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UFO SIGHTINGS - If you happen to see an UFO please inform EARTH LINK (write to Head Office). Newspaper and magazine clippings from anywhere in the world, with name and date of issue, are also very welcome.

EDITORIAL: A short appraisal of Earthlink

The first issue of Earthlink has been met with a mixed bag of comments. A few people, it appears, preferred the old Journal cover design, but happily the majority of readers thought the new front, increased pages and expansion of the contents an improvement over any previous EUFOSG publication.

For this issue we are experimenting with offset-litho printing which, we hope, is a great improvement on the duplicated method. It is hoped to publish at least one, probably two issues using offset-litho each year.

We welcome numerous new readers with this issue, the majority, we notice from other parts of the country. Outside the U.K., the U.S.A., Australia and Canada are showing considerable interest in us - this is good news!

Finally, please keep that UFO material (newspaper clippings with name and date of issue, magazine clippings, personal or friends' UFO sightings, etc.) coming in!

A POSTSCRIPT TO TUNGUSKA by Ian Ridpath

Soviet scientists have found tiny particles of the object that exploded over the valley of the stony Tunguska River, Siberia, in 1908. These particles, embedded in the 1908 layers of peat, show that the Tunguska object has the same carbonaceous chondrite composition as most of the natural rocky debris in space, thereby confirming the long-standing belief by astronomers that the Tunguska body was the head of a small comet. (For further discussion of the Tunguska event see my article in New Scientist, 11th August 1977.)

But this leaves one outstanding problem that seems never to have been answered thoroughly in print. Didn't the object change course during its descent to Earth? The idea that the Tunguska object performed a manoeuvre in the atmosphere before it crashed has been one of the undying myths of Tunguska since it was put forward by aerodynamicist Felix Zigel of the Moscow Institute of Aviation, who believed that the Tunguska object may have been a nuclear-powered spaceship. While it is reasonable to suppose that the comet's path was slightly curved during its atmospheric entry by naturally occurring aerodynamic forces, Zigel proposed that the Tunguska body described a crazy right-left zigzag as it came in to land, first veering east and then doubling back to the west - a truly remarkable performance for a comet.

But in fact, no eyewitnesses reported seeing the object change course; I invite anyone to search the literature, as I have done, to find such a report. So where does Zigel's theory of a course-change manoeuvre come from? It is an attempt to reconcile conflicting eyewitness reports of the object's trajectory as it descended over Siberia. Zigel's theory depends on the accuracy of these reports which came, of course, from unskilled farmers and peasants, and were collected 20 years after the event. It is virtually impossible for even a skilled observer to assess the flight path of a satellite or fireball accurately unless the object passes virtually overhead - and most of the witnesses of the Tunguska body lived south-west of the flight path, from where the object appeared at an altitude of only 20° to 40° above the horizon. These observations of the Tunguska fireball are not sufficiently reliable to support such a far-reaching contention as a major course change, and it is not surprising that astronomers have dismissed Zigel's course-change theory.

Incidentally, there is direct observational evidence against the Tunguska explosion having been nuclear: the fireball from a nuclear explosion would have been expected to last 30 seconds or so, whereas eyewitnesses said the Tunguska object's terminal explosion lasted only a few seconds. A genuine spacecraft coming in to land would approach from the west, following the Earth's direction of spin, rather than heading against it. And would a nuclear power plant explode if it were burning up in the atmosphere? According to nuclear experts I have spoken to, and the evidence of Cosmos 954, the answer is No.

Ian Ridpath, April 5th, 1978.

(Ian Ridpath is a writer on astronomy and space - having numerous books to his credit - and is a frequent contributor to magazines of a scientific nature.) See page 3 for Editor's comments.

Editor's Note: Readers of past Journals will have noticed that Ian Ridpath's comments, views, etc., are those of a non-believer in the UFO phenomenon, despite several years of study. Why, therefore, some people have asked, does this magazine print his views?

Well, in order to bring the fringe subject of UFOs to the level of respectability in the eyes of the established scientific community, it must withstand considerable scientific scrutiny. If we are ever to make ufology truly respectable, then the recognised negativists must have their say.

Indeed, as Dr. Allen Hynek - the doyen of ufology - recently said during an interview for a radio programme on UFOs: "Sceptics are absolutely essential in science. I'd far rather talk with an intelligent sceptic - not a morbid sceptic - (than with an intelligent UFO fanatic)."

UFO ACTIVITY IN AUSTRALIA

Landing in New South Wales

It was just after midnight when the space vehicle landed. Young John Smith was awakened by a roaring noise like the shudder of a Mack truck which filled his tiny bedroom with sound.

The date was May 26th, 1977, one which John and his mother - they run a small farm about 17km from Orange - are never likely to forget. He recalls: "I went out of the back door. The animals were going frantic, horses rearing and whinneying, dogs barking furiously. Across the yard, about 90 metres away, I saw a brilliant light slowly ascending a small hill. It was cigar-shaped with four or five brighter lights blinking along its side. As I watched it increased in brilliance and the noise became deafening. Then, quite suddenly, it went out and, except for the clamor of the animals there was silence."

John ran through the house and woke his mother who was asleep in a front bedroom. Mrs. Smith (the name is false to respect their desire for privacy) went with him to the backyard, saw nothing and returning was met by a thunderous rush of sound. From the front doorway she saw the huge brilliantly illuminated cigar. Along the side there appeared to her to be a number of square windows. Slowly it floated around the base of the hill and then vanished. As Mrs. Smith was watching a group of shift workers leaving a factory at Orange heard strange rumblings in the sky and, looking up, saw a number of dazzlingly bright objects flying over the town. They were unlike planes, certainly not stars, and later investigation showed there had been no lightning or other atmospheric disturbance that night.

What then had these people seen? An extra-terrestrial capsule ... an interplanetary ship from some far-flung galaxy ... an interdimensional time machine ...?

Nobody knows. What is certain is that a Close Encounter of the Second Kind had manifested itself in such a way that no known technology on earth can explain its appearance or behaviour.

Scientific examination of the ground at the farm where the vehicle was seen to land was carried out by experts of the NSW Unidentified Flying Objects Research Group. It revealed four bare patches in the grass arranged in a trapezium. They had not been burned or scorched out. The grass had simply disappeared. Witnesses' optical reactions to the light emitted suggested that it was of an ultra-violet nature.

All data concerning the Orange "experience" was sifted, categorised and fed into a central computer bank in Sydney where thousands of UFO sightings around Australia are stored.

Bill Chalker, an industrial chemist, and Michael Smyth, a project administrator, are the co-ordinators of the NSW Research Group and are responsible for the investigation of sightings and the accurate programming of the computer. Theirs is one of a number of groups covering every State which is responsible to the central scientific collating body, the Australian Co-ordinating Section (ACOS) in Gosford.

Cont/.....

Mr. Chalker stresses that at the moment they have no solutions. He says: "There are lots of theories ranging from the view that they are of a military nature originating on earth to claims that we are being visited by beings from some distant planet. But they are not more than theories. What we do know, and have sufficient evidence to prove, is that there are unusual phenomena appearing everywhere around the world, landing occasionally, and discharging entities." Close scrutiny of information surrounding most Close Encounters of the Third Kind, reveal them to be false, says Mr. Chalker.

But there are others ...

Bents Basin is a popular picnic spot for Sydney-siders about 10km from the Warragamba Dam. One sunny weekend, a party of six young people from around the city decided to drive out to the Basin for a pleasant day's outing in the country.

Mr. Chalker takes up the story. "It was about twilight when they saw a circular object sitting on three legs at the foot of a rise. They didn't see it arrive or leave. Five of the six immediately experienced very severe headaches. The sixth person, a girl, terrified of what she saw had dived down under the dashboard of the car to hide. The others leapt into the car and tried to start it up. At first it refused to turn over, then sluggishly the engine fired and they began to reverse. In their panic, they backed over the lip of the rise and the car slithered down into the Basin. It burst into flames and with everybody jumping out and scattering to safety, careered across the Basin and crashed into a tree."

"The group huddled together in fright until two of them volunteered to go up to the access road and see if they could hitch a lift. When they reached the road they saw a huge figure like a robot floating noiselessly toward them. The pair ran to their companions with the apparition following on behind. As the group watched in terror, it closed in on them, and vanished. They struggled to the road and were picked up by a passing motorist who told them he too had seen and heard this strange contraption."

The Bents Basin case was carefully probed, the evidence checked and re-checked before being locked in to the Sydney computer. Was it credible? "We believe so," says Mr. Chalker. "We feel they were convinced of what they say. They were utterly sincere, and there WERE six witnesses. That the object existed we know, but what it was, whether it was of flesh and blood, we don't know."

Daily Telegraph (Australia)
10th November, 1977.

Cr. Mr. V. Fitzgerald, N.S.W.

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Mystery patch on S.W. farm

Mt. Barker: A local farmer yesterday pointed to an almost circular patch of bare ground on one of his isolated paddocks and reluctantly confessed that he thought an unidentified flying object had landed there. Mr. Philip Drage (37) said: "I have never believed in UFO's so I don't like to go that far. But what else can I think? This is pretty queer."

The bare patch - about three metres in diameter - is unusual for two reasons, other than the fact that it is set in the midst of 16ha of lush green pasture.

The first is the neatly-scoured circular hole in the centre of the patch - about 60cm wide and 20cm deep. The second is the three shallower indentations, placed almost equidistant around the perimeter of the patch.

Mr. Drage, whose mixed farm is about 30km west of Mt. Barker, said he was embarrassed to admit his suspicions. "When I found the patch on Friday I dismissed it as possibly the work of pranksters," he said. "But then I started to think about it and found it hard to imagine anyone going to such a remote paddock - and one which is not visible from any of the surrounding farms. I also began to think about the neat spacing of the three tripod-type marks and the smooth hole in the centre, from which the earth has been removed. No matter what did this it is certainly unidentified."

Mr. Drage said he had top-dressed the whole paddock four weeks ago and had not seen the patch with its four indentations then. He only discovered it on Friday when he made an unscheduled return to the paddock to run a heavy roller over the ground.

Yesterday Mr. Drage took soil samples from several key spots within the clearing and these will be passed on to the Perth UFO Research Group for a series of special tests.

The Group was also currently investigating a report that a family had been woken on their farm near York, about 1.30 am on August 15th, by a noise like a plane passing overhead. He said: "A bright, piercing light flashed into the house. They ran outside to see a large object moving in the sky at a very low altitude."

(Extracts from a Perth, West Australia, newspaper of 26th September, 1977.)

Cr. Mrs. J. Pillinger, Ilford.

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Three Discs land in West Australia

The night of Monday, October 17th, this year, was much the same as any other in the bar of the Mount Magnet pub. Licensee Bob Freestone lazily polished some glasses and exchanged a bit of local chit-chat with the five regulars hunched together on a semi-circle of high stools. But this was to be no ordinary night. The time was 8.55 pm and within a few minutes all of them were to be caught up in a series of bizarre and strange events that would baffle space scientists around the world.

Mr. Freestone remembers vividly the wonder of it all. "Quite suddenly," he says, "the door burst open and two blokes who work at the pub rushed in. They were white and scared. At first they wouldn't tell us what had happened, but after a little while they said, a bit sheepishly, that they'd been buzzed by what seemed like round balls of green light while walking up the road. We all went outside to have a look. There were eight of us."

"As we watched three circular green and red discs skimmed across the sky and seemed to land in a paddock about 3km from the town. There were jets of steam or mist coming from them. They rose from the ground, travelled slowly across the area as if searching for something and landed again. This time there appeared to be smaller objects on the ground moving around them. You could distinguish them quite plainly with the naked eye. They might have been as big as human beings, they certainly weren't animals. It was difficult to clearly define the outlines as it was pretty dark. But I'm positive they were there. All of us saw them."

The day before, four West-rail workers at nearby Meekatharra were startled by a whining noise near the town's railyards at 1.10 am. Looking up, they saw two silver objects, above a stationary goods train. One of the men, Meekatharra assistant station-master Mr. Cliff Hughes says: "At first we could just make out a silvery ball hovering overhead. Then a second ball joined it. It was flashing from silver to red as though it were spinning. The first one zoomed off into the dark and shortly afterwards, the second followed. I always thought people who said they'd seen flying saucers were crazy, but now I'm starting to change my mind."

