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**ARE THE REASONS FOR THE COVER-UP
SOLELY SCIENTIFIC?**

See page 2

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CONTENTS

Are the Reasons for the Cover-up solely scientific? Dr. Pierre Guérin	2
The "Apparitions of the Virgin" at Fátima considered in relation to the UFO Phenomenon Joaquim Fernandes	9
An Encounter with "Rat-Faces" in Italy Antonio Chiumiento	14
A New Book on the UFO Situation in China	20
Postscript to the Reported Argentinian Crash-Landing of 1950	24
More Early Brazilian Reports ...	26
Russia: Naughty Henry Gris says it again!	27
Mail Bag	28

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OUR OBJECTIVES

AN American reader has written to enquire whether our Editorial, *The "E.T." Plague*, in FSR Vol. 28, No. 4, "represents the official editorial policy of the Flying Saucer Review?" and there has been a similar request from another quarter for a clarification on this point.

The answer is that, if our reader will take another look at the Editorial Page in question, or indeed at any of our past Editorial Pages, he will see that, right beside the Editorial, we always carry the following statement:

"Contributions appearing in this magazine do not necessarily reflect its policy and are published without prejudice."

What holds for contributed material must also hold for editorial material. FSR prides itself on being a forum for debate, and an editor must have his contribution to make just as every contributing writer does. The position could not be otherwise since, as commonsense would suggest, the editor, consultants, and contributors to a journal such as ours are all individuals and therefore free (within the limits in which such a disputable factor as 'human freedom' exists) to illuminate in any fashion that they can the general discussion regarding the existence of those other great categories of intelligent life-forms in the Universe which are distinct from, and sometimes, though not always, hostile to mankind.

Any contribution to the debate must perforce have some sort of departure-point and therefore be embarked upon from a specific position or viewpoint, as otherwise we would soon be inundated with a flood of complaints about the dullness of our product.

We assume that anyone who wishes to read FSR is a person likely to be desirous of knowing as much as he can about the situation of our species in the Universe. Let our editorials and our contributed articles be seen therefore simply as (hopefully) stimuli to thought and to reflection. If we have a watchword at all, let it still be Aimé Michel's *"Examine Everything: Believe Nothing!"*

Throughout the years of our existence, FSR's editors, consultants, and contributors have all been individuals of the most varied backgrounds, philosophies, and religious persuasions. Neither at the present time nor at any moment in the past has FSR ever represented any particular corporate interest or any particular secular or religious viewpoint. We aim to keep it so. If we find that we are wrong on any line of thought or avenue of approach, we shall not hesitate to say so. We hold no particular vested interest in the existence or non-existence of intelligent life-forms alien to man (though undeniably mankind's general prospects might be a good

deal rosier could it finally be proved that such alien intelligences do not exist at all!).

To conclude on a more personal note, it might at this point be right to add that the present Editor has known since June 1957 what the UFO entities are, but has been at some pains not to let this fact colour his contributions. For it will be better if each reader of our journal is provided with as much evidence as possible and then left to draw his own conclusions and decide for himself what is taking place in these momentous times.

A NEW CONSULTANT FOR FSR

With very particular pleasure we welcome on to our mast-head the name of Dr. Richard F. Haines, Ph.D., well known as a NASA scientist. Dr. Haines is the author of five articles which have already appeared in Volumes 21, 22, 26, and 27 respectively of FSR, and he is a specialist in the fields of human vision, perception, physiology, and related disciplines. He is an Adviser to CUFOs (Dr. Hynek's Center for UFO Studies), and also serves as an Editor of *UFO Phenomena* (Bologna, Italy.) He has written a book, *OBSERVING UFOs* (Nelson-Hall, Publishers, Chicago), and edited the important anthology *THE UFO PHENOMENON AND THE BEHAVIOURAL SCIENTIST*.

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ARE THE REASONS FOR THE COVER-UP SOLELY SCIENTIFIC?

Dr. Pierre Guérin,

Maitre de Recherche, CNRS (French National Council for Scientific Research)
(Translation from French)

In FSR Vol.28, No.5 we gave Dr. Guérin's interesting and important *Open Letter to an Impatient Ufologist*, in which this top French scientist dwelt upon the fact that there is no way whatsoever in which the presence here of UFOs might be squared with our current scientific models of the Universe, nor indeed any likelihood in sight that this situation will necessarily ever change. In sum, Dr. Guérin attributed current scientific attitudes, and the official Cover-Up, to this state of affairs, and he could only counsel patience. The *Open Letter* was published in the summer of 1982, but by November of that same year, Dr. Guérin had already radically changed his tune and he had written the following article, which appeared in *Lumières Dans La Nuit* No. 225/226 (March/April 1983). The reason for this dramatic change in Dr. Guérin's thinking is the fact that he has now made a study of the evidence relating to *Cattle Mutilation*. — EDITOR

Introduction

In a recent article of mine published here in LDLN, I developed the thesis according to which the official non-recognition of the reality of the UFOs derived in essence from the denials uttered by the scientists — denials of which the Governments would be obliged to take account even though those Governments might, for their part, possess presumptive evidence for

the existence of the UFOs. Let us put it more succinctly: I have long imagined the following scenario: General de Gaulle — or, if you like — Monsieur Mitterand, is the elected occupant of the Supreme Office in France. He summons such and such a university figure in the realm of the Natural Sciences in order to ask for his opinion regarding the scientific policy that it would be best to carry through in the country. At the end of the interview, the President (who doesn't

believe in UFOs, but nevertheless still harbours a slight degree of doubt on this subject) enquires in a bantering tone: "*And these UFOs that everybody's talking about? What view should we take about them?*" The learned professor thereupon replies with a shrug that, quite obviously, it is all a load of nonsense exploited by charlatans who are poisoning public opinion and insulting Science.

In that same article, I analyzed the reasons for this attitude on the part of the scientists. The first reflex-action by scientists has always been in every epoch of History, and still is, to offer resistance to any attempt to question the prevailing scientific consensus — such resistance even going so far as to involve negation of the new facts that have led to this process of questioning¹. However, their refusal lasts only so long as the time required by Science for the integration of the phenomenon in dispute (this coming about thanks to an enlargement of the theoretical explanatory models.) In other words, once it has become rationally explicable, the new phenomenon ceases to be rejected and is incorporated into the edifice of facts that are taught (even if, at first, it still comes as a shock to the old habits of thinking.) If, on the other hand, the phenomenon continues to run counter not only to the consensus, but, above all, to an inadequate development of our Science, which thus reveals itself to be incapable of accounting for the phenomenon in a rational fashion, then the phenomenon remains *accursed*, and *reprehensible*.

Now such is the situation at present as regards the UFOs, and for the reasons that I set forth in my article (these reasons being, in essence, the difficulty of accepting the fact that such small craft in such large numbers could come from so far away from us as the stars and could, seemingly, defy the laws of Dynamics in our atmosphere).

My analysis was incontestably correct, *relating as it did to the behaviour of the great majority of the scientists*. Nevertheless the question to which we require an answer is the question of knowing whether this behaviour on the part of the scientists is, as I then suggested, at the root of the official refusal throughout the world to recognize the existence of the UFOs, or whether the primary reason for this refusal is not, rather, *a deliberate¹ piece of lying put out knowingly by a small number of political, military, and (why not?) scientific leaders right at the top (headed by the Chiefs of State of the Great Powers) the objective being, at all costs (and for reasons that have yet to be revealed) that the public shall not become aware of the facts of the situation*. This lie naturally fitting in very well with the natural sense of scepticism and the hostility of the great majority of the scientists, who in general are very poorly informed on the subject of UFOs and would be easily hoodwinked....

Now, these two possible interpretations for the refusal of the scientific community to accept the exis-

tence of the UFOs are not in the slightest degree equivalents. The first interpretation merely implies, as it were, an ordinary, simple "intellectual blockage" in the face of a UFO Phenomenon regarding which it is implicitly held that there is absolutely no proof of it (for those who "don't believe in it") or that there are *only indirect proofs* of it (for those who "believe in it") in the shape of excellent testimonial accounts no doubt, that are in general agreement as to their terms, but without our being finally possessed of any true *material proofs* that could be produced in evidence, any humanoid corpses, and so on. **AND IT IS CERTAIN THAT CONCRETE PROOFS ALONE WILL DISCOMFIT THE INVETERATE SCEPTIC** — even the best testimonial proofs are never sufficient.

The second possible interpretation for the refusal of the scientists to accept the existence of the UFOs implies on the other hand that such solid, concrete proofs of their reality **DO** exist, known only to a very small number of people occupying very high positions, and that these people are knowingly keeping those proofs hidden from the public.

Should the first interpretation be the correct one, then we would all be free to think what we like about the subject, to the extent that each of us is led into error only by any psychological or mental blocks that he may have, and not by any process of manipulation in the guise of *disinformation*. In that sort of set-up, truth always triumphs in the end, and all we shall need to do is wait till our Science has progressed far enough for it to be able to integrate the extraterrestrial object "*UFO*" into the realm of those things that are physically explicable in a rational fashion.

But, in the event that my second interpretation is the correct one, why then — we should, on the contrary, be well and truly manipulated, and we might even be justified in asking ourselves whether it is not perhaps our visitors themselves who are manipulating us, through responsible terrestrial intermediaries, so that we shall continue to be kept in ignorance of the truth?

Such a supposition as this can in no way be attributed to paranoiac delirium, even though quite a lot of "contactees", as a result of their experience, do indeed feel themselves to be the custodians of some revealed secret or to be entrusted with some mission, while at the same time menaced and under surveillance — a situation which does indeed conjure up the idea of a paranoid psychological structure — *but it all depends on knowing whether that psychological structure was induced by the contact, or whether it was there before the contact...*

All too often, you hear this "manipulation hypothesis" opposed with arguments like the following: "*If we were manipulated like that, we would know about it*". Or: "*Why should representatives of cosmic civilizations that are necessarily far more evolved than Mankind inasmuch as they have resolved the problem of intergalactic travel and they know how to escape from us whenever*

we chase them — without their craft ever breaking down — why should they need to conceal their presence from us?"

Such questions as these are of course totally beside the point. In the first place, the very postulation that no material proofs exist (wrecked UFOs etc.) means, by implication, that the problem has already been solved, since the very question that we are asking is precisely this: *are or are not such proofs being hidden from us?*

On the other hand, is there any need for us to go on repeating, for the umpteenth time that, as Aimé Michel has pointed out, the colonization of an under-developed species by a superior species has every chance of passing undetected by the former provided that the latter goes about it with a minimum of precautions?

The fact of the matter is that a less-developed species would only be able to judge such an intervention in the light of its own criteria, and it would find itself intellectually handicapped for the task of identifying the criteria of its colonizers and would consequently run the risk of being unable to recognize those criteria as such. Our cows, who nevertheless can see us, and who think they know us, are unaware of the fact that we only rear them with a view to getting milk from them, and getting calves that will be turned into veal cutlets or, if they grow up, even into beefsteaks. You can imagine that there might be some "intelligent" cows — at any rate less intelligent than we are — and that we might be afraid that they would revolt if they "*knew*", in which case we would try to conceal our presence from them by causing them to practice "self-censorship".

Similarly, one can visualize that the Extraterrestrials might have any number of motives for visiting us (not of course necessarily all of a predatory nature) — motives that would make it necessary for them to conceal their visits from as many humans as possible, by hiding from us the inevitable material proofs that would sometimes be left here by them.

So much by way of preamble.

The problem of proof

My next task is to point out that, unless you are "in the know" and are privy at the very highest level to the secrets of the Military Intelligence Services or to the secrets of the Heads of State to whom those Military Intelligences report (?), nobody is capable of knowing for certain whether, yes or no, there do exist material, concrete (and therefore irrefutable) proofs of UFOs *as such*.

We have recently caught quite a sniff of evidence from Leonard Stringfield that such proofs do exist, in the leaks given to this American writer on Ufological matters by various people (mostly retired military officials) who claim to have seen the evidence, but so far names and addresses are not being published. Here in

France Jean Sider has repeated these claims about crashed UFOs in the United States and corpses of humanoids recovered by the U.S. Air Force. These reports are increasing in number and emanate from people who appear not to be in communication with each other or colluding, and, on account of their basic agreement on the essential details, *the reports do seem to have the ring of truth about them*. However, while the revelations these people have given us as to the precise details of the appearance and morphology of the humanoids do confirm certain details that have already been reported by countless eyewitnesses throughout the world who have had close encounters with UFOs, this agreement as to the details of the creatures cannot, unfortunately, be taken *in itself* to be proof of the truthfulness of crashed disc/dead humanoid stories simply because, for the past twenty years, many of those details — such as for example, small stature, big head, slit eyes, atrophied mouth, etc., have been public knowledge.

The sceptics for their part will always argue that these anonymous accounts of crashed discs and recovered corpses are less reliable maybe than the classic UFO encounter reports because, in the latter cases at any rate, it is at least usually possible to trace the eyewitness and question him afresh and pursue the investigation further.

The fact of the matter remains that, with all these crashed discs and corpse reports, we are still only dealing with claims made by eyewitnesses. But the material proofs alleged to exist remain concealed by the authorities, who are the sole possessors of them.

The proof is here before our eyes

Consequently if we are to find the *proof* that there is no question of any sort of intellectual or psychological "block" whatsoever on the part of the authorities or officialdom, and that they are indeed quite consciously and knowingly concealing from us the evidence for the existence of an intelligent intervention here such as cannot possibly be imputed to Terrestrial Man, then it is not (at least for the time being) in the direction of the UFOs as such that we must look for that proof. We could, for example, look for our proof elsewhere. We could secure proof of this manipulation for which we are looking by turning our attention towards another class of phenomena — *ANOTHER CLASS OF PHENOMENA WHERE, UNLIKE THE CASE OF THE CRASHED UFOs AND CORPSES, THE MATERIAL EVIDENCE IS THERE, TO HAND — BECAUSE IT CANNOT BE HIDDEN!*

Well now, are there such other phenomena now taking place, the concrete evidence for which is there, right before our eyes? And how are the military and political authorities reacting to those phenomena?

The answer is: YES. Such phenomena are occurring. And unquestionably the most significant fact

about them is that they are a ufological manifestation. I refer to the cattle mutilations, the cases of which, over almost twenty years past, are now well nigh too numerous to be counted in the United States (where the cattle are out in the open at night.)

