FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

Volume 23, No. 3, 1977 70p



CANARY ISLANDS UFO

Maspalomas (Gran Canaria) June 22, 1976: UFO departing after the landing in which occupants were observed See page 4

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

Editor CHARLES BOWEN
Consultants
GORDON CREIGHTON, MA, FRAI, FRGS, FRAS
C. MAXWELL CADE, AInstP, FRAS, AFRAeS, CEng, FIEE, FIERE
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AIME MICHEL BERTHOLD E. SCHWARZ, MD
Assistant Editor EILEEN BUCKLE

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ALARM BELLS RINGING?

THE RECENT British Wave of UFO reports has been treated to a fairly friendly press, and although the peak of the wave seems to have passed there has been more than enough to investigate and report for the best part of a year. As for *Flying Saucer Review*, we have welcomed the opportunity to present a number of careful well-balanced reports on cases which have been dealt with by UFOIN and other investigators.

Many of the cases have been interesting, and we have many more queuing up for publication. Furthermore quite a number of the witnesses have been responsible and reliable, and have included police officers and university graduates. Several interesting facts have come to light about the talents, and other experiences of these eyewitnesses in peripheral fields — psychical attributes, healing capabilities, proneness to poltergeist phenomena, deep trance subjectivity and so on.

With all this interest being generated perhaps it was significant that, as a sort of celebration of thirty years of flying suacers, the British journal *New Scientist* of July 14, 1977, carried a debunking article by one Ian Ridpath, who based his argument on explanations which have been offered for the Kenneth Arnold and Captain Mantell cases, on the adroitness with which Mr. P. Klass of *Aviation Week* has disposed of most of the "classic" cases, and on the fact that "...so-called contactees such as fraudster George Adamski, who claimed he had ridden in extra-terrestrial spacecraft...gave scientists ammunition to deride the flying saucer freaks." Much play was also made on the fact that, the climate of opinion being what it is, certain "leading" saucer magazines feel compelled to publish exposé articles on famous incidents, as in the American magazine *Official UFO* where the experience of Betty and Barney Hill was stated to have mushroomed from an original sighting of Jupiter near the Moon.

Which all conforms to good clinical, antiseptic and barely scientific standards. The technique being to "knock" a subject with arguments based on fringe literature provided one is careful to ignore such events as, say, the RAF/USAF Lakenheath radar-visual case (which was kept in the secret locker for thirteen years before being revealed by Condon), the encounters of the USAF electronic counter-measures RB47 airplane, or the deeply researched cases of Dr. "X" of South Eastern France, of Valensole, or of Trancas, not to mention the current sequence of surprising events.

Is it too far-fetched to speculate that whatever, or whoever, stage-manages the phenomenon for reasons unknown to us — has at the same time good reasons for discouraging interest in its, or their, affairs? It is possible that it could attempt to damp down that interest by implanting in the minds of pliant humans an urge to ridicule the subject? And before that idea is laughed out of court perhaps one should ponder the proven fact that human beings can implant ideas and images in the minds of others by means, for example, of hypnosis. And ridicule, as we all know, is a very potent weapon indeed.

Which returns us to the vexed question of that BBC documentary *Out of this World* broadcast on May 10, 1977. It has been suggested by Mr. John Rimmer of MUFOB (Summer 1977 issue) that the BBC's prime objective is entertainment; that "show-biz" was the villain of the piece and not "silencers". It happens that we were approached with a view to making a serious, commonsense documentary on the subject, so if that sort of treatment was accorded our serious approach, then if Mr. Rimmer is right we can infer from him that the "Dud and Pete" sky-watchers, and the pseudo-religious hill top cavortings, or attractions like them could perhaps be applied to other features such as *The World about us*, or *Tomorrow's World*, or *Open University* or perhaps even *Songs of Praise*.

That, we know, is nonsense. So why were *we* inflicted in that way? When we were asked to assist in the making of a serious documentary we did so only because the producer involved had been responsible for an interesting and sensitively treated feature on the Loch Ness monster. The really sad thing, as far as we were concerned, was that filming was completed in October and November 1976, before the big British wave got into full swing. The programme was broadcast many months later. The "funnies" had been added, and the editor of this journal was just one of many who, next morning, overheard fellow commuters discussing the documentary. We heard how wives and daughters, convulsed with laughter, had rolled helplessly out of their chairs, and how others had, in disgust, switched to another channel after suffering the first few minutes.

No. We suspect that it was nothing to do with entertainment although it served its purpose in that respect, and gave the *Daily Mail*, in a preview, the opportunity to describe the experts in the programme as "...monsters, amiable intelligent and as daft as brushes." By association of ideas the subject, and those involved in it, were well and truly "sent up."

A well-known journalist suggested that a few BBC arms had been twisted: casting our eyes back to our editorial leader "More Beliefs" in FSR Volume 20, No. 6, we feel instead that alarm bells had been set a-ringing, somewhere.

UFOIN progress

The successes experienced by members of UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN) in their follow-up and investigation of cases, sometimes in considerable depth, and of unearthing accounts of events past or present, has been demonstrated in recent issues of FSR. We can assure readers there is plenty more to come, with some cases under investigation that are not only interesting, but probably very important. The probing of one case is being conducted with full collaboration between UFOIN investigators and FSR consultants.

The Network is still on the lookout for new members capable of, and willing to investigate incidents which are reported, or otherwise come to their notice in their areas. Anyone interested should preferably send a sample of their work to the Secretary.

New members would be particularly welcome – to fill gaps or support others covering large regions on their own – from Scotland, Wales, the West and South West, North and West Yorkshire.

Secretary: Miss J. Randles, 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam,
Greater Manchester M30 6NT. Telephone: 061 775 4749

Recommended . . .

THE CRACK IN THE UNIVERSE

by **Jean-Claude Bourret** (Translated from the French by Gordon Creighton)

The English-language version of "La Nouvelle Vague des Soucoupes Volantes" which gives the story of the famous 39 broadcasts on Radio France-Inter in 1974, and presents the texts of all of them, including that of the French Minister of Defence.

Neville Spearman Ltd., The Priory Gate, Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT OPENS ITS FILES

Beginning of an interesting new development?

Gordon Creighton

AT the recent International Congress on UFOs (April 1977) in Acapulco, Mexico, the Spanish investigator Andreas Kaiser, who edits a magazine in Madrid called *Unknown World,* said that the Spanish Air Force had begun to open up their files and release reports, and had even promised to be "more and more open on the subject." We already knew of this, having seen various Spanish press reports about it over the past six months.

Coming after the revelations of the French Minister of Defence in the *France-Inter* radio series in February 1974, this new development is clearly of the very greatest importance. It is a real milestone on the long road over which we have travelled since 1947.

In this connection, I would draw attention to the little piece[1] which I wrote recently about the important statement made on June 28, 1976 by the Spanish Air Force General Carlos Castro Cavero, Officer Commanding the Canary Islands Air Force Zone, because it seems, from the phrasing of his words, that General Castro Cavero already knew that his government was contemplating some sort of loosening-up process such as we are now seeing.

Both of these Spanish developments came of course too late for mention by Charles Bowen or myself in front of the BBC television cameras last year when the recent documentary film *Out of this World* was being prepared, but in any case we would probably be fully justified in thinking that, had either of us mentioned them, no word about them would have reached the British viewing and listening public. **(After all, we did both speak before the cameras about the vitally important statement by the French Minister of Defence. And not a word of what either of us said on that score got through to the viewers and listeners.)**

Returning to the matter of the Spanish Government, I am now in a position to give an account of what took place in the Air Ministry in Madrid last autumn.

Senor Juan José Benítez is a reporter on the staff of the newspaper *La Gaceta del Norte,* in Bilbao, in the Basque region of northern Spain. In addition to this, he is a very live wire among the UFO investigators in that country, and one of his articles has already appeared in *Flying Saucer Review*[2]. It seems that for some time past he had been in correspondence with the Air Ministry in Madrid, hoping to induce them to reveal some of their secrets. Suddenly, to his vast astonishment, he received an invitation to present himself at the Ministry and there, at noon on October 20, 1976, he was ushered into the office of an Air Force Lieutenant-General and Chief of Staff (whose name so far has not been revealed). Then, in an extremely cordial interview, *strictly off the record,* as was impressed upon him, this officer handed him a file of 78 folio pages containing the full documentation of the Spanish Government on no less than twelve of their most remarkable UFO cases.

While the whole thing was being handled on this purely "unofficial" and personal basis (Benítez was permitted to bring no cameras or tape-recorders into the Ministry) it was nevertheless made clear to him that he now had *carte blanche* to publish these cases, and that there could be more to come. Benítez has lost no time in getting them into a book, and it is to be hoped that my translation of this book will be available in this country before long. Clearly it is a book that will rank for importance with Dr. Hynek's *The UFO Experience* and Jean-Claude Bourret's French book which I have also translated, and which has been issued by Messrs. Neville Spearman under the title of *The Crack In The Universe.*

In the meantime, before the full text of the Air Ministry's release had reached me, I had already received from Spain a digest of one of its most remarkable chapters, with permission to translate it for FSR. As readers will note, this case is not unknown to us, inasmuch as we had already published one short press item about it.[3] But a semi-official governmental release is a very different thing from mere press-clippings in the "World Round-up" column. That the Spanish Air Ministry has endorsed the details of this case clothes it with an altogether different kind of importance. Furthermore, it is now supported by remarkable photographs, and it contains many important details which we did not know before.

The digest of this case came to me in a letter dated April 30 this year from Sr. J.M. Sanchez of *A.A. Ovnis* Investigation Group at Portugalete in the Basque Province. This is the district where Sr. J.J. Benítez lives and works but he tells us he is not associated with the group. Sr. Benítez has been told we are printing Sr. Sanchez' article and he has been good enough to obtain the colour enlargement which we have used for our front cover illustration.

My translation of the document follows. (*see p.4.*)

Notes

1. *Important Statement by Spanish Air Force Chief.* FSR Vol.22, No.3, p.2.
2. Benítez, J.J. *Benacazón Landing and Two Humanoids.* FSR Vol. 22, No. 1, p. 21.
3. *Onion Phobia?* In "World Round-up," FSR Vol. 22, No. 4.

CANARY ISLANDS LANDING: OCCUPANTS REPORTED

J. M. Sanchez

Señor Jesus Maria Sanchez, to whom we are greatly indebted for this contribution, is the director of the A.A. Ovnis Investigation Group* of Portugalete in the Province of Vizcaya in northern Spain. The report, first published by journalist J.J. Benitez, received the endorsement of the Spanish Government and was supported by photographs. It is a detailed report of the remarkable "onion phobia" affair which appeared in one of our "World Round-Up" columns (FSR Vol. 22, No. 4). Translation from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton

ON OCTOBER 20, 1976, acting in a personal capacity, a Lieutenant-General in the Spanish Air Ministry in Madrid handed to the Bilbao journalist Juan José Benítez a thick file bearing the label "Report on UFOs."

This most unusual document, while it does not constitute an *official* statement on the part of the Spanish Government — as has been somewhat precipitatedly claimed in some quarters — nevertheless represents a quite exceptional new development in the whole field of UFO research in Spain.

The 78 folio sheets which compose this Report contain the documentation drawn up by Spanish Air Ministry personnel on twelve UFO cases, the majority of which cases are also vouched for by Air Force personnel as witnesses. The documentation is backed by numerous pieces of photographic evidence and also by a number of pieces of film taken by pilots of Spanish fighter aircraft, as well as by details of certain cases in which the UFOs were registered on the radar.

The summarized account of the sightings begins with a case in the Province of Sevilla on March 20, 1964, and concludes with the case of June 22, 1976, in the islands of Fuerteventura and Gran Canaria, Canary Islands.

The last-mentioned of these twelve cases, in the Canary Islands, was already known in Spanish UFO research circles. A report on it appeared in issue No. 26 of *Stendek*, journal of the C.E.I. (Spanish Centre for Interplanetary Studies, Barcelona). In our present Report we confine ourselves to this particular case.

In that report published in *Stendek* No. 26 mention was made of the fact that "somebody" with sufficient "pull" had attempted, at the time when this case happened, to "request" the principal eyewitness to say nothing about the affair, as a result of which intervention the C.E.I's own correspondent in the Canary Isles had been prevented from reporting on the details of the case at first hand.

The divulging of some of the official documentation on this case, carried out as it now has been in pretty sensational fashion, has thrown fresh and definitive light upon the case, namely in the conclusions reached by the Air Ministry. Among these documentary materials now made available are important new eyewitness statements — additional to those previously known — plus the revelation of the existence of a big series of coloured photographs of the UFO.

The features of this case, plus the large number of witnesses and the high qualifications of the latter, plus the other pieces of corroborative evidence, and plus the fact that we can guarantee that it emanates from the Ministry — all these factors go to make this Canary Islands landing case one of the most important ever recorded in the course of UFO investigation in Spain.

Events of the night of June 22, 1976, over the Canaries

1. The Testimony

The UFO passed literally right across the whole of the Canary Island group, from East to West. The main concentrations of reports from witnesses who saw it come from three basic areas (See Map):—

i) Area to S. of the Island of Fuerteventura.
ii) Grand Canary, principally the northern part.
iii) The islands lying further westwards: namely Tenerife, La Palma, Gomera, and Hierro.

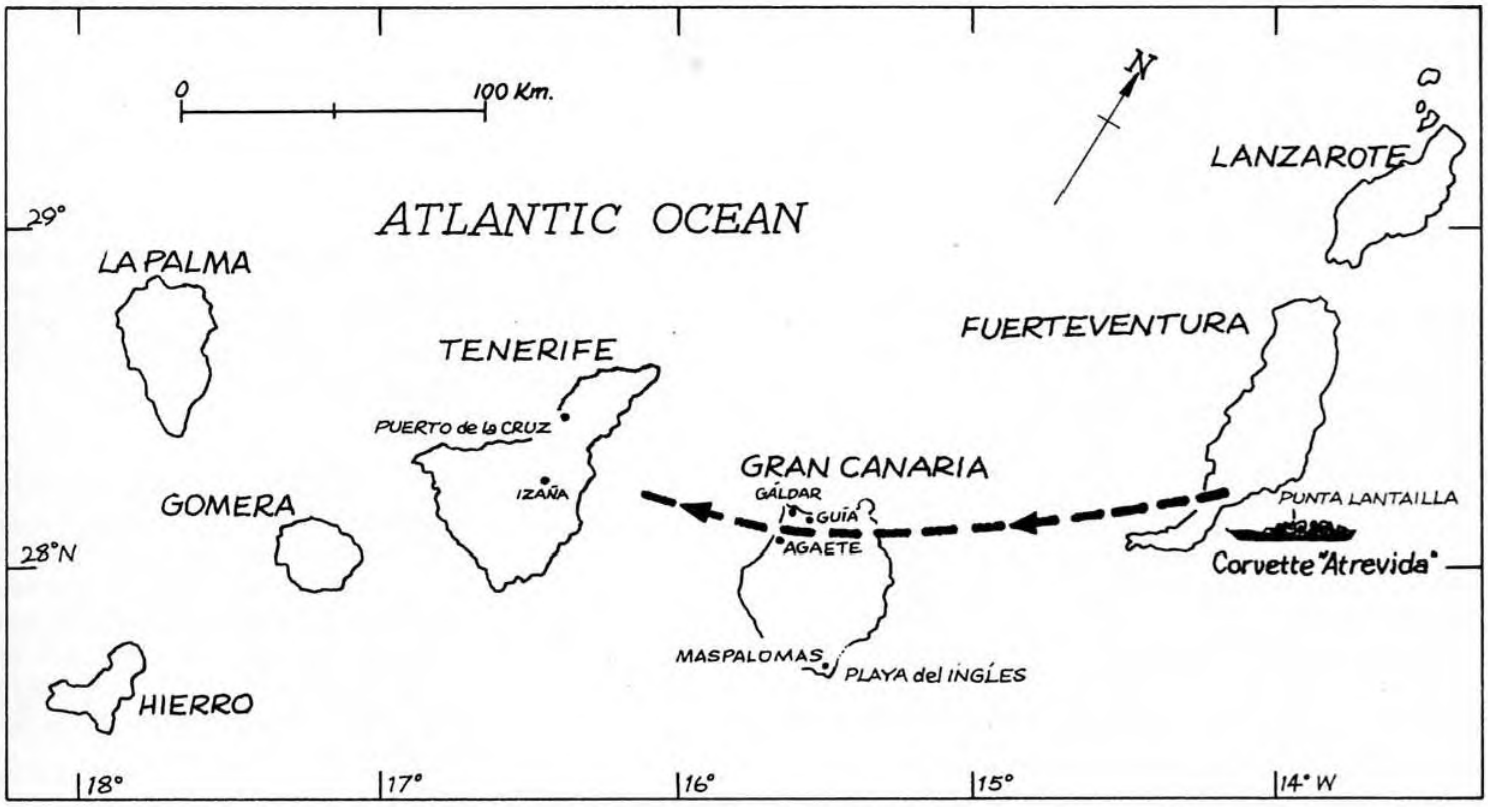
Let us take them in order.

A: Here is a reproduction of the actual text of the despatch, file no. "01/76" dealing with this case, in the dossier handed to Sr. Benítez by the Lt. General from the Ministry. This relates to the first of the Canaries sightings (which had remained unknown until the Ministry released these documents):—

"At 21.27 (Z) hrs. on June 22, 1976, the corvette *Atrevida*, of the Spanish Navy, positioned at 3 NM, at 180 degrees from Punta Lantailla, on the south-eastern coast of the Island of Fuerteventura, observed the following phenomenon, as described by the ship's personnel, including the Commanding Officer (Captain) and the Ship's Ensign (witnesses numbered B—07 and B—08 respectively):

" 'At 21.27 (Z) hrs. on June 22, 1976, we saw a

* UFO Investigation Group A.A. OVNIS, address: Martin F. Villaran 5, bajo C., Portugalete, Province of Vizcaya, Spain.



The flight path of the UFO from Fuerteventura Island westwards to Tenerife via Grand Canary

vivid yellowish-cum-bluish light moving out from the shore towards our position, and climbing as it did so. At first we thought it was an aircraft with its landing lights on. Then, when the light had attained a certain elevation (15—18 degrees) it became stationary. The original light went out and a luminous beam from it began to rotate.

