



FORT ITAIPU (BRAZIL) INCIDENT By: Jim Melesciuc

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Photo sources: Look - 1967 & 2194 Days of War
By: Salmaggi & Pallavisini.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- P. #2 - Fort Itaipu (Brazil) Incident - By: Jim Melesciuc.
- P. #3 - More info on Brazilian UFO encounters in a reproduction of Brazilian Spooklights, a 1949 Fortean Times article (located in Hilary Evans' book publication).
- P. #5 - UFOs With Occupants In Argentina - By Dr. Roberto E. Banchs. Acknowledgement to Richard Heiden for forwarding and translating this article.
- P. #10 - Bits 'N Pieces: Updates on Conferences, Belgium Triangles, Crop Circles, and more.

FORT ITAIPU (BRAZIL) INCIDENT

By: Jim Melesciuc

Traditionally, South America accounts for more UFO reports than any other geographical area. The majority of Latin America sightings occur in Brazil, followed by Argentina, Chile, Peru, Venezuela, and Uruguay. A considerable amount of these sightings are CE-3 types. Although most South American reports are similar to those originating in other parts of the world, it is usually the spectacular or unusual reports that find their way into the American and European UFO lore. One such case, and very little has been written about it, is the Fort Itaipu (Brazil) UFO event.

The Account:

On 3 Nov. 1957, during a quiet moonless night, two sentries were on duty as the army garrison at Itaipu, Brazil, was peacefully asleep. One of them suddenly spotted a new "star" burst into brilliant life over the ocean. The sentries watched the bright orange light until they realized it was an object traveling towards them at a terrific speed. About a thousand feet above them the UFO abruptly reduced speed and slowly drifted down, its huge round bulk cast an eerie orange glow and etched each man's shadow against the illuminated ground between the heavy cannon turrets. Both men stood, their eyes wide with surprise, seemed glued to the ground, with guns hanging limply in their hands. A scant three hundred feet above their heads the weird object was larger in diameter than the wingspread of a DC-3, but round and disc shaped, and encircled by an eerie orange glow.

It had been silent on its approach, but then a steady hum, like that of generator was heard and a scorching heat enveloped the two sentries. One of them collapsed and the other, screaming from pain and fear, threw himself under a cannon for shelter. Both later told authorities that they had felt as though their clothing were on fire and the heat was suffocating. The soldier who found shelter lapsed into hysteria, screaming a warning to others in the fort. Inside the installation everything was confusion, men and officers trying to reach their battle stations.

Suddenly the lights throughout the fort went out. Then the emergency power generator was located and turned on, but it immediately failed. Confusion changed to widespread panic as men tried to reach the outside to investigate the screams emanating from there. Then the lights came back on and several of the men reached the outside and found the sentries. They also saw an orange light climbing vertically and soar out back toward the Atlantic Ocean.

Both sentries, suffering from second and third degree burns over a large portion of their bodies, were put under medical care at a hospital in Rio de Janeiro. On the next day, the fort commander, an army colonel, issued orders forbidding discussion of the incident. Intelligence officers came and took charge, working frantically to silence everyone.

Three weeks after the incident Dr. Fontes, M.D., and Brazilian representative of APRO, was contacted by an army officer who was at the fort on the night of the incident. The officer reported the incident to Fontes. However, Dr. Fontes' attempts to get at the two sentries, still at Central Hospital two months later, were futile.

Dr. Fontes set out to establish a few facts which were reported in a short paper titled - UFO Weapons-Comments On Technical Aspects Involved. In part he states, "The evidence at hand indicates that UFOs possess means of creating in the ignition systems of automobile and aircraft internal combustion engines secondary currents powerful enough to destroy the synchronization of spark-plug action and thus stall engines; that they can interfere at will with radio transmitters and receivers, electric current generators, telephone lines and all electrical circuits.... In other cases witnesses reported that they were 'electrified,' 'paralyzed by an electric current', or felt a sensation of heat...."

CONT'

Reproduced on the next page are a few reports from 'Nature' & 'Monthly Weather Review', detailing biological and physiological affects caused by rare natural atmospheric anomalies. Note the similar affects on electrical equipment and also individuals as experienced by those at Fort Itaipu. Unfortunately, because of the censorship imposed by the base commander, supplemented by insufficient weather data, lack of interviews with the two sentries, and appended by a language & culture barrier, could the compelling Fort Itaipu case have been the result of a rare extraordinary natural event that has melted its way into American UFO lore? Or even more intriguing, was Dr. Fontes set up by the army officer to disseminate dis/misinformation to conceal a military blunder?

REFERENCES

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- 2 - The UFO Encyclopedia - Ronald Story.
- 3 - Flying Saucers The Startling Evidence Of The Invasion From Space Coral E. Lorenzen.
- 4 - Aliens From Space - Major Donald Keyhoe.

Source: bol - 0084 From Fortean Times '49.

BRAZILIAN SPOOKLIGHTS

by CYNTHIA NEWBY LUCE

I live in a remote Brazilian mountain village - a stranger in a strange land. I thought I was lucky to pay only \$2,600 for 66 acres, plus a spring with superb water. The locals were laughing behind my back at the stupid 'gringo' who paid so much for a piece of haunted land!

Soon I was cautiously asked if I'd seen the 'Mãe de Ouro' (mother of gold). Finally someone explained to me that for at least 150 years people had been seeing a light, usually a yellow-orange glowing ball slightly smaller than a volley ball, making a slow pass across the face of the hill. It usually passed behind the house I had built. Since this is a land full of semi-legends of ghosts, and the local voodoo-type religion (Macumba, Umbanda, Candomble) entails a type of very tangible possession, I dismissed the discreet enquiries with a shrug. In my subsequent extensive travels throughout Brazil I have found the *Mãe de Ouro* legend to be ubiquitous and ingrained in the culture. One follows the *Mãe de Ouro* and the first body of water it crosses - river, creek or stream - is where one should look for gold. And gold is found often enough to keep interest and belief in the phenomenon alive.

