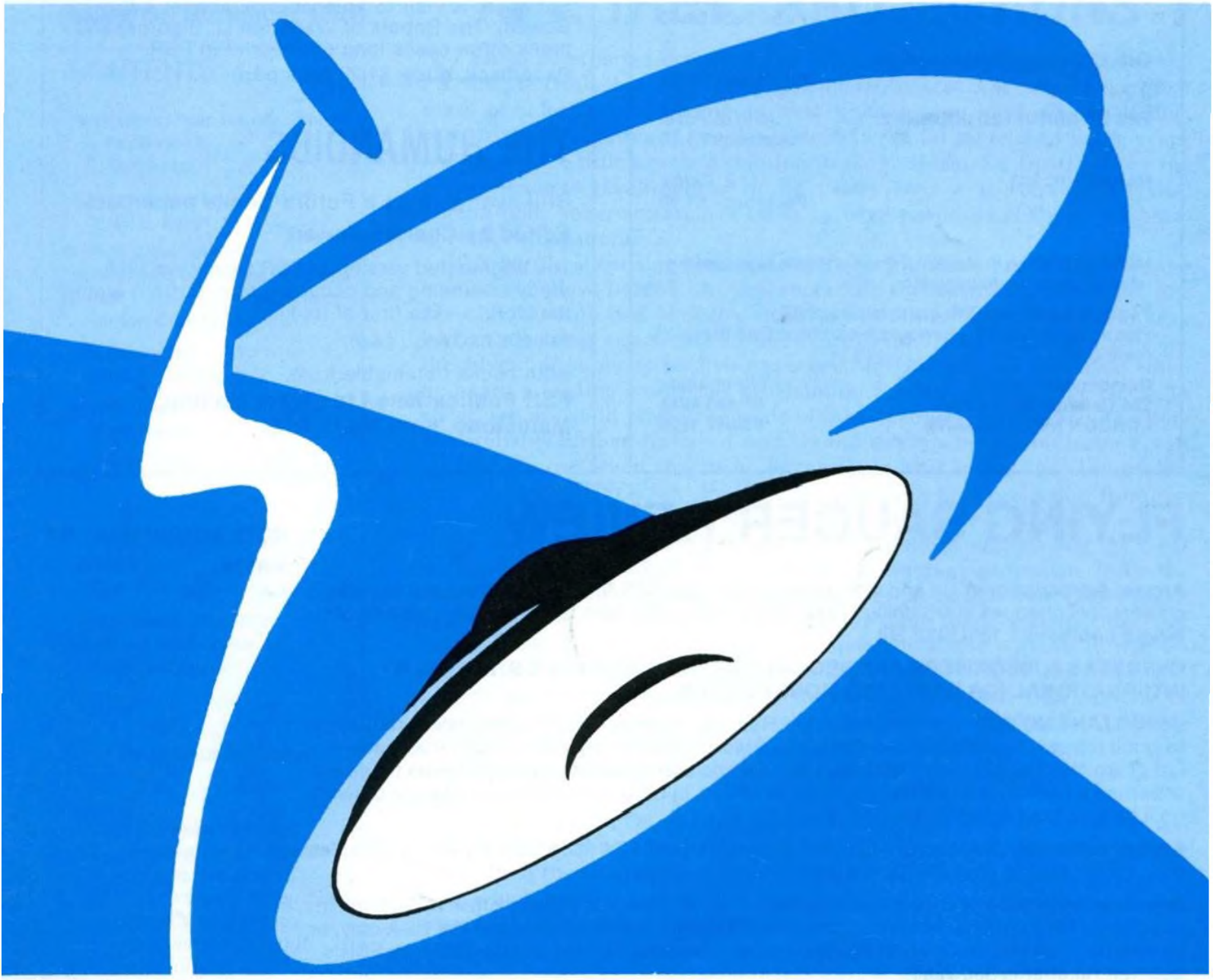
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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CE-III REPORT FROM FINLAND

See page 3

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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ARE THEY "PROJECTIONS"?

YEARS of experience of studying UFO reports has convinced us of the simple truth that the UFO phenomenon is real. Yet despite the great mass of information relating to that phenomenon, and all the sifting, sorting and processing of the available material for more than thirty years, we seem to be little nearer a solution to the problem. So, frustrated by the phenomenon's unwillingness to fit neatly into a convenient physical pigeon-hole, some researchers seem to have proposed complicated paranormal explanations.

It is hardly surprising that some of these proposals are difficult for the layman to follow. Indeed, one can appreciate the frustration of readers like Mr E. A. Cureton (see *Mail Bag* elsewhere in this issue) who claims to have had an alarming experience in pre-World War II days, nine years before the advent of publicity for flying saucers. Mr. Cureton was dismayed when he heard a leading researcher proclaim on a radio network that UFOs, in effect, are not solid craft. Hundreds of other people, just like Mr. Cureton, are probably further dismayed, and — and this is a most unwelcome result — lose interest when they read, for example, that in the "psychic projection" theory of UFOs ". . .the UFO is a non-physical projection from the brain/mind/unconscious/psyche of the witness, the mechanism as yet not being understood.* It has been suggested by John Rimmer† that the UFO is not even externalised, but remains 'an internal projection from the unconscious to the conscious mind.' " The author of that item (Janet Bord) agrees that the idea could be acceptable for some single-witness cases, but is less likely in cases where there are more than one witness, unless we accept the notion that a person can conjure up the UFO in the mind, and project the image telepathically to those other witnesses who may be in close proximity to that person — which is all very complicated. Accepting the possibility of witnesses triggering the projections, Mrs. Bord asks why they should see materialisations of spacecraft and alien beings? Why indeed!

Thus are the UFOs divided by researchers into even more categories, and we confess that over the years FSR has done its share of proposing new ideas about the phenomenon. However, we must not lose sight of persistent facts which lead us to the view that the psychic projection theory is not acceptable in multiple-witness cases and, we may add not acceptable in many single-witness cases either.

* * * * *

In the very first issue of FSR in the Spring of 1955, a brief account of one

* From Janet Bord's skilful explanation of the theory in "Ghosts or Machines?" in FSR Vol. 27, No. 1.

† See *Zetetic Scholar* No. 7 (December 1980) p. 91.

of the great classic cases was featured, an event which occurred on 29 June 1954 over the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Labrador. The witnesses were the skipper of a BOAC *Stratocruiser* en route from New York to London via Goose Bay and Shannon, the first officer (co-pilot) and other members of the crew, and also most of the passengers. The skipper was Captain James Howard — later to fly VC-10 jetliners, and then to head VC-10 pilot training, and, as we believe, before retiring, to become involved with *Concorde* pilot training — an officer with great responsibilities and highly respected in his profession.

Your editor, and several members of the FSR team of consultants, met Captain Howard on a couple of occasions in 1965 and 1966, listened to his fascinating account, and discussed the matter very thoroughly with him. We learned that some time after the aircraft left Idlewild, New York, Captain Howard received, from Control, a radio instruction to "hold". That meant there was a hazard ahead. After a long delay, spent flying in circles, he enquired of Control whether, in view of his fuel position, he should return to New York or proceed to Goose Bay. He was given permission to proceed to Goose Bay.

Some twenty minutes later, flying at 19000 feet, just below a layer of broken cloud, and well above a solid pall of cloud at 2000 feet, the skipper saw a large metallic-looking object. This strange device appeared to be shape-changing while threading its way through the broken cloud on a course parallel to that of the *Stratocruiser,* and at an estimated distance of four miles. The unknown object had six smaller objects weaving a pattern of trajectories around it.

Captain Howard watched the strange procession, and his co-pilot (Capt. Lee Boyd), standing up behind him, also saw it. Neither of them knew what it was. Howard called Control with a laconic "We are not alone!" The reply was instantaneous: "We know." Asked the skipper: "What is it?" To which Control replied: "We don't know, but we have scrambled a *Sabre* interceptor to investigate."

Given the *Sabre's* radio frequency, Captain Howard was able to "vector in" the US Air Force fighter, which reported radar contact at 16 miles, with two images showing up — presumably those of the aeroplane and the large object. At this the six small objects formed into single file and merged with the large UFO, which thereupon began to dim and diminish. Then, as the *Sabre* pilot announced that he was in visual contact, the object disappeared like a TV picture does when switched off.

We know about this case for the simple reason that it avoided the official clamp-down because the many passengers who saw the UFOs were not bound by the restrictions.

* * * * *

For a wild moment let us consider the possibility that the large UFO and its six "satellites" were not solid objects but, instead, were psychic figments of the pilot's imagination Then that imagination must have been powerful indeed, for before its owner even knew that it was at work, it had conjured up the objects at a distance of, probably, sixty or seventy miles, and these had been intercepted on radar by Control — as implied by the pilot being ordered to "hold." Then, when the airliner was allowed to proceed, and the pilot at last perceived the fruits of his imagination, his telepathic powers prompted the rest of his crew and most of the passengers to see those "fruits" as well. Then, for good measure, the fighter pilot picked up the hallucinatory image on his aircraft's radar.

Such an idea seems wholly improbable, and we are strongly of the opinion that Captain Howard, his crew, and passengers, suffered not an hallucination, but witnessed something real, the possessor of, or product of, a remarkable technology, and solid enough to bounce back the pulsed radar search beams.

* * * * *

The case of the *Stratocruiser* "Centaurus" is not unique, for there have been several other multi-witness radar/visual incidents, a fact supported by the French Minister of Defence, M. Robert Galley who, during a radio interview on 21 February, 1974, admitted among other things, that there were "puzzling" radar incidents involving French Air Force pilots.*

We are fully aware that there may be self-induced "psychic projections" of UFOs, but suspect that those who "see" these fall into the realm of sensitive "witnesses" who could be obsessed with both the subject of UFOs and a longing for personal involvement. Since 1966, however, we have never denied the possibility that there are alien craft, possibly extraterrestrial, possibly ultraterrestrial, which are capable of inducing in the minds of witnesses images of things they want us to see — flying saucer "spacecraft" and alien beings? — as a cover for whatever they are up to. Sometimes the human witness encounters the "solid" nuts-and-bolts vehicle, but more frequently he is accosted by a beamed image. This idea was hinted at as long ago as 1966 in the original edition of *The Humanoids.*

*See FSR Vol. 20, No. 2 (March-April 1974).

CE-III REPORT FROM RAUMA, FINLAND

Juhani Kyröläinen and Pekka Teerikorpi

Our contributors are astronomers at the Observatory and Astrophysics Laboratory, University of Helsinki (J.K.) and Turku University Observatory, University of Turku (P.T.), in Finland.

AFTER our book *Ufojen Arvoitus* (The Riddle of UFOs; a general introduction and handbook) was published by the Astronomical Association URSA in June, 1980, and widely referred to in Finnish newspapers, we received many letters describing personal UFO experiences. Naturally, many were apparently due to astronomical or other known causes, but some were quite interesting and encouraged further study. Here we present preliminary results concerning an especially interesting case.

We received a letter from a man whom we shall refer to as Allan, according to his first name. He described an incident which occurred in June 1979 whereby he, together with his wife Maila, watched through the opened window of their house, in full daylight, a peculiar object at a distance of about 60 metres.

Allan (invalid, with one leg amputated) asked Maila to go and take a closer look at it, which she did. When she was quite close to it, the thing flew away in a flash. Also, it was claimed that there was still visible, after more than one year from the event, some influence on the surface of the flat rock above which the object was seen.

We thought that the case was worthy of a closer check, and made a visit to the site in September 1980. Allan (58 years, a baker by profession before he lost his leg because of necrosis) and Maila (39 years, they have been together for 7 years) live alone in a small wooden house on the northern outskirts of the small town of Rauma (21° 29′ 43″ w, 61° 08′ 06″ N) which is situated on the shore of the Gulf of Bothnia. The surroundings of the present scene are rather peaceful, with a few small, one-family houses nearby, and a road with a little traffic, especially during the holiday season. Rauma lies about 259 km from Helsinki.

The day of the visit turned out to be quite rainy, which hampered the field study and the physical influence on the rock could not be confirmed. However, we had a lively discussion with the witnesses, and unexpected information was obtained from Maila. The following description is based on the taped interview and on letters from the witnesses before and after the visit.

Description of the incident

June 19, 1979, was a hot, sultry day. The sun was shining from the clear sky. No pedestrians or traffic could be discerned outside. At 12.30 p.m. Allan and Maila were sitting in their living room and the window (to the south) was open.

Maila caught sight of something over the nearby rock (60 m, we measured the distance) and she told Allan to look at it. Now also Allan glanced through the open window (see figure 1) and what he perceived was a very peculiar object. It had a curved upper part which was silver-grey in colour, and a flat lower part which was blue-black. A dark shadow could be seen on the rock under the object; it was "as if resting on its own shadow" (figure 2).

A blue-black "beam" emanated from the middle part of the object. This beam was horizontally sweeping the wood near the rock with an undulating motion. This action lasted about one minute. Then the beam suddenly disappeared "as if a light had been switched off".



Figure 1: The scene of the observation, through the window through which the UFO was first seen, and through which Allan watched Maila walk towards the object. The dot in the circle shows position and size of the UFO as recalled by Allan.

At this point Allan asked Maila to go and find out what was happening on the rock. He himself stayed inside watching Maila and the object, because, due to his handicap, walking is not easy for him.

Maila started to walk very cautiously towards the rock, and the object, which she could see clearly all the way. She went very close to the object, and as a matter of fact she could have touched it (which she intended to do). Maila realized that she was standing close by a cupola-like object, about one metre wide, which was resting on tiny legs, and hardly reached her knees.

The entities

The upper part of the object was transparent and the lower part was black. Inside the cupola Maila could discern some details. The most shocking of these were two little creatures who were sitting on two miniature chairs. The creature nearest to Maila held one hand on some gadget in front of him.

Maila told us that the creatures were "most terrible looking men" with crooked beaks like those of hawks, and their skin was flecked with green-brown spots. She compared the skin to that of a toad. The eyes were large and bulging, the mouth was also big, and the chin was long (see figure 3). When asked about the ears Maila remembered that they were pointed in a way reminiscent of leaves.

