

VOL. 34, NO. 4 (DECEMBER QUARTER, 1989)



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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

The international journal of cosmology and eschatology, and for the discussion of reports of unidentified flying objects and their alien occupants.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION (FOR FOUR ISSUES PER YEAR):-

UNITED KINGDOM: £12.00 (single copies £3.50 each) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA \$US30.00 (single copies \$8.00 each) ALL OTHER COUNTRIES: £15.00 (single copies £4.50 each) (US dollars payable in New York. We cannot accept US dollar cheques drawn on foreign banks outside the USA)

Overseas airmail extra: - USA \$10.00 All other countries £6

Overseas subscribers should remit by cheque drawn in Sterling on a bank in the United Kingdom, or by cheque in US dollars drawn in the USA only, or by International Money Order in Sterling. If remitting by Giro then FSR's account number is 356 3251.

> All mail, editorial matter and subscriptions should be addressed to The Editor, FSR Publications Ltd, PO Box 12, Snodland, Kent ME6 5JZ, England

> > Artwork: Eve and contributors

THE UFO REPORT 1990

Edited by TIMOTHY GOOD. Pub. Sidgwick & Jackson, London, 1989.

£7.99

(Order through a bookseller!)

(For those who read Spanish)

LOS OVNIS Y LA CIENCIA (UFOs AND SCIENCE)

by

V.J. Ballester and M. Guasp. (New, revised edition, 1989)

Pub. by Plaza y Janés, S.A. Barcelona, Spain.

(Order through a bookseller!)



Vol. 34, No. 4 (December, 1989)

STRANGE AND INTERESTING TIMES

 \mathbf{W}^{E} certainly are living through "interesting times", and assuredly much of what is happening surpasses by far all mere human comprehension.

On the one hand, the ever more vicious drug scene, the ever higher crime and murder and violence figures, the massive disturbance of the entire human psyche itself, combined with the gathering indications of outright demonic occupation and possession and crossbreeding, plus the sinister hints about alien underground bases and the alien treatment of human victims — surely all this, one must repeat, can augur no good whatsoever for human kind.

And yet, on the other hand, the sudden onrush of extraordinary and totally unforeseeable and unpredictable political and social changes inside the monstrous Soviet Evil Empire and within its East European serfdoms is also so remarkable that one can only stand and gaze in astonishment. Vast masses of humans are in convulsion, like the denizens of some disturbed ants' nest. And the high quality of the frenzy that plainly animates these millions, from Prague and Berlin to the Baltic and to the Ukraine and to the Caucasus — does not all this clearly show that the Human Spirit is on the march?

Surely all this must bring, at the very least to some, the strange feeling that the demonic features enumerated above are now starting to be counterbalanced — ever so subtly — by SOMETHING ELSE, something that must derive from a High Source. Something that our own old-fashioned, cultured, fuddyduddy forebears of the past century might surely have held to be from a Divine or at least an "Angelic" Source?

And then there is Fátima. All those who are familiar with the Fátima Story might do well to let their thoughts stray awhile to that, for the link between Russia and Fátima looks strange, and may perhaps be awesome.

And maybe not only are great political and social eruptions upon us, but, at an entirely different and far higher level, it also looks as though 1990 may well see the start of some of those juddering geophysical jolts that have been foretold by more than one wise soul as likely to occur in precisely these days. So — those that have ears — let them hear! Poor old Planet Gaia and her offspring are all in a bad way. For, as students of the Arcane have always known, there is evidence for a strange and terrifying bond between mankind's own "inner state" and the corresponding "inner state" of the Earth.

And — in conclusion — apologies are tendered for the lateness of this issue — due entirely to the enormous extra burden of all the material received out of Russia.

I — INTRODUCTION: NEWS FROM MUSCOVY

Gordon Creighton

There has been a "UFO Problem" in Russia and the USSR just as long as there has been a "UFO Problem" in the rest of the world. We know that there are quite a number of good Russian reports that date from as far back as at least the 1880s. And in fact the third issue of FSR (July/August 1955) contained my translation of a UFO report from the prestigious Soviet scientific journal PRIRODA ("NATURE"), which is published by the USSR Academy of Sciences and is the Russian counterpart of our scientific journal NATURE.

Ever since that date (summer of 1955), FSR has constantly been receiving Russian material about UFOs, by one route or another. Sometimes this material came in lengthy letters to me from my personal correspondent in Moscow, Arkadiy Tikhonov (probably long since gone from this world) or from other correspondents here and there. No doubt some of those early correspondents were writing at the instigation of, or under the control of, the USSR Academy of Sciences or one or other of the two Soviet counterintelligence and espionage organs, the KGB and GRU. (The Academy of Sciences of the USSR had itself been taking FSR regularly ever since 1963. See FSR 33/3, page 13.)