The first time I saw the light on my land was one evening in June 1980 around 7.45 pm. There were five witnesses: my daughter aged eight, myself, two maids and the gardener. A yellow-orange glowing ball, slightly smaller than a standard volley ball, passed from east to west with the wavering flight of a butterfly about five feet off the ground. It was about thirty feet away from us and was passing between the garage and the house. It made a wide curving turn and headed off towards the stables and vegetable garden near the spring. My gardener, fascinated, went after it. Foolishly he reached out to touch it. The ball faded away to nothing as he put out his hand, then reappeared about fifteen feet ahead of him. He came back to the house rather unnerved because the phenomenon seemed to him to have intelligence.

I have not personally seen the light again, but my servants have seen it numerous times in the past seven years. It even swooped down on my cook as she hung out some clothes early one evening, and nearly hit her head. The phenomenon seems to prefer the colder dry months, but I have also recorded its appearance

in the hot wet season (November through April). It has even appeared in light rain. It also appears any time of night from dusk to dawn.

The villagers have become more interested in unravelling the mystery since I've been so voluble in an effort to dispel any superstitious attitudes, telling them that physicists and researchers all over the world are interested in what is widely seen as a natural phenomenon. Hardly a month passes now without at least one villager telling me of a sighting. The colour is usually reported as yellow-orange, but sometimes as blue-white; it usually, but not always, travels from east to west; and the size also varies. Reported size is to some degree, of course, dependent upon distance; from my hill across the valley to the village is about 1,200 feet as the crow flies.

During the recent UFO flap, which began before the much-publicised sightings by the Brazilian military in May 1986 and continued after the government-imposed media blackout, the number of balls-of-light sightings (some tracing a zig-zag course which may put them in a different category) has increased significantly here in the village. I cannot tell how much of this was due to excitement generated by the press; but between April and August seven people sought me out to tell me of their sightings. One neighbour saw a yellowish ball of light surrounded by a glowing medium blue about an inch thick. It passed less than ten feet from him and went off in the direction of my land.

After talking to a geologist friend with first-hand knowledge of the phenomenon, I've been trying to borrow or rent a metal or mineral detector to see whether the underlying rock, which is mostly granite, has a vein of iron which, by itself or in combination with the numerous springs, may influence the appearance of the phenomenon. I might add that this area is probably the least likely in the world to experience earthquakes, and the methane hypothesis I've also found to be invalid in this area.

If any FT readers have any questions, ideas or information, please contact me.

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A. C. Swarth

RARE ELECTRICAL PHENOMENON AT SEA.

Capt. C. D. Swart, of the Dutch bark "J. P. A.," makes the following report of a remarkable phenomenon observed by him at 3 p. m. March 10, 1887, in N. 37° 39', W. 37° 00':

During a severe storm saw a meteor in the shape of two balls, one of them very black and the other illuminated. The illuminated ball was oblong and appeared as if ready to drop on deck amidships. In a moment it became as dark as night above, but below, on board and surrounding the vessel, everything appeared like a sea of fire. The ball fell into the water very close alongside the vessel with a roar, and caused the sea to make tremendous surges, which swept over the vessel. A stupor of atmosphere prevailed, and the temperature ran down every portion of the deck and caused a severe cold to pass for some air. Immediately after this solid lumps of ice fell on deck, and everything on deck and in the rigging became iced, notwithstanding that the thermometer registered 19° Centigrade. The barometer during this time oscillated so as to make it impossible to obtain a correct reading. Upon an examination of the vessel and rigging no damage was noticed, but on that side of the vessel where the meteor fell into the water the said side appeared black and the copper plating was found to be blistered. After this phenomenon the wind increased to hurricane force.

DISCUSSION—BALL LIGHTNING.

307

three died soon after from the effects of the stroke, and the remaining two were maimed for life.

Another time Mr. Lyte was chamois hunting very high up on the mountain flanks from cloud to cloud, and very vivid. As night was approaching he was obliged to descend, and as he came to some pointed rocks the electric fluid was escaping from them in bright brushes, so that he very prudently laid his gun on the ground and got into shelter till the storm passed by. It was on this day that so much damage was done to the town of Toulouse by the flood in the River Garonne, and so many lives lost.

Mr. Lyte remarked that hailstorms of a violent character were frequent in this part of France, but that they were localized, inasmuch that the insurance companies refused to insure risks in some districts, and in others graduated premiums according to the presupposed frequency and violence of the storms. (Communicated by Mr. R. J. LUCKY, F.R.Met.Soc.)

(2) BALL OR GLOBE LIGHTNING. By R. DINEK.

On August 19th, 1886, during a severe thunderstorm the lightning struck a frame house in New Harmony, exhibiting during part of its course, as far as I can judge after careful examination, the rare case of ball lightning. A portion of this lightning passing from the storm-cloud to the earth struck the south-east corner of the building about 10 feet above the ground, and loosened horizontally by 6 inches vertically, in the lath and plaster of the south wall, and rose from this to the stair landing (at a turn going to the second story) around the east cornice of the room, and thence disappeared. Another portion broke a hole about 8 to 10 inches in the east plastering of the said landing at 4 feet above the landing, which is reached from the room by four steps. The family were mostly assembled in this room, and a young lady of intelligence, about fifteen years of age, informs me she saw the ball of fire about the size of a man's head roll down these four steps and along the carpet without scorching it, out at the east door, a distance of 7 feet. In its passage it grazed the foot of the second daughter, and the family physician informed me the great toe was considerably indamed as if burned; the mother and youngest son were blinded and almost suffocated for several minutes.

