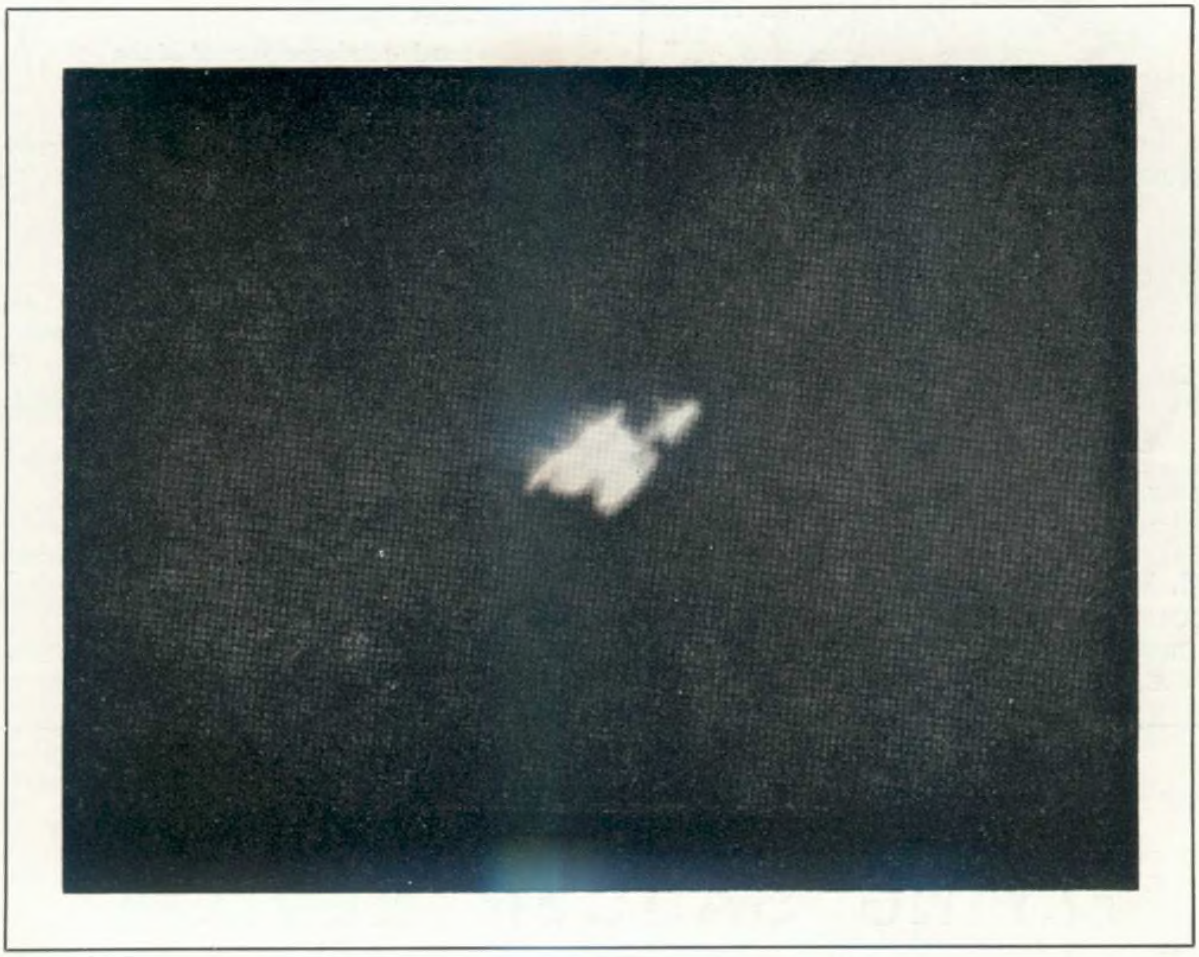
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

Vol. 14, No. 2 MARCH/APRIL, 1968 14th Year of Publication



PHOTOGRAPH OF "SOMETHING" IN THE SKY OVER THE ENGLISH CHANNEL, SEE . .

THE ST. LEONARDS SIGHTING

PAGE 26

FIVE SHILLINGS

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

Vol 14 No. 2 MARCH-APRIL

THE OTHER PHENOMENON

NOW that more and more people are discovering an interest in a level-headed study of what was, until quite recently, a most unfashionable subject, and now that more people than ever are reading FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, we feel the time is appropriate for a brief recapitulation of the outline features which form the framework in which that subject has grown. There is also a need for a quick, cool look at the present-day situation, and for a re-statement of our beliefs.

For more than twenty years a formidable dossier of reports of strange objects seen in the skies, on the land and even in the seas, has been gathered together. The enigmatic UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects), or UAOs (Unconventional Aerial Objects), or AAs (Alien Aeroforms)—call them what you will—have made an indelible impression on the minds of people throughout the world. Furthermore, modern researchers have demonstrated that people have been puzzled by these things for far longer than the twenty or so years usually accredited the visitations,[1] and there has been much speculation by historical and biblical researchers that the evidence dates back to antiquity.[2]

The modern process started in 1947 with a flurry of *flying saucer* reports. It accelerated with a series of "waves" of aerial sightings interspersed with growing numbers of landing reports, but at times was reduced to just a trickle of cases. Nevertheless, even during the so-called "Dark Ages" of 1960-63, the process never once ceased to "tick over", despite an alarming tendency everywhere to ridicule witnesses, which tendency itself contrived to keep the incidence of reports down to a minimum.

Then, as the lean years passed on their way, we began to learn of considerable activity in remote South American places—and for all we know, visitations may also have switched to other localities in, for example, the Soviet Union, or the Arctic wastes, from whence reports generally were not forthcoming.

Since March 1964 the scene has changed. Intense waves of incidents have followed one after the other with staggering rapidity, switching from one continent to another in such a way that the world has been forced to sit up and take notice of this troublesome business. In fact, the establishment of the Condon Committee at the University of Colorado in 1966 seemed to indicate that this state of affairs had achieved official recognition in the United States; that it was deemed worthy of attention by something better than the nineteen-year-old Air Force "explanations" section, Project Blue-book. And now, as the time approaches for the preparation of the Colorado report, there could well be a few anxious glances towards Moscow by Dr. Condon and his colleagues, for the Russians have also joined the "club". Between them the Committees have a phenomenon to study which has reached enormous proportions: let us hope they do not rivet their attention on the *other phenomenon*.

What is this other phenomenon?

Frankly, it is something much stranger than that which is the focus of *our* attention, which is derived from the accounts given by witnesses of the things they see, and from the frequent reports of "occupants" —the latter a feature of prime interest to us—and the waves in which these incidents occur. This other phenomenon is the standard die-hard reaction to UFO reports which is to be found in so many quarters, and we must not make the mistake of believing that it is something which is peculiar to the flying saucer story. Indeed, it is the same cursed thing that has impeded, stultified, and even killed research and discovery in many other fields throughout the ages.

A whole generation of UFO researchers has been forced to live with this other phenomenon for the best part of twenty years. Their interest has been vested in a new and uncomfortable subject, and there is a great preponderance of those who would prefer to see this subject carefully tucked away, or even bludgeoned out of sight. Indeed, this seems to be a course favoured by the executive in many countries, by large sectors of the Press, and by a proportion of those scientists who are able to devote an hour or so here or there to what may well prove to be one of the most absorbing scientific problems of all time.

It is no surprise, therefore, that that segment of the public which relies on the executive, the Press, or on scientists for guidance concerning unusual things, should be so sadly out of touch with the reality of the UFO situation.

Why should this be so? Why should the spontaneous reports from witnesses be derided? After all, the witnesses—and there have now been tens of thousands of them—come from all walks of life. Some of them are qualified people, while many hold responsible jobs, and all of them only report what they have seen without writing books about their experiences, or going off on lecture tours. Why did the Central Intelligence Agency issue the secret instruction in 1953 (de-classified temporarily in 1965) that flying saucer reports were to be debunked by the U.S. Air Force?[3] Why should so many people suggest, even before the report is published, that the Colorado project will follow the same line in spite of prolonged investigations?

We suggest that the reason for this rigid opposition to our ideas is that the very notion that there are extra-terrestrial visitors to our planet, or that there are visitations or projections from another universe parallel to, or on a different time stream to ours, could have a very profound effect on the philosophical basis of our society, or even on the delicate psychological balance of certain countries. In simpler terms, official reaction to the UFO situation could be conditioned by that old bogey: Fear of panic.

We believe, however, that nothing can be gained by suppressing the truth; that people are better able to face up to a problem, or even a menace, when they know something about it. Consequently, we will continue to scrutinise every aspect of this subject, to place as much about it as possible on record, and to offer sensible, thought-provoking comment on both the cases and the overall picture.

To close, we would like to repeat something we have said before, and that is that *we do not believe in flying saucers.*[4] We shrink from making a mumbo-jumbo religion of this otherwise absorbing interest of ours, but we *do* believe that flying saucers (or UFOs, or UAOs) exist, that they have a means of coming here that is at present beyond our ken, and that in view of their often-reported effects on petrol engines, or on electrical and electronic installations, they could well be powered devices. We believe it is possible that these objects are of extraterrestrial origin, or that alternatively, they could be coming to us from some other parallel universe. We believe that they are intelligently controlled, and that the public should be warned that unusual or even dangerous physiological effects may be experienced from a too-close encounter with certain of these objects. We believe that even the controversial "contactee" claims may have more than an element of truth in them, albeit in a manner that neither the contact claimants nor the sceptics expect, for we are not the only ones capable of hoaxing.

All in all, we believe there is a very real case to examine. Let's ignore "the other phenomenon" and get on with the job!

NOTES

[1] Clark, J., *The strange case of the* **1897** *airship*, FSR, July/August 1966. Also Hanlon, D. B., and Vallée, J., *Airships over Texas*, FSR, January/February 1967.
[2] For example see Thomas, P., *Flying Saucers through the Ages*, Neville Spearman, London, W.C.1. Also see the works of Drake, W. R.
[3] *When the clamps went on . . .*, FSR, July/August 1967.
[4] See editorial article *Beliefs*, FSR, November/December 1965.

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ON THE ROAD FROM SYDNEY TO MELBOURNE

by Joanna Hugill

Mrs. Hugill prepared her article from the transcript of a taped interview with the witness—a very thorough cross-examination—by Peter Norris, LL.B., and N. Thornhill, both of Melbourne. Mr. Norris is chairman of the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society of P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin 3189, Victoria, Australia, and we are greatly indebted to him for his cooperation. *Flying Saucer Review* **has complied with the request to withhold the name and address of the witness, a nicety which, it seems, has not been observed elsewhere.**

THE story of the refusal by an Australian motor-cyclist to respond to the invitation of two silver-clad figures standing beside a saucer-shaped craft has been sent to us by the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society, whose investigators, P. Norris and N. Thornhill, closely questioned the witness.

The motor-cyclist, whom we shall call Mr. Hunter, has asked us not to reveal his name because the reaction of friends to whom he described his strange experience was derisive comments and laughter. The two investigators of the V.F.S.R.S. are convinced that his story is true.

About 5 p.m. on August 24, Mr. Hunter was riding his motor-bicycle at 70 m.p.h. on the highway from Sydney to Melbourne. The sun was low on the horizon, the sky above him clear, with some cloud in the distance. Suddenly he was engulfed in a bluish-white light, so brilliant that it almost blinded him, and was forced to stop. The source of the light seemed to be directly above him; its brilliance, like that from a welding torch, blotted out the surrounding countryside. All he could see for a few moments was a short section of the road ahead.

Taking off his tinted driving goggles, Mr. Hunter wiped his watering eyes. When his sight began to clear he saw, about 100ft. away in a wide grass clearing sloping gently down from the road, a metallic object hovering 3 to 4ft. off the ground, with no visible means of support. It resembled two saucers, one inverted over the other, separated by a band of metal 9 to 12in. deep. On top of the object was a small dome, some 5ft. high, surmounted by what the witness described as a small flat-topped bell about 12in. deep. The lower half of the object had a protrusion about a foot deep and a third of the overall width, which Mr. Hunter compared with the lip on the bottom of an ordinary saucer. The protrusion was black, and the lower half of the craft appeared a dark grey. The upper half was made of metal resembling highly polished chrome, while the dome, crowned with its flat-topped "bell", was also made of a silvery metal, but was unpolished, with no reflecting surface. Mr. Hunter estimated the width of the object as 25 to 30ft., and the depth, from the base of the protrusion to the top of the bell, to be about 15ft.

On the dome, and almost out of Mr. Hunter's sight, was a black, crescent-shaped mark about a foot high and 2in. wide. He felt that it could have been part of a larger insignia out of range of his vision. He stood looking at the UFO in amazement until his eyesight returned to normal, when his attention was caught by what he thought to be a passing car.

He looked away for a few seconds but saw no car; when he turned back towards the machine, he was startled to see two silver-clad figures standing beside it. From a distance of 100ft. they looked about 5ft. tall, and wore silvery overalls which covered both hands and feet. Mr. Hunter could see no sign of pockets, seams or fastenings, and he described the "overalls" as being so close-fitting that they looked like silver skin. On their heads the humanoids wore helmets that resembled opaque fishbowls, through which he was unable to distinguish any features. There was no visible opening in the side of the craft facing the road, to show where they had emerged.

From the direction in which their bodies were turned, Mr. Hunter presumed they were studying him. Curious and a little frightened, he stared for a few moments, then took a cautious step in their direction. The two figures did likewise, their movements similar to those of a human being. Scared, Mr. Hunter stood his ground. For a few moments man and humanoids stood still, looking at each other, until the figure on the left took two steps forward, raised his arm and beckoned.

The motor-cyclist wasted no more time in investigation. Badly frightened now, he jumped on to his machine and set off as fast as he could. Flat out along the road and slowing for corners as little as possible, he estimated that he was doing 100 to 120 m.p.h., determined only to put as much distance as possible between himself, the strange craft and its occupants. But above the noise of his engine, he heard a deep, steady hum, and looking up he saw the craft, now surrounded by a pink glow, following him at an estimated height of 100 to 200ft., and about the same distance from the road. Mr. Hunter slowed down and tried to flag a couple of passing cars and to draw their attention to the object, but the drivers neither stopped nor appeared to see the craft. As he sped along, he looked for a house or farm where he might find witnesses to the unusual sighting, but there was none to be seen. Feeling there was no escape, Mr. Hunter once again drew into the side of the road and stopped his engine, intending to take another, closer look.

As he came to a halt, the craft stopped as well, but this time it tilted its base about 45°. The pink glow

(*continued on page 11*)

The Storrington Reports

Landings in Sussex?

by Charles Bowen and Gordon Creighton

ACCORDING to the *Sun* of October 31, 1967, Paul Quick, aged 21, was riding his motor-cycle at 6.45 p.m. on Sunday, October 29, when it broke down. He then began to push it towards his home at Hampers Lane, Storrington, about two miles distant.

First incident

As he was pushing the machine along through a thickly wooded estate, he chanced to look up, and "there in the sky above me was an object like a Rugby ball floating towards me. It was 1½ times the size of a double-decker bus, and quite silent. It was about 250ft. up. I was scared."

Continuing his trudge, he now went to his mother's home at Longberry Hill. He told his story and his mother and two sisters crowded to the window with him. They all saw the object, which had now landed on a crest of the Downs about two miles away from their house.

Mrs. Quick said: "There is no question of a mistake or imagination. We called the police." Despite a thorough search, says the newspaper account, the police, who with their dogs combed the area in question, found nothing and no sign that anything had landed.

Questioned later by an investigator, Mr. Quick stated that it was a clear and starry evening sky. The object seen by him was luminous, with a kind of bright white light, but not dazzling. It seemed to be coming straight towards him, but then disappeared behind a clump of trees, the whole sighting having lasted about 15 seconds.

After he reached home, his sister Leone, aged 22, who with her mother and sister had been watching television, at once looked out of a large french window in their living-room and called the rest of the family to come and see a large bright-coloured ball which was slowly floating downwards on to Chanctonbury Downs, about two miles from their house.

They then all rushed out to the verandah and climbed on to chairs there to get a better view. The object had now stopped its floating movement, and seemed to have landed. It started to change colour.

Mrs. Quick described it as looking like a horseshoe upside down, and said its colour changed from white to a deep ruby red, extremely glowing. Then the object began to "flutter and flicker about". Suddenly, it broke into what seemed to be three separate parts. The red part remained stationary while the other two parts moved towards the left. One of them was green and the other blue. For a while she thought she was experiencing some sort of optical illusion, but found that her son and two daughters were experiencing exactly the same impressions and same colours.

The three parts of the object remained separate for what seemed about one minute, and then joined up again to form an "upside-down horseshoe", as before.

Explaining further, Mrs. Quick said: "It was all red . . . but behind the object there seemed to be a sort of yellow glow which appeared to go off and on . . . this yellow faded into the red glow".

Ice-cream cone shape

Although it was extremely cold out on the verandah, Paul Quick, his sister Michele (aged 16) and Mrs. Quick ran over to a clearing some 500 yards from their house in order to get a clearer view. Arriving there, they now perceived that the object looked "like a huge ice-cream cornet. The part where the ice-cream would be was bigger than a lorry, and bright red. This was apparently the part that we had seen from our verandah. From where we were looking at it, it appeared to be resting on the Downs. It looked like nothing we had ever seen . . . I was of course frightened and we didn't have the courage to walk towards the object. . . . I've always been sort of sceptical when I've read about people spotting these flying saucers in the past, but now that I've seen what appears to be one. . .

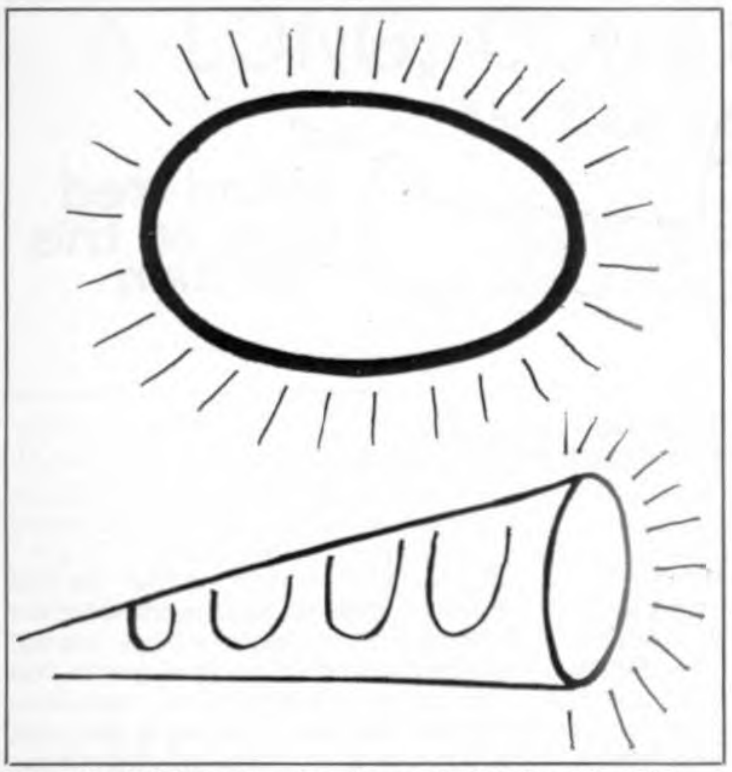
"We had watched from our verandah about 15 minutes, and now for a further 20 minutes from the field. It was dreadfully cold. When we were watching it from the verandah, the way in which it fluttered and changed colours seemed to me as if it was wanting to attract attention. . .

"Suddenly, it seemed as if it was sliding down. It began to move, and then we lost sight of it. We didn't see it go back into the air. We then immediately called the Police (Steyning Police Station). They searched part of the Downs with some dogs but didn't find anything. The area where we had seen the object is quite desolate, with no roads through it, so I don't know if the Police actually hunted through the area. The next day, a reporter from the *Evening Argus* interviewed us, and I drew a sketch of the object for the paper."

Corroborating what her mother had said, Leone Quick added that she estimated the cone-shaped object might have been about 100ft. long.

Another witness

A few days later, the family received a letter from a Mr. N. E. Satterly of Highview Avenue South, Patcham, Brighton, which is about 10 miles distant. Mr. Satterly said that at the same time in question, 6.50 p.m. on



From the Brighton *Evening Argus* of October 30, 1967. . . The object as seen by Paul (top) and Mrs. Quick

October 29, he had watched the object through binoculars. The object seemed to be about half a mile from him, and he estimated it to be between 50 and 75ft. in diameter. The object was blood-red in colour, and seemed to be following the powerlines across the Downs. He watched the object for about 3 minutes before it vanished. Its speed seemed to him to be about 30 m.p.h. He stated that it "did not look like anything he had ever seen . . . certainly not of this world. . ."

Interviewed on November 19 by a second investigator (Mr. Omar Fowler of the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena), Mrs. Quick appeared to be a very nervous and upset woman, largely, it seems, because none of her neighbours would believe her story.

From the account that she proceeded to give to Mr. Fowler it is clear that—as we had thought—she had had a *second* experience of something strange, and it was of this only that she spoke to Mr. Fowler.

Second incident

This second experience had been on the afternoon of Thursday, November 16, 1967, and her account (which she signed) reads as follows:

"On Thursday afternoon I happened to be walking towards the Downs as the sun was setting in the West. I had stopped to admire the view, when I spotted an obstacle on the horizon which struck me at first as looking rather like a steam-roller. So, thinking it would be more than strange to see a steam-roller on the Downs, I decided to go home and collect my opera glasses—all I had to aid me in the sighting.

"I now learned that it was a different thing altogether, so I stood watching a most strange performance. The shape was very unusual—trumpet-shape at what appeared to be the front. The centre was dome-shaped, with two tails from the right-hand side. I would say the length was about 25 to 30ft. It swivelled several times before disappearing over the Downs for at least ten minutes, only to reappear and continue the same movement.

"After the sun had set behind the Downs, a light appeared in front of the craft. It flickered from very bright to a smaller light, then an extremely deep red (blood red) glow showed from the object. It changed from light red to a deeper red glow. It changed its position once or twice at great speed, and then finally took off at an incredible speed towards the sea, possibly in the Worthing direction.

"Ten minutes later, it reappeared, but disappeared again behind a clump of trees. After that we saw no more.

"I had a witness—someone who had been shopping and had seen me looking towards the Downs with the glasses—so naturally she was interested and asked me what I was looking at. She also looked through the glasses, also seeing exactly the same object, behaviour, lights, and departure. By this time she was convinced that this was no ordinary event, and so nervously decided to return home to inform her son.