LDLN readers will be aware of the picture from the articles on cattle mutilation by Jean Sider, but Ufologists are by no means the only people who have been focussing attention on to this matter: Numerous journalists have investigated these matters on the other side of the Atlantic, questioning the farmers, and publishing photographs of the mutilated animals. Here in France too, one of our monthly publications has taken up the question, and has set before its readers the various possible explanations that might account for these mutilations and for the circumstances in which they occur. The number of these possible explanations is very limited, and there is a very good reason for that. Here is the complete, exhaustive list of all the causes that are possible:—

1. Attacks by *predatory animals* (coyotes, etc.)
2. Clandestine surgical operations of *human origin* (i.e. removal of organs or tissues for secret military research with bacteriological weapons, or mutilative acts, symbolic or non-symbolic, perpetrated by secret sects such as are found in the U.S.A., etc.)
3. Clandestine surgical operations of *non-human origin* (and, in this case, consequently *NECESSARILY EXTRATERRESTRIAL*).

What is so striking in all these animal mutilations, for any observer, even if he be no veterinarian, is the extraordinary cleanness and sharpness of the incisions, their quasi-geometrical lay-out, with no fudging or uncertainty, the “cleanness” of the organ-removals — all of which, straight away, totally and irremediably rules out Explanation No. 1 given above. Traces of tooth or bite-marks are non-existent. Indeed, as a matter of fact it is often reported that *predatory animals absolutely refuse to go near the carcasses*, which rot very rapidly from within, and yet without swelling up. The farmers are never mistaken in their verdicts, and this is the main reason why this business of cattle mutilation has caused such a rumpus, and is still doing so.

Hypothesis No. 2 — the theory that the mutilations are the work of sects or of secret military experimenters — will be found to stand up equally poorly under examination. Mysterious “helicopters”, generally totally silent (!), sometimes equipped with landing-lights and powerful searchlights sweeping the ground, are frequently seen at night at very low altitudes over the fields where the herds are, and then, next morning, it will be found that mutilations have occurred or beasts have vanished. Sometimes the mutilated animals are not found in the field where they had been,

but miles away, sometimes in places very difficult to get at on foot, and with their bones broken, as though they have been dropped from the air. So it is an indubitable fact that, *whoever and whatever they are*, the mutilators are using aerial craft for the perpetration of their ill-deeds. The alleged “secret sects” involved in all this (whether “satanic” or whatever) would consequently have to be the possessors of veritable fleets of silent helicopters of an unknown type, equipped with absolutely the latest thing in surgical instrumentation — all of which is totally beyond any probability.

On the other hand, the affair might possibly be slightly more conceivable if it were the work of the secret services of the Government and military biological research, but in that case it is incomprehensible why these services, who already own all the animals they could possibly need, should take this vast risk by carrying out operations on herds of cattle that do not belong to them. Such illegal activities would be bound to come to light in the end. *Furthermore, the U.S. Air Force's helicopters are noisy, as every helicopter is*, whereas, with the helicopters associated with the cattle mutilations, the characteristic noise of the blades is non-existent, even from a close distance.

And, on top of that, some of the reports have mentioned silent aircraft with wings, making vertical landings and take-offs!

Well now, there are two arguments that totally put paid to this theory about surgical operations of *human origin*. These are as follows:—

1. We are now beginning to discover that the animal mutilations have a universal character — they are going on everywhere. We already knew that they had spread to Canada, and I now learn that there are even mutilations going on here in France,² where neither satanic sects (more of a subject of folklore in this country than a powerful force) nor the laboratories of the Ministry of Defence can be suspected of being responsible.
2. The incisions and the excisions of organs discovered on the carcasses of the animals give proof of a hyper-sophisticated surgical skill that in many respects surpasses any present-day capabilities that we possess in these fields. This fact has been remarked on by the private veterinarians who have been engaged by the farmers to examine the wounds. In particular, the removal of certain internal organs seems to have been done *by suction*, without any deep opening being made, as our surgeons would have done. Thus, for more than a decade, the mutilators have apparently already been in possession of equipment — *in situ* — such as our most modern central hospitals are only just starting to have — such as lasers, etc.

So we find ourselves confronted by a phenomenon for the existence of which we possess concrete proof (which, by the way, nobody disputes) and which nevertheless has shown itself to be totally resistant to any conventional explanation along terrestrial lines, be it of either human or animal origin.

Rather than invoking I know not what imaginary and gratuitous "paranormal" manifestation to explain these facts (as certainly all too many ufologists of the "New Wave" will want to do) or even I know not what secret world organization of initiates dwelling clandestinely amongst us,³ I prefer, for my part, to apply *Occam's Law* in the interpretation of what we observe, and, consequently, to conclude that the animal mutilations, associated as they are with the passage overhead of flights of silent machines coming from the skies and impossible as they are for us to perform in the present state of our surgical techniques, cannot be anything else but a manifestation of the activities of extraterrestrial visitors.

When the impossible has been eliminated, then one has to resign oneself to admitting what is by far the least improbable (and, incidentally has nothing surprising about it when one sets the facts in their correct place in the ufological context.)

No doubt the objection will be raised that there is no difference between the material proof for the animal mutilations and the material proof of the marks left on the ground by alleged landings of UFOs, and that neither the one nor the other can serve as material proof for the existence of UFOs themselves.

Well, to be sure, there is all the same a difference of degree between the two, even if there is not a fundamental one. In order to establish the absolute impossibility of applying conventional explanations to the marks allegedly left on the ground by UFOs, much science and much technique is required: physico-chemical and crystallographic analyses of soil and of rocks; the study of vegetation; the setting up of models and simulations for testing the latter (microwave emissions, ionizing radiations, etc.) Is there any need to say that such a piece of work has never been (at least to my knowledge) carried through, nor even in fact truly started, on any alleged UFO landing site? That this is so is due — in the case of official enquiry commissions — to a deliberate desire to 'play the fish', while in the case of private ufological investigation groups it is simply due to lack of skill and lack of means. Critical analyses of several cases involving ground traces (such as Valensole and Socorro) argue strongly in favour of their having been caused by a UFO reported at the spot at the same time as the marks were made, but the absolute impossibility of finding conventional explanations for these cases does remain very difficult to establish *intrinsically*, outside of its context. Moreover such trace marks are very rare.

On the other hand, when we turn to the animal mu-

tilations — no need for Physics — at any rate, none in the initial stage. The mere examination of the carcasses by the veterinarian — indeed often just a glance by the farmer, or by the journalist, reveals instantly the character — at once both artificial and hypersophisticated — of the ablations that have been carried out — for there's no question of "animal bites" about this; it is downright, "clean", cutting; no rough or botched edges; a job of total perfection, implying the transportation to that spot of surgical equipment of a degree of sophistication at least equal, if not superior, to the most modern apparatus that we have had, and that only very recently, for a few of our hospitals. It should be added that nobody has ever managed to get close to one of the helicopters allegedly seen flying over the herds of cattle, and, *a fortiori*, there has been still even less success with the attempts to intercept one of them, despite all the large-scale nocturnal forays, sometimes with radio-hook-ups and so on, organized by the farmers.

It means therefore that, with these animal mutilations, we now have to hand, at last, UNCONCEALED MATERIAL PROOF of UFO activities being carried on in our environment — *UFO activities*, because the artificial but at the same time non-human origin of the mutilations reveals itself clearly as we examine every item in the dossier. This is the first time in the whole history of Ufology that we (we who are not parties to the secrets of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) have been able to attain such a high degree of certainty. Some folk of course will continue, as I have said above, to try to argue and to invoke the misdeeds of some worldwide human organization that is as mysterious and all-powerful as it is imaginary. At any rate, one thing is for sure: nobody will be able to speak, honestly and sincerely, of bites by predator animals. You can safely risk your head on the chopping block on that score!

The strange attitude of the American authorities

Well now, what has been the reaction of the U.S. authorities in the face of this phenomenon? If you want to know, read Jean Sider's articles again. The U.S. Government has several times despatched official agents to effect investigations on the spot. And a final Report has been compiled by an F.B.I. agent named Rommel.

This Report by Rommel disparages the facts completely, and attributes the mutilations to predators (furred or feathered.) *SO HERE WE HAVE, AND FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, AN INDUBITABLE PROOF OF THE WILFUL AND CONSCIOUS INTENTION OF THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES TO DECEIVE PUBLIC OPINION OVER UFO PHENOMENA.*

When these same authorities assure us that they possess no concrete proof of the existence of the UFOs, or that they have never detected UFOs in the lower atmosphere with their spy satellites; when the Condon Commission, created by those same authorities, claim that after due analysis of the cases submitted to them, they find no evidence for visits by Extraterrestrials to our environment, when we have heard this sort of thing, we Ufologists have been loth to tax these allegations definitely as lies. For everything that we know about the UFOs depends only on testimonies. *Or, rather, I ought to say, used to depend only on testimonies.* Of course I still do not know for sure whether it is true that the U.S. Air Force possesses crashed UFOs and bodies of humanoids preserved on ice. Personally, I am still not yet *quite* 100% convinced of it. But what I *DO* now know, being able to judge for myself on the point of a material proof, *I DO KNOW that the U.S. Government agents who are talking about coyote bites to account for the animal mutilations are lying and are lying knowingly, in obedience obviously to orders received from above. Whatever their degree of veterinary incompetence may be, or whatever the weakness (necessarily relative) of their I.Q. may be, these men cannot fail to know, if they have investigated the matter, that the explanation they have given is the most stupid one that could exist — an explanation that everyone, no matter who, would reject straight away, out of hand, at the sight of the mutilated carcasses.*

As the Nazi Propaganda Minister used to say: *The bigger the lie, the more likely it is to be believed.* Of what avail then are the statements of a few thousand farmers and a few hundred veterinarians, *who have themselves witnessed the work of the "INVADERS", against the soothing denials delivered to a population of 200 million souls by a hoaxing report like the one produced by the F.B.I. man Rommel? This F.B.I. Report that bears such a fraternal likeness to all the others dished out to us over these past thirty years by the U.S. Air Force, by Condon and soon ... (why not?) by Esterle of G.E.P.A.N.?*

It all fits together, and it calls in question the whole thesis that I had been advocating until recently — namely that the "Cover-up" was basically due to the unwillingness of the scientists to accept the evidence.

Oh No. Now it has to be said. It is not the scientists — naturally sceptical as they are — who have induced the political and military leaders to refuse to take the "UFO stories" seriously. It is these authorities themselves who are concealing from us what they know⁴ and denying everything, even in the grossest fashion (and that is by no means the least efficacious fashion) and it is these authorities themselves who have put it into the minds of the scientists to deny the existence of the UFOs — or, at any rate, into the minds of a great majority of them who are not sufficiently interested in the matter to search through the records for themselves. *For, after all, isn't it likely (why not?) that there are ALSO some very highly placed scien-*

tists, well informed on the subject, who are lying to us?

Notes and References

(1) This refusal to admit the facts frequently has the caricatural appearance of a thoroughly irrational conditioned reflex. When the Russians announced that they had put their first *Sputnik* into orbit, there was a sort of consensus — and a pretty stupid one — among the majority of Western astronomers in doubting whether there ever would be a sufficiently powerful fuel for a satellite object to be put into orbit around the Earth — and this despite the official American announcements (Project Vanguard.) Thus, we saw how in various countries — and particularly here in France — a number of renowned astronomers (whose names for charitable reasons I refrain from mentioning) publicly stated their doubts as to the veracity of the TASS Agency's announcement, and later were tearing their hair out when, to their vast astonishment, they discovered that the report was no hoax. It will be noted that, in this particular affair, the mere *material proof* of the existence of *Sputnik* sufficed instantly to destroy the consensus formerly prevailing, and blow the "blockage" or clamp-down sky high.

(2) If the phenomenon of animal mutilations appears to be infinitely smaller in France than in the USA, this is probably because our cattle herds, besides being spread around in small numbers of beasts, are usually brought in at night into their sheds.

(3) One could just as well tell any sort of old story. If there exists on our Earth a clandestine human organization that is responsible for the animal mutilations, then that organization must possess scientific and technical facilities that are in advance of ours! And in that case from whom could they have got them, if not from non-humans who have visited our planet? We are consequently forced back to the conclusion that it is a *ufological manifestation...*

(4) The question still remains as to *WHY* they are hiding it from us. The answer cannot be given in a few lines. Aimé Michel, with whom I have been discussing these matters for years, is inclined to believe that the *natural mediocrity* of the responsible politico-military leaders should suffice to explain everything: in his view, such folk would be motivated above all by the desire to exercise power and by considerations of career, which means that they would sweep under the carpet any problem that is totally beyond them and before which they find themselves helpless. Beyond any question, such a process of thinking is fully operative. Perhaps however I may be permitted to voice a slightly different view. To the extent that the discovery of the presence of a hyper-sophisticated non-human technological activity within our Terrestrial Space could not possibly be regarded with indifference by those who have the task of governing the world, these latter will all attempt to exploit, each

party for themselves, any data on the subject that is in their possession, while at the same time publicly denying that they have such data. Thus, for example (you will see what I am getting at), they might simultaneously be scheming to secure a monopoly in research on MHD aerodynes, while publicly suffocating all ufo-logical research in a haze of "psychological" interpretations! *That is of course not to say that the "Invaders" may not be engaged in a pretty bit of suffocation of the subject themselves...*

PARIS, November 23, 1982

Comment by Editor of Lumières dans la Nuit

As a result of the solid reasoning developed in this article by Dr Pierre Guérin we have, for the first time, irrefutable concrete proof capable of confounding the most hardened of sceptics. Logic would therefore decree that, in the long story of UFO research, this article will mark a turning-point of the very highest importance.

It will accordingly be necessary to pay ever more attention to the cases of animal mutilation, which have already been emphasised by Monsieur Jean Sider in a certain number of our recent issues.

* * * * *

POSTSCRIPT BY DR PIERRE GUÉRIN (Published in LDLN No.227/228 — May/June 1983) (*Translation from French.*)

CORRECTION

"Contrasting, as I did in my article, the degree of material proof that could be provided by landing-traces and, on the other hand, the global proofs furnished by the cattle mutilations (inasmuch as these are artificial acts of a surgical nature) I expressed the opinion that, as regards the former (ie the landing-traces and marks), unlike the latter (ie the cattle mutilation cases), good material proofs could only be secured as a result of difficult scientific analyses such as, so far as I knew, had never been carried out due to the lack of will on the part of the official agencies.

