

from anyone who saw the object.

"A Weather Bureau official said it might have been a meteorological balloon. It was first sighted by council truck driver W. Dicker, of Mandurah, during his lunch break. He pointed it out to five of his workmates.

"Mr. Fletcher [an official] kept the object under observation for most of the afternoon. He described it as cylindrical and silvery, with a dark patch on top. He said it appeared metallic and shiny.

"It was visible to the naked eye for most of the afternoon."

PERU

Two very little 'men'

This strange account came to us by way of the *British Guiana Chronicle* of September 15, 1965—"An official of the Andes town of Santa Barbara has seen two tiny 'Martian' men only 80 centimetres (2 ft. 7½ in.) high, walking on the snow near there, according to reports reaching Lima.

"The official, Senor Sebastian Mancha, was reported as saying the Martians disappeared in a brilliant flash after walking about a few minutes last week-end.

"Hundreds of local people were also reported to have seen a squadron of flying saucers shortly afterwards."

VENEZUELLA

Air Force sightings near Caracas

The following account was told to Dr. Bernard Finch by an officer of the Venezuelan Air Force who is at present in this country (name and unit known, but not to be disclosed):

In August, 1965, a pilot of a bomber squadron was flying a round robin mission in a Canberra aircraft at 30,000 feet. Suddenly, beyond the left (port) wing tip he saw a very bright light flying line abreast. No stars were visible because of high overcast. The pilot estimated that the light was about 1,000 yards away from the aircraft, and because it maintained 'station' he made a sharp turn towards it. He was surprised to see the light continue in the same position, and although he maintained his new heading for about two minutes, the light did not move away from that side.

The pilot then made a second turn in towards the object, in the hope of approaching it. The result was the same, but this time there was a distinct change of colour (from bright white to yellow) although the shape

of the object remained similar. After the second turn, the navigator saw the light for the first time. Shortly afterwards it just disappeared.

Earlier incidents were also related. For instance, in July, 1958, a night flight for student pilots had just ended at a training field. It was 11 p.m. The three instructor pilots were about to leave the Base in a jeep when they saw a huge cigar-shaped object, bluish in colour, standing high over the gate. They stopped the jeep, jumped off to watch the strange object which soon afterwards began to climb vertically with tremendous acceleration.

At another station in February, 1956, an Air Force subaltern was making an inspection round between 4 and 5 a.m., and was just passing in front of the main hangar when he saw a big white disc making a low pass over the main runway. It disappeared very quickly.

[It is not often we are permitted to hear the kind of reports that are handed in to Intelligence by the airmen themselves.—EDITOR.]

U.S.A.

Wanaque Reservoir UFO

The following graphic account is taken from the *Newark Evening News* of January 12, 1966—"An unidentified flying object—'very white, very bright and much bigger than a star'—hovered silently over this astounded Ramapo countryside for hours last night.

"Hundreds of eye-witnesses in a 20-mile radius testified to seeing a flying saucer, first in Oakland, later over the Wanaque Reservoir where it lingered longest, then above Lakeland Regional High School, and finally over the Houdaille sandpit in Haskell. From there it appeared to move southeast toward Pines Lake in Wayne and suddenly disappear.

"The phenomenon was terribly strange," Mayor Harry T. Wolfe said. Having been alerted by local police that a UFO was circling over Raymond Dam at the Wanaque headquarters, Wolfe drove there to see for himself. With him were Councilmen Arthur Barton and Warren Hagstrom, and the mayor's 14-year-old son, Billy.

"Billy spotted the unidentified object at once. Flying low it glided 'oddly' above the state's largest water storage basin 'like a huge star,' he said. 'But it didn't flicker. It was just

a continuous light that changed from white to red to green and back to white.'

"The older observers estimated 'the oval' was between 2 and 9 feet in diameter.

"First word of the terrestrial visitor reached the North Jersey police radio station in Pompton Lakes at 6.30 p.m. After some 30 telephone calls from excited residents and motorists, the radio monitor contacted Wanaque Patrolman Joseph Cisco . . .

"Cisco radioed reservoir Patrolman George Dykman and even as Dykman was receiving the message two excited teenagers came running up.

"Dykman gaped along with Michael Sloat, 16, and Peter Melegre, 15, and a few seconds later they were joined by Civil Defense Director Bentley Spencer and CD member Richard Vrooman. 'What the heck is it?' exclaimed Dykman. 'Never saw anything like it in my life.'

"Spencer proceeded to the top of 1,500-foot-long Raymond Dam with reservoir employee Fred Steines. From that vantage point he reported later that he saw "a bolt of light shoot down, as if it attracted to the water." He said it looked "like a beam emitted from a porthole."

"The saucer hovered for more than two hours over the Raymond Dam area before soaring out of sight. It reappeared over Lakeland Regional High School in the Midvale section of the borough. A bevy of photographers and reporters were on the spot, but before any pictures could be taken the mystery object vanished.

"Police headquarters continued receiving telephone calls all in the same vein of petrified wonder: 'I saw something weird—what is it?'

"Shortly after midnight word came from officials at Stewart Air Force Base in Newburg, N.Y. saying an Air Force helicopter with a powerful beacon had been on a mission over Wanaque about the time the mysterious object was cited.

"But, at 6.15 this morning, Major Donald Sherman, Stewart Air Force Base spokesman, denied that a helicopter, or any aircraft had been on a mission over Wanaque.

"Even the helicopter theory, however, failed to dissuade those who claimed they 'actually saw the flying saucer. . . .'

(Credit: R. J. Dufourd, Mount Dora, Florida)

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

MARCH - APRIL 1966

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12th YEAR OF PUBLICATION



THE CAPPOQUIN SIGHTING

By Charles Gibb-Smith, M.A., F.M.A.

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1966

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1966

CHALLENGE

WE know it was only a flying saucer "fly over", but it was a "fly over" with a difference, for the publicity that followed in its wake was so great that for the first time in many years we have had the satisfaction of witnessing a widespread presentation and discussion of our subject beyond our own limited sphere. And the manner of that presentation was both sensible and unemotional.

We must be doubly thankful that the two young ladies involved in that particular sighting (in Southern Ireland) had one ordinary camera which could be brought into instant use. Thank goodness too that they had the presence of mind to keep the film in the camera, and that one of them has our friend Charles Gibbs-Smith for a boss. The immediate result, the publication of a letter from Mr. Gibbs-Smith, and the photograph, in *The Times* of January 22, was followed not only by items in several other newspapers, but by his highly successful appearances on both I.T.V. and B.B.C.-T.V., and by an article in the *Illustrated London News*.

One of the perils attendant upon the editing of a journal such as the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is that perfectly sound ideas conceived in October, committed to paper in November, and sent for typesetting in December, may, if the editor is in luck, reach his readers during January, by which time they may be out-of-date. Events have sometimes been known to overtake ideas, and there was a case in point in our last issue for January/February, 1966. Readers will recall that in the editorial article of that issue, the suggestion was made that it was really quite pointless for small circulation journals to howl perpetually at governments in the vain hope that they would tell all they know about UFOs. The alternative point was made that we should do everything in our power to ensure that the mass media of Press and Broadcasting bring the public up-to-date information on the UFO situation, warning them if necessary of the hazards which might be encountered. Thus would the great news media mould public opinion, which in time moulds governments.

Well, a very big step forward in the careful re-publicising of the subject had already been taken by the time the January/February number appeared: events were seemingly a march ahead of us. Be that as it may, it is our opinion that the photograph is so important, not only for its own intrinsic value but, by virtue of what it has achieved, that we have accorded it a very special treatment in this issue. Its full story is included in the early pages, and it is exciting to think that we may have before us visual evidence of some of the effects we have been noticing for some time, and which have

absorbed much of our attention in recent months. For the testimony of an acknowledged expert shows that some part of what appears in the picture has been caused not by the effect of light on the film's emulsion, but by some strange emanation from the object.

At some time or other there must have been moments of doubt in the minds of most serious UFO researchers; instances when lurking fears that we may be wrong held momentary sway. However, with new evidence like this to support us (and from what we know of the witnesses, and of Mr. Gibbs-Smith and his world wide reputation, we have no reason to doubt the genuineness of the photograph) we can push on knowing we have not been following a false trail.

In the words of an eminent American researcher : "somewhere in the midst of all the background 'noise' there is a signal. That signal must be detected, and amplified."

Taking the radio analogy a step farther, we admit that there is much 'noise' but after years of experience in the field we have learned a few significant facts about the phenomenon. We know that the main visitations occur in well-defined, but sporadic, waves: there have been many genuine sightings by groups of reliable people, with the occasional photograph which can be trusted. We have noted the effects of some UFOs on men and beasts, instruments and engines, and have pondered at length on the occasional reliable story of a landing and encounters with 'operators'. We have even considered it possible that some hoaxes are

not man-made, but despite hoaxes, misinterpretations, and other forms of 'noise', we are convinced that a signal is being detected: it is with the amplification that we are experiencing difficulties.

Our next move must be a determined attempt to amplify the knowledge we have already gained, for without this the signal will remain inaudible. Furthermore, it is by no means certain that it will be understood, even when audible. This could be a formidable problem, for we are investigating on the extreme limit of human thought and endeavour, probing beyond the edge of the unknown. We have no idea of the nature of the vast intelligences impinging on us, and while many of us hold that the extraterrestrial hypothesis is valid, there is another theory which must be examined. In view of the evidence of materialisation and dematerialisation, could it not be that at least *some* of our 'visitors' are playing a kind of hide-and-seek with us from another plane? That they are coming from, and returning to, a realm into which we can never follow them until we are their equals?

The prospect of achieving this equality—and understanding—through diligent study, should be a challenge to thinking men and women, to scientists and technologists. The time is ripe for more and more of them to join their colleagues who are with us already. Maybe the challenge would be more readily accepted if there came into existence a Research Foundation, as proposed by Mr. John Lade elsewhere in these pages. For all our sakes we must hope that this suggestion does not prove to be just another pipe dream.

COOL COMFORT . . .

Added support for Dr. Charles A. Maney (see his *Is Venus Inhabited?*—FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Vol. 11, No. 5) is found in this piece from the *New Scientist* of December 23, 1965—"Detailed analysis of the results of balloon-telescope flights, interplanetary probes and Earth-based measurements has led M. Bottema and his colleagues at the Laboratory of Astrophysics and Physical Meteorology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, to conclude that the surface temperature of Venus may well be tolerably low.

"Solar radiation reflected by the cloud-layer of Venus in the infra-red spectrum compares well with the reflection spectrum of a laboratory ice-cloud, and this similarity has led Bottema to conclude that Venus' clouds are composed of ice crystals. A possible explanation for the fact that the temperature at the Venus cloud surface lies near -40°C would thus be that this is the temperature at which supercooled water vapour spontaneously freezes in the absence of condensation nuclei.

"An explanation for the fact that temperature does not vary significantly from the bright to the dark side of Venus also follows from the identification of the clouds as ice crystals. A substantial mechanism is necessary to carry approximately half the absorbed solar energy from the bright side to the dark, in order to sustain the temperature at -40°C over the planet. It is suggested that water vapour from the sunlit hemisphere, as it is carried by convection to the dark side, will cool, condense and freeze, releasing over 600 calories per gramme.

"The positive identification of the cloud particles as water and ice would mean that all our knowledge of terrestrial clouds can be applied to those on Venus. One aspect of particular importance is the very high microwave brightness of Venus, which has led many people to believe that the surface temperature may be very high. Terrestrial observations show that clouds emit non-thermal microwave radiation—an explanation which would allow Venus to be quite cool at the surface (*Journal of Geophysical Research*, Vol. 70, p. 4401).

(Credit to P. K. Haythornthwaite for drawing our attention to this item)

Wilmslow P.C.'s Report

By R. H. B. Winder

Our contributor, a Chartered Engineer, is an honours B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering (Leeds University, 1944), and an Associate Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

POLICE CONSTABLE COLIN CLIVE PERKS, four years in the Cheshire Constabulary, 28 years old, married, was on duty during the cold clear early morning of Friday, 7th January, 1966; and at 4.10 a.m. was checking the back door of one of the shops which border the east side of the Alderley Road (A34) in the village of Wilmslow, 11 miles south of Manchester.

As he faced the door, he heard a high-pitched whine unlike any of the ordinary sounds of Wilmslow in the dark. It was not loud enough to waken the sleeping natives, but had a penetrating quality. He said to us that a high-speed electric motor might sound something like it but he knew of no closely comparable noise. He turned around to look to the east over the car park behind the shops, and the meadow beyond, and saw a solid looking object stationary about 35 ft. above the grass and about 100 yards from him. He had a clear view, unobstructed either by the solitary lamppost (not illuminated at that time) in the car park, or by any haze or mist.

He said that its upper surfaces glowed steadily with an eerie greenish-grey colour. The glow extended into the air around the object but did not obscure its clearly defined outline, as was shown in the sketch he made 20 minutes after the event and which was widely publicised. He explained that the lines across his sketch represent rounded but fairly sharp changes in the profile, matched by shading in the glow. The top dome was simply a continuation of the surface, looking no different from the remainder. He did not notice openings anywhere in the thing.

The base appeared dark, circular, featureless and flat. It was probably horizontal but presented an elliptical outline to his point of view. He mentally compared its major axis with the length of a 30-ft. bus and judged its minor axis to be 20 ft. long. He concluded that the base was a 30 ft. diameter circle.

For five seconds, neither he nor the object moved. He admits to being frightened and attributes his immobility to his fear, but insists that

he kept his wits about him. He also attributes a slight stammer, which persisted for a few days afterwards, to the same cause. His speech is normally free from impediment.

After about five seconds, and without changing its sound, the object moved rapidly away to the E.S.E. passing near a leafless tree, over the evergreen hedge bordering the far side of the meadow, over the suburban road beyond it and out of sight behind the roof of one of the houses on the other side of the road. Gordon Creighton and I looked at all these things, and the grass, when we visited the place with Constable Perks on March 10th, but could find no traces of the object's passage.

We understand that a colleague of the witness looked at the northern end of the car park (behind the Rex cinema) soon after the event and found it thinly covered by glass-like particles. This aspect requires further investigation. Perks did not see the arrival of the object, but its departure line if projected backwards would intersect the area in question.

After the departure, Perks hurried to the station and wrote a report. He also 'phoned Ringway Airport and the Radio Telescope installation at nearby Jodrell Bank: both were unable to assist in his enquiry. His superiors inspected his report but it was not published until March 2nd. In the meantime two Ministry of Aviation representatives interviewed him and inspected the location but gave no opinion.

After publication, one corroborating witness came forward: Mrs. Amy Walker claimed to have seen a pearly green object over Lindow Garage 50 ft. away from her house. I have written to ask her for more detail.

This is a preliminary account of what seems to be an important sighting by a reliable and competent witness. I shall study it further and report again if any more data emerges. It is too early yet to draw any conclusions or comparisons. We understand that our colleagues in the Manchester UFO Society are also active and look forward to seeing what they have to say.

The Cappoquin Sighting

By Charles Gibb-Smith, M.A., F.M.A.

Hon. Companion of the Royal Aeronautical Society

WITH the sighting and photographing of the UFO near Cappoquin (County Waterford, Ireland) we are perhaps one stage further advanced in the study of what have unfortunately become known as "flying saucers": for here is a sighting by reliable witnesses, accompanied by a photograph of impeccable authenticity, the first which the present writer—after seeing many examples—can vouch for from start to finish.

The UFO was seen near Cappoquin by Miss Jacqueline Wingfield, who is a colleague of mine, and a Danish girl Miss Lisbet Mortensen, between 3.15 and 3.30 p.m. on Sunday December 26th, 1965. Miss Wingfield was driving her car, with Miss Mortensen as passenger. The weather was very fine, with a clear blue sky. As soon as the UFO was noticed—flying across in front of them—the car was stopped (and the engine) and the girls got out to watch the strange object as it flew steadily across the sky, low down, and making no sound.

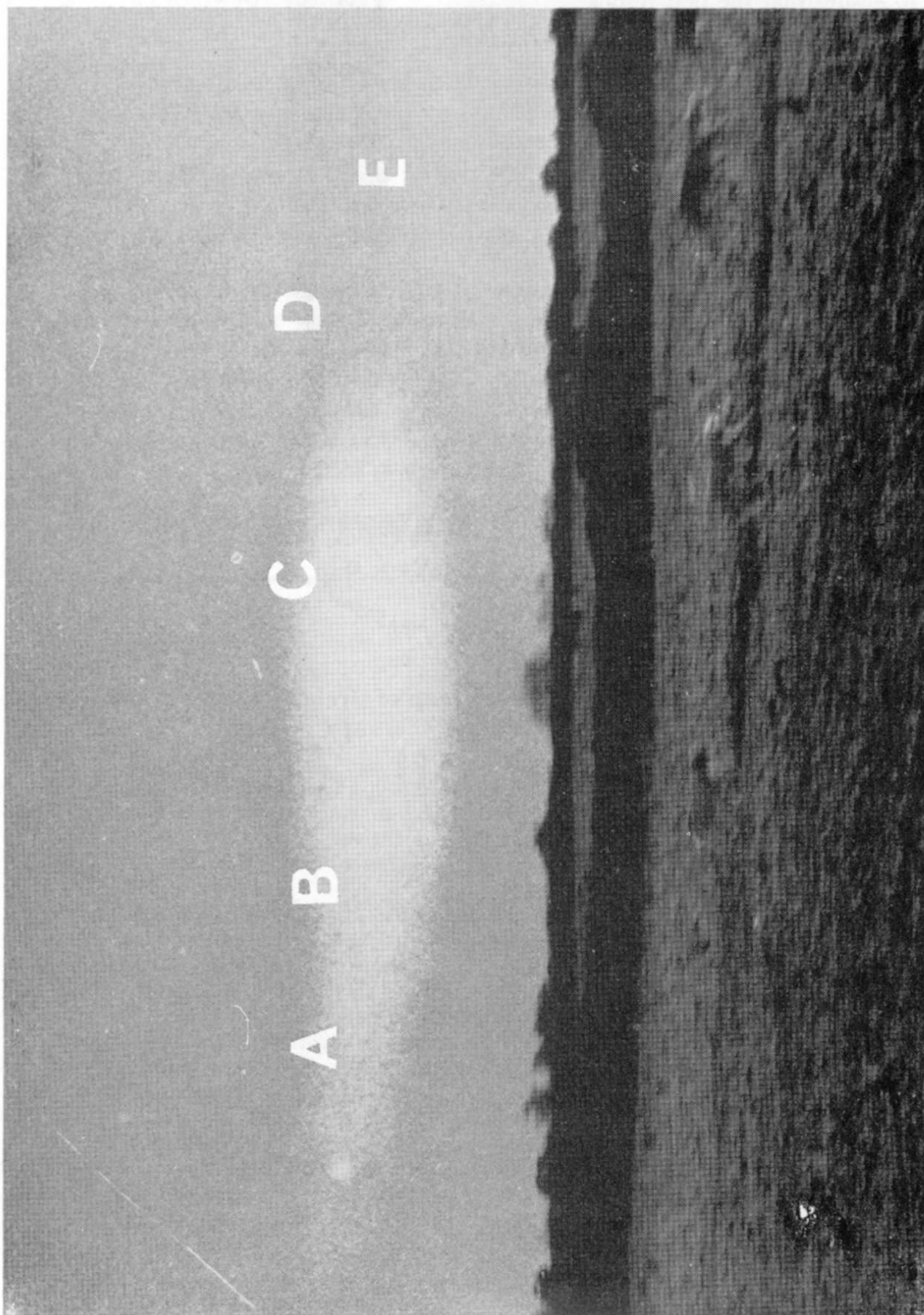
In appearance the UFO was curved and elongated, solid-looking, and of a light colour. Behind it, and seeming almost attached to—rather than emanating from—it, was a "plume", of flame-like brightness; but this "plume" left no smoke trail, or other wake.