"I noticed a dark figure approaching the craft at one moment, possibly gliding. It looked slightly larger than a human as we know them. It disappeared suddenly."

Long duration of sighting

The sighting began at about 5 p.m., and in all it lasted for 2½ hours, at first in twilight, and then under bright moonlight. The object seemed to her to hover and rotate at times, and to flicker or throb and change in brightness. It seemed to her to be solid, and at one point it passed behind a clump of trees.

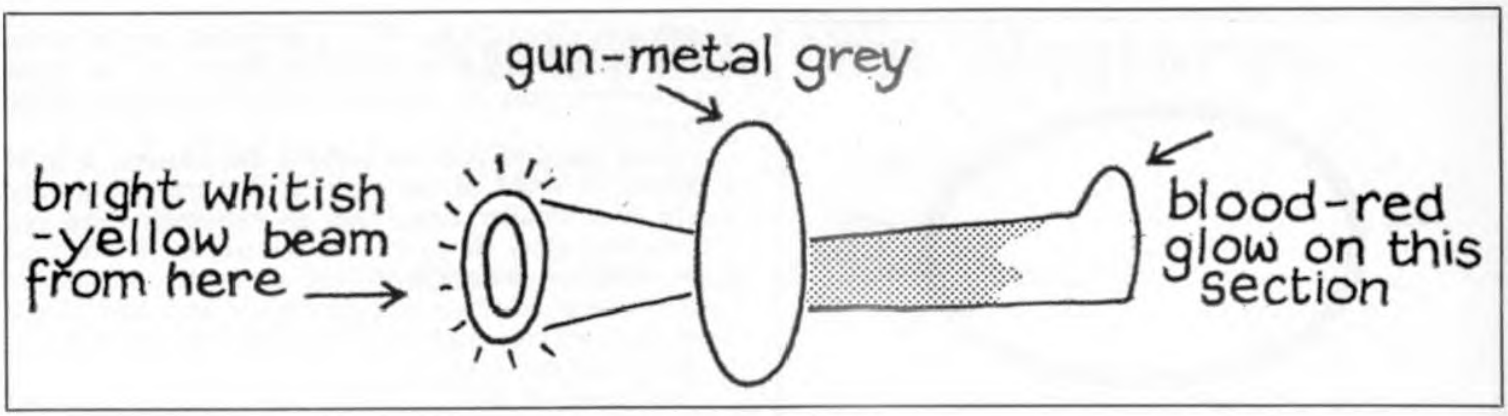
The edges of the object seemed to be sharply outlined, and she said its basic colour appeared to be a gunmetal grey. As regards its apparent size, she said it was the equivalent of a pea held at arm's length.

Summing up, Mrs. Quick added that she estimated the object to have been from 25 to 30ft. long and 14ft. high at the centre. It was either right on the ground, or hovering slightly above it, and she thought its distance from her might have been in the neighbourhood of ½ or ¾ mile. Its movements while hovering were extremely slow, but when it dashed off over the Downs it was extremely fast, and she thought it might have been doing approximately 1,000 m.p.h. She said that one other woman had admitted to seeing it, but she did not give the woman's name.

Mrs. Quick told Mr. Fowler that she had not reported the case to the police, having already telephoned them about a previous sighting—evidently that of October 29 described above. (No doubt she was regretting the inconvenience and embarrassment that the first sighting had caused for her and her family.) She also told Mr. Fowler that she had had several previous sightings of strange objects, one of them being of "magnet-shape, glowing red, green, and sapphire blue."

Investigation, and "visitors"

We had ourselves intended to investigate Mrs. Quick's claims, but when, late in November, tentative enquiries were made about the possibility of a visit to Storrington, she expressed surprise and said: "I have



The November 16 sighting
From Mrs. Quick's sketch of object accompanying Mr. Fowler's report

already given an interview to a representative of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW."

Somewhat puzzled—for we had neither asked anyone to *represent* us, nor had we received a report—we made enquiries and learned that the misunderstanding had arisen when Mr. Fowler had visited the Quicks. It seems he had been carrying a copy of the REVIEW, which was seen by Mrs. Quick. We therefore asked Mr. Fowler for a copy of the report which, so we learned, had already been sent to BUFORA. This we duly received, and the details have been incorporated in this article.

In his covering letter (dated November 26) Mr. Fowler stated that he had telephoned Mrs. Quick that same afternoon, for he had heard a rumour that she had been asked by certain officials to keep quiet about her experiences. She replied that she had not been "warned off," but had received both telephone calls and a visit from a group of people purported to have come from Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, who indicated that they had connections with the Ministry of Defence. These people visited the Downs and Mrs. Quick is alleged to have heard that they had even photographed a UFO, but nothing as substantial as a print has been forthcoming to support this whisper.

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Comment

It is impossible to say what it was that was seen in each of these incidents. The ice-cream cone shape, a familiar one in recent years, was reported recently in the Pyrenean sighting by Captain Underhill and his crew when flying from Majorca to Manston in Kent.[1]

The peculiar outlines of the second reported object seen (or experienced?) by Mrs. Quick is vaguely suggestive of an aircraft, but its behaviour was very odd. The investigator gained the impression that Mrs. Quick was very uneasy about the second incident, although we cannot help but observe that a feeling of compulsion could have been mistaken for "uneasy apprehension".

As for the vaguely-described "creature" figure, it seems that Mrs. Quick suggested it was 8 to 10ft. tall, and appearing to float rather than walk, before it disappeared. Mr. Fowler also remarks that after the incident, the witness, who lives alone with one of her daughters, had a feeling that someone was outside the house, a feeling she shared with her daughter.

We do not think that Mrs. Quick was a prey to her imagination: the second incident in particular has features which bear a degree of resemblance to descriptions we have come across on many other occasions. In this connection our thoughts range to Saltwood,[2] and even Casa Blanca,[3] to quote extreme cases.

NOTES

[1] Prevost, S/Ldr. A., *Cone-Shaped UFO passes below Airliner*, FSR, September/October 1967.
[2] *The Saltwood Monster*, FSR, March/April 1964. See also Bowen, C., *Few and Far Between*, FSR special issue, THE HUMANOIDS.
[3] Creighton, G., *The Extraordinary Happenings at Casa Blanca*, FSR, September/October 1967.

A LONG, COOL LOOK AT ALIEN INTELLIGENCE

by C. Maxwell Cade

Part V — "It's All in the Mind"

JUST as Alice, when she was falling down the rabbit-hole, kept muttering to herself, "Do cats eat bats?" and sometimes, "Do bats eat cats?" (since she couldn't answer the question either way round), we have asked, "Are UFOs poltergeists?" and also, "Are poltergeists UFOs?"

At this stage, many orthodox scientists (and orthodox laymen, for that matter) will say that in our efforts to be open-minded we have become empty-headed, muttering meaningless conundrums to ourselves. However, I prefer to think of these questions as being more like the famous *Koans* of Zen Buddhism—problems which are insoluble by the use of the intellect ("What is the sound of one hand clapping?"), but which may be employed deliberately to shock the personality into transcending the intellect and seeing what lies behind or beyond the problem, through the power of the intuition. It does not matter whether we consider intuition to be "the ability subconsciously to collate facts and draw inferences" or "a minor psychic power". The fact is that intuition (whatever its proper definition may be) is an experience of everyday reality, and it often succeeds in vanquishing problems with which the intellect cannot even get to grips.

A great deal of nonsense is written about "scientific method", mainly by people with no experience of scientific research. Anyone who has ever had to conduct real research, forcing a pathway through unknown mental territory, will know that progress is seldom made by neat, logical steps, beginning from carefully selected facts. The really creative scientist usually begins with a "hunch" or "guess" (i.e., an intuitive feeling) that the proper approach to his problem is such-and-such. He tries this approach, and having reached the desired answer, he then carefully reasons backwards to the starting point. Later (not to show how clever he is, but in order to write-up the research in a logical manner for other people to follow), the work is laid out *as if* it had been neatly and logically planned from the start. The value of the scientific method is largely in preparing a formal proof of a result, which frequently was arrived at intuitively in the first instance. The man who sets out to plod painfully towards a mental goal is in danger of missing anything really new, for as Alexander Pope wrote:

"Say first, of God above, of man below,
What can we reason but from what we know?"

Reasoning is, as Rignano expressed it, a form of experimenting, not with things themselves, but with their mental symbols. We cannot reason without concepts, and all of logical thinking boils down to re-shuffling preconceived ideas. Hence the superiority of the experimental approach of science over the philosophical approach of the Greek scholars of classical antiquity: an experiment honestly performed may cause the experimenter to cast away his preconceived ideas and start again. But even the experimental method still has the disadvantage that the results have to be interpreted, and (at least, usually) interpreted in terms of preconceived theories and hypotheses.

I think it was William James, that great psychologist, who said that Science had so fallen in love with Scientific Method as to care no longer for truth. It is only Truth as technically verified by The Method which is acceptable. Kenneth Walker wisely pointed out that to believe that scientific method can give the whole truth about the world in which we live is like looking through a keyhole into a room and believing that one sees the whole of that room.

All of which is merely by way of drawing attention to the limitations of Orthodoxy, and especially of the orthodox way of thinking about things. A mind which believes that there is only one "right" way to attack a problem, is a shut mind, and none the less shut because it proudly proclaims itself to be open. And even open minds (like yours and mine), which are willing to look at problems in fresh ways, may still shrink from accepting the answers they find, because they are (as G. N. M. Tyrrell said) "distressingly unfamiliar". Let us now continue our study of the possible relationship between the extraterrestrial and the parapsychological, whilst endeavouring not to keep our minds half-shut.

A New Look at Collective Hallucinations

In both parapsychology and ufology there are many people who are prepared to swear that they have personally witnessed some phenomenon which is utterly beyond scientific (or even common-sense) explanation. The "contactee" reports are of this kind, although they embrace a wide spectrum, from what might be a rag-day hoax of students to what exceeds the wildest of fantasy-fiction.

Now either these people have had some kind of real experience with a verifiable external reality or (neglecting ing the occasional hoaxers and publicity-seekers) they have had a fantasy experience which they believed to be real. Such hallucinatory experiences, even when vouched for by groups of people, are quite well known.

Apart from the classical stories about the Indian Rope Trick, we have recently seen new legislation introduced for the control of stage shows using hypnotism, so successful have some of the "illusions" been.

What is really interesting, and even urgent, about UFOs as hallucinations, is that such great numbers of people should have hallucinations of a stereotyped kind. Not that the happening is really anything new; the Devils of Loudun, the Angels of Mons, and a host of stories from religious literature all come into this category of a seemingly-real, shared experience, which is nevertheless unique to a particular set of individuals. Very recently something of a similar nature was found under virtually laboratory conditions.

In October 1967, the Society for Psychical Research carried out a series of experiments to investigate the possibility of mass-telepathy. The experiments were carried out at the Caxton Hall, London, under the leadership of Sir Alistair Hardy, F.R.S., and used from 100 to 200 volunteers at a time. Some of the participants (in the open hall) looked at drawings on a blackboard and tried to "transmit" the pictures to others (in separate closed cubicles). On one or two occasions it was found that, whilst none of the "percipients" had got the correct picture, several localised groups had all got the same (incorrect) idea. For example, the picture on the blackboard might have been that of a black cat, but one group of percipients (each segregated in his or her own closed cubicle) all drew a bird in a tree, whilst another isolated group all drew something like waves on the sea.

I do not wish to stress this finding too much, particularly as it is new and has not yet been exhaustively studied, but in conjunction with other evidence it is enough to convince me that mere numbers of witnesses provides no proof of the objective reality of a supposed phenomenon. If the evidence of a group provides evidence for anything at all, it is evidence of a shared mental experience.

It is now necessary to examine some of the ways in which thought can be influenced from external sources without the mediation of the usual sensory channels, and some of the ways in which the function of the sensory channels can be altered so as to change the state of balance between the organism and its environment.

The (mis)interpretation of sensory data

In the early days of psychology it was quite generally thought that the picture which we build up of the outside world was simply a mosaic of sensations, and that a closer study of sensation would eventually lead to a considerable understanding of our mental life. Such a belief is quite untenable today. We now know that, as Kenneth Walker said, further study of the sensory veil which stands between us and reality leads only to a better knowledge of the veil, and not of that which it conceals. We do not merely sense our environment, but we interpret it, and no two of us interpret it in the same way. Moreover, we can sometimes reach the same interpretation from quite different sensory data, as when one man hears a story told over the radio, another reads the same story in a book, whilst a third (being blind) reads it with his fingers in the Braille version.

Perception is a most complicated process, which involves the fitting together of the mosaic of sensation, comparing the pattern with the immediate past (the same room may seem hot to a man who has just come in from the snow, yet cold to another who has just left a hot bath), weighing it in the light of past experiences, and colouring it with desires, interests and prejudices. Perception, far from being a simple physical interpretation of sensory data, is a complex synthesis from physical, emotional and intellectual factors. To quote again from William James: "Whilst part of what we perceive comes through our senses from the object before us, another part (and it may be the larger part) always comes . . . out of our own head."

One factor which has a large bearing upon perception is our state of arousal, and this in turn is closely linked to the level of stimulation to which we are subjected. It is fairly well known nowadays that sensory deprivation has a powerful disorientating effect and that it seriously interferes with perception, whilst sensory stimulation (within limits) increases both perception and motor performance.

State-of-arousal is a perfectly real physiological factor which can be measured by means of simple electrical apparatus, but it is a factor which is commonly overlooked even in investigations which depend upon it. It is no coincidence that all the most marvellous "psychic phenomena" have been reported from seance rooms which were dimly lit, silent but for faint background music, and in which the observers had been connfied for some time, and it is well known too that truck drivers, radar observers, astronomers, and others who sometimes perform routine tasks of extreme monotony are often subject to hallucinations after prolonged spells of concentration. Hallucinations of this type seem to be the organism's attempt to provide itself with sensory stimulus, but the most bizarre and striking hallucinations are usually due to neurological disease.

The famous neurologist, W. Grey Walter, has described the case of a man suffering from a war-time shrapnel wound who had epileptiform seizures which were preceded by visions of an ugly old woman. The witch-like vision was dressed in rags and tatters and emitted an abominable odour. The patient commented that she bore a certain resemblance (in her less unpleasant aspects) to his grandmother. The truly remarkable feature of such hallucinations is that they can easily be induced by electrically stimulating the damaged or diseased part of the brain, and that they cease completely after surgical removal of the affected tissue. Such highly-organised hallucinations are very much rarer than simple sensory effects like nasty smells, blobs of light, strange noises, and various emotional disturbances.

Apart from hallucinations, there are a number of other odd mental states concerning which little is known. Sleep is still something of a mystery, and recent experiments on the transmission of ideas to sleeping people seem to indicate that something like telepathy may operate more readily under these conditions. Sleep-learning is another phenomenon to be borne in mind,

since it means that one can acquire sensory data of quite complex order without being consciously aware of the acquisition process.

Of still greater importance to our main theme is the recent discovery of people who can "hear" radar waves as a high-pitched "noise"; the strange experiences of astronauts who have "seen" spinning blobs of light, due to the direct effect upon their nervous systems of intense magnetic fields, and the findings of American research workers of strong physiological effects due to radio waves of a few hundred megacycles frequency (in the TV region). Rhesus monkeys have been sent mad by exposure to quite low intensities of such waves, and similar intensities cause birds to become paralysed.

What does all this boil down to in terms of an open-minded examination of strange phenomena? It means that there is overwhelming evidence for the capacity of the human mind to undergo "experiences" as the result of stimulation of the brain and nervous system by channels quite other than the recognised senses. One might argue (but we will not) that this is, by definition, extra-sensory perception. The important fact to note is that subjective experiences of anything at all, from whirling lights to werewolves, from poltergeists to promenade concerts, could be the result of non-sensory stimuli, including stimulus due to electromagnetic radiation in the radio part of the spectrum.

The fallacy of the Fourth Dimension

Many writers on UFOs (and by no means all of them of the rabid space-opera brethren) have alluded to the *Fourth Dimension* as one possible explanation of how visitants from vastly remote universes might overcome the space-time barrier imposed by the finite velocity of light, and so visit us without having to make a journey lasting for millions of years.

It has been suggested that some *space-warping* effect might be possible (perhaps in the vicinity of super-dense objects like giant neutron stars) which would result in places which are widely separated in the normal space-time continuum becoming in close proximity in some hypothetical "higher dimension".

The Fourth Dimension has also been evoked by spiritualists to explain apports and similar occult manifestations. Now, although it may be conceded that a "real" Fourth Dimension (which is almost a contradiction in terms) might enable us to turn oranges inside-out without breaking their skin, and to enter and leave locked rooms at will without passing through the walls (let alone the doors or windows), there is, in cold fact, absolutely no evidence at all that this concept of "a direction at right angles to all known directions" is anything other than a mathematical abstraction—like that wonderful XIXth century fluid, the *luminiferous ether*.

But there is, of course, another way in which ghosts can pass through solid walls, apports can appear in sealed boxes, and UFOs can traverse the sky instantaneously yet silently (no wind of passage, no sonic boom)—that is, through the power of the imagination. Here, let us be quite clear, I do not mean "the power to concoct a story", but the capacity of the mind quite unconsciously to provide itself with false sensory data.

To return to the Zen *Koans*, mentioned earlier, one of the famous ones is the following: "There is a goose in a bottle which has a narrow neck. Problem: How to get the goose out without breaking the bottle or harming the bird? Answer: 'There, It's Out'."

In my opinion, whenever the Fourth Dimension is dragged into things—whether in relation to parapsychology, ufology, or whatever it may be, it is purely as an attempt to cover up muddled thinking, bad observation or downright fraud by the use of a fine-sounding but empty phrase.

A new mode of communication ?

We have partly answered our seemingly meaningless question about UFOs and poltergeists. Both of these phenomena could be "experienced", with completely convincing realism, due to effects of electromagnetic fields. Let us open our minds really wide and "think big", as our transatlantic friends would say. UFOs and poltergeists have something in common with other scientifically-disreputable entities, like werewolves, angels, ghosts, elementals, etc. Rather than discard all of these as "unproven", why not admit the (subjective) reality of all of them?

The psychedelic experience is now widely talked-about, and it is perfectly clear that (whether or not the experience offers a gateway to wisdom or truth, or merely a route to the asylum) certain drugs can—in incredibly minute doses—temporarily, and perhaps permanently, alter our whole idea of the external world. But the part of the mind which can most readily be objectively studied, the electrochemical computer-like faculty of learning and memory, is in principle just as capable of responding to electromagnetic as to chemical stimulus. Perhaps the whole of man's dreams of heaven and nightmares of hell are psychedelic experiences induced by electromagnetic radiation. It should be noted that the *content* of dreams, hallucinations, etc., is drawn from our own memories—there is no suggestion of any sort of mentally telepathised programme of fantastic themes—but the *occasion* is provided by an external "trigger". It is rather as if someone tried to attract our attention by banging us on the head rather hard. The bang provides the occasion for dreaming, but the content of the dreams we provide for ourselves.

We have, then, seen that there is evidence for both subjective impressions and objective physiological changes being produced or triggered by radiation in the decimetric and centimetric regions. This radiation could be either terrestrial or extraterrestrial in origin. It could be either a stochastic natural process or the planned product of an alien intelligence. Perhaps those Russian astronomers who persistently seek for hidden communications in the radiation from quasars or from hydroxyl radicles are not so silly as their colleagues believe. Perhaps everyone who has sought messages from other worlds than ours has been wrong only in that they were looking for messages of the wrong kind. Unfortunately, if communication is possible by the direct stimulation of minds with radiation, it is very difficult to see how we are to distinguish between messages and mania.

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A NOTE ON WILLIAM OF OCCAM

by Aimé Michel

WHEN re-reading the literature on the Valensole case, I came across a comment by our friend René Fouéré[1] on a phrase of mine in my first Valensole report, where I said that M. Masse's account of the disappearance of the machine **on the spot . . .** "suggested a manipulation of Space-Time far beyond our most advanced knowledge in matters of Physics at the present time," and that such sightings . . . "would perhaps explain the fact that the Minitrack optical networks have never photographed the approach of a UFO in circumterrestrial space. The UFOs would accordingly be capable of non-linear movements."[2]

Here is Fouéré's comment:

"Although having no *a priori* reason for denying that a Physics far in advance of our own could perform this *Space-Time manipulation* of which Aimé Michel speaks, we think that, for reasons of methodology, it should only be considered as a last resort. William of Occam wisely held that the number of hypotheses ought not to be multiplied unnecessarily. We would say, so far as we are concerned, that one should only have recourse to the most complex and most uncertain possibilities after exhausting all the simplest and most verifiable ones."

Well, of course, I have much respect for the English monk who, away back in those early days of the XIVth century, dared to revolt against Thomas Aquinas, against Aristotle, against the Pope, and who made profound studies in the *quodlibet septem* of (among other weighty questions) those . . . "of knowing whether an angel can move from place to place in the void," or . . . "whether one angel can speak with another angel," and who nevertheless declared: "*Entia non sunt multiplicanda praeter necessitatem*" ("entities should not be multiplied beyond what is necessary"). Note that it is *entities* and not *hypotheses*.

Naturally of course I will abandon to M. Fouéré, without discussion, the hypothesis of a "manipulation of Space-Time", and likewise, incidentally, *any* sort of hypothesis, having expressed once and for all time, in THE HUMANOIDS, p. 70, proposition 37, my total contempt for all speculation that does not aim to disencumber us of spurious ideas, explicit or not.

Let us skip too the fact that the words "simple", "complex", "uncertain", are vague words, admitting of no objective definition except in Mathematics, where there are no hypotheses in the sense that is meant here, and that a hypothesis cannot be qualified as *simple*, *complex* or *uncertain* except in relation to the fancy of each of us, and to what he knows and, above all, what he does not know.

Despite this, let us admit provisionally that we can be in agreement to the extent of declaring that one given hypothesis is simpler than any other. The question is one of knowing whether the rule according to which you have to stick to this hypothesis until the contrary is proved is a useful rule, or on the contrary a bad one.

It must be pointed out, right at the outset, that *proof of the contrary* can only be sought by somebody who refuses to stick to the "simplest hypothesis". The rule attributed by M. Fouéré to William of Occam, and which he, Fouéré, enjoins upon us at every opportunity,[3] consequently requires us to wait for the facts, of their own accord, to force us to abandon the "simplest hypothesis".