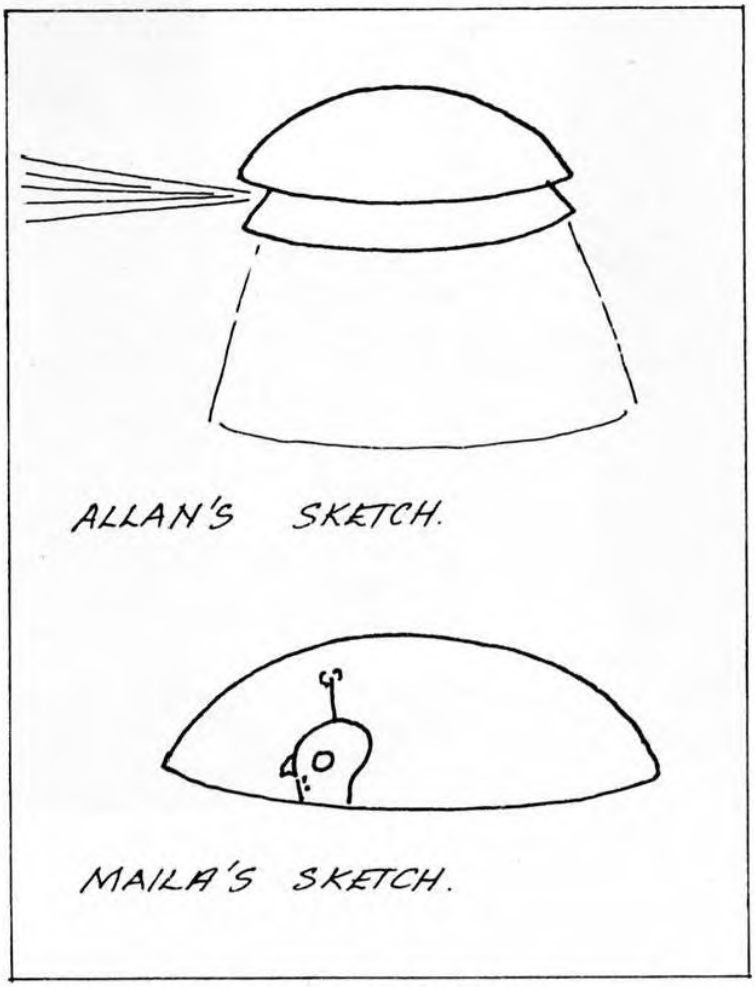


Figure 2: Witnesses' drawings.

Maila could also discern some details of clothing. The creatures wore on their heads shining grey helmets with antennae. There was a yellowish line in the middle of the helmets. The upper part of the clothing as well as their long gloves were black.

Other details of the interior

In the front part of the object there were numerous levers and gauges "as you can see in cars or in aeroplanes." Some gauges were roundish in shape, and Maila said she could see some markings on them. In one gauge was a moving pointer like that in our watches; Maila thought she had seen figure "one" in one of the watch-like gauges.

When Maila was about to touch the object with her forefinger, the creature nearest to her turned its head and made some movements with its left hand.

Physiological effect

At this point Maila got "electricity in her eyes." She could not, however, make it quite clear what she meant by this expression. In any case, after this she was momentarily blinded and she staggered about on the rock rubbing her eyes. The object took off with a whistling sound. Maila's eyes were irritated for many hours and she had often to interrupt her daily work because of the need to rub them.

Maila then returned to Allan who had been watching what happened on the rock from the open window. According to Allan, Maila was "in a state of mild shock." She immediately told him about the two creatures. Allan had seen Maila approach the object and when she was quite close to it, the object had disappeared to the left. He did not see the creatures. The whole incident took about 10 minutes, which Allan had checked from his watch. The radio was on — there was the daily news at 12.30 — and there was no disturbance in the reception.

Discussion

The story is at the same time incredible and interesting — a well-known combination in ufology! Of course, there is the pure fascination of UFO-lore as modern folk-lore, but as physical scientists, we are also interested in the possibility that among such reports may be hidden evidence for unknown empirical phenomena. Then, the interest arises mainly from two aspects:—

First, the estimated reliability of the witnesses as reporters of an exceptional observation, and secondly, the correlation of the details in the report with those found in sub-classes of world-wide UFO reports. The first aspect also includes possible pieces of physical



Figure 3: Maila's drawing of the nearest humanoid. She could see them only waist upwards, so did not draw the part not visible to her.

evidence.

Our experience with the witnesses, though not very extended, has nevertheless led us to conclude that they speak the truth *as they conceive it.* We have not found any signs of hoax, inconsistency, or search for publicity. In fact, the manner how the incident was reported after more than one year, and even then just because "university-men were involved," is characteristic of the witnesses (before that they had mentioned the case to neighbours).

Although Allan had read a couple of UFO books (the other was actually by von Däniken), he does not seem to be excessively influenced by UFO-lore. In any case, it is quite improbable that Maila — not a reading type — could have participated in any hoax planned by Allan. Of course, these impressions are subjective, but they seem to be supported by the more objective principles of Report Profile Analysis as described by Haines.[1]

In short, Allan and Maila behave like people who have had a real experience. If it happens that our impression of their sincerity is incorrect, then the present case exemplifies the ability of two ordinary people to make up, and present very skilfully, a complex CE III story. In any case, it is worth putting on record, and we intend to continue our studies of this report.

If one is not willing to accept that this story is a sincere description of a *real, objective* event, one should study the possibility of, say, a shared hallucination. One kind of shared hallucination — a communicated form of mental disorder, known as folie à deux — has been described by Grinspoon and Persky.[2] However, we are not competent enough on such matters, and do not attempt any interpretation along these lines (perhaps some knowledgeable reader would like to comment?). At this point, the behavioural scientist should enter the picture. Physical scientists may actually be biased towards psychological or psychiatric explanations in situations where such interpretations may *not* be well-founded, as was pointed out by Hall.[3] On the other hand, insufficient experience in the fields of psychology, psychiatry, and sociology may as well lead him to regard some explanations possibly offered by behavioural scientists too "exotic". Serious works on these aspects — such as the recent *UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist*[4] — are much needed.

It should be noted that Allan and Maila are not repeaters, and do not seem to be sensitive to paranormal experiences (said Allan: I have never "seen things").

As far as we could ascertain, the witnesses have quite well overcome possible psychological stresses caused by the experience, though Maila showed some signs of fear of "bad dreams" and was visibly upset when describing to us the look on the face of the humanoid. The way the creature looked at her was especially frightening to Maila.

The witnesses stated that on sunny days, when the surface of the rock is dry, one can see from the window a clear trace at the landing-site of the object. Because of the rain we could not confirm this. Inspection of the site when Maila showed us where she saw the object, revealed that the rock is irregularly covered by short lichen, being otherwise devoid of vegetation. We did not notice any clear connection, say, between the absence of lichen and the position of the object as Maila remembered it. We intend to make another trip to the site in order to try a better localization of the exact position (c.f. figure 1 where Allan marked the object after our visit).

As to the second aspect mentioned above, one cannot avoid noticing many features in the report, well-known to students of UFOs. They may be divided in three groups: 1) descriptions of the object, 2) description of the humanoids, and 3) sensations and after-effects. We restrict ourselves to the following comments:—

The form of the object is typical — a curved upper side and a flat bottom. The size is rather small and thus reminds one of the Suomussalmi case of 1967.[5] The beam of "light" (or solid light) is a part of the UFOlore (see e.g. ref. 6) and one of the striking features in the present report.[7]

Viewing humanoids through a transparent "cupola", "window", or "wall" is common to many CE III reports. Here we point out the behaviour which in one form or another can be identified in, we think, quite a number of CE III reports: First a kind of indif-

ference on the part of humanoids, then a look at the now quite nearby human being (perhaps a giant in their eyes, one can imagine!) and a rapid disappearance from the scene. It may be added that only one of the two humanoids was said to have looked at Maila — a detail remotely reminiscent of many descriptions of the behaviour of humanoids in the presence of human witnesses.

As to the appearance of the miniature humanoids, Maila's description fits rather well with that of Group 2.B. in the classification devised by Eric Zurcher,[8] though the size is small.

Maila could not explain more accurately her sensation when "they gave electricity upon me." What followed was a dizzying feeling and temporary blinding, with irritation of eyes as a well-known after-effect.

There are some problems with timing the rapid sequence: the humanoid looking... "electricity"... blinding... departure of the object. However, Maila said that she could see the object moving before it disappeared. Also Allan used the term that it "disappeared to the left." It is difficult to decide, on the basis of the testimonies, whether there could have been a "disappearance-on-the-spot," or a tremendous acceleration (only a slight "whoosh" was heard). A similar problem has arisen, e.g., in the well-known case of Valensole 1965.

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Tentative conclusions

We put on record this CE III report as a piece for the world-wide UFO puzzle. Such reports form the peculiar data base for UFO studies. Each investigator should apply his or her own reasoning and criteria when utilizing these reports in attempts to gain some understanding of what is happening when people claim such experiences.

We did not find evidence for lying, and are inclined to think that the experience was real to the witnesses. Of course, we cannot claim that the experience has a counterpart in the objective world, in the normal sense of the term. At present, without any solid framework for such extremely peculiar events, the question of their objective reality remains open. However, it is important to continue to gather and study such reports.

* * * * *

Acknowledgement: We would like to thank Mrs. Arja Kyröläinen for transcribing and typing the taped conversations.

References and notes

1. Haines, R. F.: *Observing UFOs,* Nelson-Hall, Chicago 1980, chapter 5. One detail should be mentioned. When the witnesses were asked whether there were any landing-legs below the object, they answered, almost simultaneously, no! (Allan) and yes! (Maila), the former referring to *his* impression at the window, and the latter describing *her* observation close-by. Many such features form subjective/objective basis for the impression that these two people independently described what happened to them and did not follow a plan for a hoax.
2. In Chapter 11 of *UFOs — A Scientific Debate* (edited by Sagan, C. and Page, T., The Norton Library, New York 1974) Grinspoon and Persky describe *folie à deux* ". . .as a psychosis in which one of the two intimately associated people develops certain mental symptoms, particularly delusions, which are communicated to and accepted by the second person. This dual psychosis usually involves either a parent and child, two siblings, or a husband and wife. The person suffering from the primary psychosis is the dominant individual, while the one who develops the induced psychosis is of a submissive and suggestible type, dependent upon having a close emotional attachment to the infector. The primary psychotic may have at first a rather limited delusion which, as he develops it, systematizes it, and invests more and more in it, he imposes on the weaker person, who comes to share and even participate in the development of the systematized delusional ideas of the dominant person."

   It should be pointed out that we do not claim any correspondence between the description above and the individuals in the present case — as a matter of fact it is

difficult for us to tell which one of the witnesses would be "dominant." We merely remind the reader of a possibility.

3. R. K. Hall in *UFOs — A Scientific Debate.*
4. *UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist,* edited by R. F. Haines (The Scarecrow Press, Inc. Metuchen, N. J., & London 1979).
5. FSR 1968 No. 3: Further studies and contacts with the main witness, Mr. Arvi Juntunen, farmer, have not revealed the identity of this flying object, also observed and confirmed by additional witnesses.
6. J. Heering: "UFO Physics — Part I," FSR Vol. 22, No. 5 (1976).
7. One should be cautious of regarding such details as independent *evidence* for the truth of the narrative (as regards either the personal experience or the objective reality). They make the report in hand interesting, but the question of evidence in UFOlogy is a curious and complicated thing.
8. Eric Zurcher: *Les Apparitions d'Humanoides,* Editions Alain Lefeuvre 1979.

ARE CONTACTEES LEFT-HANDED?

Dr Bernard E. Finch, MRCS, LRCP, DCh, FBIS

RECENT work on the brain has shown that each half performs quite different functions. The left half is concerned with all the mundane performances which the body has to cope with and carry out from day to day. However, in the right half (or hemisphere) lies the seat of psychic reasoning, and the basis of psychic phenomena, such as telepathy and cognition.

At birth the right hemisphere is predominant, but as we develop so the left hemisphere takes over to carry out all the automatic and meaningful acts — to feed, clothe and protect, etc. — which is necessary for survival. The right hemisphere then becomes subordinate, and is no longer predominant in day-to-day thinking. However, in many people there is one important difference...

It is known that the speech centre in right-handed people resides in the left cerebral hemisphere, and the speech centre in left-handed people resides in the right hemisphere. So here we have an interesting situation: left-handed people would have an active speech centre in the right hemisphere associated with an active psychic centre. This means that all "pure" left-handed people will be using their psychic centre whenever they speak, think, or "think of speaking." They will be more receptive to other peoples' thoughts, and under stress will be able to "speak their thoughts silently."

All automatic writers and painters are predominantly left-handed, and this includes genuine mediums, but — and this is the crux of the matter — to what extent are UFO contactees left-handed? These people have active psychic centres, would be recipients of telepathic messages, and would be easily contacted, and programmed, in contrast to the insulated right-handers.

I think this is a path for extensive research, and could easily be carried out — are (or were) Betty and Barney Hill, Carl Higdon, Louie Smith, Travis Walton, Maurice Masse, and a host of others, left-handed? If so, we may have stumbled on one of the reasons for the erratic behaviour of UFOs, and/or their occupants, in that they could be trying to locate left-handed humans for programming.

In this context, there could be a relationship between epileptics and left-handed people, and it is a fact that most idiopathic epileptics are left-handed at birth.

Perhaps now we have found the reasons for "their" searchings, but not the reason "why" — as yet!

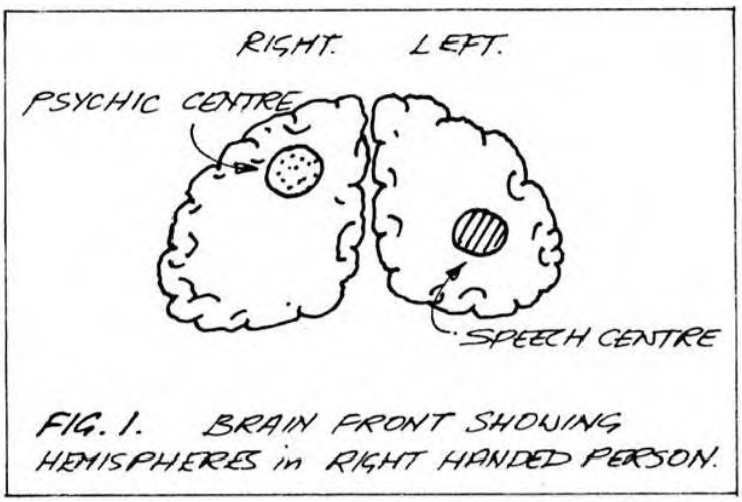


FIG. 1. BRAIN FRONT SHOWING HEMISPHERES in RIGHT HANDED PERSON.

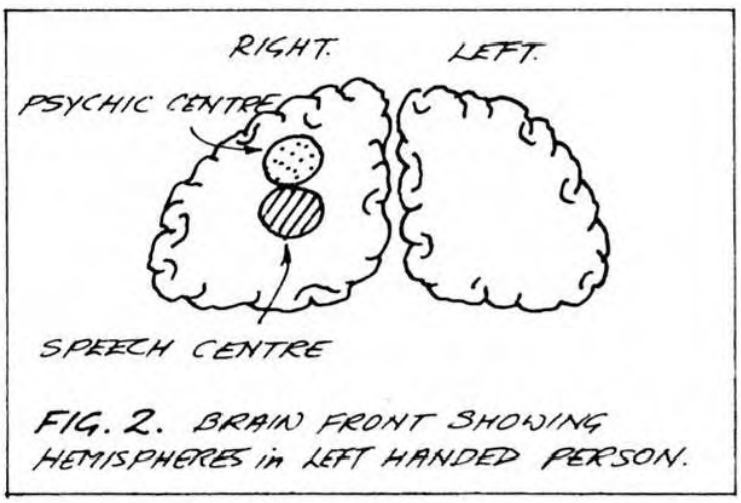


FIG. 2. BRAIN FRONT SHOWING HEMISPHERES in LEFT HANDED PERSON.