Outside, a post in the east fence, about 17 feet from the door out of which the ball rolled, was reduced from 10 inches square to 3 or 4 inches in diameter. A tree about 1 foot in diameter, 14 feet from the said east door, was slightly larked on the west side, and had remarkable bruises considerably higher up about 2 or 3 inches in diameter. A somewhat smaller tree, 9 feet due south above the ground, was entirely stripped of its bark on the north-east side for 7 feet down, leaving countless slivers hanging from that extremity 3 feet down.

Judging from all the evidence, it seems probable that the following may explain in some measure the phenomena observed:—The storm-cloud approaching from a south-west direction as positive electricity, to meet the negative electricity of the earth, at the east fence post gave of a portion of its force to the south-east corner of the house. These facts I infer from the great explosive force at the fence post and adjoining trees, and the comparatively small damage done inside the house.

Only a few cases are recorded of ball lightning, such as one by Flammarion, in his *Atmosphère*, p. 140, at Salgues, France, where a globe of fire descended the chimney of a house, rolled across the kitchen door, out to a pig pen, where it killed the occupant, without setting fire to the straw on which it lay. In another case, mentioned in Brockleby's *Meteorology*, which occurred in 1809 in David Sutton's house at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the lightning descended the chimney, and several persons saw a globe of fire advance into the middle of the room and then explode.

A Fireball

On Wednesday the 20th ult., about midnight, a house at Mont Dore, in the Auvergne, was destroyed by a fireball during a severe thunderstorm. My brother, who has lately arrived from there, did not see the ball himself, but his valet, an intelligent Italian, saw it distinctly. He describes it as a globe of fire about half a metre in diameter, which approached the house obliquely, seeming to pass over a distance of 200 metres in about half a minute. It entered the door of the house and there burst. My brother heard the explosion as well as his valet, and describes it as a dull thud like that of a smothered blast. The house, which was a wooden one, was set on fire, a child burnt to death, and another inmate seriously, if not mortally, injured. Several inhabitants of Mont Dore are said by the valet to have seen the ball, one of whom lived in the adjacent house.

It will be interesting to readers of NATURE to compare the accounts given by Prof. Tait in NATURE, vol. xxii, p. 409.

19. The Boltons, S. W. JOHN TENNANT

557.594-223

Explosion of a "fire ball" at Kamaran Island, Red Sea

We have received through the courtesy of the Governor of Aden a copy of a report from Mr. D. Thompson, Civil Administrator of Kamaran Island, with regard to the rare and alarming phenomenon of the explosion of a fire ball, or ball lightning, which occurred very close to his house at 0600 local time on November 4, 1914. Mr. Thompson's report continues:—

The fire ball, reddish in colour, was seen by hundreds of people approaching the island from due west. Unfortunately, at that hour I was not myself a spectator but all reports coincide and may be accepted as extremely accurate. According to eye witnesses the ball of fire, ball of gas or ball of lightning, as seen, was about twice the size of a "rigger" ball and similar in shape. It was seen moving slowly

71-1945

Note the affects on the surrounding environment and people by these rare anomalies.

40 CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTES

over an arc at about 1000 ft. At the time there was both thunder and lightning and a slight drizzle of rain. As it exploded there was a terrific roar and a blinding flash. Armed police on the parade threw themselves to the ground. The inhabitants were considerably alarmed and my personal experience and that of my servants was not without incident.

"Drinking my morning tea at 0600 L.T. the roar of the explosion was my first intimation: this was followed by a very curious crack and flash outside my bedroom window. Simultaneously there was a clear ring very similar to that obtained when striking a glass tumbler with a knife. I went outside and found my servants in a mild state of panic and my old cook very badly shaken. Apparently, a shaft of lightning from the explosion struck the coral reef on which my cookhouse stands at a point 3 yards from the kitchen door and 6 yards from my bedroom window. A sheet of reddish flame entered the kitchen doorway. Several splinters of coral were picked up. On going to my bedroom I switched on the electric light and the fuse box burst into flames. I then discovered that the entire fuse system was out of order and several fan regulators were sparking and fusing dangerously. My wireless set which was switched off refused to function and later a broken connexion inside the set was discovered. The telephone exchange had to be disconnected to stop the bell ringing. Several electric bulbs in bungalows were found damaged and unserviceable.

"At first I considered that possibly a small meteorite had descended upon the island and that a fragment had dropped near my cookhouse. A close search in the area over which the explosion occurred did not reveal any splinters. The following day Squadron Leader R. Frith, R.A.F. Senior Meteorological Officer, Aden (on transfer), passed through Kamaran en route to England. I discussed the matter with him and it is in his opinion that I gave the conclusion reached that it was a fire ball. He has asked me to submit a full report because he considers the incident to be of such rare occurrence over land as opposed to similar incidents over seas and oceans that meteorologists all over the world will be interested to receive the details I have now given."

The Director of the Meteorological Office has sent the following note on the weather conditions prevailing at the time, from S. Leader W. L. Andrew, Senior Meteorological Officer at Aden:

"The thundery conditions at Kamaran appear to have been due to the passage of a weak cold front down the Red Sea. The front was a fairly active one in N. Egypt on 3rd November, 1914, but was obviously losing energy as it moved S.E. and it cleared Aden on the 8th, giving cloud only. There was, however, an outbreak of showers at Socotra.

"Tephigrams for Aden for 7th and 8th show little change, though there was somewhat greater instability above after the passage of the front.

"Fronts reaching Aden seldom do so directly. They appear to be held by the mountains to the north and to reach the south Arabian coast well east of here first, subsequently drifting down this way."

Kamaran Island, about 16 miles by 4, is situated in the Red Sea some 200 miles from its southern extremity and about 3 miles off the mainland of Arabia; a description of meteorological conditions there was given in a paper before this Society by Mr. C. W. G. Daking (Q. J., 38, October, 1932, p. 441).