But that was not all of the strange happenings around Meekatharra and Mount Magnet. On Sunday afternoon, 12 golfers playing on the Meekatharra course spotted two silver and red saucer-like vehicles in the sky. Mr. Keith Miller was one of them. Mr. Miller's two young sons, aged 10 and 7 also saw the saucers. To make sure they weren't imagining things I got them each to draw separately what they thought they had seen," he says.

They came up with the same pictures, which matched pretty well the shapes that I had seen through my field glasses."

Between Sunday morning and Monday night, similar sightings were reported by numerous people at Fremantle. Muckinbudin and Spearwood, all within a radius of a couple of hundred or so kilometres.

After careful investigation by experts of the Western Australia UFO Research Group, there can be no doubt whatever that all of these independent observers had been witness to some form of astronomical phenomena.

Bob Freestone and his hotel regulars experienced something much more important, a Close Encounter of the Third Kind ... the sighting of animated beings or entities in the vicinity of the astral object.

In the NSW North Coast area Close Encounters of the First, Second and Third Kind have been reported in 1966, 69, 72 and 75.

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"They seem to appear with reasonable regularity around every three years. We can therefore be pretty confident that the next spate of sightings will occur in 1978, beginning in just over two months time," said Mr. Chalker.

Mr. Chalker says about 50 to 100 significant cases come to the notice of the UFO Research Groups throughout Australia every year. There are, he believes, hundreds more which never come to light because of the Australian temperament. Says Mr. Chalker: "As a people we have an inordinate fear of being ridiculed, or laughed at by our friends. Because of this it is not easy to encourage people to come forward."

(Extracts from the Daily Telegraph (Australia), 11th November, 1977.)

Cr. Mr. V. Fitzgerald, N.S.W.

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Spectacular close encounter event near Armidale (N.S.W.)

A newspaper report carried in the Armidale Express of January 30th 1978, has allowed UFOR (NSW) to carry out an investigation into what appears to be quite a significant incident. The newspaper account described how a Melbourne man had experienced an unusual UFO sighting near the Bakers Creek Falls area, just east of Armidale. David Reneke has carried out preliminary investigations into this case, and since our enquiries are still continuing, only a summary of the case will be presented for the moment. We have secured considerable detail already but the nature of the case holds the promise of possibly a lot more.

A single witness (a 25 year-old male) observed two luminous aerial lights as he was driving between Grafton and Armidale on January 10th, 1978. One moved over the mountains and the other hovered above the ground a short distance from the witness. It began falling in a stop-start fashion, finally maintaining a level elevation of between 30 to 40 feet above the ground. It emitted "sparks" which seemed to interact with the ground beneath it. As it hovered the witness attempted to elicitsome sort of reaction by shining his car headlights, shining a pocket torch and shouting at the strange object. No reaction was noted and eventually the witness drove on.

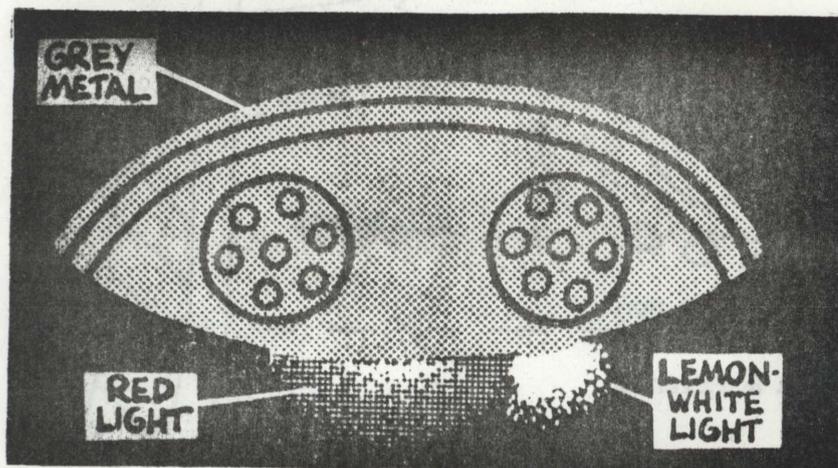
Further down the same road he saw a huge elongated object with "portholes" along its length, apparently hovering just above the ground in a paddock adjacent to the road. Photographs were taken at this point but it was subsequently determined that except for a blurred yellow shape on one of about 5 prints, no tangible proof of the object's presence was obtained, apparently due to incorrect camera settings and lighting conditions.

The witness ran into the paddock where the object was hovering but returned to the roadway when he heard a car approaching. The driver slowed down and passed the witness who, by being in an agitated state, must have appeared to be deranged and gave the wrong impression to the driver. The witness again ran into the field and then saw the same vehicle tearing back the way it had come at high speed. The driver of the vehicle failed to stop. When he again looked for the object the witness noted that in its place was a strange "mist" that retreated up the creek and then returned to encircle him! He heard a distinct humming sound directly above him apparently coming from a "hollow tube" he could make out in the mist. The mist eventually dissipated and the witness was left standing in an empty field, completely alone. The total duration of all these events was approximately three hours, ending at about 7.05 am. Other witnesses to similar incidents in the area at about the same time contacted this witness and we in turn are conducting additional investigations into these sightings. The witness of the Bakers Creek manifestations suffered much discomfort after the event and could not sleep for five days after the encounter.

Bill Chalker lived in the area of Armidale for four years while attending university, and he indicates that in his files he has a number of reports of UFO sightings in the area of Bakers Creek Falls and the Blue Hole.

(UFO Research (NSW) Newsletter No. 53, March 1978, p.5.)

Adelaide, South Australia, sighting



Four Adelaide nurses claimed they had seen an UFO hovering over the southern suburbs early today. It was the second sighting this week. Dozens of people had phoned local radio stations during the past two nights reporting a strange object hovering in the sky over the southern suburbs. All the reports have been very similar and mention a strong red light at the base of the object with weaker white lights round it. The sighting was made about 1.00 am.

(Although not stated, this sounds very much a newspaper report - Ed.)

UFO of May 4th, 1978. (Pic. The News, Adel.)

Cr. Miss W. Bodycote, Gawler, S. Australia.

THE GIANT 'VENUSIAN' WOMAN OF SOUTH ESSEX by D. J. Goring

In January 1977, a 27 year-old man who, for the purposes of this story, we will call Ralph, wrote to me at the request of a gentleman with whom I was already in correspondence. Ralph's letter primarily informed me of an UFO sighting that he had had in 1972, but towards the end of this letter was a short account of an earlier sighting which involved a humanoid. This earlier sighting the Essex UFO Study Group eagerly followed up, three visits to the witness being found necessary in order to present the following account.

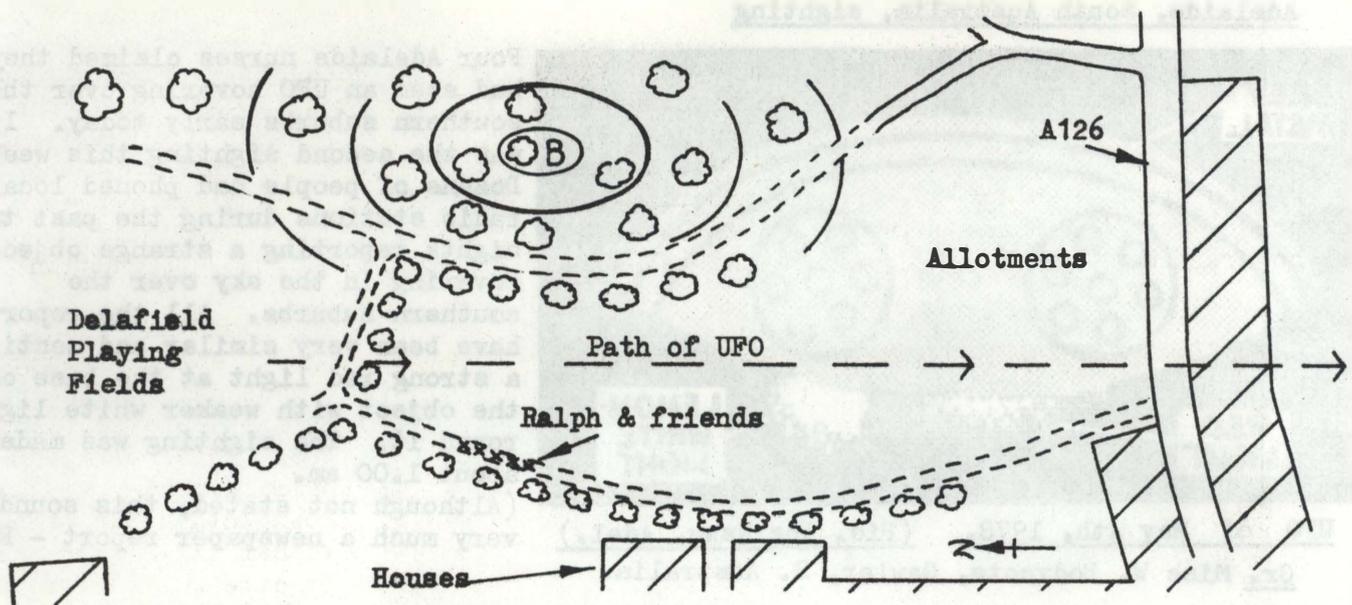
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One fine, late summer's evening during 1967 found Ralph and a number of his young friends walking along a narrow footpath that runs from the A126 (Dock Road) and through some wooded playing fields near his home in Grays Thurrock, Essex, England. Ralph was a frequent visitor to these fields; indeed, he and the others were to be found here nearly every fine evening playing all sorts of games to pass the time away, for in those days there was very little else to do. Ralph couldn't remember his exact movements that evening - no more than any other evening - but he believed that he may have just been to the off-licence prior to making his way along the footpath.

The time was somewhere between 7.30 and 8.00 pm. (it was already dark) when they all became aware of a bright, elongated yellowish-white light which was nosing down over the tops of the trees lining the northern end of some allotments, which are lightly fenced-off from the footpath. The light was heading in the direction of the A126 - where they had just walked from. After levelling off, the light glided along not far above the allotments, and in the space of only three seconds or so had drawn level with Ralph and his friends. It was now that they beheld a truly awe-inspiring sight. There, set against the black background of the forest on the far side of the allotments, was a long row of brilliantly lit windows, and close to the corner of the last window was a person looking out at them!

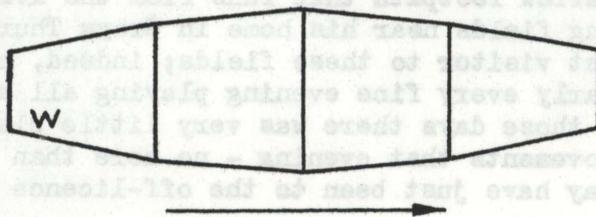
The windows - there were four in all - fitted together to produce a shape that tapered equally both ends. Separating each window from its neighbour was a vertical pillar, and these pillars had a definite thickness of, perhaps, 6"(15cm.) No-one, it appears, actually saw any glass or transparent material occupying the aperture, although Ralph, at least, had the definite impression that there was something separating the inside of the craft from the external environment. As far as Ralph could tell all the windows were flat and lay in one flat plane.

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At no time during the sighting was there any shape seen other than the outline represented by the window-frame. The brilliant light emitted from within contrasted so much with the dark background of the trees and the sky, that any difference between the edge of the actual hull of the craft (that must have encompassed the windows) and the dark background was completely beyond differentiation. (Ralph used the analogy, here, of looking directly at a torch-light in the dark; the glare masks the torch itself, the contrast being too much for the eyes.)

The window-frame



W - Position of woman.

Ralph's estimate of the total length of the window-frame was 75 feet (23 m.). When he accompanied us to the sighting point he was asked to hold out his hands at arms' length to indicate the apparent length of the window-frame when it was closest. The distance between his hands was 33 inches (0.84m.). In conjunction with the craft's distance (derived via the humanoid), and a

few other necessary measurements, a 'true' length for this window-frame was calculated to be about 100 feet (30.5m). It follows that the width of each window must have been 19 feet (5.8m.) or more, and the height at the centre in excess of 20 feet (6.1m).

Ralph strongly believed that the craft's overall shape was that of a "rugby ball." This was quite likely, not only because of the shape of the windows but because the craft would only have fitted in between the witnesses and the trees on the other side of the allotments if it had been of such a form (verifiable by calculation).

The height of the craft off the ground was thought to have been 40 to 50 feet (12 to 15m.). However, calculations based on elevation and distance suggest a figure of 25 feet (7.6m.) or less. This, though, is the height up to the humanoid, so the craft's hull must have been much nearer to the ground. Although everyone strained their ears, there was not the slightest sound to be heard coming from this object, and this fact seemed to amaze them more than any other.

