfordshire sighting, and some comparisons

W. P. Dillon and J. Randles

THIS first case relates to a sighting of one of the well-known UFO types, seen many years ago, but the witness, Bill Dillon, was so impressed that he has retained a very clear memory of it. During the time that has elapsed, since 1957, he has become aware of the existence of a considerable number of cases, throughout the world, which appear to involve precisely the same type of craft or something remarkably similar to it, and in selecting them for study now we may find emerging the identikit-picture of — at any rate — one of the UFO prototypes.

Part I: The Bedfordshire sighting (W. P. Dillon)

Date: May or June or July, 1957. 13.20 hrs. EST.

Place: Ramridge Junior School, Luton, Bedfordshire.

We children had just finished our lunch-break and were assembling again in the playground. I chanced to look up towards the west and caught sight of what I thought was an aircraft. (I was interested in aircraft, my father was employed at Luton Airport, and our home was near the Airport). At first the object looked like a small dark line and seemed to be too slow for an aircraft. Moving from the area of Point A (see sketch), it was descending at a shallow angle. Having reached Point B, it seemed to change direction and now was heading straight towards us. By this stage many other children had noticed it too, and I felt that I was observing something extraordinary — a "flying saucer".

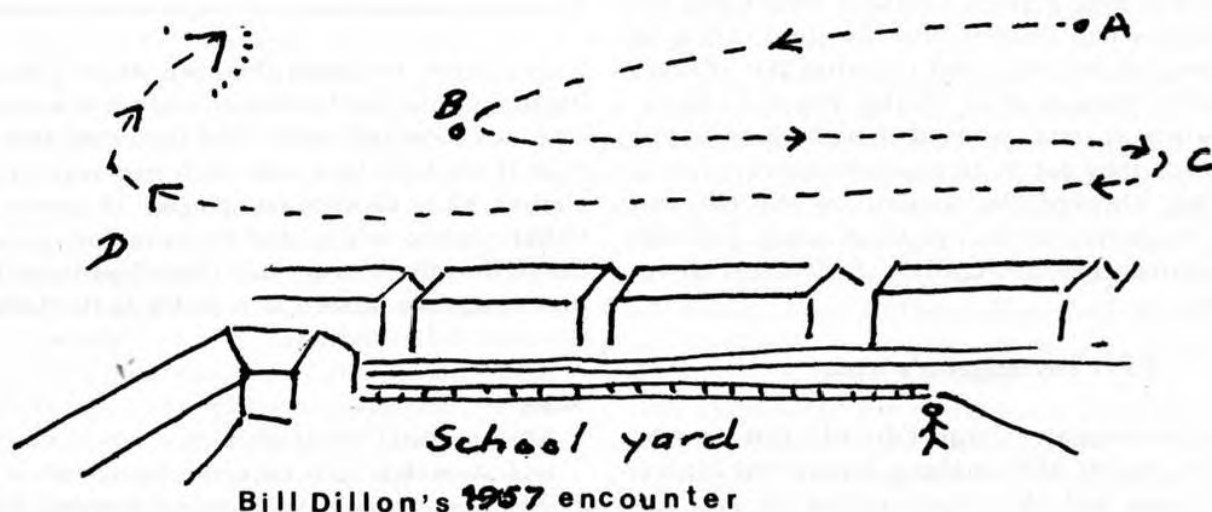
The object was now moving across our field of

vision from left to right, on a trajectory that would have soon taken it out of view. But at Point C it performed a manoeuvre akin to a very tight arc, possibly without banking, and began to move back from right to left. This brought it to its point of closest approach, and the excitement in the playground was intense.

Travelling at a speed which in retrospect I think may have been 50 m.p.h. or so, the UFO vanished from view behind the main school building. Then suddenly, at Point D, it began turning to our right again and, gaining altitude, presented us with a fine view of its topside. Some light cloud cover lay in the object's path, and I think a slight reddish tinge was seen at this stage as the object passed through it. Now high in the sky away to the south-east of us, the object took up a stationary position, standing on its edge and appearing a 'bright white' (reflecting sunlight? J.R.).

I looked around quickly at the scene in the playground, and noticed that the most visible effect was being registered on the face of the single teacher who had been on duty there. Clearly shaken, and still glancing up at the stationary object, he brushed his way past several of the children and went into the school buildings. Looking upwards again to relocate the object, I found it had vanished. I asked a boy in front of me where it had gone, and he simply replied: "I don't know. It just disappeared."

I did not know it at the time of course, but I had just observed evidence of an important UFO characteristic — the incredible ability to 'vanish on the spot'.



The Shape of the Object

My sketch, drawn from memory, is my attempt to recapture the shape and appearance, and I consider it the most accurate of the numerous attempts that I have made to reproduce it.

Essentially, there was an upper hull (2) of a silvery or light-grey colour, and covered by areas of slightly darker coloration (visible as the UFO climbed). On the left of the top, as I viewed it when it was travelling from our right to our left across our field of vision, there was a very low cupola or dome (1), which was wedge-shaped and ended about 'midships' on the top of the craft. This low cupola tapered and was lighter in colouring than the rest of the object, except for a small sphere or 'button' (13) attached to the lower part of the upper hull, towards the front, which was of the same lighter colour. The top of the 'tail' of the craft was cut off squarely (3). This 'tail' had what looked like wrinkles or vents around its middle portion (4), and close by to them there was a dark patch (5). (N.B. Items 4, 5, and 7 were seen to be present *on both sides* of the UFO.)

Next to the patch referred to there was a small antenna or aerial, arising from the tail or fin and having a small ball at its top (6).

The points marked (7) and (8) refer to apparent wrinkles or changes in the texture of the surface that put one rather in mind of the 'wrinkled' effect produced by setting down a hot surface on to a plastic tablecloth. What seemed to be an exhaust-vent is shown at (9). There were two associated flanges, the smaller one being on top, and the area inside here was darkened, suggesting that this was inset from the main hull of the craft. (10) represents a dark line stretching across the hull at this point. Separating this complex upper hull from the lower, leaden-grey coloured hull (12), there was a distinct line of what one might term equatorial struts (11). These were rectangular and slightly convex, bulging out towards the observer. The spaces between these struts presented a blurring effect to the eye and were accordingly impenetrable to our view.

Such an astonishing wealth of detail as I have given here was possible only because the UFO passed so close and was travelling slowly enough for everything to be taken in. I would estimate that at its closest approach it came to within 450 ft. of us, and that the total duration of the sighting was between two and three minutes. I recall that one boy remarked that it "looked as though it was made of millions of dots". (There is a definite similarity here with the recent encounter case at Livingston in Scotland, where the witness, Bob Taylor, said that the outer appearance of the landed object seen by him was "like sandpaper".)

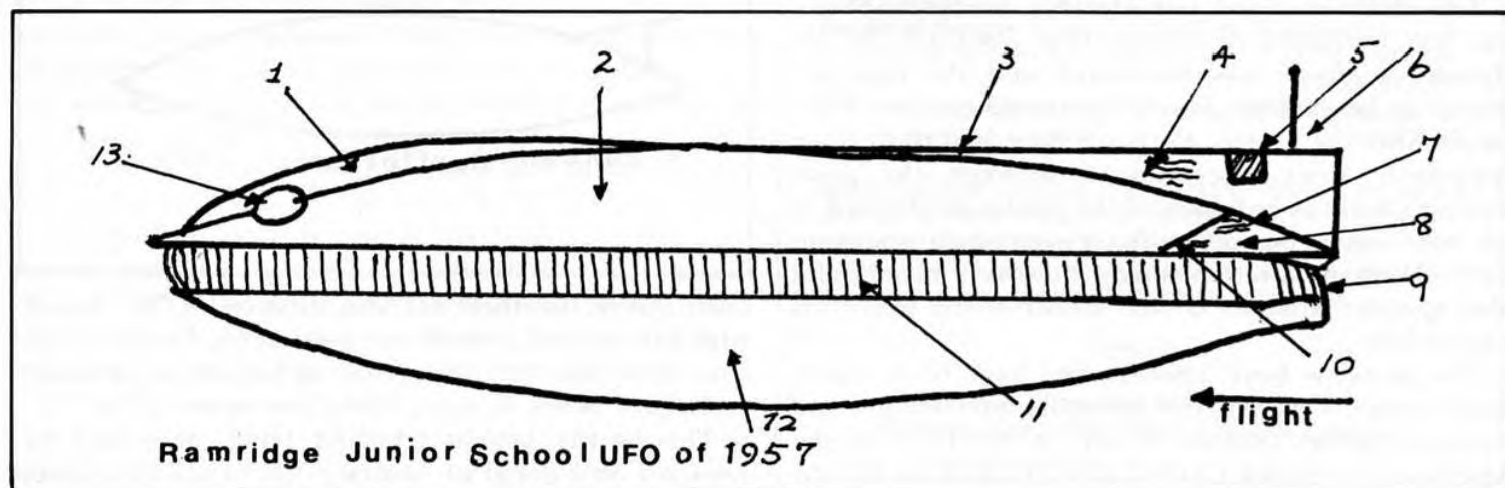
The wind on the day in question was blowing from the north, and the UFO seemed to be quite uninfluenced by that, as might be conjectured from its numerous changes of flight direction. There was a slight heat-haze, but visibility was good. A weather front moved in from the north and it began to rain later in the afternoon, poor weather being firmly established by the evening.