DR. FELIX ZIGEL' AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF UFOLOGY IN RUSSIA: PART I

Gordon Creighton

As the older of FSR's readers may recall, there was a period, between the spring of 1961 and the summer of 1965, when the Review carried rather frequent items from or about the Soviet Union. This was because at that date I had regular access to many Soviet newspapers, magazines and technical journals, several of which are not normally available outside Russia. The result was that, over the period in question, FSR had some fifteen or sixteen articles or translations on the general themes of Space and Space-Travel and even on UFOs, as currently reflected in the thinking of Soviet scientists and scientific writers. Several of the articles had titles such as *What the Soviet Press is Saying,* or *What do the Soviets know?* Some of the articles were straight translations of work by leading Soviet scientists of the day, such as Academician L. A. Ambartsumyan, Professor Krassovskiy, Dr. Asratjan, Dr. Kardyshev, V. Davydov, N. Kozyrev, Klyatkovo, and two or three of the accounts even dealt with actual UFO reports from Russia — the very first to reach us from that country. Notable among these reports was the article *Amazing News from Russia: Can This Be True?*[1] This was a translation which I had made from an article in Italian by Alberto Fenoglio, relating a number of truly remarkable Soviet UFO stories that he claimed to have gleaned from Soviet scientists and diplomats during their official visits to Italy. (While it has, naturally, never been possible to secure any confirmation of these Russian UFO reports supplied by Alberto Fenoglio, one can at least say of them that, amazing as they seemed to us at the time, they appeared to bear some stamp of truth, if only for the reason that they were entirely in line with what we were already getting from the rest of the world.)

Many years were to elapse before we were to receive anything else so extraordinary from Russia, but now that day seems to have come, for there is even more fantastic news out of that country. To cap it all, the source of this fresh information is reported to be Dr. Felix Zigel' himself, the best known of the Soviet Ufologists.[2] These new developments will be covered in the second part of this article.

Meanwhile, let us return to a brief consideration of the years since 1961-65. FSR's Editor throughout most of that time was Waveney Girvan, after whose sudden death Charles Bowen stepped into the breach and took control. As we look back now at some of the titles that Waveney Girvan selected for my items from the USSR, it looks as though he may have been tempted at times to believe the Soviets were on the point of "coming clean" and being the first "to tell the world the truth about UFOs."

As the course of subsequent History has shown, that was not to be. But undeniably all those Russian articles were infused with an infectious sort of enthusiasm about the Cosmos and about the possibilities of Space-Travel and of finding intelligent life elsewhere, and indeed one might say that Russian writing and thinking on such questions is still notable for the same sort of quality. But the Soviets clearly never had it in their heads to "be the first to tell the world about UFOs." Their minds were set on something else. They were revealing their total determination to be the first into space, to be the Masters in the Space-Race, and to use this superiority to further their ambitious plans for our Planet.

Dr. Felix Zigel'

For many years after 1965 FSR received little material from the USSR, but what we did see from that source seemed to indicate that a number of their leading scientists and science writers were open-minded about the UFOs and were expressing themselves pretty freely. Foremost among these scientists was Dr. Felix Zigel', Professor of Cosmology at the Moscow Institute of Aviation (which, by the way, is a body under military control). His pupils at the Institute included the Soviet cosmonauts. Zigel's rise to eminence had been rapid. Graduating from Moscow State University in 1942, he forthwith took his place as an *Aspirant* (i.e. a junior member) in the Astronomical Section of the USSR Academy of Sciences. By 1943 he was teaching Astronomy and Mathematics in various universities, and in 1963 he moved to the Moscow Institute of Aviation and began to have charge of the cosmonauts in training.

He has been taking an interest in UFOs from as early as 1955, and since FSR started its existence in that year and has been regularly in Russia, it is not impossible that we will have played some part in forming his opinions about our subject. Meanwhile others too in the USSR were beginning to be sufficiently interested to talk of establishing some sort of semi-civilian investigative group in that country. Our friend Dr Jacques Vallée visited Moscow somewhere around 1968 and met the Soviet ufologists, and on his return from there he told us that the Soviet Air Force were said to have no less than 15,000 UFO reports on

file (half as many again as the US Air Force, who were said to have about 10,000 at that date).

General Stolyarov's Group

In October 1967 Major-General Porfiriy Stolyarov of the Soviet Air Force (possibly recently retired?) was made chairman of an important body known as the USSR All-Union Committee on Astronautics, and it was reported that *inside* this body the new group for UFO study was to be set up. We learnt that Major-General Stolyarov, knowing of the existence of this mass of top-secret reports, had asked the Soviet Air Ministry whether his group could have access to them.

"Yes", he was told. "First set up your Group, and then you can have the UFO reports."

But nothing came of it, after all. Somebody had clearly had time for some second thoughts. As we heard the account from Jacques Vallée, it seems that, when Stolyarov went back to the Minister and said his UFO Study Group was now in being, so could he please have the reports, the reply consisted of that most important of all Russian words: "NYET!"

When Stolyarov asked *why*, he was told:— "Because this is *Too Big* a matter, and *you* are too small!"

But Soviet newspapers and magazines still continued to carry frequent references to UFOs. Evidently interest in the subject was widespread. It was not yet taboo. For suddenly an absolutely amazing thing happened.

Zigel's Television Appeal

On November 10, 1967, two individuals, seemingly acting with the consent of the highest authority in the land — for they were Professor Felix Zigel' and Major-General Stolyarov — appeared in a programme on the Soviet Television, and told the Russian public that the UFOs were real and were a matter of great scientific importance. Zigel' said, inter alia:—

> "Unidentified Flying Objects are a very serious subject which we must study fully. We appeal to all viewers to send us details of any observations of strange flying craft seen over the territories of the Soviet Union. This is a serious challenge to Science, and we need the help of all Soviet citizens. Please write to us at the following address in Moscow. . ." (which was given).

The appeal went out at peak viewing time. Millions heard and saw the programme. The well-disciplined Soviet citizen could no longer be in any doubt. His *duties* towards the State now actually included the reporting of UFOs!

The immediate result of the appeal was a veritable inundation of reports. After only one or two days, Zigel' and his colleagues had over 200 good new reports, and still they went on coming in. (Indeed, since a Moscow address had been given, they are still coming in, and this was subsequently to constitute quite an embarrassment for the Russian authorities.) The press too was full every day of readers' letters giving details of what they had seen.

The Clamp-Down

Then came the *volte-face*. Someone very high up in the Soviet Hierarchy had evidently taken alarm at the situation, so the weather-vane swung round, and Soviet Officialdom switched from tolerance to sharp disapproval. By March 1968 those same Soviet newspapers which only a few days previously had such a profusion of stories about UFO sightings now unleashed a campaign of carefully sponsored ridicule. UFO reports were now "unscientific balderdash"; "figments of the imagination"; "mass-hysteria"; "anti-Soviet products of degenerate-capitalist warmongering", and so forth.[3]

Simultaneously the USSR Academy of Science also swung into action, exercising its immense and ponderous influence, and ruling categorically that there were absolutely no scientific grounds whatsoever for the possible existence of UFOs. The Oracle had pronounced, and that was that. The matter was therewith closed — and permanently.

Professor Zigel' was ordered to terminate his UFO research, and to stop collecting eyewitness accounts. (This, be it remembered, was in March 1968. The *Condon Report* was not to be published in the USA until January 8, 1969. So, if not actually acting in collusion, the Soviet and American governments were evidently on parallel courses where UFOs were concerned.)

And an interesting comment from someone who did believe that there was such collusion had already appeared in FSR, Vol. XI, No. 3 (May-June 1965), in the World Round-Up Section under the heading: **France: Secret Services get-together on UFOs?**

> "The Bordeaux newspaper *Sud-Ouest* of February 17 carried the headline SURPRISING LECTURE AT MOURENX over the following account: 'George Langelaan, novelist, journalist, and ex-officer of the Intelligence Service, who during the War was parachuted into France after he had been given a new face by plastic surgery, gave a lecture on Monday evening at Mourenx, Landes, where he had been specially invited.
>
> " 'On the subject of Flying Saucers, George Langelaan, who seems extremely well informed, declares that *the Russian and American Secret Services have collaborated*, and have arrived, as he says, at this astonishing conclusion: The flying saucers exist, their source is extraterrestrial, and the future — relatively quite soon — should permit confirmation of this statement.' "

Zigel' lies low

Let us return meanwhile to Professor Zigel'. Some

of the Soviet scientists had already called him "a dangerous dreamer," and, important as he obviously was to the Soviet authorities in his post as a trainer of their astronauts, it was clear that he would now have to be extremely careful. Naturally he at once complied fully with his new instructions, keeping fully within the legal limits in all he did or said, and adopting an extremely low profile. He made no further attempt to seek TV or radio time for programmes on UFOs, or to appeal to the public for additional UFO reports. And he was expressly forbidden to have any dealings whatsoever with foreign journalists.

But it was too late. Everybody from one end of Russia to the other now knew his name, and knew that he was Russia's "top UFO man". The reports continued to pour in to him, and they are still doing so, for a Moscow address had been given.

Parapsychology in Russia and the *Nautilus* story

Meanwhile, for almost a decade past, the USSR had been building up a significant lead over the West in its knowledge of those vast uncharted realms that we lump together under blanket-terms like ESP or PSI or Parapsychology. Students of the UFO Problem do not need to be told of the links which seem to exist between these areas and the whole field of UFO research. Many already perceive that we may here be confronted not by two enigmas but by only *one* and that, if such be the case, we have as yet scarcely an adequate vocabulary for even beginning to think about the problem, let alone explain any of it.

This upsurge in Parapsychology in Russia had begun in 1960 as the direct result of a popular-scientific article in a French journal about alleged experiments in telepathy conducted by the Americans with their submarine, the *Nautilus*.[4] Ever since the death of Lenin, and throughout Stalin's bloody reign of terror, it is a certainty that no such activities as these could have been pursued openly anywhere in the USSR; the very idea of telepathy would have given the shudders to your good atheistic-materialistic Marxist. But in fact there was one man in Russia, still alive, who had once conducted precisely such experiments back in Lenin's time, and even under Stalin! This was an internationally recognized Soviet physiologist, Dr Leonid Leonidovich Vasiliev (aged 68 in 1968). In April of that year he rose to address an assembly of top Soviet scientists, who had met together to commemorate the discovery of Radio. None of them expected to hear from him revelations about that prime piece of bourgeois fiction, telepathy. But this is precisely what Vasiliev spoke to them about. "Mental Radio" he called it.[5] The French story about the American experiments with their atomic submarine *Nautilus* must have detonated in Vasiliev's head like a bomb. He now told his dumbfounded colleagues:—

> "We carried out extensive and, until now, completely unreported investigations into ESP during the Stalin regime! And today the American Navy is testing telepathy with their atomic submarines. Soviet science conducted a great many successful telepathy tests over a quarter of a century ago! It is urgent that we throw off our prejudices. We must again plunge into the exploration of this vital field!"

Dr. Vasiliev, though largely forgotten in 1968, was undeniably a respected Soviet citizen. Had he not been a corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Medicine; Chairman of the University of Leningrad; holder of a Lenin Prize? Naturally the Soviet Hierarchy lost no time over heeding his advice. After all, had he not told them, uncompromisingly: "The discovery of the energy underlying ESP will rank with the discovery of atomic energy."

So the Top Comrades hastily swept the dust of a quarter of a century from Vasiliev's old notebooks and at once set him up in a fine new parapsychological laboratory — no expense spared — and indeed they proceeded to equip the USSR with a whole string of such establishments, all dedicated to the rational proposition that the Soviet Empire must be Top-Dog in these matters as in all others, be they sport, science or nuclear weaponry.

The Moscow Conference and the Ostrander -Schroeder visits, 1968-1970

One of the first results was a high-powered gathering, the *First Moscow International Conference on Parapsychology,* which opened in June 1968. Among the foreign visitors who had come to meet the Soviet scholars active in this new field there were two ladies, Sheila Ostrander, Russian-speaking and a graduate of the University of Manitoba, Canada, and the American Lynn Schroeder. Both had travelled widely and written on a variety of subjects. The fruit of this, their first visit to Russia, and of several subsequent visits which they made there, was to be an extremely successful book, *Psychic Discoveries behind the Iron Curtain.*[6]

Officially the "thaw" with the West was still on in 1968. "Détente" was the watchword of the day, and the "thaw" being still on, the two ladies from North America were permitted to travel around remarkably freely and meet many folk of note in the Soviet parapsychological field, including both scientists and mediums and sensitives. They saw laboratories and talked to investigators with a freedom that would be quite unimaginable today, now that the whole of Soviet psychical research has vanished behind the impenetrable screen of direct KGB control. (Already, by 1970, the Soviets knew how to send coded messages by telepathy through one human mind to another, and were on the road to the development — as Dr. Andrija Puharich and others are now warning us — of weapons of a parapsychological nature.)

One of the Soviet scientists who talked enthusiastically to the two ladies was Edward Naumov, a biologist, and one of the leading lights in Soviet Parapsychology. He had already travelled throughout the USSR giving over 460 lectures on ESP and showing scientific ESP films at scores of institutes.

Naumov's enthusiasm reached far beyond mere ESP and telepathy, and into such lines as psychic photography (like the work of Ted Serios in the USA), dowsing, "eyeless sight", precognition, and so on. Before long, Edward Naumov was to find himself an inmate of one of the KGB's slave-labour camps. His "enthusiasms" may have struck someone in the Hierarchy as excessive. But more likely his main offence was just that he was too fond of talking to foreigners about the parapsychological findings in Russia.

Zigel's views on UFOs in 1968

However, there was one man whom the North American ladies were not permitted to meet, much as they tried, and this was Dr. Felix Zigel'. The ban on his seeing foreign journalists was still very much in force. But the ladies were able to gather a lot of information about him and his work in UFO research. They reported in their book that for Zigel' the reality of the UFOs was an unquestionable fact. In his view the UFOs were extraterrestrial probes. Nothing however in the ladies' book refers to any statement by Zigel' about UFO landings or UFO occupants, and this is interesting, in the light of what we shall have to say later about the evolution of his thinking regarding the UFOs.

The Gris — Dick visits: 1972-1975

In the early 1970s (from 1972 to 1974 or maybe 1975) two more foreign writers made a series of trips to Russia, and they too finally produced a highly successful book, *The New Soviet Psychic Discoveries.*[7] The authors were Henry Gris, Latvian-born and a fluent Russian-speaker, and William Dick, born in Britain. Gris graduated from Columbia School of Journalism and was a newspaperman with *UPI* in Russia in World War II and after it. Since 1969 he has been with the American tabloid *The National Enquirer,* and he is today their Senior Roving Editor. His colleague William Dick joined the London bureau of *The National Enquirer,* in 1963, and is now this paper's General Editor, specializing in reporting on the latest advances in Science, particularly in Medicine and Parapsychology.

By 1972, when Gris and Dick arrived in Moscow, the "climate" in general there was still not too unfavourable so far as foreign journalists were concerned, and, like the two ladies before them, they seem to have received a lot of help from the Soviet authorities and from the scientists, and to have done an equally good job in interviewing many parapsychologists, doctors, astronomers, and so on, as well as a number of the outstanding psychics and mediums whom the scientists were studying. Gris and Dick's book is a worthy follow-up to the work of Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder.