Miss Wingfield found she had not loaded her camera, so called to Miss Mortensen to get hers, which was in the car. This was done, and she managed to take one photograph before the UFO disappeared in the distance. The camera used—an Agfa Click II—was luckily a simple instrument to operate, otherwise there would not have been time enough to set it.

Miss Wingfield was somewhat puzzled by the photograph when it was shown to her, as her recollection of the UFO was of a more elongated shape, and of a shorter plume. The former difference might be accounted for by the altered perspective of the machine as it was going away: the latter possibly by the camera registering more of



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Photograph taken near Cappoquin, Co. Waterford, December 26th, 1965
by Miss Lisbet Mortensen.

- A. Efflux clear but sparse following UFO seen to the left; B. Efflux bunching;
C. Dark periphery of shape; D. Efflux thinning; E. No smoke or vapour trail.

the plume than the human eye.

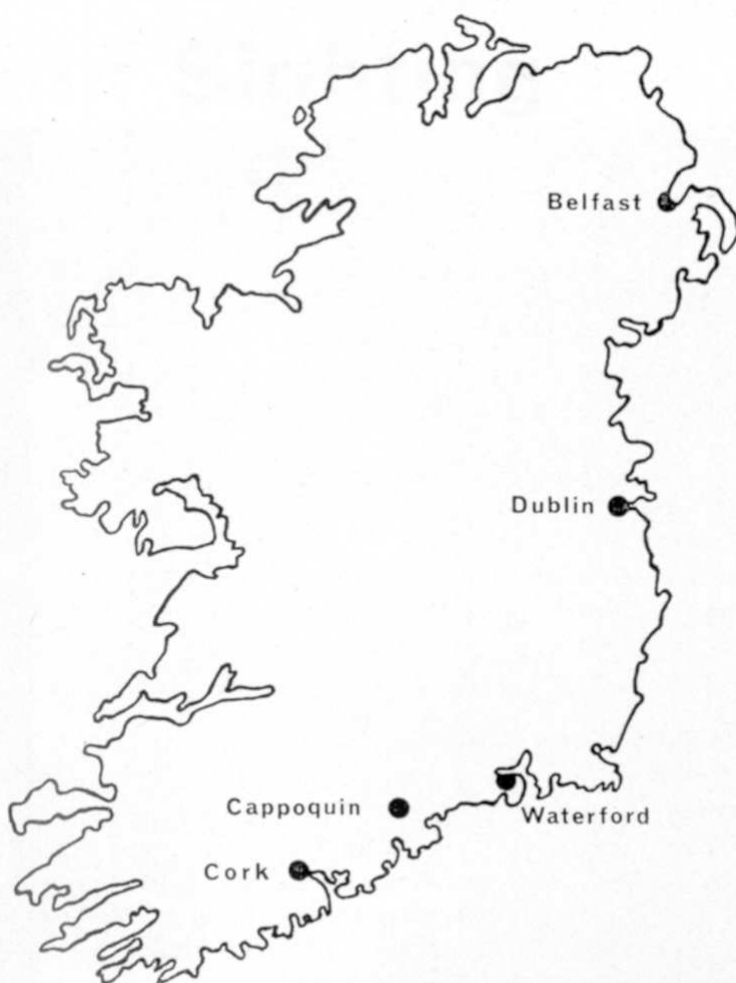
The film was brought to me, and for some days we were in doubt as to the best way of getting it expertly dealt with, to ensure that the best results would be obtained were anything significant to be present on the negative. But, by good fortune, my friend Mr. Percy Hennell—a photographer of world repute—came into my office shortly after, and generously offered to have the film processed and printed in his private studio under his own eye. With this offer, I knew that the film was in the hands of a man not only of the highest technical ability, but of the highest integrity.

Here is what he had to say.....

"I received a sealed roll of Agfa Isopan F film from Miss Wingfield. The film was processed under my supervision and in my presence by my assistant in the recommended developer, with a normal development time. The frame in question was one in a series of holiday landscape snapshots. I have now examined the camera, which is an Agfa Click II, a comparatively simple type of snapshot camera with a simple lens system of a fixed aperture of f8.8, the focal settings of which can only be fixed from 8 to 13 feet, or 13 feet to infinity.

"I examined the negative, and feel certain that it would be impossible, even with forethought, to fake such a negative, quite apart from the conditions of the photography in this case precluding this possibility. My reasons are, 1. The presence of the extraordinary dark periphery of the shape; and 2. The remarkable coarse grain clearly shown within the dark edge, and particularly at the left end of the object, which has no similarity to the normal photographic grain, the latter being shown in the surrounding areas of the enlarged prints.

"A series of enlargements of increasing density were made on contrasty paper to bring these features out, I naturally left all the prints free of re-touching. In the lightest of the prints, it is obvious from the movement in the foreground image, that the camera had been swung during photography in order to keep the object in the view finder; and the type of camera would suggest that the exposure could not have been more than $1/50$ second, and was more probably in the region of $1/25$ th. I am well aware of the ways in which a superficially similar effect might be produced under laboratory conditions, after development. Not only was the film developed in a sealed tank, but also it was not examined until development and fixation were completed. The negative, as it exists now, could



Sketch map of Ireland showing the location of Cappoquin.

be examined by any photographic chemist, who would confirm that no after-treatment was attempted on this negative.

(Signed) Percy Hennell

January 19, 1966."

The reproductions of the photograph, which appear both on the cover and on the adjoining pages, have been made from an enlargement deliberately printed as dense as possible to emphasize the remarkable features.

I am having the negative examined by a number of experts in various fields of science and technology: opinion is hardening against it being a "Sun dog" phenomenon, or parhelion, which has been suggested as an "explanation" in some quarters. A report on the findings of the experts will be prepared in due course but I must warn readers that this will take some considerable time.

SALES TALK

For twelve busy months our band of regular readers has earned our unstinted admiration for the way in which they have spread the word about the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. Our gentle hints have not gone unnoticed, for it is no exaggeration to say that it is due mainly to readers' efforts that the circulation is now better than ever before. So, in spite of rising costs of production and postage, the price increase threat has been held off, and will be a threat no longer if the present spirit of enthusiastic co-operation prevails.

We gather that most of the readers who have recently joined our ranks have decided that the venture was worthwhile. May we now suggest that they too would now like to take a hand in this business of "sales-talking". They can best do this by showing their friends a copy of the *REVIEW*. They should remember, however (as we have stressed before), that if they wish to keep their copies in unsoiled condition, or indeed if they wish simply to *keep* them, they should persuade their friends to join our subscription list **now**.

Readers, new and old alike

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

Infra-Solid State of Matter?

By Dr. Bernard E. Finch

ACCORDING to Professor R. O. Kapp, matter on the surface of the Moon is likely to be in a state unknown and unreproducible on Earth. This matter is solid, yet of a low density. He postulated that complete atomic nuclei disappear every so often by extinction, and so in the course of time, substances become extremely tenuous. This state of matter he calls **infra-solid**.

Matter in the infra-solid state would have a wide separation between the constituent molecules which nevertheless would retain their relative positions as in an ordinary solid.

Professor Kapp considers that the Moon's surface is made up of this infra-solid material. The substance would be very strong, rigid, with a high thermal resistance, but a very low density. Therefore, having a very low gravity, it would require

very little force to move it in space—a mere fraction of the energy required to move a mass of similar shape, but of ordinary substance.

Again, this material would be highly magnetic, and in the presence of an electromagnetic or electrostatic field, would tend to move in the direction of that field.

One now wonders whether the lunar surface has been the source of material for the manufacture of flying saucers, and if the craters might even be the results of early mining efforts by extraterrestrial beings.

If this material (infra-solid) could be produced artificially instead of waiting millions of years, we would have a supply of material which would be the lightest, yet strongest, substance known.

The Greatest Flap Yet?—Part 2

By Jerome Clark

ON the afternoon of August 3, 1965, county highway department investigator Rex Heflin was driving near the Marine Corps Air Force facility at Santa Ana, California, when he was startled to see a metallic machine flying above him. Although a UFO sceptic, the sight interested him so much that he stopped his car, pulled out a Polaroid camera, and shot three pictures of the strange craft during the 15 seconds it was still visible to him.

Heflin estimated the object to be about 30 feet in diameter and 8 feet thick. It made no sound as it manoeuvred over some nearby telephone wires, flashing a beam of white light that rotated underneath it. While watching it, he tried to communicate with his supervisor but found that his two-way radio was not working, although it did later.

Heflin submitted his photographs, which showed a hat-shaped object without portholes or lights, to the Air Force. Almost two months later (on October 27) its "findings" were released. In the words of Major Hector Quintanella, current head of Project Blue Book: "We have classified it as a photographic hoax on the basis of extensive photographic analysis. Evaluation of the three photographs is based on enlargements made from copies of the original prints.¹ The camera was probably focused on a set distance and not on infinity, as the terrain background was blurred on all three photographs. The center white strip on the road, and the object, appeared to have the same sharp image. Therefore, it is believed that the object was on the same plane as the center white strip and could not possibly be the size reported by Heflin. Using the width of the road in the photograph as a measurement factor, the size of

the object was estimated to be approximately one to three feet in diameter, and 15 to 20 feet above ground".

Unperturbed, Heflin said, "It comes as no surprise to me. The Air Force has a policy of insulting every citizen who presents evidence they can't or won't explain". NICAP, which also studied the photographs, disputed the Air Force's conclusion, stating its belief that the pictures were genuine. It should be noted that Heflin, when his story was first released, offered to submit to a lie detector test to prove his honesty.²

As circumstantial evidence for his report, a 10-year old boy, Greg Oliver, sighted a strange flying object in the same general area Heflin claimed to have seen his, and on the same afternoon. The youth thought the object had just come from the Southern California Edison Company electric generating plant, apparently having flown over and observed the site. That night numerous UFOs, variously described as "green, red, silver objects" and "large spinning disc-shaped fireballs", flew over northern California. The next evening, so many of the craft were observed that a spokesman for Hamilton Air Force Base admitted jets had been scrambled to investigate; he declined, however, to say what the pilots had seen.

Radars in action—and 'jammed'

A similarly fantastic series of events was taking place over Michigan on August 4. United Press International, in a dispatch out of Houghton in that State, reported an Air Force radar base on the Keweenaw Peninsula had tracked seven to ten unidentified objects travelling in V-formation over Lake Superior. Moving out of the southwest, the UFOs were flying north-northeast at 9000 miles

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per hour at an altitude of between 5200 and 17000 feet. Three other bases—in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Canada—also contacted the machines with radar, and at the first site, over Duluth, jet interceptors chased them but were easily outdistanced. At Luther Air Station in Canada a spokesman recounted what appeared to be electronic jamming of its radar as the UFOs passed.

The Air Force's explanation: the incidents never occurred.³ By implication, the UPI, one of the nation's two leading newswire services, had invented the story.

That night flights of UFOs descended upon Arkansas. In one case, the Bill Estep family, who farm eight miles from Viney Grove, sighted "a long, narrow, silver object with lighted windows and a revolving light on top hovering in the air just above the trees". In an unusual sidelight, the couple claimed that the machine made noises—"a loud clicking" punctuated at intervals by "three short blasts on a siren". Said Mrs. Estep: "When it left it made sparks similar to a Roman candle", reminiscent of a UFO seen several days before by Deputy Sheriff Dan Carter of Canyon, Texas, and others.

Elsewhere, about 11.30 p.m. August 8, a high school senior from Brighton Township, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, managed to photograph a bright disc-shaped object, "larger than a Piper Cub airplane", in full view of two witnesses. Careful analysis by three photographers for the *Beaver County Times* culminated in a statement that the image on the picture "appears to be the result of photographing a self-luminous object positioned in the field of view of the camera". NICAP investigators cross-examined the witnesses, studied the photographs, and concluded that the report was genuine.⁴

"Operators" reported

One of the very few "ufonaut" incidents recounted during the flap occurred to three girls and three unidentified men from Grand Forks, North Dakota. About 11.30 p.m. the girls—Becky Aanestad, Becky Evanson, and Sylvia Hoialmen, all about 20 years of age—stopped their car near the Lincoln Park golf course to observe what they took to be a beautiful harvest moon, only to notice seconds later that the *real* moon was *behind* them. What they were watching was something for which nothing in their experience had prepared them. "It was a weird feeling", one of them noted later, expressing what must surely be an understatement.

Resting on the ground about a block and a half into the golf course, an unknown object "blinked black and white", revealing a transparent, circular shape. Miss Evanson said the UFO looked "just like the moon when it's huge and when real yellow—a clear yellow kind of". There was "something

.....moving inside like a silhouette".

Miss Hoialmen commented on alleged "little figures inside" which for somewhat vague reasons "could not be distinguished clearly".

Three men, none of whom the girls knew, told them they had been observing the phenomenon for about half an hour. According to Miss Evanson, "They said [they] saw this light in the sky. I don't know if they saw it come down. They talked as though they thought it came from the sky".

After five or ten minutes the girls decided to go to Miss Evanson's home to call the police. When they returned, the object had left. The men explained that one of them had run toward the UFO, but it "seemed like he never got any closer to it. All of a sudden he heard a bang, then a noise, and it just blew up....." The police could find no trace of the object, but later the girls talked with a boy and a girl on a motorcycle who had seen the thing. The cyclist stated that he had spotted a red light on top of the machine, and that when the light pointed toward one direction, "it looked like the object would bounce and roll in that direction".

"I can't believe it yet", one of the girls opined.

Halfway across the continent—near Mesa, Arizona—three astonished witnesses watched a large UFO hover near the ground. "Taking distance into consideration", said Mrs. Charles Biggs, one of the observers, "it looked as long as the Goodyear balloon.....It moved, it wasn't stationary. It looked like it was glowing like white-hot metal. It moved up and down and then like in a square". The sighting occurred between 12.30 and 1 p.m. on the 9th.

Two days later, a huge object entered the atmosphere over Orange County, California, about 10 p.m. One witness, Mrs. Jerry Schultz of Fullerton, reported that the UFO "seemed to be descending" as if to land, "but after ten seconds it levelled off and disappeared". As it moved eastward, dozens of Californians saw the phenomenon. Among them were airline pilots who described it as a "large ball of fire with a tail". Apparently the same object passed over Arizona and New Mexico, finally disintegrating over the Rincon Mountains.

Unmanned monitors?

The smallest UFO of the flap, so far as is known, appeared near Woodinville, Washington, to Mrs. Herb Johnson of that city. As she drove home about 11.0 p.m., her attention was attracted to a round, glowing 18-inch object whose speed alternated between 10-15 miles per hour and very fast. "It was coming right at me about 20 feet in the air", she said. "When I turned off 228th, the object took an abrupt turn and crossed the road until it was directly above my car. It wasn't until I rolled the window down and looked outside that

it sped away. The object went straight up in the air and was out of sight in a split second". At one point, as the object was hovering over her car, she saw "a kind of X-shaped section near the back. It appeared that this is what powered the object".

Nearly identical craft, ostensibly unmanned "monitors", were later sighted in Wausau, Wisconsin (August 22), Ward Lake, Alaska (September 22), and Bexely, Ohio (October 16).⁵ The Wisconsin report adds the detail of a "burning sulphur smell", and its Alaskan counterpart "a whirring or buzzing sound, not shrill or screaming, but like a whip through the air.....'omnidirectional'".

What may have been physical evidence of UFO visitation fell on the lawn of a Texas, Maryland, resident on 10 p.m. of the 11th. Peter Tuczinski saw a brilliant flash over his home and then luminous metal particles rained down on his roof and lawn. After collecting some of them, he mailed samples to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, whose preliminary report said the material was "not from a meteorite".

News of Kenneth Arnold

In the midst of all these goings-on, a reporter for the Minneapolis, Minnesota, *Star* interviewed the man who, in 1947, for good or ill, coined the term "flying saucer": Kenneth Arnold, now 50 years old and the president of a fire control company in Boise, Idaho. Arnold, though still a believer, maintains, rather incredibly, that "these things are not machines, but something alive that has enough intelligence.....that they are as aware of you as you are of them".

On the night of the 11th, the pilot of a chartered two-engine aircraft, Ray Hoffman, together with two passengers, was flying between Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton, Pennsylvania, when he sighted "a bright light, large in size and certainly not like any aircraft". He manoeuvred his plane until it was pointed toward the UFO, then followed it. When he had got within five miles of it, the craft suddenly accelerated and sped northeast "at a speed three times as fast as we could travel". Hoffman's plane was going about 230 m.p.h. at the time.

"We followed it toward Red Rock", he said, "and I had the throttle of my plane wide open..... and couldn't catch up with it.

"I'm very satisfied to believe that it was not any kind of reflection".

Two days later, two Renton, Washington, girls purportedly encountered three peculiar beings who may have been ufonauts, although they did not see a UFO. As they alighted from a car at 7 a.m. to work at a bean field, Ellen Grace Ryerson, 16, and Laura Jean Ryerson, 13, observed three "strange persons" who approached them and caused the girls

to flee. After running 50 feet, they looked back, only to see the "creatures" had disappeared. Telling their story to sceptical policemen and an amused newspaper reporter, they described the strangers as slightly less than 5½ feet in height, with "white tops" instead of hair on their heads, with very large pores and a large protrusion on the back of the head. The eyes were huge and protruding, and the faces held no expression. The beings sported purple armless v-neck jerseys with white shirts underneath, they said.⁶

On the afternoon of the 15th, Coast Guardsmen James Gilman and Claude Van Werry sighted a large, silver-coloured cylinder-shaped object streaking out of the sky and then hovering over a 340 feet television tower in Portsmouth, Virginia. It did not move for 30 seconds: finally it flashed away and vanished within seconds. Early the next morning—at 5.30—after a UFO passed over U.S. Highway 58, the engines of a dozen automobiles mysteriously shut off, then started again half a minute later.