It is quite easy to verify for yourself that all discoveries, without exception, have been made by people who rejected this attitude. The history of Science shows likewise that the facts discovered by rebels were always contested precisely in the name of this very same "simplest hypothesis"; that Kepler was called a madman because he refused to wait for the facts to come along and of their own accord destroy the theory of epicycles, inasmuch as the objection made to him was that the circle was "simpler" than the ellipse; that Galileo was called a dreamer, first because he rejected Aristotle's *impetus* and Plato's *antiperistasis*, and preferred to gaze through his telescope, and then, later, because Jupiter's satellites were a "useless complication"; that this same paralysing mechanism was applied to Newton, Pasteur, Planck and Einstein, and is now being applied to those dreamers who obstinately refuse to adhere to the "misinterpretation" theory about UFOs—delightfully simple as it may nevertheless be—and put forward the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

Why is it that the so-called "simplest hypothesis" has this tendency to be imposed upon us as a dogma? It is because, by its very nature, it is "unique", single. There is, by definition, only one "simplest hypothesis", whereas the consideration of some other and more "complex" hypothesis begets doubt as between the two of them, and consequently stimulates the imagination to discover experiments capable of bringing about a decisive vote in favour of the one against the other. Since Science knows of no other method of progressing, it is consequently clear that the rule of the "simplest" hypothesis conceals behind its façade of somewhat inane wisdom a dangerous intellectual narcotic. It engenders mental drowsiness, dogmatism and self-satisfaction. It is, in fact, the very symbol of mediaeval conformity. Though the history of Science has never stopped refuting it, it is still alive and kicking and in good health, still spreading false evidence and blocking research.

In opposition to this odious rule of the "simplest hypothesis" I propose now to set up another rule which we might call "Kardashev's Rule". Kardashev is that Russian astrophysicist who, after studying the curious cyclic variations of the quasar C.T.A.-102, asked himself the question: "And what if it were a signal?"

As we all know, there are twenty "simpler" hypotheses than this one, and all of them, by the way, just as uncertain too as this one is. But, out of all these uncertain hypotheses, Kardashev proposes the one that is most stimulating to our minds.

I know several astronomers who have begun to take an interest in the quasars since this Kardashev business,

and several young men who, through it, came to discover their own scientific vocation. And so, three cheers for Kardashev! And let William of Occam, that fine flower of the Middle Ages, return to his angels.

NOTES

[1] *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, No. 7, March 1966, p. 24.
[2] Michel, A., *The Valensole Affair*, FSR, November/December 1965.
[3] See also *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, No. 13, September 1967, p. 2.

* * *

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary we read: "The leading principle of the nominalism of William of Occam [or Ockham] (was) that *for the purposes of explanation things not known to exist should not, unless it is absolutely necessary, be postulated as existing.*"

The section in italics is known as "Occam's Razor", and, as Waveney Girvan stated, in the Editorial of FSR, Vol. 10, No. 1, it is often quoted against us by scientists. The article continued: "the argument is based on what may be a false premise—namely that flying saucers cannot exist. Could we ever be told why they cannot?"

A NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STUDY OF UFOs

by Dr. James E. McDonald

Our contributor, who is senior physicist, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, and professor, Department of Meteorology, The University of Arizona, responds to Soviet scientist Zigel's plea for "a joint effort of all the scientists of the world" to determine the nature of UFOs. ("New York Times" News Service story of December 10, 1967, by Henry Kamm.)

I STRONGLY endorse Dr. Zigel's plea for international scientific study of UFOs. It is now entirely clear that essentially similar objects of unexplainable nature are being seen all over the world. Investigations on a global scale are therefore urgently needed.

I am delighted with the recent establishment of a Soviet scientific commission to study UFO sightings in the U.S.S.R. It would be amusing if it should turn out that Russian scientists are the ones who finally convince the world that twenty years of assurances by the United States Air Force were completely unjustified.

Scientists throughout the world have tended to ignore the UFOs as if they were just so much nonsense. From talking to fellow-scientists here and abroad, I have seen that most of them have believed that Air Force Project Bluebook was really studying UFOs with scientific competence. The trouble was that almost none of these scientists took time off to check for themselves. I did. What I have found is nothing short of alarming. Bluebook and its consultants have simply swept under a rug of ridicule and innuendo thousands of sightings from credible witnesses, sightings of objects that are neither swamp gas nor secret test devices, nor fireballs nor ball lightning.

In Australia and New Zealand last summer, I had a chance to interview dozens of witnesses. The UFOs down there are characterised by the same patterns and behaviour as those which have been reported for years in the United States. Now there's evidence that similar sightings have been going on in Russia. From UFO investigators in France, England, Canada, Scandinavia, Japan, Australia, and elsewhere, I get the same feeling of urgent need for rapid escalation of a scientific study of UFOs that I see in Dr. Zigel's recent plea.

It is unwise, possibly even unsafe, to delay any longer in getting some really high-calibre investigations of UFOs under way. My early hopes that Dr. Condon's investigations at the University of Colorado might fill this need have been disappointed. Dr. Condon appears to be more interested in the kooks and crackpots than in the reliable reporters of UFOs. Perhaps a Russian panel can help us change our attitudes about all this.

DESIGN FOR A FLYING SAUCER

A SPECIAL REPRINT

Mr. R. H. B. Winder's brilliant four-part article *Design for a Flying Saucer* (see FSR, Vol. 12, No. 6; Vol. 13, Nos. 1, 2, 3) has now been issued as a single reprint.

The author's lectures on the design and associated topics have been given to large audiences at Universities and Royal Aeronautical Society Branches up and down the country. The talks have been widely acclaimed

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(*continued from page 3*)

about it—through which the silvery shape was still clearly visible—changed to a deep, brilliant red, the protrusion at the base standing out black against the blinding colour. The UFO shot straight up into the air at tremendous speed and vanished almost immediately. It did not reappear during the rest of Mr. Hunter's journey.

Although he sometimes read science fiction, Mr. Hunter told the investigators that he took no interest in unidentified flying objects, and had read only a few newspaper reports about them which he had regarded hitherto as nonsense.

REPORTS FROM SWEDEN

by Åke Jonsson

Our contributor, who is FLYING SAUCER REVIEW representative in Sweden, prepared his article in English.

THIS article is based on a study of some 600 newspaper items from the period March-May 1967 which I made during the summer of 1967. I also made one or two personal investigations, and received a measure of assistance from other investigators. The newspapers were mostly from the north/central part of Sweden.

The Spring 1967 seems to have been a rather active period for Swedish conditions—the number of reports which I uncovered for the period March-May 1967 was 41 (all but four of them in March and April); during the last three years (1964-66) the number of reports received by military authorities in Sweden each year did not total anywhere approaching 40 (in 1966 there were just about 20 reports). There also seem to have been reports before March and since May, so the accurate number of sightings made in Sweden during 1967 will be much higher than 41.

This article is not to be considered as a survey of a "wave"—I have merely selected 15 of the more interesting cases. The remaining 26 cases have been excluded either because they were lacking in detail, or because a natural explanation seemed highly probable. This of course does not exclude the possibility that perhaps many of these 15 cases might be identified by more experienced investigators, or by scientists in the field, as natural phenomena. In fact I would be thankful to receive sensible explanations for any of these 15 cases through the columns of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

I know of only one official explanation to any of these cases (Case No. 1), but many experts seemed to prefer to explain away all cases as "light-refraction phenomena".

During the week beginning April 7, 1967, many scientists from the Max Planck-Institute of Munich, W. Germany, launched rockets from the Esrange-base north of Kiruna (in the extreme northern part of Sweden). These rockets carried doses of barium which were set to detonate at an altitude of 170 kilometres (about 106 miles). The barium-clouds that originated from these explosions looked like green balls with a red centre, and were almost motionless in the sky. I do not think the descriptions in Cases 8, 9 and 10 seem to fit the description of barium-clouds (Case 10, because the tubular-shape does not fit the general ball-appearance, because the time of day was rather late, and because the sighting lasted much longer than the barium-clouds did). Three other cases from April 10 and 11 have been excluded because the descriptions strongly suggested that the "objects" were barium-clouds.

I feel that I should add that the barium-cloud phenomenon probably explains the strange object over Finland (see FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Vol. 13, No. 4, pp. 7 and 8). On September 12, 1967, four similar barium-clouds were sent up from a rocket-base in the northern part of Norway, and these clouds resulted in several reports from the north/central part of Sweden (even as far to the south as Stockholm). The descriptions given in these reports (and in the reports of April) in most respects fit the description given by Elis W. Grahn, namely the green light with a red centre—in fact one of the witnesses even described them as red balls with green rims—changing to white "smoke", which slowly disappeared. This fact, and the fact that the barium-clouds of April were launched at about 9.00 p.m. (10.00 p.m. Finnish time) and were seen at places at a greater distance than Gamlekarleby (and the other places mentioned in Mr. Grahn's article), strongly suggests that the description in the article was not that of a "strange object", but of a rather unusual barium-cloud phenomenon instead.

The description of the following 15 cases is directly based upon statements made by the witnesses in newspapers, or on my own investigations. The figures are not to be considered as drawn to scale, but as being complementary to the text and thus giving the reader a better picture of the nature of the sightings.

CASES

1. March 5, 1.25 a.m., Lövåsen, Vilhelmina, Lappland.

Yeoman Erik Söderström, 53, was in his bed waiting for his two sons to return from Vilhelmina. He heard the car arrive, and one of his sons came almost rushing in and shouted something about there being a "space ship" out there. He at once realised from the boy's voice and entrance that he was not just playing a joke, so five of the family—

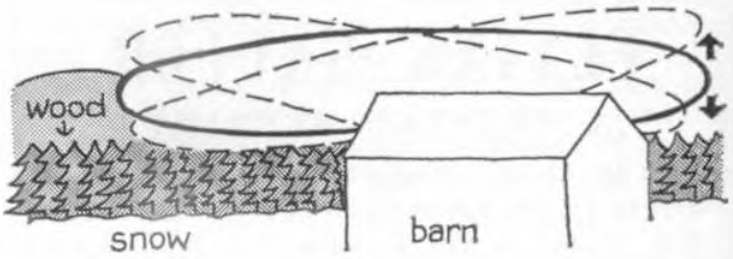


Figure 1

with the exception of the youngest daughter whom they did not wake up—ran towards the kitchen window.

When they looked through the window, they saw, partly silhouetted against the sky, a dark, blue-black, cigar-shaped object, 25 to 40 metres in length (1 metre = 3ft. 3in.) and 4 to 6 metres in height. The object hovered some 8 metres above the ground, partly hidden by a barn standing some 60 metres from the house. It was wobbling slightly on its axis (see figure 1), and did not give off any light.

When, after six minutes, someone turned on the electric light in the kitchen, the immediate result of this was that the

large object accelerated with a whistling sound (the only sound that was heard during the whole sighting), and disappeared to the north in a few seconds. Simultaneously, as the large object sped away, a smaller one shot out from behind the bigger one, made a turn, and then came back and hovered about 100 metres from the house above a power line (20,000 volts) to the right of the original sighting-place, at a height of 20 metres (see figure 2). This smaller object had a tail behind it, which Mr. Söderström thought could have been air whirls or maybe some kind of exhaust. The object was circular, silvery and seemed metallic; it gave off a faint,

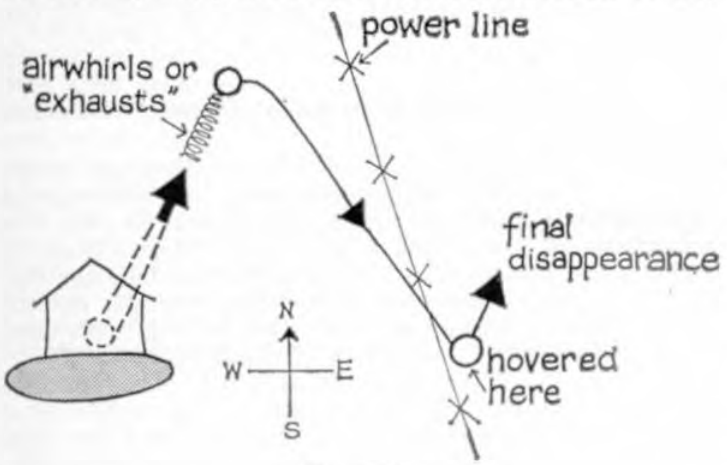


Figure 2*

The movements of the object as if seen from above. The shape of the object as shown here is purely arbitrary

lustreless light. Its diameter was between 6 and 12 metres. It hovered for 2 to 4 minutes close to the power line, and disappeared for some moments. It returned once more before it finally disappeared towards the north-east. The whole sighting lasted for 15 to 20 minutes.

Some weather conditions: The sky was clear (i.e., cloudless), the thermometer was 20° Celsius below zero, and there was aurora borealis.

Sources: 1, 2 (see list at end of article).

2. March 9, about 7.30 p.m., Strönsund, Lappland.

Mrs. Ingegerd Greander, her daughter Ann-Sofi, and the daughter's fiancé, Klas Olof Nilsson, were on their way home by car from Storuman to Slussfors, when "Nilsson noticed a bluish light to the left of the road. When the ladies looked out they saw two objects, a bigger and a smaller one, which moved in the same direction as the car, but at a greater speed. After some minutes they lost the 'saucers' from sight.

"When soon afterwards they passed more open country . . . they caught sight of the objects again, now at a greater distance, moving towards Mattaberg (north-east—ÅJ). The two saucers emitted a faint, lustreless, bluish light, and the bigger object kept a constant altitude above the ground, while the smaller one rose and descended, and followed the bigger one all the time. After a while they disappeared beyond the horizon."

Sources: 3, 4.

3. March 10, 8.55 p.m., Rosinedal, Västerbotten.

Mr. Bo Lindmark, his wife Vivan and their ten-year-old daughter were on their way towards Umeå by car when "Suddenly the road was illuminated by a light, which came from above. When we looked up we saw an object, which looked like two plates pressed together with the insides against each other. The bottom of the object was shiny and smooth. At the same time we heard a slight 'frizzling' sound. The object crossed (flew over) the road and disappeared rapidly."

Source: 3.

4. March 15 or 16, about midnight, between Svappavaara and Kiruna, Lappland.

Mr. Birger Lundgren, a builder's workman, was driving his car towards Kiruna on his way to work a night shift, when he noticed two round, luminous objects, one of them somewhat smaller than the other one, in front of the car. "They seemed to be only 10 metres or so above the road, and followed the car for several kilometres. Sometimes they moved faster, and then it seemed as if they were going to land on the road in front of me." Thinking that they could be reflections of his car headlights, he turned these off, but the green-white objects remained in view for a long while afterwards. Then they disappeared so suddenly that he did not really see how it could have happened. The light emitted by the objects was so intense that it would have been possible to drive without the car headlights on.

Mr. Lundgren was so shaken by his experience, that he took one hour to drive the remaining 30 kilometres (18½ miles) to Kiruna. He had always laughed at flying-saucer theories before, but was now convinced that that was what he saw.

Sources: 5, 6, 7.

5. March 16, about 9.00 p.m., Kiruna, Lappland.

Mr. Ronny Plannthin,28, was out ski-ing south of the town when he suddenly noticed what he at first thought was a shooting star. A falling star-like white object which suddenly stopped, and then made various movements before it disappeared behind a mountain (see figure 3). The luminous intensity seemed to increase while the object moved. The sighting lasted for 30 seconds.

Sources: 1, 8.

6. March 22, about 11.00 p.m., between Kungälv and Marstrand, Bohuslän.

"Student Ann-Lis Danielsson, 22, states that she . . . was pursued for 15 minutes by a 'whizzing' and light-emitting saucer of about 15 metres diameter when travelling the road between Kungälv and Marstrand. . . . She suddenly noticed a green shimmer in the top right corner of the windscreen, and she turned to see what it was. . . . About 150 metres away from the car, and at an altitude of about 400 metres, there hovered a round, disc-shaped object. It emitted an intense



Figure 3

The cross marks the spot from which observation was made

* Figures 1 and 2 were drawn originally by the author after his visit to the sighting-place, and are based on descriptions given by the witnesses. It must be noted that the proportions (particularly in figure 2) are not the correct ones; the only purpose of these figures is to give the reader a clearer picture of the movements of the objects. The other illustrations with this article are based on sketches made by the witnesses in replies to questionnaires.

greenish light, and although she had all the windows of the car shut, she heard a powerful 'whizzing' sound from the object. After having followed the car for some kilometres on a straight road, the object changed course (direction) and disappeared towards the west and the sea (the Skagerack)."
Source: 9.

7. March 25, about 1.00 a.m., Långsjöby, Dikanäs, Lappland.

The youths Britt-Marie Söderström, of Vilhelmina (not to be confused with the Söderström family of case 1), and Leif Jonsson, Åsele, were guests at Alfred Hamreby's place during Easter. They "were in a cottage on the farm when they . . . noticed a strange discordant note which they at first thought came from the radio. When they had turned the radio off, the jarring tone was still there, and seems to have come from two luminous objects which they observed at about the same time. The youths did not go out, but watched the objects through the window. The first time they could watch them for about five minutes. Outlines could not be distinguished, and the distance could not be ascertained. The objects moved to and fro, and gave off a very bright light. When they disappeared the sound also ceased. After a moment's pause, first the sound, and then the objects returned; the same process was repeated a third time. On one occasion it seemed as if something had dropped from one of the objects, and there was a flash. The sound was described as 'continuous' and it gradually diminished as the objects disappeared.

"The youths did not dare to move during the sighting, and accordingly they did not call any other person. The light from the objects was so intense that the surrounding country was illuminated." The sightings lasted for some 20 to 25 minutes.
Source: 10.

8. April 10, 9.15 p.m., Kvarnbrånet, Hällnäs, Västerbotten.

Mr. Thorsten Lindmark was driving his car close to his home, when he suddenly felt a powerful wind against the car. At the same time he noticed two luminous, multi-coloured objects at an altitude of about 15 metres. "The objects were round, and their apparent size about double that of a 'no-parking' sign (about 130 centimetres—4ft.—ÅJ. One of the objects he saw on edge: they were a 'couple of decimetres' thick. . . . The objects moved towards the east at a rather great speed." He hurried home, and his wife could see the objects in the distance.

When, next day, Mr. Lindmark went to the spot where he had made the observation, he found small fir twigs spread out into a thin belt on the ground about 50 metres long and several metres wide. This was pointing in the same direction as that in which the two objects moved.

Although this was an unusual sighting, Mr. Lindmark thought he had seen a whirlwind which for some reason had been self-luminous. The newspaper (see source 11) questioned both a professor of physics and meteorologists about this theory, but the result was negative; none of them could find any evidence that there had been a whirlwind at that hour of the day. Furthermore it was the wrong time of the year for such a phenomenon.
Sources: 11, 12.

9. April 10, 9.45 p.m., Vedjeön, Strömsund, Jämtland.

Bus driver Erik Elfström, 50, told how he "was going to bed when my wife, Solveig, looked through the window and caught sight of a light. She called to me to come, and I too saw the strange light. It was a circular white light from an object which seemed to spin around on its axis. It seemed as if something glided in front of the light, so that it became fainter. At the same time it seemed as if it spun round and showed a side which had fainter light. Thus it kept on until it disappeared from sight. For a minute it hovered motionless above lake Dragan; then it seemed to move away from us with accelerating speed towards the north-west in the direction of Vilhelmina." He described the movement as being straight away from him, so that the object's position in the sky did not change. "I watched the light until it disappeared from my eyes. Then I took my 7 × 50 binoculars and caught sight of it again. Finally it disappeared, even through the binoculars. Any confusion with the light on the Tåsjö-transmitter (a TV-transmitter—ÅJ) is absolutely excluded, because I saw that at the same time but to the right of the luminous object." The sighting lasted for five minutes.
Sources: 1, 13.

10. April 10-11, 10.00 p.m.-1.00 a.m., Storsele, Vilhelmina, Lappland.

Farmer Ludvig Jonsson, and other people living on the farm, noticed an object in the north-west. "He described the object as pointed with four luminous points in the base. The object was seen in the same direction all the time, but moved and showed different sides so that sometimes they saw two luminous points, sometimes four. When the base pointed towards them, it seemed as if they were looking into a tube, and that inside there was a blaze of changing intensity.

"He telephoned Mrs. Klara Jonsson, who also looked at the object, and after a while it occurred to her to examine it with binoculars. She describes the movement as if the *Eiffel tower* had been hovering in the sky, slowly wobbling. The object seemed to be constructed with a network. Sometimes it looked pointed, sometimes it had another shape. When the base was facing her she saw it as a square, and she also described the blazing light which she saw 'inside a long (and) tapering tube.' When, at about one a.m. . . . she looked at the object for the last time, it was in exactly the same spot as it had been three hours earlier. All the observers think the object was at a great distance."
Sources: 11, 12.

11. April 17-18, midnight, Måga, Ljusdal, Hälsingland.

Mr. Sven Thage Hilmersson was outside his house repairing a hydrophore which had broken down. Around midnight he saw something which at first he thought was a satellite, but he soon realised it couldn't be. He saw an object "which moved much faster than satellites he had seen before, and emitted an intensively blinding light. The colour was silvery or ash-grey, and the edges of the object were powerfully illuminated (see figure 4). But the most striking thing, however, was the sound: very powerful howling or whistling noise." He first saw it above Tallåsen (north-east) one kilometre away, and then it passed his house and

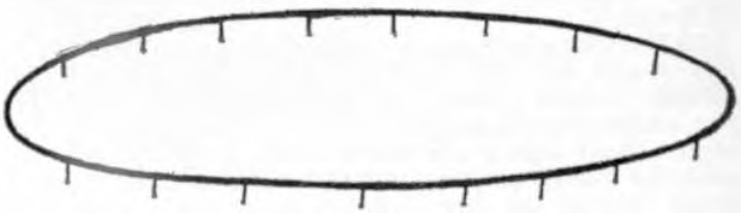


Figure 4
The strokes denote luminous points

disappeared towards south-west. It moved horizontally at an estimated height of about 600 metres, and was visible for 3 to 5 minutes. He did not think the phenomenon could have been a meteor because it had no tail. Nor did he think it could have been an aeroplane, because there was absolutely no resemblance to aeroplanes, which he had seen so many times before in darkness.
Sources: 14, 15.