"I have now received, from several quarters, first-hand reports which fortunately oblige me to revise this opinion which I had expressed. Various official laboratories (Universities, I.N.R.A., etc.) have performed, on behalf of G.E.P.A.N., and with the use of up-to-date means, physico-chemical and bio-chemical analyses of soils and lucerne crops from at least one recent landing site in France (the Nicolaï case of January 8, 1981.) These analyses, all of them positive, lead to the conclusion that there was a complex physical event, very localized but of very broad scope, which produced the alterations that were found. This will be a case to follow."

P. Guérin
April 15, 1983.

In the Islamic world, just as in China and other countries of further Asia, more and more people are awakening to the reality and the significance of the UFO problem, and we are glad to see that FSR has an increasing number of readers in the Muslim lands. We are fully

appreciative of the particular contribution which they are in a position to make to our studies.

يَمَعَشَرِ الْجَنِّ وَالْإِنْسِ إِنْ أَسْتَطَعْتُمْ أَنْ تَنْفُذُوا مِنْ
أَقْطَارِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ فَانْفُذُوا لَا تَنْفُذُونَ إِلَّا
بِأَمْرِ سُلْطَانٍ

THE "APPARITIONS OF THE VIRGIN" AT FÁTIMA CONSIDERED IN RELATION TO THE UFO PHENOMENON

Joaquim Fernandes

Editor of the newspaper *Jornal de Notícias*, Oporto, Portugal. (Translation from Portuguese)

Introduction

AFTER six years of intensive effort, my lady Colleague Dr. Fina d'Armada and I have succeeded in assembling an impressive body of documentary and testimonial evidence that throws a radically new light — radically new, that is, for us Portuguese — on the question of the so-called Apparitions at Fátima which commenced in May 1917 and continued until October of that same year. (However, two years earlier than that, some other young people had also given accounts of having seen apparitions of luminous beings, of moving objects in the sky, and sometimes of headless entities — this latter detail nothing new in the context of "apparitional phenomena" as a whole.)

Dr. Fina d'Armada received her Doctorate in History in 1978, and a Government grant for her studies, and thanks to the official permission which was given to her we have been able to fill in many of the gaps in the known documentation on Fátima and we were even able to track down, among the manuscripts in the Sanctuary at Fátima, a number of items essential for our task. One of the most interesting of these discoveries of ours was the testimony given by a "fourth percipient", Carolina Carreira. We designedly call her by this term, "fourth percipient", because her account of her experience describes a telepathic type of contact with a fair-haired being of small stature who instilled into her head a repetitive order couched approximately as follows: "Come here and say three Ave Marias, Come here . . ." etc. Such was the experience claimed by this new witness whom we have discovered and whom we have designated "the fourth percipient" in order to mark her off from the quite considerable main body — from both the sociological and the representational point of view — of some hundred or so other ordinary witnesses whose first-hand statements we have used in constructing the framework of our study.

As a result we were able, in 1982, to publish our book,¹ *Intervenção Extraterrestre em Fátima — As Aparições e o Fenómeno OVNI*, which, in our view, will serve to reinforce simultaneously both the singularity and the objective, factual nature of the "Marian Apparitions Phenomenon" so typical of the Latin countries where Catholicism is predominant. This means that, in our opinion, the "apparitions phenomenon" is a



Fig. 1. Reconstituted sketch, showing the "small being" seen at the Cova da Iria on July 28, 1917, by the "fourth percipient", Carolina Carreira.

real one, which occurs within the framework of our Space-Time coordinates but which also involves the intervention of a religious component serving possibly as a formative factor and also as an appropriate vehicle for the phenomenon. The relationship between the total conjunction of physical and psychophysiological features of the "Apparitions Phenomenon" and the modern "UFO Phenomenon" is only too evident; the causal correlation, the effects established, and the respective processes all fall into line, perfectly delineated, within the pattern of plausible hypotheses presented by eminent workers in the field of the most qualified Ufological research.

The Sources

Our sources consist, in essence, firstly of the original interrogations of, and statements made by, the three principal percipients, namely Lúcia, Francisco, and Jacinta, and also of other selected testimonies — about one hundred in all — the entire edifice of which represents a minimal stable historical basis that has been subjected to the most rigorous criticism. In

our opinion this material pinpoints the cause of the "Marian Apparition" as identical with the cause of the "UFO Phenomenon" and, symptomatically, we shall designate it as *"The Unusual that could not have been invented."*

Our first piece of proof, and our first surprise, came from the original description given by Lúcia, the eldest of the three percipients, when, at the *Parochial Enquiry*, she spoke of "a very shining lady, about 1 metre 10 cms. in height, seeming to be between 12 and 15 years old; she was wearing a narrow skirt, a jacket, and a cloak, all with little golden cords running crisscross through them; she came from 'above', and vanished gradually in the inverse direction; she made no facial movements, nor did she articulate her lower limbs when she walked; she spoke without moving her lips, and moved only her hands from time to time". She turned her back towards the percipients when she departed.¹

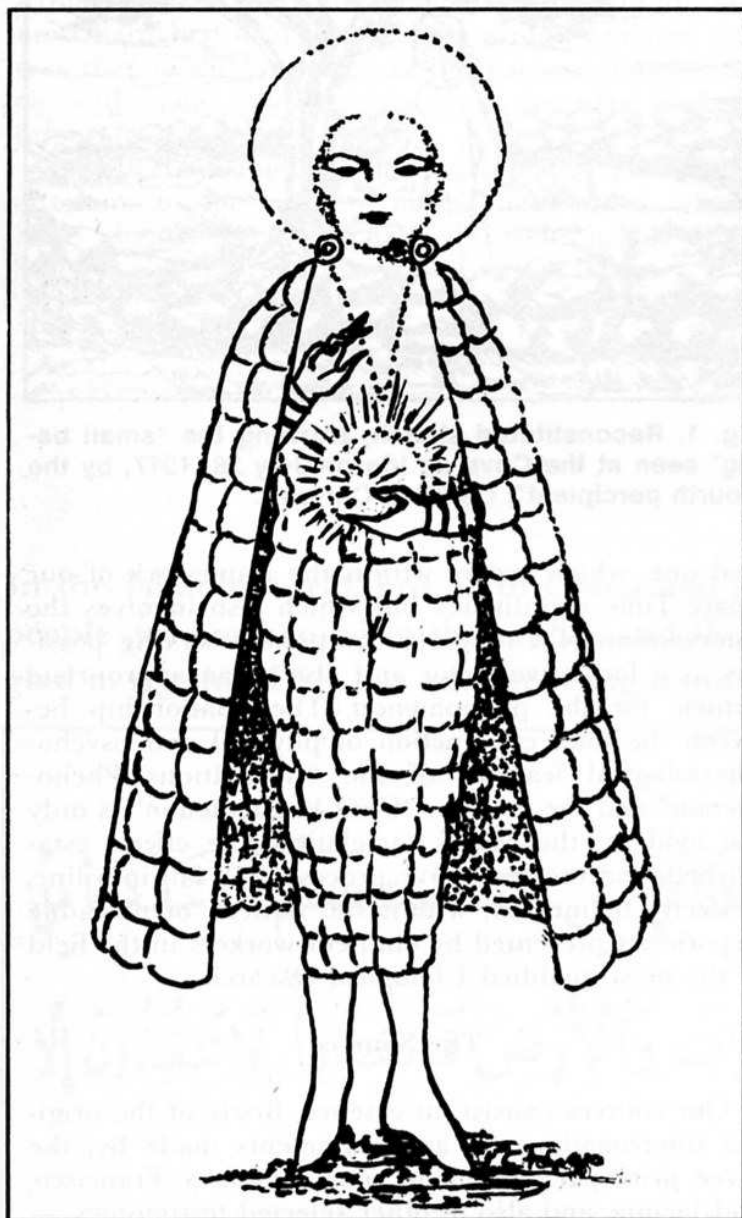


Fig. 2. The Entity seen at Fátima, based on Lúcia's first description, given at the Parochial Enquiry held by the local priest.

After that, we reconstituted the manner of her locomotion when the "luminous Lady" was carried up to the top of the holm-oak tree, at which position she was when the children beheld her. The documents enabled us to affirm that the entity, seemingly feminine, was transported *within a tronco-conic beam of light that was emitted gradually, alternately proceeding and receding*, and that had its source, most probably, in a "cloud" with an anomalous and peculiar kind of movement, namely, *it moved against the wind*. There are modern examples of this type of "solid light", a process concerning which various theoreticians have put forward their views.²

Another determining factor, and one which gives us the distance parameter for the so-called "Solar Phenomenon" of October 13, 1917, was the distribution of the standpoints of the hundred or so witnesses. We found that they were all to be found within a band about 70 metres wide and running through the Cova da Iria area, centre of the phenomena, where a vast

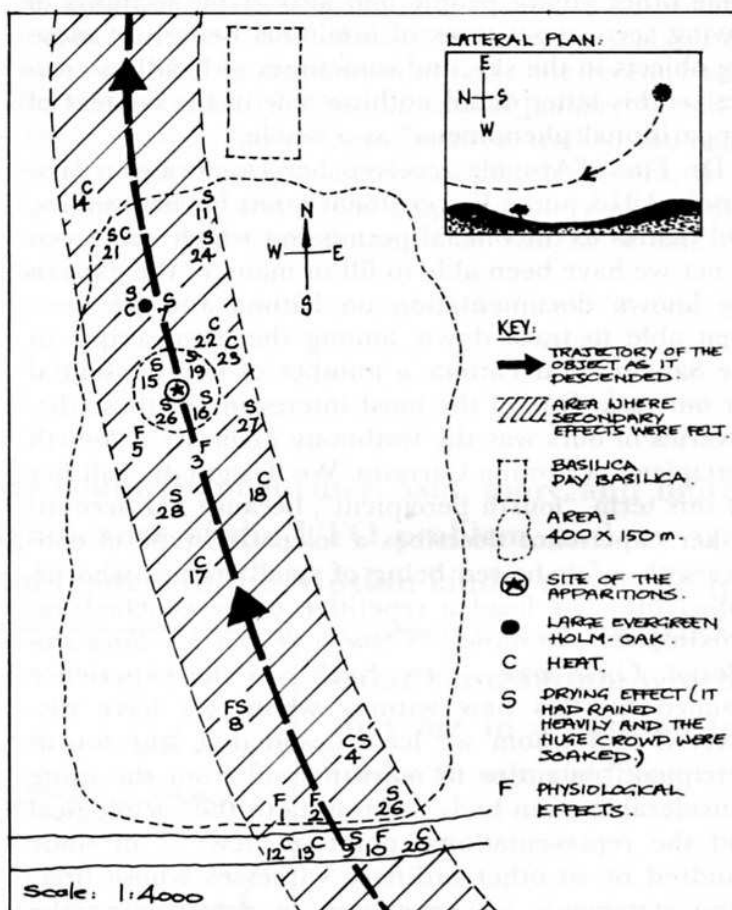


Fig. 3. Fátima. Scene of the secondary effects experienced on October 13 1917.

multitude of people were awaiting the "Miracle of the Sun." This band, oriented South-North, quite patently contains all those witnesses who reported the secondary effects experienced at the time of the "Solar Phenomenon", that is to say, at the moment when the "Solar Object" descended in a terrifying parabola over

the crowd of 60,000 people. The effects felt — *and felt only by that segment of the crowd who were standing within the 70-metre band were:*—

1. Sudden and intense heat.
2. Drying of clothing and of the soil.
3. Physiological effects (in popular parlance, “miraculous cures.”)

All this occurred after the close approach of the “Object”, the position of which we have localised in space (at its lowest point) as at about the height of the top of a pine tree, according to some of the witnesses — where it was mimicking the Sun.

This triple effect produced by the “Object”, plus the accumulated body of testimony, should suffice to warrant both for the veracity of the occurrence and for its attribution to a source external to the witnesses, and it disposes of various suggestions from some quarters that the “Solar Phenomenon” and its anomalous movements were merely of a completely hallucinatory nature. In fact the various theories about so-called “imagetic projections”, so typical for hypnagogic and hypnopompic states (i.e. states induced inside closed rooms and with the eyes shut) have absolutely no bearing whatsoever on the multiple-witness sighting at Fátima. See in this connection the extensive criticism on this same case by the engineer Ballester Olmos and his colleague Miguel Guasp in their discussion of “imagery” as a response to UFO stimuli.³

The Evidence of Magnetohydrodynamics

Remaining still within the scope of discussion of so-called “Solar” phenomenology, we may now proceed also to a comparison between what have been described as the “chromatic effects” recorded in 1917 after the so-called “Miracle of the Sun”, and certain modern cases. Amazing as it may appear, the eyewitnesses of 1917 *anticipated by 65 years* the experiments in Magnetohydrodynamics conducted recently by the French physicist Jean-Pierre Petit of the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research) — experiments that have “received the green light of approval” from the highest responsible scientific quarters in France! That is to say: the colour-sequence of the pseudo-Sun at Fátima varied directly with its *velocity* — a relationship that has been established by Ufological investigators from Aimé Michel onwards. The “Object” over Fátima produced a colouration of the surroundings (excitation of gases) due to its electrical field or to its power source — whatever you may care to term it.⁴

Another possible deduction — and it is an extremely tempting one — is the possibility that *microwaves were involved at Fátima*, being the means of communication between the radiant entity and the small percipients. The reason for my making this suggestion is that a number of the statements made by

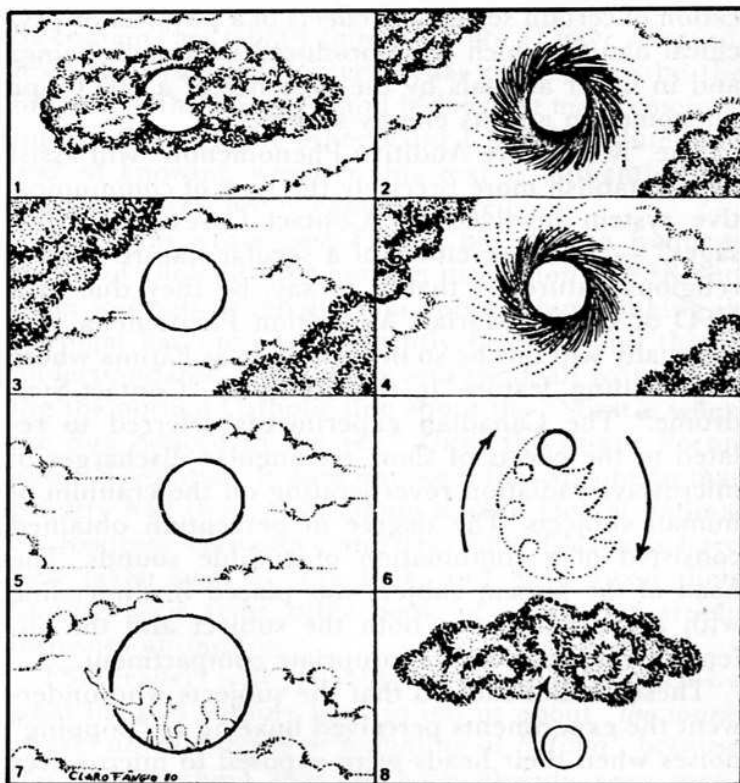


Fig 4. The successive phases in the “Miracle of the Sun”, commencing from the moment when the “cloud” parted. (October 13, 1917).