Gris and Dick meet Zigel'

In one most notable respect Gris and Dick succeeded, after very much effort, where the two women had failed. They were able to meet Dr Felix Zigel' privately, in the apartment of author and historian Aleksandr Kazantsev. It seems that Zigel' and Kazantsev both felt at this time that things had become slightly more relaxed, insofar as talk of UFOs was concerned, and that this would be a good opportunity for getting Zigel's views out to the West. However, Zigel' insisted on checking afterwards every word in the text of the interview, so what Gris and Dick tell us about his views on UFOs can presumably be taken as authentic and authoritative. Zigel's long talk with them, on the question-and-answer basis, occupies the whole of Chapter XIII of their book. What is notable is that Zigel's views about UFOs have developed since the date of the Ostrander/Schroeder visits to Moscow. *For he now admitted to Gris and Dick that he held the UFO Phenomenon to be an "other-dimensional" or "multi-dimensional" problem.* (Thus ranging himself with the views of some researchers in the West.) On the matter of *UFO occupants* and *landings,* Zigel' was still cagey. He would not go beyond admitting that there might well have been landings on Earth in past ages, when mankind was more primitive, but he went on to declare: *"Apart from a few reconnaissance excursions now and then, I contend that there have been no landings within the span of our current civilization."* And he emphatically denied any knowledge of any confirmed landings or any confirmed sightings of UFO entities on Soviet territory, though he did say he had seen some claims of such.

Zigel's views on UFOs develop further

It is not clear precisely when Gris and Dick managed to talk to Zigel', but as it was only after many attempts and many requests, it seems it may have been during one of the later of their trips to Russia, most likely in 1975. At any rate, what they say Zigel' told them is interesting, because, in the second part of this article evidence of a truly startling nature will be adduced, indicating that by now (1981) Professor Zigel's thinking about UFOs has progressed to the point where he accepts that there have recently been many landings in and around Moscow, and that entities have been seen or encountered in a considerable number of the cases. He has, moreover, as will be shown later, even gone so far as to say that certain

types of the alien beings resemble Earthman so closely that they may well be here, living amongst us, without our being aware of their presence.

The second part of the article will give details of some of these landings, and will relate the fantastic events of the night of June 14, 1980, when a vast disc, at least 120 metres wide, was said to have been stationary over Moscow for five minutes, creating much panic; over various parts of the USSR for a total of forty minutes; and was photographed.

Notes and References

1. "Amazing news from Russia: Can this be True?" In FSR, Vol. 8, No. 6 (November/December 1962). A translation of an article by Alberto Fenoglio in Issue No. 105 (June 1-15, 1962) of the journal *Oltre Il Cielo: Missili e Razzi* ("Beyond the Sky: Missiles and Rockets," — A Rome publication devoted to rocketry and Space-research, not a UFO journal).
2. FSR has recently had an interesting article, "Ufology in the USSR," by Nikita A. Schnee, in Vol. 27 No. 1, which is marred by its harshly polemical tone, particularly against Dr. Felix Zigel', for whom Schnee evidently cannot find a good word to say. Clearly this is just one more example of the bickering and backbiting which are such marked features of UFO research everywhere, so it seems.

   Nikita Schnee's article was unquestionably valuable for its over-all picture of UFO research in the USSR, but it goes without saying that FSR takes no side in polemics, and sees its own role as that of a forum for discussion and no more than that. We belong neither to an Azhazha-Schnee faction nor to a Zigel' faction, and hopefully we shall do justice to all sides.
3. The rich and expressive Russian language seems to lend itself particularly well to scorn and humorous invective, as anybody knows who has read Nikolai Gogol' or, descending to a much lower level, certain of Stalin's coarser utterances. It may be recalled that a few years earlier, when brushing off tales about UFOs, official Soviet spokesmen were variously reported as saying that (a) *"The UFO stories are concocted by the American Government, in order to create an excuse for re-arming,"* and, (b) *"The UFO stories are concocted in America in order to keep the minds of the American people off the bread-line."*

   (I bet your average Russian, like the average Pole, could tell us a thing or two about queues and bread-lines.)
4. See "Du Nautilus,' article by G. Messadié, In *Science et Vie,* No. 509, Paris, February 1960. So far as I can ascertain, nobody on the American side, to this day, has revealed anything whatsoever as to the truth or falsity of this report of successful telepathy between Washington D.C. and a nuclear-powered submarine cruising beneath the Arctic Ice-Cap. If the story is a "phoney", it has at any rate been of incalculable benefit to the Russians, for it alerted them to the possibilities of Parapsychology and has reportedly helped to give them some terrible new military weapons!
5. One of Vasiliev's books, *Mental Radio,* was translated

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into English a few years ago and published under the same title.

6. *Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain,* by Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder. Introduction by Ivan T. Sanderson. First US edition by Prentice-Hall Inc., 1970. British paperback edition by Abacus Books, London, 1973, under the slightly altered title: *Psi: Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain.*
7. *The New Soviet Psychic Discoveries,* by Henry Gris and William Dick, publ. by Prentice-Hall Inc., USA, 1978. British edition by Souvenir Press, London, 1979. (It seems a pity that these two authors do not appear to grant a shred of credit, or even make any mention of the book by the two women, Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder, which had preceded theirs by eight years.)

FSR BOOKSHELF — 11

New UFO books reviewed by . . . *Janet & Colin Bord*

FOR many years English-speaking ufologists have read brief reports of the contactee claims of white South African **Elizabeth Klarer.** Now her story is available as a book, **Beyond the Light Barrier** (published by Howard B. Timmins (Pty) Ltd., and available from them at Sanso Centre, 8 Adderley Street, P.O. Box 94, Cape Town 8000, South Africa, price R9.90 plus R1.20 postage; 190 pages, illustrated with photographs). Her interest in UFOs was first sparked when, aged six, she saw a daylight disc above the family farm. Then in 1937, the light aircraft in which she was flying was paced by a glowing craft. Twenty years later she made telepathic contact with the UFO occupant, who in 1957 landed on a remote area of her farm. He was Akon, a handsome, virile space scientist from Alpha Centauri. "Laughing gaily he caught me round the waist and swung me up on to the hull of his ship and we both laughed. . ." On subsequent meetings, of which there were several, Akon obviously enjoyed picking Mrs. Klarer up in his arms and carrying her around, as well as burying his face in her long blonde tresses. "We rarely mate with Earth women," he said. "When we do. . ." Naturally a golden-haired space baby was born, and for this Mrs. Klarer travelled to Akon's home planet of Meton.

Ufology can now add a new word to its vocabulary: along with contactees and abductees we now have *seductees,* Mrs. Klarer hopefully being the first and only one of these.

As an entertaining space story the book might have had possibilities if the author had more talent for writing. Instead it reads as though Arthur Shuttlewood had set out to write a romantic novel. Between the passages of romantic gush are gobbets of indigestible cosmo-scientific philosophy, much of which is as incomprehensible as it appears meaningless. There are, scattered throughout the text, a number of unintentional and pertinent clues to the mainspring of this work. Attitudes such as "Perhaps I was planted here as a child, because I do not resemble my family," and, when she first meets her space lover, "Longing to cast off the formality of my English upbringing, I tried hard to stifle my natural reserve" will not be unfamiliar to the psychologist.

Also of interest is the facial similarity between a portrait of Akon, presumably drawn by the author, and a photograph of her, which suggests that she may well have been communing with her alter ego. Overall this work of fantasy is likely to be of more interest to the clinical psychologist than to the ufologist.

Another space enigma is presented by **Greta Woodrew,** an American woman who apparently has many psychic abilities. Mrs. Woodrew is a protégé of psychic researcher Andrija Puharich, and if you have read *Uri* by Puharich or Stuart Holroyd's *Prelude to the Landing on Planet Earth* you will have a fair idea of the development of events in Greta Woodrew's **On a Slide of Light** (Macmillan Publishing Co., New York, $12.95; Collier Macmillan Publishers, London, UK price not known; 176 pages).

The author, a successful business-woman, wife and mother who has been strongly psychic since childhood, met Puharich in 1976 and they soon embarked on a series of experimental sessions with Mrs. Woodrew acting as a channel after being hypnotised by Dr. Puharich. While hypnotised she made contact with extra-terrestrial beings from a planetary system named Ogatta which exists in another galaxy. Through Mrs. Woodrew the Ogattans channelled information and predictions, and although these predictions forecast cataclysmic upheavals on earth in the coming decades, as have many similar predictions, their tone is less oppressive than usual, for, as the Ogattans themselves say, they want to "keep it light." Nonetheless the message is the same as many others received by similar means in recent years, that if mankind does not alter its thinking and behaviour, cataclysmic annihilation by natural means is inevitable.

In later chapters Puharich takes a minor role and Mrs. Woodrew's personality is replaced by various Ogattan entities, sometimes, when in public, with embarrassing results. The level of psychic phenomena which accompany these 'channelling' sessions is rem-

iniscent of the early spiritualist mediums at their most active. During her contacts there are smells (both pleasant and repulsive), apports, the moving and rearrangement of furniture, the dispersal of clouds, and an increase in the size and weight of the medium, but no physical materializations of entities nor the appearance of any substance such as ectoplasm.

The chapter on UFOs is disappointingly uninformative. The Ogattans do use spacecraft which they call "gattae," but these do not seem to be related to any of the enigmas which are the present concern of ufology. Instead the author reiterates the well-aired themes of great secrets suppressed by governments, astronauts' sightings, and the alien structures which have been built on the moon. She tells us that 24 civilisations with advanced technology are committed to helping planet Earth through the difficult times ahead, and that her role is to help prepare mankind for this and to lessen the shock and fear when contact with these ETs occurs.

Mrs. Woodrew's matronly American personality is evident in her writing style, and also shows by an irritating lack of detailed information when it is most needed, but there seems no doubt about her sincerity and her belief in the reality of the Ogattan friends. The profits from her book will go to the S.T.A.R. Foundation which has been formed to finance psychic research. Ufologists whose approach to the subject is not solely materialist should find *On a Slide of Light* an interesting and entertaining book. Whether the author's communicators are independent entities or are manifestations from her own inner self is a question over which to ponder. But Mrs. Woodrew and her apparently amazing psychic abilities should be considered within the context of the history of spiritualism and mediumship. The greater knowledge readers have of this field, the more likely they are to find this book of value.

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle is a psychologist and professor of counselling services at the University of Wyoming who has been involved in investigating the UFO enigma during much of his professional life. He has established a reputation for a humanistic and eclectic approach, and has concentrated on the reported experiences of those who have had a direct contact with the phenomenon as an abductee or contactee, or an indirect contact via telepathy. In May 1980 he arranged a weekend conference where some seventeen of these UFO witnesses gathered in order to share their experiences. The collected statements of these witnesses, who were encouraged to "compare [their] UFO encounters and communications" and to search for patterns in them, have been published as **Proceedings of the Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation** [in a 132-page large-format paperback, available from Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Division of Counseling and Testing, The University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071, USA, price $5 (surface mail) or $8 (airmail)].

It has in recent years become increasingly evident that there is no distinct boundary between the physical UFO experience and the psychical UFO experience: the assumed dichotomy does not in fact exist. The reported experiences of these UFO witnesses range from abductions into solid craft to receiving messages in the head, and whether either is more or less "real" than another appears at present impossible to establish. Very possibly it is an irrelevant question. Dr. Sprinkle believes that by bringing these experiences into the forefront of the UFO debate "a pattern of information can emerge which will help us to learn, to understand, and to accept, the significance and meaning of the UFO experience in the lives of UFO contactees." By ignoring the hardware and concentrating on the witnesses' inner experiences, Dr. Sprinkle brings a greater humanitarian attitude to the problem, an attitude from which ufology must surely benefit.

"After 22 years of study and investigation I am convinced that the evidence is overwhelming that *some* UFOs are intelligently controlled vehicles from off the Earth." These are the words of nuclear physicist **Stanton T. Friedman** who since 1970 has earned his living by lecturing and writing about UFOs. Some of his papers, including several presented at MUFON symposia, are now available as magazine-style booklets, as follows: **Flying Saucers: Four Scientific Papers** comprising 'Science Fiction, Science, and UFOs', 'Fiction, Fact, and Flying Saucers', 'A Scientific Approach to Flying Saucer Behavior' and 'The Case for the Extraterrestrial Origin of Flying Saucers' (price $3); **UFOs — Myth and Mystery** (price $1.25); **Flying Saucers and Physics** (price $1.25). All these can be obtained from UFORI, P.O. Box 3297, Sta. B, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 2E7, Canada.

UFORI can also supply **The Zeta Reticuli Incident** by **Terence Dickinson,** a full-colour reprint of the December 1974 "Astronomy" magazine article dealing with Marjorie Fish's research on the Betty Hill star map. Comments by Carl Sagan, David Saunders and others are included in this thorough survey of the evidence for and against Ms Fish's interpretation. Also available is *Zeta Reticuli Update* by Terence Dickinson, a 4-page article providing additional information up to 1980. Dickinson sensibly concludes: "Despite the many attractive features of the Fish interpretation, it is certainly premature to assume it is *proof* that we have been visited by extraterrestrials . . . we can only say the Zeta Reticuli star map is provocative evidence — not proof — that extraterrestrial intelligence is visiting Earth in the 20th century."

'The Zeta Reticuli Incident' costs $2.50 and 'Zeta Reticuli Update' costs 75 cents. For readers interested

in buying more than one of the above items, UFORI offers special reduced prices: 'Flying Saucers: Four Scientific Papers' + 'The Zeta Reticuli Incident' + 'Zeta Reticuli Update' for $5; all three $1.25 papers for $3; all six items for $7.50. The currency is US dollars, and all prices include postage by sea mail.

It is surprising that no one before now has thought to publish 'an all-picture survey' of the history of UFOs. **David C. Knight's** book **UFOs: A Pictorial History from Antiquity to the Present** (McGraw Hill Book Company, New York, $12.95, 192 pages) covers the subject from ancient astronauts to the 1979 New Zealand lights, and there are at least two pictures on every spread, sometimes five or six. Long captions describe the pictures, and each chapter has a short introduction. Not forgotten are bibliography, glossary and index. The 10 × 8-inches format allows the photographs to be well displayed, and the reproductions are on the whole quite good, bearing in mind the limitations imposed by the poor quality of most of the originals. How many of the UFO photographs show "true UFOs" as opposed to hoaxed UFOs or IFOs is anyone's guess. But in ufology, as also in other areas of "strange phenomena," photographic evidence poses problems. Most photographs are of small, distant objects and no detail can be made out, even when big enlargements are made. But when close-up photographs are displayed, with plenty of detail visible, the natural reaction of the cautious observer is to proclaim these photographs obvious hoaxes! Unfortunately this is what they usually turn out to be, and we are left asking the question: Why, after all these years, are there no convincing close photographs of genuine UFOs?