Figure 5

12. April 23, 11.35 p.m., between Ljusdal and Färila, Hälsingland.

Chief police assistant (?) Ove Westberg, 40, was driving from Ljusdal, after work, towards Färila. He was on road R84 when he noticed a light to the right of the car. He stopped the car, turned the right-hand window down and switched the engine off. The light-source was at a standstill during the duration of the sighting (see figure 5). It was seen close to the evening star, but was two or three times bigger. The light changed colour alternately between white, blue-white and orange-red, and it seemed as if something was rotating inside the light-source. This seemed to be bigger when it was orange in colour, and the luminous intensity also seemed to increase. After having watched the light for five minutes he was overcome by an unpleasant feeling, and

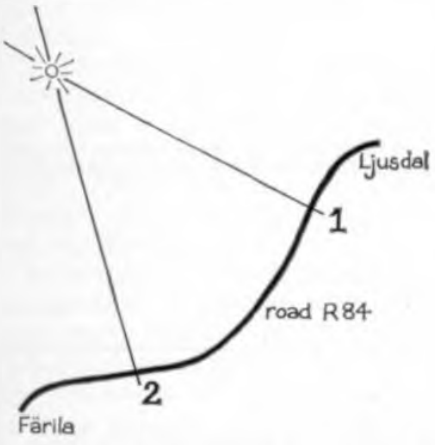


Figure 6

continued to drive home. He could see the object now and then, when there were no trees in between. Ten minutes after he had seen the object for the first time, it was finally hidden by a mountain.

When he got home, he telephoned his colleagues at the police station at Ljusdal, and one of them drove to the sighting-place but saw nothing. After arriving home he took a map and a compass and drew lines from the first and the last sighting-places. These lines crossed each other at a point 8 to 10 kilometres north-west of the sighting-places (see figure 6).

Sources: 1, 16.

13. April 24-25, night, Overälve, Bjuråker, Hälsingland.

"Yeoman Edvin Åhs, his wife Karin and their son Torbjörn, 20, watched an object which emitted a powerful white light.

"Says Edvin Åhs: The object looked like a car wheel, and hovered motionless in the sky above a timber-felling site some hundred metres from the house. After three minutes the 'car wheel' descended towards the ground and the light went out. Earlier this had been so intense that night became day. Some stock-trees which were standing on the timber-felling ground could be observed without difficulty.

"A quarter of an hour later my son caught sight of another, similar object, hovering above us. It moved slowly across the sky, and we could watch it for a long time. The light from this object was not as powerful as that from the first one."

Torbjörn Åhs searched the place where the object appeared to "land", but he found nothing.

Source: 17.

14. Late April, near Sala, Västmanland.

"Twenty persons have seen a red-yellow circular object with a powerful light. Sometimes it has been stationary, at others it has moved horizontally and vertically with an incredible speed. One observer heard an aeroplane 'buzz' in connection with it. Another at first thought the red light, or glare, came from a fire. His son—an amateur-astronomer—looked through a telescope and discovered three lights, two green and one red. A 'sighing' noise was also heard."

Source: 18.

15. May 5, 2.30 a.m., Kinna, Västergötland.

Farmer Anders Markusson, 65, "went out in his court-yard" when "suddenly he heard an engine noise coming from a glade about 500 metres from his house. Immediately afterwards a large saucer-shaped object rose towards the sky. It disappeared in a couple of seconds."

Source: 19.

Comment on Case No. 1

I visited the Söderström family on March 19, and based my description of this case on statements given by the witnesses, mostly by Mr. Erik Söderström.

This case was the only one that was mentioned in newspapers all over Sweden. Different newspapers had different versions (see for example FLYING SAUCER



Central and Northern Sweden showing location of sightings. Inset depicts Southern Sweden on reduced scale

REVIEW, Vol. 13, No. 3, p. iii), and the version Mr. Söderström himself gave me differed from most other reports in the newspapers. However, I consider the statements given to me by Mr. Söderström on March 19 are the most correct ones. (I have since corresponded with Mr. K. Gösta Rehn, who together with Mr. Sven Schalin visited the sighting-place some weeks after I had done so. I learned that Mr. Rehn and Mr. Schalin obtained the same version from the witnesses as I had done.)

As mentioned in the introduction, this case has acquired an official explanation: there had been too high a voltage in the powerline, and this resulted in sparks between the lines; sparks which would have illuminated two clouds low in the sky. Mr. Söderström himself did not give too much credit to this theory.

I found nothing to support the theory that the Söderströms might have been lying, or had made up the story just to get publicity. My impression, after talking to them, is that they really did see something out of the ordinary. (Mr. Rehn and Mr. Schalin also found the Söderströms to be reliable.)

The case certainly attracted interest for the Söderströms got at least 50 letters from all over the country asking for further details, and that during the 14 days between the sighting and my visit to their home. Nevertheless Mr. Söderström claimed that if he ever should happen to see something like that again, he would never tell anyone about it.

It should be noted that Mr. Söderström did not, according to his own statements, tell the newspapers and the Swedish news-agency TT (*Tidningarnas Telegrambyrå*) about the sighting himself. He merely told some of his fellow woodsmen on the Monday, and obviously they must have circulated the report, which is how the newspapers (originally *Västerbottens-Kuriren*) learned about it.

Mr. Söderström had never taken any interest in "flying saucers". Since the sighting, however, he has read everything on the subject which he could get in the library, including Adamski's contact claims, about which he claimed to be sceptical. "You can write," he said, "that I am absolutely convinced that these objects were 'space ships' piloted by intelligent beings from another world."

SOURCES

The following abbreviations have been used:
AB *Aftonbladet*, Stockholm.
Expr *Expressen*, Stockholm.
NSD *Norrländska Socialdemokraten*, Boden, Norrbotten.
ST *Sundsvalls Tidning*, Sundsvall, Medelpad.
VK *Västerbottens-Kuriren*, Umea, Västerbotten.
OP *Ostersunds-Posten*, Ostersund, Jämtland.

[1] Investigation by questionnaire.
[2] Personal visit to the sighting place.
[3] VK, March 11, 1967.
[4] Expr, March 11, 1967.
[5] NSD, March 17, 1967.
[6] NSD, April 22, 1967.
[7] AB, March 27, 1967.
[8] NSD, March 18, 1967.
[9] AB, March 25, 1967.
[10] VK, March 28, 1967.
[11] VK, April 12, 1967.
[12] OP, April 12, 1967.
[13] OP, April 11, 1967.
[14] The author wishes to thank Mr. Lennart Knutsson of Frösön, Jämtland, for letting him use material from his investigation, by questionnaire, of this case.
[15] ST, April 20, 1967.
[16] ST, April 25, 1967.
[17] ST, April 27, 1967.
[18] Expr, April 30, 1967.
[19] Expr, May 6, 1967.

B.B.C.'s SIGH OF RELIEF . . .

When, on February 20, the *Daily Sketch* published the story of the B.B.C.'s films which had gone astray, the mystery already had been troubling Chief Science Producer Philip Daly for ten days. And not without cause, for the 7,600ft. of exposed, unprocessed film, and 10,000ft. of $\frac{1}{4}$in. tape, were the end-product of a series of interviews with UFO witnesses and others —including Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hill—which form part of a big documentary programme on the subject.

Mr. Daly and his cameraman had despatched the package on the first stage of its journey at Boston on February 6: at Kennedy Airport it was transferred to a *Pan-Am* flight, and then at the last moment it was taken off, presumably because of overloading. It was after this that the package disappeared, and Mr. Daly's worries started on February 9 when, back in England, he discovered that his films were missing—although others taken in the South Western States were safe and sound.

On February 22, with plans already made for a return trip to the U.S.A., and with an item already prepared for this issue of the REVIEW entitled *Who hi-jacked the B.B.C.'s film?* everyone breathed a sigh of relief when the package unexpectedly turned up from New York. The contents were found undeveloped, and in good order, and quite a few "knowing looks" hastily evaporated.

The Editor and other members of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW team have been pleased to collaborate with Mr. Daly since early in September when the idea of a programme was first mooted. We eagerly await its presentation on B.B.C.1–TV some time in April or May, for Philip Daly and his team were responsible for that excellent documentary *Where Is Everybody?* which was shown last October.

THE LITTLE MAN OF GAFFNEY

A Special Report from S. Carolina

by John A. Keel

ON the night of November 16–17, 1966, an intensive meteor shower was visible in many parts of the United States. Excellent press coverage prior to the event prompted millions of people to spend the evening out of doors, watching the display. The city of New York even organised a huge "falling stars" party in a major park, but overcast skies in the area spoiled the view. UFO researchers braced themselves for a wave of mistaken "sightings" an misinterpretations of the phenomenon. It may be significant that not a single false report was received that evening. In fact, only one sighting was reported . . . and that was the story of two police officers encountering a "little man" in South Carolina.

The following evening, November 17, two schoolgirls from Quarryville, Pa., reported seeing a low-level white and green object.[1] Two days later, on November 19, a "flap" broke out in six states . . . Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, Kansas and Michigan. The Michigan sightings were accompanied by power failures throughout the state.[2]

Although the Leonid meteor showers failed to inspire an outburst of Menzel-type sightings (and maybe this does prove that the public really knows the difference between natural phenomena and UFOs), the report of the two police officers more than made up for the lack of other reports.

Patrolmen A. G. Huskey and Charles Hutchins were on a routine cruise around Gaffney, S.C., about 4.00 a.m. on the morning of November 17 when, according to their story, they suddenly saw a circular machine land and a "little man" step out to have a brief and enigmatic chat with them. They dutifully reported the encounter to the Gaffney Police Chief, and it quickly leaked out to the local newspapers. The story was not widely circulated outside of Gaffney, however, and few Ufologists had heard of it until it was mentioned in the April, 1967, issue of *Fate* magazine.[3]

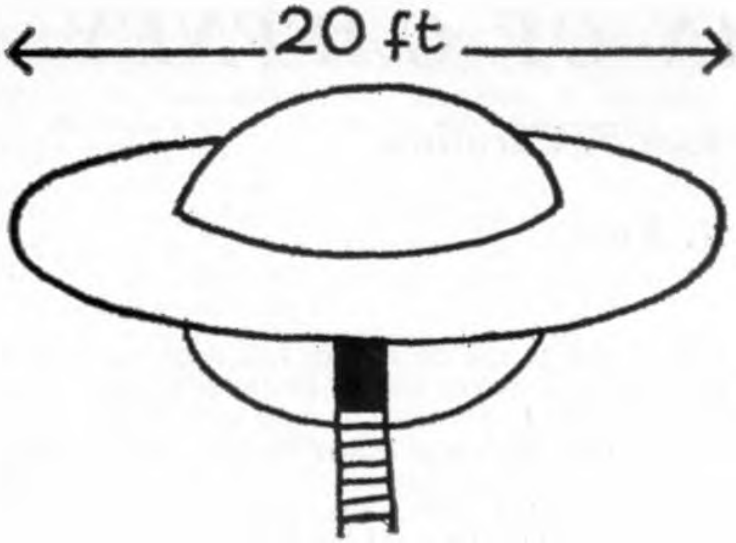
In November, 1967, I found myself in Atlanta, Georgia, about two hundred miles from Gaffney, and I decided to drive through South Carolina and seek out the two men. As is my practice, my first stop was a visit to the local newspaper office, the *Gaffney Ledger*, where I presented my press credentials to the managing editor, Jack Truelove, and discussed the case. He told me that he received very few UFO sightings and tended to avoid publishing them, particularly since Hutchins and Huskey had been exposed to so much ridicule after their story appeared. Later I learned that there had been extensive sightings throughout the entire area in the last few years, particularly around the village of Blacksburg to the north and Gastonia, North Carolina, a few miles SW of Charlotte, N.C. (The editor of the Gastonia *Gazette* was to tell me that he had been receiving at least one UFO report per day for the past year, but he only bothered to print two or three a month.)

Mr. Truelove phoned Officer Hutchins and arranged a meeting for later that evening. A. G. Huskey had resigned from the police force a few months earlier and was now operating a local business. At the appointed time I drove to the Gaffney Police Station where I found Officer Hutchins standing outside waiting for me in the bitter cold. He regarded me with some suspicion at first, asking for reassurance that I was "not with the government". He had heard of the well-publicised tragedy of the Ohio police officer, Dale Spaur, who had suffered all kinds of unpleasantness after being involved in the celebrated Ohio UFO chase of April, 1966. I handed my sheaf of credentials to him, showed him a number of my published UFO articles, including magazines which contained my picture, and he relaxed and became co-operative and talkative.

An ebullient man, stocky, about 5ft. 10in. and somewhere in his early thirties, Officer Hutchins quickly revealed a healthy sense of humour and, unlike many police officers, did not seem to take himself too seriously. We adjourned to an empty room in the police station where I set up my portable tape recorder and began the interview. He began with a confession. The "little man" had not had a "green complexion" as was reported in the newspapers, he said. When he and Huskey had first told their story they had been subjected to so many jeers that they deliberately added the "green complexion". Actually, he admitted, the creature's face seemed rather ordinary and human-like and neither man was able to tell whether his complexion was light or dark.

The landing

Hutchins had been on the Gaffney Police Force for about six months at the time, and Huskey had been a policeman for five years. He could no longer remember the exact date, but he did remember that they had been watching an unusual number of "falling stars" all evening. Some time after 4.00 a.m. (the newspaper stories gave the time as 4.45 a.m.) they were making a routine patrol along the isolated and unpopulated road through an outlying section of Gaffney known as the West Buford Street Extension when, as they neared a right-angle bend in the road, they suddenly saw a metallic object directly in front of them. This object was descending and was about 20ft. above the ground when they first observed it. Hutchins described it as being spherical, like a ball, with a wide, flat rim around it. There were no portholes or lights visible on it. It was completely dark, reflecting a dull gold colour in the



The Gaffney object
Based on sketch by Officer Hutchins

headlights of the police car.

As the object settled to within a few feet of the ground, both men got out of their car in a state of benumbed amazement. Later Hutchins estimated that the object must have been about 20ft. in diameter. A small door suddenly opened noiselessly on the underside of the sphere and a short ladder, 4 to 6ft. long, dropped down. White light poured out of the opening, but neither man could see anything in the interior. A figure appeared in the doorway, descended the ladder and walked slowly and deliberately toward the two police officers. When the figure reached a point about 15 or 20ft. from the two men it stopped.

"He didn't move stiffly," Officer Hutchins told me. "He moved just like anybody else, but kind of slow . . . like he was taking his time. He wasn't scared of us or anything like that."

In appearance "he was about the size of a 12-year-old boy . . . maybe four feet." He wore no helmet or headgear and was dressed "in a gold suit with no buttons or zippers". His costume was shiny, like metal, in the reflection of the headlights. It was not self-luminous.

"We were both kind of shakey and scared," Hutchins admitted. "So he did most of the talking. When we asked him questions, he wouldn't answer us, but just went right on talking."

Hutchins could not remember seeing the feet of the creature. It was standing in high grass and the feet must have been hidden. Unfortunately, since my interview took place a full year after the incident, both men had understandably forgotten small details. They could not even remember the full context of the "conversation".

"He talked real good . . . like a college graduate," Hutchins claims. "Didn't have any accent or anything. He acted like he knew exactly what he was saying and doing . . . didn't make any quick moves or false moves. He just stood there and talked to us."

What exactly was said? Officer Hutchins thinks that he stamme ed out a question like, "What are you doing here?" The creature did not reply, but asked a question of his own. "He wanted to know why we were both dressed alike," Hutchins says, "so I guess we told him we were police officers."

"His speech was very . . . very precise. He pronounced each word very carefully. I can't remember everything he said now . . . but it wasn't anything very important. I think I asked him where he was from but he didn't answer. He just laughed. He had a kind of funny laugh."[4]

The confrontation was brief, perhaps only two or three minutes. Then the creature announced: "I . . . will . . . return . . . in . . . two . . . days." He turned, walked slowly back to the ladder, climbed into the object, the door closed and the craft began to whirr. "It wasn't like those whirring sounds in science fiction movies . . . there was no screeching to it. It was soft, like an engine with a muffler on it." The object rose slowly into the air and vanished into the black sky.

The two policemen stood there for a few minutes in stunned silence before they finally pulled themselves together and returned to the Police Station.

They returned to the site the next day with a local Councilman named Hill and found several fresh footprints in the exact spot where the "little man" had stood. They "looked like children's footprints". No casts were made.

After the story had appeared in the local papers both men were subjected to considerable ridicule, but neither one received any hoax phone calls or crank letters. However, about two weeks after the incident two strangers turned up in Gaffney, made a few inquiries, and called Hutchins from a local restaurant. "They said they were doctors of some kind," Hutchins told me. "I think they were from the government or something. By that time both of us were fed up with the whole business and we didn't want to talk about it any more. I told those fellows we couldn't see them." These two strangers were apparently not very persistent. They went away and neither man was approached by any investigator of any kind.

Later I spoke to A. G. Huskey on the phone (I did not meet him personally). He confirmed Hutchins' story, recited the same details, but showed a great deal of reluctance. He wanted to forget the whole thing. He had left the force after suffering an accident totally unrelated to UFOs and now operates his own business in Gaffney.

Hutchins appeared to be a straight-forward, honest witness. There were many details he could not remember and he did not seem to attempt to embellish his story at all. His reputation in Gaffney is excellent. Careful cross-examination failed to uncover any discrepancies in his narrative. He told it like it happened, no more, no less.

The meaning of the contact

Accompanied by Hutchins and another police officer, I carefully inspected the site of the alleged landing. It looked very familiar to me . . . for I have stood in a hundred similar, if not identical places, during my investigations in the past two years. The West Buford Street Extension is a desolate place, covered with thickets and trees. There is only one house in the area

and that is some distance from the site. As Dr. Jacques Vallée noted in his study of the 1954 French landings, most of these incidents occur in isolated, thinly populated areas.

The object came down directly in front of a telephone pole which sits about 50ft. in from the bend in the road. The two officers took a few steps forward from their car but made no attempt to approach the entity. Their voices could have carried easily for 15 or 20ft. in the still night air.

I now have in my possession two remarkable photographs of "little men". One was taken at Oriental, N.C., in the summer of 1967, the other was taken in Lambertville, N.J., in September 1967. I am currently running a complete check on the photographers, and so on. If their stories are true, it would appear that in both cases the "little men" were not only aware that they were being photographed but that they *deliberately* posed for the photographers. In this Gaffney, S.C., incident it also seems as if the contact was a very deliberate one.

At 4.00 a.m. that morning there was probably little or no life in Gaffney and the cruising police car moving casually along a deserted road in an isolated area would have been most conspicuous. If the Ufonauts had wanted to make a deliberate contact in the area this was an ideal situation.

In view of the many other incidents now coming to our attention, such as low-level flights over cities and towns, and a steadily increasing number of landings and contacts, we might assume that the UFOs are finally coming out of "hiding" and beginning to make their presence known in a very deliberate manner. "They" do not seem especially interested in communicating important information to us, but they do seem to desire notice and attention.

Neither Hutchins nor Huskey had read any UFO literature before the incident, nor do they seem very interested in such literature now. They were not aware of the numerous other far-flung contactee stories in which the witnesses also reported that the Ufonauts declared they would return at a specific time.

Both men revisited the landing site nightly for two weeks after the incident without seeing anything unusual. However, they did see a large orange ball sailing across the sky a few days later.

A woman in Gaffney has been complaining to the police that her house has been "haunted" for the past year. She lives alone in the heart of the town and insists that a strange, oppressive "electronic sound" frequently permeates the house and seems to "wrap around" her. No one takes her seriously, even though others have reported hearing and "feeling" this sound when visiting her.

Farther north, around Gastonia, N.C., low-level sightings are continuous in the vicinity of Spencer Mountain, a high hill topped with radio and TV antennae. There has also been an epidemic of "haunted houses" in that area in the past year or two. The strange sound of a baby crying has been frequently heard in old cemeteries at night. While in Gastonia I checked into one fresh report . . . a Mrs. Delores Jamison said she had seen a brilliantly illuminated object, flashing red and blue lights, manoeuvring over the end of N. Broad Street on the night of November 15, 1967.[5] I visited the spot and discovered that the object must have been hovering directly above the Hollywood Cemetery. Cemetery sightings have become commonplace throughout the world—perhaps because cemeteries are deserted at night and offer excellent landing space.

Gradually, the pieces of this enormous puzzle are falling into place.

NOTES

[1] Quarryville, Pa., *Sun and Christiana Ledger*, January 14, 1967.
[2] Jackson, Mich., *Citizen-Patriot*, November 21, 1966.
[3] *Fate*, April 1967, page 25.
[4] This "funny laugh" has been frequently mentioned by contactees. Apparently it is a strained or artificial laugh, sometimes described as hysterical or insane.
[5] Gastonia, N.C., *Gazette*, November 16, 1967.

TWENTY YEARS BACK - 5

by Brinsley Le Poer Trench

EXACTLY twenty years ago today (at the time o writing this article), on January 7, 1948, Captain Thomas F. Mantell, of the Kentucky Air National Guard, met his death over Godman Air Force Base while chasing an unknown flying object.

The Mantell case, like the Arnold sighting and that of Chiles and Whitted, ranks as one of the earlier classics. Although the tragic story has been related many times in UFO books published in the early 1950s a new generation of people interested in the flying saucer story is now with us and that is why it is being revived here. Furthermore, it is salutary for some of us veterans to be reminded of these outstanding past events in the flying saucer saga.

Early that afternoon an enormous, circular, glowing object was sighted by many people at Madisonville, Kentucky. Later, thousands of witnesses throughout the State saw the giant UFO. The State police were deluged with telephone calls and they contacted Godman Air Force Base, near Fort Knox, and warned them of the approaching UFO.

Shortly afterwards, the glowing object was spotted from the Godman AFB control tower. Colonel Guy F. Hix, the commanding officer of the base, radioed Captain Mantell, who was then airborne with his squadron of F-51 Mustang fighters on a training flight.

Soon Mantell reported back to base that he had sighted the UFO and his squadron was going after it. The other pilots were Lt. Robert Hendricks, Lt. Buford Hammond and Lt. Albert Clements.

After a while, due to running out of oxygen, the other three pilots abandoned the chase, leaving Mantell still climbing up towards the object.

Approximately half an hour after the chase had begun, Mantell's voice cut in dramatically over the radio.

"It's directly ahead of me and moving at about half my speed. I'm closing in now to take a good look. The thing looks metallic and is tremendous in size."

That is the last official report that Mantell made.

(*continued on page 22*)

A CIGAR-SHAPED UFO OVER ANTARCTICA

by Gordon Creighton

ANOTHER impressive report from Antarctica has been supplied to us* by UFO CHILE, a group in Santiago.

It concerns a group of Chilean scientists who, during the 2nd International Geophysical Year 1956-58, had two UFOs in sight for two whole days.

A party of four men, consisting of two prominent scientists, an assistant, and a medical orderly of the Chilean Navy, had been taken by helicopter to Robertson Island, and were scheduled to stay there for one month studying the geology, fauna, and other features. They had with them a portable metal shelter, a battery-powered radio transmitter, and their gear.

Robertson Island lies south of the 65th Parallel and east of the 60th Meridian, in the Weddell Sea. Of volcanic origin, the island shows much basaltic outcropping and has an area of some 500 square kilometres.