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As already mentioned, a figure only became visible when the craft was more or less level (and closest) to the witnesses, who were necessarily strung out in a line (because of the very narrow path) with Ralph more or less at the rear end. This figure, that Ralph is positive was a woman, was situated at one end of the window-frame. Unfortunately, the tapering lower edge of this frame came up to cover, perhaps, three-quarters of the woman's body. Her head and shoulders, however, were prominently visible and Ralph was able to give a fine description of these features.



The woman had long, nearly shoulder length, blonde hair, which ended in not too wide flick-ups. This beautiful hair fell very neatly down both sides of a rather attractive face. It came quite close on top and there was a definite fringe present across her forehead. Strangely, though, there wasn't a parting visible. According to Ralph, there wasn't a hair out of place, and he repeatedly used the word "styled" to describe the neatness of her coiffure.

When the woman turned her head to her right a few seconds later, her hair flowed gracefully to the opposite side and 'bounced' back into place again. This abundance of hair hid all trace of any ears.

The woman's skin was the colour of the white race - European. (Ralph actually described her colour as that of an English woman.)

The eyes were quite large but normal-looking, and not slanted (like the Chinese). Unfortunately, this was all he noticed - or could remember - concerning these features. It was thought that she had eyelashes and eyebrows, but, like the hair, the eyebrows were presumably very fair and therefore not visible.

The nose was thin, not very large or too long, but somewhat pointed. There was no sign of nostrils.

Her mouth was quite large - more wide than anything else - and did not display any particular expression other than the normal, relaxed position. There did not appear to be any sign of lipstick - no trace of make-up anywhere.

The face was longish and ended in a neat, rounded chin. There was a fixed expression about the face: "An interested look," Ralph said. All the features of the face were "girlish" and were those of a young, "pretty" woman of about 25 years of age. I asked if he could name a film actress or someone in the public eye of similar appearance, but he couldn't.

The woman's clothing consisted of a one-piece tunic - deep red in colour - which came up around the lower part of the neck. There was no folding over of the collar and the tunic was of a single thickness everywhere. There were no wrinkles in the garment as it clung tightly, and there was no sign of a zipper or any buttons. Was there an emblem or mark of any sort visible? Ralph was sure there wasn't, there was nothing else visible at all.

The window-frame cut across the woman's chest a little too high, perhaps, for our witness to notice if breasts were present. The woman was quite well built, though, and it was very clear to Ralph that this wasn't a woman of small stature. 5 feet 6 inches (1.68m.) tall was his estimate, which could be stretched to 6 feet (1.83m.), but when he was asked to draw the relative size of her head and shoulders against a scaled drawing of the window-frame, her height, according

Cont/.....

to the relative scale, would have been over 18 feet (5.5m.)! (I am assuming that about 25% of her true height was visible through the window and the length of the window-frame was 75 feet (23m.)). However, as Ralph so rightly stated, he was looking at a drawing where he could take in the whole craft in one direct look. The craft, in reality, could not be fully appreciated in one look for it filled such a large angle of vision. This fact made the drawing of the woman to the correct relative scale extremely difficult, and Ralph could only reassert his belief that the woman was quite large. However, we will assume that Ralph's estimate of 5½ to 6ft. (1.68 to 1.83m) is near to the truth, for the method we used to determine the distance of the craft from Ralph was based on the woman's face - as follows. Mr. Saville, whose height is thought to have been near that of the woman, gradually walked away from Ralph until his face appeared the same size as the woman's. When paced out, this distance was found to be 70 feet (21.3m.), which allowed the craft to fit in nicely between Ralph and the trees on the opposite side.

The reason, though, why Ralph could see so much detail at this considerable distance was because of the really excellent lighting prevailing inside the craft - a very special form of lighting indeed. Everywhere inside the window-frame was lit equally, there being no obviously visible source for the illumination. Even the woman's face was lit equally (and from all angles), and therefore no shadows existed anywhere. If there had been back-lighting, the woman's face would have been in shadow, but this definitely wasn't the case.

At no point around the perimeter of the window-frame did the glow of this yellowish-white light extend outside; it was totally enclosed. It was also noticed that the light didn't cast any shadows on the ground from either the witnesses or the surrounding bushes, etc., and neither did it illuminate the ground, etc. How, then, could the woman see Ralph (and vice versa), since the light would have had to have reached and illuminated Ralph in order for her to see him? Ralph was positive the woman did see him and his friends (and without straining her eyes, either), but he is also sure that the light didn't extend one inch beyond the windows themselves. I find something of a paradox here, unless the illumination and the shadows were there but were simply not noticed due to either the incurred excitement or to the brilliant light blinding them. Ralph did say, though, that he could look directly at the light without it blinding or hurting his eyes at all. Could this light have been - and I find this the most acceptable explanation - of the peculiar variety that is only encountered amongst UFOs? If it is, then the lack of illumination and shadows could be explained as 100% - or nearly so - non-reflective 'light'. However, this would still not explain how the woman could see Ralph. I then asked about the end pillar that Ralph had seen next to the woman. Why was this illuminated? After pointing out that the light wouldn't have reached this pillar (it being outside the window), Ralph became very confused and was left wondering whether it was the end pillar he saw, or something else. Anyway, he thought the drawings depicting this pillar looked correct, so they were left as they are.

I then asked if he had the impression that the woman was anyone special, the Captain, for example. "No," he replied, "She just looked like one of the crew." (Or a passenger.)

When Ralph first saw the woman he said that she was looking directly at all of them (or at him - he wasn't too certain) as if to say, "Look at me." She then looked to her right at something behind Ralph and the others. I was a little perplexed by this statement for I understood this to mean that she was looking over their heads at something in the field beyond the trees. At the craft's height, though, she couldn't have seen beyond our witnesses because of the trees lining the footpath. However, he explained that he meant further along the path as she didn't lift her gaze, only moved her head to one side. The reason why she looked further along the path also puzzled me. What was she looking at (or for)? Other people walking along the footpath was suggested, but I feel this is not the correct answer.

As to the woman's disappearance, Ralph couldn't say. He believed that he turned to the others momentarily and when he looked back she had gone. She was in view, perhaps, for four seconds. (To satisfy my own curiosity I asked if this woman, dressed in normal clothing, would pass as a normal woman in the street. "Yes", was Ralph's immediate reply (if she wasn't 18 feet tall, of course!) Ralph also believed

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that he would recognise her if he saw her in the street!

A few final questions were then asked. It was pointed out that in coming down nose first over the tree-tops, the craft would have presented a steeply inclined floor for the woman to have stood on (Ralph felt that she was standing up with her arms resting on a sill below the level of the window: why he thought this I never ascertained.) Ralph agreed with this assumption but he couldn't give an opinion for the woman wasn't visible at this stage. He was also asked if he believed that she was trying to hide herself to a certain extent, but he didn't feel this was the case.

Ralph re-enacted the craft's flight path in his mind's eye, and by timing him I found that in only 10 seconds after the object's appearance over the trees it had reached the A126 (Dock Road). It was easy to calculate that to have reached this road in the time specified would have meant the craft averaging a little over 60 mph (96km./hr.). However, although Ralph believed that the craft did not vary its speed (up to the road, anyway) it was in all probability travelling along somewhat slower initially, increasing its speed as it moved away from our witness. The craft's course at this stage was perfectly level, there being no wobbles or irregularities in its flight. Until the craft reached the vicinity of the road it has maintained the same altitude, but now it tilted its nose upward and gradually began to rise, appearing to double its height when over the road. (If it hadn't risen it would have definitely collided with the houses lining Dock Road on the south side.) After having risen, the craft carried on - as far as Ralph could tell - parallel to the ground for a short distance before gradually rising up into the sky and changing from an elongated band of light into just a dot before disappearing.

Naturally, Ralph and his friends couldn't believe their eyes, but no-one, it appears, ran away, screamed, started crying or became panicky or hysterical; they just stood still and watched in sheer amazement. No-one suffered any physical after-effects (conjunctivitis, sunburn, rashes, stomach pains, sickness, headaches, etc.), but there were some psychic effects. No heat, smell or rush of wind was detected from the craft, nothing, in fact, other than the visual aspect. (Wrist-watches were not worn by anyone that Ralph can remember.)

When they first saw the craft they thought it was an aeroplane, but this was almost immediately discounted. For one thing, it was too low, there was no engine noise and there were no navigation lights - quite apart from it looking so totally different from anything they had ever seen before. So after discussing it for a little while they were all agreed: it was a spaceship! However, one further amazing fact now emerged. No-one, except Ralph, saw the woman! I questioned him on this very important point, but he was quite unable to explain it. His only suggestion was that everyone else was looking at different parts of the craft, and so somehow missed seeing her. I don't accept this view at all, and feel that the woman was only visible to Ralph - an incredible alternative to accept, but then isn't everything about UFOs incredible?

Ralph wasn't exactly sure what he and his friends did next, although he believed that they all went - in the next half-an-hour - to a public telephone box which Ralph and one of the others - Dave* - managed to cram into. Ralph believed he was the only one with any money, and so it was he who dialled for the Ministry of Defence. A man answered and Ralph told him that he and his friends had just seen a spaceship (he didn't mention seeing anyone in it). The man, in so many words, said that it was probably a helicopter or a weather balloon! Ralph and the others obviously weren't satisfied with this explanation, but they knew of little else to do regarding the matter for UFOs were not heard of much in those days, and UFO organisations not at all. For days afterwards the spaceship was a hot subject for debate, but the event gradually drifted from their thoughts, and over the years Ralph's friends had married and moved well away from the region. Only Dave, one of the original witnesses, remains known to him.

Ralph, the most important person in this case - is, in my opinion, one of the finest witnesses that I have ever interviewed, and is endowed with an excellent visual memory (his eyesight is very good). He struck me as very sincere and not the type of person to tell such an incredible story. He has very little knowledge of UFOs and has never been interested in them. Ralph's work is as a professional

*pseudonym.

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gardener/forestry worker and he has good qualifications and is very familiar with the scenery of the sighting area. Curiously, he has always been a little psychic, but not more so because of this sighting (or the one of 1972).

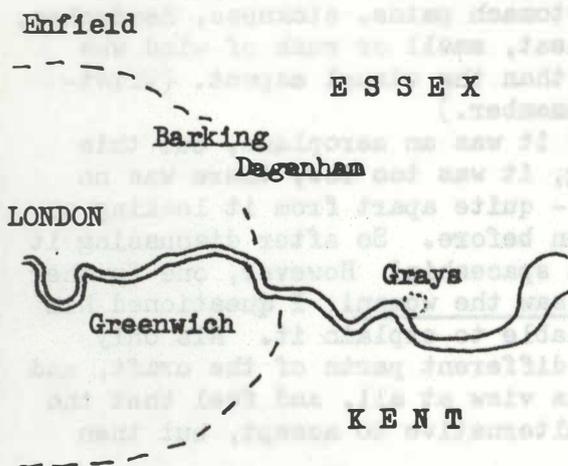
Initially, we believed there to be only five witnesses present that evening in 1967, but there could have been as many as seven, including two girls. The ages of these witnesses was thought to have been around 16 or 17 years at the time, Ralph then being 17.

Dave, the only other traceable witness, did not wish to talk about the affair at all. Ralph tried to get him to co-operate with us, but, to Ralph's amazement, he refused, as he did our letters and report forms. Ralph was able to tell us, though, that following the sighting Dave became noticeably psychic and attributed this to the sighting. "He gets in your mind," Ralph explained (telepathy). Ralph told us that Dave had experienced some considerable grievance connected with, but not attributable to, his being psychic (the loss of his mother), and this is a possible reason for his not wanting to talk to us.

The 1972 sighting

In March (possibly) of that year, Ralph and Dave saw two triangular objects with rounded corners fly overhead in formation. Once again our witnesses were in the same playing fields, and it was around midnight on a cold, clear night when these objects flew over from east to west. They were in sight only five seconds before they disappeared. Ralph didn't feel, though, that the 1967 and 1972 sightings were related in any way.

Both the aforementioned sightings took place in Delafield Playing Fields, a small stretch of grassland, woods and allotments that lies on the east side of Grays, a town situated just north of the River Thames and some 18 miles (29km.) east of the centre of London. Delafield Playing Fields is bordered to the north by a fairly large cemetery. To the west lie small side roads lined with houses, while to the east an isolated, once wooded hill figures prominently. Allotments extend down to the A126 in the south. East of the hill, and south of the A126, lies open countryside. In 1967, trees lined the allotments to the north, east and west with the southern end remaining open and only the sodium street lamps and houses visible from the sighting point. (Many of the trees have been felled since 1967.)