Landing in New York State

Two landings—one in New York and the other in North Carolina—occurred within hours of each other on the night of the 19th and the early morning of the 20th. In the first, as 16-year old Harold Butcher operated a milking machine in his father's dairy barn near Cherry Creek, he heard the radio suddenly become blurred with static. Then the tractor which ran the milking machine stopped, and a Holstein bull tied outside began to bellow and tried to pull at the pole to which it was tied.

Running to the door, the youth was startled to see a large object, shaped like two bowls placed face to face, hovering just above the ground a fourth of a mile away. He hurried toward the UFO and was about 50 to 75 feet from it when it emitted a reddish vapour which "bounced" as it hit the ground, and then, after making a "beeping" sound, the machine shot upward into the clouds. Then Butcher heard an explosion—"like dynamite".

He telephoned the house, and when the other witnesses came outside, they smelled a peculiar odour in the air, and also noticed that the cloud into which the saucer had flown had begun to glow a greenish colour. The bull in its terror had actually managed to bend the bar that held it.

Half an hour later, the UFO returned, and circled the area, prompting Harold Butcher's mother to call the state police. Two troopers investigated briefly, and notified the Air Force. The next day, Captain James Dorsey, Operations Officer, 461st AF Group, and four technicians examined the ground carefully. Their findings: a purple liquid substance, burned grass and foliage, and small impressions in the ground two inches

wide and two inches apart.

A NICAP member managed to obtain samples of the liquid material and the singed grass, and submitted them to a chemical firm for study. "Spectrographic analysis", said its subsequent report, "showed the main elements of the liquid to be aluminum, iron and silicon. Some phosphorous was found in the weed samples, which.....might cause a phosphine smell, explaining the odd odour".⁷

(This was not the last UFO activity scheduled for New York state. The next night State Trooper Richard Ward sighted a saucer with eight portholes flying only a few miles from the Butcher Farm. A similar machine was in fact seen by Harold Butcher, Richard Butcher, 25, and John Butcher, 11, on the evening of the 23rd, as it rose out of a wooded area in which it seemed to have landed. The same night, three teenaged boys and an elderly man observed a "touch" landing near Kiantone. Another sighting, involving a near-landing, took place at Jamestown on the 24th).

The alarming Schumaker Case

Elsewhere, at 3 a.m. August 20, Mrs. T. E. Schumaker, visiting her mother near Mount Airy, North Carolina, was awakened from her sleep by a loud "humming" sound.

"I could hear the whirring noise of air and the air currents hitting the house", she later told a reporter for the *Winston-Salem Journal*. "I could hear the air in a pine tree near the window. I thought about what I should do. I rose and started to call my husband, but I couldn't speak. I couldn't move. I was frightened, but I don't think I was that frightened. I think it did something to me that prevented me from moving".⁸

After some effort she made it to the window, drew the shades, and looked outward to the northwest sky. There, rising at an angle from south to north, was a luminous cigar-shaped object. It stood on end at a 90° angle with the earth.

"It moved to the right, then to the left, then back, then up. Then it moved down and to the left and disappeared behind the trees along the driveway".

The next morning, when Mrs. Schumaker told her husband, he laughed—until he went out into the yard. In the back was a six-inch band of crushed grass running in a perfect circle exactly 12 feet across. The driveway, situated on a north-south line, was covered with leaves from a line of oak trees; the leaves still on the trees were in total

disarray, their pale undersides turned up.

The day before, it developed, a man in nearby Thomasville had reported seeing a metallic cylinder-like machine with purple lights hover 200 feet above the ground making sounds like those of a sewing machine. The witness estimated its size to be between 75 to 100 feet in length.

On August 21, a laboratory technician named James R. Peek, intending to film the Gemini 5 launch, found himself instead photographing an unidentified craft that "looked like a sliver of brilliant green phosphorescent light, just east of the contrail left by the rocket. It made a sort of S-turn in and around the contrail, became almost elliptical in shape as it turned, then changed into a clearly defined shape".

Some question has been raised concerning the authenticity of the report, in that so far as is known no one else sighted the UFO, which should have been quite conspicuous. Those who have viewed the film, however, concede that it shows *three* discs (two of them apparently unnoticed by Peek) going through the manoeuvres Peek described. At the time of writing, the movie is undergoing analysis.

During the week of the 22nd, a huge saucer hovered in the sky over Hyder, Alaska, for the incredible space of 8½ hours, first appearing at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and flashing away at over 800 miles per hour at 10.30 in the evening. Dozens of witnesses saw the phenomenon, and one of them, John J. Eckhart of *The Catholic Northwest Progress*, later wrote, "We were inexorably forced to the conclusion [that].....we had observed, and been observed by, something or someone in possession of a scientific technology that is as yet unknown on Earth".

NOTES

1. i.e., newspaper pictures. "It was impossible", the Air Force had already admitted to the Los Angeles *Herald-Examiner* (September 24), "to be absolutely certain about size or distance".
2. Prompting ufologist Robert J. Gribble to suggest a lie detector test for both Heflin and Major Quintanella.
3. *Saucer News*, December 1965 p. 18.
4. *The U.F.O. Investigator*, August-September 1965, p.2.
5. *N.I.C.A.P. Reporter*, (Gribble), December 1965, pp.4-5.
6. According to the Kent, Washington, *News-Journal*, the girls gave two different descriptions of the lower parts of the faces to police. "In one report the girls said the lower face appeared to be very tanned. In a report to the Washington State Patrol they said the faces were grey like stone". The implication is, of course, that the girls were lying, although the short duration of the incident and the excitement it generated in the witnesses might account for this contradiction.
7. *U.F.O. Investigator*, op. cit., p.7.
8. Compare this with M. Dewilde's account: "I.....tried to yell, but I couldn't, it was just as if I had been paralyzed". See Michel's *Flying Saucers and the Straight-Line Mystery* (Criterion, 1958), p. 45.

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

Superconductivity

By Luis Schönherr

IN your issue of September/October 1965, Dr. Bernard Finch asks whether a condensation in the wake of a UFO could indicate that it is working on a process of superconductivity (*UFO leaves Rainbow*, p. 34).

Now coldness and condensation effects have fairly often been reported in connection with UFOs. It is, therefore, certainly not without interest that today one can already foresee an application of the principle of superconductivity in the rocket engines of the future. The German physicist G. F. Au proposes the use of magnetic coils at temperatures within a few degrees of absolute zero (-273°C) for the acceleration of the plasma jet of an ion engine. (Literature: G. F. Au: KEMAN, *Versuchsanlage eines kontinuierlichen elektromagnetischen Antriebs*. Flugwelt International, Mainz, Dec. 1965, p. 980).

Although I myself think, from all one can learn from the reports, that UFOs are propelled rather by force fields than by rocket engines, I must point out that Professor Oberth once mentioned the possibility that UFOs use rocket engines as a sort of auxiliary propulsion on occasions, when the application of the force field is not advisable. Furthermore, considering the basic importance of the principle of superconductivity, (the electrical

resistance of superconducting materials drops to nearly zero!), one could at least imagine that it would also play an essential part in a force field propulsion system.

One could even think of another possibility. The behaviour of some UFOs, particularly their sudden evasive actions at high speeds, suggest that they are possibly controlled by ultra-fast computers. The fastest computers built today (still at an experimental stage) are based on so-called cryotrons, i.e. switching circuits working on superconductivity. The low working-temperature of a cryotron computer is maintained by immersing the cryotrons in liquid helium. It is perhaps not without significance that it is the superconducting cryotron-circuit which is best suited for the construction of electronic memories of the "associative" type, a principle on which the human brain as well as the brains of higher animals work. Sometimes when one judges them by their reactions alone, it would be difficult to distinguish a human brain from a computer. This third alternative should be borne in mind by those who regard UFOs *a priori* as objects either directly or remotely controlled by some unknown intelligence.

VALENSOLE . . .

Aimé Michel writes about the comments made by Dr. Bernard Finch

I am not a brain specialist, though I have studied that matter for professional reasons. So I would be very happy if we could throw a little light on this mechanism of a paralysis that is no paralysis, and concerning which I have put forward a hypothesis:

The meso-diencephalic reticular system includes, in the median and ventral part of the bulbar reticule, an inhibitory part which, *when it is stimulated*, suppresses all spontaneous movement in the animal and inhibits movements of cortical origin and medullary reflexes. This inhibition is transmitted by the reticule-spinal fascia. It appears to be due to the inactivation of the intermediate neurons of the grey matter of the medulla (see particularly the works of Dell).

The italicized part above corresponds, it would seem, to the case of M. Masse. But I have never spoken of lesion, nor do I think that lesion occurred. There was stimulation or inactivation of something. It seems to me that the inhibitory centres of the reticular formation answer pretty well to the facts as observed. Does Dr. Finch agree? And what do the other specialists think about it?

Please submit this hypothesis to Dr. Finch with my best wishes. I hope he can read French, because I don't know the English technical words. I would also be glad if you would publish it in the REVIEW.

(Translation Gordon Creighton)

Saucers and Speech

By Dr. Bernard E. Finch

THE Acts of the Apostles—Chapter 2.

- i "And when the day of the Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- ii And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- iii And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- iv And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the spirit gave them utterance."

These few verses from the Bible describe the strange happenings on the Day of Pentecost, the Disciples being "filled with the Holy Spirit". This filling with the Holy Spirit caused them to speak in tongues other than their own, and to be understood by people of many lands.

When we examine the four verses carefully, we have to answer two questions: "What was the sound of rushing and a mighty wind?" and "What were the cloven tongues of flame?"

The student of Ufology will now recognise these signs as the typical entry of a UFO into the area. The rush of air and the flames we recognise as associated with the presence of UFOs, but what of the "filling with the Holy Ghost"?

Having studied all the close contact stories, it is obvious that a mental change took place among those present, and we must ask ourselves whether these mental changes were accidental and incidental upon the presence of the UFO, or whether it was a deliberate telepathic encounter. The former case seems more likely as there is strong evidence that magnetic fields can effect the brain. Intense magnetic fields can produce hallucinations and speech

changes, and the force field of a UFO could quite easily have produced the changes as described in chapter 2 of *The Acts*.

Many present-day contact stories describe similar changes of short duration in those who have been unfortunate enough to be within the range of the force-field.

On the other hand, one must not ignore the possibility of deliberate telepathic communication, although it is difficult to know why this should take place without the introduction of a 'divine message'.

Taking all contact stories of this century and comparing them with earlier ones, as far back as Biblical times, we must draw certain conclusions.

The presence of the UFO causes certain phenomena to take place. These are both physical and mental. The physical changes are associated with changes in its vicinity, such as magnetic effects, light and radiation effects, falls of chemical substances, etc., and anti-gravity effects (poltergeist phenomena). These effects can persist well after the UFO has departed, due to the physical changes in the area reverting back to normal only slowly. The mental changes affect all those creatures with brains. In man—hallucinations, visions, inspirations, sixth sense and psychic phenomena, and intense awareness are produced. In animals—a varying degree of heightened sensitivity occurs.

Apparently humans differ in their reactions to these mental changes. Even under experimental conditions some people are unaffected, while others have visions. This difference also appears to occur with contacts. Recent landings appear to point to the fact that the mental effects are accidental in the presence of the force field, and the general consensus of opinion is that saucers might well be hostile.

ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS

Dr. Bernard Finch has sent us the following item taken from *Pulse* of January 21, 1966—"A common hallucination of schizophrenics is that they feel 'influences', 'electromagnetic waves', and so on.

"Are they right after all?

"Possibly, says Professor Hans Neuberger, Professor of Meteorology at Pennsylvania State University.

"Today there is a vast amount of electromagnetic radiation emanating from television, radio, radar and other electronic equipment, and this may cause malaise, he thinks.

"The general unrest among people may well be a direct result of electromagnetic insults to their nervous system."

"Intriguing evidence also comes from the Cornell University electrotechnologist, Dr. C. E. Ingalls, who—although no schizophrenic—claims personally to be able to hear electromagnetic waves—in this case, ultra-high-frequency radar pulses.

"Dr. Ingalls says that he hears the radar as a humming sound, but only when the radar rays are made highly directional and aimed at the crown of his head, above the forehead. This he regards as strong evidence that he does not hear radar through his ears, but directly in the brain."

Virginia 1965 Flap

By Donald B. Hanlon

IN January 1965 the eastern States of the U.S.A. experienced a UFO wave, the significance of which has seemingly been eclipsed by the remarkable renewal of activity that took place only a few months later. The very peculiar character of the January observations appears clearly on Figure 1, where it will be seen that the number of unexplained reports has been plotted against time over a two-year period¹.

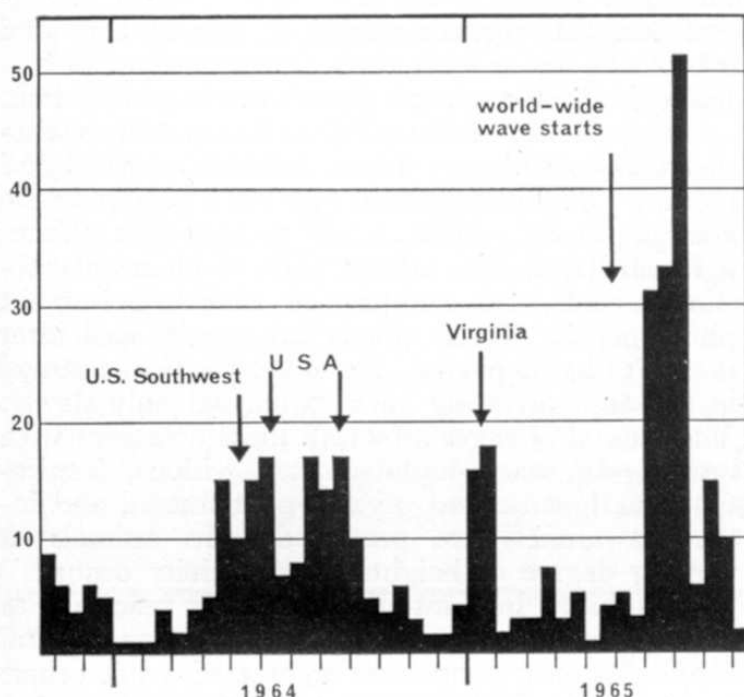


FIG. 1

Frequency of observations (unidentified sightings only) in 1964-5.

Details for this graph have been compiled from world-wide reports after stringent examinations.

The January observations have already been the object of fragmentary studies^{2,8}. Some of the most interesting reports, however, have come to light only recently. A new examination of the events of that period is therefore in order. In this investigation, Virginia emerges as the area of highest concentration (figure 2). We must also turn to the State of Virginia for the most significant observations.

Significant Observations

I have compiled a list of reports which appear to be directly related to the phenomenon under study :

1. About November 20, 1964, Kenneth Norton saw a beehive-shaped object at Staunton, Virginia.²
2. On November 26, 1964, Mrs. F. Rosenberg

saw a bright ball of light close to the ground near Grand Valley, Pennsylvania. Increase in radioactivity was allegedly noted. An independent witness reports seeing the light, preceded by a dark object.³

3. On December 14, 1964 a spinning silvery disc was seen manoeuvring over Needham, Massachusetts, for five minutes.⁴

4. On December 19, 1964 at 3.30 a.m. the Patuxent Naval Air Station in Maryland spotted three objects in rapid succession.²

5. On December 21, 1964 at 5.0 p.m. Mr. Burns saw a huge beehive-shaped object come very close to the ground as his car stopped without apparent reason, in the vicinity of Harrisonburg, Virginia. Radioactivity was allegedly noted by Prof. Gehman, of Eastern Mennonite College.⁵

6. Early in January, 1965, at dusk, State Pathologist Dr. Richard Woodruff and a Vermont State trooper saw three orange objects cross the sky in succession. They were also seen by four persons living in Randolph.⁴

7. On January 5, 1965 at 6.00 p.m., M. Dempsey Bruton, head of the Wallops Island (Virginia) tracking station, saw a bright, orange glowing object coming from the southwest. Several other witnesses.²

8. On January 11, 1965 at 4.20 p.m., at least twelve persons, including six engineers of the Army Signal Corps, saw a dozen oval objects cross the sky, apparently followed by jets from Andrews Air Force Base. Among the witnesses were Messrs. Paul M. Dickey, Jr. and Edward Shad. The Defense Department denied the incident. The witnesses have publicly maintained their story.^{4,2}

9. On January 12, at 6.30 p.m., a bright yellow object was seen for two minutes by Mr. and Mrs. Milliner, NASA public relations employees, on Wallops Island, Virginia.²

10. On January 14, 1965 at 4.45 p.m., an object was seen over Staunton, Virginia, by Carl Billings and Jody Smith.²

11. The same day, a stationary light was seen over Doores at 6.00 p.m. by seven students and a bus driver.²

12. The same day, Mr. James Myers, Virginia, saw a circular object rise from the ground at 12.00 p.m.²

13. On January 15, at 10.00 p.m. Mr. Charles Knee Jr. of Concord lost control of his car between Enfield and Wilmot (New Hampshire) as the engine

stalled and light went off. Coming out of his car after it had stopped, the witness heard a high-pitched sound and saw a bright light cross the sky.⁶

14. On January 19, 1965 at 6.15 p.m. an industrial worker observed two circular flying objects hovering at low altitude over an archery range at Brands Flat, Virginia. The smaller object (diameter 20 feet) landed 15 to 18 yards from the witness. Three beings about three feet tall emerged, uttered unintelligible noises, and returned to the object, which then took off.^{4,2}

15. On January 20, 1965 at 9.40 a.m. a slow-flying object was seen over Long Beach, Mississippi. Two figures, one of which seemed to be operating a 'camera-like device', were allegedly visible from the ground.⁴

16. On January 23, 1965 at 8.43 p.m. two businessmen driving on highway U.S. 60 in opposite directions were stopped in the vicinity of Toano as their cars approached a huge cone-shaped object which was hovering over a nearby field. Two Army helicopters were allegedly dispatched from Fort Lee to investigate.^{2,5}

17. On January 24, 1965 a radio newsman and his wife saw an orange ball of light streak across the sky and "blink out" over Richmond.⁵

18. On January 24, 1965 five college students reported that an oval object kept pace with their car on a darkened highway near Salem, Virginia. The object, at an altitude of about 400 feet, was observed to have three yellow lights and one green.⁷

19. Again on January 24, a couple in Verona, Virginia, reported seeing a bright yellow light that hovered overhead for about five minutes before heading for Staunton.⁷

20. On January 25, 1965, a Marion, Virginia, policeman and several other witnesses observed an object which took off from a wooded area on a hill. Traces were allegedly found.²

21. The same night, approximately twenty minutes after observation No. 20, nine persons saw a top-shaped object emitting sparks which moved up the Rappahannock Valley at a low altitude. This observation was witnessed from Fredericksburg, Virginia.²

22. Also on the 25th, at 10.55 a.m., a person situated three miles north of Bedford, Virginia saw an aluminum-coloured object of large dimensions fly slowly westward. Five minutes later, two persons at Moneta (10 miles southwest of Bedford) saw a bright cigar flying south to north.⁴