At the beginning of January 1956, during a period of stormy weather, the party suddenly became aware of something which, in other circumstances, could have been very grave for them. This was that their radio had mysteriously ceased to function. This was however not too worrying a disaster in as much as it was firmly settled that the helicopter would return to take them off again on January 20.

At the request of the two scientists, their true names are not divulged by UFO CHILE, and they are referred to herein by the substitute names of Doctor Tagle and Professor Barros.

Dr. Tagle was in the habit of getting up regularly during what one would call the "night hours" of the Antarctic Summer, and going out to observe any meteorological phenomena of interest. Professor Barros on the other hand did not share this particular habit, and indeed had made it very clear to Tagle that he did not want to be disturbed and called out "even if all the aurorae borealis of the whole world were hanging overhead". Nevertheless, on January 8, 1956, Dr. Tagle saw something of so singular a nature that he at once rushed back to the hut and broke in on the slumbers of Professor Barros. After taking one look at the expression on Tagle's face, Barros dressed quickly and went out with him to face the 21° below zero. In the south-east the sun was shining brightly. The sky, totally clear of cloud, was a profound and limpid blue above the silent expanse of ice. Indeed, the records kept by the Chilean Navy indicate that only seldom have spells of such perfect weather been observed in that region.

The sighting commences

Dr. Tagle pointed upwards, almost overhead. Still in a bad temper through being disturbed, Barros looked as directed, and beheld two "metallic" cigar-shaped objects in vertical positions, perfectly still and silent and flashing vividly the reflected rays of the sun. One of the objects was almost at the mid-heaven, and the other at a distance of some 30° from the first.

Not without a secret feeling of anxiety, heightened by Dr. Tagle's own manifest excitement, Professor Barros examined the objects through his binoculars. "Of the apparent size of the full moon" (presumably meaning that their apparent length was comparable to the apparent width of the full moon), the things looked utterly solid, with smooth, polished, seemingly metallic surfaces. Everything about them argued in favour of an artificial origin.

The two scientists quickly decided not to call their companions at that stage, but to continue to watch, feeling as they did that there might always be a possibility—however remote—that they were sharing in some curious sort of private hallucination. They therefore moved off to a spot about 100 metres distant from the hut, and continued to watch.

More witnesses

At about 7.00 a.m. the medical orderly, a "fitness fanatic" who always made a point of emerging in his underwear for a brief burst of gymnastics, emerged from the hut and startled both the scientists by yelling almost straight away: "Look, Professor! Flying Saucers!"

The fourth man now appeared, and all four stood there gazing at a phenomenon which they all felt could certainly not be a mirage or hallucination of any kind. The two objects were still there stationary in the sky. They looked as if they had always been there from the beginning of time, part of the sky itself.

Manoeuvres

At about 9.00 a.m. object No. 1 (the nearest to the zenith) suddenly assumed a horizontal posture and shot away like a flash towards the west. It had now lost its metallic brightness and had taken on the whole gamut of visible colours of the spectrum, from infra-red to ultra-violet. Without slowing down it performed an incredible acute-angle change of direction, shot off across another section of the sky, and then did another sharp turn as before. These vertiginous manoeuvres, the zig-zagging, abrupt stopping, instantaneous accelerating, went on for some time right overhead, the object always following tangential trajectories in respect to the Earth and all in the most absolute silence.

The demonstration lasted about five minutes. Then the object returned and took up position beside its companion in almost the same area of the sky as before, but this time with about 50° between them, and now it was the turn of object No. 2 to show its paces and do a weird zig-zagging dance. Shooting off towards the east, it performed a series of ten disjointed bursts of flight, broken by brusque changes of direction, and marked by the same colour changes when accelerating or stopping, and so on. After about three minutes of this, object No. 2 returned and took up its station near its companion, and reassumed its original solid and metallic appearance.

The scientists had with them two Geiger-Miller counters of high sensitivity, one of them auditory and the other of the flash-type. When the two objects had finished their dance and reassumed their stations in the sky, someone discovered that the flash-type Geiger counter now showed that radioactivity around them had suddenly increased 40 times—enough to kill any organism subjected long enough to it. This discovery greatly increased the anxiety felt by the four men, as may well be imagined.

The temperature stood at between 15° and 20° below zero, the sky was bright and clear, without a shred of cloud or vapour, and so it continued all that day. None of the four men was able to do anything throughout the day except watch the two objects, and not a stroke of work could be done; all of them had the definite feeling of being as it were micro-organisms laid upon the slide of a microscope and subjected to the cold scrutiny of unknown and unknowable eyes, so that concentration on anything else was impossible.

Photographs suppressed ?

Although they had no telescopic lens, they did however have cameras with them, and they took numerous photographs of the objects, both in colour and black and white. We are not told in the report what became of these photographs.

While Professor Barros felt no fear that they were likely to be in danger of attack from the objects, he had to admit that with his severely rational scientific mentality, he found that the idea of being confronted with such a phenomenon from beyond the realms of any known earthly science was "anything but soothing". And as the hours passed the conviction was born in all four men that they were face to face with a phenomenon of non-human origin, that they were being spied upon by an intelligence that for some reason or other desired to remain anonymous, and whose next moves were utterly unforeseeable.

When the "night" period began, they decided to try to act as though they were not concerned and were indeed unaware of the presence of the objects, and they set off northwards along the shore of the Weddell Sea. Their shelter, pitched in a moraine (the bed of an old glacier), was at a height of some 60 metres above sea level, so that when they moved away they were soon hidden from the objects by a steep escarpment. But suddenly there was a flash, as though to warn them that they would gain nothing by trying to hide. It was now about 9.00 p.m., and they went back to their camp. The two objects had not budged.

During the "night" period, during which the sun was visible the whole time, their anxiety was such that none of them slept a wink. But nothing happened that night, nor during the first few hours of the next day. Sleepless, their appetite gone, all four men now felt near the limits of their physical resistance.

Calculations possible

In the evening of the second day, cirrus clouds appeared. In Antarctica, cirrus forms at an altitude of from 7,000 to 10,000 metres, and this is the forerunner of storms. Taking his knowledge of the normal cloud height as his yardstick, Professor Barros now took his theodolite, and he established the altitude of the two objects at around 8,000 metres, and their length at somewhere in the region of 150 metres. He estimated their diameter at the thickest part to be 25 metres. He felt that these figures were pretty reliable, as one of the objects was so near to a cloud that the cloud threw a faint shadow on it.

Signal answered ?

Next he sent out a beam of polarised light from one of his instruments, whereupon object No. 1 almost immediately emitted an intense white light itself, and by the time this light had gone out he perceived that the object had dropped down to a considerably lower level in the sky, its "apparent size now being that of a small car about 3 metres long".

Doctor Tagle, who was observing with his binoculars, thought he could make out a sort of hatchway on the upper part of the object, but Barros was unable to confirm this.

The unusual descent of object No. 1, which seemed to be a reaction to the signal given by Barros with his light-beam, now triggered off a nervous crisis in Tagle, who kicked out at the instrument and smashed it.

Object No. 1 had meanwhile started climbing again to its former altitude and, once there, began a fresh series of manoeuvres. During one of its astonishing bursts of speed Professor Barros did some calculations, based upon his previous estimate of the altitude of the objects, and found by angulation that its speed was 40,000 kilometres per hour, or in other words not far short of terrestrial escape velocity. Since the object would invariably start from zero speed and attain 40,000 km.p.h. **instantaneously,** then halting again abruptly, with no gradual deacceleration whatsoever, the inertia inside the object would clearly be fatal for any living creature unless it had its own gravitational field in accordance with the Plantier theory of UFO propulsion.

Blizzard ends observation of UFOs

At about 11.00 p.m. the Antarctic blizzard—a wind capable of reaching velocities of 300 km.p.h.—began to get into its stride, and the sky clouded over.

At about 2.00 a.m., at the height of the storm, the scientists established that the radioactivity level had dropped. And at the same time the extraordinary psychological tension reigning among the party had suddenly dropped too.

Even before they were able to prove it visually, the party were certain that the objects had gone.

Next day, the radioactivity level was back at normal, and that evening a break in the storm brought a brief clearance of some 40 per cent of the sky, and they were able to see for themselves that the things were indeed no longer there.

On January 20 the helicopter picked up the party. Though they did not dare report their experience officially, for fear of ridicule, they did decide to tell one man, a high-ranking officer in the Chilean Army, who heard their story calmly, without surprise. This officer knew of many sightings of UFOs, registered in almost all the expeditions to Antarctica, but he had never heard of one that lasted so long and was so precise in all its

details as this. And the Air Technical Intelligence Centre (ATIC) in the U.S.A. in due course sent a lengthy questionnaire which "Barros" and "Tagle" completed and returned.

NOTE

* Translated from bulletin *UFO Chile*, No. 2 (October 1967), Santiago de Chile.

CREW OF ARGENTINE SHIP SEE *SUBMARINE* UFO *by Oscar A. Galíndez*

Senor Galindez has been correspondent of *Flying Saucer Review* in Argentina since 1962.

A TOPIC which seems to be connected with the UFO problem is that of the mysterious submarine bodies which have been observed in the seas of our world. Many of these cases appear in fact to be part of the astonishing enigma of the Unidentified Flying Objects.

Not long ago consideration was being given by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW to these marine aspects of the phenomenon,* and some authors have suggested the possibility of underwater UFO bases in areas where these strange happenings have been recorded.

I would like to relate a recent occurrence which is quite sensational in comparison with most of those reported so far. My sources are press reports which appeared in the Argentine newspapers *La Razón*, *Córdoba* and *Los Principios*.

On July 30, 1967, the Argentine steamer *Naviero*, belonging to the Argentine Shipping Lines Company, was some 120 miles off the coast of Brazil, opposite Cape Santa Marta Grande (Lat. 28 48 S., Long. 46 43 W.) in the State of Santa Catarina, when an elongated submarine craft was sighted. The time was about 6.15 p.m. Argentine time (10.15 p.m. G.M.T.), and the *Naviero* was running at 17 knots.

The officers and crew were at their evening meal at the time. The Master, Captain Julián Lucas Ardanza, received a call on the intercom system from one of his officers, Jorge Montoya, to the effect that there was something strange near the ship.

Arriving at once on deck, Captain Ardanza beheld a shining object in the sea no more than about 50ft. away on the starboard side. It was cigar-shaped and he estimated its length at about 105 to 110ft. It had a powerful blue and white glow, made no noise whatsoever and left no wake in the water. There was no sign of any periscope or railing or tower or superstructure, in other words no external control surfaces or protruding parts.

The mystery craft paced the *Naviero* for 15 minutes. Captain Ardanza estimated its speed at 25 knots, as against the 17 of his own vessel (an old Liberty-type ship built in the U.S.A.).

The next development however was disconcerting to say the least. The mystery craft suddenly dived and passed right under the *Naviero* and vanished rapidly in the depths at great speed. As it went it glowed brightly beneath the water.

The *Naviero* was carrying explosives and gunpowder, and in order to stave off any panic among the crew should they get the idea into their heads that they were being "pursued" because of this type of cargo, Captain Ardanza and his officers judged it prudent to assemble the crew and tell them what had been seen.

In the subsequent interviews with reporters from the Argentine press, the Captain said that during his twenty years at sea he had never seen anything like that before. Chief Officer Carlos Lasca described the object as "a submergible UFO with its own illumination".

The possibility that the object seen was a whale or a conventional type of submarine is ruled out. The witnesses were firm in their insistence that the "luminous cigar" looked totally different from a submarine or a whale and could not possibly have been either of these things.

The case has been classified by the Argentine maritime authorities as an "Unidentified submarine object".

NOTES

* Gordon Creighton, *Argentina* **1962** (Pedro Atilli's experience) and item about Soviet submarines, FSR, July/August 1964, pp. 11 and 13.
Antonio Ribera, *UFOs and the Sea*, FSR, November/December 1964, p. 8.
W. S. Robertson, *UFOs and the Scottish Seas*, FSR, May/June 1965, p. 36.
Antonio Ribera, *More About UFOs and the Sea*, FSR, November/December 1965, p. 17.
H. J. Hinfelaar, *Submarine Craft in Australasian Waters*, FSR, July/August 1966, p. 28.

(*continued from page 19*)

However, there are unconfirmed rumours that he called again soon afterwards and is reported to have said: "It's still above me, making my speed or better. I'm going up to 20,000ft. If I'm no closer, I'll abandon chase."

About an hour later the wreckage of his plane was found scattered over a very wide area. What happened? And what was he chasing?

That year the U.S. Navy had been sending up giant Skyhook balloons to obtain high altitude information about the earth's upper atmosphere and the U.S. Air Force's view is that Mantell was chasing one of those huge balloons and lost consciousness due to lack of oxygen. They consider that his plane continued to climb for a while, then went into a steep dive and disintegrated.

On the other hand if Mantell was actually pursuing a UFO then it is possible that he came too close to the powerful force field of such a huge craft. This might have caused his plane to break apart.

Whatever the real answer—Skyhook balloon or giant saucer—it is interesting to note that the U.S. Air Force official report definitely clears whatever object it was of any hostile intent. The report states:

"The UFO was in no way directly* responsible for this accident. However, it is probable that the excitement caused by the object was responsible for this experienced pilot conducting a high altitude flight without the necessary oxygen equipment. . . ."

It is strange that very soon after Mantell's tragic death the U.S. Air Force formed Project Sign, the first official investigating body into UFOs, the earliest predecessor of Project Blue Book.

NOTE

* Underlining by U.S. Air Force.

SOURCES

Flying Saucers from Outer Space, by Major Donald E. Keyhoe.
Flying Saucers have Landed, by D. Leslie and G. Adamski.
The Riddle of the Flying Saucers, by Gerald Heard.
Flying Saucers. A special issue of LOOK magazine, 1967.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

On Detectors and the Heflin Photographs

Sir,—In the article *A High-Pitched Buzz*, by Dan Lloyd, featured in the January/February issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, it seems that a rather obvious action was overlooked.

Although I do not personally possess a UFO Detector, I have seen one operated by passing a magnet over the top. The operative word being *top*. Surely when the buzzer sounded, the owner should have run out of the flat and looked first directly overhead, especially as the windows of the flat give only a limited view of the sky.

Regarding the article on the Heflin Photos, I think the Editor's note can possibly be explained by closer inspection of Photo No. 1.

At 11.30 a.m. the sun would be quite high in the sky, therefore casting very short shadows. Also the direction of the sun would appear to be only slightly to the right and to the rear of the camera by observing the reflection on the UFO.

The fact that a dark line exists right across the vertical side of the UFO surely indicates that the sun was not at a low enough elevation to join the horizontal areas of illumination.

If a straight edge (pencil) is aimed at this reflection and then moved across the page to the telegraph poles, the resulting shadows would appear to fall on the scrub at the right-hand side of the road and would not be visible in the photo.

Hoping these observations may be of some assistance.

P. E. Brackfield, C.Eng., Research Officer, N.E. Surrey Group Contact (U.K.), 51 Kingsmead Avenue, Tolworth, Surrey.

Dan Lloyd comments: It is *not* necessary to pass a magnet directly *over* the detector to set it off. It is activated if a sufficiently strong magnet is passed *near* it. As for dashing down two flights of stairs and standing in the middle of the King's Road in my pyjamas, that really *would* make people tap their heads when they heard what I was supposed to be looking for!

The Heflin Photographs

Sir,—The problem of no shadows in the Heflin Photographs is related to the distance of the saucer from the camera. It has been assumed, from the disturbance of dust in the foreground of Photograph No. 1, that it was close. This I think is a mistake, the rising dust being caused by another UFO almost above the canopy, or by some other unrelated cause.

Therefore putting the saucer at a distance would put the sun behind the vehicle and not to the right. Hence, the shadows would fall into the scrub. A. Calvert, 26 Well Road, Barnet, Hertfordshire.

[By the time of going to press, more letters have been received concerning the Heflin photographs, including one from Mr. Ralph Rankow—Editor.]

Effects of weightlessness

Sir,—In an effort to present additional credence to the Gary Wilcox contact story, I should like to refer to a perplexing facet involved in that alleged incident which Peter Gilman neglected to mention in his provocative article, *Do the Cherubim Come From Mars?* (FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, September/October 1967).

According to the excellent source from which Mr. Gilman extracted his information, FATE magazine, Gary Wilcox claimed the "Martian occupants" commented during their conversation that *our astronauts could not survive a year in space under the present conditions and with our method of space exploration.*

Recently both American and Soviet aerospace medicos released reports which at least indirectly confirm this statement. Shortly after the Russians discovered abnormal physiological effects suffered by Vostok cosmonauts, several U.S. scientists supported these findings. The absence of any gravitational force apparently resulted in pronounced and lingering disorders of the bladder and kidneys, perceptive disorientation and altered body fluid distribution (see *Science Journal* for November 1967).

Perhaps the concept of a spacecraft generating an artificial gravitational field is not so preposterous as some have asserted. Would it not negate the condition of weightlessness believed to be the cause of the aforementioned physiological disorders?

Ronald C. Calais, 137 Oak Crest Dr., Lafayette, LA.70501, Louisiana, U.S.A.

An idea on "Mat" and "Demat"

Sir,—Recently I obtained Miss Eileen Buckle's book, *The Scoriton Mystery*, which tells the story of Mr. Bryant's alleged contact in April 1965. I see this is also referred to in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW—special number for August 1967, *The Humanoids.*

I was particularly struck by the contactee's remarks that the saucer appeared out of "thin air". Since these UFOs are capable of travelling at hitherto undreamed-of speeds according to our standards, it follows quite naturally that they would be "invisible" until such speed was greatly reduced. Moreover it would seem that their method of "braking" and slowing down can be achieved in seconds. One has only to watch an electric fan start up and to note how quickly it is no longer possible to "see" the actual "fan" owing to the rate of revolutions.

To my knowledge I have never seen a flying saucer, but I am sure it is right to keep a very open mind about these extra-terrestrial objects. I congratulate Miss Buckle on the immense amount of research which went into this book as regards investigating Mr. Bryant's claim. Anyone who has read the Adamski books will readily appreciate the tremendous implications involved if the "Scoriton Mystery" is true.

Mrs. Doreen C. Armetage, Y.M.C.A., Lubbecke, B.F.P.O. 22.

More mystery footprints

Sir,—Recently I read a book published in 1928 by Rupert T. Gould named, simply, *Oddities*. One of the subjects covered in this book is the well-known case of the devil's hoof marks which appeared in Devonshire on February 8, 1855, which, it has been suggested, may have been due to an interplanetary device used to examine the Earth's surface. He also mentions another case which might be of interest to your readers.

The observer was Captain Sir James Clark Ross, R.N., who describes an incident which occurred in May, 1840, while his ships the "*Erelus*" and "*Terror*" were at Kerguelen Island, a large sub-Antarctic island in the Southern Indian Ocean. This extract is from his book *Voyage of Discovery and Research in the Southern and Antarctic Regions*, Vol. 1, p. 87.

"Of land animals we saw none; and the only traces we could discover of there being any on this island were the singular footsteps of a pony or ass, found by the party detached for surveying purposes, under the command of Lieutenant Bird, and described by Dr. Robertson as 'being 3 inches in length and 2½ in breadth, having a smaller and deeper depression on each side, and shaped like a horse-shoe.'

"It is by no means improbable that

the animal has been cast on shore from some wrecked vessel. They traced its footsteps for some distance in the recently fallen snow, in hopes of getting a sight of it, but lost the tracks on reaching a large space of rocky ground which was free from snow."

The author remarks that it is highly improbable that the marks were made by a native animal because of the inhospitable nature of the island.

W. S. Robertson, 213 Methilhaven Road, Methil, Fyfe.

Not all UFOs are hostile

Sir,—There comes a time in every man's life when he must put pen to paper to protest the vagaries of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW's resident pessimist, Mr. Jerome Clark.

Mr. Clark's article *Why UFOs Are Hostile* in the November/December issue fell over the edge of the REVIEW's broad platform for UFO discussion. The article, which seemed to have its roots in a recent American potboiler, sought to "expose" the sinister—if not necessarily evil—motives of the UFO occupants. The big weakness with this theory is that it relies on the UFOs having a common origin or at least a common design for earth. However, the widely varying saucer shapes and descriptions of reported occupants tend to show that we are being visited by hundreds of alien races and not just by one or a few in conspiracy.

Mr. Clark led off with a frightening tale about the crew of a U.S. naval transporter returning from a routine flight in 1939 with the crew mysteriously dead and the pilot remaining alive only until he brought the plane to a stop on the runway. Not only did it sound too melodramatic to be true, but there was no exact date, no names and no reference annotation for this particular incident. Also the incidents Mr. Clark outlined to "demonstrate" the extreme measures UFO occupants often took against earthlings when disturbed during secret operations were rather poor proof. In no case was there good evidence that the UFOs in the incidents were involved on secret operations.

I was also amused to see that Mr. Clark now apparently accepts the contact cases of Adamski and Guimaraes—but rationalises that the benevolent space people were deliberately hiding their real and more sinister motives—whatever they may be. Methinks he is in need of a little more faith in humanoid nature.

A. J. Brunt, 24 Wembley Road, Mt. Eden, Auckland, New Zealand.

Reply to Jerome Clark

Sir,—In Jerome Clark's article *Why UFOs Are Hostile*, published in the November/December 1967 issue of the REVIEW, I am accused of expressing sentimental fallacies with regard to the nature of our extraterrestrial visitors and the purpose of their journeys to our planet. Mr. Clark quotes me by citing an incomplete passage from my article *The Problem of the Frankensteins* (FSR, May/June 1967).

Not only is the passage incomplete, but Mr. Clark omitted to include the preface to the passage, which was: "*unless there are specific reports which have been withheld from us.*" The word "specific" here implies actual and factual accounts, thoroughly authenticated as to who caused what, but such explicit specifications appear to be absent from the examples of hostile acts to which Mr. Clark refers in his article.

For instance, the tragedy of the military transport plane in San Diego during the late summer of 1939, with which description the article begins, is capable of more than one explanation, but which tragedy Mr. Clark immediately ascribes to UFO action. Even members of the Air Forces of the world, including pilots and other members of the crew, are not immune from rare but sudden brain-storms and attacks of temporary lunacy which might have happened on board this plane and *could* have been the first cause of the disaster.

Also, "mysterious skin infections" and the smell of "rotten eggs"—especially the latter—are not solely confined to, nor are they endemic in, the flying saucer phenomenon. Even if the death of one man on this earth was definitely known and proved to have been caused by an alien from outer space—an authenticated act of hostility beyond the shadow of a doubt—can anyone believe that the presses of the world wouldn't be ringing with such news?! Such an event would at least be equal in news value to the event of April 13, 1961, when the *actual* news that Major Yuri Gagarin had orbited the earth in space headlined all the newspapers.