UFOS WITH OCCUPANTS IN ARGENTINA

by Dr. Roberto E. Banchs

"The solution to the whole UFO problem will come to us through the CE-III cases."¹

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

Many years ago we indicated that if reports of UFO sightings were not recorded, it could be said that they did not exist; if they did not leave traces in their wake, it would be said that it could be mere visual disturbances; if they were not frightening peasants, apparently chasing automobiles, besieging the planet, one could not help but suppose that they do not have crews.² But since 1949 the Argentine Republic has known numerous accounts that point to the presence of strange animated entities of anthropomorphic appearance associated with unusual aerial objects. And it constitutes an unavoidable aspect of the study of the UFO phenomenon.

It has been claimed that with relative ease it is admitted that unconventional objects frequently fly through our skies, and, with greater reserve, that they land and leave traces on the ground. But that figures like those described occupy or come out of these prodigies, constitutes a fact too outlandish to be accepted lightly.

If there are not first sound indications to seriously consider such a possibility, and then scientifically-verified data to accept it, it becomes unjustifiable and unnecessary to reformulate our present scientific knowledge. Nevertheless, the problem deserves to be studied and resolved.

Which of the episodes falling in this category have been exhaustively examined by scientific investigators, employing an interdisciplinary approach, and how many are there are? As a matter of fact, for the moment it seems that there have been too few.

The UFO case histories with occupants are, surely, the ones with the elements of highest strangeness. That is to say that they apparently challenge conventional explanations. Nevertheless, we are persuaded that they should not be reduced to fantastic hypotheses, until all the rational explanations of science have been exhausted. It is here where we should differentiate between iron skepticism (which is in fact related to die-hard credulity) and prudence.

For this reason, the extraordinary nature of the reports imposes on us a condition: the stranger the account that is provided, the more demanding we should be before accepting its authenticity.

In this sense, the best investigators seem to agree that the key to the phenomenon is found in those incredible cases where the witness claims to have seen one or more humanoids, and even in which he says he had some kind of communication.³

The evaluation of these reports is very complex, and obliges one to give preferential attention to the structure of the witnesses' personalities and their socioeconomic environment. So, then, the lights or distant objects seen in the sky focus the interest of the researcher on those things and on the climactic or astronomical conditions; when the phenomenon seems to have left marks or traces, interest is concentrated on the supposed physical evidence; but when we come to encounters with their occupants, our attention unavoidably turns to the almost only element that we have: the human percipient.

We have the impression that what with so much watching the sky, ufology long ago forgot whom it was watching. In many cases, we should look at the relationship between the witness, his environment, and the content of his stories. Though he may have had something else in mind, Gordon Creighton was probably correct when he maintained that "If and when we have grasped what these tales of 'landings' and of 'contacts' with entities mean, we may (perhaps) be on the road to understanding some of the larger aspects of the problem."⁴

It is also possible to be falling into a deceptive hypothetical reductionism, attributing the phenomenon to a single cause, when in fact what we would be doing is gathering under a common label a heterogeneous collection of unusual manifestations.

The picture of the situation that we have attempted to synthesize above, argues for our interest in this singular facet of the problem, proposing a patient and deep study specifically of the reports recorded to date in Argentina.

I. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

For the purpose of giving a systematic order to the data collected on the humanoid phenomenon in Argentina, we put together a catalogue published in August of 1977,⁵ in which we gathered, in 60 pages, summaries of 46 UFO reports with occupants, some appendices on procedure, and a brief statistical analysis, discriminating the cases according to a mathematical evaluation that we designed for that purpose, following certain indicators of reliability or statistical significance. The cases were evaluated as either positive ("significant") or negative (control group). Understand here that this should never be interpreted as a means of classifying cases as true or false; rather, it is an indication of the quality of the cases.

This work has served only as a base for future research, as the majority of the reports came from newspaper sources, never verified by ufologists, and therefore with little or no reliability.

¹Doctor in Social Psychology (Ph.D.); Master in Methodology of Investigation (M.A.).

Simultaneously, we prepared a footnoted work not published until 1980,⁷ with broader and somewhat more precise information, after going to the original sources wherever possible. During the long editing process, Richard W. Heiden began the English translation and we had to confront over and over again data that were often contradictory, according to the different sources that were consulted.

The irreconcilability of the available information became evident, and, as soon as it was published, the need to investigate and counterinvestigate all possible witnesses that might have given rise to those news accounts, appeared, and in this way a single criterion with first-hand data was applied.

Of course, the value of comparing later testimonies with the original ones, and going back to supplemental documents, not susceptible to deformation in the course of time (such as chemical analyses, meteorological records, transportation schedules, and duly-documented events at the same time), was emphasized. Everything of an objective nature.

The difficulties of an undertaking like this are obvious: to locate the supposed witnesses in the most out-of-the-way places in the great expanse of Argentina and go there, to the place where the events took place. It goes without saying that there was no financial support, but I was assisted in numerous interviews by my wife, Hónica Simonetti, and, on certain occasions, I relied on the good will of local investigators who went to the site. Their work is highly meritorious, and infrequently recognized.

The task begun with the first publications was, in turn, very well received by foreign ufologists, who remarked on how advantageous it would be for similar studies to be made in other parts of the world.

II. SELECTION CRITERIA

As we indicated, the project is geographically limited to the Argentine territory, and its study involves all news concerning visual observations of UFOs in conjunction with occupants (in both time and place).

We immediately followed the criterion of not considering supposed associations, in which the presence of humanoids is not directly and simultaneously related to the sighting of a UFO; nor to unassociated entities, that is, when there does not exist a UFO manifestation or activity at the place of the sighting; as well as those accounts that allude to repeated contacts between a given person and the supposed occupants.

The list includes only reports that contain a minimum number of basic parameters of information. Cases whose originally-reported data have been refuted or contested by the witness himself during our investigation (e.g., he did not observe humanoids, or the UFO was not seen simultaneously) are also included. On the same basis, we include cases that were not confirmed--despite considerable publicity in the news media--because they deal with

witnesses of doubtful existence, or who were anonymous or unknown.