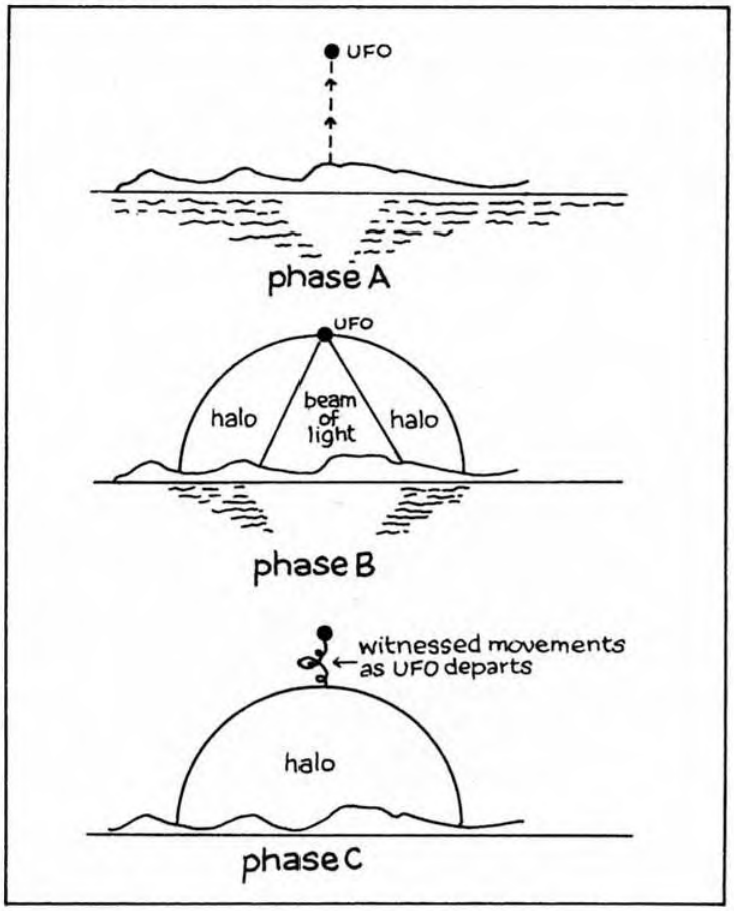
" 'It remained like this for approximately two minutes. Then a vivid great halo of yellowish and bluish light developed, and remained in the same position for 40 minutes, even though the original phenomenon was no longer visible.

" 'Two minutes after the great halo, the light split into two parts, the smaller part being beneath, in the centre of the luminous halo, there a blue cloud appeared and the part from which the bluish nucleus had come vanished.

" 'The upper part began to climb in a spiral, rapid and irregular, and finally vanished. None of these movements affected the initial circular halo in any way, which remained just the same the whole time, its glow lighting up part of the land and part of the surface of the sea beneath it, from which we could deduce that the phenomenon was not very far away from us, but was close.

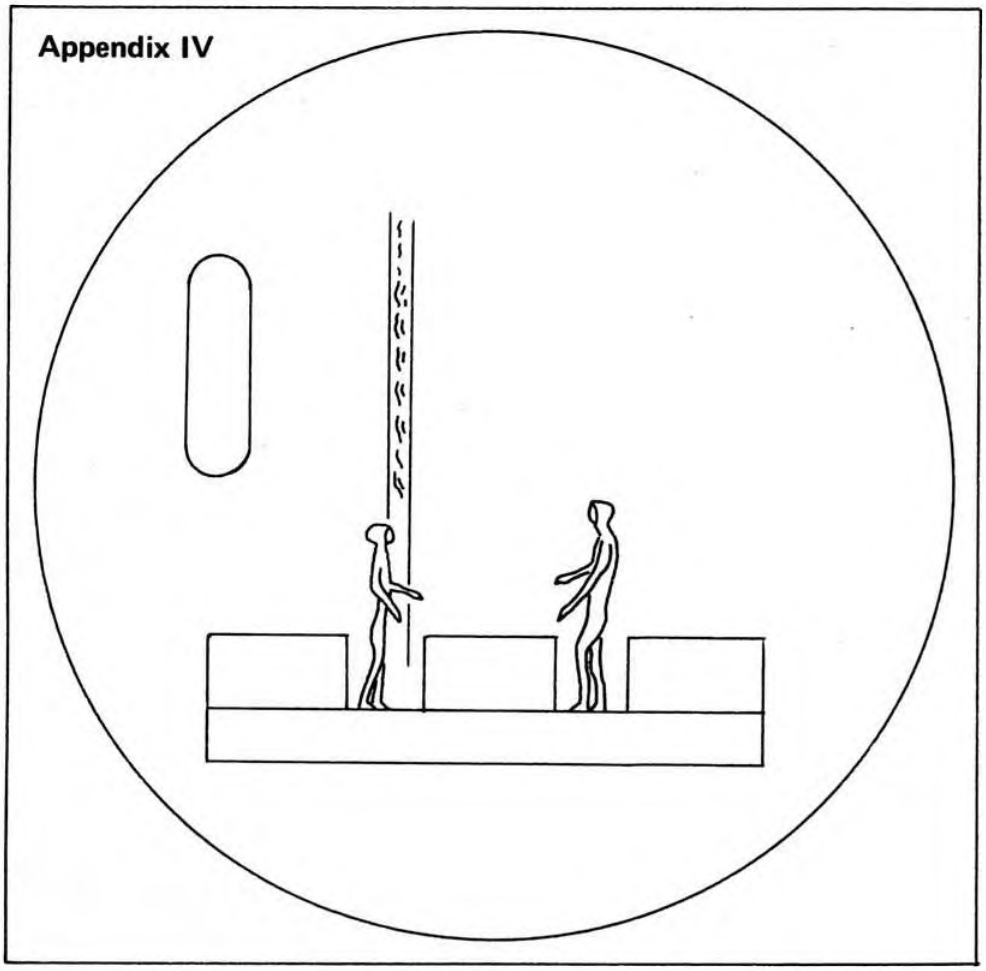
" '(...) The strange object which had been observed by the witnesses aboard the Spanish warship, to the south of the Island of Fuerteventura, covered the distance of 85 nautical miles between the sighting position and the north of Grand Canary Island in three minutes, at an estimated speed of some 3,060 km.p.h.' " (See Trajectory as shown on Map and in Appendix II of the official document issued by the Ministry).

B: A very few minutes later, at about 21.30 hrs. — so the official report states — the foregoing testimony as



Right: The sighting from aboard the Spanish corvette *Atrevida*, at a point 3 sea-miles from the S.E. coast of Fuerteventura

Appendix IV



Left:
The luminous sphere and the two beings in it, stated to have been seen in the northern part of Grand Canary Island, based upon the official sketches.

OUR COVER ILLUSTRATION is a reproduction of one of the 36 colour photographs taken by a private citizen near Maspalomas and Playa del Inglés in the southern part of Gran Canaria, and released by the Spanish Government. Our copy was kindly obtained by us by Sr. J.J. Benítez.

given by the personnel of the corvette was corroborated by a total of eleven other witnesses, including the doctor at Guía, a place situated in the northern part of the neighbouring island of Grand Canary (Gran Canaria). The doctor's statement is included in the dossier on the case. This dossier was compiled by an officer of the rank of comandante juez-instructor who was specially appointed by the Air Ministry, and was forwarded by him directly to the top authority in the Ministry, in Madrid.

This doctor, named Don Francisco-Julio Padron León, is the physician for the town of Guía. Together with two other witnesses, he was astonished at the sight of a gigantic ball 'of an electric blue colour' hanging stationary about 50 metres from them, and at a height of little more than 2 metres off the ground. This was at a place called Las Rosas, between Gáldar and Agaete. The doctor was travelling by taxi at the time, going to visit a patient, and he had with him – in addition to the driver, Francisco Estévez, Santiago del Pino. The latter was the son of the sick woman, and he had come from his home at Guía to get the doctor. Both the taxi-driver and the young man Santiago del Pino were old acquaintances of Dr. Padrón León.

Here is the gist of the statements which the doctor gave to the press. These statements agree with the versions given in the Ministry's official file:–

"We were chatting in normal fashion when, coming round a bend, we were utterly amazed to see, about 60 metres or so from us, a perfect sphere, as perfect as though marked out with a compass, with a very beautiful grey or light-bluish periphery.

"We experienced a terrible feeling of cold. The chauffeur even started trembling. Especially when the taxi's radio, which had been turned on, suddenly cut out.

"The sphere was there, stationary and still, a few metres off the ground. I could not believe my eyes and said as much to my two companions. But it was a fact. That 'thing' was there all right, in the middle of the darkness of the night. And, inside it, were two strange and enormous beings. I can give you a description of them down to the last detail, for we had them under observation for almost twenty minutes, and at a very short range from us...

"The sphere was transparent: through its walls you could see, perfectly clearly, the stars in the sky behind it. It was just like a gigantic soap-bubble. What I mean to say is that it did not look metallic, but it looked like glass.

"Its diameter was about that of a two-storey house. Inside it, there was a sort of platform, silver-coloured, and, on the platform, some panels, and two huge figures... The panels or instruments had no corners or right angles. Everything about them was round...

"We were astonished at the great size of the beings: maybe 2 metres 80, or 3.00 metres. They were wearing black 'diver's helmets' and their clothing, which was very tight-fitting – was of a shade of red that I have never seen in my life... Their hands seemed to be enclosed in big 'cones,' also

black. I could see no sign of fingers anywhere. The two beings were facing each other, moving their hands about, and operating levers. They were in profile to us. What astounded me, personally, was the disproportional size of the back part of their heads.

"The chauffeur switched on the big spotlight, and when he did this the machine started to rise, till it was level with the top of a nearby house. Then we saw a transparent tube inside the sphere, and a bluish gas was coming out of this tube and moving round the sphere. And then the sphere started to grow in size, till it was as big as a twenty-storey building! The beings, and the platform, and the panels, meanwhile all remaining their original size. We were terrified, and we turned the car round and went to some nearby houses, and went inside one of them. The people there told us that their television had just blacked out. We remained there in the house, with the family, looking out through the window at the sphere.

"When the 'thing' had expanded to the enormous size, the gas or fluid that was moving round inside it stopped moving. Then, in a flash, after giving out a high-pitched whistle, the thing shot away towards the Island of Tenerife, and as it went it even changed shape and became spindle-shaped, surrounded by a big vivid white halo.

"When I talked later, when we were calmer, with all the other eyewitnesses who had seen it, our accounts of what we had seen were in perfect agreement. And I will tell you something else: when I was looking at the beings, I deliberately said to my companions that they were blue. I did this on purpose, trying to prove whether it was an optical illusion on my own part. And the others replied that I was wrong: that the clothing was red. So then I felt I had proved the reality of what I was seeing."

The statement given by this exceptional witness – who had been requested to say nothing to anyone about the case, is, as we have stated above, incorporated into the Report drawn up by the Air Ministry, which also contains a number of sketches showing the shape of the machine and of the two crew members inside it (See Appendix IV, which we reproduce herein.)

A further thing which must be mentioned is that on Thursday, June 24, that is to say, two days after this sighting, it was discovered that, in a field of onions at Gáldar, a circular area about 30 metres in diameter had been totally obliterated, the leaves of the plants all being burnt and showing signs of having been subjected to a high temperature, whereas the rest of the crop of onions was still quite normal. This affair of the onions led to much diversified conjecture in the district.

C: The same object described in the foregoing report, which had vanished from sight in the direction of the nearby island of Tenerife or, if not the same object, then another and identical one, was reportedly seen shortly afterwards by a vast multitude of people in the town of Puerto de la Cruz, on the western coast of the Island. It was also seen by the crew and passengers aboard the ferry plying to and from the Island of La Palma. On this latter island of La Palma, and also on the Islands of Gomera and Hierro, the eyewitnesses – who were extremely numerous – called up the newspapers, the local radio stations, and the competent local authorities to report their sightings. We can cite, for example, among the many witnesses, the guards who were on duty at the transmitter of Televisión Española at Izaña (Tenerife).

2. Detection by Radar, and Photographs

The official report also describes how the passage of the object or objects was registered on the radar.

And, in addition to this, there were also photographs taken during that night. These were kept secret until the release of the Report by the Ministry.

These photographs were taken in the southern area of Gran Canaria Island – to be precise, near the residential areas of *Maspalomas* and *Playa del Inglés.*

One of the local residents of that area had no difficulty in taking the photographs, because the sphere remained stationary there for several minutes, very near to the shore and very low. Its features as shown in the photograph correspond with the accounts given above by the previous witnesses. The photographer also said that the object was very big.

The news that a private citizen – whose identity is being kept a strict secret – had photographed a UFO, at once came to the knowledge of the Guardia Civil authorities. On express orders from the Air Minister the Guardia Civil were at once mobilized and launched into the search for the photographer until he was located.

His evidence, amounting to a total of 36 colour photographs, was subjected to all necessary tests by the competent authorities, and their conclusion was that the possibility of faking was ruled out.

The photographs show a large luminous sphere at some height above the illuminated buildings of the residential zone near by. We attach herewith a copy of one of the 36 photographs. This has already been published in the newspaper *La Gaceta del Norte* – [see cover, and note on p.6].

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UFOs OVER BRIDLINGTON FACTORIES

Robert Morrell

The investigators of this incident were John Cree, Syd. Henley, Robert Morrell and Philip Fargus, of Nottingham UFO Investigation Society (NUFOIS), and the report has been prepared especially for UFOIN and FSR.

THE eye witnesses to this sighting were three women who, as they insist on remaining anonymous, will be referred to as Mrs. A, Mrs. B, and Mrs. C. In age they range from the late 20s to the late 50s. At the time of the sighting they were employed as factory cleaners on the Bessingby Industrial Estate, which is situated on the outskirts of the Yorkshire fishing and holiday town of Bridlington on the East Coast. One of the eye witnesses, who has since left her job, flatly refused to be interviewed or co-operate in the investigation, her reasons being domestic. The other two witnesses co-operated fully.

The setting

The Bessingby Industrial Estate is set in an area of open flat ground on the outskirts of Bridlington. It is flanked on one side by a railway track, on another by one of the main roads out of the town, on another by open land, and on the fourth side by a housing estate, this side being rather hilly. There are several small factories on the estate, mainly situated on each side of a road which turns in to the estate from the main road referred to above. Several of the factories make electric equipment, while others are concerned with making wood products and bedding. There is also a fruit and vegetable warehouse. Another road which branches off the main estate road leads to the housing estate; this road is closed to traffic. When visited, this road was found to carry a small but steady flow of pedestrians. On the right hand side of the road as it approaches the main cluster of factories is a large area given over to allotments. This is faced on the other side of the road by the wood products factory and its associated wood-yard.

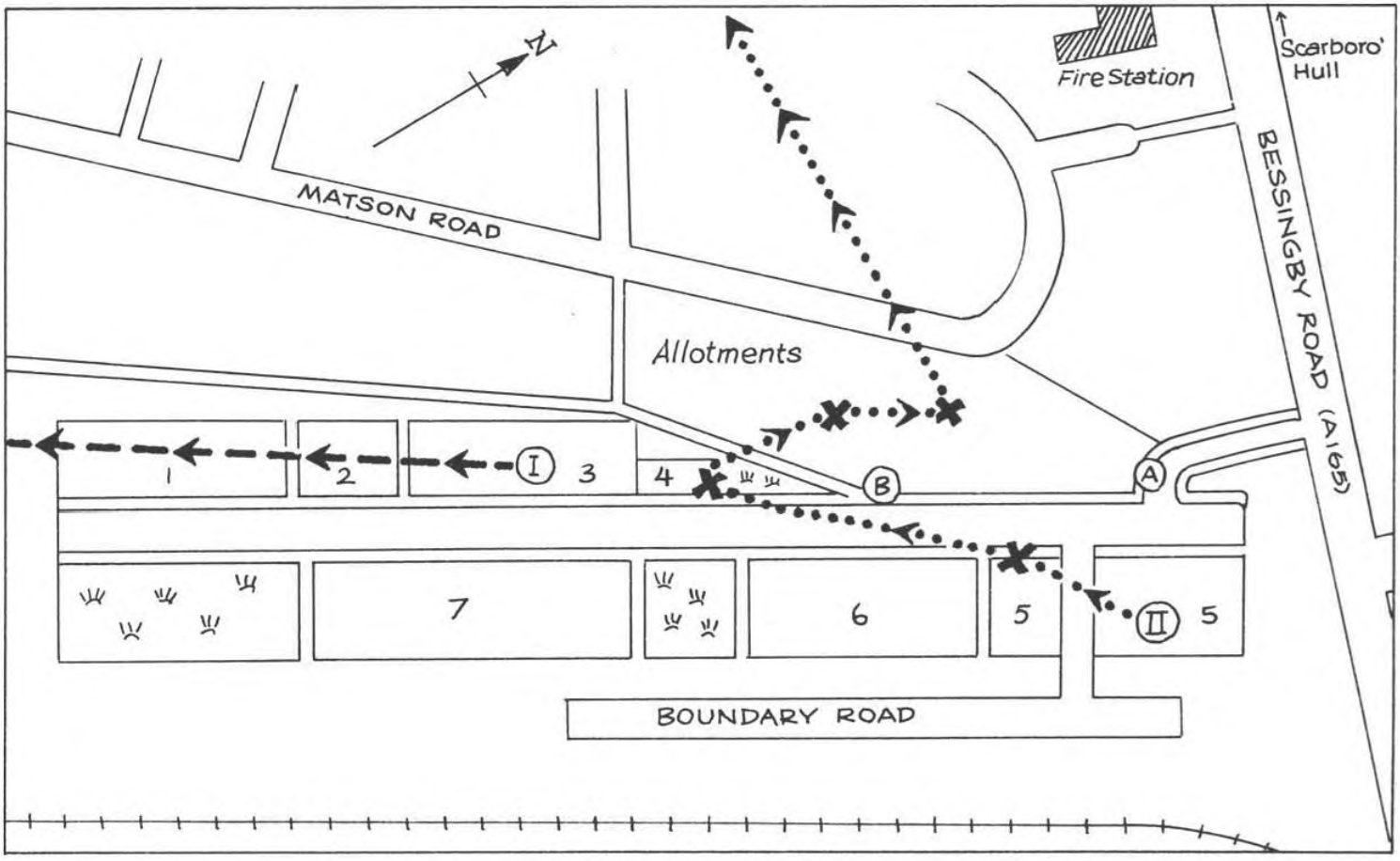
The sighting

The sighting is said to have taken place at 16.45 hrs. on January 21, 1977, while the women were making their way to work. They were walking along the right hand side of the estate road when, just before it makes a sharp swing to the right in the direction of the main factories complex, the women saw what appeared to be a hazy object hovering above the factory to which they were going (Britax PMG). They could make out no details. It was dusk at the time and cold or very cold, the two witnesses interviewed could not agree on this. Almost immediately after seeing the first object they spotted another hovering about a hundred yards ahead of them over the wood-yard, this was also 'hazy.' The firm which owns the wood-yard is called K.B. Dixon Ltd. The direction of the first sighting was 235°, and the second, 160°.