In Chapter 3 of a recently completed book, *The People That Walked In Darkness* (which book, by the way, is a strong indictment of what Mr. Clark calls "traditional religion", the breakdown of which is not just a current event, for its decline began before the turn of this century), I have stated:

> ". . . Any phenomenon that the herd (meaning the majority of unthinking mankind on this planet) cannot immediately understand or comprehend is suspect. Its members' first reaction to it is fear, which they try to hide by derision; the next is panic, then violence, and finally they quickly rid themselves of it, if they can, by annihilating it."

Mr. Clark's article about the apparent hostility of our extraterrestrial visitors seems to be a confirmation of what I have stated about our natures at the present stage of our evolution. As for the incomplete quotation from my article *The Problem of the Frankensteins* I can only suppose that Mr. Clark missed its point, or failed to understand its thesis. For I did not, and do not, rule out the possibility that some of our strange visitors may be motivated by evil intentions. But perhaps Mr. Clark hasn't considered the possibility that our visitors may be just as much afraid of us as man on this earth is afraid of many of the human and animal inhabitants of the largely unknown regions bordering the banks of the Amazon—in spite of our various and superior weapons of defence. For when the advanced races take a long, cool look at the state of mankind on this earth, as we must appear to them at the present time, the analogy of a jungle cannot appear exaggerated.

All I am appealing for in the search for the truth in this phenomenon is that we should not approach it with hysterical and foregone conclusions that hostile acts—if they are hostile—are premeditated and deliberately caused by our extraterrestrial cousins themselves. The question as to whether or not hostile acts have been and are being committed by the "creatures" which the advanced races have "made" and are sending or bringing with them is a question which requires a further branch of our investigations.

The first of the B.B.C.'s new *Towards Tomorrow* series of television programmes entitled *Assault On Life*, televised on November 30, 1967, has warned us and made us aware of what is going on even now in the field of biology on our own planet; the thought of what may have been achieved by the advanced races of man in this field on other planets "makes the mind boggle!"

MAN (as distinguished from any "creature" he may have made) is, in my view, unique in the universe, and the initiative and the responsibility for all his "achievements"—some of which are extremely questionable—must be his and his alone. But the term "advanced races" presupposes not only technological advancement but moral advancement also, and moral advancement is incompatible with racial hatred and hostility. The reasons for the conclusions at which I have arrived are outlined in the articles I have written for the REVIEW.

Ivan Brandt, 162 Sutton House, Scunthorpe.

Support for Jerome Clark

Sir,—At last I see in your magazine a glimpse of the truth about UFO which I discovered years ago.

Jerome Clark rightly concludes that the Ufonauts are *lying*, and that they are at pains to prevent mankind finding out their true nature. There has always been a substantial weight of evidence to form this conclusion, but so many Ufologists are unwilling to face the consequences.

I would go further than Mr. Clark; they are not only lying, they are *liars;* it is their nature. And it is not that they are by nature, or intend to be *hostile* to mankind, although they sometimes appear so, but they are by nature *evil.* Clark has given you the evidence, I offer you the conclusion he refrains from drawing; the true nature of the Ufonauts, the nature they are trying to hide, is that they are *evil liars.* They are also adept at laying false trails and deception. Hence their frequent appearance as "patient, all-wise, god-like figures". That is how they would like to be known, but they are *so* evil that their true nature leaks out. And we now know it.

The existence of a body of evil beings, who have been in contact with this world as long as man has been on it may put your readers' researches to more fruitful pursuits than sky-watches and contemplation of the "new age". The solution is not difficult to find, and lies in possibility No. 6 of C. Maxwell Cade's article in your November/December 1967 issue.

The questions your readers should now ask themselves are (1) why and how are the Ufonauts so closely linked with man through the ages? and (2) what would they lose if man did destroy himself and his planet?

Stuart Campbell, Dip.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S., Edinburgh 11, Scotland.

The Mainz Convention

Sir,—I trust you and your readers will forgive me for writing about my own small part in this fiasco, but I feel that some record of what took place should be included in your journal, especially as, I am glad to say, the REVIEW was not represented at the convention.

A German counterpart of *Life* magazine, the *Bunte Illustrierte*, published on December 6, 1967, an illustrated article on the UFO-convention held in Mainz, Germany, on November 3-6, 1967.

Reporting satirically (with full justification) on the trash and nonsense which some of the speakers had perpetrated, the article excepted two convention visitors as to be taken seriously: the rocket pioneer Professor Oberth ("father of space travel") and myself, a citizen of the U.S.A., at present residing in Switzerland.

After reporting the extravagant claims by the convention organiser, Mr. Veit, the article continues:

"Mr. Veit was contradicted by the UFO-researcher Dr. Kurt Kauffmann from Switzerland. As the only one, he tried—interrupted by hissing and by invectives—to put straight what had been distorted at this convention: 'I shall pay 777 German Marks to anyone who will prove to me credibly within one year, until November 6, 1968, that the locker-room gossip about dead Venusians in the Pentagon contains even a grain of truth.

" 'It is simply impossible', Dr. Kauffmann continued, 'to picture high American officers and government officials as liars or as narrow-minded half-idiots concerning UFOs. They have no reason—and nobody forces them—to enter a sort of secret conspiracy to protect the poor public in America against the shock of space-ships.'

"President Veit called this heart-warming censure 'trouble-making'. Furthermore he thanked a lady from Austria who reported that there have been Venusians for 300,000 years, who reach an age of 500 years, and whose space-ships are flying, without gravity, at a speed of 50,000 kilometres per hour through the Universe."

Professor Oberth shook his head sadly when he heard that lady speak.
Dr. K. Kauffmann, Casa Montebello, 6926 Montagnola, Switzerland.

The Writing Over the Door

Sir,—Submitting the following purely for the point of interest, one wonders if it has been observed that three of the four main symbols in the *Writing Over the Door* (FSR, Vol. 13, No. 3, p. 25) are also to be found in Adamski's Plate 8 facing p. 113 of *Flying Saucers Have Landed.*

In order to see the similarities, however, Adamski's Plate 8 has to be turned upside down, and since this was reproduced from a photographic plate with possibly no indication of which way up it should be viewed, the plate may, conceivably, have been printed upside down. Certainly, reversed, the neat top line looks much more like the beginning of the message and the symbols fitted in beside the sketch look more like the end. While the "Writing Over the Door" is how A.V.B. saw it, and therefore the correct way up.

In this position it will be observed

(*continued on cover iii*)



Part of the audience at the Mainz Convention with Professor Oberth seated at the far right of the front row

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The ST. LEONARDS SIGHTING

November 24, 1967

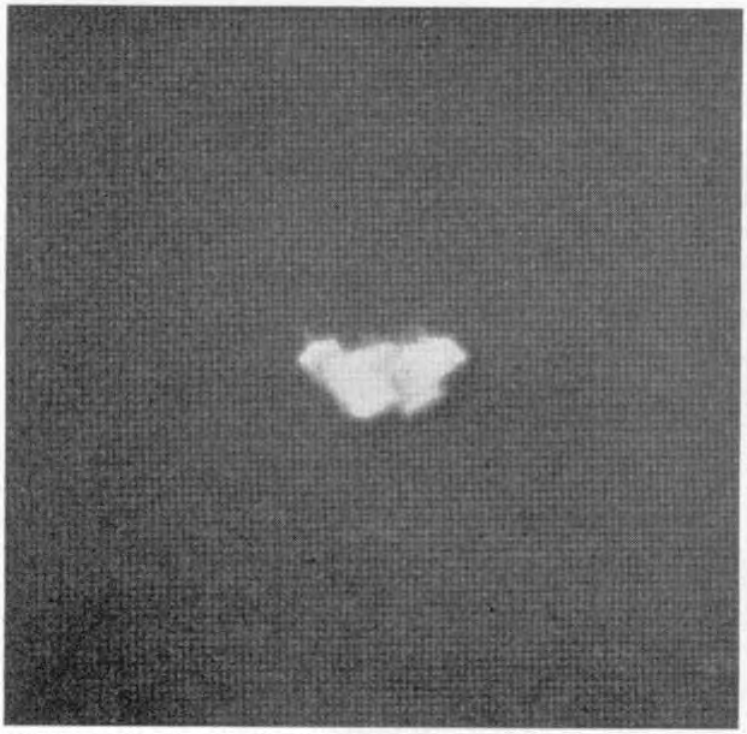
A Preliminary Note by
Charles H. Gibbs-Smith
Hon. Companion,
Royal Aeronautical Society



Photograph No. 1. – 6.10 a.m. Nov. 24, 1967
Photograph No. 2 is featured on our front cover

I AM extremely sceptical—perhaps too much so—about photographs of UFOs, and it is with considerable pleasure that I now send these three photographs for publication, although their very nature will make it very difficult for even the best of half-tone blocks to render all that is visible in them.

At the start, we can absolutely rule out any faking of these photographs; the reason is that the image on each negative is not as large as a pin-head, and the details within the image could not possibly have been tampered with. Mr. Hennell (see below) has also ruled out any faking by montaging or creating these shapes in large form and then photographing them down. This is quite apart from the completely reliable witnesses who are available. What is shown on the photographs was in the sky, and what was in the sky was a physical phenomenon of some kind.



Photograph No. 3. All three enlargements by Percy Hennell are from a pin-point size image on 35 mm. Film

Mr. Robert Burke (20 years old) of St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, was getting up to go to work well before 6 a.m. on November 24, 1967. He saw through his window, high in the sky, a very bright stationary light, of a blue-white hue, which had the habit of becoming intense, than fading to a pin-point. The angle of vision was about 40 to 45°, and Mr. Burke was looking south-south-east, out to sea.

He swung open the windows (two, on vertical hinges) and was very surprised that the light did not move. He watched it for nearly half an hour; then decided to wake up his father and sister, having already fetched his camera; and the three of them looked at the light together for a long time. All told, it was in view for about an hour.

His father, Mr. James Burke, is a well-known news photographer, and a World War II bomber pilot, who has described the whole incident to me.

The technical photographic details are as follows: the camera was a Super-Ikonta and the photographs were taken each with an exposure at f2·8 on Tri X film; Mr. Burke himself processed the film.

My friend Percy Hennell is, as most people know, an outstanding photographer and one of the best "colour men" in Europe; and it was to him I appealed. We asked Mr. Burke to submit the negatives, which he generously did; he has also kindly given us permission to publish the results of Mr. Hennell's printing. Mr. Hennell, who

is none too easy to impress, has now reported that these Burke photographs of the St. Leonards sighting are "perhaps the most important photographs yet produced". London, February 18, 1968.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I discussed the St. Leonards photographs with **Percy Hennell,** photographic consultant to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, who has scrutinised many photographs—and faked photographs—on our behalf during the past two years. Having already spoken to the photographer and his father, Mr. Hennell was of the opinion that the Burkes had no idea of the amount of detail which could be extracted from their negatives. He also confirmed that the cuts and numbers of the negatives fit, which indicates that they were taken successively. Again, Mr. Hennell points out that the images on the negatives are nearer to a pin-point in size than to a pin-head.

In spite of the witnesses' statements that **the object was stationary and was under observation for at least an hour,** it is bound to be suggested that Mr. Burke saw and photographed a satellite, or a meteorological balloon. It is therefore essential that an expert on those matters checks both satellite orbits and position of visible satellites at 6.10 a.m. on November 24, 1967, and also whether or not any meteorological balloons could have been visible at that time and place. It is imperative also to know the wind direction and strength at that time, and the cloud conditions.

Since my conversation with Mr. Hennell, two other points have sprung to mind. Given perfect weather conditions, could a satellite or a balloon have been out of the shadow at that time, and into the light of the sun? (We must bear in mind the witnesses' testimony that the object was first seen long before 6.00 a.m.) If that was possible, then could he have obtained, with the camera indicated, even a pin-point image of a reflecting satellite or balloon?

UFO DETECTOR NETWORK IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

by Dan Lloyd

SINCE I first raised the possibility in the REVIEW of forming a UFO detector network, some 200 McCarthy detectors have been despatched to various parts of the world. Over 100 have been distributed throughout the United Kingdom, but of these only 85 have gone to households possessing a telephone. I have accordingly drawn up a regional list of detector owners with a phone and this is being published so that anyone whose detector operates can quickly get in touch with another detector owner in the same area, to check whether the alarm can be confirmed by his neighbour.

In the January/February issue of the REVIEW I reported that my own detector had operated six times within a period of several weeks. Since then I have had several other reports from detector owners stating that their instruments had been triggered off. The first report was from the Chesterfield area of Derbyshire. Some time between midnight and 8.30 a.m. on December 12, the buzzer operated. A more specific time cannot be given as the owner has no idea how long the detector had been buzzing when she awoke. The second report came from Portugal. The owner had taken his detector to Urguriça for the weekend of December 9-10 and he awoke at 6 a.m. one morning to the sound of the buzzer operating. On both occasions, unfortunately, nothing was seen.

A further report is being investigated by Colin McCarthy. He has been informed that at the time of a sighting, one of his detectors was reported to have gone off. Full details of this incident are awaited and will be published as soon as we have the story.

In order to obtain prompt information about such alarms, and to see if a pattern emerges from the details, detector owners are requested to send me as soon as possible after their detectors have operated a report giving details of time, place, weather conditions etc. Sightings that tie in with these reports will, of course, be published in the REVIEW.

It has been suggested that it seems that UFOs deliberately choose unfavourable weather conditions to traverse large populated areas such as cities and towns in order to escape detection. It would certainly lend weight to this theory if our detectors were continually to operate when the sky was overcast, and this possibility will therefore be borne in mind when we see what the general picture is.

It is hoped to publish a map showing the location of detector owners when we have a complete list. It should, however, be remembered that those owners not on the phone will swell this general coverage and it can be seen at a glance that this network has an excellent opportunity of tracking the activities of UFOs operating within those areas where the detectors are most concentrated.

The REVIEW has high hopes that this network will help to put on a practical footing the study of an enigma that has been pooh-poohed for far too long.

A further report will be published

as soon as a study has been made of the information that comes in.

UFO Detector Network

LONDON AREA

N.1: 226-8782.
N.13: 886-4075.
N.W.2: GLA 3366, Ext. 16 or 218.
N.W.3: HAM 8004/5.
N.W.9: COL 0461.
S.W.1: 235-3651.
S.W.3: FLA 2570.
S.W.10: FRE 6892.
E.2: 739-5658.
E.8: 249-0584.
W.1: AMB 4942.
W.6: RIV 2122.
W.8: WES 3323.
Wembley: 904-7244.
Surbiton: 399-8104.
Beckenham: 650-0333.
Beckenham: 650-0802.
Ewell: 393-4917.

HOME COUNTIES

Berkshire

Reading: 27427.
Reading: 56718.
Reading: 62461.
Maidenhead: OMA8-24176.

Middlesex

Shepperton: Walton-on-Thames 24814.

Surrey

Woking: BY4 4161.
Weybridge: Walton-on-Thames 21180.
Guildford: Guildford 63820.
Pirbright: Worplesdon 2653.
Farnham: 0251-21-469.
Whyteleafe: Upper Warlingham 2863.

Kent

Maidstone: Maidstone 43801.
Herne Bay: Herne Bay 5858.
Gillingham: Medway 31597.

Essex

Chelmsford: Chelmsford 54655.
Brentwood: Herongate 353.

Buckinghamshire

Chesham: Chesham 3994.
Chalfont St. Giles: Chalfont St. Giles 2177.
High Wycombe: Holmer Green 3251.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES

Sussex

Polegate: Alfriston 451.
Polegate: Alfriston 407.
Petworth: Petworth 2351.
Brighton: Brighton 67586.
Shoreham-by-Sea: Shoreham-by-Sea 3923.
Bognor Regis: Middleton-on-Sea 3091.

Hampshire

Winchester: Winchester 5458.
Ringwood: Burley 2236.

WEST COUNTRY

Dorset

Poole: Westbourne 63616.

Devon

Ashburton: Ashburton 568.

Wiltshire

Salisbury: Alderbury 361.

Cornwall

Newquay: Newquay 2503.
Truro: Truro 2832.

Somerset

Bridgwater: Combwich 278.
Taunton: Bishops Lydeard 349.

Gloucestershire

Cheltenham: Stow-in-the-Wold 340.
Cheltenham: Cheltenham 52213.
Sherborne, Nr. Cheltenham: Sherborne 201.

EASTERN COUNTIES

Cambridgeshire

Cambridge: Cambridge 62759.

Hertfordshire

Welwyn: Welwyn 4962.
Watford: Watford 32108.

Suffolk

Felixstowe: Felixstowe 3987.

MIDLAND COUNTIES

Warwickshire

Birmingham 021-422 5319.
Northend, Nr. Leamington Spa: Fenny Compton 202.

Northamptonshire

Rothersthorpe: Kislingbury 309.

Worcestershire

Redditch: Redditch 2482.

Derbyshire

Chesterfield: Chesterfield 6205.

Oxfordshire

Headington: Oxford 63729.

Staffordshire

Stoke-on-Trent: Longsdon 326.

NORTHERN COUNTIES

Lancashire

Blackpool: Blackpool 64627.
Wigan: Upholland 2434.
Warrington: Culcheth 2700.
Burnley: Padham 71952.
Warrington: Frodsham 2352.

Yorkshire

Sheffield: Sheffield 345374.
Halifax: Halifax 67047.
Hessle: Hull 641231.
Ilkley: Ilkley 3827.
Ossett: Ossett 4039

SCOTLAND

Kelso, Roxburghshire: Smailholm 215.
Glasgow: Glasgow Central 2791.
Musselburgh, Midlothian: Musselburgh 3783.

WALES AREA

Conway, N. Wales: Conway 3400.
Mountain Ash, Glamorgan, S. Wales: Mountain Ash 3405.
Ross-on-Wye, Hereford: Ross-on-Wye 2879.

IRELAND

Castlebellingham, Co. Louth: Castlebellingham 10.
Bantry, Co. Cork: Bantry 94.
Dublin: Dublin 57303.

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PIGEON SHOOT ON THE COL d'ASPIN

by Jean C. Dufour

M. Dufour is secretary of the CEREIC Group of Nice, A.M., France. His interesting report was dated November 13, 1967. Translation by John C. Hugill.

THE story we are about to tell is already an old one, since in two months' time [January 1968—ED.] it will be two years since it happened. However, as the two heroes of the affair kept it a secret for fear of being laughed at, it is only known to a few intimate friends, and its exceptional nature has preserved it in undiminished importance. It needed an article in "The New Republic" of July 27 last to cause one of the protagonists to break the silence, and to authorise us to publish the story he told us. Being a very well-known character in Tarbes, he asked us not to mention his name; we shall respect his anonymity, as we promise to do also for anyone else who may wish to tell us of other sightings. Here then is the complete account of what happened.

"It was late September or early October, 1965, and I decided, with one of my friends, to go pigeon shooting. The beautiful autumn of the Bigorre was an invitation to remote solitudes, and it was for a pleasant journey as much as for a good shoot that we chose as our venue the eastern slopes of the Col d'Aspin, which dominates the magnificent Arrean valley.

"Impatient for the pleasures ahead, we left Tarbes very early that day, and it was still dark when we reached the Col d'Aspin. Waiting for first light, we decided to halt on top of the col, which had the added advantage of allowing the overheated engine to cool down. The night was profoundly still, and in the pure, clear atmosphere of those altitudes we experienced the intoxicating scent of the solitudes which our countrymen know so well. We sat in silence, side by side, on the front seat of the car, savouring the place and the moment, our gaze wandering about the sky, where the stars shone clear.

Initial sighting

"Suddenly, without warning or prevision, I saw to my left, above the Moune Ridge, a very odd light. It shone quite white in the dark sky, not unlike a neon light, round in shape, and with an *apparent* diameter of about 10 cm. Its height above the ridge was impossible to assess with accuracy—100 or 200 metres perhaps. Unable to believe my eyes, I remained rooted with astonishment for a few seconds, and then quickly called my companion's attention to it. It was there all right, in full view, but somehow unreal, motionless, noiseless, smokeless, unusual in this setting. It was as if it were hanging by invisible threads, and was so unlike anything we knew that it left us agape with astonishment at this unexpected luminary.

An unusual feature

"For some moments nothing happened, and then to our complete stupefaction, the light, which seemed unnaturally still, emitted another white threadlike beam, which zig-zagged sharply, and began slowly to descend vertically, like a rope ladder being paid out from the top of a pinnacle. Our astonishment was beyond words; continuing its slow descent, without any jerking, the zig-zag light soon reached the ridge, which then hid from us the further course of its descent and the point of impact with the ground. We were star-struck!

"Paralysed with amazement at the sight, our eyes riveted on this extraordinary object, we had lost all idea of time, when suddenly to the left of the object, and at the same height, an exactly similar light made its appearance. Quite unforeseen and secret in its coming, it was as if it was born out of thin air, and there in front of our incredulous eyes, the same procedure was repeated. From the luminous disc the zig-zag of light slowly descended, and disappeared behind the ridge of Moune. How we cursed it for getting in the way!

"What an astonishing sight! Two luminous 'springs' suddenly appearing in the sky, and supporting these discs of light high above; like dream lamp-posts in a setting to inspire awe. What was their object—drilling, prospecting, surveying, sign-posting, landing? This new species of tentacle must have reached the ground somewhere, perhaps near the cottages of Laca or of La Souaillere, which were hidden from us by the crest of Moune (1,775m., 5,769ft.), rising to the north of the Col d'Aspin (1,497m., 4,865ft.).

The objects depart

"As if hypnotised by the luminous spectacle, we soon saw it blot itself out, disappear, fade and dissolve on the spot like smoke, first the zig-zags, and then the discs, until there was nothing left before our eyes but the starry sky now lightening with dawn. We were both left with a feeling that we had been dreaming, and we thought sadly of the camera my friend had brought, but alas had not yet loaded.

"Upset by our emotion, we decided to drive on towards the Peiade wood, which was our hunting ground. Leaving the car at the roadside, we climbed back up the slope. I was somewhat out of breath, but I also had a feeling of oppression which was nothing to do with my exertions. I felt worried, as if I was being observed by invisible eyes; I had the impression of being under surveillance, a feeling of insecurity. Under such rather depressing circumstances we trudged on. There was a sort of droning, a vibration in the air, and I clearly perceived a sound which I could not locate or analyse, like the throbbing of a very powerful motor.