eyewitnesses who were close to the spot where the “contact” took place mention hearing the “humming of bees”, a feature which is likewise frequent in *Type 1 Close Encounter Cases*. (Vallée). The properties of microwaves have been studied by (*inter al.*) the nuclear physicist James McCampbell, and they fit the case of Fátima to perfection, with its triple-proof in the shape of (1) intense heat; (2) sudden drying of clothing; (3) the production of physiological cures. Furthermore, the hearing of the characteristic humming or buzzing sound ALWAYS occurred when the “Lady” was talking to the three small percipients BUT WITHOUT MOVING HER LIPS. It seems to us that at Fátima extensive “use” was made of the microwave zone of the electromagnetic spectrum (i.e., between 300 MHz and 300,000 MHz).⁵

Microwave Research

Since McCampbell did his work in this field, fresh laboratory investigations have provided additional support for our thesis, and unexpected corroboration of the ideas that we had as it were glimpsed when considering the Fátima witnesses who had talked about the “humming or buzzing effect.” This additional support to which we refer is to be found in the experiments carried out by members of the Canadian Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and most particularly by James C. Lin (*The Microwave Auditive Phenomenon*), Sergio X. Salles-Cunha, Joseph Battocletti, and Anthony Sances.⁶ These investigations are very promising in connection with the possible verifi-

cation of certain secondary effects of a physical or psychological nature, which were produced in human beings and in lower animals by the presence of a UFO-type phenomenon and its energy source.⁷

The "Microwave Auditive Phenomenon" will assist us to establish more precisely the type of communicative system involved in "Contact Cases with Messages" — be these either of a secular nature or of a religious nature — that is to say, be they due to a UFO or due to Marian Apparition Phenomena, and especially will this be so in such cases as Fátima where a prevailing feature is the so-called "Contact-Syndrome." The Canadian experiments referred to related to the effects of short rectangular discharges of microwave radiation reverberating on the cranium of human subjects. The degree of perception obtained consisted of a combination of audible sounds. The head of the human subject was placed in direct line with a conic antenna, both the subject and the antenna being inside an appropriate compartment.

These studies showed that the subjects who underwent the experiments perceived buzzing or "popping" noises when their heads were exposed to microwaves of between 200 and 3,000 MHz with a mean potency of from 0.4 to 2 mW/cm² to a density of level of above 300 mW/cm². The modulated frequencies ranged from 200 to 400 Hz. *In general, the sounds were perceived as coming from the inside of the head or from the rear part of the cranium.* It is to be borne in mind that the "fourth percipient" at Fátima was aware of the words of the "angel" *inside her head...*

But, returning to the case at Fátima, the "buzzing" sensation was not exclusive to the three small percipients at the Cova da Iria. In fact we possess a number of statements about it from people who were among those nearest to the children at the moment of the "contact". And it is to be borne in mind that this sound was *heard clearly, and was heard solely, WHEN THE "LADY" WAS TALKING TO LUCIA WITHOUT MOVING HER LIPS.*

Although, despite our efforts to secure permission to do so, we have not been successful in securing an interview with the one percipient who is still alive (Lúcia), there remains one fact that is borne out by the experimental evidence: namely that the "buzzing" phenomenon, while general and affecting a determined area round the three percipients, *had come from a source external to them.* In our opinion, this source must be the communicating system deriving from the luminous "Lady" borne along inside the truncated beam of light. Consequently, in our opinion, everything leads us to believe that the vehicle of communication between the Fátima entity and the little percipients lies within the zone of microradiation.

The experimental stages of all this work are far from finished, particularly as regards the whole of the radiation effects upon the witnesses. It would be very desirable that some well equipped investigators

should make an attempt along these same lines and secure confirmation, with statistically representative results. We think also that other studies will have to be undertaken, not only in connection with the psychophysical behaviour of humans and lower animals, but also at the level of a semantic analysis of the subject-matter of the conversations held by the contactees — both the "religious" ones and the others. The famous "messages and secrets" of Fátima, as a mystical tradition, are of course a representative example of this.⁸

We would recall moreover in this connection the hypotheses voiced by Dr. Claude Rifat regarding the apparent distortions of content (i.e. the apparent unreality) of both the UFO Experiences and the Marian Apparition Experiences. In the review *UFO Phenomena* he emphasised the role played in these situations by the *Locus Coeruleus*, an important area in the brain of mammals. It is in there, as he showed, that the phenomena of dreams are induced. Maybe the radiating source (UFO, humanoid, luminous entity) interferes with the normal functioning of the brain, possibly by emitting microwaves. The distortion or alteration of the "messages" (not to mention images) according to the subconscious of the human subject (cultural and religious education, etc.) might then be the result of this type of interference in that part of the brain referred to above, namely the *Locus Coeruleus*.⁹

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TRANSLATOR'S NOTE

Our contributor, Joaquim Fernandes, is the Editor of a well-known newspaper, *Jornal de Notícias*, in Oporto, Northern Portugal, the principal UFO investigator in that country, and a long-time reader and correspondent of FSR. For some years he was the Director of the Review *Insólito (The Unusual)* issued in Oporto by Portugal's pioneer UFO investigation group CEAFI (Centro de Estudos Astronómicos e de Fenómenos Insólitos.) He is also MUFON's representative in Portugal, and he is at present playing a leading role in the establishment of a new national body in Portugal to be known as the Comissão Nacional de Investigação do Fenómeno OVNI (National Commission for the Investigation of the UFO Phenomenon).

The paranormal events that occurred at a rural spot known as Cova da Iria, near the village of Fátima in Portugal, during every month from May to October of 1917 (i.e. covering the precise time-span between the moderate and reasonable Russian Revolution of March and the take-over by evil forces in the Revolution of October) are regarded by many throughout the Catholic world as purely religious in nature and of supreme importance for the whole of mankind, particularly in view of the remarkable information about Russia gleaned by three illiterate and ignorant Portuguese village children long before the much-vaunted Dawn of the Millennium which was to bring Lenin to power. Among Ufologists on the other hand there are many who may think that the happenings at Fátima seem to have a familiar *ufological* touch about them. *And some there are who think that Fátima was maybe of both ufological and religious importance.* (The British mathematician and pioneer teacher of religious and spiritual matters, John G. Bennett of Coombe Springs, told me once in the mid-1950s that in his opinion Fátima was probably the most important event of the Twentieth Century and therefore of far greater significance even than the two World Wars.)

There are numerous books in Portuguese, French, Italian and Spanish on Fátima, but few in English. (The best of the latter are probably W. T. Walsh's *Our Lady of Fátima*, published in USA and Britain soon after the last War, and Father C. C. Martindale's *The Message of Fátima*, published in London by Burns Oates and Washbourne in 1950.)

The "Message" of Fátima refers to a secret part of the information given to the three children in 1917. It was to have been divulged to the world by the Bishop of Leiria in 1960, but the Vatican has kept very tight-lipped about it so far, which is not at all surprising if

its contents are what I think they are. (I have received, from two different sources, what purports to be the full text of the Message, and it does not make comforting reading. On the other hand I have absolutely no way of knowing whether this text is authentic, so I shall not dwell on its contents here.)

For many years past Fátima has been a frequent theme of Ufological or Fortean discussion in FSR and other journals devoted to our subject, but thinking in Portugal has until very recently been — and this is understandable — orthodox and rigid, all writers taking the normal Catholic line about the "Miracle when the Sun danced in the sky." Until the recent Portuguese Revolution, it does not seem that anyone in that country had thought of taking a fresh look at Fátima. Sr. Joaquim Fernandes and Dr. Fina d'Armada have now taken such a fresh look, and have given their findings in a remarkable book, of which this article furnishes an outline.

FSR readers will probably be greatly interested by what the two authors have to tell us about "*the sound of bees heard buzzing or humming at Fátima*", because this is something that we have already seen mentioned in not a few UFO-contact cases. (There is not time for a search through the literature of our subject, but I can quote for example the case of Dionisio Llanca in Argentina. See FSR, Vol. 26, No. 4, page 7.)

I can confirm from my own fairly wide reading of Portuguese accounts of Fátima that there were quite a lot of folk in the vast crowds there who afterwards told how they had heard the "*humming or buzzing of bees*" (*zumbido de abelhas*) while the phenomena were at their height.

(Father Martindale S. J. even relates an amusing story about this. During the visit of a party of British Catholic pilgrims to Fátima in 1948 a lady named Maria dos Anjos, who is the elder sister of the girl Lúcia, the central figure in the Fátima story — now the Carmelite nun Sister Maria Lúcia of the Immaculate Heart — gave a demonstration by actually poking a stick into a bees' nest. Out swarmed the bees, of course, all buzzing. "*Ha, it was just like that!*", said Maria dos Anjos, delighted, and not worried in the least that a bee had just stung one of the British pilgrims.)

When we consider these reports of "buzzing" or "humming" sounds together with Claude Rifat's suggestions about the role possibly played in UFO experiences by a small area of our brain known as the *Locus Coeruleus*, together with the reports of some recent Canadian experiments, it is not difficult to see that the new suggestions by Joaquim Fernandes and his colleague could possibly result in a spectacular discovery about the fashion in which alien beings might contact the human mind.

With regard to the matter of translation, I should perhaps add that I have rendered the Portuguese word *vidente* (literally "*seer*") as "*percipient*." There

were only three such percipients at Fátima, namely the three children, all of whom saw the luminous entity, and our two authors mention a "fourth percipient" whom they have discovered, and who had seen a female entity on a previous occasion. For the hundred or so other people selected by the authors from

those among the vast crowd who saw or heard or felt other extraordinary phenomena but did not see the actual radiant being, I have used the terms *witness* or *eyewitness* (*testemunha* in Portuguese.)

G.C.

AN ENCOUNTER WITH "RAT-FACES" IN ITALY

Antonio Chiumiento

Investigator and Member of the Board of Directors of C.U.N. (Italian National UFO Research Centre, Turin).

(Translation from Italian)

There have recently been reports of encounters with highly unpleasant-looking "rat-faced" creatures. Here is an Italian case from 1978. We shall shortly publish a very similar Brazilian case that happened a year later, in 1979.

Ed.

TAKING advantage of the fact that, though cold, it was a sunny day, Signor Angelo D'Ambros, aged 61, a resident of Gallio in the north-eastern Italian Province of Vicenza, had gone on the morning of November 24, 1978, to gather firewood in a copse in the nearby locality of Gastagh. The time was just about a quarter of an hour before noon when, turning around to set down a branch which he had just been chopping up, he was gripped with horror at the terrifying sight that met his eyes, for there, extremely close to him, and watching him, were two "beings" with only approximately human-like features.



Fig. 1. Sketch by Ugo Furlan, based on discussions with witness.

Long Ears and Tusks

They were suspended in the air at about 40 cms. from the ground. One of them, he estimated, was about 1 m. 20 cms, in height, and the other about 1 m. They were extremely thin, and had a yellowish skin that was stretched so tightly that he could see great veins standing out on the head and hands of the bigger creature, which was the nearer to him of the two. Their heads were large and elongated, like pears, smooth and bald, with enormous ears that rose straight up and ended in a point. They had great white eyes, sunken and without eyelids, set above a nose of pronounced dimensions which almost reached down beyond the lower lip, the latter being pretty fleshy, and large mouths displaying, at their extremities, two long, pointed "tusks."

From immediately below the knee right up to the neck, the two creatures appeared to be clad in dark very closely-fitting overalls, which also covered the arms down as far as the wrists, leaving the hands and the rest of the legs and the feet uncovered. The hands and feet were of a remarkable size and out of proportion to the rest of the body, with extremely long fingers and long nails.

At first the two creatures were side by side but, straight away, the shorter of them began shifting constantly between the right side and the left side of D'Ambros, in very rapid leaps and without moving its long feet, almost as though it were gliding on an invisible surface, and making, with these continuous movements, a very faint sound of air displacement and a rustling of the vegetation as the tips of its long ears-



Fig. 2. Signor D'Ambros shows the author, Antonio Chiumiento, how the entity tried to seize the billhook

brushed the lowest branches of the nearby trees.

Trying to overcome his terror, which had almost literally frozen the blood in his veins at the sight of these two beings — these “monsters” as he termed them during our investigation — he shouted “*Help!*” at the top of his voice, and then managed to summon up the strength to ask them repeatedly who they were and what were their intentions towards him. But it was all totally useless. From the mouth of the shorter creature came only incomprehensible mumblings.

Struggle to Seize Chopper

Suddenly, after the witness had fixed his gaze attentively on the taller creature, which had remained virtually motionless in the same position, shifting only slightly, and always at a distance of about a metre from him, the creature attempted to get hold of his machete or billhook, seizing it by the part at the tip which has no cutting-edge. D'Ambros was resolved not to let him have it, it being his sole means of self-defence in the event that the creatures should demonstrate clearly hostile intentions. So he gripped it very

firmly by the handle, which is enveloped in a thick sheath of solid leather, and has a hook on the end for hanging the tool up on a wall or on a belt.

The creature again tried to seize the billhook, grasping it this time a little lower down, with the result that the witness seemed to feel a slight electrical shock. Then, perceiving that D'Ambros still had hold of the tool, the creature returned to the attack, this time using both hands to grasp the machete lower down and much more fully, still by the non-cutting edge. In this, its third attempt, the creature employed exceptional force, which d'Ambros was able to resist thanks only to the fact that his own strength had been so considerably increased by the sheer desperation that had overtaken him as he realised that his cries for help had brought nobody to aid him, and the result was that once again he felt — and this time pretty clearly — an electrical discharge in his hand and up his arm.

At this point the witness got really furious, as it seemed that the creature was absolutely unwilling to desist from its attempts to get the machete off him, so, with the other hand, he grabbed a large branch that

he had previously cut, determined to hit the creature with it and put an end to a situation that had brought him to the very brink of panic.

The two creatures presumably recognised the threat inherent in this gesture, for they fled instantly.