To conclude this brief description, we want to emphasize the amply-justified existence of the problem--whatever its nature--and the necessity of studying the phenomenon as a whole.

⁷The term "counterinvestigation" comes from the French ufological literature, used initially by Lumières dans la Nuit to refer to new investigations of cases in the celebrated French wave of 1954.

In response to those who ingenuously attempt to invalidate any investigation after some years have elapsed (preferring to keep some "classic" cases immune, even though they may be doubtful in light of new investigations), let us mention that V.-J. Ballester Olmos and J.A. Fernández have demonstrated "without ambiguity, that counterinvestigations of 'stale' cases are realizable."⁸

⁸Some comments that encourage the undertaking of other studies:

"It is fitting to thank R.E. Banchs for this basic work, which we would wish to see undertaken in other regions of the world, and to congratulate him warmly and amicably." (Lumières dans la Nuit, Sommières, France, no. 209, Nov. 1981, p. 34).

"It remains for us only to await similar studies in other countries, including ours [Spain]" (Luis R. González, in Stendek, Barcelona, Spain, no. 46, Dec. 1981, p. 33).

"I think every country should have such books, to serve as an initial basis for research, and your book has inspired me to persuade BUFORA to issue a similar publication in regard to British cases" (Hilary Evans, personal communication, May 19, 1987).

III. LIST OF REPORTS OF UFOS WITH OCCUPANTS IN ARGENTINA

01 UC	1949 Feb 20	El Maitén (Chubut)	Sun	04:45	travelling salesman
02 UC	1950 Mar 18	Lago Argentino (Santa Cruz)	Sat	18:30	Wilfredo H. Arévalo
03 UI	1950 May 10/15	near General Acha (La Pampa)		dusk	Enrique Carotenuto Bossa ("Botta")
04 FH	1954 Sep 20	Brandsen (Buenos Aires)	Mon	22:00	Federico Atencio and Mauro E. García
05 FH	1954 Dec 04	Coronel Pringles (Buenos Aires)	Sat	06:00	Américo Aguirrezabala
06 FH	1954 Dec 28	San Carlos (Mendoza)	Tue	-03:30	María L. García Holgado de Amaya et al.
07 FH	1956 Nov 26	San Lorenzo (Salta)	Mon	20:30	Dora Aráoz Castellanos de Jovanovics
08 UC	1957 May 1	Pajas Blancas (Córdoba)	Wed	07:30	motorcyclist
09 UC	1957 Aug 22	Quilino (Córdoba)	Thu	21:45	air force man
10	1958 Jan	Belén (Catamarca)		12:00	Fernando Arquibola García
11 UC	1958 spring	Tandil (Buenos Aires)			student
12 UC	1962 May	Pehuajó (Buenos Aires)			2 hunting friends
13 FH	1962 May 14	Catán Lil (Neuquén)	Mon	03:00	Aurelio Adriano Lilli
14 UC	1962 May 22	Speluzzi (La Pampa)	Tue		farm couple
15 FH	1962 Jun 03	Crespo (Entre Ríos)	Sun	01:15	Luis Tabuenca, Margarita Webster de T.
16 FH	1962 Jul 24	Azul (Buenos Aires)	Tue	+08:30	Ramón Farinella and over 10 others
17 FH	1962 Nov 22	Monte León (Santa Cruz)	Thu	03:20	Rodolfo Padín and Alfredo Fedrizzi
18 FH	1963 Oct 11	Monte Maíz (Córdoba)	Fri	+20:30	Eugenio Douglas
19 FH	1963 Oct 21	Trancas (Tucumán)	Mon	21:30	Yolié, Nallibe (Yolanda), and Argentina Moreno, and other members of family
20 UC	1964 Jun 05	Pajas Blancas (Córdoba)	Fri	04:00	doctor and wife
21 UC	1964 Sep 06	Cofico (Salta)	Sun	21:00	Chafredo Dagota
22	1965 Jan end	Torrent (Corrientes)			Carlos Souriou et al.
23 UC	1955 Feb 21	Chalac (Formosa)	Sun	-21:00	Tobas Indian tribe
24 FH	1965 Jul 20	San Francisco Solano (Buenos Aires)	Tue	08:30	Ramón E. Pereyra
25 FH	1965 Jul 23	Perico de San Antonio (Jujuy)	Fri	19:10	Domiciano Díaz and R. Eva R. de Díaz
26 UC	1965 Aug 20	Mar del Plata (Buenos Aires)	Fri	22:00	Eduardo A. Yacobi, Teresa E. Acuña de Y.
27 FH	1965 Aug 23	San José (Misiones)	Mon	01:00	Casimiro Zuk
28 FH	1967 Apr 20	Estación Casalegno (Santa Fe)	Thu	03:30	Enrique R. Galimberti, Enrique Curto, Aurelio Portillo, and Salvador Pomodoro
29 UC	1967 Jul 26	Colón (Buenos Aires)	Wed	aftnoon	several drivers
30 FH	1968 Jun 27	Cerro de las Rosas (Córdoba)	Thu	17:30	Hugo César Messina, Víctor ("Tony") Breyer, and Oscar Crespo
31 FH	1968 Jul 02	Sierra Chica (Buenos Aires)	Tue	11:30	Oscar Iriart
32 FH	1968 Jul 02	Quilmes (Buenos Aires)	Tue	20:30	Alejandra Martínez de Pascucci
33 FH	1968 Jul 05	San Lorenzo (Santa Fe)	Fri	04:30	Olga Rosell de Montironi et al.
34 UI	1968 Jul 14	Crotto (Buenos Aires)	Sun	05:50	Oscar Agustín D'Onofrio and Sixto Romero
35 UC	1968 Jul 19	Olavarría (Buenos Aires)	Fri	-02:00	soldiers Menéndez, Flores, and Hernández
36	1968 Jul 22	Mendoza (Mendoza)	Mon	01:20	Adela Casalvieri de Panasitti
37	1968 Aug 09	Cerro de la Gloria (Mendoza)	Fri	night	Arsenio Romero
38 FH	1968 Aug 31	Mendoza (Mendoza)	Sat	03:42	Fernando Villegas and Juan Carlos Peccinetti
39 FH	1968 Sep 04	Buenos Aires (Federal Capital)	Wed	early a.m.	drivers
40 UC	1968 Sep 10	Pergamino (Buenos Aires)	Tue	night	Juan Bautista Perazzo
41 UI	1968 Nov 02	Estación Hume (Santa Fe)	Sat	04:00	Students at a school party
42	1969 Oct 09	Laguna Blanca (Chaco)	Thu	17:30	Amaro Lockett
43 UC	1972 Mar 09	General Rodríguez (Buenos Aires)	Thu	early a.m.	Luis Exequiel Bracamante
44 FH	1972 Dec 30	Tres Arroyos (Buenos Aires)	Sat	22:30	Ventura Maceiras
45 UI	1973 Mar 13	La Caldera (Salta)	Tue	11:30	Jorge Roberto Herrera
46 FH	1973 Oct 28	Villa Bordeu (Buenos Aires)	Sun	01:15	Dionisio Llanca
47 FH	1973 Oct 29	Günther (Buenos Aires)	Mon	17:20	Carlos and Manuel Balvidares
48 FH	1975 Jan 05	Ingeniero White (Buenos Aires)	Sun	03:50	Carlos Alberto Díaz
49 UI	1978 Feb 04	Trapiche (San Luis)	Sat	04:45	Manuel Alvarez, Pedro Sosa, + 4
50 FH	1978 Jul 24	Villa Nueva (Mendoza)	Mon	04:10	Aldo Modesto Nieves and Carlos William Brandi
51	1978 Aug 30	Gobernador Dupuy (San Luis)	Wed	16:30	Miguel Freitas
52 FH	1978 Aug 31	Estación La Dulce (Buenos Aires)	Thu	22:05	Leonor Turiella and Manuel Arias
53 FH	1978 Sep 06	Venado Tuerto (Santa Fe)	Wed	+07:00	Juan Oscar Pérez
54 FH	1978 Oct 07	Sauce Huacho (Tucumán)	Sat	21:45	Juan Carlos Torres, José A. Bustos, et al.
55 FH	1978 Oct 13	Pampa de Agnia (Chubut)	Fri	03:00	Jorge Castillo and Alfredo Gianonni
56 FH	1979 Jan 13	Loreto (Santiago del Estero)	Sat	11:30	Marcos Rafael Suárez
57 FH	1979 Jan 25	El Deán (Santiago del Estero)	Thu	15:00	Marta Isabel Santillán and boy age 3
58 FH	1979 Feb 26	Serodino (Santa Fe)	Thu	+19:45	Erinaldo Camusoni
59 FH	1979 Sep 19	Godoy Cruz (Mendoza)	Wed	early a.m.	Aníbal Raúl Petracini
60 FH	1981 Feb 16	Manzano Amargo (Neuquén)	Mon	04:00	José Fermín Albornoz, Héctor A. Bucarey
61 FH	1983 Aug 09	Winifreda (La Pampa)	Tue	19:30	Julio Platner
62 UI	1985 Winter	Victoria (Entre Ríos)			Rubén Bustos, Gladys Rigone de Bustos, and their children, including Rodolfo