23. Also on January 25, at 12.45 p.m. five Stodert School students in Glover Park, near Washington D.C. saw an object resembling 'an airplane without wings'. First described as silver in colour, it became luminous and changed from orange to red, then green.¹²

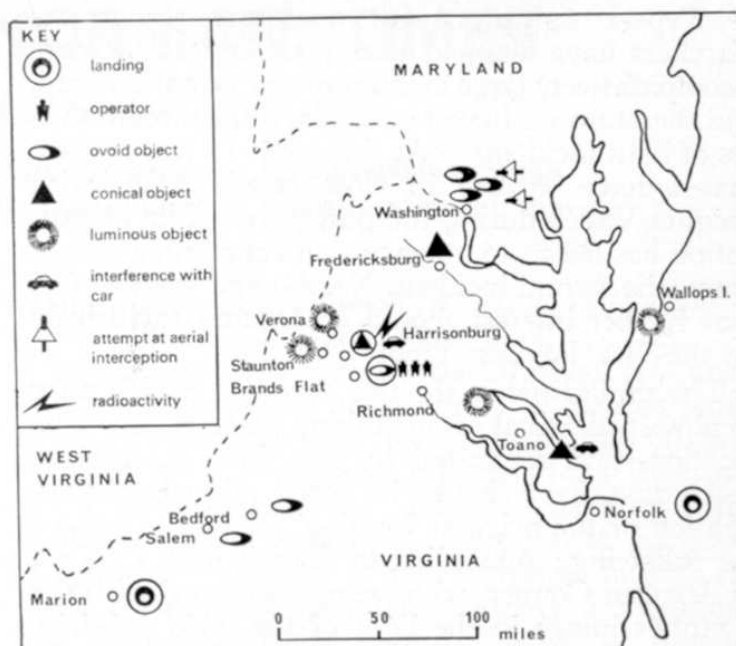


FIG. 2

(Based on author's sketch)

24. On January 26, 1965 at nightfall, seven young people were driving near Brands Flat, Virginia (see observation No. 14) when they allegedly spotted a strange looking individual of small height. They pursued him, and two others that appeared, to a wooded area where all sight of beings was lost. Police investigators explored the area but could find no trace of the supposed 'creatures'. Later one of the witnesses and a photographer resumed the search and said they found an aluminum-coloured object, when the photographer received a mysterious blow on the head. The two men fled the scene after an attempt to photograph the object. This photo was reportedly "confiscated" by Government agents who are also said to have "silenced" the witness.⁸

25. On January 26, 1965 in the evening, the Marion police received numerous telephone calls concerning a stationary object described by Rev. Preston H. Robinson as circular and showing several lights. It flew away at high speed.²

The value and reliability of the twenty-five accounts is, of course, extremely variable. For some of them, a conventional explanation is clearly in order. It was established, for instance, that in case No. 6 the witnesses had simply observed tracer bullets fired across the road from a nearby hill by a group of young people who had decided to scare the motorists.* Other cases call for further investigation. Whatever their individual worth, these observations have unusual features in common and appear highly correlated geographically. But it is for the reader to decide how this correlation should be interpreted.

The list of observations contains two accounts

of Type-1 sightings with operators. Some researchers have claimed that these reports deserve a comparatively large amount of our attention here, and therefore we have re-examined the circumstances of both incidents. At this point I must explain that I have worked in close collaboration with Jacques Vallée during the past year. Our investigation has led us to a conclusion concerning one of them (the second incident, No. 24) and we now feel that further interest should be focused exclusively on the first 'landing' report (No. 14).

The similarities in the two accounts, which refer to almost identical events taking place at the same location, and separated by the short interval of seven days, have first to be noted. Further investigation of the original 'landing' (No. 14) disclosed the following: According to Sheriff John E. Kent of Augusta County, who seems concerned with the County's image in the light of the wide publicity the flap received, the observer's account is not believed locally, despite reports that the witness's reliability is vouched for by several prominent citizens. The witness could offer no evidence to back up his account, and it is reported that he was undergoing treatment for a nervous disorder at the time. He does state, however, that he is certain he was not the victim of an hallucination.

The second incident should be reviewed in the psychological atmosphere that prevailed as the number of reports reached a peak. (In Salem, for example, a model of a 'little green man' made of cardboard, and complete with flashing lights, was carefully approached by a force of armed men, arrested and taken to jail!) Both Sheriff Kent and Chief of Police Cline declare the second landing to be an admitted hoax, and apparently one of a rather sadistic type since it was designed to ridicule a retarded youth. The popular yet mythical "little green men" will be noted in the description given by the boys. Although some minor points remain to be clarified (whether the 'aluminum object' was also a fabrication or a misinterpretation of some actual, ordinary construction) we feel that a conventional explanation is in order for this case, and that many details (three little men, 'silencing by federal agents, etc.) have been borrowed from the first incident. The confiscation of the photograph (which Sheriff Kent declares to be non-existent) and silencing by federal agents seem to be no more than a convenient excuse to avoid further embarrassment to that party.

The January 19 incident (case No. 14) will now be seen to merit our serious attention if only because we believe it to be the source of the elaborations for the January 26 hoax. In our opinion there are three possible explanations of the original 'landing' claim:

1. That the whole account is merely a fabrication. This would indicate that the fabricator is thoroughly familiar with certain intimate characteristics of Type-1 observations which would be apparent only to a researcher who has spent some time in analyzing this category.
2. That the witness, his alleged ailment considered, experienced either total or partial hallucination. If the hallucination was partial, it could be compared with the description of a Type-II observation made by an emotionally disturbed witness, published by Vallée.¹⁰ If the hallucination is considered to be total, there would be implications that would apply to a large number of previously reported Type-I observations.
3. That the observer witnessed an objective reality. This incident would then take its place among the ever-growing list of such cases.

For those readers who prefer explanation No. 3, the following incident may contribute to the significance of the January 19 account: On February 21, 1965 a very singular event in the history of the UFO Phenomenon is alleged to have occurred at the tiny village of Chalac, Argentina. Some fifty witnesses, including local police, saw three small beings emerge from an object which with several other objects made low altitude passes over the village before landing. The beings were apparently repulsed by the effect of the flashbulbs which were being used by a photographer who is supposed to have obtained **several pictures of the scene** before the object took off.^{3,11} The similarities between these incidents is striking. We would certainly like to see the Chalac incident receive the investigation that it appears to merit, and we urge our South American counterparts to proceed accordingly.

NOTES

1. The author wishes to thank J. Vallée for material which is here published for the first time.
2. Deneault, Harold H. "UFOs Return to Washington" *Fate*, July 1965.
3. *Saucer News*, March 1965.
4. Personal Communication.
5. *Times Dispatch* (Richmond, Virginia) January 14, 1965. Also *Controversial Phenomena Bulletin*, March-April 1965. [Prof. Gehman's personal report to the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW appeared in the article *Opposition Flap 1965* in our May-June 1965 issue. EDITOR]
6. *Valley News*, Lebanon, N.H. January 18, 1965.
7. *Northern Virginia Sun*, January 18, 1965.
8. Clark, J. *Two New Contact Claims* FLYING SAUCER REVIEW XI, No. 3, May-June 1965.
9. *Arkansas Gazette*, February 1, 1965, quoted in *Controversial Phenomena Bulletin*, March-April 1965.
10. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW XI, No. 4, July-August 1965.
11. Vallée, J. F. *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*. Chicago: Henry Regnery Co. June 1965, page 121.
12. Creighton, G. *A Russian wall painting and other 'Spacemen'*. *APRO Bulletin*, July-August 1965.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: It is to be hoped that a further source of information was from court proceedings against the people concerned for acting in a way calculated to endanger life—if indeed there was such a prosecution.

SPACEMEN IN NORMAN TIMES

By W. R. Drake

Our popular contributor delves into history and browses speculatively through ancient writings. Much of what he finds lends itself to interpretation of the U. F. O. phenomenon

THE fair land of France smiles like an enchantress, bewitching mortals with magic spells and exhilarating men's souls to dream of romance. Those sunken cities of Lyonesse; epic Knights of Charlemagne and Troubadours of gay Provence lilting their love-songs; Masons building cathedrals and Alchemists transmuting gold; Adepts of the Rosy Cross; all echo some plaintive mystery veiling realms of the Gods. The wine-scented air of Gaul seduced great Caesar to seek the elusive source of Celtic witchery, for he marvelled to hear the Druids vow that the Gauls descended from the god Dis Pater (Jupiter). As we know, they worshipped deities such as Mercury, Apollo, Mars and Minerva, Beings from Space.

Celestial prodigies over Gaul were observed by the Romans. Pliny, in Book 11, Chapter LVIII of his *Natural History*, mentions that during the wars with the Cimbri (113-101BC) noise of clanging armour and the sound of a trumpet were heard from the sky. He added that the same thing also happened frequently before that time, and later too. In *Prodigiorum Libellus*, Julius Obsequens states that in 122BC three suns and three moons were seen in Gaul, and that in 102BC a light from heaven illuminated a Roman camp one night. This recalls those well-known lights shining down in Biblical times.

Burning Shields

Bede, in his *Ecclesiastical History*, records how, in AD729, a certain Wilfred, at Meux in France, saw great comets hovering about the sun, and then had visions of St. Michael, who six centuries later was to inspire Joan of Arc. We think of our Spacemen Visitors today and we wonder!

The contemporary *Annales Laurissenses* for AD 776 describe how the Franks, besieged in the castle of Sigiburg by the Saxons, in despair prayed for help from heaven. Suddenly from the heavens swooped two "flaming shields", raking the Saxons with fire and stampeding them to wild flight. This dramatic account from eye-witnesses, penned by the Monk Laurence, confounds belief until we recall Pliny's *Natural History*, Vol. II Chapter XXXIV, wherein that erudite admiral marvels: "In the consulship of Lucius Valerius and Gaius Marius (100 BC), a burning shield scattering sparks ran across the sky at sunset from west to east."

Flying shields are mentioned by Seneca in *Naturales Quaestiones*, Book 1, 1-15, and Book 7, 7-22.

People inevitably view the past through eyes and minds conditioned to the present. Linguists tend to interpret ancient texts in the connotation of current speech, while historians criticise events in terms of their pet philosophies. Biblical exegetists, with limited scientific knowledge, allege that Jehovah was God the Creator of the Universe, instead of just a tribal 'Lord', possibly Leader of a Venusian Spacefleet. Christians regard 'Angels' as disembodied Spirits from heaven, when the Greek word 'Angeloi' simply means 'Messengers' from the skies who befriended the Jews and built Solomon's Temple, the repository of the Ancient Wisdom. Similar misconstructions suggest our present conceptions of history may be wrong; unless we free our minds from contemporary prejudices, we may find our fundamental beliefs based on false premises.

The evaluation of the Zeitgeist—the Spirit of the Age—is particularly important in understanding the times of Charlemagne and his Norman successors. We think vaguely of the Holy Roman Empire, which Voltaire declared was neither Holy nor Roman nor an Empire, and dimly recall that Charlemagne clubbed Europe into a Common Market. And of course in AD 1066, at the Battle of Hastings, King Harold got a Norman arrow in his eye to change England: that is all we want to know. Admittedly history is long, while life is short and so frightfully complicated. Many of us can hardly make sense of what is happening now, so why should we bother about what went on one thousand years ago?

To students of extra-terrestrialism, the ninth and tenth centuries assume special importance. Today our Governments, our scientists, and the Church deny that 'Spacemen' exist and allege that UFO enthusiasts everywhere suffer from hallucinations, or 'Saucers' before the eyes. In the reign of Louis the Good, the Authorities feared that aerial Visitors to Earth threatened the State and imperilled men's immortal souls. Christianity was making but slow progress in Europe, and for centuries the old paganism and superstitions still persisted—as they do today! Men lived in a world of magic, without television to beguile them. People lent reality to realms of wonder. What of the Song of Roland, Viking sagas of the Gods, and those se-

ductive Moorish tales of flying-horses, wizards and enchantresses? These were tales related with all that picturesque romance which we today repeat in the scientific jargon of our science-fiction.

Laws against 'aerial demons'

Charlemagne and his heirs passed savage laws to combat 'demons' poisoning crops, and the Church, which was still not firmly established, waged bitter war against the 'Spacemen', anathematising them as 'evil spirits' haunting the air. This campaign was later to flame into persecution of heresy and witchcraft, to stifle scientific progress for hundreds of years, and to found our Western culture on bases which, probably, are false. Our modern cynical souls simply cannot conceive why some of the most brilliant men in the Middle Ages penned such savage diatribes against 'aerial demons', why normally humane priests condoned tortures on alleged wizards and witches suspected of dealing with the 'Devil'. We must regress our minds to the past and enter that mediaeval world of magic where the Men from Space loomed not as myths but as a menacing reality.

Contemporary documents penned in curious Latin suggest that in the ninth century spaceships were actually landing on Earth, and that Extra-terrestrials were making themselves known to men and women as in Old Testament times, just as in recent times the Venusian Orthon is reputed to have greeted Adamski, or, as is claimed, the ravishing Aura Rhanes from Clarion charmed Truman Bethuram. It is possible that even then Initiates were given flights in spaceships, with instruction from cosmic masters like Enoch and Moses. On landing, faced with fearful hostility from the Church, the Adepts founded their secret Mystery Schools. In those dark days UFO enthusiasts were not scoffed at as eccentrics; instead people believed them to be weather-diviners who raised storms and summoned spaceships from the skies (they prayed to 'heaven' for 'God' and 'He' came!). Could it be that they provisioned the Celestials with fruit and corn, symbolical of the vegetarians, and in return received the Secret Wisdom, the Cosmic Religion of Space?

Today our Church closes its eyes to the 'Spacemen', a thousand years ago its priests would have tortured Adamski to death, and dammed his soul for all eternity. Nowadays, instead of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury disputing the UFOs, we witness the role assumed by Science itself, in the person of our Astronomer-Royal and many others.

In AD 840 Agobard, Archbishop of Lyons, sternly condemned popular superstition in his Latin manuscript *Liber contra insulam vulgi opinionem* (Migne's *Patrologiae*, Saeculum IX, Annus 840. P. 147). In his chapter 'De Grandine et Tonitrua'

Agobard complains that in the Lyons region. "Almost all folk, noble and lowly, citizens and peasants, old and young, think hailstorms and thunders can be caused by the caprice of men. Now they say as soon as they hear thunder and see lightning 'The storm is raised'."

The belief that human beings could control the elements outraged Agobard, who insisted that the divine Scriptures taught that the elements obeyed only God. Tales of Indian medicine-men who bring rain, and Tibetan lamas who are said to cause storms of hailstones, make us wonder whether the people of Lyons were better informed than their own Archbishop.

Ships in the clouds

Agobard continues tersely: "We have however seen so much ruin and heard so much foolishness, so much stupidity and enmity, that they believe and say there is a certain religion called Magonia from whence come ships in the clouds and that they knock down the fruit with hailstones or destroy it with storms. Then some fruit is conveyed back to the same region by the aerial sailors themselves, who reward the Storm-raisers, and they also receive corn and other produce. As for the folk blinded by deep stupidity, who go as far as to believe such things can be done, we ourselves in a certain assembly saw several people exhibited as captives. Three men and one woman, as if they had fallen from the ships themselves. They had been detained for some days in chains, then finally put on show to the mob, and as I have said they were in our presence stoned to death. But however, Truth prevailed. After much disputation, those who put them on public display like a false prophet were confused, just as a thief is confounded when he is caught".

In his turgid Latin phraseology, Agobard shows no surprise at three men and a woman said to have landed from a spaceship; he evidently thought such 'demons' deserved stoning, for he made no effort to save them. We are reminded of *Otio Imperialia*, Book 1, Chapter XIII, wherein Gervase of Tilbury describes how in about AD 1207 an aerial craft over a city (possibly Bristol) caught its anchor in a heap of stones. An astronaut climbed down the rope to free it but was buffeted by the crowd and asphyxiated by our dense atmosphere.

Baluzius noted the vigorous persecution by the Church of alleged Storm-raisers, and Herardus, Archbishop of Turin, fulminated against wizards, witches and fortune-tellers; they were prohibited and punished in public. Charlemagne passed severe laws against enchanters but piously hoped that such correction would make them repent.

Jacob Grimm, the 18th century German mythologist, without knowing of the flying saucers, found Agobard's story quite bewildering. In his *Deutsche*

Mythologie Grimm says that the "Tempest Men call the airship to them. The real Lord of the Weather takes with him the corn dislodged by the hail, and remunerates the conjurors who might be called his priests. The Christian people said 'These conjurors sell the grain to the astronauts and they carry it away' ". He thus infers that it was the 'Spacemen' who caused the aerial storms with their spaceships, caused fruit to fall from trees and flattened crops, which their 'Contacts' sold to them as provisions. The name 'Magonia' puzzled Grimm. He wrote: "'Magonia' takes us to some region where Latin was spoken, if we may rely on it referring to Magus, i.e., a magic land". It is possible that in old Provençal the langue d'oc 'Magonia' might well have meant a fabulous country of the skies.

In his *Tales of the Lapps* (ii-4-89) H. Sachs relates how they made a ship of feathers and straw, carted it up a hill with a view to launching out in it when the wind should fall. Could this be some memory of a spaceship? Philoxenus, one of the most distinguished dithyrambic poets of Ancient Greece, wrote a Rabelaisian account of a cloudship belonging to Zeus, King of the Gods.

Although dismissed by Science, the belief in alien astronauts persisted in the people's minds. Mone, a nineteenth century student of German folk-lore, wrote in his *Anzeigen*, Vol. 4. P. 304: "A violent thunderstorm lasted so long that a huntsman on the highway loaded his gun with a consecrated bullet and shot it off into the middle of the blackest cloud; out of it (as out of the sky) a naked female fell dead to the ground and the storm blew over in a moment". (Now we know what to do the next time it rains!) A similar bizarre incident is mentioned by Monatanus in *Deutsche Volksfeste*, P. 37, telling how wizards flying through the clouds, were shot down. In Carthina the people shot at storm-clouds to scare away 'evil spirits' that held counsel in them. This is a custom popular among the Tibetans, and also among the early Irish who feared the malevolent entities confined in the spaces of the air. Nonsense, of course! But is it?

Jubinal in his mediaeval *Nouveau Recueil de Contes*, (2. Pps. 377-8) relates a curious story how the Lord God, having fallen sick, descends from Heaven to Earth to get cured. He comes to Arras where minstrels and merry-andrews receive commands to amuse him, and one manages so cleverly that the Lord bursts out laughing and finds himself rid of his distempers. A French miniature of the 15th century representing Fortune (reproduced in *Planète*, No. 15) shows above the Renaissance paintings of a richly appalled Lady and her suplicants, an intriguing globe in the air watching the scene. Whence came the inspiration for this UFO

five hundred years ago?