A WARM AND PEACEFUL EXPERIENCE

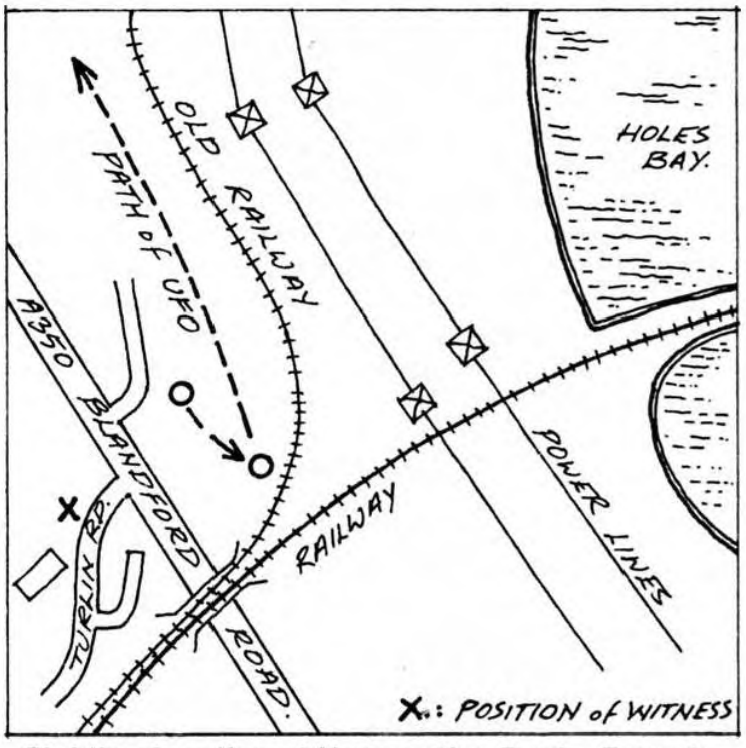
Leslie Harris

THE "singling-out" of a witness, or group of witnesses, appears to be a common factor in UFO phenomena. This interesting report is a further example of such apparent "selection". The witness wrote to Jenny Randles, having obtained her address from *Unexplained* magazine, who forwarded the information to me with a request that I visit the witness as soon as possible, as she had seemed somewhat reluctant to come forward at all. This report is the result of the interview conducted by John Ledner and myself at the home of the witness on Monday, January 19, 1981.

The Sighting

The incident occurred on Saturday December 6, 1980, at 9.01 a.m. A cold, clear morning with a blue sky and wintry sun. The witness, Mrs. Jean Findlay (43) of Turlin Road, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset, had left her home at 9 a.m. (she heard the time on the radio as she was leaving) to catch a bus. The walk from her home to the bus stop takes no more than a minute, hence her precision regarding the time.

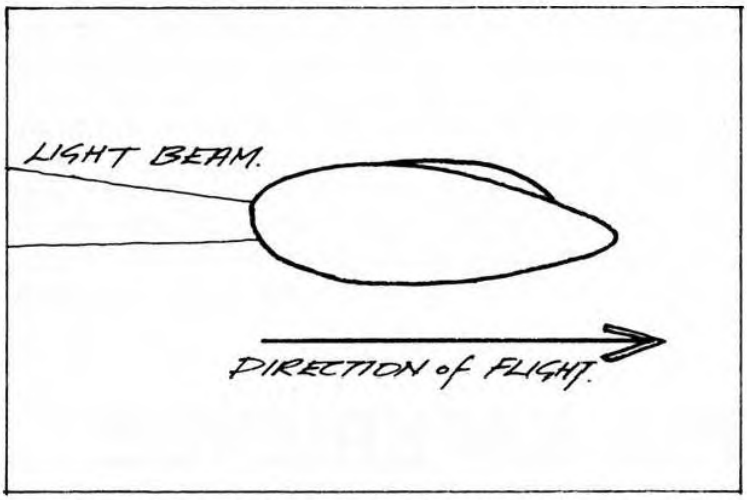
As she walked towards the bus stop she had an urge to look up at the sky. She said it was almost as if a voice in her head had asked her to do so. Glancing up she saw just ahead of her, over some trees, at about a 20° elevation, an object which was of classic "flying saucer" configuration. It was circular with a central dome, or, to use Mrs. Findlay's own words, "oval with a bulge on top," and one end of the rim appearing more pointed than the other. In size, Mrs. Findlay compared the object with a double-decker bus, or 9 inches at arm's length. All estimates of size given by the witnesses inexperienced at judgements are, of course, unreliable, but in this case it would appear that the UFO was of considerable size. Mrs. Findlay described the colour as like that of a barrage balloon, or, for those like myself, not of sufficiently advanced age to recall such wartime artefacts, another comparison was with the *Goodyear* dirigible which was seen by many people in the local area last summer. In



Sighting location at Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset.

other words, a matt, silvery finish, which did not reflect the light of the sun as polished metal might.

As the witness watched, spellbound by the sight, a beam of light was directed from the left of the disc. This appeared just like a normal beam of white light, fanning out slightly and fading away with distance. Careful questioning established that this was normal light and not the "solid" variety.



The object, based on witness's sketch.

Suddenly the beam was "switched off" and immediately the object banked, presenting the underside to the witness, then moved a short distance to the right, rotated one half turn, then sped back to the left and away at such speed that it took on the appearance of a darning needle, the eye at the front and point behind, rising slightly until out of sight. The underside of the object had seemed darker in the centre, as if hollowed, or concave.

Once the object had disappeared, Mrs. Findlay glanced at her watch. It was 9.05 a.m. The observation had lasted for four minutes, during most of which time the object had hovered soundlessly just a few tens of yards from and above a normally busy main road. But during the period of the observation, Mrs. Findlay claims that everything went still. There was no traffic, no passers-by to whom she could point out the UFO, none of the normal street sounds of a Saturday morning, no bus (which was due), just the object and Mrs. Findlay who felt a most pleasant sense of peace and calm, warmth also, in spite of the chilliness of the morning. It was, she said, as if she had been "especially chosen."

Witness Reaction

Prior to her sighting Mrs. Findlay had only a passing interest in UFOs. She considered it all a "load of rubbish." She and her husband had had a couple of low-definition sightings of the LITS variety, but nothing to really arouse her interest in the subject. She is a very sceptical person by nature, and says she "does not like mysteries" but wants to know what it all means. Immediately after her sighting she wrote it all down on paper, intending to put it away for a couple of weeks than look at it again. She could hardly believe what she had seen, and felt that writing it down would remove some of the "mystique" — somehow rationalise the experience. But eventually she felt she had to tell someone who would not laugh at her, and noticing Jenny Randles's address in *Unexplained* felt that she could entrust her experience to a group of "UFO spotters" as she terms us! At first she requested anonymity but agreed to her name being used when she knew our reporting and publication are not of the sensational kind.

Psychic Matters

Nearing the end of our interview, we inevitably turned the conversation toward psychic matters, and, as is so often the case, we were not disappointed.

Mrs. Findlay frequently has dreaming or waking premonitions of disasters of one sort or another. Since the age of five she has had a recurring dream in which she appears to be a teenage girl walking in a nun's habit along a street in some (apparently) French town, the passers-by wearing the dress of a century or two ago. She feels this could be a brief memory of some previous existence, and is interested in regressive hypnosis to past lives. Although not a religious person,

(Continued on page 27)

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A GIGANTIC "CIGAR" OVER THE ATLANTIC

Gordon Creighton

IN 1980 we received a letter from a lady who had recently become a reader of FSR, stating that she would like to talk with someone from the *Review* and give us a confidential account of a strange experience that she had had many years before. It had been terrifying at the time and had left a most vivid impression in her memory. Having no knowledge of UFOs then, she had no clue as to what she might have seen. It was only after the chance purchase of a few books, and the discovery of FSR, that she had realized the possible nature of her experience.

The lady is from one of the countries of Western Europe that are members of NATO. She is now married to an Englishman, and it so happens that her home is not far from mine. For reasons which will be evident, she has asked that on no account should her name and address, or her nationality at birth, be divulged. I have interviewed her twice, and R. H. Bryan Winder also heard the first account which she gave. Her statements are supported by a lengthy and detailed written version and a sketch. For reasons of economy I have reduced her story to more compact proportions. The gist of it is as follows:—

"The events which I now describe took place in the first or second week of May 1963.

"I was at the time working for NATO as an English language secretary, and based in Paris. On the day in question I was one of a party of 50 NATO personnel who were en route to Canada for the NATO Ministerial Meetings in Ottawa. Our plane, an Air Canada DC8, carried what seemed to be the usual crew, and two stewardesses, though I had the impression that the flight was under military or NATO control.

"We took off from Orly Airport, Paris, some time after 10.00 a.m., and we were told that the flight to Ottawa would take about seven hours. As there were only 50 of us, the plane was relatively empty. I took a window seat on the port side (left) near the wing. The other two seats in my row remained empty throughout the flight. As NATO personnel we were all of course well known to each other, and very much a 'family group'.

"The weather was beautiful, and the Captain announced that we would fly at 36,000 (or maybe 38,000 — I do not recall clearly) feet. After lunch had been served, I sat enjoying the view of the vast expanse of sky above the clouds. The windows of the DC8 were very large, the largest I seem to recall having seen on an aircraft, and came down quite low beside the passenger.

"I was just reaching down to take a book from my hold-all, and was astonished to glimpse below the 'plane something dark and absolutely tremendous that stood out in vivid contrast to the brightness all round. I could not believe my eyes. I pressed close to the window in unbelief and there, almost beneath the DC8, was a gigantic dark grey 'torpedo.' It seemed menacing and frightening, and I had the impression that it was stationary. It was utterly unlike anything that I had ever seen in my whole life. It looked as though made of steel. No portholes or windows were visible. No wings or projections. Nothing but the long perfect torpedo form, with its bullet-shaped head, and the rear end which was cut off sharply and squarely.[1] The monster — and I emphasise that it was this terrifying size that impressed me — was well below us. I thought maybe 2,000 metres or so below us, but of

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PERSONAL COLUMN

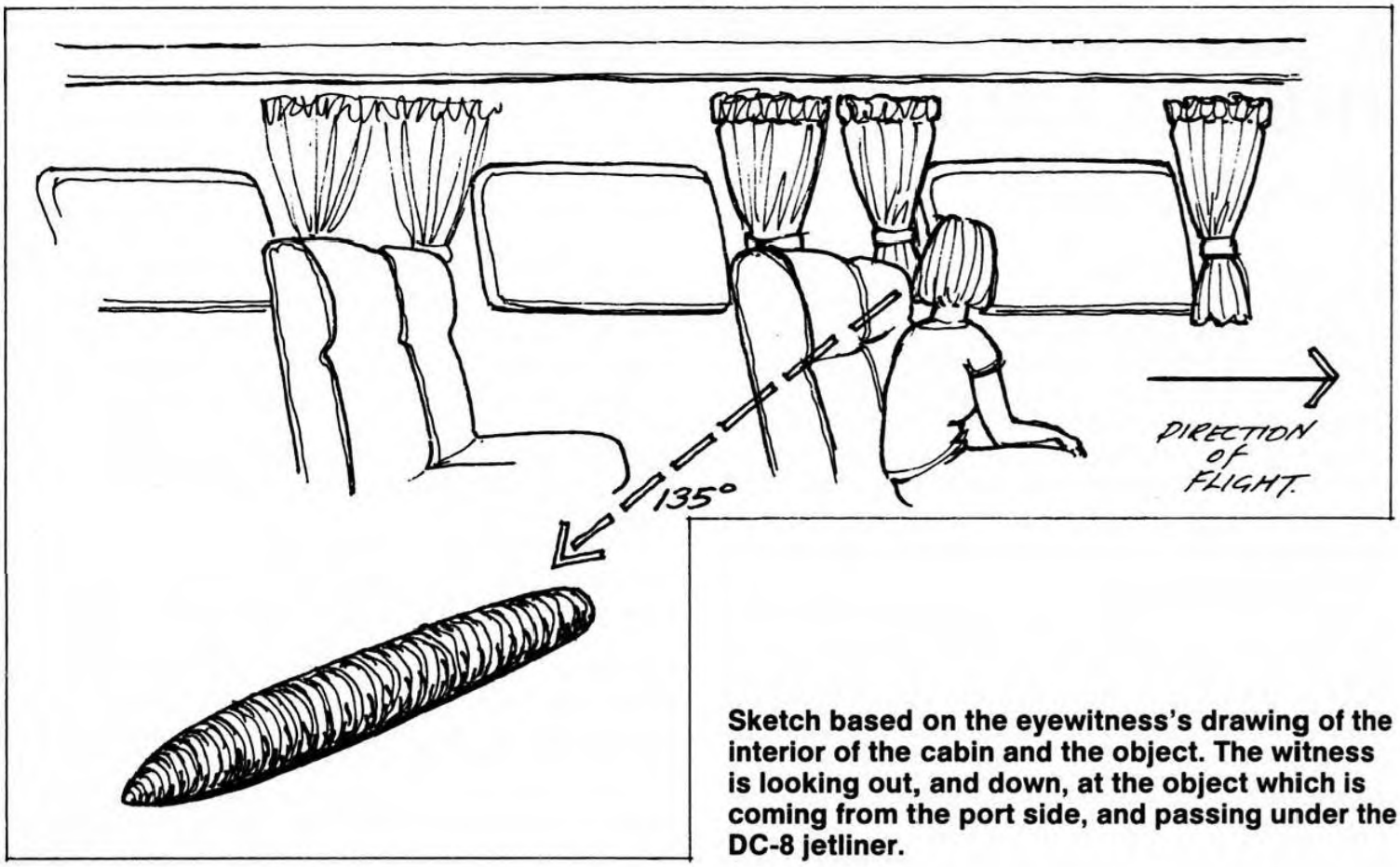
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Sketch based on the eyewitness's drawing of the interior of the cabin and the object. The witness is looking out, and down, at the object which is coming from the port side, and passing under the DC-8 jetliner.

course I had no way of being able to gauge this or to estimate the size of the thing.

"I looked down again quickly at the monster, and saw that a swathe of tiny clouds were beginning to pass over it, though it remained visible through them for a few seconds before being lost to my sight.

"I sat there in utter amazement that such a craft could exist. Why, I thought, had I never heard, in all my life, of the existence of anything like this! I felt stunned, and dazed, contemplating my utter ignorance that such things could be, and that I could know nothing whatever about them.

"I glanced around the cabin. Most of my fellow-passengers were reading, or dozing, or asleep. Only from the rear came sounds of animation from a group who were playing bridge.

"I sat there feeling utterly frustrated, both because of my inability to explain to myself what it was that I had seen, and because apparently not one of the others had seen it. At any rate, not one gave any sign of having done so,[2] and I felt too baffled to ask, and too scared lest I might prove to be the only witness in which case they would simply laugh at me. I sat back and closed my eyes, feeling that my mind had been completely blown. I resolved that, when back in Paris, I would talk about it to one of the NATO experts on nuclear weapons, a man whom I knew well, and with whom I had often chattered on all sorts of subjects, such as earthquakes, problems of energy, and so on. (But when I next saw him, and had the opportunity to tell him about my 'monster cigar', I just could not bring myself to raise the subject. My courage failed me. I did not want to be laughed at. The whole thing seemed too incredible to be taken seriously.)

"As for the rest of the NATO party, I never dared to mention it to any of them, out of fear of being thought completely mad. But I made a private resolution that I would go on trying to find out what it could have been. (Little did I realize then that it would take seventeen years.)