63 UC	1985 Aug 24	Ituzaingó (Corrientes)	Sat	02:00	doctor and wife
64 FH	1986 Mar 17	Santa Ana de los Guácaras (Corrientes)	Mon	01:00	Rito Melgarejo
65 FH	1986 May 12	Arias (Córdoba)	Mon	10:45	Jorge Zec
66 FH	1988 Jan early	Mar del Plata (Buenos Aires)		01:00	Leonardo Martín Fuster and Gabriel
67	1988 Apr 04	Las Carolinas (Sgo. del Estero)	Mon	16:30	Mitre Milovich
68	1969 Jan 09	between Gancedo (Chaco) and Quimilí (Santiago del Estero)	Mon	04:45	Alberto Palacio, Marta Sabaté, and Irma Palazzi
69	1991 Aug 13	Victoria (Entre Ríos)	Tue	22:00	Roberto Pérez et al.

(Bear in mind that seasons in the Southern Hemisphere are reversed from those in the Northern Hemisphere.)

III.1. Codes used in the list:

FH: First-hand reports; they come from an interview with the witness or with persons directly involved in the event, plus a visit to the site.

UC: Unconfirmed reports, dealing with witnesses of doubtful existence, or with anonymous or unknown witnesses.

UI: Reports under investigation.

III.2. Other locations by which the cases in the list are known (and other alternative data for a couple of cases):

06: San Rafael-Mendoza highway
 13: near Zapala
 14: Winifreda
 15: (the husband's name was originally published as Héctor Gazúa or Gazcue)
 23: Chaloc
 27: Apóstoles
 34: National Highway 3, km. 37, General Alvear (July 25, 1968)
 35: Tapalqué
 43: Luján
 45: Salta-Jujuy highway
 47: General Pinto
 49: Dique La Florida
 50: Mendoza
 52: Nicanor Olivera
 54: Famailá
 55: Valle Los Altares

IV. EXPLANATORY HYPOTHESES

02 Lago Argentino	Journalistic hoax, possibly related to Rudolph Schriever's "flying top," a supposed secret weapon.
04 Brandsen	Probable mirage, followed by meteor from the S.Piscids radiant.
05 Coronel Pringles	False sun, produced by cirrostratus clouds.
06 San Carlos	Temporary psychological disturbance accompanied by illusion.
07 San Lorenzo	Lenticular cloud.
11 Tandil	Newspaper hoax.
13 Catán Lil	Probable helicopter.
15 Crespo	Hoax.
16 Azul	Comet IV airplane, with additions by a radio station.
17 Monte León	Contradictory reports.
18 Monte Maíz	Phantasmagoria. Mental confusion produced by concussion from an accident.
19 Trancas	Military maneuvers using artillery matériel.
20 Pajas Blancas	Probable hoax.
23 Chalac	Nonexistent place. Hoax by newspaper.
24 San Francisco Solano	Event possibly related to the political situation.
25 Perico de San Antonio	Probable astronomical cause, with additions by newspaper correspondent.
27 San José	Vehicle of the General Urquiza Railroad.
30 Cerro de las Rosas	Invented story. Children's prank, admitted by one of boys involved.

