

*The UFO Criticism by J.N.  
from Japan*

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## Mr. Gordon Creighton in My Memory

While on a visit to Europe in the spring of 1973, I was in my twenties, I went toward the office of FSR in London. A bookshop was there; in the shop an old gentleman spoke to me. He wrote, on a torn envelope, his name, address, and three Chinese characters: 柯瑞敦. Japanese pronunciation for the characters, based on ancient Chinese, is "ka zui ton"; modern Chinese people must pronounce like Creighton. (By the way, I could, as can, scarcely speak English)

Despite his being very busy, Mr. Gordon Creighton was so kind as to reply to my letter; I received it in the autumn of the year. And I sent him UFO REVIEW for foreign students, my newsletter written in English and published only twice. Every issue consists of two blue printed, single-side-printed, papers; all letters are handwritten by me, and all figures are drawn by me. The first issue (November 1, 1973) deals with, as the first issue of this Criticism does, the UFO-shaped boat that allegedly drifted to Japan in 1803, though I did not yet notice the suspect identity of this story; and the second issue (December 1, 1973) carries "Mt. Fuji and Spacemen?" "From Japanese Newspapers," and "My Sightings."

These issues were published, as a matter of fact, for Mr. Creighton only. I do not know his impressions of them. It was not long before I left the UFO world.

And in 2001, I sent the first issue of this Criticism off to FSR; but received no reaction. I am not a reader of the magazine; so through their website, at the beginning of October 2003, I have learned that Mr. Creighton passed away on July 16 (the other surprise in this website was the obituary of Mr. Graham Birdsall).

According to The Times reprinted by the FSR website, Mr. Creighton met with a "disc" as early as 1941. He may have been among persons selected by space people for the forthcoming Flying Saucer Age. (As I pointed out in the second issue, UFOs had intentionally showed themselves to Mr. Kenneth Arnold on that day of 1947. And Mr. E. J. Sullivan, the central figure of the first important private UFO research group, CSI of USA, saw a remarkable UFO phenomenon in 1951.)

I have only a few knowledge of his view on the relation between demons and UFOs. Did Mr. Creighton find angels in the universe? . . .

As the first issue says, I do not like the Internet; but recently I have begun only visiting websites, using public computers.

### BOOKS

Recently a man living in Tokyo presented me with Bei Kain UFO Sinpojiumu (A Symposium on UFOs at American Lower House; November 2003, ¥4,800+ tax), a translation of a lengthy-title-having book published by U.S. Government Printing Office in 1968. Although his name is hiding, the man of "Gakujutsu Kenkyu Shuppan Senta" (Scientific Study Publishing Center: SSPC) is a key person for the publications of following books: the three Japanese researchers' excellent work, A Study of Cases Where UFOs Were Captured by Radars (November 2000, ¥15,000 + tax), which I introduced to you in the last issue; a translation of a classical book written by Captain Ruppelt (March 2002, ¥10,000+ tax); a translation, published in parts, of the Condon Report (Part I: May 2003, ¥4,800+ tax); and this book. The man desires the study by the three Japanese to be translated into English. But publishers of these books are not SSPC. On the Internet, SSPC runs UFO Kenkyu WEB Magajin (Web Magazine for UFO Study) that "aims at the promotion of scientific UFO study" and "introduces foreign excellent studies."

# A Message of a Japanese UFO Incident

In the second issue, I introduced a forgotten Japanese UFO incident: a luminous object flew parallel to a passenger plane on March 18, 1965. The Japanese for March is "San-gatsu" that means "the Third Month," so "March 18" is "3.18" for Japanese. And, according to UFOs? Yes! (1968) and The UFO Book (1998), the watch of Captain Thomas Mantell, that victim of a secretly-launched giant balloon, stopped at 3:18 p.m..

Now, according to Inside the Space Ships (1955) by Mr. George Adamski, a space man from Saturn explained the cause of this tragedy to him: the plane of Captain Mantell was broken to pieces, because its wing had touched the radiation of the UFO. The space man declared that an airplane could not fly parallel with a UFO. However, the left wing of that passenger plane touched and went into the light of the UFO; nevertheless there was no damage.

Mr. Adamski has had a strong influence on the Japanese UFO world: the publishing of a translation of Flying Saucers Have Landed in 1954 caused the foundation of "Japan Flying Saucer Research Association" (JFSA; see the third issue page 5) in 1955; one of six founders of "Cosmic Brotherhood Association" (CBA; established in 1957) was, although he later left the group, a leading Adamskian Mr. Hachiro Kubota (1924-1999), the translator of Inside the Space Ships; and even in recent years, an Adamskians' organization "GAP-Japan" established by Mr. Kubota in 1961 was said to be the biggest UFO group in Japan.