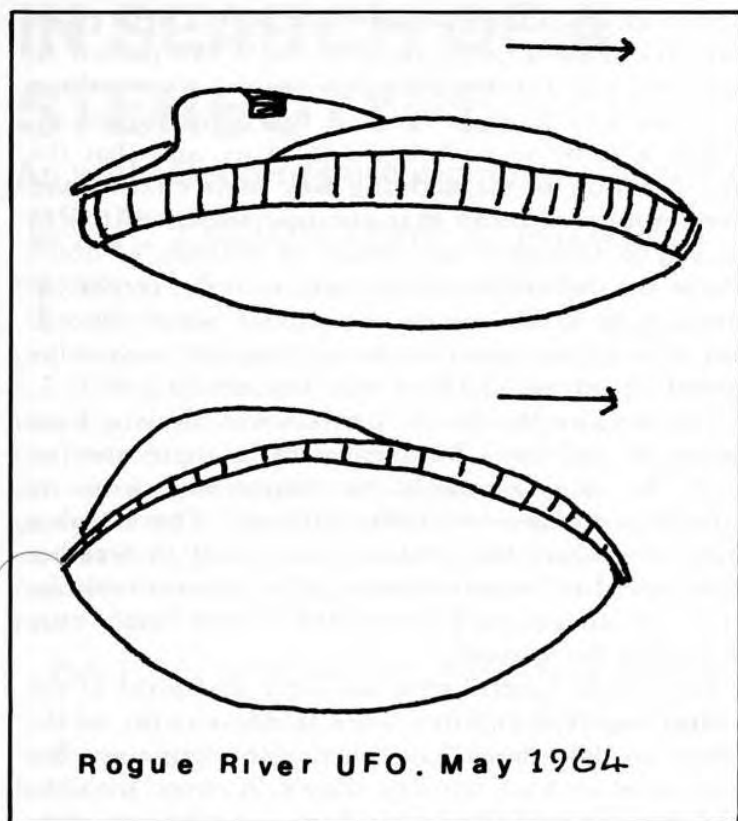
The school lunch-break was over and most of the several hundred children were in the vicinity of the school, so there must have been many witnesses, but none seem to have left any record. A check with the local newspaper (*The Luton News*) revealed no mention of the sighting there. What about the rest of the large population of Luton? (Once again we see here this very well attested 'isolation factor', and the 'limited sphere of influence' within which so many UFO encounters appear to take place. J.R.)

Part II. Some other cases (Jenny Randles)

1. Rogue River, Oregon, USA. May 24, 1949. 1700 hrs., local time (42°, 25 N., 124°, 24 W.)

This object was seen by five witnesses who were out in a boat fishing. The similarity indicated by the illustration is obvious, and some of the features of the craft's described behaviour closely resemble the account given by Mr. Dillon. The witnesses described an upper and a lower hull separated by a row of convex apertures, as well as a tapering tail on the rear of the upper surface. Even a 'patch' was shown on the





sketch in the same place as on the Dillon sketch, and the witnesses referred to the dirty and spotty nature of the surface of the UFO.

One remarkable feature emphasised by Mr. Dillon is that, when first sighted, the UFO at Rogue River was described as "standing on end and discharging much light" — which is remarkably like the description of Dillon's own Ramridge School UFO just before it vanished from sight.

2. Mount Clemens, Michigan, USA. January 9, 1967, 1430 hrs. local time.

This case relates to the UFO allegedly seen by two teenagers, Grant and Dan Jaroslaw, who claimed that they had observed a craft for the space of about ten minutes and taken four photographs of it with their Polaroid camera. The object left by moving away to the south-east (as did *both* the Rogue River and Ramridge objects — for whatever this fact may be worth).

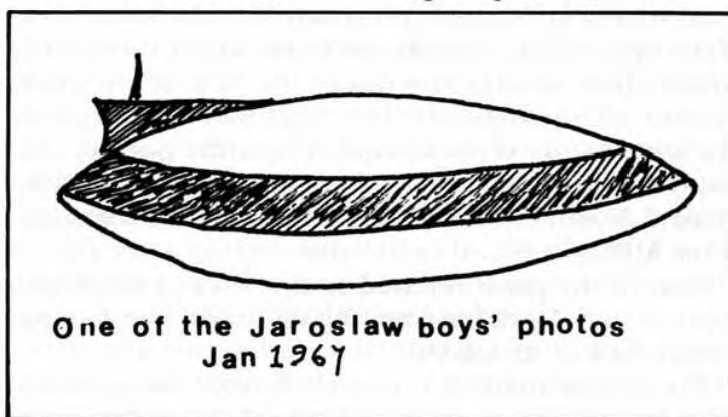
The story received considerable media publicity and was evaluated by *Project Blue Book* and by Dr Hynek. No hoax was uncovered and the case appeared to be genuine. No radar correlations were obtained from the nearby Air Force Base, and there were apparently some discrepancies between the print numbers and the sequence of the photos as claimed in the boys' story, but otherwise it seemed to 'stand up well'. (With polaroid pictures, however, meaningful photographic analysis is well known to be well-nigh impossible).

The Jaroslaw boys' photographs have been reproduced many times in the literature of Ufology, and perhaps the two pictures shown on the cover of the American paperback *CLOSE ENCOUNTERS FROM*

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (New American library, 1977) are clearer than most.

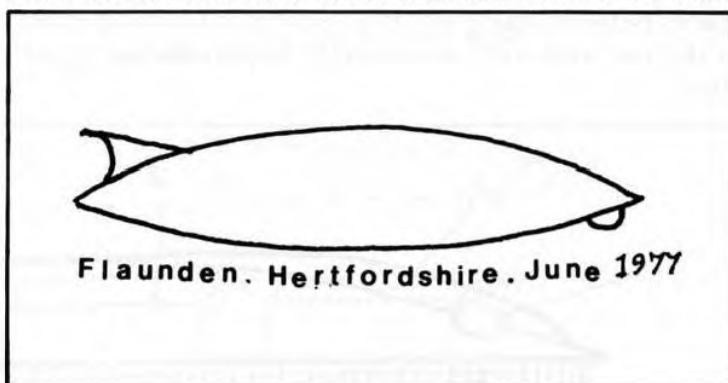
The curious little twist to all this is that, as we learn from Alan Hendry's *UFO HANDBOOK*, *The Jaroslaw brothers — now adults — wrote to Dr. Hynek in 1976 and described how they had faked their pictures!*

However, the obvious questions remain. *Are the Jaroslaws telling the truth?* Since there appears to be no possibility that they could have known in 1967 about either the Rogue River or the Ramridge cases (neither being publicly available at that time) how did it come about that the boys decided upon this extremely unconventional shape for their fake? This is a question that still calls for an answer. Perhaps American readers can throw more light upon it for us.