The area was, therefore, effectively cordoned off from outside witnesses' eyes, and Ralph admitted seeing no outsiders that evening.

Notable structures and buildings in the area include a high voltage electricity transmission line to the east, a technical college to the north-east and the Tilbury to London Railway in the south-east. The hill ('B' in diagram) is thought to have been the site of an iron-age settlement, for certain artifacts have allegedly been found near the summit, which lies about 70 feet (21.3m.) above sea level (this hill lies in isolation). Little Thurrock, to the south of the playing fields, contains dene holes; deep pits containing prehistoric remains which are found in various parts of Essex and Kent.

Since Ralph used to visit the playing fields nearly every day, stipulating an exact day or month was impossible. 1967 was the year and it was definitely a summer month, for the weather that evening was warm (60°F or more), humid, quite clear (there were stars visible) and there was no wind. It was noticed that for the sky to become dark by 7.30 or 8.00 pm (a time which Ralph is fairly certain of), months such as June or July were unacceptable, for in these months the Sun doesn't set before 8.50 pm. What about a late summer month? Ralph believed this could well have been the case. I therefore consulted Whitaker's Almanack for the weather in

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1967, the nearest weather station to Grays being Kew, London. Only two late summer months existed during which the weather on certain days tallied with Ralph's description: August and most of September, October's weather being too bad. Late August would meet the requirements exactly, other than the Sun still setting too late (by about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour - an acceptable error on Ralph's part?)

Two drawings of the woman were made which took hours to complete as her features had to be altered many times to produce pictures that, in Ralph's opinion, closely resembled the woman in the craft. (Eyebrows and eyelashes were added without any detrimental effect.) Even after nearly 10 years, the woman's face is still burnt deep into Ralph's memory. The craft's window-frame was redrawn numerous times until Ralph agreed that the shape shown in diagram 2 was as near as he could remember it.

A similar sighting?

Near the completion of this case (and two months after seeing Ralph) I found an account of a similar UFO to the one in 1967 in "The UFO Register", a CONTACT (UK) publication. In the main this read as follows:

"Incident 80: AD 1903. On March 17th of this year, a huge object "like a gigantic ripe cucumber with slightly tapered ends" was seen at Helmer, Indiana, U.S.A. The object was hovering over a field and remained in sight for about five minutes ... Eight windows were visible in the side of the object, which was estimated to be 100 feet long and 30 feet wide. A "sunshine" - like light was visible through the windows. (Fate magazine (American edition), March 1971)"

*The UFO Register, Vol.7, parts 1 and 2, 1976. p.20.

Comments

Mr. and Mrs. Saville and myself were very impressed with Ralph's account of the whole affair, and there is no doubt in our minds that he was telling the truth, despite some of the incredible and seemingly impossible facts that were disclosed. Although Ralph's case bears obvious similarities to the 1903 sighting outlined above, the possibility that he had seen this report before he contacted me is very remote.

Although it is a great pity that so many years have elapsed since it occurred, how many other cases like this one, I wonder, are there still to be uncovered?

NEW INFORMATION ON THE MANTELL CASE

In the afternoon of January 7th, 1948, Captain Thomas Mantell, a young National Guard pilot stationed at Godman Air Force Base in Kentucky, U.S.A., died as the result of being in aerial pursuit of an UFO, but the exact circumstances of his death have always remained a mystery.

The following is a very shortened account that in its original form is a dialogue between an investigator for the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organisation (APRO) and a man who was an Air Traffic Controller at Lockbourne Air Force Base near Columbus, Ohio, at the time of the tragedy. The interview took place on April 12th, 1977.

W.J. - William Jones of Ohio (Investigator)
J.P. - Jack Pickering, 57, of Ohio (Witness)

J.P.'s background. Two years of College, Associate Degree in Elect. Engineering, four years in the U.S.A.F., well versed in ATC, Radio Operations and holds a pilot's licence and an instrument rating.

At the time of the above event, J.P. had just left the U.S.A.F. and become an Air Traffic Controller. On the evening of the day of Mantell's death, J.P. was in the aircraft direction finding station near one end of the base's runways well away from all the other buildings. The night was overcast with cloud at 1200 ft. and J.P. remembered this as though it was yesterday. Inside the station all was dark, the only illumination present coming from the dials, meters, etc.

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J.P. was laying on his back monitoring the instruments and listening to the radio and had a good view through a window which lay practically over his head.

Then, at about 7.10 pm., through the window and high up in the sky, he noticed descending through the cloud layer a big red spherical object that he at first took for an aircraft in flames. It was obvious only moments later, though, that this was no plane, but before he could alert anyone the tower phoned through and asked: "What the hell is that out there over your station?" J.P. replied that he didn't know and advised that the airways operator, who gives the weather and takes position reports of aircraft, be contacted. Soon everyone was looking at the object - the tower, airways, meteorologist and J.P.

The object remained in a stationary position for a few minutes before it began to move around - never going very far from its original position. This went on for a short while during which time J.P. and the tower tried to contact an aircraft to make a pass through the area and tell them what this thing was.

The object, which had become stationary again, now began to circle the base at speeds in excess of 1,000 mph, and after circling once returned nearly to its initial hovering position. It then moved near to the edge of the base and began to descend vertically and remained at, or very near, ground level for 15 seconds, perhaps.

By this time contact had been made with an aircraft - which was some distance away - but J.P. felt that the object had detected this plane for it took off vertically again shortly before the plane arrived. It apparently shot up at great speed and hovered below the cloud layer for two or three minutes before ascending once more through the clouds. That was the last anyone saw of it, the thing being visible for about 20 minutes.

J.P. recalled that he went out to the landing spot after the sighting but could find no evidence of anything having landed there.

There were four witnesses on the base who saw this object, each of whom was closely questioned when they were flown on three separate occasions to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. J.P. thought that there were at least five different officers who questioned each of them intensely about the strange object.

The reason, W.J. discovered, why J.P. knew his sighting took place the same day as Mantell's death was because news of the latter was relayed that afternoon over the base radio and telephone - an unusual thing to do, J.P. agreed, but the event was a very unusual one as well.

The base reports said that Mantell had exceeded the safe altitude limit of 15,000 ft. and he had had no oxygen on board. Part of the transmission, J.P. said, was Mantell's last words saying that it (the UFO) was gigantic and metallic - or something very similar. Mantell's P-51 aircraft was found in myriads of pieces and the crash was due, the investigators believed, to Mantell losing consciousness and his diving aircraft disintegrating in the air. (J.P. disagreed with the possibility of a P-51 breaking up in this way in the air.)

W.J. asked J.P. if Mantell could have been chasing one of the Skyhawk* balloons that were launched at that time, some of them for photographic reconnaissance of Russia. J.P. knew about high altitude balloons in those days and replied that, "Had he (Mantell) been an idiot, he might not have been able to tell a balloon. But a combat pilot with as many hours as he had (it doesn't happen)."

W.J. "Do you know what the shape of the object was that Mantell reported?"

J.P. "It was supposed to be the same as the one I saw. A perfect sphere....."

They have tapes, I think of his entire conversation."

*Misprint/misspelling of the word "Skyhook"?

Many thanks to Mr. W. Ager of Belgium for supplying copies of the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organisation's Bulletin - June & July 1977 issues - containing the above information in dialogue form, and thanks also for obtaining permission to use this material from Jim Lorenzen, International Director, A.P.R.O., U.S.A.

THOUGHTS ON TIME AND SPACE TRAVEL by Gloria Saville

One of the most popular current theories about UFOs is that many of them may be time and/or space travellers. For those who haven't had the opportunity to read it, I quote below from Fred Smith's recent, very interesting article in a Page Research Library Newsletter, entitled 'The Relativity of Time and Space' :-

"Speculations about UFOs have produced weird theories about interdimensionality, parallel worlds, discontinuous vibratory rates, etc., etc. To be acceptable now, a theory must above all look scientific. This assumption is based on the belief that scientists alone are completely impartial and unprejudiced by preconceived notions. UFO buffs, of all people, should have learned by now that nothing could be farther from the truth. It so happens that over the last several decades I have become conversant in three areas of expertise, population, nuclear matters, and UFOs. In each of these areas those who are publicly and officially assumed to be expert and have authoritative opinions are expert primarily in the avoidance and covering up of the plain and sometimes quite simple facts. The guidance that educated public opinion is following in each of these areas leads inevitably step by step to the most spectacular disaster. But faith in experts being what it is, we'll all be forced with them in the driver's seat to ride the big machine right over the cliff.

A basic difficulty that prevents us from understanding UFO phenomena arises from our painfully limited conceptions of time and space. Not long ago it was possible to imagine visitors coming from advanced civilisations on Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn or even the moon. The knowledge we now have of conditions on those places should disabuse us of such old-fashioned notions. That leaves countless billions of solar systems throughout the cosmos that must have conditions comparable or superior to conditions on our particular planet. Yet those places are so fantastically far away that intercommunication appears physically impossible. Nevertheless, if we pursue these interests logically and successfully, we will come to see that our intellectual faint heartedness here has been a profound error. The truth is that the entire cosmos is home for a vast interrelated human community.

Although no mortal has an experimental knowledge of the practical details of interstellar travel, historical events are bringing earthlings to a place where the interrelatedness of time, space, death and immortality is gradually appearing above our world's horizon. This generation prides itself on standing at the very apex of human development. Here we have finally evolved up from crude animals and out of the primeval mud. There's a modicum of truth in that, but in a much more important sense that idea is preposterous. Actually, men and women here are barely hanging onto the last remnants of their humanity. Only a few, according to Jesus, will finally make it. And as for this beautiful planet, it should be thought of as one of the milder hells. We'd all do better to come down off our high horse and realize the precariousness of our position. The cosmos isn't in serious trouble, but we are, and so is this entire solar system.

Einstein, in spite of the profundity of his insights into the physical nature of the cosmos, realized that the wisest of men merely stand wetting their toes at the shore of an infinite ocean of knowledge. Yet his insights have been powerful enough to completely overthrow every previous rationalization about the real physical nature of time and space. A few paragraphs can't begin to detail the implications of those insights, so let's just briefly consider two important points. First, it is clear now that there can't be any such thing as a universally simultaneous time. Second, it is also clear that time doesn't exist at the velocity of light. These two points have been fully established mathematically and are no longer physically questioned. But what they mean to space travel has hardly been touched on as yet.

How often, for example, has one heard "scientific" information like this: that it takes light eight years to get here from Sirius, or that we are now seeing Polaris as it was 96 years ago, or that the recent nova in Cygnus actually took

place over a thousand years ago? Do statements like that correspond to any physical reality? All of them and all other errors like them, are based on the fallacious assumption that there can be such a thing as universally simultaneous time. But real time, time that actually impinges on phenomena, only exists relative to that phenomena and can only be defined through that relationship. Are we thinking of the time frame relative to earth, or to Sirius, or to Polaris, or to the nova in Cygnus, or to light itself crossing the vast reaches of space somewhere? Unless time values are related to a particular system at a particular place moving in a particular direction at a particular velocity, they are meaningless and worthless. Statements about time that fail to take those physical facts into account are delusional gobbledook.

Practically, the time barrier could be comparable to the sound barrier. Not long ago it was believed the sound barrier could never be broken. Then it was discovered that acceleration beyond the barrier wasn't harder but easier. We should also remember that the supreme vehicle of the human spirit is not the physical body but the imagination. That projects itself anywhere instantaneously, unbound by any physical necessity, and carried only by its own capacity for visualisation. Can the human spirit transported by its imagination reconstitute a physical body at the far end of its journey? In some cases that technique appears probable.

Lets consider a hypothetical case of twins. One of them stays on earth while the other travels on a UFO at close to the velocity of light. If the traveler goes to Polaris and back in a few days or a few months time, he would return to find his earthbound twin dead for perhaps two centuries. If the traveller would go to the Andromeda galaxy and back, which would require no more energy and not a great deal more time, he would return to find his earthbound twin dead for six million years. And if he were to travel to a really distant galaxy, also requiring no more energy and no unacceptable amount of time, he would return to this earth after billions of years had passed.