The translation of Inside the Space Ships was already published in 1957 by Kobun-sha, the publisher of the translation of Flying Saucers Have Landed (Incidentally, the above-mentioned explanation by the space man is taken from this translation). And Mr. Yoshiharu Inaba, the captain of the passenger plane, says to CBA investigators: "I had heard about the crash incident of Captain Mantell, so, as a pilot naturally, avoided the object approaching our plane" (Full Facts of the Seto Inland Sea UFO Incidents, published by CBA in 1965, page 3).

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## On "UFOs" in Abductions

As I wrote in the first issue, I regard modern Western abduction phenomenon as a space age version of an old, UFOless phenomenon that the Japanese call "Kami-kakushi" (Being hidden by gods). And if "UFOs" really accompany some of modern abduction cases, some of the "UFOs" may be "souls" of the abductees: in Japan, there are numerous reports of a fire ball on which eyewitnesses believe that it got out of a living human body.

However I would like you to do not imagine Christian souls, because Japanese folklore considers that a human body can have more than one soul, even seven souls! (\*); therefore, strictly speaking, I have to use another term.

And there are persons who became a visible flying soul and remembers flying. For instance, one woman living Nagano Prefecture says:

"When I was young; around the 10th year of Showa [1935], though not too clear; I was twenty-one years old. . . . my soul used to get out of my body and fly: . . . I suddenly wake up, and naturally go to the window. The window opens by itself, and I am standing on the window of the second story. Just like diving into a swimming pool, I jump into the sky, . . . One night, I flew to the house of my friend and looked in at the window. The windowpane clattered, and the friend opened the window, saying 'Who?'; I ran away in a fluster. And the next day, I visited her with an air of perfect innocence. She said: 'Last night a strange thing happened. The windowpane clattered without a wind, so I flung it open, and saw a fire ball fly away.' . . ." (\*)

Of course, my guess has not yet reached the stage of hypothesis. But if a soul can be a flying fire ball, will we be able to distinguish UFOs from flying souls?

\* Ms. Miyoko Matsutani (1926-). Gendai Minwa Ko (A Study of Modern Folk Stories) Volume IV. Enlarged edition. Tokyo: Chikuma-shobo, July 2003. 446 pages. (The first edition was published by Rippu-shobo in 1986.)

■ When I wrote the second issue page 5, I overlooked that the Flying Saucer Phenomena magazine of "Sky People Association" (SPA) had reached the fifth issue: it was published in June 1998, and contained only 6 pages, including the cover, but was a large-sized publication. This handmade issue by photocopy printing has only one article, which deals with that Gulf Breeze story of USA and is written by Mr. Osamu Sato (1963-), the president of SPA. Of course, he does not defend a series of that photos; he pays attention to the fact that many other people are said to have their own UFO sightings at Gulf Breeze: he offers a hypothesis that false UFOs, or objects mistakenly regarded as UFOs can bring genuine UFOs. He even supposes that a false witness can become a genuine witness. Though I have no time to spare for investigating Gulf Breeze story, the hypothesis itself is noteworthy indeed: for instance, as Mr. Sato says in a letter to me dated April 25, 1998, it may be a help to know the reason why UFOs appear over Japanese believers in Mr. George Adamski.

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★ On June 24, 2003, "Kazuno UFO Research Association" (Kazuno City, Akita Prefecture) reached its 10th birthday.

★ In September 2003, Mr. Yoshio Kushida, an amateur astronomer, shook Japan with his earthquake forecast based on unusual reflections of FM waves. He had already shaken the UFO world with his 1992 investigation of an object videoed on July 6, 1989, in Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture. It was the very video Dr. Bruce Maccabee had analyzed in IUR magazine of 1990. This object looks to be a square-brimmed sphere, but it is an ordinary passenger plane: the hole of iris in the camera is shaped like a diamond, so when a bright object is out of focus, the object is deformed to a diamond-shaped light; the sphere is the dark part of this light, and it is made by a filter in the camera. As Mr. Junichi Takanashi (1923-1997) pointed out, this is earlier than a similar analysis of another diamond-shaped object that had been made in UK in 1994.

★ At about 9 p.m. of September 9, 2003, Mr. Kiyoshi Amamiya (1944-), one of the most active UFO researchers in current Japan, was watching Mars that was very close to the bottom of a full moon, when he videoed, through a telescope, a tiny white light rising toward the moon rapidly in a curve. The light was smaller than Mars, and went into the moon. Although the video camera did not work properly before and after this scene, Mr. Amamiya blames not the light but his two-time-repaired camera for one of the troubles.

★ On November 12, 2003, Dr. Yoshihiko Ohtsuki (1936-), a professor of physics at Waseda University in Tokyo, visited "UFO Public Hall" of Iino Town (see page 4). He regards all of mysterious events as "plasma" phenomena.