The second object started to move off almost as soon as the women saw it, keeping to their walking speed and ahead of them. It halted briefly above Dixon's offices before moving forward again to stop above the factory part of the timber merchants. Just below the halted object was a ventilation pipe which came out of the factory wall, and which had built into it an air-pump. This pump was the only source of noise. Mrs. B. stated that at this time there was a smell like that "caused by a chimney fire," and she went on to describe this as "strange." While the object hovered here the haze, or 'vapour' disappeared and the object became distinct in appearance. According to the witness it was "larger than a double-decker bus" in size, rather like a rugby ball in shape, had a dark grey top and bottom and a flat central section which carried a row of "portholes" through which could be seen a corridor and its wall. The "portholes" emitted "a brilliant light." At the "back" (on this the women were not sure whether it was in fact the rear of the object) was a "tube"-like structure, also described by Mrs. B. as "a telegraph pole." The same witness said that when the object moved off from the factory and across the road ahead of them to go over the allotments, it did so "backwards." She decided on this because the "telegraph pole" was then on the "front" of the object in terms of its movement, it having moved off with the pole being carried on the part facing the allotments.

Before the object actually went over the allotments it hovered over the premises of Pickering and Bull, Ltd., Fruit Merchants, for a second or so. Having done this it went off over the allotments, paused briefly and then moved off again, coming down to about six feet above ground level. About half-way over the allotments it stopped and lowered its "telegraph pole" and appeared to take a "polythene bag" up this. It was noted by the interviewers when they examined the site later that such bags were used by many allotment holders to contain waste materials. The object then rose and made off rapidly at 260°. The first object went off at about the same time, not having moved at all, in the direction of West Hill (290°). West Hill is the site of the housing estate mentioned earlier.

Total time of the sighting was estimated by the witnesses as 5–6 minutes and 10 minutes, the longer time being that given by the older woman.



UFO flight paths at Bridlington, based on a sketch by John Cree

Key to above:—

1. Adcock Shipley, Ltd.	Approx. length	200 yds
2. Turner Bros. Candlewick, Ltd.	" "	75 yds
3. Britax (PMG), Ltd.	" "	200 yds
4. Pickering & Bull, Ltd.	" "	50 yds
5. K.B. Dixon, Ltd. Woodyard & factory	" "	200 yds
6. Rig Holdings.	" "	200 yds
7. Britax (PMG), Ltd.	" "	250 yds

A Position of witnesses when they first observed the objects.
B Position of witnesses when objects last seen.
(I) Position of first object throughout the sighting.
(II) Position of second object when first observed.
x. Position of second object when hovering.

Effects

The woman claims to have been physically affected by what they saw. The two interviewed claim to have developed bad throats and to have had "odd sensations." On arrival at work they were in a state of fright and "had a cry." They said this was also true of the eyewitness who refused to be interviewed. Mrs. A. said her watch stopped at 16.52 hrs. Both witnesses stated that the day after the event they developed bad colds, and Mrs. B. also added that her whippet dog, which was usually quite affectionate, refused to go near her for three days after the sighting. The women also asserted that a machine at Britax



First object first seen from here. Woodyard to the left, allotments to the right



Second object first seen from this point as witness looked over woodyard



Position of UFO and "telegraph pole" over Dixon's factory



Point over allotments where UFO took up bag

(PMG), which was housed in the room over which the first object observed had hovered, called, by them, 'the mill,' and which was used to cut rubber, stopped and took several days to put right. The interviewers discussed these claims with the production manager of Britax, who had met the women three quarters of an hour after their sighting and who, the women stated, was the only person who believed them. He, Mr. Norman S. Hudson, stated specifically that no machine had stopped at the factory. He pointed out that the close-down sequence commenced about 16.50 hrs. and thus a machine, or machines, could well have been turned off at the time. The women had referred to 'a mechanic' telling them of the machine stopping; unfortunately we were unable to locate this person. Mr. Hudson confirmed that he had been told of the watch stopping, but when questioned about the state of the cleaners he said that they were not frightened but, instead, excited and anxious to tell everyone they met about the events.

The allotment

As the second object was said to have appeared to have taken something from one of the allotments, which are called locally the Hilderthorpe Allotments, the investigators went to see the Chairman of the Allotment Committee, Mr. H. Morris. He told us that he knew of no thefts, interference or damage at the allotments on the date of the sighting, however, he did state that the allotments suffered badly from vandalism and any damage, etc., might well have been put down to that. However, he could not recall any. The next person seen was Mr. A. Redshaw, who cultivated the allotment over which the object had hovered, and from which it seemed to have taken something. Mr. Redshaw appeared rather indifferent about the matter, but stated firmly that as far as he could recall there was no damage or anything missing in so far as his allotment was concerned on January 27th. As the offices of the wood factory and the adjacent wood-yard faced the allotment, we checked with Dixon's to establish whether any of their staff was working in their yard when the object had been seen over it, or whether any staff had observed the object from the office windows while it was over the allotment. Their reply was negative.

Publicity

Although two of the witnesses wanted to contact an organisation to which to report their sighting, the older going to considerable trouble to find one, they insisted on no personal publicity and had not contacted the local press. The older witness had, it emerged, contacted Radio Humberside, but due to their sceptical attitude she had broken off contact and Radio Humberside does not appear to have made any effort to 'follow-up' the story. The women stated that in general the employees at the factory adopted a very sceptical attitude towards their story. The production manager, who as noted earlier accepted the truth of the story, was vague when it came to details.

Conclusions

Although the investigators found no reason to doubt the sincerity of the witnesses when interviewed, neither did they obtain any evidence to independently corroborate the story told. Indeed there was a degree of difference between some of the things the women claimed and what we later established in our interview with the production manager. The women claimed to be in a state of fright on arrival at the factory, yet some thirty or so minutes later they were described as "excited" rather than frightened, and anxious to tell people what they claimed to have seen. The story of the watch stopping was confirmed. However, a chance remark made in conversation revealed that the owner may have failed to wind it up, therefore no weight can be attached to this claim in association with possible effects from the objects. As the production manager denied explicitly that any machine had broken down, and he, if anyone, should be in a position to know, and the women were unable to identify the person who told them that a machine had stopped at the time of the sighting, we are unable to give any weight to this tale either.

Initially the women denied knowing anything about UFOs, yet during the course of a very long interview they, particularly Mrs. B (who was the person who contacted Radio Humberside and made very strong attempts to contact a UFO organisation),

(continued on page 10)

TALKS WITH BETTY HILL: 2–THE THINGS THAT HAPPEN AROUND HER

Berthold Eric Schwarz M.D.

ON DECEMBER 7, 1975, Marianne Cascio, a lady of Agawam, Massachusetts, who claimed that she was blinded by a UFO when eleven years of age, and that she had had possibly related psi experiences such as telekinesis, telephoned Betty Hill.

The Mystery Helicopter

Marianne wanted to speak about the Agawam mystery helicopters. Marianne said to Betty: "I'll try ESP to send the 'helicopter' to you so you can see what it looks like."

In her notes about Marianne's experience, which dovetailed with what Marianne and YD (pseudonym) had told me on the phone at the time, Betty wrote: "YD called from Marianne's home. He had gone to take her some doughnuts when they heard the helicopter. He went out with her Polaroid camera to get some pictures. He took three, but the helicopter did not appear on these. He was flabbergasted, for he had framed the pictures carefully, having a tree in one corner and a power line showing. The craft was between these two but did not appear on the film. The third picture he took was dark and overexposed."

[I (BES) later confirmed the conversation and notes by interviewing YD in person and also examining his memorandum and Polaroids. His notes stated: "...completely clear. Not a cloud in the sky. We called Betty Hill and reported it to her. Three pictures of a helicopter, yet when the Polaroid film was developed, no helicopter could be seen in the pictures."]

Betty received Marianne's "mystery helicopter" call when she was visiting her mother in Kingston, New Hampshire. Betty was preparing to leave for Portsmouth at 9.00 p.m., when she noticed a huge light that came up from the ground and stopped. Her mother and neighbours went out to watch it. When Betty got out of the car and started the motor, the light "...started to toy with me. It went back to its former position. Two smaller lights were on each side of it, and they followed me for several miles in the direction of Exeter.

"Later, at 11.30 p.m., Marianne called again and said that she had made a mistake and that the 'copter' she tried to send did not arrive, but three UFOs did. True."

From 6.00 to 10.00 p.m., instead of 6.00 p.m., she had seen several small bright flashing lights in the sky. Betty recalled how Marianne also 'phoned Mrs. Stella Lansing who drove to Agawam and took motion pictures using three cameras.

Betty continued:

"Marianne said that she called Westover Air Force Base in Chicapee to report the UFOs. The base operator told her that everyone was calling in and that most of the lines were tied up. She was put through to Security Police, who told her that she was giving the twelfth report they received. We talked about my sighting this night, and it was agreed that we would try an experiment for me to obtain the book that was given to me on board my UFO. I would exchange my world atlas and my globe for this, or any possession they wished.

"The next night, on December 8, 1975, I [Betty] was returning home about dusk, when I saw two rows of puzzling lights in the sky. Four red lights on the right and four green lights on the left which formed a V. As I turned in my driveway, I discovered this was a helicopter, for it flew down low, over my car and the garage and barely missed the tree in my backyard. As it came down, the only light visible at that moment was one large white light in the front of the craft. No white light on the tail, and it disappeared swiftly from sight. I called OJ, a local UFO investigator, and he didn't believe it, but then the helicopter was over his house."

In her report Betty also included an additional mystery helicopter experience involving Marianne. "Marianne came on the phone to say that on Thursday night a helicopter had appeared and circled her house. She could hear the motor, which died and then returned later. Also, its flight pattern was unusual in that it was not a true circle at times, but it seemed to be moving back and forth, making sharp angles. It appeared three times... While we were talking, the 'copter returned. Marianne's eleven-year-old daughter Chris stood at the door and described this one, different from the others, which were grey without markings. This one was blue and red with markings running in a vertical pattern. Chris described [and sketched the craft and the symbols]. The craft had a rectangular box in front from which a light was shining."

Betty's unpublished study *Mystery Helicopters*[6] (1976) presents this and much related data with documentation. She also wrote about another episode that she described to me during her Montclair visit: "A friend of mine in Wells, Maine, who is a commercial farmer had been seeing strange lights around her farm occasionally for about two years. Last summer she thought that one had landed in one of her fields but did not investigate this. On February

* Consultant, Brain Wave Laboratory, Essex County Hospital Center, Cedar Grove, New Jersey 07009, U.S.A.

20, 1976, she said that increasing numbers of helicopters had been seen and heard around her farm and the cattle farm next door to her. That week she had seen two helicopters side by side, over the highway, at night, during a severe snow-storm. They looked as though they were refueling in mid air as she could see a connection going from one to the other. Yet she knowns that helicopters do not refuel this way and was puzzled by this, which was her purpose in reporting it to me. She did hear the sounds of the blades.

"About one year ago she found that all her pregnant rabbits had disappeared while her males and young females were left. She was never successful in finding out what happened to them, but apparently the rabbit building had been approached from the direction of the woods. If someone in the neighbourhood had done this, it would probably have been knowns, as she had a large number of rare registered rabbits."

Microwave Tower

Betty recalled that once a UFO supposedly almost collided with a nearby microwave tower. This was a couple of years ago and was seen by several people.

"Batter Up"

NR (pseudonym), a well-known major-league baseball player, went to visit Betty and on the way up saw many strange lights in the sky. Immediately after he left Portsmouth, the street lights dimmed out over Betty's house and the neighbouring area was completely out. According to newspaper accounts, no one knew why this happened.

"Pumpkin Head" and Odds and Ends

On February 18, 1976, Betty Hill wrote: "Personally I've seen numerous ones (UFOs) including the mystery helicopters and a large glowing 'pumpkin head' form which glides along beside my car while the UFO is above us. Now I have found an area on my mother's land (she owns 33 acres of meadows, swamp, brook and timberland) where I found two spots with three kidney-shaped marks in a triangle pattern. One of these marks sat down on the top of one of the flowering trees, breaking it off. The tree was too tall, and the stem too large to be broken in any ordinary way. We've suspected that UFOs have been landing in my mother's land for years, and have found traces in the past.

"Since I saw the pumpkin-head object, I seem to be filled with electricity for I have been getting electrical shocks from anything metal, or even if I touched wood. Immediately after seeing this object, if I comb my hair or put on clothing, sparks are shooting all around. For example, as I was going through the security gates at the airport recently all the bells were ringing. When I was checked out with the hand gadget, it was buzzing everywhere, including my head and feet. The attendant said this had never happened before and that the gadget was responding when no metal was involved. She shook her head and told me to go ahead. Today I can touch more things without getting a shock so it is lessening. But it is a real nuisance. In the midst of all this I went out on an errand, and when I returned, I found that my electric kitchen clock had set itself back...three hours and fifteen minutes. I left it that way to check it out, but it operates accurately."

The tin box

"About 1970 or 1971, I had a little tin box with filing cards in it. I had kept this for eight years and had included all the [UFO-related] experiences that I had collected. I was going down to visit with Walter Webb, so I just grabbed the box, which was on top of my filing cabinet in the bedroom. However, when I opened it, all my cards and records were missing."

The purloined IRS papers

Shortly after Barney died, all the files containing bank statements, receipts for the apartments, forms pertaining to salaries, and everything else necessary for the accountant to fill out the income tax forms were put in a shopping bag. One day when Betty came home she noticed that the shopping bag with all the records was gone. She immediately got in touch with the Internal Revenue Service to get an extension and she then had to write to all the companies and people involved to get duplicate copies for the income tax forms. She had to try to remember all the repairs and expenditures that had been made. Two days after she had done this and filed the income tax forms, she came home and found that the shopping bag was on top of the table and the contents had been strewn on the floor in the middle of the living room. Although the house had been locked, she said the man next door, an elderly gentleman, had noticed from his second floor window that two men entered Betty's house during the day. He saw them go up the steps and enter by apparently using keys. He could not recall any other distinguishing features of this event.

Betty received a letter from a lady in Kitchener, Ontario, who recalled how, as a child, she was abducted by a UFO. At the time, a neighbour boy was awakened in the middle of the night and he witnessed the event. He became hysterical, woke up his parents and told them. However, they passed it off as a nightmare. The UFO occupants supposedly gave the lady pictures, which she found had faded out over the years. The lady wanted to have some support for her early experience, not knowing if it was a dream or reality, so she wrote many letters until she finally contacted the boy of long ago, who at that point no longer remembered the situation. However, this led to a correspondence, and she married a man who was helping her to investigate this.

Comic relief with a look-alike

Betty wrote: "I am also having another interesting thing happening. The last three times I have lectured the same man has attended. He was at Park Avenue, New York; Hartford, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. He looks very much like another person I know, so much so that I mistook him at first for this friend. He

is almost a double for Ray Fowler, an investigator in Massachusetts. This reminds me of a time when my mother and I went to Montreal to do a TV program. The same man on the limousine out of Portsmouth; on the same plane, the same bus, the same hotel. At the hotel my mother spoke to him. Later, in the dining room, we saw him again and he was wearing a moustache. My mother nodded to him, and he lost his moustache in his soup when he nodded back! At times I have had some amusing things happen."

Possible Precognition

One of Betty's best high school friends was Louise. Betty once dreamed that she saw Louise killed. "I saw broken glass all over the road, and it amazed me to see teeth all over the road. I didn't tell Louise that I dreamt she was killed, but just said I had dreamt that she had been in an accident. I said, 'Be careful.' Shortly after I had dreamt this her mother called me and invited me to Louise's 16th birthday party, to be a surprise. Since it conflicted with something I had already agreed to do, I couldn't go. Her parents wanted an excuse to get her out of the house so that her friends could get in without her knowing it. They sent Louise to the store for a quart of milk. While she was walking to the store, she was hit by a truck and killed instantly. It was exactly as I had dreamed.

"I had many other dreams like that. I recall one when I was a senior in high school and was dating a fellow named Freddy, who went to another high school. I was going to go to his graduation exercises, and he was going to go to mine. Then I dreamed that he was killed in an automobile accident. It was so clear, I knew just where it happened – the whole bit. When I told him about it, I said, 'Keep away from that spot.' He just passed it off with a quip: 'OK, if I get killed, you go to my graduation with Rusty.' I did, for he was killed in the exact spot that I told him to stay away from. A driver ran through a stop sign, came out too far, and was going too fast. He side-swiped Freddy's car and that was it."

"Dreams, or seeing a scene flash in front of my eyes just before going to sleep at night, that's the way things come. For example, I was once ready to fall asleep when I saw a shadow come out in front of me and I hit it. All I could think of was, 'Oh, my God, a kid on a bicycle.' When I was driving I watched constantly for kids on bicycles. But one day, shortly afterwards, while I was watching for kids on bicycles, a deer jumped in front of my car and I hit it and killed it.

"My (maternal) grandmother had these things. Everyone used to say that she would be able to foretell the future. My (paternal) grandfather had a sister who was a psychic, or something. Also, when my parents first met – the second date – my father took mother to a spiritualist meeting in Amesbury, Massachusetts, where they were told they were going to marry and have five children. This was very upsetting to my mother because she had just met Father, had only gone out with him once – and that only because she had nothing better to do at the moment. She really was not impressed by him. So 52 years later they were still married and had had five children. The motto is 'Keep away from Spiritualists!'