"And yet we were quite alone; glancing about me, to right and to left, all I could see was solitude. Then suddenly before us, brushing the nearby peaks, we saw heading eastwards what we took to be a line of those objects shaped like hollow plates which have come to be called flying saucers. We counted six of them which in a very short time crossed our field of view in Indian file. Perhaps there were others behind the summit, who knows? They were certainly the cause of the sound and of my uneasiness, for after they had gone, all these manifestations disappeared.

"Before this adventure, I did not believe in the reality of flying saucers. Now I am convinced of their existence, and since that occasion I have spent much time sky-watching, often at night."

The *UFO's CAUSED BY DRINK* Department

by Charles Bowen

WHEN I first heard of the incident which follows, I considered it to be rather inconsequential: in fact, it never even made the columns of Dan Lloyd's *Britain's Fly-over Wave* round-up in the November/December issue of 1967. However, a second look at the report revealed something that had been missed during the hurry and flurry of the Autumn flap—to wit, a profound observation by a Ministry of Defence "spokesman".

According to a report in the *South-East London Mercury* of August 17, 1967, 17-year-old Roy Wood, of Chudleigh Road, Lewisham, was walking home one night that month from Brockley when he saw a bright light in the sky, brighter than any star, and elliptical in shape. It was changing colour, at first red, then green, then white.

He saw it again later and informed the newspaper, who arranged for him to phone one of their reporters at the next sighting. He did so, on two occasions, on the first of which the reporter also saw the object. The reporter then canvassed other witnesses in the district. One woman said: "I must admit it sets you thinking. It seemed to hang there, closer and brighter than a star, and changing colour." And a girl commented: "I don't know much about these things, but it certainly didn't look like a star. It seemed to pulsate red and green.")

Corroboration

Two other people in Bromley Hill saw it that night, as also did Roy's mother, Mrs. Ethel Wood, who described it as unlike anything she had ever seen before. "It was changing colour, and then it shot across the sky. It was quite frightening, really."

Roy Wood claims that he has now seen the object many times, and that on certain occasions he has observed a smaller light moving anti-clockwise around the large one. He also claims to have seen the large one in daylight. Continuing, he said: "I have seen smaller lights approaching the big one from the left, and then leaving it from the right. It's always like that. . . ."

The newspaper account went on to say that Roy had telephoned the Ministry of Defence about his sightings. Said he: "The Ministry were just not interested. They said they would write to me, but I have not received a letter."

The most interesting part of the *South-East London Mercury's* article, however, is this:

"When a *Mercury* reporter rang the Ministry of Defence, a spokesman said: **'We have not had many reports of UFOs, but we usually get them in the holiday season or at weekends, after the pubs close.'** "

Line of research ?

I find myself wondering whether the taxpayers' money is perhaps being spent on novel lines of research designed to show, for example, that the more potent fire-waters such as whisky or vodka prompt visions of majestic cigar-shaped UFOs, while the ordinary small beer conjures up nothing better than a *foo fighter* or two.

It should be noted that the Ministry soft-pedalled the "UFO witnesses = drunks" line during the October flap. Maybe they got cold feet when they realised that a large proportion of the witnesses were policemen, which would explain the hasty switch to the reliable old "Venus" department, until the vicar of somewhere or the other thundered: "Flight refuelling!"

Now that things have quietened down it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that there will be a cautious return to the "drunkenness" research. Should this prove to be so, then I am sure the Ministry back-room boys will not need telling that—if there is any truth in Aimé Michel's theory of orthoteny—these particular outbreaks of alcoholism occur along straight lines on the map.

It will be interesting to see whether, as an aid to this new line of research, breathalyser tests will be introduced for those who dare to report having seen an unconventional aerial object.

Until that happens, perhaps respectable and sober citizens who have seen something strange in the sky will not take kindly to being branded out of hand as alcoholics. Perhaps they might even think in terms of claiming damages for libel and defamation of character.

PERSONAL COLUMN

(First three lines 5/-, extra lines—or part—5/- each)

WANTED FOR IMPORTANT LIBRARY, the following back issues of FSR. Vols. 1 to 3: all numbers; Vol. 4: 2, 3, 6; Vol. 5: 1, 4; Vol. 8: 4, 5; Vol. 9: 4, 5, 6; Vol. 10: 2, 3, 6; Vol. 11: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Write J. M. Lade, FSR, 21 Cecil Court, London, W.C.2.

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CAN THEY SEE US?

by Dr. Bernard E. Finch

ALTHOUGH the shapes of the UFOs have been described on many occasions, very little has been said about their so-called "antics". Sometimes they behave as if intelligently controlled, but on other occasions they appear to be entirely out of control. When one examines the reports of the movements of the saucers, especially those of low-flying ones, a salient feature appears to stand out: that is that the pilots appear to behave either as if their eyesight is very poor, or that they have only near sight.

On the other hand their vision may be affected by the light of our atmosphere, and they may only prefer to operate at dawn, dusk and at night. We have many examples in support of this.

Firstly, and on many occasions, a saucer is attracted to a terrestial object by its movement or illumination, i.e. a car or lorry travelling at night or day. The saucer then swoops down and tries to follow its target, but here things appear to go wrong. Until then it has behaved as a highly intelligent object. Now it does not appear to judge distances correctly, it hovers, misjudges its distance, overshoots its target and weaves about from side to side trying to get close, but never really making it. Finally, in desperation, it settles on the ground waiting for the object of its attention to approach. It is usually at this stage that the witness panics and the saucer departs.

On numerous other occasions there have been frequent near-misses of trees, buildings, overhead cables and hills.

What can we learn from a general examination of the motions of these UFOs? It would appear that whoever is in control seem to have very poor vision in our atmosphere; although they may have good instruments for homing on our earth, they appear to be working at a disadvantage when inside our atmosphere. This may be due to the fact that our atmosphere may have a different composition and density to the one they are accustomed to, and their eyes may not be able completely to adjust to our probably more rarefied air. In that case all light waves would appear to them to be bent and they would have great difficulty in estimating distance. Of course, near vision would be unaffected.

I feel that this would account for the so-called strange and paradoxical movements of the saucers which are always reported.

Now about the size and shapes of the objects. One must always remember that it is the ionised air and force-field that one sees. This extends well out from the saucer which is literally hidden in the cloud of ionised particles. It is this cloud that takes on various sizes and shapes and when the field is suddenly turned off or diminished, the saucer seems to disappear. If it is travelling fast, it leaves the rapidly fading mass of ionised particles behind, cruises along under its own momentum; then, suddenly switching on its force-field, it appears in a different part of the heavens. This is rather different from the so-called "mat and demat" theory which is frequently bandied about. This phenomenon is seen on frequent occasions and some witnesses have seen a small dark object travelling rapidly across the sky after leaving its cloud of ionised particles.

Are the saucers attracted to magnetic and electric fields? Yes, but I think it may be fortuitous. Just as our aircraft are suddenly pushed up and down by thermals, thunderstorms and so on, so the saucers are attracted by electromagnetic fields. I am sure their occupants fight to avoid these hazards and many witnesses have seen the UFOs fighting to escape from man-made force-fields such as those near power cables and power stations.

When one studies all the accounts of landings several identical facts come to light. There are descriptions of the occupants being tethered by a cable to the inside of the cabin: could this be a form of "antistatic" protection? Again, before a landing, numerous witnesses have reported "something" dropping to the ground from the saucer. I have examined these accounts and suspect it is nothing more than a "De-Gaussing" cable to "earth" the machine before it lands, otherwise there could be a considerable static discharge which perhaps could be dangerous to the occupants.

Finally, I would like to repeat my warning given in a previous issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (*Beware the Saucers:* January/February 1966).

We are dealing here with objects associated with enormous electro-magnetic fields. We know some of the effects of these fields on objects and their physical effects. But we are only just beginning to understand their effects on living matter. Therefore protection must be worn by any person who is approaching a "glowing" object. Polarised lenses for the eyes and some sort of metallic overalls which must be earthed by a chain.

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

NEW BOOKS

IVAN T. SANDERSON, the author of the interesting new study **Uninvited Visitors** (Cowles Education Corporation, 488 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022, U.S.A.—$6.95) is a scientist who specialises in biology. British born, a graduate of Cambridge University and a war-time Royal Navy Intelligence officer, the founder of the Ivan Sanderson Foundation now lives and works in New Jersey.

It is as a biologist that he looks at the problem of the UAOs (unexplained aerial objects), which is how he prefers to describe them. A small selection of case reports is presented, including an excellent version of the Flatwoods monster incident of September 12, 1952, which the author investigated on the spot a few days later.

His subsequent examination of all the "evidence" at his disposal convinces him that the whole UFO/UAO business is very much a biological matter—for which reason alone he expresses doubts about the suitability of the Condon Committee, at present conducting the Colorado Investigation, composed, as it is, solely of physicists and human psychologists.

The author's speculations along his chosen line are wholly fascinating—he acknowledges the part played by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW in publishing competent articles on the idea of reflections or projections of images by the UAOs and their creators—but it is not possible to do full justice to this new work in these few lines.

There is, however, one illustration that can be used to close this notice. Writing about the origin of man, the author points out that the popular conception is that man is indigenous to this planet, an end-product of evolution upon it, and that there is nothing in the geological record to show that the process has been tampered with from outside. And yet there are many who, throughout the centuries, have claimed otherwise. Summarised, these claims are:

"(1) This planet was 'seeded':
  (a) In the first place—by 'ova' of some form or another.
  (b) At various later dates—by more advanced types.
  (c) Latterly—by humanoids, hominids, or actually by human beings.

(2) Our Earth has been interfered with:
  (a) By superior intelligences, throughout history.
  (b) From time to time, throughout geological history.
  (c) By some form of intelligence, comparatively recently.

(3) We are 'owned' by:
  (a) Intelligent entities who reside elsewhere.
  (b) Creatures who visit us from time to time.
  (c) Supervisors, acting on behalf of either of the above, or others who reside here all the time."

As Mr. Sanderson says, whichever way you look at it, you come back to the same pragmatic question—"*Have* we been so visited, *are* we controlled, and is there any practical evidence of either contention?" What the author has to say about this—and indeed all his arguments—should be of the greatest interest to all readers of the REVIEW.

C.B.

The first book on the subject of flying saucers to be written in Canada is the claim of author **Arthur Bray** in the preface to **Science, the Public and the UFO** (available only through Bray Book Service, P.O. Box 5051, Postal Station F, Ottawa, Ontario—price, including postage: paperback $2.90, cloth $5.75, bank exchange extra). A factual presentation of the development of the subject, with some leaning towards Canadian cases; a dissertation on the reasons why "Science" has not solved the mystery.

* * *

To most people the mention of flying saucers in conjunction with the year 1947 means Kenneth Arnold, the birth of a name, and the beginning of publicity for this subject of ours. Some people are vaguely aware that there were a few other sightings that year, but the truth of the matter is that the sensationalism attached to one or two cases contrived to obscure the things that were happening elsewhere. When assembled together, those other cases add up to a pretty hefty "wave" over North America.

We have had to wait twenty years for the first comprehensive book to be published on the topic. It is **Report on the UFO Wave of 1947,** by **Ted Bloecher,** with an introduction by Dr. James E. McDonald (privately published by the author, this work is being sold through NICAP. Price $5., first-class postage $1 extra; foreign postage $2 extra. Cheques drawn to Ted Bloecher, and sent c/o NICAP, 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036). Eight hundred and fifty cases are discussed in detail. Copious maps.

* * *

Yet another NICAP activity has been the publication, this time by the Pittsburgh Subcommittee (P.O. Box 701, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15230, U.S.A.) of **Unidentified Flying Objects: Greatest Scientific Problem of our Times.** This is a collection of lectures and statements by **Dr. James E. McDonald** of the University of Arizona, and particularly his address to the American Society of Newspaper Editors in Washington, D.C., on April 22, 1967, wherein he spoke of his discovery of the notorious "debunk flying saucer reports" clause which the C.I.A. added to the Robertson Report of 1953. (Price: $1.)

* * *

UFO Guide, 1947-1967, by **Martin H. Sable** (Rainbow Press Company, P.O. Box 937, Beverly Hills, California 90213), is a brave attempt to provide separate bibliographies of books and articles on flying saucers and associated topics, together with international directories of flying saucer organisations and periodicals; brave, because as could only be expected, a number of defunct organisations and publications are listed among the many still alive and kicking. (No price quoted in the book, which consists of 100 pages.)

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

ENGLAND

UFOs play "tag" with cars

We are indebted to Messrs. **T. Whitaker** and **Malcolm Bull** of the Halifax branch of BUFORA for sending this report of an incident near the end of the autumn flap:

"Mr. Heaton is a shift worker at a tyre factory in Burnley, Lancashire. He had been on the night shift and was travelling home on the morning of Monday, November 6, 1967, at about 6.15 a.m. He uses the moorland road which goes from Burnley to Heptonstall. The major part of this road is at a height of more than 900ft., and at its highest point it reaches 1,050ft.

"As he drove along the road towards the South East, an object which looked as large as a football, and was the colour of the moon, came from the North, that is from behind, and to his left. It crossed over in front of the car at an elevation of about 30° and went slightly to the right of the road ahead. It stayed in this position in relation to the car and seemed to be following the road exactly. It now seemed to have become flattened at the top and bottom, and to be surrounded by a pulsating halo.

"Farther along the road, at a straight section, Mr. Heaton could see a car a good distance ahead. Noticing that the object now appeared to be above this car, he flashed his headlamps to attract the driver's attention and accelerated. As he did this the object seemed to move so that it came alongside, then suddenly it accelerated very rapidly and took up its former position in relation to the car. It performed one or two minor manoeuvres but stayed in the same general direction, for about a mile.

"At this point another similar object came from the same direction as the first. It passed above and behind the first object, and appeared to go higher, as it seemed to become smaller. They travelled along together but the distance between them was constantly varying.

"The witness opened the car window and turned off the engine but could hear no other noise but the hum of the tyres on the road. When he arrived home the objects were still visible. He called his wife and together they watched them for about ten minutes, after which they seemed to go straight up into the sky, getting smaller until they were no longer visible.

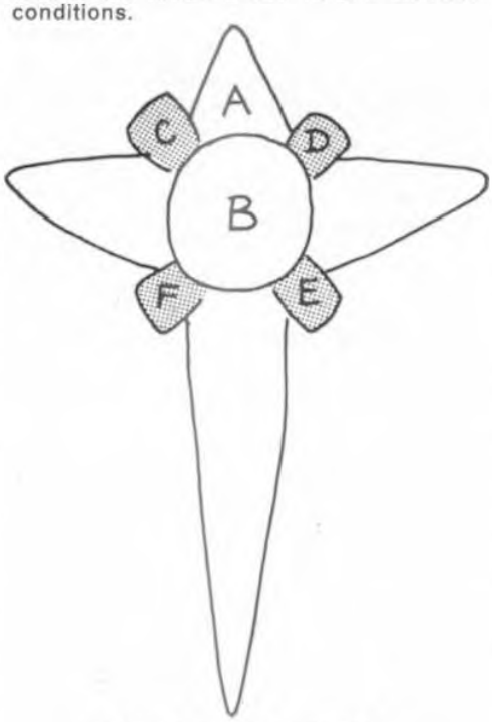
"Mr. Heaton observed that his car behaved normally until he had almost reached home. It then seemed to lose power, and he had to drop down a gear from normal. When the car was checked, the only fault that could be found was a cracked sparking plug. When replaced there was no improvement, but when all the plugs were changed the car was normal again. It had been checked shortly before the incident and no fault had been found on that occasion."

Unpublicised report of "Flying Cross"

On the morning of the Okehampton police chase, a lady in Edgware, London, N.W., had a remarkable sighting. We received her story on October 25, 1967, in a personal communication via a friend of Gordon Creighton; the witness, whose name and full address are known to us, does not wish to have these details revealed:

"I was awakened at 4.40 a.m. on Tuesday, October 24, by a very brilliant light shining into my bedroom at my home in St. Margaret's Road, Edgware and I arose to see what it could be.

"Above the rooftop of the house opposite my bedroom—which is on the first floor—was a brilliant cross-formation, of a startlingly bright silver colour, with a pale rainbow-coloured centre, as shown in my sketch. The centre of it was approximately circular in shape, and reminded me of the halo effect that one sometimes sees around the Moon under certain weather conditions.



Sketch by the witness

KEY

A.—Brilliant silver

B.—Circular centre with pale rainbow colours; estimated size about that of a florin (2/-) held at arm's length

C.D.E.F.—Silver, merging into rainbow colours

"My window faces the North-East, and I saw, to the East of the cross-formation, a very bright star which I believe to have been Venus. This was the brightest star in the sky, but the cross-formation far outshone it. Its brilliance was truly amazing. I stood watching it for at least 20 minutes and then, feeling cold, I got back into bed. In that time I did not see it move. The sky was very clear."

Huge UFO over Exmoor

From the *Western Mail* of December 11, 1967, we learn how:

"A businessman and his wife last night reported seeing a 100ft. wide white unidentified flying object travelling between 300 and 400 m.p.h. over their Somerset home.

"Mr. Dennis Brewin, of West Lucot Farm, Porlock, Minehead, who has held a private pilot's licence more than 15 years, said, 'In all my years of flying I have never seen anything like this before.

" 'My wife, Jean, and I had just climbed out of our car after coming home from an afternoon drive, when we saw this large white object flying over us. It appeared in the north and worked its way round to the north-north-east in a jerky movement.

" 'It was travelling between 300 and 400 miles an hour, and was about 12,000 feet up.

" 'The object remained visible for about five minutes before disappearing in the haze.

" 'The most noticeable thing about the UFO—which I estimated was about 100 feet in diameter—was the large bowler-hat shaped object underneath the light.' "

Credit: **R. Eyquem**, of Canton, Cardiff.

AUSTRALIA

UFOnaut looks down tube of light?

This remarkable story is taken from *The West Australian* of November 1, 1967:

"An unidentified flying object was sighted on the Mayanup-Kojonup road last night by a man who refuses to give his name because of possible public ridicule.

"The sighting, which was made about ten miles from Mayanup about 9.30 p.m. was reported to Constable L. Johnson, of the Boyup Brook police station.

"Constable Johnson said: 'The man was travelling about 60 m.p.h. when suddenly his car stopped, the engine and lights were off, but he had no sensation of stopping.

" 'A tube of light descended towards the windscreen of his car and he could look up it and he thought someone was looking down at him.

" 'Up the tube of light he could see a 30ft. pulsating bluish, football-shaped object which was iridescent and made no noise.

" 'He just sat looking at the object.

" 'In a flash the object was gone and he was once more driving at 60 m.p.h. with the lights on.' "

Credit: **Mrs. Judith Magee,** Victorian UFO Research Society, P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Victoria, Australia.

Also **Roy W. Woodward** via UFO Information Retrieval Center Inc., P.O. Box 57, Riderwood, Maryland 21139.

SOUTH AFRICA

UFOs over the city of gold

This is a translation of extracts from a story in *Die Vaderland*, the Johannesburg evening paper, dated October 18, 1967:

"Mr. Siebert Groenewald, of Boundary Street, Maraisburg, and his parents saw a bright object coming from the direction of Northcliff, round about 8.30 p.m. Above

their house the object stood still for a little while and the sharp light brightened everything around them. Later the light moved towards Turffontein and disappeared.

"Another inhabitant of Maraisburg, Mr. L. Merensky, saw the object. He was sitting listening to the radio when his little son who was playing outside called him. Above his house hovered a strange, cigar-shaped object with a bright light. The whole vicinity of his house was bathed in a half-blue glow. Shortly afterwards the object disappeared over Turffontein.

"Inquiries this morning proved fruitless. The police of Maraisburg knew nothing of a flying saucer; nor the observatory, but Mr. Groenewald stuck to his story; the rotating thing with the bright light remains a puzzle and is definitely not a natural phenomenon. Later he heard the drone of an aircraft. He is however certain that it could not have been an aircraft. An aircraft has a flickering light and moves in one direction, whereas the object made quick turns in the vicinity. Its light sometimes disappeared and then shone brightly again in another place. . ."

Credit: **Kenneth Bayman,** who provided the translation from the Afrikaans.

UFOs "circling the moon"?

This incident was recorded in the Port Elizabeth *Evening Post* of December 8, 1967:

"Three Claremont, Cape, men last night claimed to have sighted a pair of flying saucers circling the moon.

"The men, Mr. Johan Warnstom, Mr. Gert Mulme, and Mr. Billy Neilson, were in a house in Protea Road, Claremont, when they noticed two small circular objects, each of which seemed to have a light on one side. The objects were circling the moon at a high speed.

"They were first sighted at 11.05 p.m. and remained plainly in sight for several minutes before being blanketed by cloud."

Credit: **Philipp J. Human.**

BOTSWANA

That cross-shaped UFO again?

The *Pretoria News* of January 11, 1968' reported the following incident from Gaberones, capital of Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland):

"An unidentified flying object 'shining like a star on a Christmas card' was seen by a Gaberones man here on Tuesday night (9th January), states a message from Gaberones.

"Mr. F. C. Edwards reported the UFO to the civil aviation authorities yesterday. He says: 'I was in the town with my children. The object came in from the north, shining like a star on a Christmas card. It formed a sort of bright cross. It seemed to hover over the airfield for a time with no noise. Then it went off in a south-easterly direction, quite slowly.

" 'After a while it began to rise very quickly, until it passed out of sight.' "

Credit: **Philipp J. Human.**

MOZAMBIQUE

Awesome UFO frightens fishermen

The Johannesburg *Star* of December 12, 1967, carried the following story from Lourenço Marques:

"The crew of a Lourenço Marques trawler is back in port with an awesome story of an unidentified flying object which 'turned night into day' out in the Mozambique Channel.

"The sixteen fishermen—mostly Portuguese and deeply religious—saw the UFO on two successive nights while they were trawling near the Bazaruto Islands, 140 miles south of Beira, in the *Nossa Senhcra da Luz.*

"The object crossed the sky at great speed, apparently a few hundred yards from the trawler, from north to south on December 1 and in the opposite direction on December 2.

" 'Please do not write this story,' said the skipper, Joao Custodio Quiterio. 'We are afraid of reprisals, as we have to go back to sea soon.'

"Loth as he was to talk about the experience, he said the UFO was sighted at about 7 p.m. on both nights. 'Do not ask me if it was a flying saucer, because it would be very difficult to explain,' he said. 'It looked like a huge ball of fire. During a few seconds the whole area and we ourselves were covered with an intense blue light and night became day.' "

Credit: **Philipp J. Human.**

INDIA

Huge object over Midnapore

The following account from Calcutta is taken from the *Evening News of India* for October 30, 1967:

"A bright object looking like the full moon was sighted over certain parts of Midnapore district on the night of October 28, according to the P.S.P.[1] leader, Prof. Samar Guha, M.P.