"I had of course heard the occasional story about 'flying saucers,' but I always thought that the name meant that these were just little things, no bigger than a real saucer. I had no idea whatever that craft of all shapes and sizes were being seen, all over the world, and that they were all being given the blanket name of 'flying saucers.'

"To be truthful, I had already heard one story about a 'cigar', said to be some 15 or 20 metres long, seen by people a few years earlier at Santa Maria[3] in the Azores Islands. 'Fifteen to twenty metres' was nothing in comparison with what I had just seen. And in any case, everyone had said that the thing seen over the Azores was simply a Russian secret device.

"It was only about two years ago that, while browsing through a secondhand-bookshop, I found, and bought, two or three books on UFOs. It came as an immense shock to me when I found that what I had

seen also came under the general term of 'flying saucers,' and that other people had also seen giant 'cigars' or 'torpedoes' in other parts of the world, and at other times.

"But there is a second part to my story which was far more terrifying than the sight of the huge 'torpedo,' and which I found it equally impossible to explain to myself. I must emphasise that whether or not it was in any way related to the 'torpedo' I cannot say, as I do not have sufficient technical knowledge. Yet I have the feeling that it might be unwise to exclude this part from my account, so I give it here now for the experts to pronounce upon:—

"After my glimpse of the monster 'torpedo,' I sat there brooding on it for half an hour or so, as I recall, when suddenly the DC8 started to shudder and pitch up and down violently, nosing steeply upwards, then steeply downwards, and this went on for a long, long time. I might explain that I had often encountered turbulence and 'air-pockets' when travelling by aeroplane, but it had never been anything remotely like this. This was as though we were in a gigantic lift that was shooting up and down madly. And, as though that was not enough, there now came a succession of reports like cannon-fire or thunder, filling the cabin. Meanwhile the plane continued to shudder and 'buck' violently, and each time it came down I had the sensation that it was going to break in half.

"Throughout all this, everybody in the passengers' cabin sat there petrified, absolutely silent, white-faced.

"After a while of this, I felt such panic that I rushed up front in search of a stewardess, and shouting *'What's going on? I'm scared!'* I lifted a curtain in front of what seemed to be a sleeping-berth, and found a stewardess lying on the bed there, her hands covering here eyes as though she were weeping. She gave no response to my shouts, and all around there was total silence still, apart from the sound of the engines, overlaid by the repeated 'claps of thunder' and the continued bucking up and down of the plane.

"I went back to my seat, and suddnely found myself bathed in perspiration. Every pore in my body seemed to be hard at work. And yet I noticed that the light dress I was wearing was still completely dry.

"A second time, I ran forward to the stewardesses' quarters but there was nobody there. I hammered on the door leading to the cockpit, and shouted again, asking what was happening, as I was scared to death. The other stewardess came out and looked at me as though I were an idiot, and for a while said nothing. Then, calmly, she announced 'Ladies and Gentlemen, do not be alarmed: the cabin is being depressurized.' Shortly afterwards, the Captain was heard to make the same announcement.

"I should like very much to know whether all that I have just described, about the violent behaviour of the aircraft and the loud reports, is explicable as being due to the process of 'depressurization' and, if so, what are the circumstances that are likely to have made it necessary for such alarming and drastic steps to be taken? Is this sort of thing usual and normal — as the calm behaviour of the second-mentioned stewardess seemed to indicate? And why, in that case, had the other stewardess — as it seemed — been weeping? Was this simply because she, like all the rest of us, found the turbulence just a bit too alarming? *Or is it possible that she was still suffering from shock after seeing the gigantic 'torpedo'?* It certainly would be interesting to know the answers to these questions.

"If an expert were to say that the behaviour of the aircraft was definitely not 'normal,' and not explicable as due to depressurization, then is it possible that such a situation could have been brought about by either the action or the close approach of a UFO?[4] (Either the same thing that I had seen — if it was indeed a UFO — or some other UFO that was also active over the North Atlantic on that same day?)

"Whether or not this frightening behaviour by the DC8 was in any way connected with what I had seen is something that I have so far found no way of knowing. Nevertheless, even if this second part of my story is found fully explicable and discountable, I am still anxious that my account of the great 'torpedo' shall find a place in the records.

"Did anyone else aboard the DC8 see the 'torpedo'? That is the key question. Given the position of the 'torpedo' in relation to the passenger cabin, only a passenger looking out and downwards at that precise moment would have caught a brief glimpse of the object and, as I have said, I found no evidence that any other passenger did see it. As for the plane's crew, there was only the one stewardess who seemed upset. What is certain is that the pilots up in the nacelle certainly would have had abundant time in which to see the 'cigar,' as it cut slightly diagonally across their route from their port side and well below them. No explanation or comment whatsoever about the 'cigar' was given by the Captain or any other crew member, and no statement was made by the authorities when we landed in Canada. It must however be borne in mind that, although the machine was to all appearances an ordinary DC8 civilian passenger carrier, the party on board consisted entirely of NATO personnel, and NATO is a *military* organization. We were flying under NATO auspices and in that sense we were under military control. In such circumstances it would not be surprising if the cockpit crew and the stewardesses were less forthcoming about a UFO than perhaps they might have been, were it an ordinary passenger flight."

Notes and References

1. The documentary records of Ufology contain numerous eyewitness reports of what are alleged to have been "tubular," or "cigar-shaped," or "torpedo-shaped" UFOs, often of enormous size, and there are also photographs. I

recall that several of these photographs reveal "bullet-shaped noses" and "squarely cut-off rear ends." Quite a large proportion of such craft have allegedly been seen over the sea, indeed in some cases entering or leaving the sea. Nobody has written better on this aspect of Ufology than our friend Toni Ribera of Spain, and it is a great pity that his books have not yet been translated into English, for one of them deals at great length with these reports of "flying submarines."

The most impressive account of such a huge "cigar" craft that I have read so far was contained in a letter written in 1954 to Australian UFO researcher Edgar Jarrold by a lady named Mrs. A. M. King of Nairobi, Kenya. She said:

"I left Mombasa (Kenya) at the end of June 1947, on the *SS Llandovery Castle* en route to Cape Town, and, going through the Straits of Madagascar about the beginning of July, I was on deck with another lady passenger at approximately 11.00 p.m. when we noticed a particularly bright star. It was travelling very fast and approached the ship. Suddenly a searchlight appeared which flashed a strong beam of light on the water within fifty yards of the ship. It descended, its beam shortening and becoming brighter as it neared the water, and the next instant there was no more light, but an object appeared, apparently made of steel, and shaped like a cigar cut at the rear end. It remained in the air about twenty feet above the sea, parallel with the *Llandovery Castle,* and travelling in the same direction.

"Gaining a little in speed, after a second or two the whole shape disappeared without a sound, from the rear end issuing fierce flames which shot out to about half the length of the object. It appeared that there must be something like a huge furnace inside the thing, but still we could hear no noise from the flames. No windows could be seen, only a band of metal around the entire thing which, if it had been a complete cigar shape, would have been centrally situated.

"The object was very large, about four times the length of the *Llandovery Castle,* and at a rough guess, four times as high. We had a wonderful view, but in a few seconds it had disappeared. No light was seen forward on it as it left; it just vanished soundlessly in the darkness. For a while we thought we were the only ones on deck at that late hour, but, walking to the prow of the ship, we saw there one of the ship's officers with a few passengers; the entire party had seen the same thing. Whether or not it is recorded in the ship's log, I know not."

If Mrs. King's estimate is right, the 'monster torpedo' must have been *at least 1,600 feet long.*

A similar type of vast 'cigar', seemingly metallic, estimated to be at least 800 metres (2,600 ft.) long, allegedly came down to a height of only 2,000 metres in broad daylight one summer's day in 1961 over the Russian city of Voronezh, and many thousands who saw it panicked. When it departed, it stood straight up on its tail, let out a tongue of flame said by some witnesses to be as long as itself, and vanished straight up into the sky. (*Amazing News from Russia,* in FSR Vol. 8, No. 6 (Nov./Dec., 1962.)

An Italian named Luciano Galli has claimed (FSR Vol. 8, No. 5, September/October, 1962) that he was taken up in a small disc to a huge tubular machine which he thought was "at least 600 metres long" and which had "one end cut like the end of a cigar." Taken inside it, he claimed that he found it contained hundreds of beings and scores of discs.

Probably the best known account of a "cigar-shaped craft" with a "cut-off rear" is that described in Adamski's second book, *Aboard the Space-ships.* One almost trembles at the thought of even mentioning Adamski, for to do so nowadays is considered very bad form in ufological circles "because everybody *knows* he was a fraud." In fact some of his alleged photos of such craft do show precisely such long, dark, zeppelin-like forms with "cut-off rear."

The emotional heat generated by the slightest mention of George Adamski is curious because, if one troubles to reflect upon it, one will see that, since the date of his experiences and his photographs, which would have been principally around the period 1952-53, dozens and dozens of other folk, all over our planet, in various countries and civilizations, have claimed to have seen — and sometimes to have photographed — in these 29 years since 1952, precisely the same types of "Mexican Hat discs" and large "flying cigars" as Adamski claimed to have seen and to have photographed. I notice too that, all over the world, alleged UFO percipients have continued to tell "contactee stories" that are far, far "wilder" and far more fantastic than anything that Adamski ever said, and yet, on the whole, these percipients seem to be listened to with considerable respect by many researchers. Almost never do they seem to be greeted with the sort of obloquy that was heaped upon Adamski.

The fact of the matter, I suspect, is that we have all got used to the UFO contactee syndrome now. We even expect their accounts to be wildly absurd and illogical and full of lies and contradictions — as they usually are. Adamski is all old hat and tame stuff now. But he hasn't stopped being "a liar and a hoaxer." Others who tell the same stories go scot-free.

2. This mention of people "not showing any sign of having seen anything" reminds me of an interesting report which I received a few years ago. A middle-aged English lady, well known to old friends of mine (and in background totally uninterested and uninformed as regards UFOs) came to see me one day and described an extraordinary experience that she had. She had been on a holiday trip to the Scilly Isles (lying off the south-western tip of England) one fine summer's day about nine or ten years previously. In the evening she boarded a small steamer to return to the Mainland. The ship was filled with holiday-makers and the decks were crowded. She was standing right against the rail, enjoying the beautiful scene and the last of the day when, out of the sea, right beside the steamer, a large, round, shining silvery "saucer" came up swiftly and silently and shot into the sky. She said it passed so close to her that she could see the droplets of water swirling off its gleaming surface. All around and behind her were the mass of other tourists, pressed close together, and she said they could not have failed to see it too. But, so she told me, not a soul amid that crowd gave the faintest indication by word or gesture that they had perceived anything out of the ordinary. As she remarked, laughingly: *"They were all British. They kept a stiff upper lip."*

(Admittedly however there do seem frequently to be cases where some individuals "see" while others do not, and one is obliged to recognize that, for all we know, the former category might conceivably involve a minority of

people who are *clairvoyant* — maybe only temporarily or intermittently. This idea takes us instantly into the field of Parapsychology, which is too vast and too mine-bestrewn for further discussion in the present article. But it is something that we absolutely must always keep in mind whenever considering any UFO sighting whatsoever — including, of course, the report from the lady secretary who was with NATO.)

3. At this point I feel this lady's memory may be playing tricks. For — unless of course there were *two* quite separate sightings of "flying cigars" over Santa Maria in the Azores — the happening to which she here refers is entered in our records as having been on July 9, 1965, and therefore two years *after* her own experience.

   The "cigar" or "torpedo" which we have in our documentation passed over the Island of Santa Maria in the Azores on that date at an estimated height of 20,000 ft. and promptly stopped all the electric clocks at the Santa Maria Airport, one report said for twenty minutes, others said for forty-five minutes. (See FSR, Vol. 11, No. 5, p. 24, and Vol. 12, No. 5, p. 32.)

4. Readers will recall the recent experience of the US Army Reserve officer Captain (now Lieut. Colonel) Lawrence Coyne, whose helicopter was on October 18, 1973 put by a UFO into a powered descent of 500 feet per minute and then 2,500 feet per minute, only to be bounced up again into the sky at the rate of 1,000 feet per minute (see Jennie Zeidman's *UFO-Helicopter Close Encounter Over Ohio* (in FSR Vol. 22, No. 4, 1976).

Additional note

Finally, since this NATO lady's account relates to something huge seen over the North Atlantic Ocean, and possibly not too far from Canada, these notes should not be ended without a reminder of one of the most famous cases of all time, that of Captain James Howard who, on June 29, 1954, when piloting his B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser *Centaurus* on a flight to London, flew on a parallel course for eighteen minutes with a vast unknown object which he estimated to be "about the size of an ocean liner." Captain Howard's crew of eleven and a dozen of his fifty-one passengers also saw it, and one of the opinions expressed was that it was "as big as the *Queen Mary*" (one of Britain's two huge pre-war Cunard liners).

This particular UFO does not seem to have been described by anyone as a "cigar" or a "torpedo." It was in fact apparently changing shape in a puzzling fashion, but seems mainly to have looked delta-shaped or "like a telephone mouth-cum-earpiece lying on its back," as indicated in Captain Howard's sketches. It appeared to be accompanied by a Group of much smaller objects which finally seemed to enter it before it vanished from sight. (See *Mystery over Labrador,* by Leonard Cramp, in FSR. Vol. 1, No. 1 (Spring 1955).

* * * * *

Editor's note: The case of the Stratocruiser *Centaurus* is

(Continued on page iii)

THE FALCON LAKE INCIDENT — Part 3

Chris Rutkowski

WE saw, in the first part of this article, how Stephen Michalak, from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, claimed that on May 20, 1967, he had suffered burns when he encountered a strange UFO which landed on a rocky outcrop near Falcon Lake, a resort close by the boundary between Manitoba and Ontario. In the second part of the article, the various effects — physical, radiation and physiological — were discussed.

The Mayo Clinic

In August of 1968, Michalak went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. The purpose of his visit was to undergo tests to determine exactly what was ailing him, as the doctors in Winnipeg appeared to be unhelpful. It is worthy of note that Michalak paid for the Mayo tests entirely on his own, as Medicare would not cover such a trip. He went and stayed at a hotel near the hospital, walking across each day and entering as an outpatient. He reported that he was given a thorough physical and psychological examination by various doctors, then sent home.

But, the problems began. Michalak has bills from the Clinic made out to "Mr. S. Michalak," and also his registration card. He waited for several weeks, but received no word on his results. The CAPRO investigators appealed to APRO for help, and a medical consultant sent a letter to the Mayo Clinic, asking for the medical reports. In reply, he was sent the now-famous "letter of denial," which bluntly said that Michalak had *never been registered* there, and that they didn't "know anything about him."[25]

This immediately spurred the shouts of "cover-up!" from individuals who learned of the letter, and rightly so. However, medical ethics is a very serious concern, and few realize the "red tape" which has been set up for both the protection of the doctor and the patient. There is a very great danger in releasing confidential files to unauthorized personnel (and this applies, obviously, to other fields as well, including ufology). Another letter to the Mayo Clinic was sent, this time accompanied by a release form signed by Michalak.