"My father was an atheist in regards to spiritualism and didn't believe in any of this stuff. My daughter, who is adopted, has psychic ability. She can tell how many people will drop in unexpectedly for Sunday dinner. And if we were planning a trip to the mountains or something, she would say, 'Forget it Mom, so-and-so is coming,' and she'd be right every time. There is nothing like this with my adopted son."

Psychic healing

"I met Alex Tanous several years ago at a private home. Now he is travelling around doing lectures about his book (One Man's Experience with Psychic Phenomena, Doubleday, NY, 1976) and he has been involved with psychic research – Karlis Osis, Ph.D., of the American Society of Psychical Research, and others. At this home, he squeezed my mother's hand and held it for a few moments, and her bursitis, of two years duration, left. This was four years ago and it has not returned. Last October or November, he and I were speaking to the same group in Boston, Mass. I told him about the health problems that I was having, after surgery last June, and how my doctor was unable to make a diagnosis. As a result I had to leave my job and was unable to work. During the day we were at this meeting, he put his arms around me three times, and I felt as though my circulation speeded up, a surge of energy. For the next two days, I had chest pains, followed by a bubbling sensation; this bubbling sensation increased to a point where I was beginning to become worried. Then I felt as though my chest had greatly expanded, the bubbling stopped, and I found myself taking deep gasps of air. It was suddenly a feeling of great relief, and I realized that I had been having a feeling of restricted breathing, which ended. My health has been fine since that time. I told my medical doctor about this, and he said that he heard about experiences like this."

Girl friend May

May is one of Betty's best friends, and her husband might be a distant relative of Betty's. The farm they lived on had been in May's husband's family for more than a hundred years. The people who owned the property before he bought it, had been wiped out by an epidemic. May and her husband were walking around one day when they got to a point of land which they thought might be a good place to build their house. So the husband took a picture of May, but when it was developed there was a man standing beside her dressed in Colonial clothes. "You could actually see the scenery and the river right through him."

The second 'spirit picture' was taken the first Christmas that May and her family were settled on their farm. "They had a huge Christmas tree which was decorated in an old-fashioned way. May took a picture of it to send to her mother, and when the picture was developed, there was a young woman standing in front of the Christmas tree, dressed in

old-fashioned clothes." Although May and her husband have taken many pictures before and since, this is the only time they obtained such strange effects.

UFOs and Betty's Family

"Before I saw a UFO, my sisters Janet and Norma saw one on Route 125 in Kingston, N.H. About 1954 they saw a large glowing green football-shaped object being circled by small lights, which merged with the large light. They stopped at the home of friends who came out and saw this. Later we learned that this specific area had many sightings like this one of which some were daylight sightings. Kingston has been a 'hot spot' of UFO activity for many years. OJ, an investigator, has investigated hundreds ot reports.

"Actually, all my close family members have witnessed UFO sightings: my parents, my sisters and brother, my nieces and nephews."

Hapless Hannah

A good twenty years before Betty's UFO contact she recalls that her sister Janet repeatedly corrected her three children, then aged 2, 5, and 7, for mischief they denied doing. When they were older, they said that they had been punished for things they didn't do. But, at the time they could not figure out how these things were always happening. Silly things such as: who spilled the contents of the wastebasket all over the kitchen floor?

Finally Glenn, the middle child, whom Hannah the child ghost was particularly fond of, went away to service, and Hannah moved into his room. But, when Glenn came home, Hannah would have a fit. Night after night she would awaken him and throw his clothes across the room. If his clothes were hanging in the closet, they'd all fall off the hangers and be left in the middle of the closet with a bang, or they would tumble down just as if someone took them and swept them off the rod. Also, things would fall off the edge of the dresser. Betty saw some of these things happen herself.

"Sometimes you could hear Hannah sobbing. She would call, 'Mommy, Mommy.' One day, my sister Janet answered the door and it was the assistant scoutmaster dropping by to see her husband Donald. (Janet's brother-in-law was always active in the Boy Scouts.) Donald wasn't home, but while the scoutmaster was talking to Janet, Hannah started sobbing and crying, 'Mommy.' The man stopped and asked, 'Is that your grandson?' Janet said, 'No' and he said, 'You're taking care of some neighbour's child?' Janet still said, 'No.' Then he said, 'Well, where is the child crying?' And Janet said, 'Oh, I never told you, but that's our spirit Hannah.' And he took off!

"We realized something was going on, but we didn't know what. My sister went to a psychic, who said we had the ghost of a small child living in the house. He told us the story of Hannah – how she had lived with her parents somewhere in the vicinity about a hundred years ago and how there had been a fire in which both her parents burned to death. Hannah was rescued, and neighbours took her in and adopted her. The psychic said that Janet was living in Hannah's adoptive parents' home. Janet said, 'No, that couldn't be,' because she and her husband built the house themselves and there was no former house there. The psychic insisted that there had been a house there, but Janet disagreed because the land had been in their family since 1840. The psychic still insisted and said that the people adopted Hannah, and that one day while she was riding horseback, when she was about 5 or 6 years old, Hannah fell off, was injured and died.

"A few years later when Janet was digging a trench on the side of the house she found old cellar walls. That got her interested again and she checked through old records, deeds, and such, and found out that what the psychic said was true. She even discovered where Hannah was buried."

Betty continued: "One day Hannah got so obnoxious that Janet said, 'Look, Hannah, I've had it with you. You go over to Sheila's.' Sheila, who didn't know about this of course, was working at the kitchen sink at the time. All of a sudden the knobs on the front of the stove came off and fell on the floor, right in front of her eyes. Sheila hot on the phone, dialled Janet, and said, 'Will you come over and get Hannah, or shall I bring her back?' Sheila is married to our nephew.

"In my mother's house Hannah is always knocking on the door. To the best of my knowledge, Hannah is never in two places at the same time. For example, when she was cutting up with me, there was no monkey business at my sisters'. Once when Janet and I went to Ohio to visit my niece, we wondered what Hannah was going to do. About two days after we got to Ohio Janet was sitting on the bed, when all of a sudden, she felt Hannah grab her hand and she said, 'Hannah is here!' We'd say, 'Come on, Hannah,' and when we were leaving my niece said, 'I hate to see you leave, but be sure to take Hannah with you.'

"My niece's [now ex-husband] was getting a Ph.D., in psychology at the University of Cincinnati. Of course, anyone getting a Ph.D. in psychology knows that there are no such things as ghosts. When they came to New Hampshire one summer for a couple of weeks, Tom (the husband) slept in Glenn's room, which Hannah objected to. At five in the morning Hannah would wake him up. We found Tom sitting in the front yard, and he wouldn't go back to the house. He said that Hannah kept him awake all night by rattling things in the closet and that he also heard a child crying. It suddenly dawned on him that it wasn't the grandson Danny, but, 'Oh, my God, it's Hannah. I'm not sleeping in any house with any ghosts.

"Once, when Barney was alive, I gave Janet a rest by offering to take Hannah back to Portsmouth with me for two days. It was eerie. Hannah would walk in the room, cough, and you'd see the rocking chair rock but nobody was in it. This episode happened after the sighting.

"The rocking chair business also happened at Janet's, mother's, and Sheila's house. Once, the first day of school, when the children left the house, and when Hannah was presumably with Janet, the

(Continued on page 31)

KENTUCKY CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Carla L. Rueckert

This incident was investigated by Don Elkins and Carla Rueckert of The L/L Company, 2120 Douglass Blvd. No. 3, Louisville, Kentucky 40205, U.S.A.

THE PERCIPIENT in this case was Lee Parrish of Prospect, Kentucky, and the incident, which lasted 35 minutes, took place very early (1.05 a.m.) on the morning of Thursday, January 27, 1977.

Introduction

On January 27, 1977, Don and I were contacted by Lawrence Allison, a hypnotist who has worked with us before on UFO-related cases. Mrs. Parrish, Lee's mother, had called Larry because she felt something unusual had happened to her son the previous night. Lee and his friend, Kathy Johnson, met with Larry, Don and I at Larry's house that evening. Lee Parrish is 19, a high school graduate, employed by his family's firm, Parrish Supply, as a truck driver and all-round worker. He is a husky six-footer with a quiet, polite manner. He seemed to us to be of good, average intelligence, a common-sense type who was genuinely bothered about what had happened to him. His appearance was very neat, his dress casual.

The original sighting

Lee had been at Kathy's house and left just as a television programme they had been watching was going off the air, which pinpointed his departure at just before 1 a.m. He fed the dog on the way out and then got in his Jeepster, a 1970 model with a V6 engine, and headed for home, normally a 7-minute journey. The weather was cold and partly cloudy, with quite a bit of snow on the ground. However, the roads were relatively clear and there was no precipitation. He was driving west on Hwy. 329, heading towards U.S. 42 and perhaps 4 miles short of it, when he saw an object.

Lee first saw the object hovering just over the tree line, between 100 and 220 feet away from the road and at an altitude of 100 to 150 feet. The object appeared to be about 10 feet tall and 40 feet long. Its shape appeared perfectly rectangular. The craft was the colour of the setting sun, but much brighter. Lee felt a compulsion to look at it and was unable to remove his gaze from it, but at the same time it was too bright to look at. He became very frightened and wanted to leave the area, but couldn't do it; he doesn't even remember how the car managed to stay on the road – he wasn't driving it. About 15 seconds into the sighting, the car radio failed.

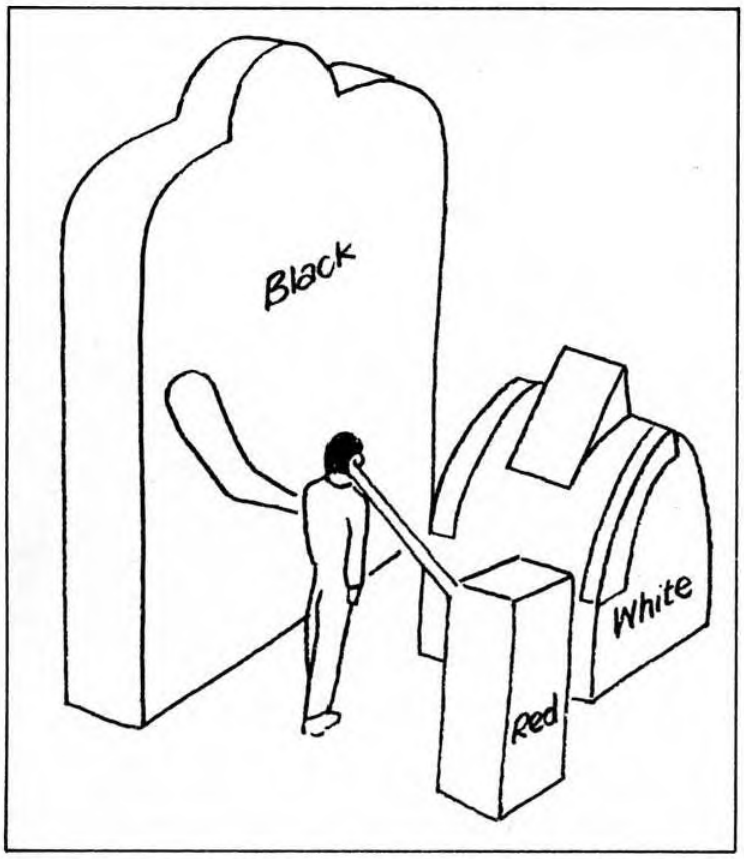
He continued watching the fire-coloured UFO. It hovered until he was directly underneath it. Then, suddenly, it sped away, first at the speed of a jet, then even quicker, to the northwest. It had never made any sound. When Lee arrived home, his mother met him at the door and said "What's wrong with your eyes?" Lee looked in the mirror and saw that the whites were entirely bloodshot. There was considerable pain which continued, though to a lesser degree, this evening. He noticed that the time was 1.45 a.m., which meant that he'd been en route from Kathy's house for 45 minutes on a 7-minute trip. His mother confirms this arrival time home, and the girl friend confirms his departure time from her home.

Further investigation through time regression

Lee was somewhat anxious concerning his being a hypnotic subject, and so Don and Larry spent some time talking to him about hypnotic techniques and what he would be experiencing in mental states. Lee felt much reassured when he found that he would not be unable to control what happened to him, that he could ask to come out of hypnosis at any time, and that the hypnotists would not be tricking him as he had seen done at a party. After this discussion, he agreed to the hypnotic session, for he expressed a great deal of desire to find out what had happened to him during that missing time. Larry spent perhaps 40 minutes relaxing him, achieving the desired hypnotic state, and regressing Lee back to several childhood ages. Then, he brought Lee to the time of the sighting experience, told him to speak up without prompting, and just let him tell the story as it was happening to him. It was quite eerie for this observer to go through this extremely unusual sequence of events with Lee. Here is the story as he told it under hypnosis:

After he left Kathy's house, he saw the rectangular UFO and at first thought it was a fire. But he immediately rejected that hypothesis and became very scared, asking himself over and over, "What is it?" His eyes hurt from looking at the bright-red object, but he couldn't look away. Somehow, it was not moving, but had arrived at a position directly overhead. During this period he cannot remember driving the car, so it is unknown whether the craft had actually moved over the road or whether the car had entered the field, part of the flat land over which the UFO was hovering. He was increasingly scared and kept repeating, "It's not moving," in a puzzled, frightened tone.

Then, suddenly, he could not see anything. A split second before that, the craft had changed colour to black, then to white. Then, he could see nothing and felt "something in his eyes." When he could see again, he was no longer in the jeep but in a circular,



all-white room. He had no knowledge of the transition. The room was about 20 feet in diameter, with a ceiling anout 20 feet high, although from the outside the ship had not looked nearly that high-ceilinged. The walls of the room were self-luminous.

Before him stood three objects which he instinctively felt or sensed were sentient beings, although they were definitely not human: a "black one," a "red one," and a "white one." The black one was on his left. It stood as high as the ceiling and was roughly the shape of an army silhouette target, jug-shaped, with a relatively small "head." It had a flat bottom and one "arm", a handless, one-jointed appendage. The arm was rough-skinned, the rest of the entity rough in patches, smooth in patches. The head was featureless. It moved slowly to Lee and touched him on the left side and back, hurting him quite a bit and terrifying him. Throughout the regression, Lee kept repeating, "No, no, not the black one!" The sensation of the black one touching him was somehow cold and burning at the same time, and he felt as though he were vibrating.

The "red one" was on his right. It was about Lee's size or a little smaller, and rectangular in shape, like a "Coke machine." It had one arm or probe, unjointed and handless. Lee felt that the thing was scared and reluctant to touch him, but it too came slowly over and touched him on the shoulder and on the right temple, above the ear and within the hairline. This felt like a needle and stung briefly, but did not terrify Lee and did not hurt long. During this time, Lee felt quite cold. The whole ship seems to be rocking like "a boat on the water," back and forth.

The white one was about six feet tall, Lee's height. It sat in the middle of the room, watching Lee. Its body was solid and blocky and its head square on the sides, quite flat in front. In profile, the head sloped towards the body at a 45-degree angle, with no features. The whole being glowed. It had arms, but did not use them, remaining stationary. Lee knew that it was the "ruler" of the other two.

The red one backed up after it had touched Lee and went together with the white one, either merging with it or going behind it, in which case Lee could not see it, since it was smaller than the white one. The red one had "done its job," and the white one started making a sound which Lee described as that of a person brushing his teeth or using sandpaper – a rhythmic scraping sound. The black one was backing up slowly at this point, also. Lee, who had been quite cold, found that he was now warm. Then the white one moved to the black one and either merged with it or went behind it, leaving only the 20-foot-tall black one there with Lee. Then the black one simply disappeared, and Lee was alone in the white room. He noticed that, perhaps due to the bouncing and rocking motion of the ship, he felt quite a bit heavier.

Under hypnosis, there was no transition time between his presence in the white room and his awareness of being back in the Jeepster. "There's the pond," he said, and went on to describe getting home, his eyes burning, his fright, and his mother's comments on his eyes. His sleep that night was poor, but not because of dreams; his eyes simply hurt a good deal, and were still hurting him at the session that night whenever he closed them.

Lee never used the word "telepathy" to explain how he knew what he knew about the machine-like beings – for he knew quite a bit: that they were sentient, that the red one was scared, that the white one was the leader, and that it was thinking about him. When asked what he thought their purpose was in taking him on board, he replied that he felt they were checking out his "chemical make-up" and doing a physical check-up. They were curious about "the way that he was Lee." He felt, too, that they would be contacting him again.

The investigators were interested in the mechanism by which Lee was taken from and returned to the Jeepster, and so we asked him very carefully about the method of transport. Lee said that the red ship had "caught" the Jeep as he went underneath it, just like "a mousetrap waiting for a mouse." The Jeep was "not on the ship, not on the ground," suspended by some force. Lee was "transformed" into and out of the ship without opening the door of the Jeep. When they put him back in the Jeep, it was still suspended, then he was back on the road and Lee saw the UFO departing. The radio continued not to work for the approximate five minutes it took the ship to disappear from Lee's view. Somehow, during the process Lee's cigarette, which he was smoking when he first sighted the UFO, vanished completely. Lee felt that "they," whoever they were, had a sort of control over both him and the Jeep from the time he saw the UFO until it left, as he was never able to get away from the

(Continued on page 19)

ALARMING JOURNEY TO LAMBOURN

Peter D. Wroath

AT a recent interview, Miss Jane Human described for us a UFO sighting that greatly alarmed her.

Our witness, an attractive twenty-two year old civil servant, lives with her parents, one brother and a sister. Their home is situated near Membury Airfield, Lambourn Woodlands, Berks. Built during the last war, the airfield is now partly used as a service station on the M4, between London and Bristol.

On the night of February 7, 1977, Jane was driving home alone after visiting her boyfriend at Wallingford, Berks. Her car, an Austin 1100, had passed through Wantage and was heading for Lambourn on the B4507. The road rises steeply towards high ground and the Lambourn Downs. For the first mile and a half the headlamps of a following car could be seen in her mirror. These lights disappeared when the following car turned off the road to the right in the direction of West Challow.

