

← sounds like a lift from Nat. Enq.

Did space aliens drop in on scientists?



FOUR scientists camping in southern Russia came across a large saucer-shaped object in the grass. One man threw stones at the thing—and, to his astonishment, the stones seemed to disappear inside its metallic-looking shell.

Suddenly, the campers felt a strange "force" and the closest man was knocked out. The others felt drowsy but managed to drag him away.

While one of the campers sneaked off to fetch help, the other two couldn't resist falling asleep beside their unconscious companion.

When they awoke, the men saw two 3ft-tall figures in weird space suits and helmets staring at them. Before they could speak, the tiny figures returned to their strange craft and disappeared through its hull.

The craft glowed—then vanished.

CHANCE

The scientist leading Russia's official team of UFO investigators said:

"There's no doubt that a spaceship landed—possibly because of illness among the crew."

But Professor F. Zigel was taking a chance when he reported this. The official Kremlin line on UFO's is that they are simply odd cloud formations—or have some other logical explanation.

And visits by aliens from outer space are condemned as the imaginings of simple folk who might also believe in witches and goblins.

But, in this case, the witnesses were scientists.

And while they were recovering from the shock three other scientists had an uncannily similar encounter in another part of Russia.

The man knocked out in the first encounter is a highly-respected professor of historical sciences, Dr. A. I. Nikolaev.

He spent the next three months in hospital recovering.

The second sighting of an alien craft by scientists happened only 67 miles from Moscow. These men were also on a camping holiday.

One of the UFO investigating team, Professor V.K. Zhuraviev, said both groups described being overcome by an uncontrollable sense of fear, despite their cool-headed scientific backgrounds.

The second group were huddled in their tents one night when they heard loud voices, jabbering in an unidentifiable language.

Prof. Zhuraviev said in his report: "The voices frightened them so much they didn't dare to peer outside for half an hour."

Then they saw "something like an enormous electric light bulb" about 500ft. away, with a shining violet light. It seemed about 80ft. high.

As they watched, the bulb rose, wobbled a little, then soared into the sky.

The scientists kept watching until it was enveloped by a fluorescent cloud and disappeared.

FLATTENED

Next morning they found a great circle of flattened grass where some large object had rested.

Since these reports by the Soviet UFO investigators, the Russian newspaper Pravda has started publishing accounts of other strange sightings from different parts of the country.

One that created al-

most as big a stir as the scientists' stories came from a vet, Dr V.G. Paltsev.

He said he found a grounded alien craft while on his rounds in the country, 500 miles South-east of Moscow.

Beside it were three small "humanoids" with egg-shaped heads and long fingers. As he approached, he too was

knocked out by some strange force.

When he recovered, his watch has stopped and he saw the saucer-shaped craft glow before rising and vanishing.

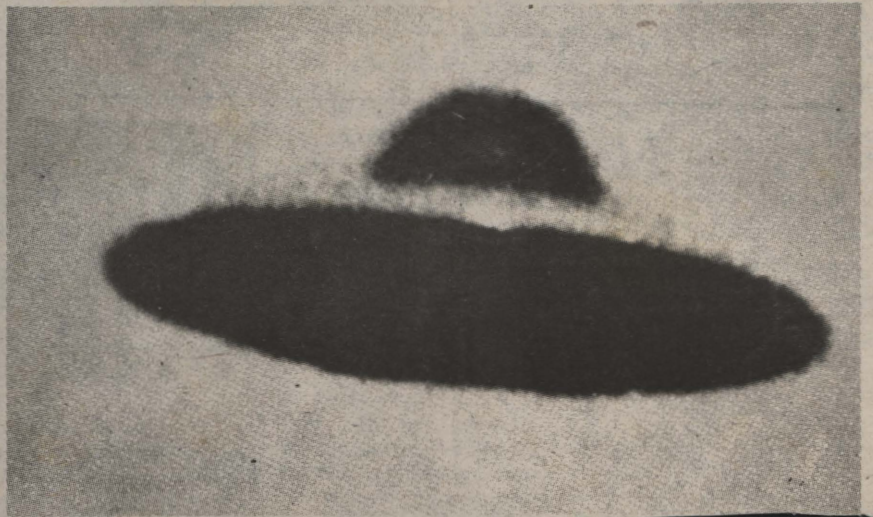
After that, the vet dreamed repeatedly that he had been carried into the saucer while unconscious.

And a doctor who questioned Paltsev under hypnosis said it

seemed that he probably had been taken for a saucer ride.

But one Russian who has travelled in space himself discounts these stories.

Cosmonaut Georgi Grekko said: "They were our rocket rubbish bins floating in space."



THEY FOUND the skeletons first. Unlike anything the experts had seen before. Strange, spindly creatures, definitely "human" but with underdeveloped bodies and abnormally large heads.

The skeletons were lying in neatly-arranged graves in a cave high in the remote mountains of Baya-Kara-Ula, on the borders of China and Tibet.

At first, the team of archaeologists thought they might be an unknown species of ape. But, as Professor Chi Pue Tei pointed out, "Whoever heard of apes burying each other?"

DISCS

Then they discovered the first of the stone discs.

Excitedly, the team gathered round. It looked, absurdly, like a Stone Age gramophone record.

There was a hole in the centre and a fine spiral groove radiated to the rim. Under close examination, the groove turned out to be a continuous line of words in an unknown language.

Within a few days 716 similar discs were uncovered.

Yet only now—40 years later—is the bizarre and incredible story they tell beginning to be revealed. For the "records" may describe an invasion thousands of years ago by

creatures from another planet.

Although the discs were discovered in 1938, it was 20 years before the "speaking grooves" were understood. And not until 1965 were the findings published.

A censored translation of the discs appeared in China under the long-winded title, *The Grooved Script Concerning Spaceships which, as Recorded in the Discs, landed on Earth 12,000 Years ago.*

This told a fantastic story of a space probe from a far planet which came to grief in the mountain range. The aliens came in peace, but the natives living in the caves killed many of them.

When the members of the Han tribe accepted and befriended the newcomers, they called them "the Dropas".

Legend

At first, Russian and Chinese experts treated the story with derision. Then the facts started to fit. Researchers collecting folktales in the area came

THE 'RECORDS' FROM SPACE

WAS THERE AN ALIEN INVASION OF EARTH 12,000 YEARS AGO?

across an ancient legend which told of small, gaunt, yellow-faced men who "came from the clouds long ago".

The description of the strangers tallied exactly with the skeletons in the caves.

And that wasn't all. A fresh examination of the caves showed faint wall paintings of the sun, the moon, the earth and unidentified stars . . . joined together by lines of dots. The cave drawings, like the discs, were dated at around 10,000BC.

And there were still cave-dwellers there—frail, stunted and odd in appearance. Their tribal names were the Hams and the Dropas!

At this point the Russians intervened. They took the discs away from China to analyse them. The Chinese never saw them again.

Scientists discovered that they contained large amounts of cobalt and other elements normally found in meteorites.

And then the discs started to vibrate.

Hummed

According to the Soviet magazine, *Sputnik*, they "hummed" as though an electrical charge was passing through them.

At some time, they had clearly been expo-

sed to incredibly high voltages. One Soviet scientist suggested they might "have formed part of an electrical circuit".

Will the full story of the discs from outer space ever be revealed? Or will someone decide that the truth is too shattering for the world to know?