The reports came immediately. Michalak had been found to be in good health, but with neurodermatitis and simple syncope (fainting spells due to sudden cerebral blood pressure losses).[26] The syncopes were suggested as having to do with hyperventilation or impaired cardiac output. This is interesting, as Michalak has indeed had heart problems within the past few years.

The psychiatric report showed that despite the

usual generalizations normally assigned to individuals giving a detailed UFO encounter story, there was no other evidence of delusions, hallucinations or other emotional disorders. It seems that there was nothing wrong with Michalak. He had no ailment *directly* related to an encounter with a UFO.

The investigations

Michalak called the *Winnipeg Tribune* late Saturday afternoon of the holiday long weekend. It was not surprising that no one would help him then. But, the next evening (May 21, 1967), Heather Chisvin, a *Tribune* reporter, interviewed Michalak for the first time. She was the first one to talk with him about his experience, and her article must be considered as the first account, uninfluenced by later documentation.[27]

The first investigator on the scene, however, was Barrie Thompson, who had read the account in the newspaper, and immediately contacted Michalak. Thompson's investigation, on behalf of APRO, began the series of civilian UFO investigations. Michalak notes that "after hearing my story, he stated his belief that the craft was not an earthly creation." Michalak praised Thompson on several occasions, as "he was the first person who took my story seriously."[28]

Soon the Michalak household was in turmoil. Calls came in at all hours of the day or night, people dropped in at any time, and letters poured in.

The CAPRO investigations included taking Michalak to get a body radiation count, and encouraging him to take other tests. One misleading bit of information said that Michalak had been to a clinical hypnotist and that he had been hypnotically regressed. While both statements are true, the clinical hypnotist had in fact only interviewed Michalak and not put him under. A tape of Michalak's hypnosis is in existence, however, but the session was conducted, apparently, by an amateur, who was a reporter for the *Winnipeg Free Press* at the time.

The Royal Canadian Air Force investigations were under the direction of Sqdn. Ldr. P. Bissky, who came to the conclusion that the case was a hoax.[29] He recently remarked that the RCAF conclusions were all available in Ottawa for perusal. Indeed, some documents are contained in the DND files, and have been obtained by several ufologists. A rather carefully-worded statement is in the National Research Council's Non-Meteoric Sightings File, DND 222, saying, "Neither the DND, nor the RCMP investigation teams were able to provide evidence which could dispute Mr. Michalak's story."[30]

Royal Canadian Mounted Police analysis from its forensic laboratory was "unable to reach any conclusion as to what may have caused the burn damage" to Michalak's clothing.[31]

A theory came out, suggesting that the radiation found at the site might have been caused by radium paint, possibly from someone scraping a watch dial around the site.[32] This is interesting. Was this just a candid comment, or did it suggest that there was a truly abnormal level of Ra226 at the site at the time? If so, why was it not detected in recent soil analyses?

The Government covers up?

Apart from the Mayo Clinic "cover-up," the Canadian Government seemed to refuse access to information on the incident in 1967. On June 29, 1967, it was reported that Mr. Ed Schreyer, then an MP, asked about UFO investigations in the Commons.[33] The Speaker of the House "cut off the subject without government reply." On November 6, 1967, Defence Minister, Leo Cadieux, stated that "it is not the intention of the Department of National Defence to make public the report of the alleged sighting."[34] This was in response to requests by several cabinet members to obtain information on the incident. On November 11, 1967, it was reported that Mr. Schreyer formally placed a written question on the Commons order paper seeking information on UFOs.[35]

The closed-mouth attitude of the government was not ignored by the press, which printed several comments about it. About the case, one editor noted: "The attempt to keep it concealed can have only one effect — it will give the UFO Legend another boost."[36] Of course, he was precisely correct. On October 14, 1968, House Leader Donald MacDonald again refused an MP, this time Mr. Barry Mather, access to reports on the Michalak case.[37] However, on February 6, 1969, Mather was given permission by a member of the Privy Council to examine their file on UFOs "from which a few pages have simply been removed." It was reported that outright release of the file "would not be in the public interest," and create a dangerous precedent that would not contribute to the good administration of the country's business."[38]

Bondarchuk (1979) reports that "portions of the complete government report are available for public scrutiny" at the NRC in Ottawa. However, "noticeably missing are the RCMP study of the burned items, as well as the government's final conclusion, if indeed one exists."[39]

Psychological effects

Mention of the psychological aspects of the Michalak case must be made. Why, for example, did Michalak call a newspaper office for assistance? This one piece of evidence alone has served to convince some individuals that the case was a hoax and that Michalak was only looking for publicity.

By the time Michalak made it back to his motel, he was exhausted. In his own words:

"I did not go inside the motel for fear of contaminating people around me . . . I felt detached from the

rest of the world . . . The pain was unbearable . . . the odour seemed to come from within me, and I could not escape it . . . I was afraid that I had ruined my health and visualized the resulting hell should I become disabled . . . my mind centred on the possible consequences . . .

". . . there had to be some way of getting medical attention . . . I thought of the press. Things that happened to me were definitely news, if nothing else . . . I did not want to alarm my wife, or cause a panic in the family. I phoned her as a last resort, telling her that I had been in an accident . . ."[40]

Michalak felt that it was his "duty" to report the incident, and was initially unafraid of ridicule. However, since then, he and his family have become somewhat defensive about the incident, and get irritated to hear of sceptical accounts in print. Indeed, it is this writer's personal impression that Michalak is a very sincere individual. Also, psychiatrists could not find any evidence of emotional or mental illness in the man.

The hoax?

Would Michalak have gone to so much trouble to perpetrate a hoax? There is no question that he became seriously ill, and even today displays some effects. If we can assume that Michalak burned himself while concocting his hoax, would he have then repeatedly pursued medical assistance and go to the Mayo Clinic to make it look good?

One physics professor at the University of Manitoba, now deceased, believed that Michalak was experimenting with toy rockets, which exploded due to mishandling. He also suggested that he was amateurishly trying to hit two chunks of uranium together to make a homemade bomb. The grid-like pattern on his body was caused by the grill he was using as a support. This totally unfounded theory ignored most of the known facts of the case.

An RCAF spokesman is convinced that Michalak was drunk and had fallen on a barbeque grill (one immediate objection to this is that such an act would give exactly the *reverse* impression of burns actually found on Michalak's body).

Menzel's impression has already been related, claiming the case to be a hoax because Michalak could not find the site when with the Condon investigators.

Ray Craig, the Condon Committee's investigator, concluded that:

"If (Michalak's) reported experience were physically real, it would show the existence of alien flying vehicles in our environment."[41]

He noted "inconsistencies and incongruities," and said that even with some of the other evidence associated with the case, he would have to stick to his "initial conclusion", namely that "this case does not offer probative information regarding inconventional(sic) craft."[42]

Despite this apparently negative conclusion, the index of the report lists the case as an *unexplained sighting.*

Craig found reason to question that the metal samples found by Michalak and Hart would have been missed by early investigators at the site. Stewart Hunt of the Department of Health and Welfare described his examination of the area as "a thorough survey," using three different radiation counters. It is definitely odd that the metal chunks were not found until a visit to the site a year later. Thompson remarked that the samples were deeply buried inside the crack in the rock, and that some effort was expended in getting them out. He also remarked that most of the radiation detected was inside the fissure.[43]

Bondarchuk mentions that a close scrutiny of early soil samples showed that small silver particles were present, citing this as a reason to eliminate the theory that someone "planted" the silver bars.[44] However, this is not conclusive as native silver particles occur naturally in the area in small amounts, and their presence in the soil samples does not eliminate the possibility of "planting."

Cannon also mentions this information, and that radium 226 was present in both the soil and metal covering. This apparently was considered as a prime reason to negate the watch dial theory.[45] Attempts to locate the CAPRO analyses have not been successful.

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There is no doubt, though, that the metal samples are very suspicious. They even had an obvious "seam" which tended to suggest fabrication, as if someone moulded the silver in a definite shape. Did Michalak produce these himself? Or, did *someone else* produce them, and plant them at the site? If so, why?

Even without the metal samples, the case was a significant one, needing no support. In fact, the samples tend only to confuse the case. But an amateur UFO "buff" would probably not have realized this, and thought only that the samples would enhance the case. Since the case attracted many such individuals, it would be difficult to determine whom this might have been.

Another theory would involve the "cover-up" scenario, and have the government fabricate the sample themselves. However, evidence for this idea would be difficult to obtain and essentially impossible to prove. If true, this would raise the question of why the government would deliberately enhance the case and then create an aura of secrecy, lending themselves to suspicion.

Other hoax theories can be postulated, but all need the necessary proof, including a motive for their devices.

Conclusions

There is no question that something very unusual occurred on May 20, 1967, north of Falcon Lake. There is no question that Stephen Michalak came back from his prospecting trip badly burned and seriously ill, claiming that he had encountered a strange craft. But is the account true?

Can this case be effectively proved beyond a shadow of a doubt? The evidence includes the following:

1. an eyewitness account of a vehicle behaving in ways not attributable to conventional craft.
2. physiological damage to the witness, the mechanism of which is not immediately obvious.
3. a visible "landing site," consisting of a ring of loose soil, containing a bare patch of rock.

Does this prove that an alien craft landed near Falcon Lake? Unfortunately not. Major problems include the metal samples found at the site and the radium detected (was it in evidence in different samples?). Clearly, the investigations at the time were varied but at the same time were confused, and several bits of information are lacking. All of the CAPRO investigators agreed that Michalak was a very sincere individual, and detected no effort on his part to fabricate the account. This writer found this to be true from his own interviews with Michalak, and found no reason to doubt his veracity.

If we assume that Michalak's story is truthful (and we have no reason immediately obvious to suppose otherwise), then we have a solid report of a landed UFO, complete with physical and physiological effects. What could it have been?

Keel (1975) suggested that Michalak was a victim of a "game" played by ultraterrestrials, wanting to confuse him in his attempt to locate the site.[46]

Bondarchuk (1979), a proponent of the ETH, describes his analysis by saying that Michalak was burned by "an intelligently guided craft of unconventional structure and of unknown origin." He, too, finds evidence of a government intervention in the case. He also observes that the publication of Michalak's book, which to some suggests a hoaxer's methods, was financially not a successful venture, and the experience proved to be costly to Michalak rather than a boon.[47]

This writer is hesitant to give a final evaluation to the case. Personal interviews with the Michalaks have shown them to be sincere people, and not prone to irrational acts. They are intelligent, level-headed individuals, and well-read on many subjects. Their annoyance at their notoriety is apparent, and their defensiveness at further proddings show that they have been subjected to severe ridicule and criticism since the incident first hit the media in 1967.

Investigations are continuing. If officials were convinced Michalak was a hoaxer, why was he not prosecuted for public mischief? Was there no definite evidence towards this end? It certainly would have been an interesting court case, arguing about the existence of UFOs. I think Michalak would have won.

Epilogue

Today, over thirteen years after his experience, Michalak remains convinced he had encountered something he wasn't supposed to see. His convictions are firmly entrenched. He has read several books about UFOs since 1967, and is still frustrated by not knowing what happened to him. He has been to Carman, Manitoba, where "Charlie Redstar" was a nightly spectre over that town for many months, and heard stories from witnesses of their own experience.

In this writer's experience with UFO investigation, he has found that many UFO witnesses see more than one in a lifetime. That is, if a person sees one UFO, he or she will probably see another at a later time in their life. This is the "repeater" phenomenon which is considered to be an indication of insincerity in witnesses by several ufologists. This author is in disagreement with that belief, as the UFO phenomenon suggests a close link with the individual witness's psyche, possibly involving an "awareness threshold." While this may not be empirically proven or testable, theoretical ufology can only draw on apparent relationships, and there exists some evidence to indicate an association between a witness and the "perceived" UFO.

In this regard, it is interesting to note that Michalak has reported another UFO sighting. It

occurred in northwestern Ontario several years ago, while standing near a lake. He said that he observed "the same thing" as he had seen at Falcon Lake, though at a much greater distance from him, flying through the sky.

Are "they" keeping an eye on him? Or is Michalak simply one of those people who is now encouraged to look skyward for unusual things?

The mystery continues.

* * * * *

Acknowledgements

Special thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Michalak, without whom this essay could not have been written.

I also wish to thank the following individuals for their assistance and encouragement: Dr. Norm Davison; Ms. Bonnie Lindstrom; Dr. Berthold; E. Schwarz; Dr. Sunil K. Sen and Mr. Vladimir Simosko.

Finally, a word of thanks to my typist, Ms. Charlotte Katz.

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25. Letter on record from Mayo Clinic, dated 1 April, 1969.
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CLASSIFICATION OF LEVELS OF HUMANOID INTELLIGENCE

Ahmad Jamaludin

OVER the years humanoid behaviour has been reported to be largely absurd and sometimes childish in nature. These observations therefore raise an important question — how intelligent are these entities? The excellent mode of propulsion of the UFOs, and their leaps from their points of origin into our physical reality seem to place them many steps ahead of us. But the behaviour exhibited by the entities seems to demonstrate the presence of different levels of intelligence amongst them.

From the hundreds of close contact reports with these entities, where either a one or two-day communication has taken place, we are able to classify their intelligence into different levels, as set out below. These levels of intelligence are based on how they approach human witnesses in trying to convey their message. This classification does not include Adamski-type contact. An entity which is intelligent will find a better way of getting the message to the percipient when compared to the one who is less intelligent. Based on these, we have therefore come to the conclusion that the levels of intelligence of the UFO occupants can be classed in five different levels. We present this classification, below, with specific examples.

Level 1 — Entities possess telepathic powers. A two-way communication between entities and percipient is possible even though percipient does not have telepathic ability.

November 1957, Aston, England: "...she realised that questions which were racing through her mind were being answered mentally."[1]
February 1977, Concord CA, USA: "...suddenly he was in the ship. He asked what was happening and telepathically he was told the aliens were on a mission to study life habits on Earth."[2]

Level 2 — Entities do not possess telepathic ability, but have knowledge of, and can speak the languages of Earth.

Spring 1964, Tioga City, NY, USA: "...one of the 'men' commenced to talk. His English was very smooth and effortless."[3]
August 1953, Cindad Valley, Mexico: "...one 'man' spoke good Spanish, but in a peculiar manner, 'stringing the words together' in a strange accent while the other evidently understood it but did not speak."[4]

Level 3 — Entities use instruments to aid them to converse with the percipient. They probably do not possess telepathic powers. They have the knowledge of the languages of the Earth but cannot speak them.

April 1962, Sicily, Italy: "...'they' addressed him in Italian, but it was not by means of natural voice organs, but by means of an artificial, metallic-sounding voice, like a tape-recorder in its effect".[5]
December 1978, Fronteira, Brazil: "...one of them went inside the machine and came out with a black box... from then on I was able to understand perfectly what they were saying to me."[6]

Level 4 — Entities do not know the languages of Earth. They have no telepathic ability, and no instruments to help them converse with the percipient. Therefore these entities use only gestures or sign language.