"Prof. Guha today said that he and some friends, proceeding from Contai to Kharagpur in a jeep about 11.30 p.m. on October 28, saw the object at a place near Belda moving fast at a comparatively lower altitude from west to east, leaving behind a luminous trail.

"Prof. Guha said that the object was seen for about a minute before it vanished."

Credit: **Jal N. D. Tata,** Bombay.

P.S.P. is the name of a local political party.

Are there Indians on Venus?

This interesting report was found in the Karachi (Pakistan) *Evening Star* of October 10, 1967:

"The planet Venus is inhabited by 1,000 people descended from Indus Valley emigrants who went there in a space ship 3,000 years before Christ, physicist Dr. Ruth Reyna said here.

"Dr. Reyna, who teaches physics at the East Punjab University of Chandigarh, told journalists that she hopes her theory would be confirmed by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration, to whom she had submitted a research report.

"Some 3,000 years B.C., a group of people in the Indus Valley were warned by astrologers of an imminent catastrophe, she said. They got into a space craft and went to the cold face of Venus, which they heated up artificially.

"She estimated there were between 1,000 and 1,200 people in the 'Indian Colony' on Venus.

"Observers here recalled that some orthodox Hindus still believe that modern technology is all contained in Hinduism's sacred writings and that a former Hindu civilisation possessed aeroplanes and rockets."

Credit: **R. A. MacEwen** of Karachi.

BULGARIA

Flying "Orange" over Sofia

This incident was reported in *The Yorkshire Post* of December 18, 1967:

"Citizens of Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, were goggle-eyed recently. A gigantic UFO hovered over the city in the light of the setting sun.

"The incident, which occurred on Tuesday, November 21, is fully reported in the current bulletin of the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency. It calls the object a 'huge, shining body.'

" 'At first it looked like a sphere, bigger than the disc of the sun, but gradually took the form of a trapezium. The gleams it emitted were like those of an oxy-acetylene welding apparatus.'

"Fifteen minutes later, watched through a telescope with a magnifying power of 40 diameters, it 'looked like a balloon or parachute.' The top was a dark, flattened disc, with a bright, wide belt around it.

"The object gradually turned orange-coloured and moved slowly to the east, disappearing over the misty horizon. As it vanished the telescope was still at an angle of 25 to 30° above the horizontal.

"Next day the Sofia newspaper *Trud* published a photograph of the UFO and an interview with Mr. Dimiter Simetchiev, of the Hydrology and Meteorology Institute, who was on duty at the time. 'It moved against the wind,' he said.

" 'So far as I could judge, it was flying at a height of about 19 miles. It caused no disturbance to radio broadcasts.' "

YUGOSLAVIA

UFO starts forest fire?

This item came to us via *Dawn*, the Karachi newspaper (issue for November 28, 1967):

"A flame-spewing flying saucer started a forest fire near the Yugoslav-Albanian border, according to eye-witnesses' reports in the Belgrade *Evening News* yesterday.

"Inhabitants of the area around Mount Komovi in Montenegro said they saw the flying saucer come down so close to the earth that the flames it was giving off set fire to trees, causing a forest fire it took 24 hours to extinguish.

"Other reports of flying saucers came from all over Yugoslavia at the beginning of this week, the paper said."

Credit: **R. A. MacEwen** of Karachi.

ROUND-UP OF BRITAIN'S AUTUMN FLAP

Part 1

by Dan Lloyd

From time to time we receive reports from individuals or from groups. These come at sporadic intervals, and it would seem that most other reports of investigations disappear into a limbo of filing cabinets. As we feel that there should be some form of permanent record of a "wave", and as our staff is so small that it can only investigate the more important cases, the bulk of Mr. Lloyd's cases have been culled from newspaper accounts of incidents. Such accounts are often vague where important detail is concerned, but if researchers wish to investigate in greater detail, then the names of the newspapers, and dates, will provide a lead.

SO MANY reports came flooding into the REVIEW concerning the "flap" in the Autumn of 1967 over Britain that we seriously considered getting a new filing cabinet. However, before the deluge came there was a trickle of reports worth putting on record.

October 2

The first item in front of me is from the *Wembley News* of November 3, and it concerns a sighting made on October 2, or thereabouts, by Mrs. Anne Edward. Just before 10.00 p.m., in company with a friend, she saw a globe-shaped object with four arms jutting out of the main part and a bright light which seemed like a spotlight. After about 30 seconds or so, the object began to move, very slowly at first. It circled round the nearby station, and then suddenly gathered speed and disappeared. The object was completely noiseless.

October 5: Herald of the wave ?

On October 7 a report appeared in the *Exeter Evening Echo* and other papers to the effect that a large, stationary silver disc had been seen in the skies above **Okehampton** in Devon. It was first spotted between 9.00 and 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, October 5. One witness had stopped to watch two aircraft and, as he was looking towards Dartmoor, he saw the disc "flashing like an aeroplane's wing when caught by the sun—but it was not a plane." The object was later obscured by cloud, but in a clear sky next day, it was still in position.

In the *Western Evening Herald* of October 10, and morning papers of the 11th, we learned that the mystery persisted, that many witnesses had seen the thing which some now described as pencil-shaped. Estimates of its altitude ranged from 12 to 15 miles. It was revealed that a photographer from R.A.F. Chivenor was standing by to take photographs of the object from the ground. The saga had been taken up by many national newspapers by October 16.

By October 17, it was revealed that the weather had been too bad for photographs of the object to be taken. It was also reported that pilots of aircraft in the vicinity had been asked to watch out for the object. The Ministry of Defence announced that their only interest was in the defence aspect.

On October 20 the *Western Morning News* of Plymouth announced that experts were fairly certain that the object was the planet Venus. One wonders if this particular heavenly body could be seen to the South from Okehampton (i.e., looking towards Dartmoor) at, say, 9.15 a.m. on October 5, 1967. Whether or not it could, a handy explanation for UAOs was ready for use when the main flap broke a few days later—at Okehampton!

October 7

On October 7, a **Stevenage** boy rang the police to say that he and his father had seen an unidentified flying object. A sceptical policeman listened to their story. For some two minutes, father and son had watched a bright light in the sky. The light appeared to go out and they could see a stationary, sausage-shaped object. There were lights flashing on and off and the object moved at great speed to join a second, similar object, and the pair of them then made off at speed. Comment by the father: "I must admit that I don't believe in flying saucers, but this craft could not have been man made—it moved far too quickly." (*Stevenage Gazette*, October 12.)

October 13

We return to the London area for a report of a sighting on October 13 at 6 o'clock in the morning. A West London housewife spotted the object from her **Shepherds Bush** home. The object was shaped like a rugby football. She watched it for a full five minutes. It was completely still and glowed silver. Then it turned to red, then silver, then red. The object moved to the right for about three minutes, then returned to its original position. The object did not make any noise until it began to move. Then it sounded "like hundreds of bees humming together." The interesting thing is that on the Sunday following this sighting the housewife read that 50 people in Okehampton, Devon, had seen a similar-shaped object of the same colour on the same day. (*West London Observer*, October 19.)

October 14

London was still apparently under observation, for, on the day after the sighting at Shepherds Bush, a man in **Barking** spotted a strange light in the dawn sky as he left his home to go to work. Over to the west he noticed something extremely bright—like a star but brighter. Then the star began to move eastwards. It travelled across the sky for about a minute—then stopped. The object went dull, elongated itself and then turned bright again. It looked as though it had turned round and as though the observer was looking at it from the other side. It hung there for a few minutes and then moved off the way it had come. Finally, it went dull again and shot straight up and out of sight. At the time of the sighting the sky was extremely clear and it is likely that it would have been observed by anyone else who was abroad in the area at that time. (*Barking and Dagenham Advertiser*, October 21.)

The first of the "flying crosses" ?

And now we come to one of the first sightings of the mysterious cross-like objects which swept the country. On Saturday, October 14, a **Northampton** woman was standing at her back door at about half-past nine when she saw what at first she took to be a star. It appeared to be coming towards the ground and then she realised it was not a star but something else. According to the observer, it was gold in colour and was just like a church cross She said that she had never seen any thing quite so beautiful in her life. The object seemed to float around until it

faded away. A mystical note creeps in here, for she said that she could see a shadow around the cross, like the shadow of a human being. (*Northampton Chronicle*, October 25.)

October 19

The more conventional cigar-shaped object made its appearance over Yorkshire on the night of October 19. It was seen by a local Siddel youth hovering above trees at **Sowerby**. At first the object was stationary over the trees, then it began to move horizontally very slowly, then climbed vertically and suddenly disappeared. The object grew brighter as it moved away. Throughout the sighting, no noise was made by the strange craft. (*Halifax Courier*, October 23.)

October 21

Two days later, on October 21, residents in a block of flats at Tyne Dock, **South Shields,** spent the week-end puzzling over a mysterious formation of flying saucers seen hovering over their homes. The police were telephoned and a policeman joined the family and watched three glowing objects manoeuvring in the sky. Here was no sceptical constable, for he was dumbfounded by what he saw.

The objects, which flew in formation, hovered and then finally disappeared towards Newcastle, were triangular in shape and glowed so brightly that they dazzled the eyes. In all, the objects were watched performing their aerial acrobatics for some 30 minutes.

Apparently, even the evidence of their constable was not taken seriously, for a police spokesman said: "We are not making any inquiries." It appears that it is not permissible to make a report about something that does not officially exist! (*The Newcastle Journal*, October 23.)

An "ice-cream cone" shape

Barking, London, was back in the news in the early hours of Saturday morning, October 21. The time was about 4.30 a.m., when the witness looked out of her window and saw a shape "like a light bulb" in the sky. She told her mother, who saw it too. "It was shaped like a dome at the top and came down to a point at the bottom," she said. "It was hovering in the sky—I can't say how far away—but it looked as though it was just over Ilford. After a while it was joined by another and the two just hung there together."

This sighting was some two hours before another witness saw a UFO in the same direction. The object he saw was like a star which changed shape.

Within ten minutes of that sighting, another Barking resident saw a bright light in the sky. It resembled a thin pencil of light. Then it returned to its original shape (the original shape is not given) and moved off towards the west, where it disappeared from sight. In all these sightings, the objects seen were soundless. (*Barking and Dagenham Advertiser*, October 28.)

October 22

At about 6.20 p.m., five orange-coloured rings in close "V" formation were seen for about 30 seconds over **Taunton,** Somerset. The sky was dark and clear, and the speed of the soundless objects was described as terrific. (Credit: Mr. J. V. Webber, Taunton.)

October 24: the pace quickens

On October 24 things really began to get under way. In the November/December issue of the REVIEW, Charles Bowen surveyed the commencement of the flap. It began with the celebrated **Okehampton** incident when Police Constables Willey and Waycott chased a bright, star-shaped object along the lanes of Devon in their patrol car. A full report on this incident was given in the same issue by Bernard Wignall.

This strange cross-shaped object was also seen at Sidmouth. The witness described it as being shaped like a crucifix with flashes of light coming from it. She watched it for about 15 minutes and during this time the light slowly went out and appeared again—about ten times altogether. Although the brilliance fluctuated, the cross did not move. (*Pulman's Weekly News*, Yeovil, October 31.)

At about the same time as the police Z-car crew chased the flying cross in Devon, two mysterious objects were seen in the early-morning sky by the wife of the rector of **Sheepy Magna,** Leicestershire. The witness woke up at about 6.00 a.m. and saw a very bright light shining through the curtain. She looked out and saw what looked like a big orange just over the nearby church tower. Another object was a little higher. Apparently her curiosity was not too pronounced, for she went back to bed! (*Leicester Mercury*, October 25.)

Whitstable, Kent, was also visited on the evening of Tuesday, October 24. At around 11.00 p.m., five bright lights, in the position seen on a dice, were seen in a close formation with the centre light brighter than the outer lights. The sky was clear and starless, except for the object. (*Whitstable Times*, October 27.)

A UFO was also sighted over **Aldridge,** Staffordshire, on the night of October 24. The time was about 5.45 p.m. and the object was seen in a break in the clouds. It was high in the sky and was illuminated by a sort of yellow light. It circled for five minutes and then disappeared. No sound came from the object. (*The Walsall Observer*, October 27.)

Lancashire lampshade

Earlier in the morning of October 24, a strange object like an upturned lampshade with a fierce glow was seen over **Huyton,** Lancashire. It was seen at 2.30 a.m.—only a short time before the flying cross was chased by police officers in Devon. A Huyton housewife and her children were wakened by a penetrating whining noise. When they first awoke, the glow from the object lit up the whole room. Looking out, they saw a glow above the rooftops in the distance. By this time the noise had stopped and the glow was stationary. They watched it for a second or two before it vanished. After seeing the object, the housewife and her children were unable to sleep a wink—in contrast to the rector's wife mentioned above who could hardly wait to resume her beauty sleep. (*Prescot & Huyton Reporter*, October 27.

October 25

Strange things continued to be seen in the skies up and down the country. This was the morning, for example, when police officers on patrol in several parts of **Sussex** reported a UFO (see *Britain's busiest UFO days* in the November/December 1967 issue of FSR), reports that were instantly rejected by the Chief Constable who decided his men had misinterpreted Venus.

In **Aberdeen,** four flickering lights high in the sky were watched for four minutes. There was one light in front and three others behind in a sort of semi-circle, said one observer. The one in front kept its course, but the others moved round it. The lights were yellowish-white and were absolutely soundless. (Aberdeen *Press & Journal*, October 26.)

In **Belfast,** Northern Ireland, three people saw mystery flying objects with lights flashing overhead at 500ft. They first noticed a very bright golden light in the sky at about 8.20 p.m. Then the light changed to two lights—one pale green and the other pale orange. This gave the impression of two rear lights, and the object looked triangular shaped. It appeared to be travelling at about 1,000 m.p.h. Before it disappeared, they saw a second set of lights at about 300ft. coming on a flight path from north to south directly crossing underneath the first object. (*Belfast Telegraph*, October 26.)

A brilliant white object made its appearance in the **York** area. No shape could be discerned because of its extreme brightness. After a few minutes it faded away. (*Yorkshire*

Watkins

Books of interest to
Students of
Flying Saucers

CHALLENGE TO SCIENCE
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Evening Post, October 26.)

On the same evening, in the **Spalding** area, a strange glow was noticed in the sky moving in a crazy way—shooting backwards and forwards. It stayed for about four minutes and then disappeared, or faded away—"rather like the dot when you switch the television off." The observer found it difficult to describe, but said that it was a rounded shape without being a complete circle and, when it turned round, it was long and slightly rounded in the middle. (*Peterborough Evening Telegraph*, October 28.)

A fiery cross made another brief appearance over **Okehampton** at about 5.00 p.m. It was seen by the occupants of a police patrol car, one of whom was a photographer, but they had such a brief glimpse of the object that there was no time to take a picture. (*Hereford Evening News*, October 26.)

October 26: In full swing

This was a field day for sightings and the number of clippings I have before me is so large that I shall only give the essential details of the relevant sightings.

Perhaps the most intriguing sighting was that made by Angus Brooks, a former Flight Administrating Officer of B.O.A.C.'s Comet Flight. Mr. Brooks' own report on the cross-shaped object that hovered near him at **Moinge Downs,** Dorset, and R. H. B. Winder's comments on the case were included in the January/February issue of the REVIEW.

Just before midnight, a pear-shaped object, white-green in colour and soundless, rocketed past a car which was travelling between Edgmond and Crudgington, near **Wellington.** The occupants of the car got out to watch it for about 15 seconds until it suddenly disappeared into the night sky. (*Shropshire Star*, October 28.)

Near Colchester United football ground, **Colchester,** an illuminated saucer-shaped object was seen to chase an aeroplane. The saucer had star-shaped beams of light coming from it, the beams receding and then streaming out at intervals. When it reached the plane, it stopped, then moved off at a great rate and disappeared. (Bournemouth *Evening Echo*, October 27.)

While making deliveries in the Hog's Back area near **Godalming,** Surrey, a paper boy saw a UFO descend behind a group of nearby trees. He described it as a dim, green glowing circular object. Shortly afterwards a brilliant white orb became visible. He described the second object as about the size of the sun. This second object hovered and appeared to circle as though looking for something on the ground. There was absolutely no noise.

In the evening other strange lights were seen in the Hog's Back area. The lights were described as looking like a sort of squashed triangle. They appeared to be moving very slowly and were watched for 10 to 15 seconds. The intensity of the objects was described as "a hundred times brighter than the brightest star and a sort of orange colour." (*Surrey Advertiser*, October 28.)

At 8.30 p.m. two lights were seen travelling at great speed over **Letchworth,** North Hertfordshire. They were slightly apart and maintaining an even distance between them. A third object was ejected from one of the UFOs and it travelled in the opposite direction. Flames like a jet or rocket were coming from the rear of the object. (*Hertfordshire Express*, Hitchin, November 2.)

Second sighting by Okehampton policeman

Police Constable Willey, a member of the police patrol car crew which chased the famous flying cross at **Okehampton** two days earlier, witnessed the same or a similar object at about 2.05 a.m. The object was seen to be in the same area as it had been on the occasion of the first sighting. The object dipped down as if planning a landing and finally disappeared in the same place as it had been seen to vanish before. This time the actual sighting lasted only a matter of seconds. (*Exeter Express*, October 26.)

Liverpool police sent out special search parties after objects were reported to have been seen falling from the sky. The investigation, which failed to unearth any clue as to the source of the mystery, began shortly after 11.30 p.m. when a motorist, Mr. Peter Murphy, told police that while driving along Croxteth Hall Lane he had seen a black, shining object flash across his windscreen at 11.25 p.m. The object had disappeared into a nearby field. The field was searched without result.

While the search was being made, an object was seen in the sky nearby. It was described as being the size of a very large plate, shaped like a star with a very bright, bluish-white light. It was estimated that the object hovered at an altitude of about 400ft. It then fell and vanished. A search was made of the area, but nothing was found. A short time later, what appeared to be the same object was seen over the East Lancashire road. It travelled very fast away from the observers, then vanished. (*Liverpool Echo*, October 27.)

Another flying cross was seen over **Ipswich** in the early hours. At 4.30 a.m., Mrs. Margaret Ward woke and saw a bright, star-like object in the sky. It was very low and she could see, between the points of light, things which looked like antennae. The object kept bobbing up and down and it gradually moved out of sight. (*Ipswich Evening Star*, October 27.)

Guernsey, in the Channel Islands, was visited by two bright, triangle-shaped objects at 4.00 a.m. (*Jersey Evening Post*, October 26.)

A large, saucer-shaped object was seen at around 7.00 p.m. near **Goldthorpe,** South Yorkshire. It was lit up at the sides and was the colour of an orange. (*South Yorkshire Times*, October 28.)

Another cross-shaped object was seen in the **Cirencester** area at 10.30 p.m. (*Wiltshire & Gloucestershire Standard*, November 3.)

At dawn, a housewife in **Enfield,** Middlesex, saw a bright light which appeared in the west and gradually grew bigger. Then it began to diminish in size and changed into a small black object with two lights and two projections. After a while it veered across to the south and disappeared. (London *Evening News*, October 26.)

The reports for the rest of October 26, and for the remaining days of the "flap" will be continued in the next edition of the REVIEW.

(*continued from page 25*)

that the first symbol, like an S, is similar to the first symbol of the A.V.B. symbols, the next A.V.B. symbol, like a 7, is similar to the 4th on the Adamski Plate. I do not find the A.V.B. L with elongated horizontal limb, but the last of the A.V.B. symbols, like an incomplete 9, is precisely like the 7th symbol top line on the Adamski Plate, and this is repeated just above the large dot in the left end of the Flying Saucer Sketch.

If I may here be permitted a little stretching of the imagination, it would be to wonder what sort of message one would expect to find over a door: I suggest a warning of danger such as one sees over the doors in power houses, and Adamski's Venusian friend's message may well have started with a word of warning recalling that Adamski had previously suffered some hurt to his arm by approaching too close to the Flying Saucer.

No doubt the Adamski Plate had been turned in all directions by those interested in trying to decipher it—perhaps the similarities in the symbols above-mentioned may help to provide a clue to which is the correct way up, assuming of course there may still be doubt on the point.

C. R. Minns, 9 West Avenue, Gorleston, Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk.

STOP PRESS

SHOCKS AT COLORADO

Reports from unofficial but reliable sources indicate, just before we go to press, that there have been dramatic changes in the structure of the Condon Committee at Colorado University.

The Colorado Project has not had a very good press; there have been suggestions that they are "biased", although it has also been suggested that some members of the committee are impressed by the amount and quality of the evidence. One informant tells us that in January the possibility was discussed, in a nation-wide radio hook-up, that two members, Drs. Saunders and Levine, would follow a negative verdict by Dr. Condon with a positive report of their own.

We hear that in February Drs. Saunders and Levine were dropped from the ranks of the committee.

LAST MINUTE CHAOS AT PROJECT?

We now learn from the *Colorado Daily* of February 9, 1968, that: "Prof. E. U. Condon . . . said David Saunders and Norman E. Levine were both notified Thursday [February 8] 'of the termination of their positions on the staff of the project.'

"He said the two were dismissed because of incompetence, but refused further comment.

"Saunders was co-principal investigator for the project, and Levine was a research associate."

Since the receipt of this news item on February 29 (courtesy of Dr. J. E. McDonald) we have heard rumours via transtlantic telephone that **five** other project staff members have resigned because of the sacking of Drs. Saunders and Levine. If true, then it would seem a state of chaos prevails in the Condon Committee.

PAPERBACKS RECEIVED . . .

On Board the Flying Saucers (original title: *They Rode in Space Ships*), by **Gavin Gibbons.** Published by Paperback Library Inc., 315 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10010. These are the contactee stories of Daniel Fry and Truman Bethurum. Price 60 cents.

* * *

Flying Saucers—Where do they come from? by **Richard Tambling.** Published by Horwitz Publications Inc. Pty. Ltd., 39 Martin Place, Sydney, Australia (sent by courtesy of UFOIC, 19 Hurlstone Avenue, Hurlstone Park, Sydney). Price 60 cents (Australian).

* * *

Flying Saucers Are Hostile, by **Brad Steiger and Joan Whritenour.** Distributed in U.K. by Tandem Books, 33 Beauchamp Place, London, S.W.3. We see that that old bogey, the Fogl hoax photograph (see FSR, Vol. 12, No. 5) turns up yet again.

* * *

Strangers from the Skies, by Brad Steiger. Distributed in U.K. by Tandem Books, 33 Beauchamp Place, London, S.W.3. Price 3/6.

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