All ancient peoples told of God on a seat in the sky looking down on the world and at the follies of men. What better description of a spaceship? Our cosmonauts and their cameras are not the only surveillers of terrestrial events. In their *Kinder-märchen* No. 35, the Grimm Brothers tell of a mortal man, whom St. Peter admitted into heaven. Led on by curiosity he ended by climbing out into the chair of the Lord from which one can look down and see all that is done on the whole Earth. He saw a washerwoman steal two lady's veils and in his anger seized the footstool of the Lord, which stood before the chair, and hurled it down at the thief. Jacob Grimm in *Deutsche Mythologie*, Vol IV, speaks of the old Norse Gods looking down on the world from heavenly thrones, and quotes a Serbian song about Angels descending to Earth out of God's window. We think of the Californian desert and Orthon alighting from his Venusian spaceship. Shades of Adamski! Still we wonder?

Many sightings were mentioned by sober historians.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records:

AD 1066 "At that time throughout all England a portent such as men had never seen before was seen in the heavens. Some declared that the star was a comet.....It first appeared on 24th April and shone every night for a week. The invasion by Danes under Tostig, at Humber. William landed at Pevensey". (Battle of Hastings).

(This aerial object is pictured in the Bayeux Tapestry. Astronomers swear it was a comet, but, unrepentant, we still wonder whether it was a spaceship come to watch the Battle of Hastings like the UFO which hovered over Salamis in 480 BC, see Plutarch *Themistocles* XV, or the 'foo-fighters' of the Korean War).

Intriguing eleventh century aerial hosts occurred in AD 1096 'Battalions sweeping through the air'. (Pertz. 8-26). AD 1098 'Cavalry forces in the sky near Worms'. (Meland 2-No. 59).

These are reminiscent of the Ancient Greek sighting in Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Book 10-2: "Higher up in the clouds two great armies marching".

Similar heavenly hosts are mentioned by Josephus (Jewish War Book 3 Chap. 8, 1-5, and 2 Maccabees Chap. 5).

Most fascinating phenomena are mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle:

AD 1105 "In the first week of Lent on Friday 16th February, a strange star appeared in the evening and for a long time afterwards was seen shining for a while each evening. The star made its appearance in the south-west and seemed to be small and dark, but the light that shone from it

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was very bright and appeared like an enormous beam of light shining north-east, and one evening it seemed as if the beam were flashing in the opposite direction toward the star. Some said they had seen other unknown stars about this time, but we cannot speak about these without reservation because we did not ourselves see them. On the eve of *Cena Domini* (the Lord's Supper), the Thursday before Easter, two moons were seen in the sky before day, one to the east and the other to the west, and both at the full, and that same day the moon was a fortnight old".

We recall those two or three moons chronicled by Pliny and Julius Obsequens a thousand years earlier. Were all these UFOs?

But all 'Spacemen' were not benevolent; some apparitions were strange and menacing like many today. The Brothers Grimm in *Deutsche Sagen*, Vol. 1, P. 299, quote an odd story of AD 1125 in the Brunswick dialect called *Der feurige Mann*. This strange eye-witness account reminds us of the tales of Ray Bradbury. Freely translated it runs: AD 1125 "In this year (AD 1125) a fiery Man was haunting the mountains like an apparition. It was just on midnight and the Man went from one birchtree to another, and set it ablaze. The Watchman said he was like a glowing fire. He did that for three nights, and then no more. Georg Miltenberger, living in a so-called hop-

field near Railbach in the district of Freinstein, explained 'On the first appearance on Sunday night, between 11 and 12 o'clock, far from my house, I saw a Man burning all over with fire. One could count all the ribs on his stomach. He continued his way from one landmark to another until after midnight he suddenly vanished. Many people were struck by him with fear and terror because through his nose and mouth he belched forth fire, and in dashing speed flew hither and thither in all directions'".

This curious incident more than eight hundred years ago has special significance for UFO researchers, for they will probably see some parallel with the fiery Space Thing which scared Scoutmaster Desvergers in 1952 at West Palm Beach, Florida, and also with some of those alarming 'little men' recently frightening peasants in South America.

The strange phenomena recorded in Norman times certainly continues in the old tradition of Extra-terrestrials inherited from the Bible and the classic writers of Rome.

But—and here I look beyond Norman times—the greatest enigma of the Middle Ages surely haunted France in AD 1425!

Who were the Celestials who inspired Joan of Arc?

Was France saved by Spacemen?

A NEW CONSULTANT

The Editor is pleased to announce that Mr. C. Maxwell Cade, C.Eng., M.I.E.E., M.I.E.R.E., F.R.Ae.S., A.Inst.P., F.R.A.S., has accepted an invitation to act as scientific consultant to the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*.

Mr. Cade, who is a Professional Scientific Consultant, is especially interested in radiation physics, and is also, among others, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine; Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society; Member of the Society for Psychical Research, and a Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society.

It is with considerable interest that we await publication of his forthcoming book *Other Worlds Than Ours*, about which we hope to have something to say in the next edition of the *REVIEW*. For the present we are sure all our readers will join with the Editor and his team in extending a welcome to Mr. Cade.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

NICAP or N.I.C.A.P.

Sir,—In the interest of accuracy, I should like a correction printed regarding NICAP (Keyhoe) and NICAP (Gribble) in M. Vallée's article in the November/December, 1965 FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.

M. Vallée has been misinformed as to the length of existence of Mr. Gribble's N.I.C.A.P. (which is the way Mr. G. abbreviates it). Mr. Gribble organized his N.I.C.A.P. in mid-1962 following his expulsion from the original NICAP. Gribble's choice of name and initials seems unquestionably to have been motivated by the realization of the confusion that would (and did) arise. Prior to his membership in the original NICAP, Gribble had organized and headed the Aerial Phenomena Research Association and it is because of that somewhat tenuous link that he claims that his N.I.C.A.P. has been "serving the public . . . since 1955."

M. Vallée also errs in ascribing the founding of NICAP—the original—to Major Keyhoe. NICAP was founded by a T. T. Brown and underwent a reorganization in the fall of 1956 at which time Mr. Brown stepped out and Major Keyhoe was persuaded to become Director.—George W. Earley, President, NICAP Connecticut Affiliate, Bloomfield, Conn., U.S.A.

This matter was referred to M. Vallée, who sent the following reply—"Mr. Earley's comments are welcome, as they illustrate the confusion which plagues American UFO research. Faced with such confusion, it was my role to publish the returned questionnaires without any personal view or comment. It was not my role to conduct investigations in order to ascertain the truth of the statements, I trust, will encourage responsible researchers to come forward and offer frankly their views and criticisms and, by open discussion, help clarify the

situation. It is my hope that Mr. Earley's example will be followed.—J. Vallée."]

Tau Ceti

Sir,—In the article entitled "Professor Hermann Oberth revisits Barcelona" by Antonio Ribera (FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, September/October, 1965) the Professor is quoted as saying: "In the case of Tau Ceti we are certain that there exists a planetary body around this star. The luminosity of this body is 0.4 times that of Earth, and it is possible that it is the abode of a very advanced civilization."

As I have received confirmation that no such body has, in fact, been detected, may I enquire from where the Professor got his spurious information and to whom the "we" refers in his pronouncement?

In Professor Oberth's case the wish seems to have been the father of the astronomical observation, and, presumably, of the alleged advanced civilisation, too.—Alan W. Sharp, F.R.A.S., 35 Radstock Road, Liverpool, 6.

[The details of Mr. Sharp's letter were conveyed, through Mr. Ribera, to Professor Oberth. In his reply the Professor states: "Obviously Mr. Danyans has misunderstood me because I spoke in German. In FACT what I said was: 'In the case of Tau Ceti it is possible that there exists a planetary body around this star. . . . The luminosity of this sun is 0.4 that of our own sun, and it is possible that it is the abode of very advanced civilisation.'"

[An example of the care which is needed in a subject where many translations are involved. Our thanks are due to Mr. Sharp for drawing our attention to this matter, and to Dr. Oberth for putting the record straight.

And by the way, Dr. Oberth tells us that he is working on a new book in which he

^shows why he thinks it possible that flying saucers are spacecraft from outer worlds.—EDITOR.]

One Deltavolant Identified

Sir,—I was most interested in the article *Deltavolants* by W. H. Watson in the November/December, 1965 issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. I, and other members of the Cambridge University Group for the Investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects (CUGIUFO) made a thorough study of the object mentioned in the first paragraph of this article. We found that this object, seen on July 31 and August 1, 1963, not by ten people, but by hundreds, was a large balloon, of tetrahedral shape, released at Göttingen in Germany, the day before, as part of a research project in which Imperial College were also taking part. The balloon was tracked by the research workers in Germany and London as it crossed the North Sea to Lowestoft on the Suffolk coast. It then drifted down the coast on July 31 and appeared over London and Hertfordshire on August 1. It then drifted South again and was seen over Southampton. It was lost eventually, possibly due to its bursting. All the witnesses' reports tie in very well with the tetrahedral shape, a feature which we deduced before we were told of the tetrahedral balloon by Imperial College.

The data on this sighting is still, I believe, in the CUGIUFO files at Cambridge, and would, I am sure, be made available to Mr. Watson. It was shown on Anglia T.V. in 1964.

I regret that this nullifies the evidence of this case in supporting Mr. Watson's Deltavolants theory, which I still find very interesting.—Robin H. Sadler (One-time Hon. Secretary, CUGIUFO), 3 Cornwall Gardens, London, S.W.7.

(A similar observation has been made by M. René Fouéré, Secretary-General of G.E.P.A., and editor of *Phénomènes Spatiaux*.—EDITOR.)

Speculation on Dematerialisation

Sir,—It seems to me that the mystery regarding the disappearance of the Valensole object (reported in November/December issue of the REVIEW) after flying about 20 metres may be explained if the object had accelerated to a speed greater than light. In this case no ray of light would catch up with the object, let alone be reflected in the line of sight. I am aware that scientific opinion regards the speed of light as absolute at the moment and if objects travelling beyond this speed became invisible they could well be excused for so thinking! However it is an illogical view for really the speed of any object can only be dependant on the accelerating force and the density of the medium through which the object is passing.

While pondering on the theoretical possibilities of achieving invisibility, it occurred to me that there are two other ways in addition to the above. One of these would consist of bending the rays of light around the object, and the other is to intercept the light signal sent by the eye to the brain. The first, possibly, I suggest may be achieved by using some kind of magnetic field (probably of a very high frequency) and the second can undoubtedly be done using mesmerism or hypnotism.

Reflection indicates that the disappearance of the Valensole object could also be accounted for with the use of bent light rays particularly if the object's motive power was a repelling magnetic field of high frequency.—R. D. Homer, 19 Kipling Avenue, Caseley, Staffs.

Dimensional Shift?

Sir,—FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for November/December is full of good things. *The Valensole Affair*, and *UFOs and the Fourth Dimension* as well as the letter about Adamski visiting the Pope have filled my brain with ideas.

This fourth dimension business. Is it the same as Space-time continuum? For it raises all sorts of possibilities,

and to some extent simplifies certain things. I once heard these other dimensions compared to radio wavelengths; that writer said that just as there are lots of stations all on the air at once, and we just get the one by tuning in to that wavelength, so there are numerous dimensions or space-time bands, all running concurrently with ours.

Now, Adamski said that all the planets in the Solar System were inhabited. I took it, that for the giant planets he meant the moons. Yet, if an Earth-made spaceship took off from Earth and landed on Mars, for example, the astronauts would probably only find desert. But if they had the instruments with which to **get on to the right wave band**, i.e., the correct dimension, they would find a flourishing population there. See what I mean? This throws a new light on much that Adamski said and wrote. (Could he have changed wavelength inside their ships without knowing it?)

Lastly, though the idea that the 'Big-heads' in the Valensole affair are an 'extrapolation into the future of the past evolution of man' is a fascinating idea, I don't think we should lose sight of the fact that they might be from another planet.—(Miss) Betty Allen, 154 Poolbrook Road, Malvern, Worcs.

Antarctic Base?

Sir,—Your reports of landings in South America particularly seem to support Al Bender's book *Flying Saucers and the Three Men*. According to Bender, the UFOs have an earth base in Antarctica, this would account for the spate in South American sightings. If they are collecting specimens, etc., they might have returned certain people who were brainwashed. Adamski's visitor may not have been a spaceman at all but a conditioned earthman—sent to establish ideas that the saucers are friendly.—Peter Drake-Brockman, The Bungalow, Stanford, Nr. Ashford, Kent.

The Moon and Spaceships . . . and Mars

Sir,—I wish to thank the Reverend G. J. Cyr for his letter in the November/December, 1965, *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, which carries a full load of interesting analogies. How-

ever, I find very little resemblance between a syllogism and an errand, and even less between a duck and his deduction of spaceships on the Moon.

In his article *The Prime Lever* (March/April, 1965), the Reverend gentleman reports the observations by various astronomers of lights on the Moon, which were stated to be volcanic eruptions in the Press. He claims these were spaceships up to **three miles wide!** Yet this is fantastic! These craft are bigger than fifteen Queen Mary's placed bow to stern! Would it not be possible to consider the proposition that the lights **might** just be volcanic in origin? Since Nikolai Kozyrev proved conclusively by spectroscopic analysis, in 1958, that eruptions do take place on the Moon, this would not be so fantastic. It is of no use writing spaceships into everything; when the Reverend Cyr writes of "literally hundreds of identical or very similar reports" (in his letter), he betrays an unconscious tendency to do this.

I observe that he has a long history of dealings with the Moon. In the issue of your publication for May/June, 1964, he opines that the "moon is covered with vegetation which . . . is hairy or woolly", and is populated by "animals including, perhaps, humanoids, who must be very hairy". He insisted that these would be photographed by the American lunar probes. The cameras of Rangers 7, 8, and 9, which could resolve an object down to twelve inches in width, have resolutely disobeyed his orders. No woolly vegetables are to be seen. And where are the hairy humanoids, please? Taking their siesta? Or are they all on the other side of the Moon, watching a football match against the Mare Moscovium Maulers?

Finally, I should like to refer to Mr. B. C. Jones' letter in the November/December, 1965, number. Mr. Jones asks what has become of the Martian canals, and wonders if they have been ignored for security reasons. In the November, 1965, issue of *Spaceflight*, some of the Mariner IV photographs are reproduced. After an examination of them, Eric Burgess, F.R.A.S., F.B.I.S., came to the conclusion that the canali are real surface features comparable to large rift valleys on the Earth. A further article on the subject is promised in

Spaceflight soon.—A. W. Orme, 19 Stratford Road, London, W.8.

Martian Canal?

Sir,—I was most interested in a letter printed in 'Mail Bag' about the Mars photographs (November/December issue). In the *Sunday Express* on September 18, 1965, there is an article entitled "Space TV picture gives a clue to life on Mars".

Briefly, it noted that a faint line had been discovered on picture number 11 sent back by America's Mariner IV spacecraft. The picture was shown at the sixteenth World Space Travel Congress at Athens. The line appears to run straight for about 160 miles, and furthermore, it is in the southern hemisphere where the canals have been plotted. It was also stated that it would be about a year before the scientists could complete their analysis on the Mariner photographs.—M. A. Coombs, Springfield, Hawthorne Avenue, Carshalton, Surrey.

Mars Photographs

Sir,—I have been looking back at the September/October issue of the *REVIEW*, and would like to refer to the

editorial article and particularly to the Mariner IV photographs. I was glad to see that you extended congratulations to the Americans on this project, for it was indeed a magnificent achievement. But I cannot help feeling that something 'fishy' is going on here, even the possibility that the truth with regard to the inhabitation of Mars—if they know it—is being withheld. For although the photographs were taken thousands of miles away from the surface of the planet, by a series of dots, and therefore cannot be regarded as conclusive evidence of anything, it seems to me very odd that certain definite features, such as Schiaparelli's 'canals', did not show up on the photographs—to say nothing of the mystery of the planet's satellites!

Since the position of the orbit of Mars is within what is called the 'zone of habitation', and there are other factors which suggest that the planet cannot be so very different from our own planet Earth, I find it difficult to accept the news that Mars presents a moon-like surface of 'a bleak landscape of canyons, sharp peaks, and craters.'

Could this 'news' be a conspiracy by those already known to be engaged in misleading us about the UFO problem to mislead us further about

the inhabitation of planets in our own solar system?

But there may be another explanation of this odd appearance of the surface of the planet; with reference to the mystery of the 'shadows', and the position of the sun when the photographs were taken, could it not be that Mariner may, by some means or mistake, have taken photographs of the surface of either Deimos or Phobos? For Phobos is said to have a diameter of at least ten miles and is about 3,700 miles distant from the surface of the planet, while Deimos is about five miles in diameter and about 12,500 miles distant from the surface. Either one of the satellites could have been eclipsing the surface of Mars at the time the photographs were taken. Not only this, but whichever satellite may be interposed between Mariner (a mere point in space) and the surface of Mars, the speed of travel of both Mariner and the satellite might have been roughly the same, thus entirely eclipsing the surface of the planet while the photographs were being taken. Anyway, whatever the truth is, I'd like to end this letter with a loud and clear endorsement of the penultimate sentence in your Editorial.—Ivan Brandt, c/o 8 Normanby Road, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

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ON THE AIR . . .

Mr. Charles Gibbs-Smith's appearances on TV in connection with the Cappoquin photograph are mentioned elsewhere. Other TV and radio appearances by *REVIEW* personalities so far 'this year' have been as follows:—

December 31, 1965. Gordon Creighton interviewed on Granada TV (standing in at short notice for the Editor).

January 13, 1966. Gordon Creighton interviewed in the Spanish Overseas Service of B.B.C. Radio on the subject of UFOs in 1965, with special reference to South America.

January 13, 1966. Gordon Creighton, later the same evening, read a statement on UFOs in South America in 1965, in the B.B.C. Overseas Spanish Service to South America. In both cases the scripts were prepared and written in Spanish by Mr. Creighton.

March 4, 1966. The Editor, and also Charles Gibbs-Smith and Gordon Creighton were interviewed on the mass-audience programme *Women's Hour*, B.B.C. Radio, Light Programme. It is interesting to note that for this programme the Editor recorded answers to questions for 15 to 20 minutes, speaking about the policy of the *REVIEW*, about the classic Socorro case, the famous B.O.A.C. Atlantic sighting, about Valensole, and many other cases. After 'editing' he was on the air for less than one minute. Messrs. Gibbs-Smith and Creighton suffered similarly.

Argentina 1963-64 Part 3

By Gordon Creighton

PART II of my sketch of the most important cases in Argentina during 1963/64 took readers up to the end of 1963. We are indebted to Señor Oscar A. Galíndez, our representative in that country, for the voluminous supply of newspaper reports which, together with other reports, have enabled me to draw up a comprehensive picture of the overall scene in this part of South America. Readers should remember that it has been my policy to ignore the more mundane 'fly-over' sightings, and even some of the roadside landings reported in the early hours by motorist, bus and lorry drivers, for they swallow up too much valuable space.