3. Flaunden, Hertfordshire, England. June 8, 1977, 1830 hrs. BST.

According to the report (BUFORA files), Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd were sitting in their car in this village when they saw a strange object moving very slowly above them, and then coming to a halt overhead and providing them with an excellent view for ten minutes. Mr. Lloyd observed it through a telescopic gunsight, so that the details as recorded by him may be expected to be reasonably correct. In colour it was a 'greyish-pewter'. As can be seen, the craft presents some similarities with the others with which we have

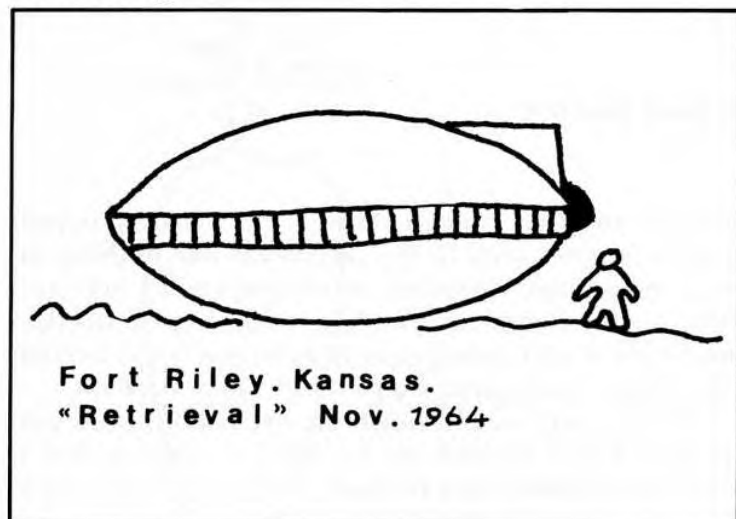


dealt above, but there are also differences. Mr. Lloyd, who had studied aircraft recognition for 15 years, was convinced that this object was no known aerial craft.

4. Ford Riley, Kansas, USA. November 1964.

This is the famous 'crashed UFO' described by Leonard Stringfield in Abstract XX of his first series

in FSR on *Retrievals*, and portrayed on page 10 of FSR Vol. 25, No. 6. And it made a profound impression on Mr. Bob Dillon when he first clapped eyes on the drawing.



The object allegedly seen, intact and upon the ground, in this case at Fort Riley, is remarkably like the UFO prototype which we are attempting to track. It will be recalled that it was "approximately 35 to 48 feet in diameter and 12 to 18 ft. in height. It was perfectly round, shaped like a hamburger bun. In the middle, or at the equator of its smooth aluminium-like surface, was a black band made up of squares, each jutting out about 10 inches. A.K. (the witness) could not determine if the squares were windows, or what purpose they served. The only protruding part of the UFO, said A.K., was a fin-like device, and beneath it an aperture which may have been an exhaust unit."

It will easily be agreed, I am sure, that of all the cases related by Stringfield, this seems to be the one that comes closest to the particular prototype which we are seeking.

But it is here that a very interesting and very crucial point is raised. Stringfield's Abstract XX describes an object seen on the ground at an American military base, and with no related occupants in evidence. There is nothing in A.K.'s report to Stringfield which proves conclusively that the object seen was not a secret experimental device of the U.S. Government itself. Which, in turn, raises the obvious question: is that what was involved in all the other cases dealt with in the present article?

It would be helpful if someone could now come forward and produce concrete evidence that the USA and/or Britain were testing a secret craft of this shape and appearance during the years from 1947 to 1964 — or later — and, if this is the solution, then we should also like to know were there any records of this, and why the programme was abandoned (if indeed it was?) given the apparently very successful, fast, and manoeuvrable qualities of the machine?

Should someone be successful in demonstrating the existence of such a craft, we shall at least have disposed of one of the apparent categories of the so-

called "UFOs", and we shall be in a position to understand what it was that the Jaroslaw brothers were able to photograph in 1967.

COMMENT

This discussion reminds me that, some years ago, I discovered an apparently unknown Law, which I have called *Creighton's Nineteenth Law*. To be succinct, this Law states that, *given enough time, all UFO reports and all UFO photographs will be proved to be fakes*. I have watched with great interest the exemplification of this law in a number of notable cases.

With regard to the vitally important matter of *secret prototypes* — of which there must be a great many around nowadays in the skies of our planet — I recall that this is what they assured us the disc-shaped UFOs were when Kenneth Arnold had his famous sighting of them away back there in 1947. Their performance, as reported by Arnold, was nothing short of amazing. I have never ceased to be astonished when I see that in 1983 we still persist in building lumbering, antiquated aeroplanes in such large numbers.

But now take a look at the article which follows.
G.C.

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THE AIRSHIP OVER THE STRAWBERRY FIELDS

Margaret Fry

Mrs Fry, who lives at Bexleyheath, in Kent, is the North Kent and S.E. London Area Investigator for CONTACT (UK).

THIS report concerns an experience which my husband Ron and I had in the summer of 1978, when we spent the day strawberry-picking on a farm in Kent.

The date was August 13, 1978, and it was in the morning. The day was bright, sunny, and windless. And we were travelling by car, bound for Beesfield Farm, near Swanley. Our route lay through Sutton-at-Hone, on the A225 road.

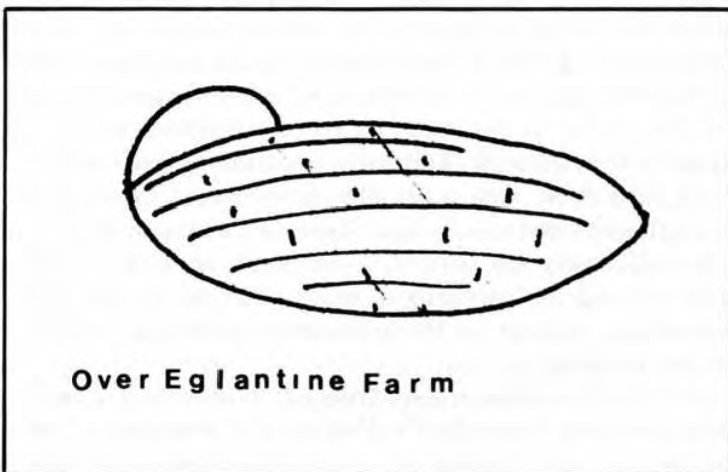
As we came to a cross-road point in the open country, near Eglantine Farm, a huge dull light-grey dirigible passed over the road in front of the car. My husband was the first to see it. Although he was driving and consequently had his eyes strictly on the road, the sheer size of this thing distracted his attention.

I have been investigating UFO reports for a number of years and I think I have learnt to judge pretty accurately the size of more close objects in the sky. This craft which we now saw seemed to be at least 300-400 feet long and about 40 ft. wide at its widest part in the centre. I judged its height to be about 700-800 ft. Ron shouted "What the heck is that!" Then I looked up, by which time the thing was over the area to the side of the road leading from Horton Kirby. It was thus virtually alongside of us, on our left, sailing serenely and majestically on an even course, very slowly and absolutely silently. I shouted: "Why, it's an *airship* — how exciting!" and my husband slowed down to about the same speed as the craft, about 10 m.p.h. Then we came to some hillocks by the road and lost sight of it behind them, so it was pretty low.

After that the landscape fell away to open ground and a wide valley, with hilly country in the near background to one side, a wide sweep of fields and low land with dense trees a few miles further on to the right. The dirigible was now slightly ahead, but still to the side of our route. I noticed several hundreds of people gazing up at the craft from the fields below, and there were again large numbers watching on the hilly slopes to our left, standing by their cars in the car-park on a hill slope in the near distance at Eglantine Farm. All these people (fruit-pickers) were looking up at the dirigible, which by now was slowly manoeuvring around over the open fields, its nose sharply tilting up. It then stationed itself to the right of, and slightly above, something else which I now no-

ticed for the first time. This was the weirdest object that I have ever seen in the sky. It was like nothing so much as a huge television aerial suspended bolt-upright in the cloudless, windless, clear light-blue sky, and below it and attached to it there was what looked like a huge, limp, pear-shaped, light-grey balloon.