The Landed UFO

The witness, completely recovering his normal calm, now felt impelled by such an irresistible curiosity as to the provenance of the two "dis-human" creatures, with their so 'near-human' features (apart from their height), that he even found enough strength to pursue them, and ran as fast as he could along the mule-track along which they had come. As the track takes a sharp turn he soon lost sight of them, but despite that he continued to search for them until finally, in a near-by clearing, at a distance estimated by him to be from twenty to thirty metres, he beheld a strange oblong "object" standing on four landing feet straddled fairly widely apart with their ends thrust some centimetres into the ground ("with legs with the ends cut off", as the witness put it).

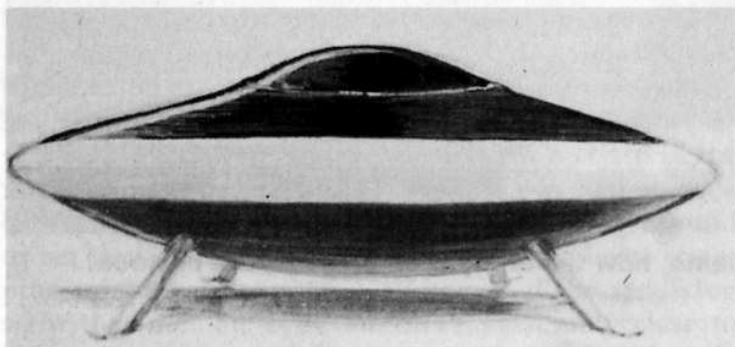


Fig 3. The craft seen at Gastagh by Signor Angelo D'Ambros. Sketch by Ugo Furlan, based on discussions with witness.

On the middle of the top, the object, which was discoidal, was surmounted by a small dome. The "disc" (he referred to the object by this term several times during our investigation), of a solid, metallic, and extremely substantial appearance, was of bright red colour on the upper part, including the dome, and blue on the lower half, with a white middle band clearly separating the two differently coloured halves. The legs were of an aluminium-greyish shade. The mysterious craft was about four metres wide and about two metres high at the centre where the dome was, without including the legs.

Scarcely had he caught sight of the craft when he saw one of those long hands closing, from inside the dome, a sort of trap-door by drawing it backwards.

A few seconds later the disc took off slantingly at a staggering speed and in total silence, producing a burst of red flame and vanishing from his sight in an instant behind high fir-trees.

D'Ambros returned home at once, keeping to himself the secret of this 'strange episode' which had left him distinctly disturbed, and turning it over and over in his mind to such a pitch that he had no desire to eat his lunch, till finally he decided to talk about the 'event' to his son-in-law, Luciano Munari, the caretaker at the Jacobo da Ponte Technical High School in Asiago.

Return to the spot

Signor Munari decided to get somebody to accompany him next day to the scene of the alleged unwanted happening. And in the clearing he found an almost completely circular area about 3.5 m. in diameter, in which the grass looked black, not so much black with burning as from oil, and was distinctly flattened and rotated in anticlockwise fashion. When he ventured to touch the blackened grass his hands remained quite clean. He also found two U-shaped impressions some twenty cms. long and about three cms. wide and three cms. deep. In this connection it should be mentioned that in May 1980, when the Gastagh wood was no longer covered with snow, in the course of an on-the-spot investigation which we carried out there, the above-mentioned traces were no longer to be found. (The witness's son-in-law blamed the presence of stones there for the fact that they were unable to find the marks that should have been made by the other two legs.)

As further corroboration — so Munari told us — that D'Ambros really had observed something out of the ordinary, it was still possible to see that, at the spot from where the craft had taken off, there were some bramble bushes that had been completely uprooted — this being the result of the displacement of air as the 'object' departed.

What was unfortunate however was that Munari had not thought to take his camera with him, with the result that, when he got back home, many of his fellow-townsmen still would not believe him. In reply to these doubters, he said he would go back to the wood the next day to take photos, but, alas, it snowed again on the Asiago Plateau during the night of Saturday November 25/Sunday November 26, with the result that not until Sunday, December 3 was he able to betake himself again to the presumed landing site, along with the local photographer and some other people who had believed neither his father-in-law nor him.

So they shovelled away the snow from the spot where Munari remembered having seen the two U-shaped impressions, in order to be able to photograph them, but as the pictures were black-and-white the detailed features of the marks did not show up at all well when they were developed. Dissatisfied with this, Signor Munari resolved to go back there once more, on Sunday December 10, 1978, to photograph the two marks again (this time in colour) and, fearing that they

again might not show up clearly, he circled them with yellow paper.

The Story Reaches the Press

It should also be mentioned that the affair was the subject of an article published in the local daily, *Giornale di Vicenza*, for December 1, 1978, under the title: "*I Was Attacked by Two Martians: They Wanted My Billhook.*", this being due to an initiative of Munari. No sooner had the article appeared than Signor D'Ambros received visits not only by vast numbers of curiosity-seekers but also by a number of Vicenza residents interested in UFOs, all bent on putting various questions to him.

It having been established (as D'Ambros and Munari had already done) that the blade of the billhook bore an imprint roughly of the size of a little finger (but consisting of horizontal lines) and that the cutting edge of the tool had assumed a strange dark red colouring, the students of Ufology requested and (after due production of their identity cards) managed to secure the billhook on loan, with a view to taking it to a research laboratory in Vicenza for the necessary tests. But unfortunately, one of these individuals, Signor Carlo Spaliviero, of Via Spalato 14, Vicenza, told us, the laboratory whom they had approached wanted a lot of money from them, with the result that they finally decided to bring the billhook back to Gallio without even thinking of having the imprint on the blade photographed.

As Munari told us, once he had got the billhook back (still showing the dark red colouring on the cutting part) D'Ambros started using it again, so that very soon neither the "imprint" nor the strange discoloration were visible any longer.

In continuation, we should moreover mention that we learned about this case thanks to one of our fellow-investigators in Vicenza, who sent us a copy of the newspaper article in question, although unfortunately not immediately at the time. (In any case, we would have been unable to go to Gallio at that juncture as we were already engaged in the investigation of several other interesting sighting reports from the three Venetian Provincial Regions.)

Investigation by C.U.N.

When we did go to Gallio for the first time (and this was only in the autumn of 1979), the D'Ambros family told us that, when, a few days previously, they had visited the UFO landing site while out gathering mushrooms, the grass there still looked black and dirty, and had in fact not grown again at all there with the onset of spring. Unfortunately we were not able to make an on-the-spot inspection though, as it had just snowed again on the Asiago Plateau only two or three days before.

During our second investigation, which was in February 1980, Signor Munari made the following statement to us:—

"Had it been I — I, who am aged 29 and who read the newspapers and often look at Television — had it, I say, been I who had told you this strange story, you might well have thought that I had been fantasising — but, in the case of my Father-in-law, it would in fact be quite impossible for him to have concocted such a tale. And even though he may have distorted a few of the details in his account of the affair, in view of the naturally frightened state in which he was, and the fact that he only has perfect sight in one eye, the other eye having been injured in an accident at work (as a result of which — and this is taught in Ophthalmology — the distance vision gets stronger while the vision of fairly close objects becomes weaker — though only very slightly) I am inclined to conclude — particularly after having seen for myself the scene at the spot in the wood where he had told me that the object had stood — that without any doubt he was involved in some incredible happening. I would like to add too that my Father-in-law told me that, as he was chasing the beings, he had almost slipped and fallen to the ground. Well now, when we got to the place next day after the event, he pointed out to me already from quite a distance the very spot where he had slipped, and in fact when I got there I was able to see for myself the mark made by him as he had slipped.

"After this episode involving my Father-in-law, I decided to read up a bit on this subject of UFOs, and I bought the book *UFO Report*, by J. Allen Hynek, as a result of which I was able to establish that there was a very evident resemblance between the two U-shaped marks which I had photographed (particularly as they looked before it snowed) and the mark shown in one of the photos in the book, with stones all around it." (Signor Munari is referring here to the photograph of marks left by a possible UFO landing at Socorro in New Mexico on April 24, 1964: Author).

Investigation of the Parties

Having paid several visits to Sr. D'Ambros in Gallio, we have been in a position to verify both the characters and the life-styles of the members of the D'Ambros and Munari families, and we came to the conclusion that they are people who enjoy the highest reputation in their community, and very plain straightforward folk, deeply engaged in their own daily activities.

Signor d'Ambros in particular, who, as he told us, only attended elementary school as far as the end of the fourth class, appeared to us not to be a person of

great education, and consequently hardly likely to be subject to flights of fancy. The alleged UFO left (or rather, was said to have left) marks on the ground, and the billhook, according to the statements of several people, showed an "imprint" left by a "hand" of the "being", and had acquired a dark red coloration on the cutting part of the blade. The probability that the UFO sighting here under discussion had a natural explanation is, *in our opinion*, minimal, if indeed not totally non-existent, as, having ourselves conducted a thoroughgoing investigation of the case, we are convinced that something physical and material, involving Sr. D'Ambros, did occur in the Gastagh locality of Gallio.

To our way of seeing it, it is impossible to dispose of the case by attributing it to a hallucination, since there is no proof whatsoever in support of such a solution.

Similarity to Kelly-Hopkinsville Case

There is moreover another event which has remained rightly famous and which presents some analogies with the strange episode at Gallio and concerns, in a specific and concentrated fashion, the appearance of the presumed "living beings."

The event to which we refer is the one that took place on August 21, 1955, on a farm at Kelly, in Kentucky (U.S.A.) not far from the town of Hopkinsville. On that occasion, in fact, the seven eyewitnesses (all the adults of the Sutton family who lived at the farm) agreed that the "creatures" were rather short, not more than a metre in height and with oblong, egg-shaped heads, hairless, and of the same colour as the body. They had big elephantine ears and seemed to be weightless and they floated down, rather than fell down, from the trees. The eyes were large and protruding, the arms out of proportion to the rest of the body, and the fingers terminated in "claws curved like the beak of a falcon" (according to the expressive description given by one of the eyewitnesses.) The vegetation rustled when they passed through it.

Corroborative Local Reports

Here are some of the collateral testimonies to that given by D'Ambros, two of which were the subject of an article that appeared in the *Giornale di Vicenza* (local daily) for December 2, 1978 under the title "*Gallio UFO Also Seen Over Santa Caterina?*". We shall therefore give a résumé of the investigations in question duly conducted with the efficient collaboration of Signor Silvio Formilan who is in charge of the C.U.N. branch at Schio (Vicenza.) We must however point out that a photocopy of this second article also unfortunately only reached us belatedly.

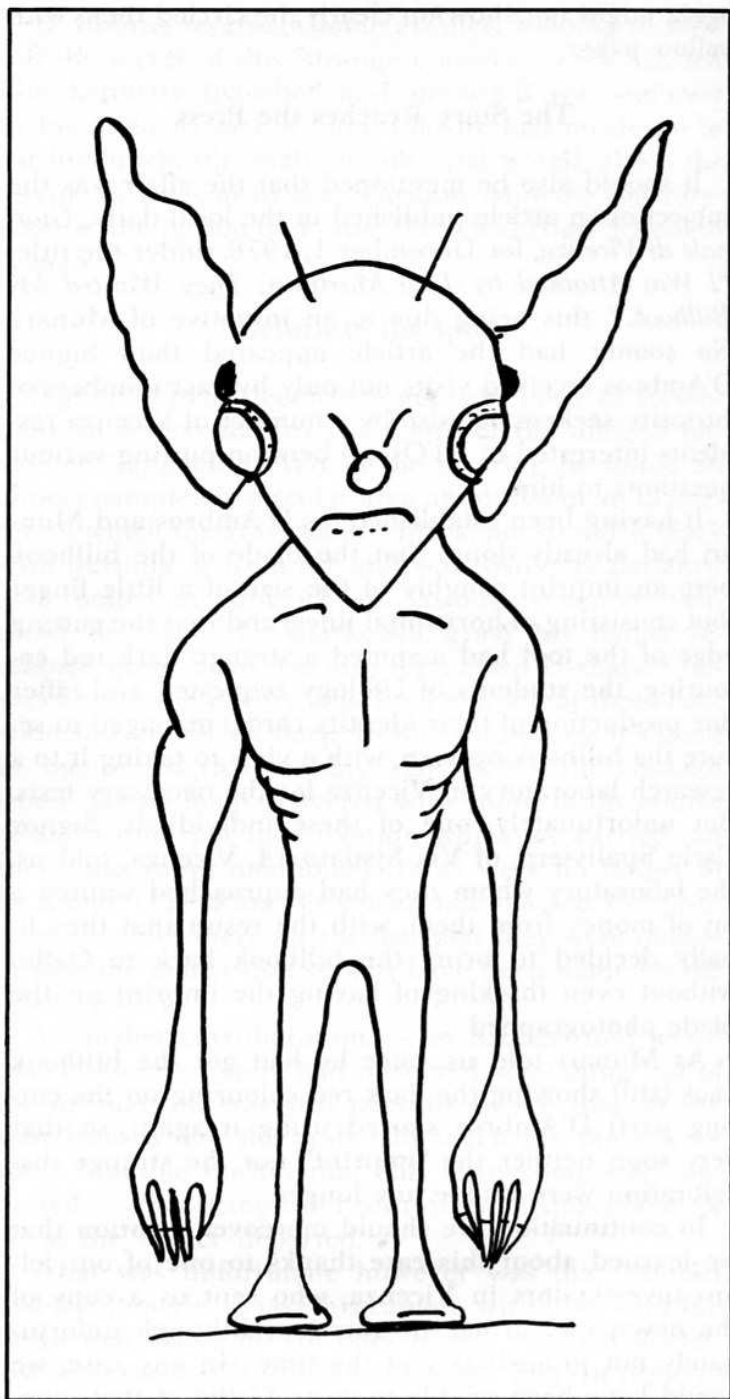


Fig. 4. The Kelly-Hopkinsville creature, sketch by Bud Ledwith (From Dr. J. Allen Hynek: *The Hynek UFO Report*).