Now for the 1964 reports.

San Miguel (Province of Buenos Aires)

At the private observatory owned by amateur astronomer Luis Ferro, this gentleman reported that he and several scientific friends, including an engineer and a chemist, had on January 7, 1964, observed a reddish-orange coloured object traverse the sky from south to north. It travelled on an apparently level course and was in view for five minutes.

On January 9, several residents of San Miguel saw a UFO overhead three times, the first occasion being at 9.55 p.m., the second at 10 p.m. and the third at 10.10. The object, seen through a telescope, had a clearly visible dome and was described by the witnesses as shaped "like one soup plate on top of another". The central part of it was bluish white. Outside this, they could see a straw-coloured ring, and the outer edge, very clearly defined, showed a fine bluish border.

Saladillo (Province of Buenos Aires)

According to a report made by a Señor Juan H. Botta, he was driving his car in the early morning of February 25, 1964, when he saw two intensely luminous objects. These remained stationary in the sky for an hour, after which one of them disappeared towards the north and the other one landed in a field near by. He was unable to approach it as there was a large stretch of water between it and the road. The two objects were discs, and Señor Botta said that when stationary in the sky they remained in a tilted position.

Guaileguaychu

On March 11, 1964, the newspaper *El Argentino* which is published in this town (lying due north of Buenos Aires and on the frontier with Uruguay),

reported that many people had seen a squadron of half a dozen saucers flying about and making all kinds of manoeuvres above the Uruguay River. "The saucers shone in the sky like great locomotive headlights. They hung at times as though suspended, and when they moved they did so in an arc, and one could tell when they were about to move as they would emit an intense flash before shooting away at incredible speed. One was seen to shoot off and follow a lorry that was approaching the town".

Metán, (Andes, near Salta)

On March 14, newspapers at Salta reported that on various nights recently many residents of the nearby town of Metán had seen a formation of luminous discs, one large and four small, flying about over the foothills of the Andes, and particularly in the area of the Crespón, one of the highest peaks of the Metán Range of the Andes. (Note: Metán is at 25° 30' S, 65° 00' W, and south east of Salta. It is roughly mid-way between Salta and Tucumán. Perhaps there is a base near the Crespón).

Argentine—Uruguay Frontier

Various newspapers for March 22, and *El Mundo* for March 25, again reported a squadron of saucers in this area just north of Buenos Aires. This time it was a large mother-ship, with five discs flying in perfect formation. From the mother-ship came beams of a most brilliant red light, which later turned to violet. The craft was at no great height. The saucers then began to swoop about, as though inspecting the region, stopping now and then to hover for an instant. They frequently turned on edge and gave out powerful beams of light that flood-lit the whole region. Many men working in a warehouse came rushing out and were blinded by the astonishingly beautiful but frightening sight. After flying around in impressive formation for a while, the discs were seen to re-enter the carrier, which then vanished towards the south-east.

Buenos Aires

Writing in the newspaper *Crónica* for April 9, Señor Ariel Ciro Rietti, President of CODOVNI, says that of all the past year's reports there has been nothing more impressive than the experience of the soldiers and scientists who saw the great "lights" high up in the Andes, and that there was no possible explanation other than UFOs. He

went on to say that he and the engineer Teófilo Tabanera had founded the Argentine Interplanetary Society, and that this had now merged with an **official Argentine aviation body known as the Aeronautical Secretariat**. And, he added, the new body formed as a result of the merger, known as the National Commission on Space Information, was now drawing large numbers of keen young people anxious to study the problems of Space and, "above all, the ultimate problem lying behind it all, namely the UFOs".

Montevideo, Uruguay

On May 9, newspapers in Asunción (Paraguay) reported that a Señor Raúl Pareja Rincón had recently delivered a lecture on UFOs in the Municipal Cultural Centre in Montevideo, capital of Uruguay. Quoting from his enormous files of sightings, he said he had seen a saucer hovering in broad daylight above the National Airport at Carrasco and that the authorities had suppressed publication of the fact that a saucer had in fact landed on the main runway there only recently. He told his audience that a formation of saucers, each about 100 feet in diameter and with portholes six feet in diameter, had recently flown over the Bay of Guanabara at Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). One of the saucers had exploded and fallen into the Bay. The Brazilian authorities had salvaged the wreckage, and found it to consist of a metal alloy containing some elements that do not exist on Earth. He said that all governments were united in the policy of suppressing these indisputable facts.

Resistencia (Province of Chaco)

The newspaper *La Razón* for May 10 reports the extraordinary story of Alberto Kalbermatter, aged 23, who declared to the police authorities that while driving a lorry at night, he suddenly saw on the road before him, as though barring his way, a dark shape about nine feet high, and heard coming from it a powerful and terrifying cry. Kalbermatter says that he drew up sharply and, peering out, was able to see that the creature had long black hair and certain human features. Terrified, he at once stepped on the accelerator and fled, nearly running the creature down. He added that he felt sure it was some being from another world, and that, only a few days previously, he had seen at the same spot on the highway a large luminous object that seemed to be perched in a tree. The paper expressed the view that, although the story could hardly be accepted literally, Sr. Kalbermatter was, as the police admitted, not suffering from hallucinations, and that consequently he must have had some sort of strange experience.

Montevideo, Uruguay

On May 11 the newspaper *El Territorio* of Resistencia (Argentina) stated that in Montevideo an official conference on UFOs had opened, as a result of which a permanent triple UFO investigation body embracing Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay had been established. The Uruguayan Delegation included Captain Carlos Palermo of the Uruguayan Air Force, and after the first meeting the American documentary film *Flying Saucers* (featuring the famous Montana and Tremonton pictures) [shown in Britain under the title *UFO—Ed.*] was shown for the benefit of the delegates and the press. (Extracts from this film were included in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW's recent ITV programme).

Salta

On May 23, *El Tribuno*, morning paper published in Salta, reported that Señor Tomás Víctor Oliver, an official of the local high court, was driving back to Salta from a nearby town on the night of the 14th, accompanied by his family and chauffeur, when they saw an enormous greenish light beside the road. They thought at first that it must be some new kind of illuminated traffic-sign, but it was a flattish, dish-shaped UFO about 40 feet wide. As they accelerated and shot past in panic they saw the saucer flash upwards and vanish. It is worthy of note that no magnetic effects were reported.

Pajas Blancas (Province of Córdoba)

According to the newspaper *Córdoba* of November 29, a 42-year old doctor and his wife, residents of Buenos Aires, had an extraordinary experience near Pajas Blancas on the night of June 5, 1964. They were driving from Córdoba to Río Ceballos to visit a friend. Suddenly, at a spot some 30 kilometres from the Pajas Blancas Airport, they saw something flying rapidly towards them and decided at first that it was an air-liner coming in from Chile. The object disappeared. Shortly after this, an intensely bright light appeared on the road in front of them. Thinking it was the headlights of an approaching vehicle, the doctor flashed his own lights as a signal to the other to dip his, for the light was so powerful that it was impossible to see the road at all. But the light remained undimmed and continued to approach, so the doctor gave up and pulled in to the side of the road and stopped.

The unknown vehicle finally halted only one metre (sic. misprint?) in front of his car, its bright light now fading slowly to violet, and they were able to perceive an elongated object. The doctor's wife became panicky, and they sat there for 20 min-

utes in the car wondering what on earth to do. (In view of what happened soon after, it would seem that the doctor tried, but failed to re-start the car). Meanwhile there was no movement on the part of the object in front of them and it was impossible to get past it.

The doctor had at last decided to get out and investigate when suddenly he saw somebody approaching. The doctor had his revolver at the ready, when he heard a soft voice ask "Que le pasa, amigo?" ("What's the matter, friend?"). The doctor replied that he could not get his engine to start. The voice replied: "Why don't you try again!". He did so, and the engine started. Then he put his lights on, and saw that the object in front of him was something unknown, something the like of which he had never seen before. I will continue the account in the doctor's own words: "Then the man standing near the car glanced at me with a smile and said: 'Don't be frightened. I'm a terrestrial. I have a mission to complete here on earth. My name is R— D—, my friend, and you can tell Mankind about it, in your own fashion'".

The doctor added that the man then walked off slowly towards two beings, both dressed entirely in grey, who were waiting for him. All three got into

the machine, which then took off swiftly, leaving a violet-coloured trail.

The doctor concluded his testimony: "When they had gone, we both began to tremble and shake like leaves, and I confess that I was for a while unable to so much as move my legs. We drank a cup of coffee from our thermos flask, and then continued our journey, and told nobody of our experience until we were back home in Buenos Aires. Now I feel calmer, and can tell you about it. All I can say is that I shall never doubt anybody's word again. As a result of that experience, I have arrived at the knowledge of this truth: yes, I tell you, beings of other worlds do exist".

It should be noted that the newspaper does not reveal the names of this doctor and his wife. Readers must form their own conclusion as to whether the story is true. But in assessing it they should bear in mind that it happened at almost precisely the same spot as the encounter of the motorcyclist with UFO entities in April 1957, full details of which case were given in Charles Bowen's *On the Road from Córdoba*, on page 19 of *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* for January/February 1965.

[Mr. Creighton's article Argentina 1963/64 will be concluded in our next issue—EDITOR].

Queensland Again

By Judith Magee

Mrs. Magee is Vice President and Programme Officer of the Victoria Flying Saucer Research Society and edits that Society's excellent journal *Australian Flying Saucer Review*.

THAT flying saucer sightings occur mostly in well-defined waves is a well-known fact. That Australia figures predominantly in the world UFO scene is another fact that is now being hammered home. What seems even more remarkable is that the 'flaps', which are becoming more frequent than ever before, now seems to be heralded by outbursts of activity in and around our sub-continent. UFO researchers are generally agreed that the great wave of mid-1965 died away, to all intents and purposes, by October. Now we are forced to enquire whether or not another wave is commencing.

It is probably sheer coincidence, I know, but I venture to suggest that in view of the latest reports, Northern Queensland may well be the kicking-off spot for bursts of activity by our visitors. Admittedly one cannot afford to be dogmatic on that score, for these are early days. Still, wishful thinking or not, I have a hunch we are in for another intriguing spell. Time alone will tell.

Here are the latest facts, summarised from the

host of press cuttings we have collected, and from our private sources.

Landing reported

One of the earliest accounts of the new rash of incidents appeared in the Townsville *Daily Bulletin* of January 21, 1966, which told how on Wednesday morning, January 19, at about nine o'clock, a Mr. George Pedley was driving his tractor from the small town of Tully to a banana plantation some eight miles to the south. When approaching Mr. Albert Pennisi's farm, he heard a loud hissing noise. His first reaction was that something was wrong with one of his tyres, but as the hissing grew so loud that the sound was many decibels above the noise of the tractor, he glanced around in mild alarm. It was then that he saw a circular object above some trees about 40 yards away. The newspaper item continues: "The object seemed to dip a little, then took off at high speed and soon disappeared. As he continued to drive the tractor,

**The first depression
in the reeds of the
Swamps near Tully.**

*Copyright P. V. Vignale,
Tully*



he saw the big depression in the tall green grass in the swampland. The swamp contained about five feet of water, with long green grass and bull rushes growing through it. The grass had been pushed flat in an area about 30 feet by 20 feet.

"On Thursday, the officer in charge of Tully police (Sergeant First Class A. V. Moylan) went to the area and inspected the depression in the swamp grass. He said the grass in the depression was still lying flat and had browned off, although it did not appear to have been burned. Mr. Pedley had said that the previous day, when he saw the huge mark, the grass was quite green.

"Sergeant Moylan said there was no sign of any marks having been made by cattle or other animals. There were no tracks leading in or out of the depression, and the grass had been flattened smoothly. "I do not believe in flying saucers—not yet", said Sergeant Moylan. "I have to see one first. But the peculiar mark in the swamp grass seems quite inexplicable. "It occurred to me that it may possibly have been made by a helicopter, but to the best of my knowledge there has been no such aircraft in the area". "Sergeant Moylan said that smaller type helicopters commonly put down when their fuel supply was nearly exhausted and refuelled themselves from drums carried on the craft.

"But against the helicopter theory, he said, was the fact that the depression in the swamp grass was in very close proximity to trees, and a helicopter pilot could have found a much better landing spot in a clear area about 100 or 200 yards further out".

Mr. Pedley's description of the object was also given in the report. He said: "the object looked like two saucers joined together with a small cabin

at its top and another small projection underneath. He said it was about 24 or 25 feet long nine feet deep, and was greyish blue in colour.

The Landing

"The object had hovered about 30 feet from the ground for at least a minute before rising straight up and flying off towards the south-west".

For those readers who are not too familiar with Australian geography, Tully is situated to the south of, and not over-far by Australian standards, from Cairns. They will remember that this is a region which featured prominently in the opening gambits of the May/July 1965 flap, which I reported in my article *UFO activity along the North-East coast of Australia* in the September/October 1965 edition of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. It is worth noting that the district is blessed by an annual rainfall in the order of 100 inches, and it is not surprising that interspersed between the farmsteads there are many swampy areas, with abundant long grasses, reeds and rushes.

The Pedley story burst into the big Sydney newspapers on January 23. The *Sydney Sun-Herald* added spice with an enormous page 1 banner headline: **MORE FLYING SAUCER NESTS!** and went on to say that in addition to the find by 27-year-old Pedley, who had reported seeing a vapour-like saucer take-off, there had been new discoveries in the Horseshoe Lagoon area near Tully. These were by a Mr. Tom Warren, a cane farmer of Euramo, and a Mr. Hank Penning, a Tully schoolmaster, who were taking a walk around the lagoon when they discovered the two new depressions. One appeared to be some days old, but the other, only a few feet away, seemed reason-

ably fresh. They were about 25 yards from the first one, but hidden by dense scrub. The fresher one was only eight feet across, and the reeds were flattened in an anti-clockwise direction. In the first (Pedley) disc they ran in a clockwise direction. All the reeds were dead, but they had not been scorched.

After reporting that the R.A.A.F. had asked police to collect samples of grass and soil in the area, the report goes on to say that: "Dozens of cases of flying saucers have been reported in the Tully area during the past two months. So many sightings have been reported that an Unidentified Flying Object club has been formed in Tully (population 2,500).

"Shortly before Christmas people claimed to have seen what they believed were two flying saucers, or 'flying vases', hovering on top of a hill less than a mile from the town. "Mr. John Zonta, a banana grower, told Mr. Pedley that on two or three occasions recently he has heard similar hissing noises to the one Mr. Pedley described, but could see nothing. Other residents have reported seeing objects described as brightly lit saucers some of which fired flaming balls".

A pity they had to label them 'nests', but I suppose the use of the name was necessary, as far as the newspapers were concerned, for it has more sensational appeal than the more prosaic term 'landing place'. 'Nests' certainly gave the cartoonists plenty of scope, and they made full use of the chance.

More Sightings

The *Sunday Telegraph* of January 23 told not only the Pedley story, but two others as well. One was a report by Cooktown Police Sergeant R. Hagerty who, while driving on a lonely road on Thursday night (January 20), saw unusual 30 inch 'bubbles' floating above the road. He drove over them, and later expressed the opinion that they were weather balloons. The R.A.A.F. however, stated they had no explanation for this, or any of the other incidents.

The second report concerned a Mrs. M. Hyde of Marreba, who told police that she had spent every night for a week watching a large object in the sky. The account tells how: "She said it appeared in the eastern sky about 10 p.m. and remained until 2 a.m.

"Sometimes it turned over and its lights went out. Then it shot off at high speed, but soon reappeared again".

The *Sun* of Monday January 24, after headlining the R.A.A.F. order to carry out tests, told how our friend Roy Russell of the Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau said that similar samples were being flown on January 25 to Queensland University Physics Department for private tests.

Professor H. C. Webster, an expert on radiation and the medical uses of radioactivity, said they might try to oblige Mr. Russell. The Professor added that:

".....any vehicle hurtling through space to earth would pick up a small amount of radiation. Tests at his department would not detect radiation in such small amounts as this".

A similar story appeared in the *Melbourne Age* of January 24, and in addition there was a piece about the obtaining of the samples:

"Yesterday Mr. Pennisi clambered into the five foot deep swamp to retrieve some of the grass which is said to have been touched by a flying saucer.

"I had trouble getting samples of the grass roots and mud which normally lie on the bottom of the lagoon.....they were floating on the top of the water, which is most unusual.

"They must have been sucked up by something", Mr. Pennisi said tonight. He said they would be flown to Brisbane today".

A disclosure

The *Sun-Herald* of January 23 had the following report, which may, or may not, have some significance. Mr. Pedley was talking to reporter John Dickson:

".....on my way home to Tully that night I met Albert Pennisi, who owns the property where I saw the saucer.

"He believed me straight away and told me he had been dreaming for a week that a flying saucer would land on his property.

"He said that about 5.30 a.m. on Wednesday his dog suddenly went mad and bounded off towards the lagoon".

So much for the newspaper angle. I have now received a letter from Roy Russell (dated January 25, 1966) in which he says that the fact that the Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau was on the ball, even before the R.A.A.F. could carry out official tests, made news. "Radio, television and newspapers" he writes "were on the hook right up till today. The upshot was that Stan Sears spent most of today mixed up with newsmen at the University, and appeared in all three TV networks (news sections) and on every radio news session throughout the day (all stations).

"Last night Stan and I drove to the airport and collected samples of reeds, mud, water from the depression ('nest'), and also of grass from nearby. We arrived at Queensland University at 9.20 p.m. The owner of the property (Mr. Pennisi) did an excellent job air-freighting well packed and labelled samples.

"**Result:** Radioactivity test was negative. Nil on gamma, nil on beta. The alpha equipment wasn't working. The absence of radioactivity

didn't warrant any more sophisticated tests. Final finding of Mr. G. Taylor of the Physics department, who did the test, was that the radioactivity count was only 1/100 of that registered by the average luminous watch. Samples are now in the hands of the Botany department to find out what killed the reeds. We think the explanation could be that whatever pressed down the reeds kept them down, submerged in water, for an unknown period. So the reeds could have been drowned, since this type of plant—like most—needs air, and dies when submerged. No vegetation was burnt: just dead. No soil was obtained—just mud, since there is five feet of water under the landing spot, which makes the 'drowning' explanation feasible".

Observations and Speculations

The tests at the university found that the reed and mud samples contained no radioactivity, not that the plants died of natural causes. Again, I would never call it a 'natural cause' which pulls the roots up from under five feet of muddy water, and has them floating in clockwise or anti-clockwise patterns on the surface.

I believe that this business of two secondary 'nests' both 8 feet in diameter, with reeds swirled in an anti-clockwise direction is very important. Could there have been two smaller objects, remotely controlled, which, when rotating in the opposite direction to the larger (parent) object, would have been attracted back to the parent? In the same way for example, as unlike poles of magnets attract each other. Wild speculation, no doubt, but we have to start somewhere.

