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Report on Flying Disc Seen May 24, 1950

Street room, on May 1, 1950, Ed Keffel and Joan Martin, reporters on the Brazilian Journal *El Cruzeiro*, set out for an afternoon's trip to the Ilha do Governador. They took a helicopter at 5:30 a.m., as usual, to catch any aerial sights for their paper. For about an hour, they watched planes overhead, since the island was in direct line with the Brazilian passenger routes. They were watching a squadron of Air Force planes go through their maneuvers far above and over the ocean and their attention was attracted toward the entrance of the bay when, by what seemed to be the front view of a plane coming toward the shore. The time was then about 11 to 11:30 P.M. Seeming to come at a tremendous speed, the supposed plane suddenly moved sideways away from the sun. The commercial planes were passing at that time, and the object descended almost perpendicularly between these planes. It then banked directly toward shore, and Martin exclaimed, "What in the world was that?"

Since, as reporters, they are always on the alert for unusual sights, they immediately noticed all possible details. As the object approached their position, it seemed to slow down in speed, and its silhouette became very clear as it left the vicinity of the sun. It was then that Keffel took his first pictures. He had set his shutter at 1/500 seconds. They could not observe the shape of the disc, which undoubtedly was round. The object now described a large semi-circle over the shore of Ilhaque before flying over the Pedra da Gavea. It then descended toward the shore. During the straight flight, the disc flew in absolutely plane position, whereas during descent it swerved like a leaf falling from a tree. After flying a short distance out over the water, the disc swerved toward the shore and again showed its front view. While making this turn, it was inclined at 45°, and as it flew in a semi-circle about them they had an opportunity to see its upper and lower surfaces. After this swirling maneuver, it disappeared in a flash toward the ocean behind the Ilhaque. However, again the disc appeared and this time it remained in view for about two minutes. During the entire flight the reporters did not hear any sound nor observe any vapor, except that a bluish haze seemed to surround the disc. It is possible that the sound was at a frequency too high to be heard by the human ear. The height at which the object flew and the small shape were difficult to determine, because of lack of reference points. However, it appeared to be somewhat more than a thousand meters above the ground and seemed to be at a distance twice that of a B-3 plane, although they could not confirm these details.

The only thing they could say is that they saw the object as described, under the conditions mentioned. During the swirling flight of the disc, Keffel took the following four photographs. Then they looked for another witness of the phenomenon. Behind a dune, a fisherman was repairing his net at that time. His name was Clemente. However, he had been so absorbed in his work that he had seen nothing.

"We immediately returned to the hotel to the small village, and placed our films to report our unusual experience. We drove as fast as possible to the office and removed the film from the camera with the care of removing an atom bomb. During the development of the film, in the presence of the directors, we were in complete silence, eagerly waiting to know whether we had been the victims of hallucination, or whether the fantastic apparatus really had been recorded on our film. Not a mistake as airplanes, a comet, a balloon, or a meteor for the flying disc! The final image displayed our disk and the immediate enlargement confirmed our story completely."