It was now dark all around and the road from here on is very lonely over the Downs.* The time was about 10.45 p.m. A few moments later Jane noticed in her mirror a circle of light directly in the middle of the rear window. The road at this point is very bendy, with occasional dips. Nevertheless the light kept following her for about half a mile. At first, Jane thought it must be a motorcycle lamp but then realised the light was too dim and its position in her rear window was wrong. She began to feel uneasy and sensed that something strange was happening. Jane then became aware that the image in her mirror showed colours. This also struck her as very unusual. Determined not to panic and as an ex-policewoman, trained to observe, Jane slowed the car down to about 5 mph and turned around in her seat to get a better view. Until now the light had stayed a constant distance behind and very close to the rear window. What Jane now saw, she describes as follows: "It was about 8" in diameter, it wasn't an exact circle, it appeared jagged at the edges, also the light itself which was of different shades of yellows and reds appeared dim and hazy. It was darker red in the centre, filtering out towards the edges in a paler red and yellows." She continued: "It felt as if I was looking at it without my glasses on, which I have to wear for driving."

When we interviewed Jane, she told us that she estimated the distance of the object behind the car to be about 15 ft. However when the car was moving very slowly the object drew closer and Jane formed the impression that it was more disc-like than spherical. It was now closing in fast and she felt it was about to "stick onto the rear window screen." Jane's reaction was one of great fear and she began to accelerate and to drive on as fast as the bends in the road would allow.† The light continued to keep station behind her and since her attempts to elude pursuit were not succeeding she had to fight off a strange urge to panic and drive recklessly (which could have ended disastrously). Jane told us "I have never felt so frightened in my whole life. It must have been behind me for about another half mile, then as I went down a very small dip in the road and around a sharp bend, it completely vanished: I kept on going, keeping an eye in my mirror all the time. As I got to the top of the hill, just before you come to the crossroads where you either turn right to Childrey or go straight over for Swindon or left for Lambourn, the light appeared fleetingly once more and looked as if it was hovering on top of the hill."



Jane Human, photographed at time of the interview

* The stretch of road where the episode occurred is part of the ancient Icknield Way.

† Jane estimates her actual speed because of the bendy road was probably not greater than 30 mph.



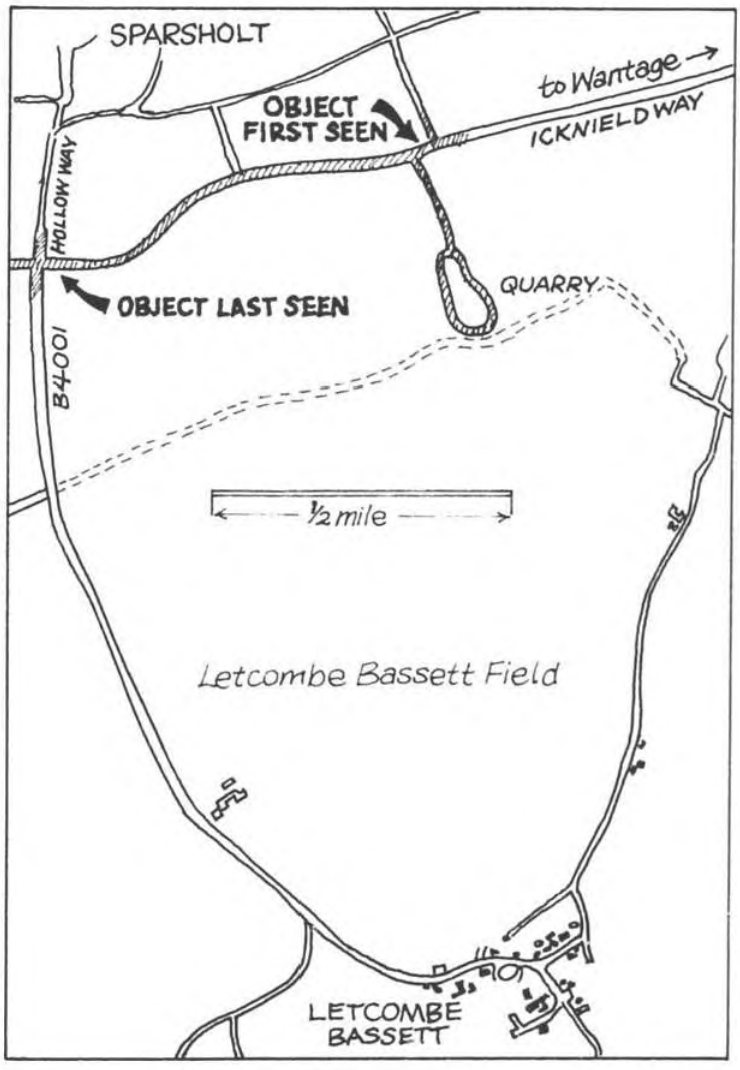
The Icknield Way, with a view of the Downs to the South West, with Ridge Way on the horizon. This is the point on the road where the sighting first occurred

The crossroads referred to are known as Childrey Holloway and lie at the bottom of a steep dip in the road where high hedges and a copse suddenly enclose the road from the openness of the Downs. At the crossroads, Jane takes the left turn and after about 100 yards the road rises clear of the hollow and crosses the Lambourn Downs. With nine or ten miles to go before reaching home, mostly through wide open spaces, I asked Jane had she thought of stopping the car in the hollow. She told us that it never crossed her mind as she feared what the light might do next, and her one thought was to get home as soon as she could. There was, however, no re-appearance of the light beyond the hollow and Jane reached home without further event.

We asked Jane to describe her feelings about the object and she told us that at the time she felt that it was evil. Now, some weeks afterwards, her reaction is that it was "strange" or "other worldly," rather than good or evil and she feels curious about it. Her account continued: "As you can imagine this has thrown me completely and every time I go over there now, I hope that it will come again so that I can have a much better look at it, even though it frightened the life out of me."

Jane's parents were at a loss to understand what their daughter had actually seen and shortly afterwards drove over the same stretch of road at around the same time of night. They were unable to detect the source of any "unusual reflections," or otherwise find any explanation to account for Jane's experience.

Going over the route myself in daylight, I realised at once that where Jane first saw the light, a narrow half-made-up road led off to the left and disappeared in a downward direction. The road led downwards for several hundreds of yards into an old quarry, roughly 100 yards in diameter. The ground was very uneven for the most part and the place was empty except for a few concrete structures. Some horses could be seen in adjacent fields, otherwise the place was quite deserted. The existence of the quarry is well concealed from the high ground above. When returning to the main road again and the starting





View of the quarry, lying just to the south of the Icknield Way to which it is connected by a narrow road. The sighting started close to the point where this road joins the Icknield Way

point of the sighting, I was impressed by the wonderful views to be seen in every direction and by the grandeur of the landscape. By this time, my mind was toying with the idea that the object could have been concealed in the quarry before the approach of Jane's car. Jane believed the object was intelligently directed and that it was interested in some way in her car and possibly the driver as well.

Thinking along these lines, I observed the surrounding features of the area. Looking towards the Southwest across the Downs, the ground rises towards the line of the Ridge Way, about two miles distant. Just beyond the ridge there is a much greater hollow with very steep sides called Crowhole Bottom, better known as "The Devil's Punchbowl." I began to wonder if there have been many ground-level UFO sightings reported in similar areas. It occurred to me that notable hollows, quarries, etc., in remote areas might sometimes be hiding places for UFOs and worth observing periodically. Such an exercise could perhaps be undertaken as part of a National Skywatch programme.

Kentucky Close Encounter *(Continued from page 16)*

craft or move of his own volition while in the ship.

Interestingly enough, the electrical system of the Jeep went bad the day after the sighting and will need quite a bit of repair work.

There are two power lines which go along Rte. 329, the utility line and telephone lines. The only body of water close by is a small pond. The land is flat farmland, the neighbourhood quite rural.

After Lee was awakened from his hypnotic state, having been told he would remember everything very clearly, we asked him again about how the UFO had first come on to his line of vision. To the best of his ability, he can only determine that it materialized out of thin air, as the fields around him are flat, with no hills to hide behind. When he first saw it, it was over a treeline. Dr. Burt Monroe, consultant to APRO on zoology, lives in Anchorage, Kentucky, a suburban community about four miles from the abduction site. He reported to us that at about 10.30 of that same evening (January 26), a neighbour of his had heard her children screaming, run to her window, and seen a large, white disc-shaped object with a dome.

Lee said that he's always been fairly interested in UFOs and, when he was in high school, had read at least one book, called, he thought, *UFO.* He was interested in psychic phenomena, and had previously had some peculiar things happen to him. He told of willing an outdoor light to go on. It was unplugged at the time, but it mysteriously came on anyway.

This incident was attested to by Kathy. Lee said he had seen UFOs several times prior to the January 27 sighting, but he was always with someone, and he felt that they wanted only him. They had known that he was alone that Wednesday night, and so chose that occasion to take him on board. Lee's mother had also seen several UFOs. Perhaps her most vivid sighting was of a nocturnal light that appeared behind the house making a noise "like a dewing machine going full throttle."

After this preliminary session, it is our feeling that, due to the obvious sincerity of Lee and the unusual nature of his experience, this sighting is worth a good deal of study.

We rely on YOU, to tell your friends about . . .

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

SPIES IN THE SUPERNUMERARY ATTIC?

Ignacio Darnaude

Translation by Gordon Creighton to whom credit is also due for the title of this article

A Spanish lawyer had an extraordinary experience recently when he and his wife and some friends were staying in a hotel in Albufeira, on the coast of Algarve, Southern Portugal.

Sr. Francisco Tejero, aged 44, a graduate in Law from the University of Madrid and now in legal practice in Cadiz, and his wife, Teresa Lacave de Tejero, went for a brief holiday in Albufeira with their friends Sr. and Sra. Valles. Sr. Jose Valles is the holder of a degree in Chemistry, and he and his wife Pilar Osborne Domecq live in Barcelona. Both couples have been known to me for some years, and I was able to interview them on September 5, 1976 and hear their story.

The date was Tuesday, August 10, 1976, and the time was 5.00 a.m., at the Hotel Da Balaia, on the Algarve Atlantic Coast. The party had arrived there the evening before, and had gone into the hotel bar to have something to drink. There they saw two men and a woman who were engaged in a discussion and at the same time seemed to be watching our party most intently. The two men were short of stature, "with European features but very dark." They seemed to be somewhere between 40 and 50 years old, and yet they were "far too white-haired for such an age." Suddenly a couple of strange flashes came from the direction of this mysterious trio, like the flashes of a camera, and although they observed no camera, the two Spanish couples had the firm impression that somebody had just photographed them, no doubt with the aid of some micro-camera concealed in a cigarette-lighter or something of the sort.

Moreover the presence of the mysterious trio caused the two couples to feel an indescribable sort of malaise – so much so indeed that they rapidly finished their drinks and left the bar, and went to have dinner.

Their rooms were on the top floor of the hotel, facing out over the Atlantic. In relating their experiences of that night, both the wives told the investigator (who interviewed them separately) that they slept very badly, and had an altogether disturbed and heavy, unpleasant night. Teresa de Tejero in particular spoke of the very peculiar dreams she had that night – dreams such as she had never had before.

At about 5.00 a.m. on August 10, Señora Teresa de Tejero awoke with a sudden start, and, to her great astonishment, she observed that, on the curtains of the window (which was of course open – it was an extremely hot night) there was a very vivid luminous rectangle, "like a TV screen." She immediately thought of the strange "spies" in the bar, who had seemed to photograph them the evening before, and her next thought was that maybe the "spies" had entered the bedroom and were going to rob them or do them some kind of mischief. She turned and shook her husband vigorously, shouting: "Paco! What's that extraordinary light on the curtains?"

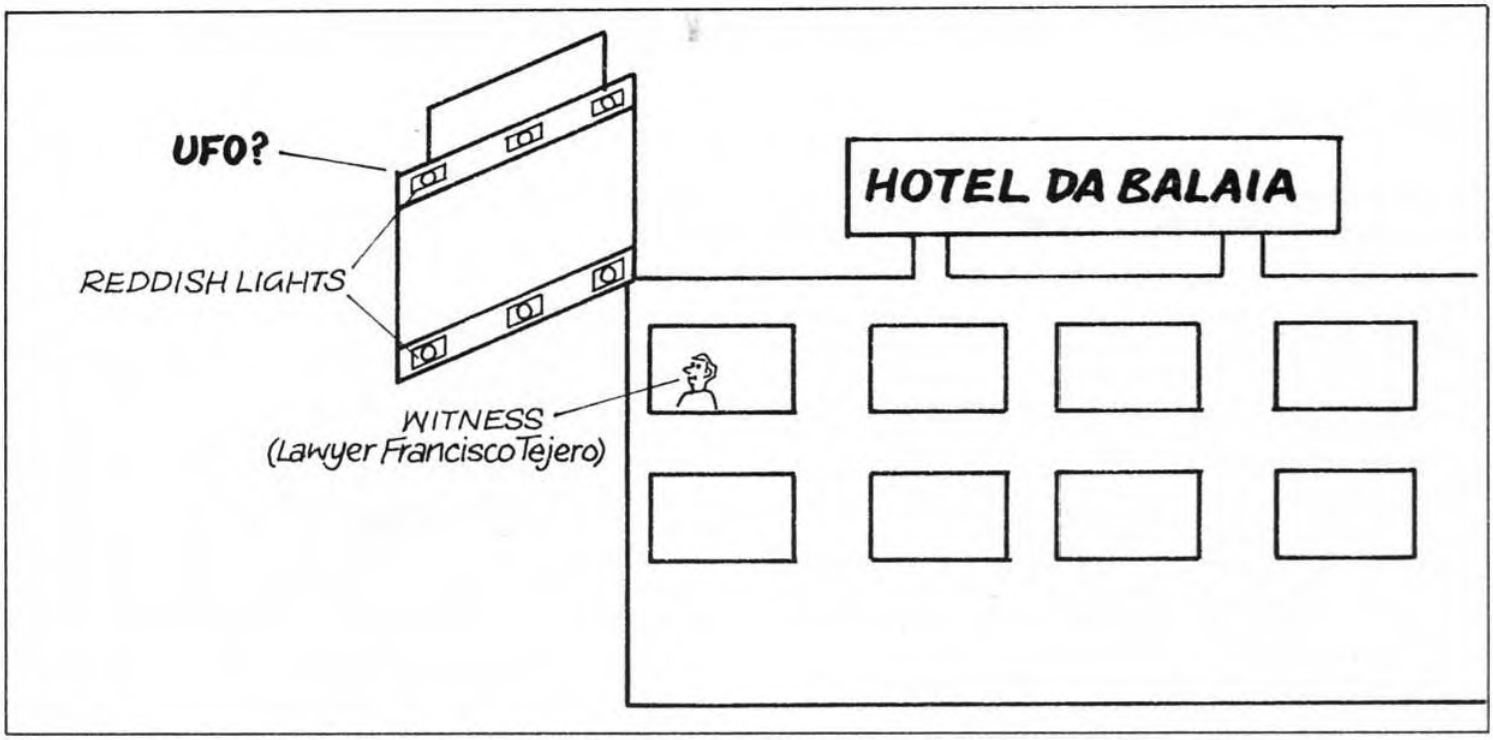
Her husband quickly jumped out of bed and went to the window. In his account he says: "It was as though I were in some sort of trance, as if I had been hypnotized by someone. Outside, all was utterly, infinitely peaceful. I was moving about like an automaton, as though I had somehow been turned into a robot. I looked out of the window, and saw a quadrangular thing, with six reddish lights on it, on the hotel, but on another wing of it which made an angle with the main face on which our window lay. All was dark underneath the 'thing,' and nothing was to be seen, and so I simply thought that the lights must have been left burning on those two top floors of the other wing of the building. I remained there motionless for a while, gazing at the 'attic,' not without a certain feeling of irritation because one of the lights was being directed in such a special fashion right into our bedroom. Then I turned round and went back to the bed and I said to Teresa: 'Those people up there must all be so *turned on* that they've left the lights on.' Then I lay down again and went back to sleep."

When he and his wife awoke later that morning, everything seemed normal. Recalling the odd business of the "TV screen" on the curtains, Sr. Tejero went over to the window, curious to have a daytime view of the two upper storeys of the hotel that had caused the "luminous orgy," as he called it, of the night before.

But he was petrified with astonishment, when he got to the window, by the sight that met his gaze, or rather, the sight that *did not* meet his gaze. *For there was no other wing of the hotel running out at an angle. There was no building or structure of any kind whatsoever there. It was simply empty space. There was no 'attic'!*

Extraordinarily impressed, Sr. Tejero spent the whole morning reflecting deeply upon the strange experience that had befallen him in the early hours, and by eliminating all the other possibilities he finally came to the only conclusion that seemed plausible, i.e. that "a rectangular UFO, with two rows of lights," had been stationary right above the roof of the Hotel da Balaia, thus forming as it were an angle with the principal facade of the building, with the result that he had taken the UFO to be the two uppermost storeys of an adjacent block of the hotel in which somebody had left all the lights on.

Both Francisco Tejero and his wife Teresa "are



positive" that the "TV screen" on the curtains of their bedroom was some sort of instrument or process for controlling them or for recording their activities.

Nobody at the Hotel da Balaia said anything to them about any device having been seen by anyone during the night at the place where Sr. Tejero saw the "thing."

Observing the sky the following night, from the same hotel, Sr. Tejero saw a luminous point of light fly over. He felt that it was a UFO.

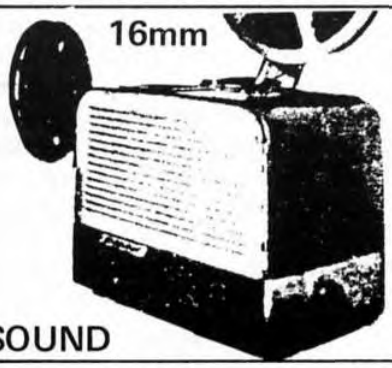
All four members of the party have been known to the investigator for many years on a personal basis, and they are serious, reliable, solid folk, conservative and old-fashioned in their views; folk who hate any sort of publicity, who are of high economic and social status, whose testimony in all matters would be unquestioned. Not one of the party has any knowledge of, or any specific interest in Ufology, regarding which they are all sceptics.