Are UFO phenomena apparitional? No doubt they are, but none of us here knows exactly what that means. It obviously does NOT mean that they are completely non-physical. Here's where the rub comes in, that is, in our definitions of physical reality, which are hopelessly out of touch with the facts, and must be one of the things UFOs are trying to show us. It has only been during this century that the precise mathematics of the broad flexibilities and relativities of time and space have been presented in such a way that they can't be logically refuted. That flexibility and relativity are now known to be a PHYSICAL fact and not simply a visionary fancy. Now we can know, if we are willing to face the facts, that extraterrestrials are PHYSICAL beings. They may be more than that, but they can't be less than that. Their vehicles and their activities are at least as physical as ours are.

Everyone knows there are UFOs, for example. The only real question is: what are they? Are they public delusions, private fantasies, dreams, imaginative constructions, or maybe nothing but foolish words? Or are they spiritual and physical realities of the most profound and important nature? Do they or do they not impinge on our physical world? Of course they do, and there is all kinds of hard evidence that they do. Cattle mutilations are among the most substantial of that hard evidence. How can hundreds of large valuable carcasses worked over for no known earthly purpose by no known earthly instruments and with unearthly skills be explained away? It hasn't been easy, but we soon discover that if people absolutely refuse to look at the facts, then there is no way they can be forced to. And there are all kinds of ways for even the most obvious facts to be avoided.

But eternal truth isn't all that far away - for whoever really wants to find it. What do you see when you look at the sky on a beautiful clear night? Primitive people have always known where heaven is, as well as many other things God hides from the clever and sophisticated. Enlightened earthlings have always known, for example, that time and space are completely relative. And it has been a failure to recognize this fact that accounts for major conflicts among differing religions and philosophies.

Is a million years longer than a day, a minute, or a second? From the point of view of illusion of course it is. But from the point of view of enlightenment it may not be. The Apostle Peter admonished Christians to never forget that with the Lord, that is, from the point of view of eternal truth, a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years is as a day. Moses in the ninetieth psalm says essentially the same thing. How did they know this? No doubt they learned it from immortals, since ALL immortals know things like that from practical experience. Every spirit sees into its own mother."

In the following quotation, Shaw Desmond, in his book "World Birth", also writes about time and space, but goes a step further in giving us hints on how we also eventually can explore these dimensions for ourselves:-

"All this leads us inevitably to something which may prove to be the most vital of all the future activities of the scientist. I refer to new sense discovery. The next thing for an intelligent intuitive science to do is not so much to re-discover as un-cover the Sleeping Senses, as I will call the senses we rarely or never use, but the existence of two of which we are beginning to suspect. That is to say, of telepathy, now at last admitted most reluctantly by science, and those heavenly twins, clairvoyance and clairaudience, for which so many great scientists now vouch.

But so far from only having seven senses, I believe that the scientist will yet discover that we have seventy or seven hundred.

Of one thing at least we can be assured. New senses are essential to the appreciation and even the percipience of the new world we are entering and to the understanding of the latest discoveries in the structure of matter and of that launching into spirit which is the sign of our time. Man, in a word, has to grow up out of matter and realize that he is not a physical but a spiritual being or he will be dazzled into impotence by the spiritual worlds into which he is, all unknowing, pioneering.

He will have to grow up out of his telescopes and microscopes, which, like the internal combustion engine, have almost reached their limits of perception, and in place of the mechanical instrument develop the living instruments of those sleeping senses of which I have spoken. For instance, we seem to have reached the limits of seeing though not of hearing - for the ear has beaten the eye in modern science. I think that it is now essentially the next task of science to find a seventh sense - one even beyond telepathy, that clairvoyance and clairaudience which is already dimly becoming percipient to man's newly awakened psychic senses - not to "find" so much as to learn how to control, something which will enable us to pioneer through matter and contact vibratory universes which lie beyond our terrestrial space and time.

May it not even be that the education and science of the future may find nearly its sole concern to be with the exploration and exploitation of what I will call the Psychic Senses? That remains to be seen. But that we have nearly exhausted the possibilities of advance by "reason", I do believe.

I only know that we men and women can no longer talk in terms of terrestrial space and time, and science knows it but hates to admit. We shall from now on be increasingly moving in spaceless timeless dimensions of universes lying outside our own - certainly in dimensions of systems so lying outside. And again, greatly daring, it seems to me, as I have said elsewhere, that one day we shall discover that space and time are both the same thing and both non-existent!"

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If you think these hypothesis fantastic, i.e. our "mind" being the ultimate source of energy for space/time travel, etc., please bear in mind that certain well-known psychics, (Ingo Swann of America, and Nina Kulagina of Russia among them), are already moving small objects by mind-power alone (i.e. psychokinesis). Prof. John Hasted, Physicist, of Birkbeck College, London, says he has personally witnessed over 50 cases of teleportation (supernormal transport of objects) often, through a room wall, a box or capsule. Prof. Hasted has done much research on psychic subjects and has written detailed reports on the results.

These achievements can be considered comparable to the first faltering steps of a very young child. Also, remember the hundreds of people, including many children, who suddenly discovered their ability to bend and break metal objects such as spoons, by using mind or will-power alone, a short time ago, after hearing of Uri Geller. I expect scientists are still trying to work out how this is achieved! I believe that when Jesus said: "With enough faith, men can move mountains", he meant it literally! I think it is wise to bear in mind when discovering psychic abilities that we are only opening channels for the power to operate through in ourselves, and we are not the creators of any such powers.

Gloria Saville

First excerpt from Fred Smith's article entitled 'The Relativity of Time and Space' in Page Research Library Newsletter, No.20. Sept-18-77. (See 'Advertisements' for address, etc.)

Second excerpt from Shaw Desmond's book "World Birth", published in 1938 by Methuen.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN CHELMSFORD

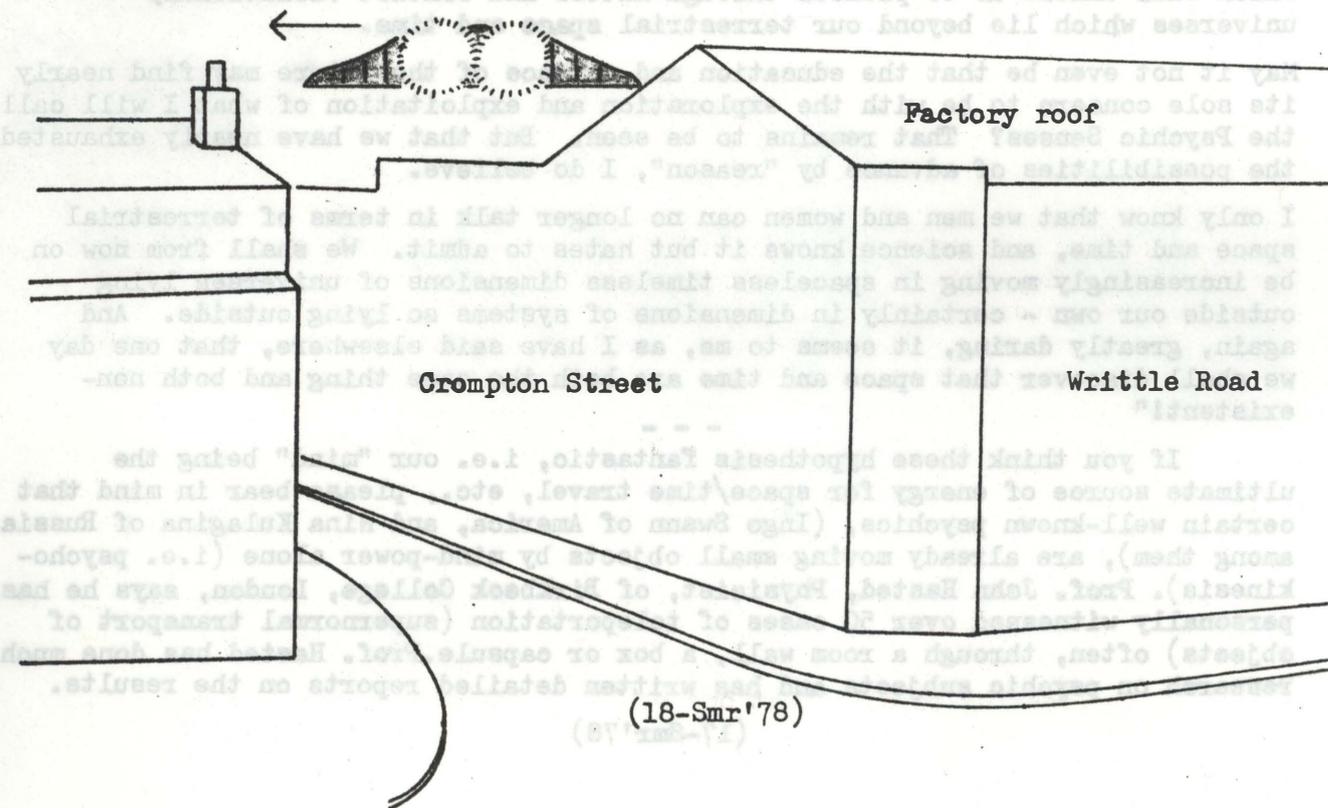
Lead-in The last week in January of this year saw a UFO 'flap' over and around the town of Chelmsford, Essex. Because of good publicity in local newspapers, Bill Eden, the EUFOSG's Chelmsford investigator, received many UFO reports.

The majority of sightings were of the lights-in-the-sky ("LITS") variety, but two very good sightings presented themselves to Bill Eden; one of these was printed - along with one or two minor cases - in the previous issue of Earthlink, the other one is printed below.

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Ben Tye (pseudonym) is an elderly gentleman who lives in Writtle Road, Chelmsford, a large town some 25 miles (40 Km.) N.E. of London. On the morning of Tuesday, January 31st, 1978, Ben made his way, as usual, along Writtle Road in order to buy his morning newspaper at the small newsagents on the corner of Crompton Street. The time was between 6.45 and 7.00 am, and Ben had only walked a very short distance when he saw a bright white light high up in the sky towards the east. At first he thought it was the North Star, but then noticed that it was moving. After moving slowly towards the north it disappeared down behind buildings.

Fifty yards or so further on was the newsagents, and as Ben turned to enter the shop he noticed an object very slowly appearing from behind the roof-top of the factory on the other side of the road.



"First a wing tip, then two very large bright yellowish lights, then the other wing tip ..." wrote Ben in his report. "It hovered for a few seconds and I got a bit scared as I thought it was going to crash on top of the shop. I tried to run away but my legs wouldn't move and by the time I had got organised it has disappeared behind a row of houses ..."

Ben then went into the shop which he had been standing less than 12ft. (3.7m.) from and remained in the shop just long enough to collect his newspaper - about 15 secs. he says - and when he came out the object was nowhere to be seen.

Ben never told the newsagent what he had seen for fear of being laughed at. Instead he returned home and upon opening his paper he saw the article on the UFO seen over Chelmsford on January 26th, 1978, which was presented in the Spring issue of Earthlink. Bill Eden's 'phone no. was included in the article and so Ben contacted him.

Ben accompanied Bill Eden to the exact spot where the object was seen and they discussed what had happened. However, it was apparent that Ben's written account of the incident contained errors regarding distance, etc. Assuming that Ben is correct in saying that the object lay directly above the wall on the other side of the road, then the following facts and figures - corrected by Bill Eden where necessary - apply.

Length of time object visible: More than 10 seconds.

Estimated altitude: 28ft. (8.5m.)

Calculated velocity when moving: 0.7 mph (1 km./hr.)

Calculated distance from observer: 35.5 ft. (10.8m)

Greatest apparent size: Length was equivalent to a span of 5" (12.5cm) at arm's length.

Calculated real size: 7ft. (2.1m.) long (diameter?) x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. (0.5m.) high with 2ft. (0.6m.) diameter lights.

Object first seen in the east.

Object last seen in the north-east.

Elevation of object: About 40°.

Audible emissions: None.

Weather conditions: Cold, dry with a clear sky.

Sunrise: 7.40 am.

Moon: Last Quarter.

The object, it appears, was rather small as far as most UFOs go (average size 30ft. (9.1m.) across), but then it would have to be small to move between the north light roofs of the factory. The object was so close that Ben could see the panels which make up the body, the body being a grey colour while the lights, which appeared to be "swirling", were yellow-orange in colour.

Ben reported that it was just breaking daylight when he saw the object, which didn't appear to illuminate the fairly dark surroundings!

The Witness: Bill Eden noted that Ben never gave any impression other than that of a completely sincere person, and although retired - 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of age - and living on his own, his faculties were in no way diminished. Although Ben wears glasses, which he was wearing that eventful morning, his vision with them on is "perfect."