POSTSCRIPT: I quote an extract from an article entitled "Strangers from Outer Space", which appeared in the Australian *Woman's Day* of February 21, 1966—(George Pedley is talking to the reporter).

"A day after I saw the saucer, a neighbour called my attention to some tracks on the soft earth between the bananas' George told me. 'I'd say they were made by a sharp, horny foot, about 3 inches long, with a soft frog in it. And I'd say they were made by something that had two feet, not four. They were straight in front of one another, about a pace apart, and in line with the flying saucer nest. I've been a stockman for 10 years and I have never seen tracks anything like these. But before experts could be called in, the tracks were washed away by the start of The Wet.'"

Editor's Note: We are deeply indebted to the Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau for permission to publish the results of their enquiries. We are also grateful to Mrs. Magee for her concise account of this latest case 'Down Under', which was made possible by laudable co-operation between the Societies. All of which has helped the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW to get the news out as quickly as possible. The *Australian Flying Saucer Review* is issued free to all members of the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society; enquiries should be addressed to the Society at **P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Victoria, Australia.** (Single copies may be obtained for 3/6 (35c.) Australian currency, plus postage).

We are grateful also to Mr. J. Sayers of Townsville, Queensland, who sent us a number of news items (one of which is also quoted by Mrs. Magee), and to Mr. K. Rogers of the Enfield UFO Research Group who sent useful photostats. The Tully incident was accorded considerable coverage by the British newspapers, not the least of which was an article in the London *Evening Standard* of January 27.

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A Flying Saucer Foundation

By John Lade

Mr. Lade is Secretary of Flying Saucer Service Ltd., the publishers of *Flying Saucer Review*, a position he has held since 1956.

AS FLYING SAUCER REVIEW begins its twelfth year, which is also the nineteenth since the Arnold sighting over Mount Rainier, Washington, U.S.A., which first gave publicity and a name to the phenomena, flying saucers continue to be seen in so many places that one is entitled to assume that their appearance and movements are unrestricted as to land or sea. It is abundantly evident that they are not secret craft belonging to any country on earth, even if the numerous similar sightings in past centuries—a feature which the REVIEW took care to publicize at a time when it was suggested that some “silence group” might attempt censorship on grounds of security—had not already ruled this out as a possible explanation.

Unless one is prepared to think in terms of mysterious manifestations from other planes of existence in place or time, before which he is helpless to advance in knowledge until further revelations occur, the student of these things is likely to favour the theory that their origin may be extra-terrestrial. People generally admit the possibility of there being intelligent creatures elsewhere in the universe, but they do not see how travelling in space can overcome the great distances thought to exist between the solar systems of our galaxy (which astronomers assume to be many). Science fiction can imagine beings living on wandering planets or in vast ships, cruising at will. Dino Kraspedon in *My Contact With Flying Saucers* asserted that our estimate of the speed of light as constant is false; that the rays which, themselves dark in space, produce light in the atmosphere of the planet and travel at far higher speeds, which may imply that distances are much less than they are thought to be; and that the red shift in the spectrum is due to the “fatigue of light” lengthening its waves as it penetrates the atmosphere instead of being an indication that the light source is receding and the universe consequently expanding.

There is no proof of any of these theories—yet. Whoever they are who control the flying saucers, they appear to be supremely confident of their superior technology to the extent of indifference with regard to our reactions, as though assuming that no one would know what to make of “angel hair”, of pieces of metal or, even, of a whole craft if one were downed and captured as it was

rumoured had happened in the early days of the subject.

Are we going to refuse such a challenge to our intelligence and content ourselves with idle speculation, as if we were no better than animals in a park whose gambols are momentarily interrupted by the passage of strangers? There is a growing number of determined people who intend to do something about it, who have not yet found a focus for their activity.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has found no evidence that any “silence group” exists and it has probed and probed and searched for signs of one. It has encountered indifference and apparent stupidity which are almost incredible, until one realizes that there is no branch of government to which this subject may rightfully be passed. Reports usually go to the air force and, naturally enough, when the evidence does not admit a hostile aircraft, that specialized branch of a country's defences is only too glad to find some ready explanation and to drop the question if none is forthcoming, however much “security” may have descended upon the initial investigation.

I am reminded of an occasion when a sonic boom shattered some greenhouse glass at my home, a jet aircraft being heard by several persons immediately afterwards; drawing a convincing blank from a local airfield occupied by the U.S. Air Force, I wrote in complaint to the Air Ministry and received a courteous reply together with a small sum in compensation without, however, admitting any liability and specifically stating that it was not one of Her Majesty's aircraft. No one showed interest to discover to whom this aircraft belonged, even though damage had been accepted as done. How much less can one expect interest to be shown in unidentified flying objects when no damage is done or even if it is, provided it is not the sort of damage that could reasonably be laid to an air ministry's charge?

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the American astronomer who has for several years advised the U.S. Air Force regarding sightings, ends his article in *The Times* of January 20, 1966, entitled *In Search of Flying Saucers* thus: “I have recommended to the Air Force that a panel, including sociologists and psychologists, should examine the growth of

rumour. Possibly the study of some of the people who regard the sighting of UFOs would be more rewarding than the investigation of what they saw". As Dr. Hynek earlier in the article mentioned that sober, intelligent citizens were often involved and sometimes reported their sightings from a sense of duty, it is fair to assume that he is not suggesting that a minority of cranks should be studied, but rather that he himself as an astronomer is helpless to pull further satisfying explanations out of the bag and the only thing to do is to examine the witnesses more fully. His panel ought to include judges and alienists; or, perhaps, it would be better to convene a dozen sober citizens from the jury roster. What shall they decide? The astronomer appears to confess that he is not the wanted expert and that he hopes someone else can dispose of the troublesome witnesses.

Witnesses keep coming along and numbers of disinterested men in the street, together with women and children, in many countries continue to report unidentified flying objects, sometimes with the comment that they used to disbelieve in flying saucers but now think differently. It is not clear what more could be obtained from them, unless Dr. Hynek means that attention should be paid to the contact claims of those who say they have encountered and in some cases conversed with beings from other worlds.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW keeps an open mind on this aspect of the subject, not having itself been so privileged. Contacts must remain suspect so long as they are haphazard and inconsequential, but that is not to say that there is not scope for examining why, for instance, George Adamski seemed to be more interested in putting across a philosophy which he was already teaching before he claimed to have met a man from Venus and ridden in a spaceship than he was in fostering other contacts, or even, endorsing those contacts claimed by others; why, also, some contactees whose stories sounded reasonable enough at first, later seemed to go haywire claiming further experiences of an incredible nature. If contact with alien, advanced civilizations unhinges the mind we should surely study the circumstances and learn to defend ourselves. If the whole subject is hallucination, then we must explain how hallucinations can also appear on radar and be photographed.

There can be no informed denial, in 1966, that flying saucers are real or, let us say in order to guard against philosophical abstruseness as real as conventional aircraft. And no one has put forward a better name; at first acquaintance slightly absurd because saucers do not fly unless thrown,

implying a situation out of the ordinary and out of control (which exactly describes the position of research on the subject), nevertheless the saucer shape has long been known as an ideal form of aerofoil. Everyone knows that they are not literal flying saucers but, likewise, everyone knows what is meant; whether the UFO concerned is saucer-shaped or some other shape it is an unidentified flying object belonging to a certain category and is not, for example, a meteor or a bird in flight.

We are no further from being at the mercy of events and I do not think that Dr. Hynek's panel would help to solve the problem or, even, that it would achieve unanimity unless it were a jury; and a jury could only be expected to pronounce upon the genuineness or otherwise of a phenomenon. Yet there are so many leads to study, some provided by the late W. Smith of Canada concerning new and unconventional instruments for making observations of hitherto unknown natural conditions; practical experiments such as the laying out of lights in order to encourage landings, which has been reported as done on several occasions although no single organization has been able to investigate these reports; the extraction of common denominators from sightings and the assessment of their possible meanings and, not least or last, the study of electrical phenomena such as the stalling of petrol engines (when diesel engines have run on) and the clues as to what new forms or applications of electricity are involved.

To study effectively these and other things is clearly outside the scope of this magazine and beyond the capacity of its publishers, who are a limited company engaged in a modest business venture. Large sums of money are needed to engage the services of scientists, laboratories and workshops, to conduct reliable investigations and to publish results. If there are to be results there must be an organization set up on a scale sufficient to obtain and produce them. It is a question of endowment of a Foundation, a non-profit-making body governed by Trustees, to determine the nature and origin of Flying Saucers.

Those who are interested, or able to interest others, to provide substantial funds for a Flying Saucer Foundation are asked to write, in the first instance, to the Editor of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW marking their envelopes "F.S.F." No money should be sent; it must first be discovered whether there will be support enough to launch a Foundation, before appointing Trustees, drawing up a constitution, organizing work, enrolling members and obtaining funds, as may be required, to achieve the objective.

The Valensole Questionnaire

By Luis Schönherr

BECAUSE of the implications of the Valensole incident I suggest that the investigators should clear up the following points:

1) When (date and time) did the GEPA investigator begin the investigation? When did he arrive at the landing site? Was he on the scene before the "hundreds of people" arrived who "manfully trampled down the fields of lavender" (see *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* September/October 1965, p. 9) and, as I am tempted to add, also probably obliterated the imprints and other traces of the landing?

2) Is the depth and area of the imprints made by the 'legs' known? Have casts from the imprints been made? By duplicating them on the spot one could at least get a rough idea as to the weight of the object.

3) Why did the witness fill the hole left by the object?

4) Did the witness have the impression that the object was resting mainly on its central support, the legs merely acting as stabilizers, or did it seem that the legs themselves were strong enough to support the whole object?

5) Did the investigators examine the hole before it was filled in? Could they say

a) What were its exact dimensions?

b) Could it have been caused by high pressure?

c) Was it created by excavation? If so, did the investigators look for the soil from the hole. Was it spread around the hole or along the trajectory of the object? Was it found in another place?

6) What was the diameter of the central support?

7) Have the soil and plants (roots) at the landing site been thoroughly examined? Did they show anything unusual when compared with samples of the same species taken from another area?

8) Has the landing site been tested for radioactivity? As there have already been cases of radioactivity, and as the witness himself exhibited an apparently intuitive fear of harmful influence, such a test should have been obvious. If no geiger counter was available, it could at least have been tried with a piece of film (a dentist's X-ray film would certainly been available).

9) Was there any sound while the object rested on the ground?

10) Is a drawing of the object available? Did the investigators induce the witness to try a sketch?

11) According to the GEPA report, the witness approach-

ed the object "calmly and without overmuch concern" (*FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* Nov./Dec. 1965, p. 5). Aimé Michel wrote, however, that "he approached cautiously" because "his first thought was that he had bagged the people who were spoiling his lavender" (*FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* Nov./Dec. 1965, p. 7). Did the witness tell different versions to Michel and GEPA, or must the investigators be blamed for this contradiction?

12) According to the report from *Le Petit Dauphinois* (*FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* Sept./Oct. 1965, p. 10), the witness saw one being outside the object and the other inside it. GEPA, however, reports that he saw both of them beside the object.

13) Has an attempt been made by the investigators to ascertain whether or not the witness has any previous interest in UFOs, or theories on the subject?

14) The investigators imply that the contact was attended by certain effects on the physical as well as on the psychological constitution of the witness. They suggest a sort of post hypnotic suggestion, and even a 'psychological conditioning'. Can the investigators accept full responsibility that the above conditions weren't already present before the sighting took place and could therefore not have been its cause?

15) The witness states that the beings "were communicating.....by means of inarticulate sounds which did not seem to come from what for them took the place of a mouth".

a) How did the witness get the impression that the voices did not come from the mouth?

b) Was it because the voices came from another direction? If so, from what direction did the voice come?

c) Did the witness get this impression because he could not observe any movement of mouth or facial changes while they were speaking?

d) What was the volume of the voice relative to the distance? Loud? Weak?

e) Did the volume of sound change when the beings turned their faces away from the witness?

f) Did the beings wear any devices, apparatus etc., on their bodies? Or were they wearing close fitting overalls which couldn't have concealed a device?

16) How did the witness get the impression of a sur-

WIRE-LESS TRANSCIVER FOR ASTRONAUTS

In a big spacecraft of the future one may find astronauts talking through their hats or helmets... using a tiny communications system built into their headgear.

The two-way radios would permit twelve or more astronauts to carry on six individual conversations at one time. A seventh channel would allow any member of the spacecraft crew to cut in on all conversations to relay an emergency message.

America's Air Force Systems Command Research and Technology Division has awarded a contract to the aerospace division of the Westinghouse Defence and Space Centre to design and build the equipment for study.

The transceivers would be completely self-contained and would allow astronauts to move about freely in the spacecraft without any connecting wires. The system would also contain an audio control centre which would relay messages from astronauts outside the spacecraft. The design of the exceptionally light transceivers incorporates all the present trends in micro-miniaturisation.

Voice and Vision Ltd.

prising agility when the beings returned to their machine? Usually small men are more agile than bigger ones, or at least that is the impression their movements tend to create: was there anything peculiar in the way the beings moved?

[Mr. Schönherr's dismay at some apparently glaring omissions is understandable, and even if it should serve no other purpose, the foregoing questionnaire is of the utmost importance as a model of what is required at an investigation.

I do feel, however, that our contributor should bear in mind the inescapable fact that UFO investigators and groups are amateurs, that their time and funds are usually very limited, and invariably the first they hear of a new case is the report given out on radio or on television, or in newspapers. Then, especially if it is a

startling case like Valensole, the hordes descend and the damage is done before the would-be investigator obtains leave of absence from his employment. This is why investigators have to rely mainly on interrogations long after the event, and it is little wonder that small contradictions creep in. (Aimé Michel pointed out small discrepancies at the beginning of his article *The Valensole Affair*.)

Concerning question No. 10, it should be noted that a drawing was obtained. The object shown in miniature on the sketch on p. 7 of the November/December 1965 issue of the REVIEW is an exact replica of the object drawn by M. Masse, and published in the GEPA bulletin.

As for the apparent contradiction in question No. 11, could not M. Michel's questioning have been more persuasive—and successful—because he himself is a native of the region and speaks the same 'fine old Provençal' tongue as does M. Masse?—EDITOR.]

Canadian Fireballs

By Richard Hunt

Our contributor was born in Thorpe Bay, Essex, studied at the Royal Academy of Music, and emigrated to Canada in 1956. He now teaches music in Montreal

ON April 1st, 1965, the *Montreal Gazette* carried an item on a "silver ball" seen over British Columbia and other areas. Later, the *Montreal Star* said this "fireball" had been identified as "one of the heaviest meteorite showers in Canada since 1913". Then (still April 1st), the *T.V. News* stated that a satellite was about to fall back in the area about this time. Smelling a rat, I sent for local newspapers and acquired a selection of clippings which cover the whole incident up to the time of the aerial survey, I have summarised the incident for the record.

From *Kamloops Daily Sentinel*, of April 1, 1965, we learn that R.C.M.P. and civilian researchers, led on by the smell of sulphur fumes, were attempting today to locate the remains of brilliant balls of fire that lit the skies and landscape across British Columbia and parts of the U.S. Wednesday night (March 31).

The flashing, streaking objects were reported from Kamloops in the south-central B.C. interior, across the Okanagan and the Kootenays in the south-east of the province and as far north as Fort St. John, B.C., and as far south as points in Washington and Idaho states.

In some cases, observers reported the brilliant objects were accompanied by rumbles which shook houses, rattled windows and made lighting fixtures swing. A weather observer at Revelstoke said a "meteorite" which passed over that central B.C. community was accompanied by "ten minutes of thunder which shook the buildings."

Most observers reported the phenomena as of brilliant intensity and changing colours—ranging through red, orange, yellow, white and brilliant blue, and of duration lasting from 3 to 25 seconds.

The pilot of a commercial airliner over Euphrata, Washington, reported the object made the cockpit of his DC-3 as "bright as day" as it swept north-northwest.

Elmder Devore, news director of radio station CJDC, at Dawson Creek, said he saw it begin as a small, falling star.

Its colour was yellow.

"But it gradually increased in intensity and lit up the city," he said. "Then it changed to white and remained white until it struck the ground, then turned blue and disappeared."

A police matron at Lewiston, Idaho, reported seeing the bright flash of the object as it moved across the sky at about 9.50 p.m. Witnesses in the Edmonton area reported similar sightings at 10.45 p.m. A brush fire was reported at Anglemont.

The major impact of the shower was said to be concentrated



in the Chase area (Shuswap Lake) around 9.45 p.m. According to Cecil Myers, of Anglemont, the object appeared to be about two feet in diameter, with a tail about two feet long, and emitting a brilliant light which ranged from orange to yellow in colour. Three minutes after sighting the object, there came a sound like a sonic boom.

"When the boom came there was a tremendous suction," he said. "It seemed to be taking our breath away—just like a dynamite explosion. It shook everything and felt like an earthquake. When we ran outside the ground was still shaking. It lasted maybe three seconds and then echoed down the valley."

The *Lethbridge Herald* of April 5 tells how preliminary enquiries indicate that the "fireball" was a fast-moving meteor that weighed more than 100 pounds.

Dr. E. P. Argyll, a federal astronomer who made the estimate, emphasized in an interview that it was subject to change after careful analysis of information acquired and yet-to-be acquired. But with that qualification, he estimated that the meteor was fast-moving, fell at a fairly steep angle and continued to burn to an extremely low altitude.

It may have hit the ground at supersonic velocity that would make a crater. It probably fell near Sicamous, 60 miles east of Kamloops, B.C. Its light was in the neighbourhood of 10,000,000,000 candlepower. Dr. Argyll said the ordinary "shooting star" seen high in the sky is a meteor about the size of a grain of sand with 10,000 candlepower of light.

American and Canadian officials have discounted earlier theories that the fireball was an American satellite re-entering the atmosphere.

According to the *Prince George Citizen* of April 12, a fragment of the meteorite may have been found at Squam Bay, about 70 miles north-east of Kamloops.

A certain Elmer Saunders said he was looking in a pasture on his father's farm at Squam Bay for milky quartz when he found a black fragment, about an inch and a quarter long, tapering from a thickness of three-quarters of an inch to little more than a quarter of an inch. He said he found the fragment in a blackened area, about 1½ feet square, which he had not noticed before, in a field which still had large areas of snow.

Dr. John Galt, director of the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at White Lake, examined the fragment but could not be sure it was a part of a meteorite. It is to be sent to the geological survey of Canada for further examination.

Back to the *Kamloops Daily Sentinel* this time of April 17, to learn that an aerial survey was launched in the Shuswap Lake area of the British Columbia interior for a crater believed to have been carved by the falling meteor.

Dr. John Galt—I can only presume this to be the Dr. John Galt mentioned above—director of the Dominion Observatory here, spent 2½ hours in a helicopter yesterday, criss-crossing the area, but saw nothing that resembled a crater.