With regard to the close scrutiny which they felt they received in the bar, it is to be borne in mind that Genral Spinola was due to arrive back in Portugal around that date, and it would not be surprising if, fearing a coup d'etat from the extreme right, the Portuguese authorities were keeping a careful eye on foreign visitors. Indeed, they might have gone so far as to photograph any stranger whom they felt to be suspect. But this does not account for the *strange appearance* of the men in the bar, and of course there are still the weird luminous "TV screen" on the bedroom curtains and the mystery of the two top storeys of the side wing that the Hotel da Balaia at Albufeira does not possess — mysteries for which a "Ufological explanation" seems to be the only explanation that makes any sense at all.

Bridlington UFOs *(continued from page 10)*

revealed that they did have an interest in UFOs *before* the sighting. The same woman also referred to the story of a UFO going under water, which reminded the investigators of a TV story. In short, then, we could establish no reason for doubting that the women had seen something unusual; however, we feel there are grounds for treating their claims with a healthy measure of caution.

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.

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POSTSCRIPT TO THE NEMINGHA CASE

Bill Chalker

Our contributor, who has a B.Sc.(hons), is research co-ordinator of UFO Investigation Centre (UFOIC) of New South Wales, Australia

SUBSEQUENT investigations of the UFO "precipitation" event at Nemingha in March, 1976, have not revealed the identity of the "victim" of the incident, so at this point we can only speculate about the personalised nature of the woman's experience.

Further study of the literature has brought to light at least one incident worth considering by way of similarities with this case. In "More on Teleportations" (FSR Vol. 18, No. 5) Gordon Creighton quoted a letter from Dr. P.M.H. Edwards to Gene Duplantier which appeared in the latter's publication, "Saucers, Space and Science."

To recount the incident, an elderly couple were motoring in cloudless weather in Central Wyoming when suddenly their car "was overhung and partially enveloped by a strange yellowy creamish-coloured mist that was weaving about them most peculiarly; it was transparent – yet it seemed to have 'body' or shape..."

Drawing upon this sort of case as a possible stimulating phenomenon leading to teleportation effects, as Mr. Creighton has done, is perhaps a little premature, but certainly these cases deserve documentation. Perhaps in this manner we may determine eventually the validity of the "strange mist" often reported in alleged teleportation events.

RAAF case

As precipitation effects are quite rare in UFO events, I feel compelled to draw attention to the following case, which comes from the files of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). Because of my continuing compilation of an Australian catalogue of trace cases the RAAF, and the Department of Defence (Air Office), have consented to pass on relevant material for inclusion in this catalogue.

In the vicinity of Brisbane, Queensland, on January 13, 1975, at about 3.00 a.m., a man was confronted by "...a large ball of flame in his yard. It was a reddish-brown colour, with flames about 5 feet high. He called his wife and they both watched it from their doorway, about 35 feet away. After 4 or 5 minutes, the flames had died down to about a few inches high, and there appeared to be several small residual objects left burning."[1] The flames lasted for some 15 to 20 minutes. "As they were nearly finished several long jets of flame suddenly shot out, as if small pockets of fuel had suddenly been ignited. There was no discernible sound or smell."

Although there were no overhead high tension wires or any thunderstorm activity, it had been raining heavily, and the ground was soaking wet. RAAF investigators examined the area and found a lightly singed patch of grass and gravel. "The gravel had deposits of a black tar-like substance still adhering, and some samples were collected... There was no indentation at all, and no sign of a solid object hitting the ground." Analysis of the substance was carried out by the Department of Chemical Engineering of the University of Queensland. Their limited analyses, based only on ignition and comparison of smoke given off, tentatively suggested the material consisted of higher aliphatic and aromatic compounds, as would be expected in tar. It was suggested that the tar-like material was evolved from some heating process.[2]

The Department of Defence's "Unusual Aerial Sightings, Summary No. 7," could not find any known cause, but I would suggest that the much maligned "swamp gas theory" may be applicable. The Condon report detailed the theoretical mechanism, in which "a small amount of hydrocarbon, less than that required for combustion, is suddenly subjected to strong electric fields. The hydrocarbons become ionized and form more complex hydrocarbon molecules which clump together. Eventually there is enough combustible material in the centre to allow a burning core... if the concentration increases, the ball ignites explosively."[3] But the RAAF could find no sources of electrical energy, and therefore this hypothetical mechanism is not entirely valid.

This example is designed to show how unusual precipitates can occur in unusual "aerial sightings." While these effects can manifest in nature on rare occasions, it is worthwhile considering, how these effects would occur in the hypothesized propulsion mediums ascribed to UFOs.

To add more food for thought, G. Liuti et al, in "Nuclear Applications", Vol. 6, p. 494, May, 1969, and Sueo Machi, et al, in a paper presented at the First International Meeting on Radiation Processing at Puerto Rico, May 1976, Proceedings Section VI-2.I: "Radiation Treatment of Combustion Gases", have shown that electron beam irradiation of combustion gases of industrial plants has lead to the formation of a white solid probability of approximate composition $(NO_2)_2S_2O_{10}$. The reaction mechanism has not yet been elucidated but probably involves oxidation of sulphur compounds followed by rapid reactions with nitrogen oxides (NO_x). This reaction has possible relevance in the Nemingha case and perhaps even in some "angel hair" cases. At the same time it evokes some humourous possibilities, which in the long run may not seem as outlandish as at first inspection. One of my associates, in a satirical piece

(Continued on page 27)

THE CAR THAT DISAPPEARED

Derek James & Jenny Randles

Case investigated for UFOIN by Mr. James; report prepared by Miss Randles, Secretary of UFOIN, 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester, M30 6NJ Telephone: 061 775 4749

FROM time to time we hear stories of incidents that are so amazing they are almost impossible to believe. One is tempted to ignore such events because they do not seem to fit into the customary thought-patterns for the subject. This is particularly true in the field of reported activity of MIB (Men in Black). One hears vague accounts of experiences with such mysterious individuals, although all too often these come by way of rumour (probably as one might expect them to come, if true, since their very nature would make direct relating of them dangerous).

In Britain there have been such rumours from time to time, and people have left the subject in apparently strange circumstances, but usually there is insufficient *prima facie* evidence to allow committment to the beliefs. It is also quite obviously true that ufology, being the emotive field that it is, must generate incidents which are blown up out of all proportion and probably relate factors which are totally random to create an impression of mystique. These circumstances accepted, we should like to relate an incident about which there appears to us to be little double that it did happen, though what it might mean we cannot yet judge.

The incident began quite inoccuously with a report from the Midlands of a light in the sky. This was one of many in a series which occurred during August and September of that year (1971). In essence it appeared no different to any other, but one of us, Derek James, followed it up superficially. A telephone call from the witness threw the incident into new perspective.

Apparently this witness had received a call from two men from the Ministry of Defence who, allegedly, told him that what he had seen was the Russian satellite, Cosmos 408. Now this is a rather unusual occurrence in Britain, as the Ministry takes interest in relatively few cases, and in fewer still do they personally visit the witness. It is stranger still when one considers that the original sighting was of nothing more than a white light which need probably have been no more than a satellite or an aircraft on first consideration.

In view of the above Derek checked with the satellite information at Farnborough, and ascertained that the Cosmos 408 satellite was over Newfoundland at the time of the incident and indeed was never visible from England at all!

This was perturbing, and a letter was despatched to the Ministry, but the official reply totally ignored the query as to why false information was given to the witness. No explanation was forthcoming.

At this point the witness contacted Derek once more, and not without trepidation because, for several nights in succession, two strange men sat in a black *Jaguar* car outside his home. This alarmed him considerably, and prompted Derek to attempt to do something to assist.

Now Derek James has a relative who is a high ranking official on the local police force of the area in question, and he decided to approach him to see if any help could be given. The approach was made on the basis that the witness lived very close to a very large toy manufacturing firm, and the police should therefore be concerned as to whether plans for a robbery were being contemplated. Duly this was acknowledged, and a Panda control car with two policemen in it was instructed to keep a check on the vehicle.

By now events had taken us into October, and the patrol car kept watch on the vehicle on October 19 and 20. They timed it as it parked outside the house and waited for some time, and then drove off. On the third night, October 21, at approximately 21.05 the officers were given instructions from their superiors to detain the two strangers for questioning.

The patrol car was parked on the main road just away from where the *Jaguar* was standing. The police officers got out and walked towards the *Jaguar* and its occupants. They came up to it and were about to knock on the window when the car and its two passengers simply disappeared, as if they had melted away in front of the eyes of the astonished policemen.

The area was examined but there was no way in which the car could have disappeared naturally, and in any event the police officers were close enough to be quite positive as to what had transpired.

Subsequently neither car nor occupants were ever seen again, but the police officers and their superior (the relative of Derek James) had an unenviable task explaining away what had occurred.

For fairly obvious reasons neither names nor addresses of the participants nor the specific location of the event can be published here, although they are available on file with UFOIN.

Naturally one asks oneself many questions about this event, which parallels quite markedly certain close encounter UFO experiences (cf. the Bowles/Pratt affair in FSR Vol. 22, No. 5, where the object simply disappeared). One could explain the incident in almost any manner one wished, to relate it to any accepted theory. Did it become invisible? Did it disappear into another dimension? Or – perhaps we really ought to consider this more carefully – was it ever "really" there at all? To determine this we would have to define "real" and in the UFO phenomenon that is not particularly easy to do.

ENCOUNTER AT BURRINGHAM

Nigel Watson

This account has been prepared from an 18-page report submitted by the author via NUFON to the UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN)

BURRINGHAM is a small village a few miles west of Scunthorpe in South Humberside. It nestles by the side of the River Trent in its quiet and picturesque surroundings.

On the night of May 26, 1977, Mr. Roy Thompson was awakened from sleep in his caravan by a tremendous noise. He described it as similar to a whirlwind and something like "pressure building up" as if an object were on the ground, about to take off. It lasted for several seconds and then began to fade. It was so intense that it made him get out of bed and go over to the window from which he saw an unusual sight. More of that in a moment.

The noise itself faded, but a series of more distant droning sounds persisted for about an hour afterwards, apparently markedly different to the noise which awakened him. It has also been ascertained that people adjacent to the caravan site heard a strange noise at around the same time, 3.35 a.m., and one woman described it as being like the rumble of heavy lorries.

From his window Mr. Thompson did indeed see a puzzling object at an elevation of about seventy degrees. He described this at the first interview as looking like an "inflated eclipse" although at a later interview he altered the latter word to "ellipse." It is apparent from his description that he did in fact mean a roughly oval shape.

His subjective estimates of size are twenty feet wide and fifteen feet high, at a height of 3000 or 4000 feet. It did not appear to have lights on it but simply glowed a silvery white or grey. It was spinning slowly ("like a globe of the world") but moved at a tremendous pace across the sky until vanishing suddenly and completely after about 4 or 5 seconds.

Seconds later the witness glanced to his right and saw a very similar object over a row of houses, apparently further away in the direction of Keadby Bridge. This was also spinning in a similar manner and was surrounded by a greyish black cloud of amorphous shape. He glanced momentarily towards where the first object had disappeared. It was not to be seen. On looking back to where the second object had been this had disappeared also.

The witness was puzzled by what he had seen but he is not a believer in UFOs. He found himself arguing with himself as to whether he had been asleep, but the fact that he had got out of bed to observe the phenomenon negated this. In any event the noise was loud enough to have awakened him. Eventually he contacted the police next morning and they released the story to the press because of its connection with another local sighting (seen the evening before) at Bransholme, Hull – on the other side of the Humber Estuary.*

I investigated the report for UFOIN, along with Roger Hebb and Keith Beacroft, members of the Scunthorpe UFO Research Society (an associate member of NUFON).

One of the first facts to emerge was that a major air force exercise took place between 2.00 a.m. and 4.45 a.m. on the night in question. This involved aircraft from all over the Humberside and Lincolnshire area, and must certainly have been the cause of the droning noises heard by Mr. Thompson and, quite conceivably, the very loud noise which woke him up. Whether or not he in fact saw any of the aircraft involved in the exercise is difficult to assess with any certainty, although his description does not appear to indicate this, and he is personally satisfied that this was not so (although he has gone to some lengths to avoid accepting what he saw as a UFO).

In the interviews he commented:

"It was not a jet. Jets do not spin horizontally, and a jet needs at least a mile before it can turn over and come back."

"A jet does not go at that speed at that height. You can see a jet for a long while... It is only when they are low that they appear to be going fast, but at that height (this) was just woosh and gone ... It disappeared inside of, I would say, twenty yards."

The exercise itself was not publicised in advance, and the noise did alarm a number of people. However, most of the activity took place over the sea and we have no further reports of anyone seeing anything unusual in connection with the noise – even though many must have gone to their windows to find out what was happening. This again tends to argue against the theory that the witness had seen the afterburners of a jet aircraft, as does the fact that with so many military bases in the area he is well acquainted with such aircraft passing over.

Weather records indicate a fine, warm night with a high cloud ceiling (the cause of the reflection of the noise) and it is possible, therefore, that some peculiar atmospheric light reflection took place – but this has not been possible to establish.

Comment by Jenny Randles for UFOIN:

The investigators cannot identify this particular sighting, and it is perhaps of more interest when two factors are taken into account. First, the month of May was hyper-active, in the United Kingdom for anomolous UFO activity, and the centre of the wave appears to have been from around May 19 to 26. Secondly the time of observation is noteworthy

(Continued on page 30)

* See "World Round-up" column in this issue.

SPHERICAL PHENOMENON AT WALTHAM ABBEY

Apparent interference with individual television set

Andrew Collins

Our contributor is an independent researcher in South East England on behalf of UFO Investigators' Network (UFOIN).

ON the Eve of Jubilee Day a Waltham Abbey woman was subjected to a frightening experience when a small spherical object, an incredibly strong source of light, hovered over her back garden.

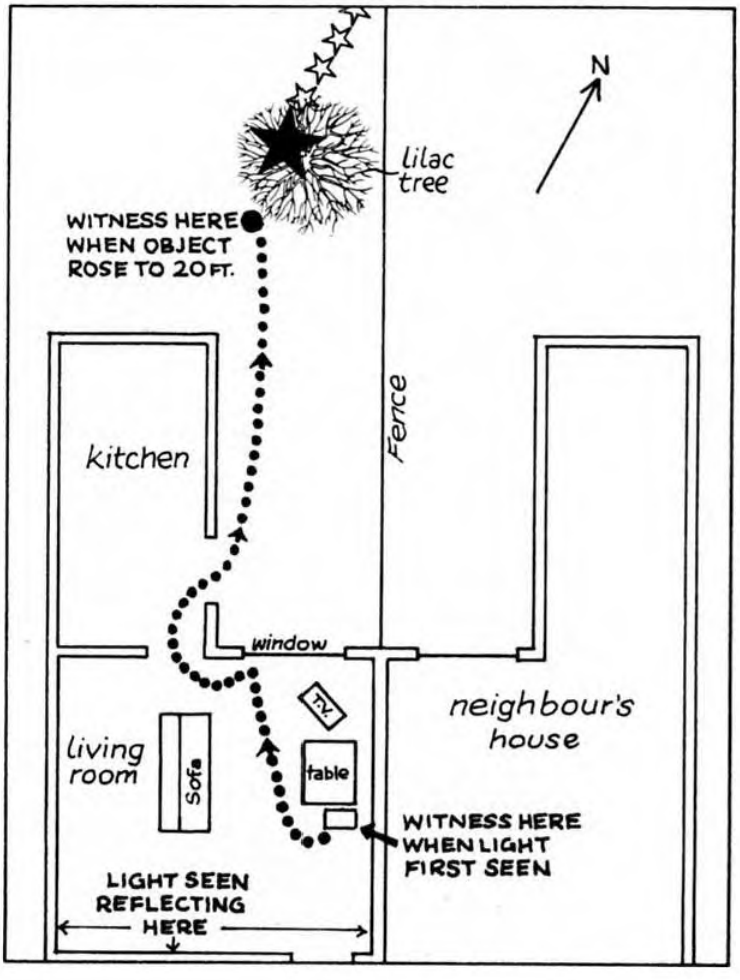
Mrs. Millicent Parr, sixty-eight years old, is a housewife who lives with her daughter at 39, Rounton Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex. On June 6, 1977, the Eve of Jubilee Day, at 11.35 p.m., she was watching the spectacular firework display on the television set in her living room. Her daughter was out. The firework display had nearly finished when, suddenly the television "closed up," in other words the picture closed from top and bottom towards the centre until just a pencil line of light could be seen. Then this too disappeared, and it was as if the TV set had been turned off. Thinking that "a valve had gone," Mrs. Parr got up from the sofa, went across and switched off the set. She then walked into her kitchen, switched on the light, and made a cup of tea. (No other lights were on in the house.) After approximately three minutes, Mrs. Parr returned to the living room with her cup of tea, switched on the light, and sat at a table facing the window, which is approximately six feet from where she sat. No disturbances were noted on her electric kettle or the kitchen and living room lights.

Suddenly the whole living room was enveloped in a blood red and vivid green light. At first she thought it must have been a Jubilee light, but after only seconds she realised it was something quite different. Seeing that it appeared to be coming from outside the window, she walked across, and pulled back the net curtains. To her amazement she saw a brilliantly lit spherical object hovering just 10 to 15 feet above her garden. Its colours were red and green, the red being at the centre and the green around its perimeter. It was approximately 12 inches in diameter, the outer 4 inches of this being the green area. She described it as like the brightness of a searchlight, and spinning. She also said that although it appeared to illuminate the sides of her house, and those of the facing side of her next door neighbour's house, it did not appear to illuminate any other surroundings. It was as if the light was being directed towards her house.

After watching it for some few seconds, she felt an urge to get a closer look, so she went through her kitchen, and out of the back door. It could be clearly seen now, and appeared to be just a few feet above the lilac tree that stands some 12 feet high in the centre of the garden. She moved towards it, and almost went underneath it, before it slowly rose up vertically, and then started to move away towards the north, rising gently as it went, and just missing the rooftops of some houses approximately 100 yards away. As it moved a tapered tail of white could be seen. This commenced the same diameter as the sphere, tapered down, and then widened at the end to finish in a spherical shape. The object was finally lost to sight behind the rooftops.

The total incident, from the moment the television had "closed up," had lasted for approximately 4½ minutes, the last 1½ of these being from the time the light was first seen. No sound had been heard during the incident. One further point is that when Mrs. Parr went into the garden, she was no longer aware of any strong light *source*, and she could not remember seeing anything being illuminated by the light.