Ben had never seen an UFO before this, neither had he read any books on the subject. The sighting must have certainly made him wonder, though, for he writes in his report:

"There was no engine noise, so what is the source of their motivation? Are they powered by some kind of magnetic field, and why do they need such bright lights?" Good questions indeed!

Aircraft? - Upon checking with Stansted and Southend Airports it was discovered that no air traffic was around at the time, and any aircraft appearing as large (and necessarily approaching) as Ben indicated would have produced both audible and visual anomalies totally non-consistent with the facts.

The Factory - The location of this peculiar object was found to lie over the roofs of the English Electric Valve Company (EEVC), which lies adjacent to Crompton Parkinson and Marconi Radar works. Marconi manufacture and test radar equipment, and it is interesting to note that one set of witnesses to the UFO reported by

R. Wilson and A. Prowse in the last issue of Earthlink, said that they saw their UFO pass over from the direction of the 365ft. (111m.) tall mast in Great Baddow, which is used by Marconi for testing radar and radio equipment.

Bill Eden contacted Marconi but they had no explanation for the sighting made by Ben. They informed Bill that the EEVC are occasionally visited by someone in a helicopter(1), but the EEVC told Bill that there had been no helicopter in the area at the time of the sighting.

Last notes - Apart from being "a bit scared," Ben never suffered any ill effects. The area was very silent, Ben recalled, with no cars or anyone else in the streets. Although there was no way of telling, Ben felt that he may have been observed by the object, which kept the two bright lights in his direction all the time (significant?).

Could Ben have mistaken a natural phenomenon for what sounds very much like a real UFO? The Moon was visible that morning but present in a totally different part of the sky. At such close range what else would 'fit the bill'. A kite or a gas-filled model, perhaps, but this sounds too improbable to be true. Suggestions please?

(Case No. 1978-1-13)

CRITTERS EXAMINE FARMER NEAR LUBLIN, POLAND?

by John Brent Musgrave.

A correspondent in Poland who wishes to remain anonymous has just passed on the following information about a possible occupant/contact case which took place about 60 kilometers from Lublin, Poland. Much of the information is based on articles appearing in the newspaper Kurier Polski, as well as work by another Polish UFO investigator.

About 8 o'clock Wednesday morning, May 17th, 1978, a 71 year-old farmer was driving his horse-drawn carriage through a wooded area. He came upon four strange entities (some reports say two) by the roadside. They were described as being about 1½ meters tall, and all wore tightly fitting black "divers suits" which were completely smooth without buttons, pockets, etc. The critters themselves had a green complexion, with slanting eyes and membranes between their fingers. They moved by a jumping motion, and the farmer claims their speech was inarticulate. But apparently they invited him into their "bus-shaped" white rectangular vehicle which hovered nearby. This was described as being 5 metres by 3 metres by 2½ metres. On its edges were four "barrels" with straight and helical shaped "tubes" which were spinning rapidly within the "barrels".

Once inside, the farmer says he only saw benches in a completely black coloured room. He then claims to have been examined by an apparatus which resembled an X-ray machine. After this he was offered some transparent substance the critters themselves ate. But he declined the offer. After his adventure was over, the farmer returned to the village on his carriage and summoned some of the local folk. They could no longer see the vehicle, but some rectangular "foot-prints" were found in a muddy section by the road bank. There is a report that at the same time as the farmer's adventure, another person in the same village was alarmed by her son who insisted an airplane was hovering above the grainery. But before she could get outside in time, it "flew off" with a "terrible noise" which shook the cottage.

Later articles in Kurier Polaki claim the farmer probably saw a helicopter and crew.

UFO 'ATTACKS RUSSIAN CITY'

While the world argues over whether or not UFOs exist, one group of people have no doubt. The citizens of Petrozavodsk claim their homes have been attacked by a flying saucer beaming shafts of light out of the Russian sky. The Russian government immediately slapped a ban on information about the 12 minute raid, but this account has been pieced together. cont/.....

(20-Smr'78)

A UFO attacked the Russian city of Petrozavodsk in a savage raid lasting 12 minutes claim eyewitnesses. It was as big as a football pitch and shot beams of light on to the city which burned holes in window panes and pavements, they say.

As terrified citizens fled in panic, thinking it was an American nuclear attack, the city was swathed in light from the UFO. The beams seemed to dangle from the ship, making it look like a fearsome, monstrous jellyfish.

Finally, as hysteria gripped the city the UFO moved away northwards over Lake Onega and disappeared into a bank of clouds.

Since that day on September 20th last year, the same UFO has appeared again five times over the city of 185,000 people, but has made no more attacks. The Russian Government, just 450 miles away in Moscow, immediately set up an investigation into the claims. They banned newspapers, radio and television stations from reporting the incident and took away damaged window panes and paving slabs.

But reports filtering out of Petrozavodsk, from eye-witnesses and Russian scientists are just reaching the West.

They say that damaged windows were not smashed, but holes the size of chickens' eggs simply knocked through them. And the pieces of glass which fell out were also in one piece. Eye-witnesses say boatmen down by the lake ran through the city screaming: "This is the end," because they thought it was a US atomic war-head about to explode. The sky was set ablaze with eerie light, even though the time was 4 a.m.

Now, as the citizens try to get back to their normal lives and still keep one eye on the sky, scientists are trying to find out exactly what happened. Alexander Kazantsev, physicist and UFO investigator, said: "As far as I am concerned, it was a spaceship from outer space carrying out reconnaissance."

Moscow physicist, Vladimir Azhazha, who was present, said, "The object came low over the harbour and hovered over a ship. The ship was about 460 ft. long, so the UFO must have been about 350 ft. in diameter. As it hovered over the lake a smaller object separated from the main body and fell into the water. That is when the UFO moved off."

There were no planes or helicopters in the area, the weather was good and the sky reported as clear.

On the same night, foreign pressmen in Helsinki, 450 miles away in Finland, reported a bright ball of light at about 3.10 a.m.

Reporters in Leningrad and Moscow also said they saw a 'fireball'.

Azhazha said: "In my opinion, what was seen over Petrozavodsk was either a UFO, a carrier of high intelligence, with crew and passengers, or it was a field of energy created by such a UFO."

One result is that TASS, the Russian news agency, has received thousands of letters asking one question: "Is it safe to stay in Petrozavodsk?"

"Reveille", May 19th, 1978.

EUFOSG UFO SIGHTINGS - Summaries of local, recent sightings.

March 8, 1978. 18.57. Barking, Essex. (Case No. 1978-3-3).

Tony Steel, a much valued member of the EUFOSG, happened to be watching the sunset when an object with a "snow white (oval) base" and a blue dome on top came over from the west. Tony was standing on his first floor maisonette balcony at the time and he immediately ran to his next door neighbour who came out right away and also saw the object which was kept in sight for over 10 minutes.

The object, whatever it was, was moving up and down erratically as it moved towards the north before it changed direction towards the east. This sighting was reported in the local newspaper the following week.

March 22, 1978. 01.30. Enfield, N.London (Case No. 1978-3-1)

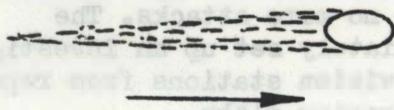
Miss Hooker's attention was caught by an object like a "brilliant fiery sun" which she saw travelling across the sky. The object flashed on and off and passed noiselessly from east to west. The witness was in her upstairs bedroom at the time.

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April 16, 1978. 01.10. Lower Edmonton, N.London (Case No. 1978-4-1)

Not an UFO, this one, but a sighting of a meteor which, had it been in sight for a lot longer, would have been extremely similar to several other apparently genuine UFO reports on file.

Past active Group member Doug Canning saw the depicted object streak overhead, lasting for an estimated 4/5 seconds before burning out and disappearing. The pointed tail was made up of orange sparks while the head was a white oval blob.



Note: Meteors travel at high velocities and you would be very lucky to keep a meteor in view for much more than 10 seconds say (meteor trails, when they're seen, usually last longer).

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April 23, 1978. 01.30. Bethnal Green, E.London. (Case No. 1978-4-3)

Tony Steel investigated this sighting which involved a middle-aged woman who said that she was asleep in the bedroom of her 8th floor flat when she was suddenly awoken by a brilliant golden light streaming in through her window. At the same time she heard a "high pitched whistle and a vibrating drone," and got up to investigate.

Upon going into her living room and looking out of the window, she beheld a great golden ball just hanging in the air outside the block of flats. Every few minutes the object emitted silver specks, but remained completely motionless throughout.

For about 20/25 minutes the woman had the ball in sight before she decided to go back to bed. However, she found she had to lie face down to avoid the brilliant light keeping her awake. Afterwards she felt that the golden ball "was not of this world."

A considerable article appeared two week's later in the local newspaper describing the sighting. Sightings, apparently, are very rare in this part of London - according to the local Police (and our own records).

Despite a little detective work, no-one else was found - in this very built-up area - to have seen the same object. The weather that night was cold and dry with a clear sky.

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May 1, 1978. Pole Hill, Chingford, N.E. London. (Case No. 1978-5-1)

At 11.30 p.m. Mrs. H. was doing some ironing in her first floor living room when she heard her dog barking in the rear garden. On looking out through the curtain-covered window she saw a vivid red glow overhead in the sky which had yellow flashes in it. The object, or whatever it was producing the red light, was not visible being, Mrs. H. thought, over the roof of the house and she believed for a while that the roof was on fire! She went through the house to the front but saw just a black sky. Over or just beyond a large reservoir in the area lay a reddish glow - like a sunset. By this time her dog had calmed down.

Miss Pat Reeves, an investigator for the EUFOSG, found that another woman down the road saw a very similar phenomena at the same time, only on this occasion the glow was a vivid pink which covered most of the sky, and a circle of red lights passed overhead immersed in the pink glow. Just prior to the glow being noticed a "whoosh", just like a rocket taking off, was heard. The glow which passed overhead headed in the direction of the reservoir also, and it seems that both Mrs. H. and this other lady had witnessed the same object. A third woman, who lives very near the reservoir which, incidentally, has been the focus for UFO activity from 1970 onwards, wrote to Miss Reeves with yet another report of an object which passed over her garden.

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August 5, 1978. 22.45 approx. Collier Row, Romford, Essex. (Case No. 1978-8-1)
Young Sally Hill (13) happened to see a bright whitish light descend behind a row of trees which border a barley field about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile (0.8 km.) from her home in Wensley Close, Havering Park. Sally's house backs on to fields, which merge into the notorious Hainault Forest, where UFO sightings - including landings - have been numerous in the last year or so (1).

A 'phone call to investigator Tony Steel, the next day, brought him over the same afternoon. Sally knows the area very well and she took Tony over to the field where the object came down. Sally mentioned a burnt area in the field concerned, but evidence of a touch-down was not forthcoming.

Sally's mother related that on June 26, '78, a brilliant object passed close by and illuminated her kitchen, which is on the first floor, and in the process frightened her dog, which ran under the bed, panicked horses grazing in the fields at the back of her house, and produced strange effects in the house on the electric machinery, i.e. the electric wall clock gained $\frac{1}{4}$ hour, the refrigerator defrosted and the T.V. picture was distorted.

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There have been other sightings not mentioned here, but overall activity reported to us has been very low for the Spring and Summer months of this year.

"FLYING SAUCEER CONTACTS"

summary of lecture given by Rex Dutta and Mrs. Jean Coulsting to EUFOSG on 4.4.78.

1) Air Technical Intelligence (the nerve centre) of the U.S. Air Force officially reported on September 22, 1947, to the President of the USA that CONTACTS had been made with the Space Peoples.

Next year, 1948, the entire resources of the US Government re-affirmed CONTACTS as "the considered opinion of this Command" after a full conference between the highest scientists, administrators, military, technocrats and intelligence: chaired by Brigadier General Geirge Schulgen and including Depts AC/AS-2 (roughly the equivalent of British MI 5 and MI 16 and T2 (the inner department that designs the secret weapons) and T3 (who build the secret weapons); and Air Institute of Technology, Intelligence T-2, Office (which includes the world-wide resources of the USA, not only the CIA and the FBI); Chief of Engineering Division; and Aircraft, Power Plant and Propeller Laboratories of Engineering Division T-3.