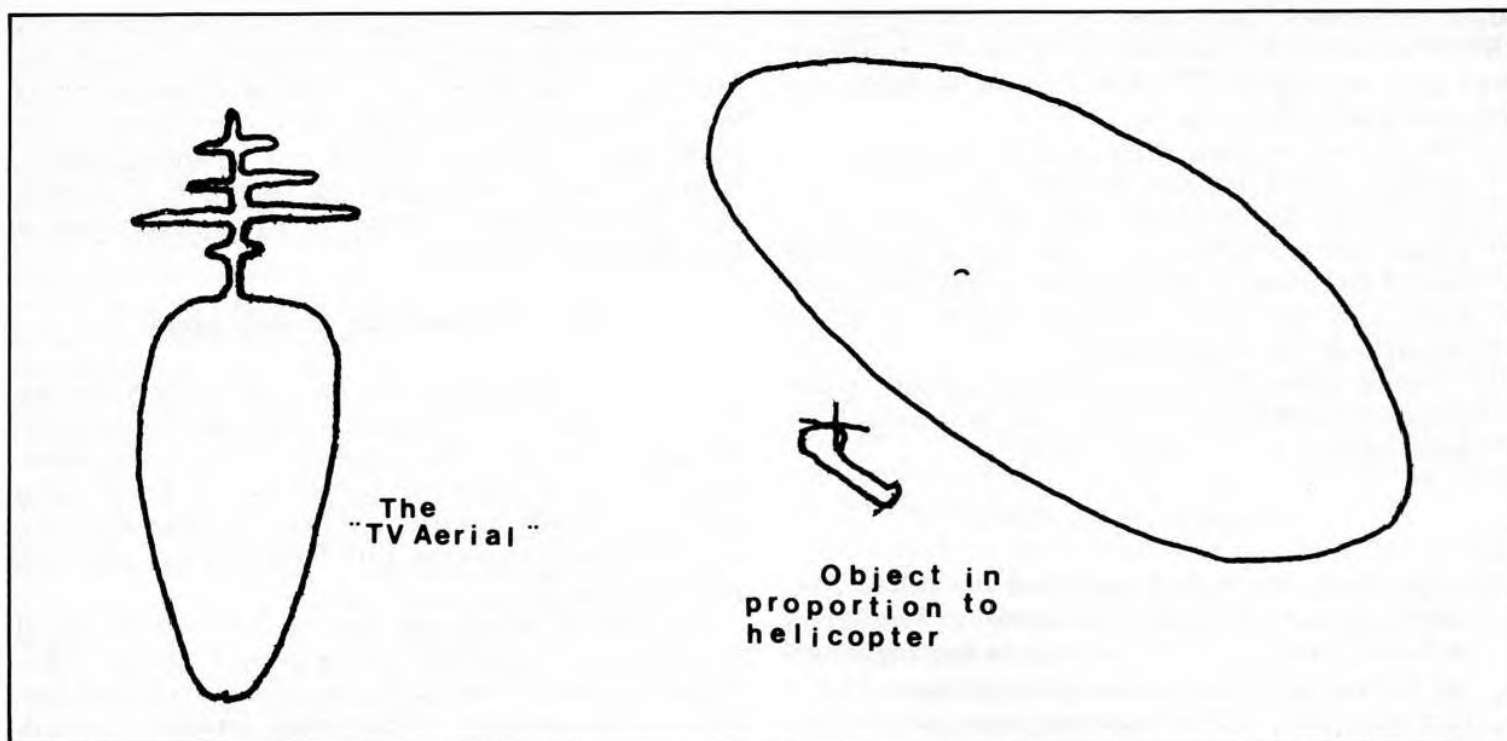
I had already wound down the car window and put my head out. I wanted my husband to stop so that I could take a photo, but he said: "Impossible. Not on a dual carriageway!" But he was going as slowly as he dared, and glancing now and then at the dirigible himself. At this point the road was on high ground, with the fields below perhaps about 200 ft. down from the level of our car, so that in fact the objects were now only a few hundreds of feet above us.



The Helicopters and Whole Fleet of "Dirigibles"

Helicopters were busily passing to and fro beneath the two objects (they would presumably be on the normal helicopter route between Gatwick and Heathrow Airports?). I wondered if the helicopter pilots were aware of the two objects, which were now both absolutely stationary.

Then, as I directed my gaze higher into the sky, I was startled to see that there was a whole fleet of dirigibles up there, in some sort of formation, stretched out over the distant wooded area right to the horizon, as far as the eye could see. And all were stationary. I was excited, thinking this must be some sort of Air Display, for we were not far from the Brands Hatch Circuit.



I had not seen an airship since before the outbreak of World War II, when I was a child, and I concluded that all this that we were now seeing must be something to do with the Goodyear Company.

We then turned off the main road, on to a subsidiary road, where we were still able to observe the objects for a while, until we turned again to enter Beesfield Farm.

At Beesfield Farm, where we proceeded to pick strawberries, we watched helicopters all the afternoon passing fairly low over the strawberry fields. They were like midges compared with the size of the huge craft we had seen. We left Beesfield Farm early, hoping to see the airships again, but nothing was in sight.

As soon as I got home to Bexleyheath, I sat down and made sketches of what we had seen. Then I telephoned my son and told him about it. He reminded me that the Brands Hatch Circuit is not far from Charlton Farm, where we had last caught sight of the objects, and he said that the BBC do have aerial platforms from which they photograph races etc. at Brands Hatch. So I just accepted his explanations, namely that the first object we had seen was the Goodyear Airship (along with a fleet of other airships no doubt built by Goodyear), and that the second object seen by us was a BBC air platform.

A TV programme on airships

One evening in February 1979, however, I came home and switched on the Television to the TONIGHT programme, in which Frank Bough was interviewing a Mr Anthony Smith about airships and balloons. I was amazed when Mr Smith said that he was hoping to build the largest airship in the U.K. He

said that at present the Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Company had the largest (120 ft. long).

As soon as my husband came home from work, I asked him to confirm that he thought the airship or dirigible which we had seen on August 13 of the year before had been at least 300-400 ft. long. He agreed.

Our Enquiries about the Goodyear Airship

On February 26, 1979, I telephoned to the Brands Hatch Circuit. A very helpful lady named Mrs Webb answered me. She replied that she was quite certain that the Goodyear Company's airship had not been over Kent on August 13, 1978, and she said that the BBC had also not been televising any show from an air platform over Brands Hatch on that day. She went on: "In fact, I know that the Goodyear airship only came from Rome once last year, and I saw it on July 16." "Oh yes," I exclaimed, "I saw it too!", and I recalled that it had been a very misty evening, and that my husband went off to night-work at 5.45 p.m., and that I had been standing in the front garden waving to him when I caught a glimpse of the Goodyear airship over The Broadway area. Mrs Webb agreed that this was probably so, and suggested that in any case I should telephone to the Goodyear Company and to the BBC about what we had seen.

I telephoned accordingly to the Goodyear Company, and they asked me to send in a letter to Mr. M. J. Whitehouse, their Public Relations Division Manager, giving all details of what we had seen. I wrote to him accordingly on February 27, 1979, and on March 27, 1979 (a copy of this letter is on file with FSR) Mr Whitehouse replied to me, enclosing photographs of the Goodyear airship and other material

about itineraries, flight dates, etc., but stating that it definitely could not have been their airship which we had seen on August 13, 1978. I quote verbatim the relevant part of his letter:—

“Whilst our company itself does, in fact, operate an airship around Europe, we only have it in this country for approximately one month each year — usually the period mid-June to mid-July. For the rest of the summer she tours the rest of the Continent, and she is permanently based in Rome throughout the winter months.

“With reference to your first paragraph, it was certainly, therefore, not our airship that could have been sighted . . . in August 1978.”

Enquiries of the B.B.C.

On April 10, 1979, I contacted the BBC's Outside Organizer, Mr David Kenning, as Mrs Webb at Brands Hatch had told me that he had organized the televising of the Grand Prix at Brands Hatch Circuit in July, 1978. A secretary answered me, but she said Mr Kenning was out, so would I telephone again later. I did so in due course. The secretary had asked me a lot of questions, and said she found it all very interesting, and no doubt she had told Mr Kenning all this, because when I spoke to him I found him uncooperative — indeed, I thought, evasive. There was also definitely a tape-recorder on, or some such thing, as it was clicking on and off, and there were other “off-putting” background noises. In answer to my query as to whether the BBC possessed an enormous television aerial that was capable of standing stationary in the air at a height of 700-800 ft, attached to nothing but a limp looking and deflated pear-shaped balloon below it, his reply was “We do have air platforms” . . . and then a hurried confused “. . . some such thing” and a slam-down of the 'phone. This left me perplexed, and set me wondering . . . about the BBC, and whether they and the Ministry of Defence are engaged in a cover-up . . .