But Dr. Edward Argyll said it is believed the March 31 fireball exploded in the earth's atmosphere with the force of a small atomic bomb.

"Based on considerable evidence from eye-witnesses," he said, "I believe the meteor broke up at an altitude of 5 miles. The descriptions indicate to me the meteor was crushed by

atmospheric pressure and it was fragmented into tens of thousands of pieces, the largest of which became a white-hot meteor on its own."

He said a seismometer at a weapons establishment at Suffield, Alta., recorded a shock caused by the meteor equal to the explosive force of 75 tons of TNT. Suffield authorities thought the shock was caused by the meteor striking the ground.

Finally, a metallic fragment was found near Kamloops, and sent to Ottawa for testing, and then for tests to the Smithsonian Institute in Cambridge, Mass.

So much for the newspaper reports.

I would now like to deal with one aspect of the sighting—the ballistic. The final explanation of Dr. Edward Argyll that, after being "fragmented into tens of thousands of pieces", one large chunk "became a white-hot meteor on its own" appears to be an attempt to account for the apparent double landfall at Shuswap Lake and at Dawson Creek (see sketch). For such a secondary object to continue in exactly the same direction as its primary would appear to be nothing short of a miracle, unless the secondary was in fact the hard central core of the primary—in which case, the explosion at Shuswap Lake caused the jettisoning of the object's soft outer layers and left the hard core to carry on to Dawson Creek. However: the average speed between these two places was sub-sonic (400 miles in 45 minutes); therefore (a) why was the Dawson Creek object not found intact? and (b) assuming an altitude consistent with the observed phenomenon at Shuswap Lake, could a **Free-Falling** object cover this distance at such a low speed? (N.B., Dr. Argyll suggests 5 miles as the altitude of the fragmentation, and the supposed meteorite is actually being sought in the Shuswap Lake area, not at Dawson Creek.) Since the original "meteorite shower" hypothesis has been voluntarily dropped by the astronomers themselves—perhaps because showers involve large numbers of very small particles—and since the returning satellite mentioned was found to be travelling N. to S. instead of S. to N., and since no single meteorite could perform the necessary ballistic miracles to account for the observed facts, I submit that this case should be categorized UFO.

For a similar case (minus sulphur) I refer readers to *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, Vol. 8, No. 1, page 29, under "Southern Rhodesia".

For a case **with** sulphur, see *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, Vol. 8, No. 2, page 23, under "Cumberland Meteorite". Here an expert on meteors asserts that sulphur smells are out of place; also that meteorites cool before final impact and, I presume, are not expected to start fires.

There was also the case of a "smell" reported in the Liverpool area in the *World Round Up* columns of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, Vol. 11, No. 5.

Finally, the piece of evidence discovered by Elmer Saunders, a fragment which seems to have disobeyed all laws of meteorite behaviour, reminds me of a piece of metal given to me last summer by Ronald J. Anstee of Montreal; Mr. Anstee claims it was from a 15 ft. circular object found on a submerged rock in the St. Lawrence River. It is black, heavy, without "ring", slightly magnetic but a good conductor; it appears to consist of two compacted layers and one side bears a startling resemblance to the Saunders fragment, a photograph of which appeared in the *Kamloops Daily Sentinel* of April 10.

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Abbots Langley observation

The following report has been sent to us by ex-R.A.F. aerial photographer John Holden, who with his wife, made the sighting at Abbots Langley, Hertfordshire, on October 22, 1965. Time of sighting was 18.10 B.S.T., direction approximately S.W., angle of elevation estimated at 55°.

"Object viewed for a period of about five minutes and was stationary. Size of very large star and pale electric blue in colour. At first it was thought to twinkle as a star but further observation gave the impression of three or four arms or antennae which appeared to elongate and retract at about two second intervals. (My wife's impression was that the object was slowly rotating and the antennae were fixed.) Our backs were turned on the object for about one minute, and on looking again, two bright diffuse circular white patches were seen to the left of the position of the original object **which was no longer there.**

"Our first impression was that the object had split in two—however, we did not see this actually happen. (Could these have been patches of gas left as the object accelerated away?) The two patches moved away from each other and a straight white 'contrail' appeared between them. The maximum separation of the patches was about one hand span at arms length. The straight trail and the lower patch faded fairly rapidly and the other patch enlarged and continued to move to the left. It then appeared to pulsate and decrease in size until finally fading completely after a period of about two minutes. Final position was about two hand spans at arms length to the left of the original sighting.

"The Met. Office confirms that the wind direction was E.S.E. with a speed of 20 knots at 10,000 ft. increasing to 40+ knots at 25,000 ft. This would mean that the patches moved into wind."

Isle of Wight antics

Reader John B. Score of Poole, Dorset, sent the following item concerning a sighting of an object in the sky over Hampshire, in an area from Ringwood to the Isle of Wight.

The name of the witness was Mr. G. Down of Haven Garage, Ringwood. At 8.45 p.m. on October 14, 1965, the witness and his wife watched a speeding object, like a shooting star, in a very clear sky. Unlike a shooting star, however, the duration of the sighting was of the order of 25 minutes.

The course of the object was as follows:

- (a) Anti-clockwise; semi-circular.
- (b) Reappeared moving very, very fast, and stopped suddenly. (Light stationary.)
- (c) Moved, changing direction suddenly, triangular course.
- (d) Bounced 'like a ping pong ball' for ten minutes. Changing colour—white to red to white.

Mr. Score states that the witness, a personal acquaintance, is thoroughly reliable.

Surrey deltavolant?

In a letter dated January 6, 1966, reader C.M.W. Martyn of Worcester Park, tells how—"On the night of December 15, at precisely 8.45 p.m., I saw a triangular object, white in colour, fly over my house in the direction of London Airport (Heathrow). It flew, or rather skimmed, through the air just under the clouds; these clouds were rather thin and luminous that night, and the object was twice or three times as bright as they were. The colour of the object seemed to be candle-wax white, and I estimate that it was going fast enough to cover a mile in three seconds. It flew in a very purposeful manner.

"What attracted my attention was the sound of an airliner's engines (Viscount or Vanguard) and as I am keen about aircraft I looked up: the aircraft was still some way off, and it was then that this triangular UFO

swooped by like a graceful swan. It was lost to sight in a second or so and it did not have any fins, aerofoils, or apertures.

"The altitude of the clouds and the object were about 1,500–2,000 feet, though these figures could be checked with the meteorological office. The object was about 1½ times the length of a Viscount aircraft, with the apparent wingspan width of a Boeing 707 as the width of its base. Also it was absolutely silent. Aircraft fly over here regularly, and invariably follow the same course. The UFO was following a course and direction never followed by the big 'planes.'"

UFO takes to the Cotswold roads

The Bristol *Western Daily Press* and the *Evening Post* of Friday, December 10, 1965 each told the remarkable story of commercial traveller Ian Hann, aged 29, of St. Michael's View, Montacute. The date of the encounter is not given, but was presumably just prior to the date of publication. We hope to give further details in a later issue. The *Evening Post* tells how, on the Bath–Stroud Road, Mr. Hann . . . "Was overtaken at high speed about four miles from Bath by a vehicle which he says later disappeared in a cloud of smoke.

"Mr. Hann said last night that it reminded him of a built-in Land Rover with a solid roof. As it passed him, going more than 60 m.p.h. without lights, he saw it had no windows at the side or back.

"He switched on his spotlights when it had passed and saw there were no rear lights, no number plate or reflectors. But there were two green flashing lights on the roof.

"He gave chase for about two miles when suddenly there was a high-pitched whine.

"It was so piercing I had to put my fingers in my ears and steer with my elbows," he said. "Then it stopped—and the thing was suddenly enveloped in yellow smoke.

"Then it was gone, smoke and all.

I stopped as soon as I could and went to the spot, but there was nothing. I even looked in the fields either side. The thing had completely disappeared.

"I got back in the car shaking. I was frightened to death. I am quite certain I did not imagine it."

(Credit: J. Hatter, Melksham)

Southampton sighting

On December 22, 1965, the *Southern Evening Echo* published a letter from Mr. H. E. Hurst of Thornhill, who reported seeing a strange sky object on December 16. He continued . . . "I was out walking with my dog at Thornhill, happened to glance up at the sky, and saw a bright round object with two distinct trails of what appeared to be flames coming from the rear.

"The top trail seemed to be a greeny blue and the bottom a bright orange colour. I only saw it for a few seconds, but it was going at an amazing speed. It followed the path of an arc, up, around and down, as it reached the bottom part of the arc it went from my sight.

"I have seen shooting stars before, but this was quite different, with the two distinct trails coming from it."

On December 29 and 30, the *Echo* carried letters from two other witnesses of the same object.

Credit: Peter J. Kelly, Hythe, Hants)

'Tadpole' over Basingstoke

Again, from the *Southern Evening Echo* of December 18, we cull this report of an incident witnessed, presumably, on December 17—"An unidentified flying object, thought by the man who saw it to be a Gemini space-craft, was reported at Chineham, near Basingstoke, by Mr. Basil Gibbons (67), of Wallins Copse, Chineham, as briefly reported in late editions yesterday.

"Mr. Gibbons was standing outside his house talking to Police-constable J. Harwood, of Basing, about 7.54 p.m., when he saw an object he judged to be about four to six feet long, similar in shape to a tadpole, with a large green dome in front. The object had a flaming red tail, about two or three times the size of the dome.

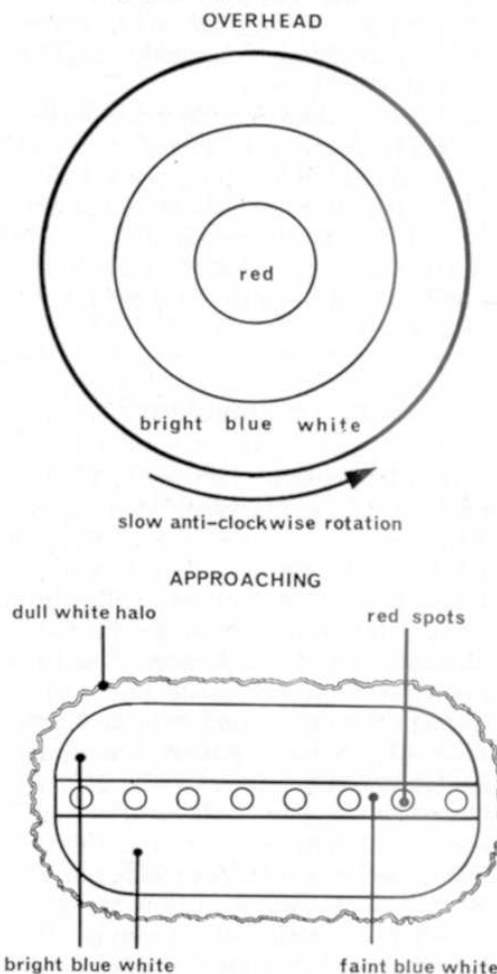
"It was in and out of sight in a matter of seconds," he said, and added that it travelled from south to north."

(Credit: Peter J. Kelly)

Passage over Poole

Reader Frank E. Marshall of 8 Reap Lane, Weston, Portland, sent us the following account, well before publication of our November/December, 1965, issue. In view of the Langenhoe case, it is essential that this case be put on record, as there are certain similarities in the observed objects in both incidents.

The sighting was made by Mr. A. E. Harvey of 39 Curlicu Road, Oakdale, Poole, on the night of September 10/11. The time was approximately 00.25 a.m., and the witness had just locked his garden shed for the night. He looked up to see a bright blue light approaching. As the object came nearer, Mr. Harvey estimated that it was at about 5,000 ft., and moving from East to South West. Next, a blue/white ring, or halo, was observed, and a ring of red spots, or lights, around the centre (equator) of the object.



As this device passed overhead, a hissing noise was just audible (it sounded like a compressed air leak on a garage air-line) and the object was seen to be revolving in an anti-clockwise direction. It had a brilliant

blue/white outer edge and a bright red centre, with a dark ring separating them. The UFO was in view for some four minutes.

Downs patrol

Reader R. Lloyd-Taylor of Brighton, Sussex, has written to tell of an observation he made on December 16, 1965. On that afternoon he was motoring from London to Brighton, having left Town soon after 4 p.m. (at that time of the year, it is just about dark).

By 5 p.m. he had reached the county boundary of Surrey/Sussex, just south of Gatwick, near Bolney, when he noticed a bright light to the right (to the west). The light was moving to the south far too slowly for an aeroplane, and it occurred to him that it was a helicopter. Mr. Lloyd-Taylor was travelling at speeds between 50 and 75 m.p.h., and at about 10 miles north of Brighton he was level with the object, which then turned to bear away due West. He lost sight of it as he passed through the South Downs, but just before the light was occluded temporarily, as if it were the cockpit of a helicopter which had been hidden by the body of the machine. The intensity was that of a lighter aircraft seen at about 2,000 ft., and quite a large illuminated area.

Mr. Lloyd-Taylor concludes: "My 'helicopter' rationalisation seems to have satisfied me, though I wondered why one should be flying so slowly, and apparently patrolling over the South Downs. (I thought of experimental photography of Brighton from the air by night, but could not see why that should be done).

"I thought no more of it until today [December 21], in the air, returning by Air France 'Caravelle' from Paris, and reading the new FLYING SAUCER REVIEW World Round-Up sightings—and now I am not so sure . . ."

Aston Tirrold tadpole

The *Reading Mercury* of December 18 told how—"After a lull of several weeks another report has been received of a mysterious light in the sky over north Berkshire.

"The Rev. G. Porteous, Presbyterian minister of Aston Tirrold, was walking along Church Lane, Aston Tirrold, at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday when he says he saw a tadpole-

shaped object, travelling through the sky.

"I would describe the colour as a green phosphorescence, very clear, and the object was travelling quite fast," he said."

UFO at the window

The Walthamstow *Guardian* of January 14, 1966, told the strange story of how—"A 52-year-old Walthamstow woman had good reason to be startled as she lay in bed late on Tuesday night—for, she claims, a flying saucer hovered at her window.

"It was there for only a few seconds and then it vanished," Mrs. Margaret Hards, of 59 Somers Road, told *The Guardian*.

"Mrs. Hards went on to describe the unidentified flying object as bright blue, shaped like a giant spinning top and big enough to hold a human being."

Sheriff Hutton mystery

From *The Yorkshire Post* of December 23 we learn that—"Mystery" lights seen in the sky above a village in the North Riding yesterday are puzzling police and residents in the area. The lights were seen about 6.40 a.m. by Mr. and Mrs. P. F. C. Dean, of Cornborough Road, Sheriff Hutton, near York.

"Mrs. Dean later told *The Yorkshire Post*: 'They are spots of light, pale green in colour, and fairly bright. As I watched, they moved away in opposite directions—one south and the other north.'"

Hereford triangle

The *Hereford Evening News* of December 23 carried the following account—"Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cunningham, of 6 Skenfrith Walk, say they saw a mysterious flying object over Hereford on Monday night [December 20]

Mr. Cunningham said today that "... they saw a red glow and were able to make out a triangular object in the sky. It rose higher and higher in the sky and eventually disappeared, still with its red glow ..."

WALES

The Paralysis effect?

In a private letter to Gordon Creighton reader A. C. Williams of Waunarlwydd, Swansea, wrote on December 30—"As a final word of interest, in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW's World Round-Up column *under the heading of 'Burning Light', a Mrs. V.

Francis told how her daughter witnessed a bright burning light pass the windows of her home (Swansea). I wrote to this lady, who was also kind enough to reply, and I found out that, when the bright light passed, her daughter, thinking it was lightning, reached out to turn off the electric light—but found **she could not move.**

"Mrs. Francis writes: 'She tried again to walk to the switch (only a step away) but was rooted to the spot, and could not move a finger'.

"This happened on August 25. It seems that our Visitors are fond of using 'paralyzers'!"

*Nov./Dec. 1965

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Cappoquin Saucer (the photograph Corroborated)

From the Dublin *Evening Herald* of January 26, 1966, we learn that—"An Arklow lady states she also saw a similar flying saucer around the same period as that reported seen in the sky from Waterford on St. Stephen's Day.

"Miss Marie Hayes, Kingshill, told our correspondent the description in yesterday's *Herald* fitted exactly the object she saw moving slowly over the town and out over the harbour."

SCOTLAND

Mallaig Mystery

The *Oban Times* of December 23 told how—"A number of Mallaig people are convinced they saw a space craft moving over the sky on Thursday evening, December 16, at six o'clock.

"Linesman W. Bruce and his daughter Erika first saw the craft moving from north-east to south-west across a very clear, starry sky."

Noisy UFO over Leith

The *Edinburgh Evening News* of December 20 told how—"Mrs. J. Lindsay was sitting in her home at 14 Lindsay Road, Leith, at 11.15 last night when she heard a 'peep, peep, peep.'

"I looked out of the window and saw a flying saucer," she said. 'It was about the size of a half-moon and hovering above a nearby building. It was coloured like a neon light—between yellow and orange—and was making peep, peep, noises.'

"She heard about 12 of these noises. 'Then it made off in a south-easterly direction,' she added.

"A spokesman for the Royal Observatory said that he had received no other reports of flying objects in the Leith area.

"Flying control at Turnhouse Airport also disclaimed the 'flying saucer,' and the Met. office at Turnhouse said that the object was certainly not one of their balloons."

NEW GUINEA

Goroka incident

The following account was taken from the *Newcastle Morning Herald* (N.S.W.) of October 1, 1965—"Port Moresby, September 30. A.A.P.-Reuter.—An Administration patrol is investigating reports of a mysterious light seen in the sky near Goroka in New Guinea's Eastern Highlands.

"Villagers at Koko, about seven miles west of Goroka, said they saw a fiery object rise from the local cemetery on Monday night. The mysterious light was also seen by Inspector Brian Beattie of the Goroka Police and a senior official of the Department of Civil Aviation (Mr. Barry Lord).

"Inspector Beattie said: 'It was a large white light with a red centre. It appeared to be low down just above a ridge. I watched it for quite a while before it disappeared.'

"Mr. Lord said he saw the light hovering above the ridge on which Koko village is situated. 'The thing appeared to be round with tongues of light shooting out all around it,' he said. 'The glow was so intense it was impossible to tell the true size or its course. The sky was very clear at the time except for a small amount of very high cloud.'"

AUSTRALIA

Mandurah cylinder

The Perth, W.A. newspaper *West Australian* of November 19, 1965, carried an account of a persistent object which was seen by many people on November 18. The account was accompanied by a photograph of Council officials watching the UFO through binoculars, and it read—"A mysterious object high in the sky had people in Mandurah puzzled for several hours yesterday. At dusk it was still there—and still unexplained.

"An R.A.A.F. spokesman said Vampire jet trainers had been operating south of Perth, but not in the Mandurah area. Officers at the Pearce air base would be glad to hear