This release of information by President Jimmy Carter proves:

- (a) the cover-up on Flying Saucer CONTACTS has been going on for the past 31 years; while the highest minds knew the truth, lesser minds encouraged the shams, encouraged the fake investigations that lead away from the truth; namely that the Governments have had CONTACTS with the Space Peoples since 22.9.47.
- (b) So, if any of us have been "seeking scientific proof of UFOs" during the past 31 years, then we are a dupe of the deliberate cover-up, and we have been prevented from pursuing the real goal - that of meeting the Space Peoples.
- (c) Ten Governments have now admitted to Flying Saucers being real, and to communications having been made.
- (d) The estimated number of earthlings who have made contact is in excess of 100,000.

2) Why do the Governments discourage CONTACTS?

For their motive power, Flying Saucers do not use the main earthling sources of energy and the entire economic and social structure of the planet would have to be re-oriented, improved and re-organised, if open fraternisation took place on a large scale. For instance, Flying Saucers don't need:

(cont'd next page)

- a) coal. So what happens to the mines, the Unions?
- b) oil. So what do you do with redundant sheiks, altered balance of payments, of world power?
- c) nuclear energy. So what do you do with the now obsolete "science" of the earthlings, of the 5-only senses? Think of the disconsolate Royal College of Materialistic Science (and the Soviet counterparts) now demoted. None of these dense materialists can "bend a spoon by the power of thought" or cause it to fly.

Think of the changes that the "new science of the sixth sense" will entail. All our technology, our factories, our training, our universities, our dividends, our wages - all will be "at risk"; all will have to be re-shaped. Right round the planet.

Think of the upheavals in the social, economic, and military sense; for the capitalists, the communists, the third world.

It's far easier to cover-up and to deny/decry Flying Saucer CONTACTS.

Rex Dutta then enlarged on the psychic/spiritual consequences, in the second part of the lecture:

Let's realise that all governments, including the U.K., U.S.A. and U.S.S.R., are most seriously engaged in psychic research. Unfortunately for war.

All the really first-class Minds, the double firsts at the Universities, have been mobilised, and the resources being poured into this area of development now have complete priority.

So it is very serious. The sixth and seventh senses do exist, demand to be investigated, and understood.

The main pre-requisite for the permeation of the 7 planes of Consciousness, whence ensue the true powers of the psychic Mind is that the seeker be selfless; not selfish. That is the fundamental stumbling block for us earthlings.

Because we are separative we earthlings cannot go directly thought-to-thought, Mind-to-Mind; for instance, we can communicate only through a hole in the face - change the noise from English to Sanskrit and we are lost; we hear only the noise/words/language, we don't go directly to the Thought behind. Similarly, we make squiggles-on-paper, and again are lost if these squiggles are changed from English to Chinese - we are incapable of reaching through to Thought itself as can the Space Peoples.

Hence we deny/decry telepathy, clairvoyance; the more encrusted/separative we are, the more vehement the denial.

Important please

Because our earthling/separative mind cannot normally get through the outer form, the symbols, the words, the language to Thought, we fundamentally misunderstand the Space Peoples.

They are more Mind, taking a physical body for temporary use, when necessary; we are more Body than Mind.

Space Mind/Full Mind/Manas being the technical term, can make a body at will; whether the body is the "Space Man, Space Woman", or is a UFO, Mother Ship, etc. Any form, at-will. That's why the Space Peoples take the shape the earthling wants/fears/expects: if our own personal aura stinks, we see monsters; if we are conceited, we see imitations of ourselves (but, of course, not quite as good as ourselves) i.e. humanoids; if we want/fear/expect golden-haired messiahs, we see those.

Space Mind/Full Mind/Manas can make landed Saucers dense-physical enough for the French Government to estimate from the ground depressions their weights to be up to 100 tons.

All these are real, are dense, are seen on radar, are responsive to our 5-only senses.

Of course, Space Mind/Full Mind/Manas does not grub around with light-years, but travels with the instantaneous speed of thought. How long does it take your mind to think of getting to the Star Sirius? You're there already.

Nor too does Space Mind/Full Mind/Manas care a hoot for our 5-only sense conclusions that there can't be any life on Mars or Venus. Your Mind (not the brain, the physical tool) can live in a furnace and in an iceberg simultaneously. Your Mind (nor the brain) can be here/there/no-where/everywhere; simultaneously. Your Mind can "belong" to you/me/the human race/the galaxy; simultaneously. Let's never forget: Space Peoples are more Mind; we are mostly body. We've got to re-think, to improve, to expand our sixth and seventh senses, to become Space Peoples ourselves. Is not Space Ship Earth a part of the Galaxy?

For further information interested readers are invited to write for Viewpoint Aquarius (35p please'. say, in stamps) c/o Fish Tanks Ltd., 49 Blandford Street, London, W.1. (01) 935 3719. This is Britain's largest UFO magazine, and has the widest circulation, world-wide. (Entirely non-profit).

Also available are special "pulls" (at 20p each) of Allende Papers, detailing the U.S. secret contacts with UFOs 1947-8, and the teleportation of the Naval Destroyer in 1943, to its Philadelphia yards at Newport; and The Bermuda Triangle, where things appear as well as disappear, on land and on sea, in 7 permanent areas, and also at random. The cause and cure are laid squarely at the readers' feet.

* Grateful thanks to Mrs. Jean Coulsting for supplying *
* the above Meeting summary and information on *
* Viewpoint Aquarius, etc. *
* * * * *

LETTERS

For the November 1977 Journal's Editorial I wrote about people who witness large numbers of UFOs. The following letter is from one of those mentioned.

November 16th, 1977.

Dear Mr. Goring,

Received your unexpected letter and was happy to hear from you. I have received several letters from persons in England reporting UFO sightings. Unfortunately, they did not include their addresses so I could not answer them.

I really can't say how many UFOs we have seen. It is unusual to go outside at night without seeing one or more. We live on a small northern Wisconsin lake which is remote and surrounded by woods for miles. It gives one a very good view of the heavens. It is also quiet.

Many people have visited us just to see a UFO - none have gone home empty-handed! A former government man trained to track down UFOs visited us. He had been around the world attempting to see UFOs where they were reported. He saw none until he came here! One came directly overhead and he jumped for joy! It was his first!

I have seen one UFO that actually scared h... out of me! I was on our boat dock about this time of year. It was around 10 o'clock, a clear night and cold. The lake was frozen over. I saw a red glow across the lake and thinking it was a cottage on fire, I turned to go in the house and report it. Just then the "red glow" rose above the trees and came down to about 10ft. over the ice! It was a red-red! The UFO slowly glided across the lake, rose above the woods and continued on. It was about 30ft. long and shaped like an oblong box. I couldn't move to call my wife - my knees shook too much!

At another time my wife and I saw a huge dirigible UFO. We drove to intercept it and it vanished before our eyes!

Our neighbour across the small lake called me one morning to report two UFOs hanging above our house! I hurried outside and saw two gleaming silver ball-shaped UFOs. One stayed for about one minute. The other flew away and disposed of something that looked like water when over the lake.

Just recently I tried mental telepathy to call a UFO. It was around 10.00 at night when I went outside. Seeing no UFO I concentrated very hard and said in a low voice, "How come I haven't seen one of you for nearly two weeks? Show me you are still here." At seeing none, I turned to go back inside. Then about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from me over a farmer's field a UFO appeared. It was brilliant white and slowly came towards me. I ran and called my wife to see it. She brought our powerful flashlight and as it passed overhead we flashed it on and off. To no avail. It took nine minutes for this UFO to cross the lake.

My neighbour has seen UFOs over our house many times and called to tell me so.

The summer people have organised parties just to watch for them. They have never been disappointed!

Why there are so many UFOs here where we live I do not know. I could relate dozens of occurrences where UFOs have hung over cross-country power lines and were seen to tap into them!

I have written many articles on UFOs and some will appear in Argosy UFO Annual, Official UFO and Ancient Astronauts

UFOs are here to oversee their creations - us. I firmly believe they created mankind by cloning - a process of reproduction we are now working on. That they made their leader a god in order to control their creations. All ancient 'myths' tell of sky people who not only helped them but were their gods! The Bible is no different except it is our version of these so-called myths.

That's all for now. Write again.

Respectfully,

George Friedrich, Custer, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

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Editor: Mr. Friedrich's home - Custer, Wisconsin - is a very small town which lies about 100 miles (161 km.) west of Lake Michigan - one of the five Great Lakes. A detailed map shows that the whole area surrounding the Great Lakes, which includes many States and Canada's Ontario and Quebec, is absolutely littered with small lakes (and rivers) and one naturally wonders if all the other lakes - besides the one that Mr. Friedrich lives next to - are 'infested' with UFOs. Unfortunately, not everyone who lives in these isolated regions communicates such data, but it is known that a tremendous amount of UFO activity together with a great deal of other weird, possibly UFO-connected, events, do occur in the Great Lakes area. Indeed, so many strange, inexplicable things have been found to go on there that the whole area has been dubbed "The Great Lakes Triangle" - similar to the Bermuda Triangle but better!

Jay Gourley, whose book deals with this other less well known Triangle, states that it accounts for more aircraft and ship losses/accidents than does the infamous Bermuda Triangle, while together they are the world's worst areas for baffling events.

One can understand, perhaps, the reason why a ship or aircraft can totally disappear in the vast expanse of the Atlantic Ocean, but when the area of disappearance is over one of five limited-in-area fresh-water lakes, it is very much harder to explain. According to Jay Gourley, not only do planes, ships and people disappear, but aircraft crash for no apparent reason, radio and radar fail at times for no known cause, survivors of air crashes totally lose their memories of events leading up to the crash, aircraft known to be within visual range fail to see each other, and so on.

Cases involving the above are listed from well documented official investigations which give no really acceptable answers to the cause of the accidents. However, Jay Gourley has tried to find alternative explanations and it is interesting to note that although he is not a ufologist, (being an aviator-turned-journalist) he makes constant reference to UFOs and their associated effects, many of which tie-in with reported weird happenings in the Great Lakes area.

Are UFOs then, the cause of all these mysteries? Jay Gourley isn't committed, and it just may be that it is the area itself which, like the Bermuda Triangle, is responsible.

One clue mentioned by Jay Gourley that may at least be an indicator in the right direction is given by Charles Berlitz who notes that through the Great Lakes area

runs a line of zero magnetic variation termed the 'agonic line'. This is a line made up of places where a magnetic compass needle points to True North and not a few degrees or so either side as is usually the case.

This 'agonic line' runs north to south through the Great Lakes and curves south-eastward crossing the southern part of the Bermuda Triangle. Along this line many disappearances/accidents have occurred, but it is difficult to attach any theory as to how this 'line' can cause the listed effects. Berlitz theorises either UFOs, which use in some way this 'agonic line', as the cause of the mysteries, or Ivan Sanderson's 'Vile Vortices' where objects can drop into or out of other space/time continuums. The only problem is all the other areas about the Earth where Sanderson has found similar things happen. Do these have 'agonic lines' running through them as well? Also, the Great Lakes Triangle is not one of the ten 'hot spots' noted by Sanderson. One immediately wonders how many other areas there are about the Earth with Bermuda Triangle characteristics.

One additional fact noticed in the Great Lakes area is that "ground stations have continued radio conversations with ships and aircraft that have long since disappeared on radar and to the naked eye." So radio waves manage to pass 'through' where radar and visual wavelengths do not.

I believe that there could well be something very important and peculiar about the universe that we haven't as yet positive proof of. This "something" could be - as Berlitz and Sanderson theorise - areas on and about the Earth (to say nothing of other planets in this and other solar systems?) where worlds don't actually collide physically, but are 'joined' dimensionally with what are commonly known in the sci-fi world as space warps. Since time and space are inseparable - one can't exist without the other - there are, perhaps, time warps as well.

One then wonders that if the above is true, then if aircraft, ships, etc., have accidentally passed through to unseen worlds, then why can't common materials including air and water also pass through at times? How many times have messages purportedly from alien races told of their concern for the polluted mess that Earth people are making of their home planet. If I was living on one of these other worlds then I don't suppose I would like polluted water and air coming through from my next door dimension neighbour Earth! (The Great Lakes are very polluted.)

Then, of course, one may ask in view of the above, how many times has the reverse occurred? Have those mysterious skyfalls that seem to happen in many parts of the world an origin on a world in another dimension? Are some UFOs passenger or freight vessels that have accidentally passed through a dimension barrier into our world? You may not agree with any of these possibilities, but they are interesting nonetheless to speculate upon.