★ On the night of November 23, 2003, a Japanese TV program dealt with "Sukai-fisshu" (Sky Fish: "Flying Rods") and showed a picture of a fly that flown past in front of a video camera: in a slow-motion picture, the fly became a rod with three pairs of wings. This picture by an ordinary video camera consists of 30 frames per second; but the other slow-motion picture of the same object by a special video camera, 500 frames per second, showed a flapping fly. / "Sky Fish" have been a topic also of Japanese TV programs and magazines, and I have regarded them as insects (Mr. Kiyoshi Amamiya, too): an object moving faster than the shutter speed of a video camera will become a long object in a still picture; if the object is an insect with a pair of wings, and flaps the wings twice while the shutter opens, this long object will have two pairs of wings (if flaps three times, three pairs of wings). / Early in November 2002, I received a piece of hot news from Mr. Raymond W. Cecot, the organizational director of IRAAP (Independent Researchers' Association for Anomalous Phenomena; Albany, New York State, USA): a video camera of an American TV caught a slender flying object with two pairs of wings at Albany International Airport on October 20 of that year. And I considered this object an insect not only because of the above-mentioned theory but also because of a difference in shape between two still pictures. However, there was the only riddle: many American analysts including IRAAP researchers judged the object to be in the other side of a cloud. I guessed that the brightness of the cloud might have made this faint object invisible (I have known only a few still pictures).

## “UFO Public Hall” Remodeled

“Welcome to the UFO town!” says Iino Town website (in Japanese). Two Japanese local governments have the institutions relevant to UFOs: Hakui City (see below) and Iino Town (Fukushima Prefecture; some 6,800 people).

In November 1992, the town founded “UFO Fureai-kan” (UFO Public Hall; according to the town itself, “UFO Community Center”). The hall is a two-storied, not very huge building, and located halfway up a conical mountain called “Sengan-mori” (462.5 meters above sea level; about 150 meters above ground); this mountain is said to be a spot where UFOs often appear.

After the finish of remodeling, the hall was reopened on July 20, 2003, with about 2000 items of material donated from the late Mr. Kinichi Arai (1923–2002), the founder of “Japan Flying Saucer Research Association” (see the third issue).

I have never been to Iino Town, but have kept in touch with the director of the Hall, Mr. Tsugio Kinoshita (1947-), since March 1993. He took up his post only in January of that year. He saw “a helmet-like object” on Mt. Minowa in Fukushima City, Fukushima Prefecture, with seven friends in the daytime of May 7, 1972, and in 1978 he started tackling UFO problem.

He assumes: there is a vast vortex of magnetic force in Japan; the center of it is Mt. Fuji, the highest mountain in Japan, which is situated almost in the center of Japan proper; the place where UFOs have been often witnessed, such as Iino Town, are on this vortex line.



Photo: from an early leaflet

## Hakui City of These Days

Nowadays Hakui City, Ishikawa Prefecture, does not emphasize its having interest in UFOs any longer.

In November 1990, the city held a nine-day event “Space and UFO International Symposium,” and it ended successfully: a total of some 45,000 people visited (the population of the city is currently some 26,000); many foreign UFO students, such as Dr. Bruce Maccabee, lectured; the then Prime Minister, Mr. Toshiki Kaifu, sent a congratulatory telegram to the city.

In July 1996, the city set up a huge museum, “Kosumo-airu Hakui” (Cosmo Isle Hakui); this UFO-shaped edifice was built at a cost of ¥5,260,000,000! And in March of the next year, a three-day “Space and UFO International Congress” was held there. However, this event was not very crowded.

Not a few Japanese must be unable to read Chinese characters used for the city name: 羽咋. Hakui aimed to be well known as “the UFO city,” referring to an old document that informs us of “a mysterious fire” of a local mountain. But the city did not emphasize the existence of modern local sightings.

Notice that both of the events were titled not “UFO” but “Space and UFO.” And Cosmo Isle Hakui took the first step with a standing genuine American old space rocket. But UFO and space are two different subjects. I have interest neither in astronomy nor in space flight. UFO has its own attraction.

(See English guidance of [http://www.city.hakui.ishikawa.jp/ufo/index\\_e.html](http://www.city.hakui.ishikawa.jp/ufo/index_e.html))

SOURCES: An article, by Mr. Josen Takano (1955-) of Hakui City Office, in Shukan Tocho (Weekly Tokyo Metropolitan Office), a newspaper for workers of the office, September 11, 1989. / A magazine-styled book on the 1990 event, edited by Hakubundo, Inc. under the supervision of the city, published by Noto-insatsu-shuppan-bu (1991; 62 pages). / A report on the city in and by Ashita (Dawn), a magazine for local government workers, the May issue, 1996. / Notes on lectures of the 1997 event, by Ms. Shima Amamiya (1972-) and Mr. Kiyoshi Amamiya (1944-), contained in The UFO Researcher (titled in English) No.34 (November 1997). / etc.