Object Seen by a Woman

On November 24, 1978, Maria Borsato Ksáusa, born in March 1939, was proceeding in her own car from Marostica (Vicenza) where she has her principal work in the Medicines Depot of the Hospital, to Crosara, a small town on the Asiago Plateau, where she lives and where she owns a restaurant with a public bar. At about 12.15, as she was going up the winding

stretch of road between Capitelli and Crosara, at the very moment when she was intently observing the hills overlooking the winding route and taking in the autumnal tints of the woods, she observed, the day being a fine clear one, with no wind and with good visibility, an 'object' with the features of a large oval balloon, with no projections, which was moving, not very fast, through the sky at, as she put it, "half the height of the hills." The lower part of it was dark and of a decidedly metallic appearance, while the upper area was of an intense orange colour, bordering on red, almost like the rear reflectors of a car. In its central part the 'object' had a light-coloured band, of the same shade as asbestos, which clearly divided the two differently coloured zones, and the 'object' appeared to her to be longer and higher than the helicopters observed by her on other occasions.

It was moving, apparently without producing any sound, on a horizontal course northwards, all the time skirting the hills lying on her right, that is to say, going into the valley of Santa Caterina di Lusiana, which lies between Gallio and Lusiana. The sighting, which lasted for about five minutes, was of course from inside the travelling car, and was consequently not unbroken. The witness said that there were also other cars on the road during the sighting.

Object Seen by Bus-driver

The husband of this lady Maria Borsato Ksausa, hearing that a certain Signor Franco Busa, a driver of the "SIAMIC" firm, had seen 'something anomalous', related what his wife, in her turn, had seen. So in this way the report of the sighting reached a reporter on the staff of the *Giornale di Vicenza*, who thought it would be a good idea to interview Signora Maria Ksausa by telephone. (We must mention straight away that the "SIAMIC" driver, who lives on the Viale Europa in Lusiana, would not agree to our suggestion that we interview him at some suitable opportunity, saying that the publication of the affair in the *Giornale di Vicenza* had already brought him repeated ridicule from his fellow-townsmen.) However Signor Busa did summarily confirm to us that he had seen 'something strange', and we shall therefore report it here with all the necessary caution and reserve, just as it was described in the *Giornale di Vicenza*:—

Signor Busa had just left Crosara in the vehicle with which he operates a public bus service, and was driving towards Santa Caterina when, coming round a bend, he observed a strange 'object' apparently stationary in the air on the edge of a wood towards Lusiana, which is the most southerly of the seven townships on the Asiago Plateau. Lying to the south of Gallio, from which it is distant about 12 kms. as the crow flies, it is about 3 kms. E.N.E. of Crosara. His attention being centred on his driving, a particularly

vital matter on those mountain roads, he was unable to observe the 'object' in detail. In fact he simply told the reporter of the *Vicenza* paper that it was 'oval' in shape and almost entirely of a reddish-orange colour, so vivid that for a moment he thought the woods were on fire. The unwonted 'object' was also seen by a young lady who was in the motor-coach driven by Busa. The thing was approximately above Mt. Xàusa, and came in sight two or three more times according to where the coach was on the road, and then after that both of them lost sight of it. (For the reason already given above, we have not been supplied with either the time of the sighting or the name of the young lady in the coach.)

Object Seen by Family

Signor Giovanni Pertile, born in 1933 and residing in Marchesane, at No. 24, Via Rivana Bassa, in a district of Bassano Del Grappa (Province of Vicenza), had got up at about 5.30 on the morning of November 24, 1978. While he was performing his ablutions, he noticed a strange 'phenomenon' in the sky. He was no stranger to these kinds of 'experiences' since, as he told us, he had seen what was presumed to be a UFO in the sky over Prague sometime around 1970 and two strange luminous 'things' in the sky over Marchesane on August 5, 1977, all three occasions, as he said, being at around 3.00 a.m., when he had to get up early in view of his profession of truck-driver. Perceiving that it would be a good moment to have his wife and children believe him, he decided to awaken the whole family.

Thus it was that his wife, Giuseppina née Bonato and his daughter Isabella and his son Daniele were all able to observe a round 'thing', brighter than the headlight of a motor-vehicle and with indistinct contours, stationary in the East at a position of about 45° from the horizon and at a distance that it was not possible to estimate. It had a reddish-orange central nucleus and a white halo around it. It remained like that for a few seconds, and then it grew larger, to more or less the apparent size of the full Moon. Then it turned completely white and immediately after that it was in another position, remaining there for a few seconds. The 'thing' kept on doing this repeatedly, always describing a 'triangular trajectory' and returning to its original starting point. It must be emphasised that the atmospheric conditions were of the very best and the phenomenon remained visible in the sky for twenty minutes over an area of the celestial vault corresponding to a diameter of some 15° — so much so that Signor Pertile was able to take some photographs of it with his Konica Autoreflex A with normal

(Continued from page 19)

A NEW BOOK ON THE UFO SITUATION IN CHINA

FSR has now made contact with the UFO researchers on the Mainland of China, and is receiving their journal, FEIDIE TANSUO (Fei-Tieh T'an-So, *Journal of UFO Research*), published in Lanzhou (Lanzhou), N.W. China. Its first issue, dated February 25, 1981, selling at Y 0.30 (its print was said to be 300,000!) was allegedly sold out in no time. However the merest cursory examination of the journal (in size and format resembling TIME Magazine) shows that No. 1 was taken up almost entirely with translations of congratulatory messages from foreign investigators or with generalized discussions of "Life in Space", etc. Of real reports from China of any great interest (other than the run-of-the-mill "lights in the sky") we have seen little so far, and one may doubt whether we shall see anything very spectacular published in that quarter, if only because of the strong and evident Marxist fear of "being laughed at" or of stepping out of line. One particular sky phenomenon reported in the journal is however a sort of gigantic "Catherine Wheel" in the sky, of which both photographs and sketches are given. This is interesting, as there was a recent Swedish report of something apparently identical, which we hope to publish in due course.

Establishment of C.U.R.O.

In the autumn of 1982, Mr Paul Dong (real name LIN Wen-Wei), the representative in the U.S.A. of the FEIDIE TANSUO and the scientific adviser to its publishers, the *China UFO Research Organization* (CURO), announced that the group had now gathered a total of 600 Chinese UFO sightings of all dates, which they proposed to translate into English and publish in due course.

The Assistant Editor of FEIDIE TANSUO is a 42-year-old Chinese journalist named SHI BO, born in Shanghai and now working in Peking. A typical feature of this gentleman (the Chinese are the world's most brilliant linguists while the Japanese are probably the worst) is that, although he has scarcely ever set foot outside of China (not an easy thing to do these days, Comrades!) he writes perfect French.

Although the evidence for "ufological phenomena" runs in abundance right through the vast literature and historical records of China (the writer of this note was unfortunate enough to see a UFO himself over Western China in the summer of 1941 and has since paid a heavy price for it) the Chinese did not even become aware of the "UFO Problem" until the more acute abominations of the so-called "Cultural Revolution" were over — in other words not until about

1978 (more than thirty years after Kenneth Arnold's famous sighting which initiated the UFO furore in the Western world).

In September 1978 Shi Bo started to set up a UFO reporting network throughout China, and even began to make contact with researchers in the U.S.A.: — that centre, as Aimé Michel observes, of all that is evil and imperialistic and reactionary in the eyes of the Comrades. Shi Bo also made contact with Henri Bastide in France, which in turn led to a suggestion that he write a book on the UFOs in China. This he has now done, and the work duly appeared early this year (Mercure de France, Paris) under the title *La Chine et les Extra-terrestres*, with a preface by Aimé Michel. The book has footnotes added by a French scientist of high repute who, not surprisingly, wishes to remain anonymous "in view of the venomous and personal quarrels so characteristic of UFO researchers".

(What a wise chap.)

Curious current "freedom" in China

Ruminating on this curious "loosening up" in China on UFOs, just at the time when everywhere else there is a clamping down on them, Aimé Michel speculates that it might indicate that the Chinese authorities are doing this deliberately in order to break an American-Soviet "concordat" on silence about the UFOs. He may of course be right, but it is surely far, far more likely that the new Chinese Ruling Class have hitherto been much too busy oppressing their own people to dwell upon or learn about UFOs, and that when in due course they do find out a little more about them they won't lose much time in putting an end to all this nonsense of UFO investigation just as is being done in Russia where (to our immense pride) FSR was recently banned from the mails. (Though if you do absolutely have to see FSR in connection with your work, you can still travel to Moscow from Siberia or Kazakhstan or wherever you are, and "sign the book", and be permitted to consult us in the august precincts of the USSR Academy of Sciences who, for some very curious reason, still take quite a few copies of each issue of our journal!)

Similarity of Chinese and foreign UFO reports

As Aimé Michel emphasises, what is most striking about Shi Bo's book is the fact that, although the thousand-million-odd Chinese know virtually nothing about the great world outside, have never heard, until recently, of UFOs, and have never read or heard of

any of the foreign reports of UFOs over these past 36 years, nevertheless their eyewitness accounts of UFO sightings, as gathered by Shi Bo and his friends, are more or less *identical* with what has been reported throughout the rest of the world. So the psychosis is a very interesting one. As Aimé Michel comments: "*Un fait massif, stupéfiant, dont il faudra désormais tenir compte.*" ("A massive, astounding fact of which it will be necessary to take account in future.") China had always been a world apart — but now even more so under its new tyrants. Our clever sceptics will have to explain how this figment of the mind, the "UFO", could have appeared and taken root in China precisely as it has done elsewhere in the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe and with (so far as we can see) precisely the same features. "*Mental contagion*" and "*infiltration of decadent western bourgeois ideas*" is no doubt the answer. *Like jeans. And pop music.*

Shi Bo's book has a dozen UFO photos and several sketches — all very run-of-the mill and inconclusive, just about what we have seen from the rest of the world, except perhaps for the gigantic "Catherine-Wheel firecracker", which may possibly be something new?

Chapter 1 deals with reports received from the Chinese Army; Chapter 2 covers reports prior to 1980, and Chapter 3 describes a UFO wave in China in 1981. Chapter 4 deals exclusively with reports of humanoids and close encounters, and as many folk realize that these are the kernel of the UFO problem I shall confine myself to giving here a résumé of this one chapter.

Humanoid and close encounter cases

1. "A Man with a big Head". End of August 1971. Szechuan Province, Far West of China (probably in the vicinity of the city of Chungking).

An oldish peasant named Zhang Rongchang was on guard over a field of maize. Suddenly, at noon, as he was on the road to the village to get his lunch, he perceived a man with a huge head approaching. When they were no more than five or six metres apart, the entity halted. Alarmed, Zhang shouted twice: "*What do you want?*", but got no reply. He said the entity looked well proportioned and very human in general appearance apart from the head. It was wearing a thick, one-piece "Space-suit" type of garment, from feet to neck. This garment seemed to be made of metallic sheets which shone so brightly in the sunlight that it dazzled Zhang and made it difficult for him to see many features of the being such as the arms and legs, etc. The gait of the being was stiff and totally silent, but it walked more rapidly than humans do. His huge head was three times the size of a normal human head, and encased in a helmet, so that the witness could see no details of the facial features. Terri-

fied, the peasant took to his heels and fled. After running some distance, he stopped and looked back, but the creature had mysteriously vanished. Zhang gave the alarm in the village and some of the younger peasants sallied out to investigate, but found nothing.

The experience left Zhang Rongchang prostrated with shock and his fear and tension never left him. His health collapsed completely, and he died in January 1972.

(Shi Bo admits that he has no doubt whatsoever about the veracity of this case, *but he also admits that he did not dare to publish it in FEIDIE TANSUO.*)

2. "A Luminous Black Man." July 29, 1974. Lanzhou (Lanchow) Gansu Province (Far N.W. China).

Ke Jingzhi, a student at the construction workers' polytechnic at Lanzhou, met a luminous black being in 1974 but was far too frightened to mention it to anybody until he heard of the appearance of the journal FEIDIE TANSUO. (It happens to be published in Lanzhou. G.C.)

At about 9.00 p.m. on July 29, 1974, in the district of Genqing (Gansu Province), Ke was walking through some vegetable gardens to the workers' canteen for his evening meal when he beheld a tall robust man (about 1 m. 80), all black, standing right in front of him. As it was dark he could see no facial features, but the entity was plainly visible in the darkness because its whole body was faintly luminous. Ke thought it must be another peasant coming to inspect the irrigation system, and shouted: "Who's there?" The luminous entity remained motionless and silent. Ke then shouted: "Come here, or I'll knock your block off!" At once the entity began to glow more brightly, and then he vanished into the nearby tall grass, where Ke sought for him for some time in vain. Then, overcome with panic, Ke Jingzhi fled.

Owing to the so-called "Cultural Revolution" then in full spate, Ke did not dare to tell anybody. But, two days later, two of the leaders of his production-brigade reported that they had encountered a black man, faintly luminous, at precisely the same spot. After that, all the peasants were in such a state of panic that nobody dared to go near the vegetable gardens even in broad daylight. Not long afterwards, Ke Jingzhi saw a copy of FEIDIE-TANSUO, and *finding in it an article about M.I.B.'s in the U.S.A.*, decided to report his experience to the journal.

3. "A Man in Black." 1963. Yangquan, Shansi Province.

Li Jingyang, a worker of Shansi Province, told a journalist who was investigating UFO reports that, in 1963, when aged six, he was playing with some other boys in the street among mine-workers' houses near Yangquan, when they saw a shining, silvery disc hang-

ing stationary and silent in the air very close to them. It was about seven or eight metres wide and shaped like one plate reversed on top of another plate. No portholes or windows were visible. It looked hermetically sealed and its metallic surface was very smooth. The boys surmised it must be some new type of aeroplane.

The next day, when he was alone on the street, a very tall man dressed entirely in black came up to Li Jingyang and barred his path, and demanded to know whether he had seen a disc in the sky on the previous day? The boy did not understand at first, so the question was repeated. The boy replied: Yes, he had seen a disc. The man in black raised his right arm and pointed to the precise area of the sky where the disc had been, and asked: "*Was it there?*" The boy answered: Yes. Thereupon the M.I.B. advised him never to tell anyone else what he had seen, and refused to let the boy pass until he had extracted a promise from him to this effect.

Describing this M.I.B., the witness said the creature's skin was extremely dark, but he recalled few other details. He added that many other people in the neighbourhood saw the M.I.B. and everybody was discussing him and his queer behaviour. When the M.I.B. walked, it was "in a mechanical fashion", and when he spoke, his mouth did not move. When he vanished from sight, he did so suddenly, turning a corner.

When questioned, Li Jingyang said he felt sure that the black entity was connected with the disc he had seen.

(Shi Bo and his colleagues were very, very loth to publish this one too, until it dawned upon them how often precisely similar cases had been recorded in the U.S.A and Europe!)