31 Sierra Chica	Fictitious account.
32 Quilmes	Fictitious account, acknowledged by witness. Zeal for notoriety.
33 San Lorenzo	Possible meteorological cause, with additions by the press.
35 Olavarría	Rumor picked up by newspaper. Official denial.
37 Carro de la Gloria	Possible psychological disturbance.
38 Mendoza	Story invented for pacifistic purposes.
39 Buenos Aires	Rumor generated by the news media.
43 General Rodríguez	Probable invention by reporters.
44 Tres Arroyos	Psychopathological disturbance.
45 La Caldera	Probable hallucination, combined with state of amnesia.
46 Villa Bordeu	Invented story.
47 Günther	Misinterpretation of normal people, due to suggestion by a radio station.
48 Ingeniero White	Hoax with zeal for notoriety.
49 Trapiche	Suggestive symbolic account, of a religious nature.
50 Villa Nueva	Military airplanes undertaking exercises (IV Air Brigade, from the base of El Plumerillo).
52 Estación La Dulce	Electrical phenomena produced by cumulonimbus.
53 Venado Tuerto	Neurotic fantasy.
54 Sauce Huacho	Probable illusion at a festive gathering.
55 Pampa de Agnia	Mental confusion due to physical and mental fatigue.
56 Loreto	Delirium of a paranoid nature.
57 El Deán	Hysterical fantasy.
58 Serodino	Psychovisual disturbance due to sunstroke.
59 Godoy Cruz	Hypnagogic vision.
60 Manzano Amargo	Hallucination.
61 Winifreda	Probable hoax.
63 Ituzaingó	Apparent invention by newspaper correspondent.
64 Santa Ana de los Guácaras	Vision under the effects of alcohol.

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Translated by Richard W. Heiden. A previous version of this paper was published in Cuadernos de Ufología no. 6, 2nd epoch, Sep. 1989 (address: Rualasal, 22; 39001 Santander, Spain). Other editors are requested not to reprint. Please contact translator at address below so that you may instead print the latest version, as this paper is continuously updated.

NOTE: The author would appreciate getting copies of any references (especially items in foreign publications), for the cases in the above list, for the purpose of the study that is being undertaken. For this purpose, please write to:

Dr. Roberto Banchs (CEFAI)
Casilla de Correos 9, Suc. 26
CP 1426 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Potential collaborators may obtain a list of already-known references from the same address, from the publisher of this magazine, or (in North America) from:

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Milwaukee, WI 53222 USA

BITS 'N PIECES

Attention: Orbiter is now offered on an exchange basis only. Those who wish to remain on the mailing list can easily do so by continuation of newsletter exchanges. Others, who do not publish a newsletter, do have options such as, periodically (maybe every month or so) send an opinionated letter or commentary to the editor, or send UFO newsclippings from local newspapers, UFO articles located in magazines or scientific literature, and/or author a small article to be published in future issues of Orbiter. Those of you who have paid a subscription rate for this year will continue to receive Orbiter until the rate expires. Think about it!

Triangles Over Belgium - the SOBEPS Report by Wim Van Utricht (published in issue #33 of Orbiter) brought a mixed reaction from our readers. Now, more problems have risen on the Triangle footage, which appeared in the magazine 'Phenomena' issue #7 (Jan/Feb. 1992), titled The Alfarano Affair: A bad Picture. It states:

During the first part of the Belgium UFO wave, Mr. Marcel Alfarano, a Belgium living in Brussels, caught on videotape three white spots set in a triangle manner plus a forth blinking red one slowly crossing the Belgian sky. This event took place a 2 a.m., during the now famous night of 31-31st May when two military jets were scrambled to check unidentified radar markings by the Belgian Air Force. Alfarano's picture hit nesstands round the world, in part thanks to SOBEPS which generously distributed copies of the videofilm. The Belgian group emphasized the fact however that the tape did not seem to show anything of utmost importance.

Our inquiry, with help from Patrick Ferryn of SOBEPS, showed that it would have been possible for Mr. Alfarno to see, from where he lived, planes in approach to Brussel's Airport. It is also quite common that pilots use the type of lights they wish, in approach to airports thus sometimes conferring strange shapes to their planes. Lastly, we tried to determine if there were any planes in the sky that night, in the spot where Mr. Alfarno saw his object. Reply came from the Belgian Regie des Voies Aeriennes (Office for Airspace regulation).

Statistics show that during that month of May, between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. there was a flight about every five minutes. It has been impossible for us, up to now, to determine the exact registration number of the plane seen that night however, their is no doubt that this object was on an ordinary flight.

The author then shows the ridiculous way in which some French news magazines insisted on the F117A hypothesis before turning to the Black Manta one in the debate on the Belgian wave.

The UFO Debate (Feb. 1992 vol. #3, no. 1) carried healthy criticisms toward the current cerealogical study movement. In Crop Circle: The Crash Of '91 Robert Moore, asserts in part, "It must be said that the two very obvious flaws exists in Bower & Chorley's allegations. Firstly, Douglas Bower claims to have 'discovered' the corn circle concept whilst living in Australia during 1958-1966. This statement seemingly relates to the Tully 'saucer-nest' incident (occurring on the 19 Jan. 1966), involving the alledged observation of a hissing bluish-grey hued object rising from a depressed 'bower' of flattened swamp-rushes. However, it is a matter of record that 'saucer-nests' are not a mid-1960's Antipodean addition to the UFO mythology. Depressed circular traces associated with UFO phenomena have been alleged at Premanon, France (1954), Vaddo, Sweden, and Hubbard Oregon (in 1958 and 1964 respectively). Hence we have recorded examples of circle-like phenomena which - if authentic clearly do not involve any human agency (especially Bower & Chorley).