After the object had disappeared Mrs. Parr



returned indoors, and thought she could still see a red and green glow in her living room, although in retrospect she realises it was probably persistence of vision. She then realised she must tell someone of her sighting, so she knocked on her wall to attract the next door neighbour's attention. The neighbour, a Mr. Jardene entered through her back door, and she explained to him what had happened. Mr. Jardene confirmed this to us, and stated that neither he nor any of his family had seen or heard anything during the encounter, and had noted no disturbances on electrical appliances.

The following morning, there was a street party for the children in Rounton Road, and Mrs. Parr noticed a photographer from the local newspaper, the *Waltham Telegraph*. She approached him and explained what had happened the night before; he seemed interested and asked her to go along to their offices the following morning. This she did, although eventually she gave details to another reporter, a Mr. McDougall. He then passed on details to Mr. Ken Phillips, National Investigations Co-ordinator for the British UFO Research Association, who in turn passed details to me. After some delay, due to the witness not having a telephone, I was able to interview her at her home on Saturday July 23. An article appeared in the *Waltham Telegraph* on June 17, entitled "Woman's midnight terror – Flying saucer lights up her living room."

The Witness

Mrs. Parr has lived at 39, Rounton Road for the last twenty years. Before this she travelled the world with her late husband who was in the army. She gave the impression that she was relating a real experience, which she wanted me to know about in real detail. She appeared very talkative and slightly eccentric in explaining things.

Although she has never read books on the UFO subject, she has a general interest in the unknown.

Mrs. Parr has had several psychic experiences during her life, several of these being premonitions where she has felt a person would be in grave danger if he or she did something or went somewhere. She says that occasionally she can foretell exactly what people are going to say or do. She could also sense when her husband was close by, particularly when he was on his way home from work. Mrs. Parr also said that some years ago one of her relatives checked back on the history of their family, and it would seem that a hundred years or so ago, a great, great, great grandfather was one of the most respected romany gypsies in the country who, when he died, had a big procession, with many gypsies at his funeral.

Mrs. Parr had a heart attack on March 30 this year, and had to go into hospital for some time. Three weeks after the sighting she had a relapse and went back into hospital. When I visited her she had only been out of hospital for a couple of weeks. She does not connect her relapse directly with the sighting, although she says that she feels very emotional when talking about the encounter, and indeed she did show signs of being emotional several times during our interview. She also has a very high blood pressure for which she is now being treated. Her doctor advised her not to speak too much about the sighting as it seemed to affect her to some extent.

The Television interference

Although the failure, or "shut off," of the television set happened some three minutes before the object was seen, it seems these events could be connected in some way.

The failure occurred during the final five minutes of the spectacular firework display at about 23.30. The picture suddenly appeared to close up from both top and bottom towards the centre, until only a thin pencil of light across the screen could be seen, which then also disappeared. The sound also cut-off as the picture closed up, and finally all that was left was a black screen. This had all happened within about two seconds, and after a few more seconds, Mrs. Parr turned off the television under the impression that a valve had "blown."

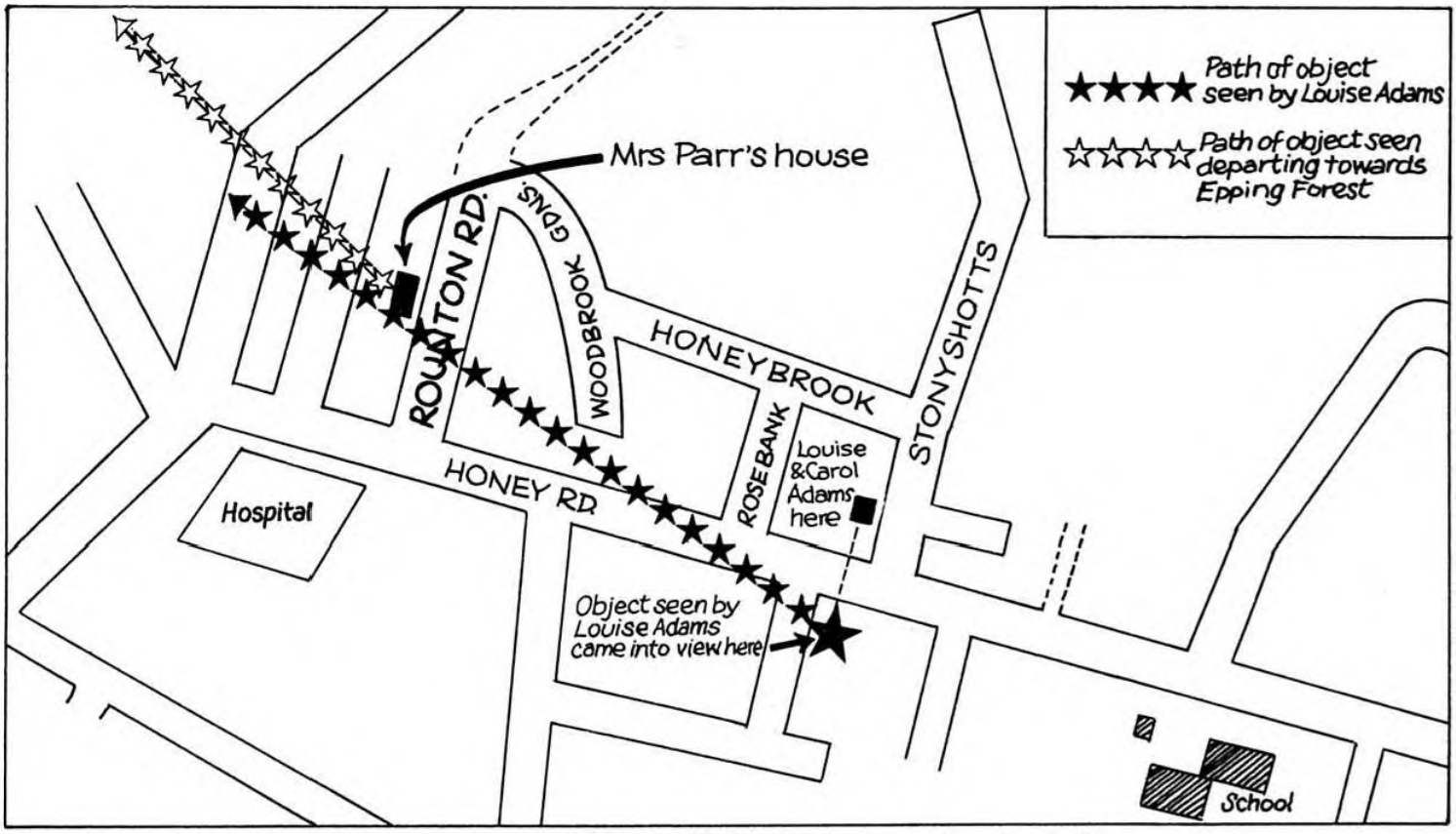
The set is a three-month-old Thorn Consumer Multi Broadcast model 7742. It is rented and has not acted in the same way either before or since the incident. On the rear of the set are two knobs, a red one for colour control, and a black one, the reset button which acts as a fuse and "pops" out if the electrical circuit is overloaded. It was this button that was found by Mrs. Jardene, the next door neighbour, to have popped out the morning after the encounter. She just pushed it back into position and turned on the set which worked perfectly. It must also be noted that the effect caused by the reset button "popping-out" is exactly similar to that described by Mrs. Parr.

With all this in mind, it seems that the cause of failure was a sudden surge of electrical current from somewhere. One of the most frequent causes of a sudden overloading causing the reset button to react, is an electric storm, although this is unlikely to be the solution as The London Weather Centre reported no storms in the South East England at all at that time. In fact there was only 3/8 cover of cloud. An alternative is that a component inside the TV set malfunctioned and caused the overload, then miraculously repaired itself before the set was switched on the following morning. A technical adviser at ITT (Service Division) was consulted concerning the possibility that a component was the cause of the malfunction, and he said that indeed it could have been, although failed to give an explanation why it worked perfectly the following morning and, in fact, ever since.

The only other explanation seems to be that an unknown electrical force was involved which resulted in a circuit overload and caused the reset button to react. When the reset button was pushed back into position the following morning the set functioned perfectly.

Confirmation of sighting

During my interview with Mrs. Parr she told me that a lady from the British Legion, when on a house to house call, had mentioned that she had seen the article that had appeared in the previous week's local newspaper and stated that his daughters had



The district around Mrs. Parr's house: presumed path of object

seen something the same night as Mrs. Parr. As the woman only lived "round the corner" from Mrs. Parr, I paid her a call the same day. The resulting information is interesting:

It would appear that Louise and Carol Adams, in their late teens, of 4 Cross Terrace, Stonyshotts, had just returned from a Jubilee party and had gone to bed. They share a room, with Louise having a clear view from the window which faces north-east.

The time was between 23.30 and 23.45 when on the left hand side of the window, a circular orangy-yellow light came into view. It was travelling slowly and silently from East towards the North. Only Louise saw it, and she described it as really bright; so bright that it lighted the interior walls of their bedroom. Louise told her sister, although she did not seem too interested, but confirmed the orangy-yellow reflection on the walls. Louise kept her eyes on the light moving slowly across, until it suddenly stopped, paused, then slowly descended, vertically, behind the rooftops to the North. Although Louise thought it may have dropped some distance away, possibly in the Epping Forest area, there is a chance that she misjudged the distance due to the size of the object.

Conclusions

I am certain from the evidence we have, that a strange spherical object was the cause of a frightening incident in Mrs. Parr's garden on June 6, 1977. The fact that she has had several psychic experiences cannot be overlooked. All too many people with previous psychic experiences are having physical UFO sightings that cannot be explained. After returning from my interview I could not help thinking that she resembled Mrs. Joyce Bowles, with her mannerisms, expressions, and complete puzzlement over the incident. Although we will probably close this case with a verdict of unidentified and then forget it, I feel it has not ended.

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Andy Collins, 19 St. David's Way, Wickford, Essex SS11 8EX, England.

Postscript to Nemingha *(continued from page 22)*

"How do UFOs obey the exhaust emission control laws?"[4] – raises this possibility.

The Nemingha precipitation case, and others like it, generate speculations about the causality of close encounter trace cases and certainly provide food for thought in more tantalising speculations, particularly, in relation to the coincidence of "strong mists" and alleged teleportation cases.

References:

1. RAAF Investigation report – personal files.
2. *Ibid.*
3. *Scientific Study of UFOs* (The Condon Report), Section IV, Chp. 7, "Atmospheric Electricity and Plasma Interpretations of UFOs."
4. ACOS Bulletin, No. 7, September 1976. Article by Dr. G. Stevens.

Book Reviews:
UFOs FROM INNER SPACE?

Colin Bord

OMENS OF AWARENESS by David Tansley
Neville Spearman Ltd, 1977, £5.35

RECENT YEARS have seen a plethora of UFO books whose authors have sought to use UFO reports to explain religious and mystical writings in mundane physical terms. It started with a few well-meaning but low-keyed attempts to show how the parting of the Red Sea could have been, and therefore probably was, caused by a hovering UFO activating the appropriate "force field." Subsequent writers took up the theme until now we are assured that God is not dead but "Drives a Flying Saucer," and the unworldly experiences recorded by Ezekiel are bent and butchered to fit the mechanistic explanations of a N.A.S.A. space technician, in Blumrich's *The Spaceships of Ezekiel.*

In his foreword to *Omens of Awareness* David Tansley explains how this Blumrich paperback came into his hands and how, after reading it, he found it necessary to formulate an answer to the mechanistic concepts it contained, and was thereby projected into the dizzying world of contactees, abductees, MIBs and the whole multifarious world of the UFO. He brings to the problem a mind uncluttered by years of "nuts and bolts" conditioning, but as a leading researcher and writer on the subject of radionics and the subtle, non-physical "bodies" of man, he has an approach that many ufologists will recognise as being of great validity in this strange area of modern research where the physical and the phantasmagorical merge.

The UFO enigma, says Tansley, is a form of cosmic koan. A koan is a question which teachers of Zen Buddhism put to their pupils, and as it has no rational or logical answer it is useless to apply the intellect to the problem. The answer must arise spontaneously from the pupil's inner awareness, and will only manifest when the pupil achieves the necessary level of perception. The author draws on a wide range of religious symbolism and mystical writings (including those of Madame Blavatsky and Alice Bailey) which are largely ignored today, and finds frequent parallels between UFO happenings and the writings of Carlos Castenada. Though Richard De Mille's recent book* has thrown doubt on the authenticity of Castaneda's alleged experiences, it in no way negates the authenticity of the reports upon which Castaneda must have drawn when researching his books, and so the correlations which David Tansley finds between shamanism and ufology will serve as a useful key for many future ufologists. He also examines several classic cases from his unique viewpoint and advances an original and provocative explanation for the Betty and Barney Hill case which I doubt many seasoned ufologists will be prepared to accept. As well as his paraphysical approach to the subject, the author also relates some anecdotes of the early 1950s when as a student living near Los Angeles he had friends who were involved in a number of paranormal UFO incidents. He tells us that at that time he was not interested in the subject of flying saucers and spacemen, and took no advantage of the opportunities then open to him!

So, what is David Tansley's explanation for the UFO enigma? He does not believe that UFOs arrive from other planets. Quoting from the Upanishads, he points out that for centuries mystics have tried to tell mankind that the mind can travel unfettered even to the stars. To some extent he tends to follow the Jungian line of thought and believes that UFOs are partly emanations from the human psyche in response to an individual's needs, and partly emanations from other levels of existence, the intelligences on these other levels responding to and, to some extent, moulding the psychic responses of the individual percipient. This subliminal interaction between ourselves and our unseen, unknown neighbours, now brought to a conscious level by the manifestation of the UFO, is the area in which the most pertinent of ufological investigation is occurring today, and so this book should undoubtedly go on to the reading list of all who are keeping abreast of the current ideas.

I end with a small, but important, criticism. It is regrettable that no sources are given for the various cases that are quoted especially in view of some of the controversial statements the author makes. The works cited in the acknowledgements and in the UFO section of the reading list are all well known, but readers will sometimes wish to refer to the original account of a case, and detailed source information would have been much appreciated, as would an index.

COLIN BORD

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* *Castaneda's Journey: The Power and the Allegory* by Richard De Mille (Capra Press, 1976).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEXT (Vol.23 No.4) ISSUE OF FLYING SAUCER REVIEW...

UFO and Solid Light in Dorset
Leslie Harris

The Man-in-Black syndrome
Dr. B.E. Schwarz

More on the Coyne helicopter case
Jennie Zeidman

Attempted abduction at Vila Velha
Dr. W. Buhler

Talks with Betty Hill: Pt III, Experiments
Dr. B.E. Schwarz

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"VON DÄNIKENITIS": A TONIC FOR SUFFERERS

Janet & Colin Bord

THE SPACE GODS REVEALED
by **Ronald Story**. Published in the UK by New English Libraries, 1977.

IN our younger days, the history that was taught at school consisted principally of the political manoeuvrings of the British nobility and the rise and fall of successive monarchs. Any mention of other countries was largely coincidental, and the early civilisations and enigmatic remains in various parts of the world were generally ignored by the teachers, and therefore unknown to the pupils. It may be because of this educational background that such writers as Erich von Däniken have been able to thrive, offering an ill-digested mishmash of misleading and inaccurate information, wild speculations and unfounded assumptions to a readership eager for knowledge but ignorant of the most fundamental discoveries and researches.

Ronald Story sets out to restore the balance in this detailed analysis of von Däniken's Ancient Astronaut writings, basing his arguments mainly on von Däniken's first book *Chariots of the Gods?* In chapters 1–13 he methodically dismembers von Daniken's vapourings, devoting whole chapters to such subjects as Ancient Astronauts and the Bible, the Piri Re'is Map, the Nazca Lines, Easter Island, Egyptian Pyramids, the Palenque 'Astronaut', and other favourite hobby-horses of Erich's .He also quotes an article from *Der Spiegel* magazine in which the South American explorer Juan Moricz stated flatly that in his book *Gold of the Gods* von Däniken had lied about him and about their visit to vast underground caves. In this same article local archaeologists were quoted who testified that the fabulous ancient gold artifacts discovered by von Däniken were actually recent native work and made of brass.

Throughout his careful analysis, Story answers von Däniken's speculations point by point, showing how the simple but ingenious solutions of earlier men could solve problems that von Däniken states could only have been solved by superhuman space gods.

Although the arch-advocate of the Ancient Astronaut theory, von Däniken has never taken any interest in the contemporary UFO scene,+ and so chapter 14 in Story's book seems to be an entirely gratuitous exercise in UFO debunking. Perhaps after such sterling efforts he wanted to ride one of his own hobby-horses (or perhaps the publishers asked for more material to pad out what is still a fairly slim book). Whatever the reason, the UFO phenomenon is dismissed after a cursory examination of some early contactees and other "cultists," though his final paragraph allows that an open mind with scepticism should be maintained.

The really interesting aspect of the whole von Däniken phenomenon is examined in eight brief pages at the end of the book. This is not the question of what von Däniken wrote, but how he was able to achieve such a huge effect with such a load of old hogwash. The whole phenomenon of the Ancient Astronaut theories and writings could provide a fascinating thesis for some aspiring Ph.D., but that of course would be another book. None the less, Ronald Story has done an efficient and convincing job in his exposure of the von Däniken myth. His text is supported by a foreword by Carl Sagan and numerous photographs and diagrams, and there is an index and a list of source notes. As his central argument is founded on the fact that too many people know too little about ancient cultures, a comprehensive book list guiding his readers to reliable sources of information would have been appreciated by many, though admittedly there are a few useful books mentioned in the text. Valuable reading for all those who are convalescing from von Dänikenitis.

+ This is a strange aspect of many writers on the Ancient Astronauts theme – one wonders why, if they accept visits from "space gods" in the distant past, they seem reluctant to countenance such visits today. Could it be that current UFO reports don't confirm their "gods from the sky" theories?

UFO AND SPACE AGE PUBLICATIONS

PHENOMENA: Book of wonders. UFOs and Fortean phenomena by John Michell & Robert J.M. Rickard **£4.40 paperback £2.30**

WARNINGS FROM FLYING FRIENDS, by Arthur Shuttlewood. Limited number of out-of-print copies **£4.00**

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THE GREAT LAKES TRIANGLE, by Jay Gourley **£1.05**

THE UNEXPLAINED, by William Corliss **95p**

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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.