Finally, if you're thinking of visiting the U.S.A. (or live there already), try and get along to Custer, WI, and spend a few nights by the small lake mentioned in Mr. Friedrich's letter - it sounds even better than England's very own Warminster!

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In the Spring issue of Earthlink there appeared a letter from a Mr. D- (anonymity requested), which related at the very end a war-time incident where a gentleman in the Royal Observer Corps overheard - by accident - a message sent by the War Dept. to someone else. The message contained news of the hurried burial of a grotesque creature found on Canvey Island, Essex, England.

In Mr. D's letter of May 3rd, 1978, he relates that he spoke for 15-20 mins. to the man who overheard the message before the man went away to convalesce after being in hospital. Unfortunately, due to the man's very weak condition, not many details were unravelled, but what was revealed is given below.

The message spoke of Canvey Island police and Civil Defence people hurriedly burying a non-human creature. The creature was described as being about 4ft.6 ins. (1.37 m.) tall, covered in short dark fur and having four limbs, the lower limbs terminating in cloven pads. This is all the information that could be gathered during the brief interview.

Cont/over....

From Mr. D's letter of May 3rd, I quote the following list of possibilities regarding the creature:-

- "(1) It never existed - a hoax.
- (2) Misinterpretation of certain events.
- (3) It was one of the more repulsive types of baboon.
- (4) It really was a hominid/humanoid.
- (5) There are records existing of Nazi genetic experiments which produced grotesque travesties of Hcno Sapiens.

There are also, in the same records I believe, details of experiments made to find out at what altitude a pilot/aircrew could bale out and survive without oxygen. Obviously, flight personnel were not used, but slave labour was, and I can see no good reason why a genetic freak could not be used at some time or another and the experiment of the time went wrong, the only evidence being a hoffific thing washed up on a fore-shore."

A few extra points worth mentioning I quote from Mr. D's letter of May 19th, 1978:-

"..... In such a situation it would make sense to bury the 'thing' for the sake of giving the impression to those of the public who knew of it the whole affair was unremarkable. A quick burial for public eyes and a quick exhumation in the dead of the night for it to be taken for examination. To do so would have been easy as the island was pretty much a restricted area and few people moved around after dark.

There was more than one peculiar event during the war, such as the navy man who was a signaller on a squadron flagship, who told me the squadron was making for port during a terrific storm when the Commander made a check on his force by radio and radar. The electronics showed one more ship than there should have been; upon entering more sheltered waters it simply vanished off the screen"

Mr. D-,
West Tilbury, Grays Thurrock, Essex.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

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KRUPTOS

A French-written duplicated magazine of UFOs, Templars, psychic phenomena, etc. Write: Hervé Laronde, B.P. 114, 69643, Caluire Cedex, France.

ESSEX HEALERS ASSOCIATION

The Essex Healers publish a Newsletter concerned with spiritual healing and the fine work being carried out by their many members. Write for details to: Hon. Registrar, Mr. R. Snelling, 35A Lottem Road, Canvey Island, Essex.

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ODDS AND ENDS

No UFOs on Trek star's screen

Vermillion, S.D. (UPI) - James Doohan, better known as Scotty of the Star Ship Enterprise, believes more in the new Star Trek television series than in UFOs. "The more scientists I talk to, the less I believe in UFOs," he said. "I think it's all an electrical display." Vancouver-born Doohan, a master of dialects, said he likes Bill Cosby's depiction of UFOs. In his best Dixie accent, he said, "Deh oh-ways pic' on a body from the South... all li'l country folk." Then, shifting to an Oxford accent, he added, "They never pick anybody super intelligent, you know."

Cont/over...

Before Star Trek, Doohan said, people were frightened of visitors from outer space "the Martians will get you, and all that." He said Star Trek was an education about possible aliens from other worlds - "it had a message."

While he called the film, Star Wars, fabulous entertainment, he said, "The only possible message is, "May the Force Be With You." Well, you can write all sorts of things into that.

"At my home we make a point at 6 o'clock of watching Star Trek. We come away from any show saying, "Wow that's good television." Doohan says Paramount Pictures plans to use Star Trek as a flagship for a fourth network. The show will be syndicated at first but I think the network idea may catch on. The big advertisers are complaining about not getting enough prime time."

Although best known for Star Trek, Doohan has acted in numerous stage plays, radio programmes, television shows and movies. Doohan is 57 and heftier now. He lives with his wife in Los Angeles and was interviewed while here to lecture at the University of South Dakota.

Stars of the older series are expected to return, he said, except perhaps for Leonard Nimoy, the pointy-eared Spock of Vulcan fame. "I don't want to talk about Spock not returning to the show, but I'll say this - he's got some hate mail. That's a shame, because there isn't a nicer guy on the set. I'd like to tell those who wrote the letters that Star Trek is not a show of hate. It's a show of love."

Cr. John B. Musgrave,
Alberta, Canada.

"Edmonton Journal",
December 10, 1977.

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Movie film taken of UFOs

In October last year, two Cheshire families - a total of six people - who were on holiday near Stonehenge on the Salisbury Plain, managed to take some 3½ mins. of Super-8 colour movie film which portrayed numerous manoeuvring orange balls of light in the sky. One object was said to have hovered for a timed 50 mins!

Of some significance was the fact that a portable TV and some compasses were affected by the objects, and a few weeks later one of the two men present during the sightings - made over three successive nights - was taken to hospital with a strange skin disease due, perhaps, to one ball of light that approached rather close.

The April 21, 1978, edition of the Daily Express carried the story of the sightings and Granada TV screened a programme on UFOs which concentrated a good deal on the film. This ½ hour broadcast, which went out to viewers in N.W. England, was then shown to London viewers the following evening. Nothing, of course, came of an 'argument' between what really amounted to witnesses of the UFO sightings and ufologists versus a learned doctor (debunker), and viewers were left to make up their own minds as to what the movie film portrayed.

The movie film, all things considered, is, no doubt, quite genuine, but despite analysis by Kodak Ltd., who have pronounced the film genuine, and questioning of all the witnesses who, it appeared, were all present in the television studio, the good doctor still managed to explain away anything the others could fire at him, albeit not very convincingly at times.

Even if the objects, instead of being just balls of light at an indeterminate distance, had had some definite shape - say a saucer with a dome - and had approached fairly close, it is still very doubtful that film of such an event would have swayed this doctor's negative opinion one inch in favour of real UFOs!

Editor.

MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!

(30-Smr'78)

SPIES FROM SPACE

Flying saucers are swooping on America's top secret war bases. That seems to be the explanation of several 'close encounters' with Unidentified Flying Objects revealed by the United States Air Force. Details of the 1975 UFO "Space Spies" were disclosed to an American group called Ground Saucer Watch, Inc., under a U.S. law which gives the public the right to information from the government.

Strategic Air Command bases and nuclear weapons storage areas were the targets for the spies. At least four bases in America and several others in Canada were visited by as many as seven unidentified hovering craft, which were spotted by military observers on the ground and by radar trackers.

Pilots who had chased after the strange craft were unable to explain what they were. In one case, in 1975 at a Montana airbase, Air Force documents describe the UFOs as "objects which appeared to hover and then descend with bright streaming lights." There were simultaneous sightings of them from different locations.

According to the reports, the lights dimmed, disappeared, and radar contact was lost after two planes were scrambled to chase the objects. The documents show that American military chiefs in the Pentagon attempted to explain away the incidents at some bases as unidentified "helicopters" flown by unknown pilots. But most of the reports simply refer to the visitors at the bases as - "UFOs."

Cr. Bill Eden, Chelmsford, Essex. "Sunday Mirror", May 29, 1978.

US pact on UFOs.

America and Russia signed a pact in 1971 to swap information about UFOs and keep the rest of the world in the dark. That is the claim of an Italian aviation expert, writing in the authoritative review of the Italian Air Force.

Carlo Di Folca claims the pact was signed on September 30, 1971, so that neither super-power would mistake UFOs for atomic missiles.

He also claims the two powers want to discredit the idea that UFOs exist to keep their own position as masters of technology.

And he says that if nuclear weapons spread beyond certain limits, America and Russia will announce the existence of UFOs, organise a world defence alliance... .. and be the uncontested leaders.

"Reveille", June 23, 1978.

A U.F.O. seen in southern France

Bagnols-sur-Ceze (A.F.P.)

An "unidentified flying object" was seen Thursday night by several people in the region of Saint-Chaptes near Uzès in southern France.

Advised by witnesses, the gendarmes of Saint-Chaptes saw for themselves the phenomenon and made out a report. The UFO, of which the form was difficult to define because of the darkness, was going slowly at a low altitude, flashing four reddish-orange lights. Other people perceived the object over other localities of the region before it disappeared behind hills.

The gendarmerie was able to establish, after an enquiry at the air bases of the region, that no helicopters were flying at the time that the phenomenon was observed.

Friday, a farmer of Lays-sur-le-Doubs, near Pierre-de-Bresse, in the department of Saone-et-Loire, made a strange discovery which is mobilising the services of the gendarmerie pending the arrival of specialists from Paris and Metz.

Cont/over...

In the middle of the field sown with barley, he was surprised to find a furrow 8.60 metres long and 2 metres wide, with a depth of 40 cm in the middle. Both ends of the furrow end in a point. In a perimeter of 10 metres, around this cavity, several points of anchorage of cylindrical form, 6 to 8 cm in diameter, and 12 to 14 cm deep, have been found. On the sides of the furrow and the points of anchorage, which are extra-ordinarily smooth, there is a grey substance of which the gendarmerie have taken a careful sample.

"Le Soir", April 30, 1978.

A BALLET OF UFOs IN THE SKY OVER ARGENTINE

At the end of last week, about forty UFOs performed a real "air ballet" over the province of San Luis, 400 kilometres to the west of Buenos Aires. The first flying saucers appeared last Thursday, the regional daily "La Voz Del Sur" and the local radio station report, and cite declarations of inhabitants of the province.

The strange airships, surrounded by a bright bluish-green light, passed several times in a group, then separated into two formations to rejoin after a perfect turn, the very frightened witnesses said. The UFOs, which were ovoid and larger underneath than above, did not have any windows, and emitted a sparkling light. Power cuts occurred whilst they were flying over, declared several witnesses, and the television programmes were affected.

"Le Soir", May 10, 1978.

A BALLET OF FLYING SAUCERS NEAR TARRES!

The gendarmerie of Tarbes (France) revealed only on Tuesday evening that they had made an intensive enquiry concerning the strange happenings which took place on the night of the 10th to 11th July. That night, from 1 to 4 a.m., four young people aged 17 and 18, and their monitor who were staying in the Abbey of Tarasteix with Father Mercier, witnessed a veritable ballet of "flying saucers". The saucers, which were brighter than stars, were not of enormous size. According to the concurring statements of the five observers, it did not seem possible that they could have been occupied by more than one being. The saucers gave the impression that they were quarrelling with each other in a certain sector of the open countryside.

The monitor even saw a UFO about four metres away. Father Mercier saw the UFOs himself which were making a low sound like a purr, nothing like the noise of a plane. The phenomenon took place the previous night over the region of Pau. The gendarmerie of Tarbes admit that the character of the statements made, merit to be taken seriously.

"Le Soir", July 20, 1978.

UFOs IN THE SKY

A cigar-shaped UFO has been seen in the coastal province of Guayas, south of Quito (Ecuador) the local press report. The witness, an electronics engineer, told journalists that the UFO, which appeared in the sky at about 7 p.m., circled in the air several times throwing out orange, pink and purple sparks, then the lights went out and the UFO disappeared in the darkness. Several other people perceived this strange object.

Elsewhere, a flotilla of UFOs has been reported near Catamarca, 1,300 kilometres north-west of Buenos-Aires. Shortly before sunrise, police perceived a formation of about thirty very bright UFOs, which, after a few high altitude evolutions in the sky above Catamarca, disappeared in a westerly direction.

The file of UFOs seen in Argentine is growing rapidly and seems to establish that the sky above the western borders of the country, and the foot of the Andes, has become a favourite manoeuvring place for UFOs.

The Study Centre for Unusual Air Phenomena has given its verdict:

"It is a well known phenomenon, a rain of meteorites which take place every year during the first days of May and which have been baptised 'éta aquarides'." This hypothesis does not seem to discourage the amateurs of flying saucers in Argentine, who continue to scrutinise the sky with the hope of an "encounter of the third kind".

"Le Soir", May 17, 1978.

Cr. Mr. W. Ager, Brugge, Belgium for kindly translating and sending to us all the above "Le Soir" UFO reports.