In addition, there was a period, of almost a decade, when, in London, I was myself in the privileged position of seeing daily almost the whole of the principal Russian press — including many newspapers and

journals not normally available to the world outside the USSR because there was (for Intelligence reasons) a Soviet ban on their "export".

So our link with the Soviet scene is not a new one. It has endured over many years, and it will suffice to consult our back issues to see that FSR has carried a long series of important articles about Ufology and UFO reports in Russia, containing more information on Russia than any other UFO investigation journal anywhere else in the world has ever done.

This year, however, we have even begun to see reports of Russian UFO stories and sightings published in the Soviet Government's own propaganda organ SOVIET WEEKLY, put out by the Novosti News Agency in London, and we recently carried one such report, about sightings at Konantsevo and other places in the Vologda Oblast' (Province) of Central Russia, in our last issue (FSR 34/3).

Then, on October 9, 1989, the semi-official Soviet News Agency TASS shook the appletree badly — and convulsed the whole outside world too — by reporting that a UFO had landed on the evening of September 27, 1989, in a park at Voronezh, a city of 900,000 inhabitants lying some 300 miles to the south-east of Moscow, and that its occupants had walked about and been seen by many people.

Our main file (still inevitably far from complete), containing merely the *foreign* reports and accounts of

these events at Voronezh, already runs to 90 large pages (A4 size). And, as stated, these are simply some of the British and American translated accounts, with a few from French, German, Spanish, and Japanese sources.

But a study of this file shows that the world — and the world press — have suffered an extremely nasty shock from the Voronezh story. Almost all of the reaction seems to have been quite hysterical — and this aspect of the matter is so interesting that I hope to devote another entire article soon to the *hysteria*. (Evidently there had been a general sense of confidence everywhere that the Russians, of all people, would never "let the cat out of the bag" so seriously as this!)

The reaction world-wide has consequently been, as stated, (1) hysteria. And, (2) a general attempt to make out that there was only one alleged sighting and one alleged (and phoney) landing story at Voronezh, whereas it seems clear that there were actually several, on several different days, in and around Voronezh, and that an awful lot of people did "see something there".

As for the reason why "the cat got let out of the bag" at Voronezh — we can at present merely speculate. So far, the two favourite theories in the West about it seem to be that either (1) some poor wight in Russia thought that glasnost 'really meant glasnost', and took the bit between his teeth (in which case he is surely in the GULAG by now!), or, (2), that things have now got so bad in poor old Mother Russia that someone at the top decided to try to take Ivan's mind for a while off the growing queues and the dwindling food supplies by releasing a story about UFOs and UFO occupants!

After the initial hysteria, steps were rapidly taken to kill the whole thing stone-dead, and this process was completed by the end of October. The TASS story about Voronezh seems to have been released on or about October 9, and by October 13, the top Soviet official paper PRAVDA ("TRUTH") had launched its counter-attack, slamming the local authorities at Voronezh for not having cracked down on the UFO story and stopped its dissemination. So far as we ourselves have yet seen, the main support for TASS's story came from the Soviet "intellectual" paper, Sovetskaya Kultura and — very curious this — from the October 22 issue of a journal put out in Moscow by the Soviet authorities for foreign readers, and issued under the titles of MOSCOW NEWS and NOUVELLES DE MOS-COU and also in several other languages. The Soviet

youth journal KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA was another one that gave plenty of support to the story — at any rate to begin with. But we will probably never know how many smaller or provincial papers also reported the Voronezh story.

PRAVDA's master-blast against UFOs came in a long article, "INOPLANETYANE V OBRADOVSKE" ("EXTRATERRESTRIALS AT GLEEVILLE") in their issue of October 15. We will give an abridgement of this fine piece of humorous writing in due course. PRAVDA also had more about "Goings-On in Gleeville" on October 19, and by October 30 we were finally able to read (MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English), (Tokyo), that a Soviet scientific commission "had concluded that there exists no verifiable proof of a landing by aliens last month in the town of Voronezh". (See full text of this report below.)

Meanwhile, what we at FSR have been able to establish, from our own massive material received from our own sources inside Russia (namely one of the largest Russian UFO investigation groups) and from our press coverage, both Soviet and foreign, is that the USSR has been inundated with a veritable "flap" or "wave" of UFO and poltergeistic phenomena throughout at least the whole of 1989, and besides" things seen in the skies" this also includes at least a dozen good, well-vouched cases of queer entities encountered walking around on the ground. All of which we shall also have to deal with in a separate report.

Since June 1989 we have received a further total of 71 pages of Russian typescript, mostly single-spaced, on A4 size sheets, and it will be quite a big job to boil all this down and extract the essentials. (This is the reason for the delay in getting out this issue of FSR.)

As regards the identity of our informants in Russia, we have to make the sad confession that we do not belong to the starry-eyed confraternity who believe that glasnost' is necessarily here to stay. We therefore do not propose to give their names or addresses.