Ball Lightning Project

Dear Sir,—'Ball lightning' is a short-lived, rare phenomenon often observed in connection with thunderstorms, but also seen under other atmospheric conditions. Its lifetime is of the order of seconds. It is often spherical, with a diameter of several centimetres. Because of its unfamiliar nature and rare occurrence, ball lightning may sometimes be reported in the context of unidentified flying objects, particularly since it can share many characteristics with those reported for UFOs, such as odours of sulphur or ozone, interference with electrical apparatus, burns, ground marks, etc.

A Project has been launched under the auspices of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) to collect and evaluate reports of ball lightning. We should be very grateful to receive reports of any observations which may bear relevance to ball lightning or similar phenomena. It is expected that a summary of the Project's work will be published in a scientific journal.

Please address all reports and communications to:
Mark Stenhoff, BSc(Hons)
FRAS AFBIS
BUFORA 'Ball Lightning' Project
128 Lennard Road, Beckenham, Kent.
August 1, 1977.

View on documentary

Dear Mr. Bowen,—I saw the BBC documentary and noted with interest the press coverage of the Trident sightings last year. I did not personally favour the BBC production for putting on what I consider three slightly eccentric (albeit sincere to themselves) characters first; it must have given many people the idea that most UFO "enthusiasts" are like this. I know many people at work who turned over after the first ten minutes. The films were interesting, though I suspect there are far superior ones available for study.

Best of luck for the future.
Yours sincerely,
Ray Rimell,
52 George V Avenue,
Pinner, Middx.
May 13, 1977.

More "solid light"

Dear Mr. Bowen,—After reading the most interesting case history presented by Mr. Ernst Berger in FSR, Vol.23, No.1 (" 'Snail feeler' enters room") I have two remarks I would like to make: (1) The Vienna case is remarkably similar to the case reported by Mr. M. Monnerie in LDLN, No. 131 ("Un nouveau cas de 'Lumière solide' "). (2) Mr. Berger's theory that non-illuminating light is a "direct" stimulus of the retina is untenable, because, quite apart from how such a "direct" stimulation would work, the resulting image wouldn't fit naturally

Burringham encounter *(Continued from page 24)*

because it has been peculiarly apparent, during early 1977, that an unusual number of close encounters have occurred around the hours of 3 a.m. One can think of the Hainault landing case and the Nelson Vehicle stoppage affair (see FSR Vol. 23, No. 2).

Whilst it obviously remains possible that the military exercise was in some manner responsible for the experience, and was quite probably responsible for the noise, the events seem worthy of recording – just in case.

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into the rest of the image seen by the eye. It would, for instance, be impossible to focus on such a "direct stimulation", etc.

There is nothing in the 30 odd non-illuminating (non-reflecting) light cases I have on file to indicate such a phenomenon.

Most sincerely,
Jan Heering,
Hofgeest 241,
1102 El Amsterdam-Zuidoost,
Holland. July 18, 1977.

Time Travelling

Dear Mr. Bowen,—I would be grateful if you could allow me space in order to answer Reader S. Suddell's query on a point contained in my article on Time Travel (FSR Vol.21, No.6).

Mr. Suddell is concerned that our hypothetical Time Traveller from the year 2578 into our own time would be trapped in 1977 because, as I have suggested, the future, at any given time, is as yet unformed.

I think the best way to answer this is to remind Mr. Suddell that *our* future, up to year 2578, is actually part of the Time Traveller's *past;* in other words, the sequence of events (which we call time) up to 2578 has, for the T.T., already *happened.* To get back to his own time he has only to retrace his own past in his machine in the reverse direction.

J.W. Dunne in "The Serial Universe" put it in a similar way, while developing another argument, when he postulated that Observer No.2, existing in an additional or fourth dimension (which may possibly be the Time dimension) would be able to observe the whole of Observer No. 1's life-span in ordinary three-dimensional space.

I am inclined to the view that, when considering the idea of Time Travel, our thinking is, consciously or subconsciously, influenced by that classic story of the Time Traveller by H.G. Wells.

Wells made his Traveller able to journey far into the future, even unto the dying years of Earth itself; but Wells, after all, was writing fiction, and he did say later on in life that he considered the idea of Time Travel as "all nonsense." Be that as it may, when one contemplates the immense stretches of time which still lie ahead for the human race who can doubt that a Time-Travelling machine will eventually be invented, thus laying open for exploration and inspection all antecedent ages – including our own?

I am, yours sincerely,
S.E. Priest
136 Palatine Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. July 17, 1977.

A matter of leys

Dear Sir: It's just a thought: I read an account a little while back in the daily papers that well known film star Julie Andrews had flown over from America to join in the search for her stepmother who had been missing for some days.

Her bicycle had gone with her, and her handbag.

The police force of the entire area – at Ockley, not far from Crawley, on the Sussex and Surrey borders – were called in to search the area.

After three days she was found, dazed, with her bicycle, a short distance from her home.

She could not recall what had happened to her.

The entire matter vanished from the Press.

Reading this, I jumped up, for some reason, and drew a line from Ockley through as many places ending with LEY or LEIGH, etc, – it ran via OCKLEY, CRANLEIGH, THURLEY, SPREAKLEY, BRADLEY, TISBURY RING (I include that for obvious reasons) QUARLEY, BEACON HILL (again, do I need to explain?) and finished at CLEY HILL, WARMINSTER!

A perfectly straight line, remember, and it passed perilously near the WINCHESTER, HANTS, contactee spots.

I haven't, as yet, had the courage to write to the Press, *or* the police forces involved, *or* the family themselves... if you ask me why not, well, past experience have taught me caution.

But, is there anyone with a down to earth explanation?

Yours truly,
Ernie Shears,
(ex British Flying Saucer Bureau 1960),
12a Westridge Road, Portswood,
Southampton. July 14, 1977.

Talks with Betty Hill *(continued from page 14)*

mothers of the neighbourhood got together at Janet's for coffee. They were sitting around the table when all of a sudden the storm door opened out, the house door opened in, the cat walked in, and the doors shut. Everyone just sat and looked without saying a word. Nobody mentioned it to Janet until two weeks later. They couldn't figure it out. Finally, somebody said, 'that was the strangest thing.' Janet said, 'Relax, it happens all the time.' "

"The latest happening was on the 28th wedding anniversary of Janet and her husband. Since they were separating, Janet had to go out and get a job. Janet had been on the new job two days when all of a sudden the file racks were moving by themselves. Everybody (in the office) was saying, 'What's going on? Look at those racks, they never moved before.' When Janet got home that night, she said to Hannah: 'Let me tell you, you stay home, or you can go to Grandmother's or to Sheila's, but you're not going to where I work.' But since some things have happened when Janet has been working, she has to keep reminding Hannah. In the meantime Janet's husband moved out. I guess Hannah was too much for him. He refused to admit Hannah'a existence for a long time, and would say, 'Don't talk about your imaginations and all.' One night Hannah really did a job on Janet's husband Donald. His big feather pillow somehow got all torn apart, and when Donald went upstairs, he found the whole room strewn with feathers. Donald yelled, 'I'm going to get an exorcist! I'll get rid of you, you dirty (rascal).' Then the venetian blinds started shaking.

"Plants tip over, doors rattle, they open and shut." Recently (letter of March 28, 1976) Betty wrote, "My sister was with a psychic development teacher who taped the session ... It is a most unusual tale, which includes a child's voice calling 'Mommy,' several times. This happened when they were talking about Hannah. Also, during the taping the batteries (new ones) failed to function and difficulties still developed when it was plugged into the electrical outlet. The tape might be defective although a new one, but this would not explain the batteries. My sister told me that she always has trouble with batteries if she was upset or tense."

Note

6. Keel, John A.: "Mystery Aeroplanes of the 1930s, Part I," FSR *(Flying Saucer Review)* Vol.16 (No.3): 10–13, (May/June 1970); Part II, Vol.16 (No.4): 9–14 (July/Aug. 1970); Part III, Vol.17 (No.4): 17–19 (July/Aug. 1971); Part IV, Vol.17 (No.5): 20–22, 28 (Sept./Oct. 1971). See also, Druffel, Ann: "California Report: The Mystery Helicopters," *Skylook,* No. 99:8–9 (Feb. 1976).

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

England

More Hainault UFOs

According to the Ilford, Essex newspaper, *The Recorder* of August 4, 1977,– "Flying saucer experts are examining the puzzling UFO–the Hainault Flying Object.

"So far more than a dozen people say they have spotted the 'light in the sky' hovering and glowing menacingly above the forest area.

"Last week the light turned an early-morning drive home from a party into a terrifying ordeal for a married couple as it 'chased' them along Forest Road in Hainault.

"The drive ended dramatically outside Dagenham police station when the UFO was witnessed by several officers on early morning duty.

"The UFO appeared at 2 a.m. on Friday in a 'flash of light' above the sports ground in Forest Road.

"Two lights materialised from the flash and began following Mrs. Maureen McCreanor and her husband Terry as they drove home.

" 'I was terrified,' said Mrs. McCreanor. 'The lights just kept on following us.'

"The couple, of Legion Avenue, Rush Green, even tried diversions through back streets to shake off the UFO – without success.

"By the time they arrived at Whalebone Lane in Dagenham her husband decided to alert the police.

"The lights eventually disappeared one and a half hours after they were first seen."

Credit: **Philip Creighton**

England

Bridlington again

From the Scarborough *Evening News* of June 10, 1977, we learn how,–

"A Bridlington man found himself staring into the sky in disbelief when he spotted a cigar-shaped craft which he described as an 'aeroplane without wings'.

"Mr. Martin Blow was driving in Station Road and turned the corner into Midway Avenue, where he lives, when he saw a craft hovering at about 500 feet.

"He said the unidentified flying object seemed to be as big as an airliner with a fin on the back, but no wings.

"His father-in-law Mr. Raymond Newell and his wife Susan were also in the car at the time. Mr. Newell thought the strange craft was an airship at first.

"Mr. Blow added: 'There were no clouds. It's a complete mystery. I don't believe in spaceships, but I've got to admit it was a bit funny.'

Credit: **F. Satterthwaite** of Copmanthorpe, York.

Wales

Glowing "sausage" over Brecon

The following is a UFOIN report of an incident investigated by **Derek James** of NUFON:–

"On June 12, 1977, Mrs. Glenys Price was driving her friends Mrs. Mabel Jones and Mr. Steven Williams home on a cool, cloudy night, with some drizzle falling. The time was 3.15 a.m. and they were driving along the main A40 road near Brecon, Powys in Wales.

"Suddenly Mrs. Price spotted an object about the size of a small car in the sky. She slowed her car down and brought it to the attention of the other passengers. The colour was golden and it was roughly sausage shaped with a hazy glow around it. All witnesses feel that it had a lump or protruberance sticking up from the top, although Mrs. Price feels this was in the middle, whereas the others feel it was at the right end of the object. This protruberance was darker in colour than the rest of the object.

"Behind the object was a cloud, or vapour-like substance. This moved with the object, was darker in colour and irregular in shape although roughly oval.

The whole phenomenon was in view some two minutes as they drove slowly past. It suddenly disappeared, instantly, as if in the manner of a light being switched off.

United States of America

Missiles and UFOs

Unfortunately the sender of the following news item from the *Province* newspaper at Vancouver, B.C., did not mark on the date of the issue (believed to be late 1976 or early 1977). The report originates from Huntsville, Alabama:–

"Experts at a missile base here say they are puzzled about strange 'ghost ships' picked up by powerful radar scanners in the Pacific during a tracking exercise.

"There has been little official comment on what the scientists found. But Major Dallas van Hoose, the army's base spokesman, confirmed that 'some unexplained aerial phenomena' were observed.

"Scientists, many of whom are reluctant to be named in interviews because of general public scepticism concerning unidentified flying objects, say privately they have been unable to find an explanation for the 'ghost ships.'

" 'We have never seen anything precisely like this before,' said one ballistic missile defence expert who works for an army agency here and is familiar with the advanced radar used to test missiles and warheads.

"Huntsville houses the army's ballistic missile defence systems command, which analyses results of missile tests in the Kwjalein Atoll region of the Marshall Island Trust Territory held by the U.S.

"Last August, the U.S. air force launched a Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) from Vandenburg Air Force Base aimed for the Kwajalein missile range, used by the army, air force and navy.

"When the ICBM was screaming towards the Pacific test site, it began its descent on a normal, ballistic trajectory, scientists said.

"The nose cone had separated from the third stage of the missile and was entering the atmosphere at 22,000 feet a second.

"Radar scanners at Kwajalein and Meck Islands were tracking the nose cone routinely.

"At about 400,000 feet, the radar experts in the Pacific found they also were tracking an unidentified flying object next to the ICBM's nose cone.

"Radar picked up an inverted saucer-shaped object to the right and above the descending nose cone and watched it cross the warhead's trajectory."

Credit: **Miss O. Beaton** of Vancouver.

Italy

Perugia UFOs

An article in *La Nazione* of April 19, 1977, described the sighting, near Florence, of a circular object with a brilliant tail, apparently accompanied by "booming" noises, and stated that it was suggested that it was a meteor – which seems reasonable. The article continues:–

"A long, mysterious, glittering object was also seen by some people as it flew across Perugia, and yesterday some of the inhabitants of Assisi, Bastia and S. Sisto (Perugia) reported the appearance of a strange object which, according to one witness, moved accompanied by a 'whistling noise'.

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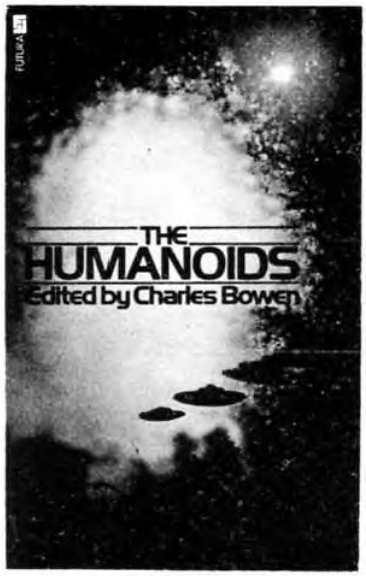
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Artwork: Pauline Bowen

"According to further information received today, a strange, flat disc with a blinding light at the front of it, was seen near Ellera-Corciano, in a green zone called Girasole. This evening some 'eager helpers' searched the district in order to discoverr the spot where the craft was presumed to have landed. The witnesses claim to have never before seen such an object which moved in jerks, emitting in front a powerful beam similar to a headlight."

Credit: **Mrs. Mary Boyd** to whom thanks are also due for the translation.

U.S.S.R.

"Ball of Light" mystery

The British national newspaper *The Daily Telegraph* of September 23, 1977 carried the following report under the signature of their Moscow correspondent, Richard Beeston. It is presumed the time of the incident was the night of September 19/20,—

"A strange moving ball of light spreading 'like a jelly-fish' and sending down rays of light like a downpour of rain, has been sighted near the Russo-Finnish border, it was reported last night.

"Although there was speculation that the object might have been a Russian rocket burning out, the Russians said there were no technical experiments under way at the time and the phenomenon was not a mirage because many people witnessed it. It was spotted early on Tuesday."

Brazil

Various reports

The newspaper *Correio do Povo* of July 30, 1977 carried a report from Caixas do Sul, which is to the north of Porto Alegre in the State of Rio Grande do Sul. The report spoke of sightings of an object resembling the Moon but with a black band around it.

Another report in the same issue of this paper deals with a case in the Maranhao region of north-eastern Brazil, where more than a hundred people at the port of Itauna saw a UFO hovering low. It remained in sight for 25 minutes and then made off at high speed. There was much fear and talk among the population, who know that there have been cases in which people have been badly burnt by UFOs. The matter was discussed in the State Assembly of Maranhao, in Sao Luis, where State Deputy Celso Coutinho, Government leader in the Assembly, said there had been panic among fishing folk in the municipalities of Perimirim, Sao Bento, Santa Helena, Pinheiro, Guimaraes, and Bequimao. So far, however, he said, no reports had yet come in of anyone being burnt or injured by this particular UFO.

At one place, however, Sao Vicente de Ferrer, the Chief of Police, Jose de Ribamar Mendes Costa, caught sight of the UFO and dashed out to take a shot at it, but it made off at once at high speed.

Credit: **Jader Pereira** of Porto Alegre.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON BURRINGHAM

Here is a report by **Jenny Randles** of a UFOIN investigation of the incident reported on page 24 of this magazine:—

The sighting of an unidentified object by Roy Thomson on May 26, 1977, from his caravan, has been corroborated by several other witnesses. These reports were received by RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire, but no details have been released. However, it is known that four other people reported a strange object around the time in question.

John Ellis, the Member of Parliament for the area, raised the matter with the Ministry of Defence, and a copy of the reply from Mr. James Wellbeloved on behalf of the Minister Mr. Fred Mulley, was given to investigator Nigel Watson for UFOIN. Some relevant portions are quoted:

"I should explain that the department has not resources to conduct an independent scientific study into the nature of unidentified flying objects. We invariably pass reports of sightings to specialist staffs responsible for the air defence of the country, but it is not possible to pursue enquiries from the public to the point of positive identification. You will appreciate that some reports are necessarily vague, and we feel it would not be justifiable to ask the staffs to make elaborate enquiries if in their opinion these would not be necessary in the interests of defence. The department have reached that point with the sightings you referred to in your letter..."

The writer then explains that what was seen does not seem to be a meteorological phenomenon, aircraft or balloon – though it leaves options open. The letter is perhaps more important for what the writer does not say than for his failure to identify the sightings in question. It is very carefully worded and no attempt is made to indicate that UFOs have been found to be unimportant. Indeed one might wonder very much why reports are "invariably" passed to "specialist staffs responsible for air defence." This seems to imply an occasional need to do so, otherwise why waste valuable time if all reports are found to have no basis. One might also feel that the phrase "study into the nature of unidentified flying objects" implies a belief that a phenomenon exists to be understood. We do not read, for example: "a study of the existence or otherwise of UFOs." From the tone of the letter this seems to be accepted as unquestionable. The impression persists that this letter aims to be a cover in the event of the existence of UFOs ever being publicly acknowledged. It could always be argued that the text implies this, whereas care is taken to avoid saying it.

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