4. Three Trips in a UFO. May 1-3, 1981. Peking.

The name of the protagonist in this case ("A"), is being kept secret. He is a man who already took a great interest in such matters as UFOs and Parapsychology. He told investigators from the C.U.R.O. that at the end of April 1981 he went from his home town to Peking, where he was lodged in a hostel of the research institute for whom he worked.

One day, along with a woman ("B"), and another man ("C"), both of whom have extraordinarily unusual psychic powers ("B", for example, reads Chinese characters with her ears), he took part in an experiment to try to contact a UFO by telepathy. He got no answer, it seems, but "B" heard a voice saying: "*You will receive the answer tonight.*"

On the night of May 1, 1981, "A" went to bed before 9.00 p.m., sleeping in a hostel dormitory with many others. Suddenly a voice whispered in his ear: "*Our craft is too small for two people. When you come aboard, we will put you under hypnosis.*"

A UFO then entered the room, passing right

through the wall of the building, and a beam of light shot out from it and seized "A" and took him into the UFO, which then slowly rose into the sky and finally moved off at high speed.

Through a porthole "A" viewed the pitch-black sky speckled with stars. (The porthole was constantly opening and closing.)

He looked around him in the circular chamber and noted that everything was bathed in light as though it were broad day.

In the centre of the compartment there was a screen showing constellations and stars. Seated at the screen was a blonde girl, who said to him: "As a reward for your ardour in studying the UFOs we are taking you today for a trip through the immensity of Space." She then advised him to do the minimum of talking and concentrate on watching. He replied that he was feeling an uncomfortable sensation of *suppression* (French *suppression*: presumably what is meant is *pressure*? G.C.) But no sooner had he said this than he began to feel quite all right again.

The UFO soon approached a launching area. The blonde girl requested several times permission to land, but was refused each time. The UFO meanwhile was circling around over the launching area. Looking out, "A" saw that the area below was covered with lights, and that many UFOs of various shapes were standing parked near the control-tower. (Apart from the girl, he said he saw no other extraterrestrials.)

Half an hour later he was returned to the place from where they had taken him.

Second UFO Trip (May 2/3, 1981)

During the night of May 2, while he was asleep, "A" again heard the voice inviting him to enter the UFO, and felt himself lifted up by some unknown force and taken into the craft through a porthole.

This time he saw two girls there, two real Chinese girls from Peking. He seemed somehow to know them both, and yet could not recall their names.

The same blonde girl as before was also there and came forward to greet them, saying:

"Today, you will be able to see your own ancestors, and see the original form of the Earth. You will also be able to verify Einstein's Theory."

On the screen before them, the three Chinese passengers now beheld a series of images retracing the various epochs of China's ancient history, concluding with a view of the Earth as it used to be.

Meanwhile, in the twinkling of an eye, the UFO had again arrived over the launching area, and this time the permission to land was granted.

When the UFO landed, a group of Extraterrestrials (who quite resembled Terrestrials) approached the landed craft. "A" disembarked, and found himself being transported through the air. He was then set down on a slab and subjected to a detailed physical examin-

ation involving the use of instruments. After that he was taken back to his seat inside the UFO.

Next day, May 3, "A" saw "B". She had nothing to tell him, but her younger brother had a strange thing to relate. He said that, on the previous evening, he had seen a large flying craft which came and landed in his bedroom, and from it had emerged several men dressed in one-piece garments and carrying surgical instruments in their hands. They then laid him down on his bed and opened up his stomach and then sewed it up again instantly, and departed, having uttered not a word. ("B's" brother made a sketch of the craft and gave it to "A".)

The mother of "B" also testified to the C.U.R.O. researchers that she had heard a humming noise coming nearer and nearer until finally it seemed to enter the house, and finally it died away a few minutes later.

Third UFO Trip. May 3/4, 1981

In the night of May 3/4, "A" had a long dream, in which he was chatting with some of the chief people in his Research Institute. Suddenly, somebody gave him a push. He opened his eyes, and saw a man standing there before him. This man's entire body was covered with short grey hairs and his skin looked like that of a mouse. And he had terrifying long teeth. He waved an arm and at once "A" rose up into the air and floated to the UFO, which was standing on the ground just outside the window.

Twenty minutes later the UFO landed again on the aliens' landing area and, guided by the man with the hairy "mouse skin", "A" was given a conducted tour of the place, where he saw many more "mouse-skin" creatures who were all busily engaged in the job of UFO maintenance. Then he was once more taken back into the craft in which he had come. [Compare these "mouse-skin", hairy creatures with long teeth to the creatures in the Italian report on "rat-faced" entities on page 14 of this issue. G.C.]

On the return trip to Earth, the blonde girl chatted with "A" for five minutes, and he put to her a series of questions:

Q. "Why don't you want to enter boldly into contact with Terrestrials?"

A. "Because there are wars on the Earth. We are

devoted to peace. We don't want to cause harm to others."

Q. "How much is your technology ahead of ours?"

A. "By three or four thousand years."

Q. "I have just seen all your UFOs on the launching area. You have lots of them. Could you offer us one for our scientific research?"

A. "This request is acceptable, but at the moment we don't have any craft to spare. We will satisfy your request in the near future."

Q. "Since you are able to know mankind's past history, no doubt you are able to know its future also?"

A. "Certainly. But I must tell you straight away not to say a word about it to anybody. If not, we shall take severe measures against you."

In view of this warning, "A" refuses to reveal the rest of the conversation.

As regards the appearance of the UFO, "A" drew a sketch of it, showing two rows of portholes. The craft consisted of one 'saucer' with a second smaller 'saucer' reversed on top of it.

In November 1981, "A" was ill for several days with a feverish chill. When he was better, he heard a voice one night saying:

"We inhabit a planet. We want to exchange scientific information with Terrestrials, with a view to raising the technological level of the Earth, for your civilization is too backward in Space."

"A" is now back in his home in Xian (Hsi-An, far N.W. of China) and he realizes that his nervous system is badly deranged. He gets frequent headaches. Medical examinations have established that he is suffering from a neurosis, whereas, previously, working as a scientific researcher, he had always been in good health with a normally functioning nervous system. Today (October 1981) he is having to attend hospital regularly for treatment.

The chapter on Humanoids ends as follows:

"We beg our readers not to laugh after reading these accounts, because those countries where Ufological research is developing most fruitfully *are also producing such reports*. There are hoaxes, yes. But, side by side with hoaxes, there are always serious reports too."

G.C.

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In these continuing hard times we need all the help you can give.

POSTSCRIPT TO THE REPORTED ARGENTINIAN CRASH-LANDING OF 1950

IN *Close Encounters of an Unthinkable and Inadmissible Kind* (FSR Vol. 25, No. 4, July-August 1979) we gave a brief note about the report carried by the Venezuelan paper *El Universal* of May 7, 1955 to the effect that, in 1950, near Bahía Blanca in Argentina, an Italian-born architect named Bessa, formerly an Italian Air Force pilot in World War II, had come upon a crash-landed disc containing three charred bodies about 3 feet high. (An earlier account of this case was given on page 4 of FSR Vol. 1, No. 4 of July/August 1955 and had reached us via the *APRO Bulletin*.)

In a letter dated August 14, 1982, which we have only just come across in the accumulated back-log, and which was not dealt with earlier owing to the illness of Charles Bowen, we now find that Mr. Richard W. Heiden of Milwaukee, Wis., has the following comment on this case, and we think it important to place it on record here:—

"As translator/collaborator with Sr. Roberto E. Banchs of Argentina in his book *Los OVNIS y sus Ocupantes* (*The UFOs and their Occupants*) I am very interested in this case which was reported on pp. 9-10 of FSR Vol. 25, No. 4.

My other sources are C. Lorenzen's *The Great Flying Saucer Hoax* (pp. 54-56) and *The Startling Evidence for the Invasion from Outer Space* (pp. 58-60 — the witness is referred to as "Dr. B.", but Coral Lorenzen says his identity is known). I also used her article in Ray Palmer's *FSS* of December 1958 (pp. 26-34), where the name of the Italian witness was given as Enrique Carotenuto Bossa. Another source was *Saga's 1975 UFO Annual*, p. 93 (Lucius Farish told me that his source had been Palmer's *FSS*). I also had Leonard Stringfield's *Situation Red* (pp. 80-83.) Len Stringfield told me that "Botta" was the pseudonym that the publisher had requested him to use. And there was also a letter in Nahon's *Le Courier Interplanetaire* (No. 15, p. 2), from "Enrico Bossa" of Caracas. Editor Nahon added, in a footnote: "He has requested us not to make his surname public."

There are some discrepancies in the various versions as to the precise date and the place of the incident, and we have these three versions of the name, *Bessa*, **Bossa*, and *Botta*. If anyone can throw any further light on this case I shall be very grateful." Richard W. Heiden.

NOTE

**Bessa* may conceivably have been a simple misprint

that crept in somewhere along the line for *Bossa*. In any case, it seems evident that all the versions, *Bessa*, *Bossa*, *Botta*, "Dr. B", are a cover-up, and that the true name has not been divulged. What also seems evident, moreover, is that although the incident allegedly took place in Argentina in 1950, the witness was residing in Venezuela at the time when his story was made public in 1955.

No "American Monopoly"

As will be noted, this alleged crash-landing in Argentina in 1950 is *additional* to all those listed so far (total tentatively 22) by Leonard Stringfield in his three *Research Status Reports*. Of these 22 cases, *three* are described by him as foreign, namely: (1) The British case reported by Dorothy Kilgallen and said to have taken place before the end of World War II; (2) a case at Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1953; and (3) another Argentinian case from the year 1978, when an object crashed in mountainous terrain and was retrieved by the U.S. Air Force. This cannot be our Argentinian case, which was allegedly 28 years earlier, not in mountainous terrain, but on the flat *pampa* lands around Bahía Blanca.

Our Argentinian case is certainly an interesting one not only for its very early date and its great resemblance in respect of quite minor details to many of Stringfield's reports, but also because it should come as a further refutation of the stupid claim which we have heard put around so much lately that "*Stringfield cannot possibly be telling the truth because none of his cases are outside the USA.*" There have in fact also been rumours of crashed craft (unfortunately without details so far) from both China and Russia. With the South African case and the British case revealed to the American columnist Dorothy Kilgallen by Lord Mountbatten at a cocktail party in London in May 1955 (see our original report in FSR Vol. 1, No. 3, July/August 1955) plus the two reports from Argentina, it would seem that we now have a total of *four* alleged UFO crashes outside the territory of the United States.

The Alleged Landing at Cosford, England

A British correspondent wrote recently to say that we should also not overlook the case of the UFO that came down on the tarmac at the RAF Training Camp at Cosford, near Wolverhampton, in 1964. (See *A Landing at Cosford*, in FSR Vol. 10, No. 2, March/

April 1964). However, as the very title of Waveney Girvan's article makes plain, that report (if true) related more probably to a brief touch-down and not to a crashed craft, for the Padre at the RAF Camp was

quoted as having said at the time that the two Royal Air Force recruits who were the witnesses in the case had "*fled in terror when they saw a trapdoor on the upper part of the craft begin to open.*" EDITOR

AN ENCOUNTER WITH "RAT-FACES" IN ITALY

(continued from Page 19)

focus lens, and also filmed it for a few seconds with his German ciné-camera. Unfortunately the spool was broken, so he got no photos, but the ciné film, in colour, turned out well.

Mystery Visitor Demands Negatives

After this sighting had been published in the *Giornale di Vicenza* for Saturday, November 25, 1978, a man describing himself as an Air Force Officer visited the witnesses and asked whether, in order to check up on certain points, he might have the film and also, if possible, the negatives of the photos taken of the two 'lights' seen on August 5, 1977 (referred to above), promising to return everything as quickly as possible. Whoever this individual really was (it should be borne in mind that he was in civilian clothes and that Pertile did not ask him to produce any identity papers) the fact remains that he did not respect his promise, for he was never seen again.

Another Photograph

Again, still on November 24, 1978, at about 4.00 p.m., Signor Giancarlo Ceccone, a photographer with the *Giornale di Vicenza*, took a series of photographs of the Sant' Eusebio Primary Schools, in an outlying section of Bassano del Grappa. The photos were to illustrate an article to be published on the following day, so he developed them immediately. As he told us, he noticed that in one of the photos something was visible that should not have been there. He at once made an enlargement of that part of the photo and obtained a somewhat curious image, which was published in the paper on November 25. For the moment let it suffice for us to say that Signor Ceccone has signed a declaration for us in which he states that the photograph in question is not the result of any photomontage or hoax perpetrated by himself.

Conclusions

Consequently the alleged episode at Gallio is bolstered

by numerous collateral testimonies which would tend to support the high degree of reliability and sincerity honestly accredited to Signor Angelo D'Ambros.

In particular, the fact must be remembered that, shortly after Signor D'Ambros had observed that strange 'object' and its two presumed occupants, a number of people telephoned to the *Giornale di Vicenza* — unfortunately without giving their names and addresses — to report things they had seen, and without knowing what Signor D'Ambros of Gallio said he had seen in the woods at Gastagh. Some of these eyewitnesses averred in fact that they had seen an 'object' emerge from the Gastagh woods, and go towards Marostica (to the south-east) and that it had the same features as were described by Signora Borsato Ksaus. Others affirmed that they had observed it stationary near the mountains close to Crosara, and that it had then vanished in the valley of Santa Caterina di Lusia.

Furthermore, we must bear in mind that the 'object' observed by Signora Ksaus had a shape and colours that, in substance, strikingly resemble those of the 'object' described by Signor D'Ambros. Consequently all the circumstances would serve to indicate that the alleged 'event' at Gallio was a "first-class UFO case", that is to say, a case to be set alongside those other happenings for which in actual fact there exists no possibility whatsoever of a traditional, conventional clarification. Owing to the prolonged duration of the encounter — four to five minutes — and the allegedly singular behaviour of the strange "beings", the case of Signor Angelo D'Ambros is destined to become one of the best-known and most enigmatic "Close Encounters of the Third Kind", just as has happened with the Kelly-Hopkinsville case.

The alleged event at Gallio presents features that are sharply at variance with the theory that would attribute the UFO Phenomenon — recognised as objectively real — either wholly or in part, to the carefully concealed presence of extremely modern and extremely complex terrestrial weapons and devices. On the contrary, it is evident that it would lend strong support to the theory which asserts the presence here of UFO occupants of unknown but in any case non-terrestrial origin.

MORE EARLY BRAZILIAN REPORTS

From Dr. W. Buhler's *SBEDV Bulletin* No. 5 (September 1958). (Translation from Portuguese.)