And I continue to ask myself this very simple question, which, to this day, not a soul has been prepared to answer for me:—

“Why and how is it that hundreds of people can watch a whole fleet of UFOs over our British Isles, and nobody or authority, official or otherwise, will say or do anything about it?”

Search for other witnesses

In March 1979, I asked our local newspaper, the *Kentish Times* (published in Swanley), to write something about our sighting, which they did, and to ask other people who had seen the same things on August 13, 1978, to get in touch with me. Nobody did so, and, thinking about this, I realized of course that the great majority of all those hundreds of people who were out

there in the fields that day, picking fresh strawberries and other fruit, were Londoners out for a day in the country — and indeed quite a lot of them foreigners too — Italians, Greeks, and others, and some of the people there had been French and Japanese tourists. It might not be too surprising, therefore, if nobody had come forward in response to my appeal through a local Kentish newspaper.

I see the Goodyear Airship again

In May 1981 I spent a few days in Norwich, staying with my cousin, who lives in a high-rise council flat. We were able to see the Goodyear airship at its mooring-mast on the Norwich Airfield, and to see it rising and flying slowly towards and over the flats where we were. We went up to the 14th floor roof-top and took photographs of it.

The airship, which was visiting Norwich on one of its publicity tours, and taking people up for rides, dipped up and down in the air, and it had loud motors and a distinctly visible cabin attached beneath the balloon, in which of course the engines are housed and the people sit, all of which we could plainly see. I judged it to be flying at a height of about 1,000 ft., and subsequently got confirmation of this from the Norwich Airport. It had the name GOODYEAR written in huge black letters along its sides.

A couple of weeks later, I telephoned to the Planning Department of Norwich Town Council and asked them how tall the block of flats was on which I had stood. I explained that I wanted to know this because I was a UFO investigator. They were quite amused, but helpful, and said that the flats were a standard height of 130 ft. This meant that the airship had passed above us at a height of about 870 feet.

Conclusions

I then knew definitely that I had *not* seen any man-made airship on August 13, 1978, and that my original estimate of the length of the airship/dirigible seen by us over the Eglantine and Charlton Farms (300-400 ft. I had thought at the time) must have been too little by at least 100-130 ft. It had in fact been lower than the Goodyear airship was over Norwich, and I would now judge that it must have been *at least four times* as long as the Goodyear airship. Otherwise the object seen by us on August 13, 1978, had seemed to be much the same as, say, the R101 and other craft which we saw before the War, seemingly of the same type of material, and *ribbed* — only it was much wider.

The opinion of Mr Anthony Smith

Another person to whom I wrote in the course of my enquiries was Mr Anthony Smith, who, as will be

recalled, had been interviewed in a BBC television programme on airships. He said that what I had seen must have been the Goodyear airship because it did come to Britain for about two weeks every year and was sometimes used as a flying platform for television cameras over Brands Hatch. He also told me that the firm of Aerospace Industries had recently built another airship something like the Goodyear one. He said that it was undergoing tests at Cardington, Bedfordshire, where it had been built (as, incidentally was the Goodyear craft also). He added that neither the Goodyear airship nor the new one built by Aerospace Industries was more than 200 ft. long.

As we see from Goodyear's letter to me, dated March 27, 1979, Mr Anthony Smith cannot possibly have been right in saying that what we had seen *must* have been the Goodyear craft, *because the Goodyear letter makes it quite clear that their machine was not in Britain on that date, namely August 13, 1978.*

Nor can it have been the new Aerospace Developments' airship that we saw, and for a very simple reason. The date of our sighting was August 13, 1978. The Goodyear letter states that these were the only two airships in Britain, and that the one built by Aerospace Developments Ltd., had only just been "produced a few weeks ago". It had therefore been completed and launched after our sighting.

The concluding paragraph of Goodyear's letter of March 27, 1979 to me reads in facts as follows:

"Up until recently our airship, which in fact was constructed at Cardington in 1972, was the only airship to operate in the U.K. Another company, Aerospace Developments Ltd., have however recently produced an airship a few weeks ago. This

airship was also constructed at Cardington, and the manufacturers can be contacted there."

NOTE BY EDITOR OF FSR. Mrs Fry's efforts to contact Aerospace Developments Ltd. at their Weybridge, Surrey, office proved fruitless, because it seems that this concern has gone out of existence and their airship has now been taken over by Airship Industries Ltd. I telephoned today (February 14, 1983) to the RAF, Cardington, and their spokesman told me that it is not true that the airship was launched in either 1978 or 1979. It has, in fact, so he told me, only just been finished, and is at present still undergoing tests at Cardington. It is 150 ft. long.

Nobody, be it noted, has ever suggested that it was ever over Kent. If it has only just been finished, then it cannot have been over Kent in August 1978 — almost five years ago.

As for the BBC's "air-platforms", from which sports and other events are filmed or photographed, I have also telephoned today to the BBC Television Engineers, who inform me that their equipment in this direction consists entirely of long-shafted or long-armed 'hoists' resembling the machines used in London and other large cities for the servicing and maintenance of very high street-lamps. The idea of anything consisting of "balloons with aerials" evidently makes no sense to them and sounds absurd.

It looks therefore as though we still await a conventional explanation for what Mr and Mrs Fry claim that they saw in the skies over the fair land of Kent on August 13, 1978.

G.C.

UFO REPORTS FROM CHINA (2)

Mr. Anthony Lee's reports from China

This correspondent, Mr. Anthony Lee, has sent me some new material on the UFOs in China, which serves to reinforce the data published recently by FSR in England. I give below a summary which I have made of it.

F. Lagarde, Editor of LDLN.

(Translation by Gordon Creighton from LDLN No. 217/218 (July-August 1982)).

ON the morning of October 28, 1961, several people observed for a period of some seven minutes a strange-looking object flying over the suburbs of the city of K'ai-Feng, in the Province of Ho-Nan. Appearing from low over the horizon, the object was moving slowly, and at times even was stationary. The eyewitnesses all stopped work to look up at it, and one of them, a young engineer named Chang Ching-lai, managed to get several photographs of it. Over the course of the succeeding years this sighting was to be followed by many more.

Although 1980 was the Year of the Monkey according to the Chinese Calendar, it would have been more correct to have consecrated that year to the UFOs, for it was in May 1980 that the *Chinese Association for the Study of UFOs* was formed. This group is affiliated to the *Chinese Society for the Study of the Future*, and is headed by Mr. Cha Le-P'ing, a twenty-five-year-old student of Astrophysics. In due course a number of UFO reports were gathered.

For example, on the evening of July 7, 1977, there was an open-air film-show before an audience of

3,000 people (everything in China is on the gigantic scale!) on a sports ground at Chang-P'u (Province of Fukien, East China). The film was Romanian, and its title: *Alert on the Danube Delta*. Suddenly, at about 8.30 p.m., two objects appeared in the sky. Flying so low that they almost seemed to touch the ground, they emitted an intense orange glow and were only fractions of a metre apart, and travelling in total silence. Such was the panic which ensued that 300 people were injured and two children killed. Meanwhile, the two objects were out of sight in a few seconds.

On October 23, 1978 (another open-air film-show) pilots of the Chinese Air Force were looking at a film somewhere in the Province of Kan-Su (North-West China) when a large bright object appeared in the sky. They observed it for some two to three minutes, as it circled around above them at an estimated height of some 21,000 ft. (about 6,000 metres). The object was rectangular and carried intensely bright lights. *On October 21, 1978, (two days earlier) the Australian airman Valentich perished while observing a similar object.*

Two students from the Peking Mining Institute were camping in August 1980 at Ch'ang-P'ing, in the mountains near Peking. Their names were Hsin Sheng and Pi Chiang, and the report which they produced is as follows:-

"At about 0408 in the early hours of August 23, 1980, we were looking at the stars when we saw an object emitting a white light appear from behind a mountain to the East. At first, when partly hidden by the mountain, it looked like a portion of the disc of the Moon. But its irregular course led us to conclude that it must be a UFO. We climbed up on to a large rock to get a better view, and we were able to observe the object for half an hour.