February 1954, Lossiemouth, Scotland: "...according to the witness he and the 'man' contrived to converse by signs."[7]

Level 5 — The lowest level of intelligence of the UFO entities. Entities in this level have no telepathic ability, have no knowledge on the languages of the Earth, and no instruments for communication with percipient. They do not attempt to converse by signs, but instead speak in their own language.

November 1957, Meridian MS, USA: "...three 'men' came out of the object. They seemed friendly and wanted to talk but he could not understand their chattering."[8]
October 1954, Choleix, France: "...Two individuals emerged from the craft and spoke to the witness in a language he could not understand."[9]

An ethologist cannot understand animal behaviour if he lumps all types of animals together and expects them to behave in the same manner. The same applies to the understanding of humanoid behaviour. This classification may pave the way to understand them by grouping them into different levels of intelligence.

For researchers who are engaged in the study of abduction cases an important observation emerges, namely that some abduction claims involve loss of memory of the events, while other abductees remember the whole of the event. Based on this classification we see that if the percipient is abducted by the entities of Levels 1 or 2 he, or she, will experience a memory loss of the event, which may only be retrieved under hypnosis (Hills, 1961; Schirmer 1967; Peter and Frances 1974; Higdon 1974). If the abduction is conducted by entities of Levels 4 or 5 there is usually no loss of memory (A.V.B 1957; da Silva 1969).

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(The foregoing item was submitted to FSR by way of UFOIN, and a comment was added by Jenny Randles).

An interesting and useful idea, certainly worthy of

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follow-up by researchers. I would like to make two points:—

1) Is it *less* intelligent to use technology to translate languages than it is to learn that language (and presumably several others if contacts are global)? I suspect levels one and two might readily transpose.

2) The fact that repressed memories seem to refer to entities who either communicate telepathically, or in the language of the contactee, does *not* prove that these repressed memories are deliberately instilled by an advanced intelligence. If these memories were subconscious fantasies the same elements would probably emerge. Telepathy, because the fantasy is a mental product and is "in the mind," and normal language because an Englishman "thinks" in English, a Frenchman in French and so on.

A WARM AND PEACEFUL EXPERIENCE

(Continued from page 16)

she has an interest in Buddhism. She shares what could be termed a "telepathic link" with her five-year-old niece, who can often pick up her thoughts and achieves a high success rate with zener cards, and who also has seen a figure —unseen by Mrs. Findlay) in her kitchen. All in all, a good background of psychic experiences, and when it was suggested to Mrs. Findlay that her UFO encounter could have been an extension of her psychic ability, she felt inclined to agree.

Conclusion

The remarkable "unreality" of the surroundings at the time of the encounter does make one wonder whether the incident had any objective reality at all, or whether Mrs. Findlay was temporarily transported into an altered state of consciousness, this making the observation possible for her. Maybe a person already in possession of a measure of psychic ability makes this operation easier. Whatever the truth of the matter, it does seem that an alternative reality, a subjective state of mind, could be the place to look for UFOs.

MAIL BAG

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

A reply to Mr. Kaneko

Dear Editor, — Several statements in Julian H. Kaneko's letter (Vol. 26 No. 5) call for an answer, since he is expounding on subjects about which his information is incomplete.

He states that the CIA is not concealing any knowledge about UFOs. As a matter of documented record, the CIA became involved in investigation of UFOs up to its eartips before 1953, and in 1953 was responsible for establishing the US official policy of denial and ridicule of the subject. That the CIA's motives in 1953 might have been soundly (though indirectly) based on security reasons is beside the point. Those 1953 reasons are no longer valid.

In the 1960s, the CIA was still heavily and secretly involved. I have personal knowledge from a confidential, but totally reliable, source that several dozen detailed photos of UFOs in flight were in AF files by that time. Those pictures have never been made public. They were analyzed by classified enhancement equipment and in the opinion of the scientists who performed the work, the objects were aircraft of an unfamiliar design and from an unknown source. I regret I'm unable at this time to publish full details on this, but until such time as an American president grants immunity, my source must remain silent.

Mr. Kaneko states unequivocably that Marian apparitions and UFOs are caused by one and the same "Immaterial Entity." He forgets that many, if not most, close encounters with UFO entities cause psychological and physical damage so severe, at times, as to be irreparable. The benevolent appearances of genuine Marian apparitions have yielded only beneficial results, after the initial ridicule and disbelief toward the percipients has ended.

If the Vatican suspects that *some* UFO phenomena and religious apparitions are linked, it remains silent not because it fears a death blow to Catholic/Christian dogma, but because, like the rest of mankind, it simply does not know enough about UFOs to make any kind of public pronouncement. My inquiries to various Catholic priests have resulted in disinterested shrugs, raised eyebrows, or at best a logical statement that UFOs are still on the borderline of human knowledge. Only rarely have I found a priest/intellectual who admits that the Church should be paying the question of parapsychological phenomena, including UFOs, the attention they deserve. One such source is of the opinion that the next generation of clerics will probably do this.

The Church never fears Truth about anything. If UFOs are part of creation, and they logically *have* to be, then knowledge about them will simply expand our knowledge about God. This is the aim of *all* true religions, since "religion" can be defined as man's relationship with his Creator.

Mr. Kaneko credits the "Paraphysical Intelligence" (God) with a need for amusing itself by setting up human-UFO interaction. The Christian God is infinite. He has no need for amusement. Amusement denotes that one is bored and needs to be freed from boredom. God, living out-

side of Time, has no boredom or any failing. He is infallible in all ways.

I, too, suspect that *some* UFOs might be connected with man's relationship to God, but others seem to be manifestations of other intelligences — benevolent, malevolent, or neutral — at or above the intelligence of mankind. The paraphysical aspects of many UFO manifestations indicate that they come from realms of being outside our own space-time. All major world religions teach that there are numerous types of intelligent entities in the order of creation between man and God.

Mr. Kaneko also mentions the "absurdity of religious fanaticism" which convulses Northern Ireland, as well as other countries. "Absurd," as defined by Webster, means stupid or unreasonably ridiculous. The tragedy in Northern Ireland is far from ridiculous or stupid. It is a *political* situation, carefully planned and reasoned, in which the forces of international Marxist terrorism are using as pawns the victims of ancient rivalries and hatreds. It is a deliberate attempt by outside forces to create chaos, discord, and bloodshed for its own nefarious purposes. The sooner *all* Irish, of whatever political or religious persuasion, realize this fact, the sooner they can prevent themselves from becoming involved in a Vietnam—El Salvador type situation.

This last, of course, has nothing whatsoever to do with UFOs, but since Mr. Kaneko threw it into his potpourri letter, perhaps I will be forgiven for taking the time to answer him on this point, also.

Very truly yours,
Ann Druffel,
257 Sycamore Glen,
Pasadena, CA 91105
USA
May 18, 1981.

Huge torpedo-shaped UFO possibly in 1938

Dear Editor, — On Friday, 21 May, on the early morning BBC radio before 8 o'clock I heard Miss J. Randles make an astonishing statement to the effect that she did not believe in interplanetary space ships.

With all the information that this good lady is privy to, I find it impossible to understand how she can have that idea. Its implications are great. What is implied is that all souls testifying otherwise are either liars, hoaxers or simply mistaken. You know the sworn reliability of scores and scores of these people — people have been hanged on far far less corroborative testimony. I would like to know just what else Miss Randles thinks these things are? If Miss Randles further enlightened us later on the radio then I apologise for not having heard for I would very likely have been at work.

I have had many graphic experiences of my own of more telling dimensions than just LITS, and I wrote to FSR about 20 years ago, give or take a year or two, of an experience that I had before the war. At that time, the nearest that we came to this sort of thing was Buck Rogers at the cinema. Nobody would have seriously considered the existence of these space ships and the term UFO was non-existent. So on the foregoing, I cannot be accused of hallucinating on the strength of anything I'd read about UFOs. It simply wasn't an existent subject at the time of this event.

At the time I was about 13, give or take a year — time plays tricks with the accuracy of exact time fixing. I was just running from my home one bitter cold winter's night, and I hadn't gone half-a-mile when a tingling sensation went right through me and the hairs on the back of my neck stood up. At that instant I was terrified — very terrified. Hairs had never stood up on my neck before or since and the tingling wasn't so pleasant either.

Though I didn't hear a thing I sensed the direction of its source — over my right shoulder. There it was, only a few hundred feet high, torpedo-shaped, but huge like two football fields placed end to end. It had a pale blue haze around it and a row/s of brightly lit windows. I seem to remember that the windows were rectangular with rounded corners but after all this time I cannot be sure.

I was walking down Kings Road, Bradford, towards the town along a section that was raised well above the surrounding fields at that time — it is now built up. One had a magnificent view over the area of Bradford along the valley towards Shipley.

This object was travelling from my rear to front and slightly to the right. It was very fast, much faster than any aeroplane flying at that time. It disappeared over the not too distant horizon of Bradford in two or three seconds. With that I turned back, I was very frightened indeed. The time of this event was sometime in the evening, it was night, it was cold, and the sky was cloudless with millions of stars.

It was quite definitely a material object and manufactured, and not of this earth. I don't recall that there was any mention of it in the papers or on the radio, but I did keep my ears open. Never heard a mention of it in any form.

Like so many people I only became aware of the objects around 1950, and for long enough I considered UFO buffs as crackpots or notoriety-seekers. It was some time before I connected some of the testimonies with my experience and realised how foolish I'd been in my condemnation of UFO buffs. From then on I've read all I can on the subject and done hours of night sky watching. I have seen many and some of the most remarkable sightings — too many to include in this letter.

I might add that as a simple truth, mathematically, the law of averages decrees that we just cannot be the only planet with intelligent life attempting space travel. What we've done must have been repeated many times in many places. I'm certain from my small endeavours that interplanetary space ships are a fact so as I said in the beginning it intrigues me how Miss Randles can come up with any other idea? I would love to hear from her via FSR, or direct even.

Congratulations on a fine magazine in FSR; I just regret the termination of the Special Issues.

Yours sincerely,
E. A. Cureton,
93 Farm Road,
Kendray,
Barnsley,
Yorkshire S70 3DL.
May 23, 1981.

Support for Zigel'

Dear Mr. Creighton, — Tenor and content of the article by N. A. Schnee in FSR 27, No. 1 are so unusual that they call for a few comments.

First of all, it seems hard to believe that a Soviet citizen and member of NTORES should want to publish in a Western journal an article abounding with hostile statements about, among others, the Communist Party, the Academy of Sciences, and his own

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Artwork: Terence Collins

NTORES, unless the publication has the official party blessing. In that case, however, the article must be viewed with extreme caution.

Various people, mentioned by name (Safonov, Petrovich, Zigel', Smilga), are attacked or ridiculed in a manner reminiscent of mediaeval polemics hardly befitting a modern scientist, and casting doubt upon Mr. Schnee's ability to approach ufology with an objective mind. The idea that a UFO investigator of F. Y. Zigel's stature should phone the Moscow KGB to break-up a UFO meeting is downright preposterous.

Mr. Schnee mentions that Dr. Zigel's second book contains "one or two UFO reports," and that the third volume contains "just a few pages about UFOs'. These two volumes are in the West, a fact Mr. Schnee probably is unaware of, and Mr. Brand of MUFON-CES assures me that the books actually contain almost 100 carefully investigated cases. Such deliberate falsifications of facts cast additional doubts on the veracity of the article as a whole. It appears that one of its chief aims is to discredit Dr. Zigel'. A second purpose may have been to promote Mr. Azhazha, an unknown on the UFO scene, for unknown reasons to the position of chief Soviet UFO investigator.

In my opinion publications of Schnee's article has done a disservice to UFOlogy in general and to Dr. Zigel' in particular. Soviet articles should probably be treated with the same objective criticism as close encounters of the third kind!

Yours sincerely,
H. Beck,
Staldenstrasse 7,
CH-5412 Gebenstorf,
Switzerland.
September 3, 1981.

[FSR is neither pro-Schnee nor pro-Zigel'. We were surprised at Mr. Schnee's polemics, but are currently redressing the balance with an article favourable to Dr. Zigel', — EDITOR]

Various matters

Dear Sir, — As a point of correction, Ernie Sears does not hold the position of Public Relations Officer for BUFORA, as stated by Jenny Randles in FSR Vol. 27 No. 2.

I have found the book reviews by Janet and Colin Bord extremely valuable, being as they are highly erudite and fairly balanced. These hard-working writers are a valuable asset to FSR.

I was sorry to learn of the demise of Leslie Otley. His considerable contribution to ufology in the earlier years deserves wider mention, and much interesting material was to be found in his Tyneside UFO Society magazine ORBIT. It is worth a reminder that the substantial library and files of TUFOS were donated to the Newcastle Central Library.
Yours faithfully,
Lionel Beer,
Director and past-
Chairman of BUFORA,
Anomalous Phenomena Bookseller,
15 Freshwater Court,
Crawford Street, London W1H 1HS.
October 1, 1981

Police explanation of Swiss sighting. Also an incident in Greece

Dear Sir, — Following your printed request in the World Round-up column in FSR Volume 27, No. 2, I did write to the Jura Police Department, and I enclose herewith their reply:—

"Monsieur,

"Nous accusons réception de votre lettre du 24.9.81, ainsi que de la photocopie d'un article paru dans le 'Flying Saucer Review' et vous en remercions.

"Toutefois, nous devons vous communiquer que l'objet en question n'était qu'une boule de feu électrique et que ce phénomène a été provoqué par un court-circuit. Nous ne possédons pas d'autres explications à ce sujet.

"Nous regrettons de ne pouvoir vous donner de plus amples renseignements et vous presentons, Monsieur, nos salutations distinguées.

(signed) "Bernard Dula, Le Commandant de la Police Cantonale Jurassienne." (28.9.81)

I don't understand much about UFOs, but it seems strange to me that, at the time of the happening the police said it was all a mystery to them, yet now they say it was a *boule électrique.* And could such a *boule* shoot up vertically into the sky?

* * * * *

Since I am writing to you, I'd like to take the opportunity to tell of a happening, and maybe you will have an answer for me. It took place in 1979 in Porto Germeno on the Gulf of Corinth. It was July 27th, or rather, since it happened after midnight, July 28th.

I awoke, and, as I could not go to sleep again, I went out on the terrace. I would guess it was around 3.0 a.m. (give or take an hour), and I looked up at the stars. The Milky Way was in full view, and I was amazed at the number of shooting stars which seemed to be falling down on me — there must have been at least a dozen. Then I was attracted by an orange light which did not fall down in the same direction as the shooting stars, but went at an incredible speed from left to right — that would be from East to West — horizontally clear across the sky. Ever since then I've wondered if it was a UFO, or just another satellite in orbit?

If I run across any further news items from Switzerland, I'll gladly send them to you, already translated, to lessen the burden of Mr. Creighton.

Yours faithfully,
F. H. Stuckert,
Stäfa,
Switzerland.
September 4, 1981

A GIGANTIC "CIGAR" OVER THE ATLANTIC
Editor's note *(Continued from page 21)*

given in slightly greater detail in my editorial leader on pages 1 and 2 of this issue. My memory of Captain Howard's narrative is that *most* of the passengers saw the UFOs. Stewardess Daphne Walker came on to the flight deck to ask the skipper what it was 'out there' as all the passengers wanted to know.

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