1. Huge UFO seen between Santos & São Paulo

According to a detailed report in the São Paulo paper *O Jornal* of August 12, 1958, a man named Arlindo Alves was driving in his car along the Via Anchieta Highway, from São Paulo to Santos, one of the closing days of June 1958. He had with him his wife and small daughter. The child suddenly cried out and drew their attention to a huge shining thing "like a big steel house there beside the road!" He pulled up and they all got out to take a look, and found that it was an enormous UFO, floating just a few feet above the ground.

He hailed various other passing motorists, and soon there was a tremendous traffic hold-up on this great

Brazilian highway. Large numbers of people observed the UFO, but it was impossible to approach it closely owing to the great heat emitted by it. It was no more than 2 ft. or so from the ground, and remained there for several hours.

The Traffic Police on duty on the Highway called the Highway Engineers Department in São Paulo who at once dispatched a team of engineers and technicians to the spot, which was only just outside the City (at kilometre 8 on the Highway).

One of the engineers calculated the width of the hovering UFO at 143 metres. Another engineer took an impressive photograph of the craft. This photograph, needless to say, remained in the possession of the authorities and was not published.

The great machine had windows, and beings were seen moving about behind the windows, but nobody was seen to emerge.

Suddenly, without warning, after having been there for several hours, the great craft began to rise rapidly and vanished behind the hills. Almost immediately after that a jet aircraft of the Brazilian Air Force appeared, flying at a low altitude of only 1,500 or 2,000 metres. Eyewitnesses concluded that the UFO had detected the approaching aircraft.

(Continued on page 27)

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Beltinge, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 6PR England.



2. Brazilian farmer's house visited by UFO crew

According to a report in the São Paulo paper *O Jornal* of August 10, 1958, a farmer living near Ubatuba had reported that his home had been visited many times by extremely friendly, young blond men of medium height, always cheerful, always smiling, and never showing signs of fatigue or vexation. He said they often played and joked with his children, and he assumed that the young men were members of the Brazilian Air Force!

3. Huge UFO seen over South Brazilian State of Paraná

According to a report in the newspaper *Diário de Pernambuco* for August 16, 1958, travellers driving

along the Curitiba-Paranagua Highway had seen a huge, egg-shaped craft stationary in the sky. Windows were visible, some of which seemed to be opening or closing from time to time. On the lower side of the craft there seemed to be enormous balls, while on the top of what seemed to be the front of the craft there was something shaped like a pointed hat.

What seemed to be something fiery was seen falling from near the huge globes. It came down very near to the ground and eyewitnesses said they thought that "photographs were being taken."

Finally the craft climbed away and vanished rapidly in space. G.C.

RUSSIA: NAUGHTY HENRY GRIS SAYS IT AGAIN! "SOVIET SPACE-CENTRE KNOCKED OUT BY UFOs"

WHEN I was a very small boy we had a neighbour, a lady who had apparently once been certified as insane but who, to all outward appearances, was now perfectly normal provided you kept off the subject of *plums*. For she adamantly maintained that those fine great fruit on the big tree in her garden were *gooseberries*. If, however, you called them plums she would whip herself up into quite a lather. So long as you laid off the plums, all was sweetness and light.

I often think a somewhat similar situation seems to prevail in the USA with CSICOP (*The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal*). To CSICOP, whose members include Mr. Philip Klass and Mr. James Oberg, any talk of UFOs works like the proverbial red rag on the proverbial bull. Evidently they possess an enormous vested interest in the non-prevalence of UFOs. London radio listeners who heard the LBC *Nightline* programme on July 13, 1982, in which Lord Clancarty and I discussed our subject with Mr. Oberg and with science-writer Ian Ridpath, will recall that Mr. Oberg seems to claim to have investigated and exploded all known and recorded cases of UFO landings or close encounters. (He is evidently an extremely busy man.) He is also the author of the book *UFOs and Outer Space Mysteries*. This work was recently reviewed by the admirably objective Janet and Colin Bord in their *Bookshelf 17* (See FSR 28/5) and they opined:—

"James Oberg calls himself a sympathetic sceptic but it's a moot point whether he really is sympathetic."

A moot point indeed.

In Parts II and III of the articles on Dr. Feliks Zigel'

and the *Development of Ufology in Russia* (FSR Vol. 27, Nos. 4 and 5) I reported remarkable accounts of a huge UFO, and of landings, brought back from Russia by the Latvian-born (and therefore fluent Russian-speaking) American journalist Henry Gris, who claims that he got the material direct from Soviet astronomer Feliks Zigel', geophysicist Alexei Zolotov, and astrophysicist Sergei Bozhich.

The predictable CSICOP response to these accounts of Soviet UFO sightings and landings (particularly of the '*Glavnyy Objekt*' that reportedly hung around over Moscow for five minutes during the night of June 14, 1980, and over the USSR itself for a total of 40 minutes) was painful in the extreme, and was discussed in our Editorial in FSR 28/2.

Meanwhile Mr. Henry Gris, who is in correspondence with me and does not appear much perturbed by all the excitement, *has done it again...* For in a syndicated new report published on March 13, 1983 (I also have the full text as given in the Hongkong English paper *South China Morning Post*: credit and thanks to reader D. Lester of Leeds) he now makes the outrageous claim, which will upset CSICOP even more gravely, that, in a fresh visit to Moscow early this year, he again saw geophysicist Dr. Alexei Zolotov and astrophysicist Dr. Vladimir Azhazha, who informed him that, at 2.00 a.m. on June 1, 1982, two huge orange 'jellyfish-shaped' UFOs (remember the *Petrozavodsk 'jellyfish'?*) raided the chief Soviet Space Centre at Baikonur in Central Asia. One UFO hovered for 14 seconds above Launching Pad No. 1 and enveloped it in what looked like 'a silver-coloured shower.' Next day, large numbers of bolts and rivets were found lying be-

low, seemingly sucked out of the support towers of the main installation at Launching Pad No. 1. Welded sections had also come apart, and the whole giant Soviet Cosmodrome at Baikonur was consequently out of operation for the first two weeks of June 1982. The second UFO headed for the nearby Baikonur housing complex (60,000 Cosmodrome workers) and in a few seconds knocked out the panes in all the windows or drilled fine round holes in them.

No human injuries were claimed in either incident.

Dr. Alexei Zolotov told Henry Gris that he had been present in Baikonur at the time, staying in the Hotel Cosmonaut.

In a letter dated May 24, 1983, Mr. Gris informs me that James Oberg admits that Baikonur was right out of action for a fortnight in June 1982 and is 'baffled' and has no explanation. Says Gris: "Between the three launching-areas, Baikonur, Kapustin Yar, and Plesetsk (the new third, secret launching area north of

Moscow) with a total of some 80 launching towers between them, hardly a day passes normally without at least one firing into Space." He also says: "Oberg juggles a bit, and, hey presto, another UFO is 'explained'. I have however noted that, of late, he has grown a little less adamant — at least in his conversation with me. I propose to be back in Russia in September '83, when I should pick up the latest on their UFO sightings, plus new data on the Russian Space Programme — now entering a dramatic new stage, with man's first 'Space-Island' a definite reality in 1984 — once again, alas, under the Hammer and Sickle."

Well, there it is! If somebody is romancing, let us hope that we shall soon find out who it is.

As for CSICOP, there is further bad news for them from China, and we propose to report at length on this in our next issue. G.C.

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.

"A Warning To All"

(Translation from French)

Dear Sir, — Many thanks for your warm words for one of my articles about GEPAN. (It is all the more timely, because in fact I am advised by well-informed quarters that GEPAN is to be wound up shortly. In a word — another Condon.)

Thank you too for your share in getting my article published in Dr. Hynek's journal (CUFOS).

We are old hands at the game, always battling on the ramparts, since we are certain of the existence of the so-called "UFO Phenomenon" — a term we use because we don't have a better one. The name with which it is decked out has no bearing on its reality, which far transcends any appellation one can give it, as is proved by the book just published in France (Mercure de France), *La Chine et les Extraterrestres*, by the Chinese Ufologist Shi Bo of Peking, who reads, writes and speaks French. The preface is by Aimé Michel. It rather recalls

Aimé's own book, *"Mystérieux Objets Célestes"*. If you have not already done so, I urge you to read it, and I would like very much to see it translated into English. You will find Shi Bo's address in the book, and I think he also knows English.

Very cordially yours,

F. Lagarde,
(LUMIÈRES DANS LA NUIT),
9 rue Camille Desmoulins,
65000 Tarbes,
France

March 31, 1983

(Readers will find an extract from Shi Bo's book elsewhere in this issue. For the latest developments at GEPAN see our last issue, FSR 28/5. — EDITOR.)

The 'E.T.' Plague

Dear Mr. Creighton, — Your Editorial *The 'E.T.' Plague* (28/4) suggested that the feature films produced and directed by Steven Spielberg could be manipulating audiences into a too-

easy acceptance of 'uncouth and nasty' aliens and thus 'facilitating a take-over by something out of the Pit'. This chilling possibility gains in likelihood when we consider the curious system of metaphysics developing through all of Spielberg's films to date. Film reviews may seem out of place in FSR, but if Spielberg is a seminal influence in the formulation of a popular UFO concept with which we have to contend, it may be necessary to examine his ideology.

Spielberg's first film, *Duel* (1972), chronicled the troubles of a businessman on a long-distance drive dogged by a driverless Diesel truck bent on luring him into fatal accidents. This was followed by *Jaws* (1976) in which the 'death-machine' was resurrected as a marauding killer-shark, devouring millions at the box-office and spawning a huge spin-off industry that reflected a disturbing degree of popular veneration for this saw-toothed Shiva-like deity. The anti-human force that impelled the deadly Diesel truck of *Duel* evoked simple terror, but in

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MRS. SPENCER

We regret to announce the death, on July 9th at the age of 87, of senior staff member Ellen Spencer. Our Secretary writes: "When I joined the Company in November 1956, we rented a room at 1, Doughty Street, N.W.1., which was the office of printers James Upton. Since the Editor worked from his home, we gave up the room, and arranged to collect our incoming mail from their telephonist/receptionist Mrs. Spencer, who already attended to enquiries on our behalf. After retirement she continued to do this for us, and over many years her telephone number was our main point of contact with the public. Without her help, as well as that of others in our team who enable us to operate with the minimum of overheads, FSR would not have remained independent and solvent as it is today."

We wish to record our gratitude to Mrs. Spencer and our condolences to her family.

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**Artwork: Terence Collins
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Jaws audience reaction was manipulated to become an unhealthy fascination.

In *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (1978), the predatory impulse was concealed and the man-eating shark was transformed into a man-capturing saucer occupied by entities so cherubic and celestially-illuminated as to command adoration. 'UFO-believers' were portrayed as blessed with a childlike innocence and empathic clairvoyance that admitted them into the kingdom of heaven; they were not shown as oppressed by inexplicable forces and living in a kind of psychic backwater. In the closing scene the entities obligingly returned to Earth some victims of UFO-related disappearances; they did not restore to life, health or sanity victims of the more inclement alien incursions. *Close Encounters* made it clear that Spielberg knew a great deal about UFO phenomena but had carefully selected his facts to serve the ends of commercial cinema, a cosmetic cover-up and a quasi-mystical philosophy.

In *E.T.* the deification programme now elevates the alien to the status of the Son of God, no less. Scriptural allusions come thick and fast. After E.T.'s 'death' at the hands of a team of white-robed surgeons (theologians, 'doctors of the Church?') in a suggestively echoing cathedral-like atmosphere, led by a doctor with pronounced Semitic features (the high priest of the Sanhedrin that condemned Jesus?), the alien is 'resurrected' from a coffin with an egg-shaped window and prepares for his 'ascension' in the UFO. Elliot, the boy who first befriended E.T., lays his head upon the entity's breast (in the manner of John, the 'beloved disciple'). E.T. then invites Elliot to join him (as prior to his ascension Jesus invited John: 'Follow me'); at which the gov-

ernment agent with the ever-jangling bunch of keys (Peter bearing the keys to the kingdom?) looks askance (as did Peter query Jesus' invitation to John). When Elliot declines, E.T. marks his forehead (opens his 'third eye?') with his luminous finger and tells him: 'I'll be right here' (Jesus: 'I shall be with you always').

The meticulous care that has gone into the symbology and compelling visual effects of these films suggests that Spielberg is not so much naive as dedicated to a policy of inculcating naivety in the public mind. We see the systematic disguising of an 'evil' as a 'good' reaching its apotheosis in the creation of an 'irresistible' Messianic counterfeit. Spielberg achieves this by misrepresenting the real issues of the UFO problem while subversively juggling with religious archetypes (thus producing subconscious repercussions irrespective of consciously-held attitudes) and dressing-up the whole package as an emotionally coercive spectacle. So certain does he seem of the improbability of audiences unmasking his subliminal tricks that he indulges in a sardonic joke at the end of *E.T.*: the craft taking the alien 'home' is suddenly seen to be decorated around its circumference with a zigzag design that exactly reproduces the deadly dentures of *Jaws*! For those who have eyes to see, there is little doubt about where it's all coming from.

As is customary for one who does as he's told, Spielberg has become a rich man. It goes without saying that anyone trying to make a feature film about the crucial issues of the UFO enigma would be unlikely to raise tuppence-worth of backing, let alone profit from a multi-million dollar spin-off industry. Or might there one day be a market for Betty and Barney Hill sweatshirts, Falcon Lake transfers

and Villas Boas love-dolls?

Yours sincerely,
Malcolm Dickson,
25 Hey Street,
Sawley,
Long Eaton,
Nottingham NG10 3HA
16 April 1983

The Good/Zinsstag Book on Adamski

Dear Sir, — After having read the book, "George Adamski: The Untold Story" by Lou Zinsstag and Timothy Good, I wish to say, as a co-worker of the late George Adamski, that the opinions expressed in the book do not necessarily reflect mine.

I would also like to add that I have supplied no material whatever (photographs, text or letters of George Adamski to myself) to the authors for the purpose of their book. Any material in the book concerning myself was used without my knowledge.

May I ask you to publish this letter in your next issue of the *Flying Saucer Review*?

Sincerely yours,
May Flitcroft,
Formerly May Morlet

As one of the committee members of the Queensland Flying Saucer Bureau who initiated the 1959 world lecture tour of George Adamski, and further as one who has had the opportunity of speaking to those persons who knew him since the 30's as well as to study much of what he wrote and taught, I wish to add that I can no more support all the views expressed in the above book.

Keith Flitcroft,
c/o Berkenlaan 13,
B-2610 Wilrijk,
Belgium
2nd May 1983

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