When it moved away, it looked like three very near stars. At one moment it came towards us, and then moved away again. The entire sighting took place in complete silence."

They took a photograph, which was published in due course in the *Peking Evening News (Pei-Ching Wan-Pao)*.

On October 5, 1980, a party of sailors were fishing at night for shrimps off Ta-Kang, on the North China Coast. According to a statement made by one of them, Hung Chang-Kuei, aged 31, a cone-shaped object, flying at about 3,000 ft. (900 metres) appeared at 3.00 a.m. Although the object seemed to be quite small, it emitted an intense heat which they felt on their faces. Hung Chang-Kuei said: "It was as though we were underneath a stove. It emitted an intense glow, a bit like the glow from an electric arc. It was a vivid red colour in the centre, and bluish-green around the edges and white at the extreme rear part. The sighting lasted about ten seconds and the thing whistled as it flew over us."

Another member of the party, Chin Kuo-min, aged 46, added: "Frankly, I was terrified. We didn't know what it was, and it made such a terrible noise."

A month later, on November 5, 1980, at a textile mill at Ching-Hai, near the big port of Tientsin (North-East China), two workers, Li Jen-Pei and Li Lai-Chun, observed, in the early hours of the morning, a disc-shaped object emitting a green glow and following an irregular course. It vanished towards the East, but reappeared again about seven minutes later, flying westward. After a few seconds it again changed course and vanished finally towards the East.

Undoubtedly some of these reports may relate to sightings of meteors or of ball lightning. But it is equally certain that this still leaves cases of genuine UFOs! (As examples of meteors — one was seen in China on November 11, 1979, and again on November 11, 1980. This was a meteor that was seen also in France and in Spain on those dates.)

(Translator's Note: four last lines, about meteors, not translated, being seemingly contradictory.—G.C.)

A RUSSIAN EDITOR DUE FOR WORK ON THE PIPELINE?

The *Guardian* newspaper carried the following strange *Reuter* report from Russia during the first two weeks of 1983 (precise day not ascertained).

"The Soviet newspaper *Sovietskaya Kultura* said yesterday that the existence of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) should not be ruled out, and revealed that a Soviet fighter plane had a brush with a mystery object two years ago.

The paper said there were still many unexplained phenomena behind various "flying saucer" reports, and urged scientists to collect and collate as much information as possible on the subject.

In an example of recent strange happenings in the Soviet Union, the report said that in 1981 a fighter

plane encountered a "fiery ball" 16 ft. in diameter.

Scientists had at first assumed that the phenomenon was ball-lightning, but the damage to the plane did not tally with this.

The report also revealed that the Soviet Union was working on plans for a long-distance, unmanned space mission to try to track down signs of civilisations on distant planets."

(We feel that the editor of this paper which suggests that UFOs exist should watch his step. Does he want to be a candidate for work on the pipeline?) Ed.

A CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH UNPLEASANT CONSEQUENCES: SPECTACULAR LANDING, WITH UFONAUTS, AT TERREST, WEST FLANDERS, IN 1951

The following story is a summary of a conversation between the eyewitness (Mr. H.) and two investigators from the Brussels Group SOBEPS. Luc DEVINCKE typed out the text of the interview and sent it to SVL in October 1982. (The interview took place in 1977).

(Translation from Flemish). From SVL TIJDSCHRIFT, Vol. 2, No. 5, January 1983. (Journal of the SVL UFO Study Group, Antwerp, Belgium. Director Wim Van Utrecht.)

ABOUT the end of 1951 (probably in either October or November, the eyewitness no longer recalls precisely), Mr. H. was returning from a visit to his parents, then residing in Houthulst. The time was approximately 22.15 hrs., and his wife was accompanying him.

When they arrived in the village of Terrest they suddenly saw a fiery red ball in the air. It was coming from the south, and at first it looked as though it was going to come down right on top of the eyewitnesses. But when it had descended to a height of about 20 m., four legs emerged from it and the object landed about 25 m. from the eyewitnesses, in the middle of the highway. The curious contrivance had the shape of a typical flying saucer; convex on top and flatter underneath. It was wellnigh impossible to approach close to it, owing to the intense heat that it emanated. When, notwithstanding his wife's objections, Mr. H. did attempt to approach the device, at each step he took forwards a beam of light shot out from the centre of the craft. The beams were about 15 cm. in diameter and hit the ground at a distance of about 10 m. from his feet.

The witness also described how, just before it landed, the craft opened out like a scallop-shell. From its inside there shone out an intense red light, from which seven beings emerged, each of them about 80 cm. in height. The beings too were of a fiery red colour. Said the eyewitness: "In my opinion, they weren't wearing any clothing; it looked rather like a sort of 'skin' drawn over them. They had big heads and their eyes were like little wells."

Mr. H. recalls that one of the dwarves rubbed his

fingers over one of the feet of the landing-gear. Some of them were also sitting on the rim of the craft. It looked as though they were operating the craft. One of the beings made a sign to him to step back, the craft rose vertically, till it was at a height of 100 m. or so. At that height, it changed direction, and flew off at an oblique angle eastwards. It had been on the ground for about 20 seconds. The Ufonauts had not appeared to be aggressive. In the opinion of the witness the beam of light had been intended rather as a warning.

The local cinema was just emptying at the time of the occurrence, and there were consequently other people too who saw the red light emitted by the craft. But the people leaving the cinema had not actually seen the craft itself.

At the spot where the device had landed four scorched black impressions were found in the gravel of the road. These consisted of oval marks, each with a diameter of about 15 cm. Together they formed a square measuring about 1.5 m. to the side.

On the following day, Mr. H. reported the matter to the Gendarmerie at nearby Klerken.

Mr. H's wife was so shocked by the occurrence that even 26 years later she had still not fully recovered. According to her husband she had suffered severely as a result of it, both mentally and physically.

We are publishing this interesting "close encounter of the third kind" without further commentary. We can only regret that the occurrence dates from 1951, and that for this reason no thorough investigation of it ever took place (i.e. interviews with the other witnesses, analysis of the marks on the ground, etc.)

* * * * *

FORTHCOMING ISSUES WILL CONTAIN SEVERAL SPECTACULAR CLOSE-ENCOUNTER CASES!

EARLY BRAZILIAN REPORTS

WE have on file the complete set of Bulletins of the SBEDV (Brazilian Society for the Study of UFOs) covering the period since Dr. Buhler began to issue them in November 1957. Many remarkable SBEDV cases have already appeared in FSR in translation, but many more still remain, untranslated and unknown to the outside world. It is our intention to skim through these early bulletins — as well as other bulletins in other languages — as and when opportunity offers. Here are three reports from SBEDV Bulletin No. 1 (November/December 1957.)

1. UFO Visits Statue of Christ the Redeemer

On the summit of Corcovado, the highest peak overlooking Rio de Janeiro and the Bay, there towers a 100-ft. statue of Christ, with arms outstretched in blessing and protection over the city. From far out at sea, the statue appears as a great white cross.

At about 8.30 p.m. one evening in November 1957, a number of eyewitnesses watched a UFO as it paid a visit of inspection to the Statue. Professor Sérgio Raul de Barros Bragina and his wife, and a student named Inocêncio Lopes, reported that they watched the UFO move towards the Statue, and then halt when it had reached the approximate height of the right arm. Then the UFO split into two parts. One part moved downwards to the foot of the Corcovado, and it did this three times. The sighting had lasted fifteen minutes, after which the UFO moved off over the centre of the city, where it was seen by many and was filmed by Hilton Ronha and one of his colleagues of the local TV Station (T.V.Tupí.)

2. A Fantastic Happening and an official Cover-Up

Ceres is a small town near Goiânia, Capital of the State of Goiaz in the centre of Brazil.