CONT'

Secondly, Bower & Chorley claimed to have commenced fabricating circles in Hampshire in 1978 - followed by others in Wiltshire from 1982 and beyond. However, the first recorded 'contemporary' crop circle - discovered by the Bristol-based UFO group PROBE in 1980 - was found beneath the Westbury White Horse in Wiltshire....

It must be remembered that the circles phenomena was initially regarded as a UFO-related manifestation. However, this belief soon came to grief when few (if any) substantial UFO events could be linked with circle appearances.

So where do the current disturbing developments in 'cerealogy' leave the circles? In the wake of Bowers's & Chorley's allegations, it is more vital than ever to subject the circles phenomena to unemotive, objective, and clinical examination...."

STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS...WORLD FIRST...OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF UFO LANDING...SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM.

The elated author of the above phrase is Malcolm Robinson, founder and editor of SPI. Malcolm and the SPI group wish to inform the UFO community about "the erection of a cairn and plaque in Dechmont Wood near Livingston to commemorate Scotland's most famous UFO encounter."

He continues, "In officially recognizing something like this, we are in fact drawing further notice to the public that the UFO subject is serious, and does warrant further investigation. That UFOs are not only just witnessed in the sky, but are sometimes observed on the ground as well. So making the public 'aware' of the UFO subject through the placement of this cairn and plaque, is, as we at SPI feel, a step most definitely in the right direction.

UFOs are real, but it is what they are, or represent, that is the problem, so making the public sit up and take notice is certainly the way ahead...."

Cr: Malcolm Robinson

January 16, 1992

NEWS

Now UFO is official

Authority recognise 'landing'

IT was Scotland's most famous close encounter — when a 30ft high UFO was said to have landed on the slopes of Dechmont Law at Livingston.

Now, more than a decade later, Livingston Development Corporation have erected a small memorial to mark the sighting.

It is believed to be the first time anywhere in the world that a public body has officially recognised such a claim.

And UFO groups are planning to arrange their own special ceremony to highlight the importance of the spot.

Forester Bob Taylor hit the headlines in November 1979 with his account of the first claimed spacecraft landing in Britain.

Text: After Mr Taylor, now 73, claimed he stumbled across the UFO in a clearing in a wood. As he watched, two round saucer objects like Second World War mines dropped from the craft — and rolled towards him.



UFO SITE: The plaque marks the spot where forester Bob Taylor (below) says he came across the UFO in 1979.

by IAN KYLE

He collapsed, and when he awoke his body was bruised and his clothes torn. Police found depressions in the ground where he said he had been and no official explanation has ever been offered for the encounter. Mr Taylor said today: "I am

still positive it was some sort of strange craft."

Nickel, he lives in Perthshire. Ron Halliday, chairman of Strange Phenomena Investigations, said he was surprised the memorial had been erected without any ceremony.

"We are proposing to have a little opening ceremony of our own. We will be inviting other UFO groups along once we have

made the arrangements. This is a world first to have an official public body putting up a plaque to mark an incident like this."

Paul Filipek, head planner with Livingston Development Corporation, said a plaque had been set into a small cairn at Dechmont Law.

Mr Halliday added that investigations were continuing into various reported UFO sightings in West Lothian.



24

International Symposium on UFO Research

A Symposium geared to both professional and lay people will take place on May 22, 23, 24, 25, 1992 at the Red Lion Inn located at 3202 Quebec St, Denver, Colorado. Registration fee before April 1 is \$95, before May 1 it is \$110, and at the door it is \$125. The symposium is sponsored by the International Association for New Sciences (IANS) and noted UFO organizations. The room rate for a single is \$50.

Keynote speakers will be:

Richard Andrews - Crop Circles, Walt Andrus - Director Of MUFON
Mark Carlotto, PhD - Mars Phenomenon, Michael Charust - Crop Circles
Jerome Clark - Center For UFO Studies, Edith Fiore, PhD - UFO
Abductions, Stan Freidman - UFO Phenomenon, Tim Goode - UFO Phenomenon
Steve Greer, MD - Extraterrestrial intelligence, Richard Haines, PhD
Former NASA Scientist, Linda Moulton-Howe - Cattle Mutilations, Scott
Jones, PhD - Government Involvement, Rima Laibow - UFO Abductions,
Richard Hall, PhD - Military & Pilot UFO Accounts Brian O'Leary, PhD -
Mars Phenomenon, Former Apollo Astronaut, John Salter - UFO
Phenomenon, Don Schmidt - Roswell UFO Crash, Leo Spinkle, PhD -
Abductions, James Harder, PhD - Abductions, Maj. Gen. Albert
Stubblebine. (Ar. ret.) - UFO Propulsions, Collin Andrews - Crop
Circles.

Dates and Times: May 22 (Friday) 7:00 - 9:00 PM - Evening Workshops.
May 23 (Saturday) 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. / 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. - Evening
Workshops. May 24 (Sunday) 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. / 6:30 - 9:00 P.M.
Banquet. May 25 (Monday, Memorial Day) 8:30 - 5:00 P.M.

For more information you may write to: ISUR, 1304 South College Ave.,
Fort Collins, CO. 80524. Tel. #(303) 482-3731.

CASE REPORT

Location: North Reading, MA. Time: 1300 hrs., Date: 5 Apr. 1991.. one witness.
General description: Object was dark with match-like glow of light inside. Object
traveled extremely slow over tree tops. No noise evident. Witness viewed object
from automobile.