SBEDV reported that, in a letter received from Dr. Gabriel Barbosa of the Secretariat of Justice of the State Legislature of Goiaz, they had learnt that a man named Miguel Espanhol and his driver were travelling by truck near Quebracôco in the Ceres area, when their engine died, halted by a huge disc, *140 metres wide*, which landed close by. From it emerged seven men who stood and watched the truck for a while before returning into the disc, which then departed. The two witnesses were left in a state of profound shock. The Goias State Police issued an official denial of the affair, and SBEDV received information that instructions for this denial came from a very high level. And

SBEDV's report on it from Dr. Barbosa of the State Secretariat of Justice was written later than the date of the official cover-up. (FSR Vol. 4, No. 3, contained a report on the case from another Brazilian investigator, whose slightly fuller version said that the entities were *all small and long-haired*. This is the version given as *Case. 21 of The Humanoids in Latin America* — a Section of *The Humanoids*. What is new in this second report, now translated for the first time, is the evidence for the official cover-up. G.C.)

3. Another Cover-Up and a Ridiculous "Explanation"

One night in 1956 a luminous body was observed from the Brazilian Air Force Base at Recife in North-Eastern Brazil hanging stationary for twenty minutes above the Barracks of the 14th. Infantry Regiment in that city. Many officers and men of the Army observed it.

After a lengthy secret enquiry, the authorities announced in December 1957 that it had simply been an air-liner which was attempting to land at Recife International Airport.

(This sort of "air-liner" has been seen over London's Airport too. G.C.)

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BARRY WOODGATE — Anyone having the current address for this former member of the Fleet Street UFO Study Group please write Eric Herr, 6250 Stanley Avenue, San Diego, CA 92115, USA.

NEEDED — UFO REPORTS in which compass needles or compass-type detectors were affected. Eric Herr, 6250 Stanley Avenue, San Diego, CA 92115, USA.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's fullname 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.

That BBC Television Programme — The Case of the UFOs

Dear Sir, — Despite the recent intensification in the attempts by 'select' scientific experts to 'debunk' the UFOs in such mass media programmes as the recent showing by NOVA, here in the USA, of the BBC Horizon production *The Case of the UFOs*, my interest in your publication has not diminished one bit. *If anything, that slick TV production, which amounted to a brilliant obfuscation of the truth, has only increased my interest.*

A careful analysis of the techniques employed by the producers of the TV programme leads me to conclude that the very same techniques could be used to prove the non-existence of both James Oberg and Philip Klass! I am left with the question: "*Why did they go to such lengths?*"*

I am thankful that we live in 'free' societies. Let us hope that freedom of speech remains stronger than the will of the rich and powerful to manipulate the beliefs and opinions of the masses through control of information. Their intentions may very well be good, but their methods are abominable.

Thank you for the continuing excellence of your publication.

Sincerely,
Frank E. Denaro,
2951-A Webster,
San Francisco, CA 94123,
U.S.A.
October 24, 1982

**Why they did it is patent to all. On a very famous occasion in the British House of Commons about fifty years ago, a brilliant member named F. E. Smith (later Lord Birkenhead), striving to preserve the proper degree of parliamentary decorum while plainly branding his opponent as a liar, compromised neatly by dubbing him a "terminological inexactitudinarian." (Some claim, though probably wrongly, that the wit was the first Winston Churchill.)*

At any rate, our own views about "terminological inexactitudinarians" and the Boys of the Mendacious Brigade were conveyed in Dr. Hynek's excellent Guest-Editorial in our last issue.

As to whether we truly enjoy the benefits of 'living in free societies', maybe there are by now enough little straws in the wind to indicate that reader Denaro is a trifle optimistic? (It is not that we do not still enjoy a vast degree of freedom of speech, plus the basic liberties, and thanks be to God for that. But there is a lot of 'listening' going on. Mail is being examined, and a great deal of it never arrives. And telephones are being tapped.) — EDITOR

UFOs in the sea

Dear Sir, — I enjoy your magazine, and think it is the best one concerning the UFO Phenomenon. In particular, I have enjoyed your articles on the "Connection" theories — i.e. *Spruce Budworms*, etc. There are too many people in this country who are anxious to explain the UFO events away as natural phenomena. I also believe that the U.S. Government is keeping facts on this subject away from the public.

Only 20 miles from my home on Shaw Island, Wash., lies Victoria, B.C. The article by Dr. P. M. H. Edwards (FSR 27/4) concerning MIBs therefore relates to very close to home, even though not in the same country.

I believe that there are many, many people who have seen something unusual in the sky and are afraid to tell anyone about it. There is, for example, a radio-talk programme in the U.S. called the Larry King Show, broadcast from Washington, D.C. About two weeks ago, Mr King had as his guest a Mr. Bud Hopkins, who wrote the book *Missing Time*. It was a very good programme, having a call-in show for the U.S. public to respond to. One of those who phoned in and told his story was a man who had been a sailor in the

U.S. Navy in World War II. He said that, while on duty in the Pacific, he had seen a UFO that came up out of the sea and flew away at fantastic speed. This event was witnessed by 900 sailors. The officers on the ship told the crew not to relate the story to anyone, and it was not until he took part in this radio-talk programme that this man decided to tell about it. I suggest that there must be many others who were sailors on that ship and who would know of this incident but are afraid to tell anyone of it.

Yours sincerely,
Ralph Lillie,
Box 364,
Shaw Island,
Wa., 98286,
U.S.A.

July 26, 1982

The Falcon Lake Incident

Dear Sir, — Many thanks for publishing my rather unconventional study on the Falcon Lake case (Volume 28, No. 1.) I had feared that you might not dare to publish such 'heretical' ideas, but fortunately you are as open-minded as ever.

Thus I was also very pleased to read the article by Derek J. Rolls, in FSR Vol. 28, No. 2 (p. 15). With regard to the 'call for papers' expressed in his closing paragraph, may I suggest that you might care to reprint my first piece on "UFOs and Fourth Dimension", which was issued by the late Waveney Girvan, then Editor, in FSR Vol. 9, No. 2 (March/April 1963)?

Such a reprint could conveniently be placed in one of the FSR issues to be published around March or April of 1983, and would thus mark a twenty-year anniversary, so to say. We were quite progressive twenty years ago, weren't we!

My article of yesteryear could also serve as an encouragement for others, and there are certainly many readers

— especially the younger ones — for whom it would be completely new. Moreover, in the past twenty years the UFO Phenomenon has begun to display an increasing number of characteristics which point precisely in that direction — i.e., the Phenomenon has definitely got something to do with a defect in, or a manipulation of, the Space-Time structure, no matter whether one leans more to a physical or to a psychological hypothesis.

Sincerely yours,
Luis Schönherr,
Geyrstrasse 55,
A-6020 Innsbruck,
Tyrol, Austria
December 1, 1982

An excellent idea. We will bear it in mind and try to reprint the article some time this year. Incidentally, with FSR now nearly thirty years old, many of our faithful early readers have died off (and this will soon be the lot of many more of us.) Those early issues contained a mass of highly important articles, particularly on some of the first tremendously important landing and contact cases, which were covered by us in very great detail, but which are totally unknown to the young readers of today, and unless we try to do something about re-publishing the best of them, they will continue to be unknown, and this will give much pleasure to our enemies and critics. — EDITOR

The "Concorde" film and unidentified object

Dear Sir, — In Vol. 28, No. 1, you published my letter concerning a further sequence of Concorde/UFO film.

When I posted the letter I was waiting for the 'offending' sequence to be excised — and indeed that it had ever appeared in the first place was a surprise, and does not say much for the efficiency of the censors — begging the question of course of whether they can keep anything secret.

And I was not disappointed. The film vanished from the TV screens before my letter was published in FSR.

Later, although the film did reappear, it had been doctored. This was not a long sequence of UFO film, and it took place against a background of open sky, hence it could be altered relatively easily. The UFO had now turned into a lens-flare! Anyone now watching this sequence and expecting to see a UFO could only be disap-

pointed, and would think that I had been deluded. And indeed, I would be dubious about it myself had I not noticed the sequence many times previously, both at the time of its first showing, when the more obvious UFO footage was lost for ever (as they thought and hoped) — and also at the time prior to the World Cup in Spain. As it is, however, I just consider it a case of malpractice.

Yours sincerely,
A. Calvert,
26 Well Road,
Barnet, Herts EN5 3ED.
January 27, 1983

God: The Supreme Illusionist

Dear Sir, — Mr. Hilary Evans is quite right when he says that the UFO phenomenon dodges any attempt to pin it down within any existing closed belief system (FSR 28-2).

The Christian belief in the Final Battle of Armageddon between God and Satan is sheer nonsense from both scientific and metaphysical viewpoints. Nature being infinite, neutral and amoral (i.e., neither moral nor immoral), it is totally pointless to moralise on it. In fact, Good and Evil are human creations. Man created them because he needs them, and then he drew an arbitrary line of demarcation between what he considers Good and Evil in terms of his anthropocentric and anthropomorphic conception of Nature.

Contrary to what many seem to believe, moreover, God and Nature are not two separate entities but one and the same. Thus, God is not only infinite but also neutral and amoral. God is also the Supreme Illusionist. Life itself is only an illusion, but God makes us believe otherwise. UFOs, Marian apparitions, Jesus Christ, Muhammad, Buddha, and all other so-called paranormal/religious phenomena are just a few examples of Divine illusionism. God does this because man needs illusions and diversions to stay alive and evolve.

Why do Marian apparitions occur only in the Roman Catholic countries? The answer: this is God's way of poking fun at the Roman Catholic belief in the Virgin Mary. It is interesting to note that no Marian apparitions had ever occurred in pre-Columbian Americas and that the first such apparition on the American Continent took place in Mexico on December 9,

1531, i.e., only after the colonisation of Central and South America by Roman Catholic Spain and Portugal.

The Truth shall NEVER be found. As Einstein said, the more we learn, the less we understand. In other words, mystery thickens exponentially as our knowledge increases. The Truth is infinite and hence inaccessible to humans.

I am rather surprised at Mrs. Ann Druffel's naïveté in swallowing Leonard H. Stringfield's allegations about "crashed UFOs and their dead occupants secreted in the U.S. Government's storehouses". There is not a shred of supportive evidence. He either made up the whole story very cleverly or was fooled by God or perhaps by the U.S. authorities.

Yours sincerely,
Julian H. Kaneko,
18 rue Le Corbusier,
CH-1208 Geneva,
Switzerland.
December 6, 1982

The U.S. authorities will feel greatly honoured to find themselves bracketed in such high-class company! But how can Mr. Kaneko (though evidently he knows a lot) be quite so sure about what went on in the Americas before the arrival of Columbus? And how, for that matter, can he be so confident that both God and he are not also disastrous illusions, figments in the All-Encompassing Kaneko Limbo? — ED.

The "Space-Travel" Debate

Dear Sir, — Julian H. Kaneko claimed that aliens from another star system are prevented from reaching Earth by Einstein's 'theory of relativity' and the 'impossibility' of 'ever identifying our Sun among the 250 billion stars that compose the Milky Way galaxy.' (FSR Vol. 28 No. 2).

Einstein's *Special* Theory of Relativity cannot prevent aliens from reaching Earth — all it says is that they cannot travel faster than light. Since the nearest star (other than the Sun) is about four light-years away, and the stars of inhabited planets are probably hundreds if not thousands of light-years away, this would appear to inhibit communication. However, since the Theory also predicts that, at speeds near that of light, time aboard a space vehicle will pass more slowly, aliens could reach Earth in reasonably short travel times. (This travel time will be a

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fraction of the time which *simultaneously* passes on the alien home planet). Thus, if aliens have huge amounts of power available to propel the craft at near the speed of light (300,000 km/s), if they can construct a craft which will endure the journey and sustain the crew, and if the crew do not mind the permanent loss of their families, friends and everything with which they are familiar, then a journey to Earth is feasible. Whether it is practical and desirable is another matter.

As to identification of our Sun, there is no question of our star being in any way special or somehow being identified among all the other stars. However, the existence of an advanced technological civilisation on a planet circling our Sun could be deduced by aliens if they have radio telescopes sensitive enough to detect our radio, TV and radar communications. Earth blazes in the radio frequencies (mainly from the defence radars), although the distance at which such signals could be detected is disputed. They could be detected by an alien probe dispatched to the Solar System, and Earth could certainly be identified if it beamed specific radio signals at the alien star (supposing we knew where it is).

It is evident that neither an alien civilisation nor our own would embark on such a huge enterprise without knowing of the other's existence, and without preliminary radio communication.

Yours sincerely,
Steuart Campbell,
4 Dovecot Loan,
Edinburgh EH 14 2LT
November 23, 1982

The "Space-Travel" Debate

Dear Sir, — Julian H. Kaneko (FSR Vol. 28, No. 1) lists a catalogue of errors of so-called 'Nuts-and-bolters' without defining this term. This makes it difficult to answer the accusations specifically.

He should explain his meaning to enable a useful dialogue to take place. Does the term imply a belief in metallic extra-terrestrial craft or is it intended to apply to the scientific paradigm *in toto*? If the latter is implied, what does your correspondent propose in its place?

It is implied that a journey time of at least 9 years is untenable. This is a curiously parochial viewpoint, appar-

ently based on the assumption that extra-terrestrial probes would be manned by living creatures. It would seem more likely, however, that an advanced technological society would use robotics for such functions. The journey time with robots is not critical.

Interstellar travel may not be insurmountable, as alleged. No good evidence is offered in support of this view. Nor does the question of why our solar system should be selected for visitation invalidate the extra-terrestrial hypothesis. It makes the invalid assumption that the solar system would be the only recipient of such visits. Given thousands of advanced societies in the galaxy, each could play a role in space exploration, including numerous star systems. Our radio noise would be a beacon, inviting examination.

The M.I.B. phenomenon does not exclude the ETH, irrespective of whether this factor is objective or subjective. Such humanoids could be robots, specifically designed and programmed for inter-stellar exploration. Mr. Kaneko accuses the scientific materialist of obsession with a material/physical aspect, excluding parapsychical nature. As our experience is primarily of the success of classical scientific method, the onus rests with the advocates of the paranormal to present evidence to support their assumptions.

Yours sincerely,
Peter A. Hill,
Almond Brae,
47A Easter Brankton,
LIVINGSTON, West Lothian,
Scotland
January 29, 1983

UFO Research in Belgium

Dear Sir, — The situation in Belgium today as regards UFO research does not seem to differ in any way from that prevailing in the rest of Western Europe.

There is a great shortage of people willing to undertake the work of field investigation, and a notable lack of any general interest in our subject among the public.

A few years ago, as may be recalled, some French investigators were claiming that, "*in time of crisis . . . people imagine they see more 'Visitors from Space' than in periods of economic well-being.*"

If those French investigators would

just take another look at the much worse economic situation prevailing in the world today, perhaps they would drop that silly idea pretty quickly!

Yours sincerely,
Wim Van Utrecht,
Director,
Studiegroep voor Vreemde
Luchtschijnselen (SVL)
(Group for Study of Strange
Aerial Phenomena), Oever 28,
Antwerpen, Belgium.
September 23, 1982

"Killer UFO prowls sky over Maine"

Dear Sir, — The Starks, Maine, UFO (FSR Vol. 28 No. 2) is an excellent lesson in celestial misperception. First of all, the fact that the object was seen repeatedly in the area for months indicates the likelihood of a bright planet. Venus shone like a beacon in the western sky during the period of the sightings and nearly at its maximum brilliancy on the date of the Hendsbee "encounter." At the time the report was publicised, I determined the planet's elevation and azimuth for the Starks area and discovered that Venus set when the last sightings were made. (Unfortunately, none of the witnesses gave directions). The beams of light and the "craft's" reported approach and recession can be attributed to atmospheric refraction effects upon the planet — effects most pronounced near the horizon. When the observers were convinced they were seeing something bizarre, their imaginations took over and did the rest.

At first glance the vivid descriptions given by the witnesses might seem impossible to explain away. However, I have run into the same or similar scenario time and time again with regard to Venus. My judgement is based upon 30 years of experience investigating UFOs (my field is astronomy and I am a MUFON consultant as well as a CUFOS field investigator). I am constantly amazed at the ineptness of people as observers of ordinary sky phenomena.

Yours sincerely,
Walter N. Webb,
5 Willow Street,
Westwood, Maine, 02090
U.S.A.
January 9, 1983.

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