One of the papers that they have sent us is an account of their own harassment, over past years, by the KGB and by the astronomers and scientists, and by the university and academic world in general. This too we shall translate and publish in due course.

So now, as starters, here is as detailed account as we can gather at present of the main story — the landing in the park at Voronezh on the evening of September 27, 1989.

II — THE UFO LANDINGS AT VORONEZH

Gordon Creighton ©

An announcement carried on October 9, 1989, by the semi-official Soviet News Agency TASS (always regarded throughout the world as the veritable "mouthpiece of the Kremlin"), and repeated on the following days by the "intelligentsia's" journal Sovetskaya Kultura, the youth journal Komsomolskaya Pravda, and several other papers, indicated that, at 6.30 p.m. on September 27, 1989 — a warm evening — an alien craft, a disc, or ball, or egg-shaped, had landed in a clearing in a park at Voronezh, a city of some 900,000 inhabitants lying 300 miles south-east of Moscow.

The place, Yuzhniy Park ("South Park"), is on the outskirts of the Levoberezhniy Suburb, near Mendeleev Street.

The event is claimed to have been witnessed by a number of boys and girls from the nearby School

No. 33, who were playing football, and also by a considerable number of adults — possibly as many as 30 or 40 — who were waiting at a near-by bus stop. (According to the versions gathered by the newspaper Sovetskaya Kultura and by two journalists sent specially to the spot to investigate on behalf of the Moscow News, it seems certain that — despite the subsequent persistent efforts of the world-press outside Russia to make out that only one landing had been alleged at Voronezh, and that its only witnesses were children, — the truth of the matter is that UFOs were seen at or around that area many times, and by many people, between at least September 21 and October 2. Many adult witnesses were subsequently interrogated about this by the Voronezh Militia (Police), and they said that they had seen craft - sometimes "bananashaped" and bearing an illuminated emblem or sign. Some of them also said that they had seen or encountered occupants. And these statements referred to days other than September 27. (The principal days mentioned, other than September 27, seem to have been September 21, September 23, September 29, and October 2).

The Children

Various reports seen by us give various names of children eyewitnesses — presumably because not all of the children were interviewed by any one journalist. The names we have collected are:—

BOYS

Roman Torchin (sixth form)
Vasya Surin (aged 11)
Denis Murzenko
Yuri Grinev
Yuri Sergachev
Roman Milkin
Volodya Startsev
Alyosha Nikonov
Oleg Chebotaryov (aged 9)
Zhenia Blinov (interviewed on TV)

GIRLS

Yuliya Shokholova Lena Sarokina (aged 11)

The Approach and the Landing of the Craft

When questioned, the children stated that about 6.30 p.m. they had observed a pinkish glow approaching in the sky, on a level course, and that when it was right above them they perceived it to be a deep red, ball-shaped or egg-shaped object. (Several adult witnesses, as already noted, spoke however of having seen a "banana-shaped" craft with an illuminated sign, but it is not at all clear, so far as we can see, whether this description related to September 27 or to one or other of the other days).

The object flew around in concentric circles above the children for a while, and then vanished for a few minutes. Then it reappeared, and began to hover above them. Then it started to descend. When it was close to the ground, a hatch about 3 m. high opened, and a burly silhouette appeared, more or less blocking the whole aperture. The movements of this being, which peered around, were slow. He seemed "to have no neck", and his head was very small, described as "like a small hemisphere set between the shoulders". Another witness spoke of it as "more like a knob than a head". The being allegedly had three luminous eyes, the central one being moveable, "swivelling around like a radar". His nose was a mere hole, and on his breast was a shield. After looking around, he closed the hatch. Then four "feet" came down, and the craft landed gently.

Size of the Craft

The machine is described as about 30 ft. wide. But one or two reports say "about 15 metres long, 4 m. wide, and 7 .m high". (It is difficult to wed this with "30 ft. wide". Do these second set of measurements relate to something seen in that same park on another day, as seems likely — maybe the "banana-shaped" machine?).

The Entities

When the deep red-coloured "ball" had finally

touched down and the hatch opened up again, the witnesses say that a total of three of the huge, "pinheaded" creatures stepped out, bringing with them what seemed to be a robot. Vasya Surin and other boys described the "pin-head" beings as between 3 m. and 4 m. high, in silvery coloured overalls and bronze-coloured boots. One of them gave a sort of push to the "robot", and set him moving, and then the whole party set off and strolled around the craft several times. One of the beings emitted "sounds", which seemed to be orders, and from his breast came a beam of light that delineated on the ground a number of luminous triangles, of about 30 cms. × 50 cms., which faded after a short while.

According to the *Sovetskaya Kultura's* version — if we have understood it aright — at this stage both the craft and the entities flipped into invisibility for five minutes or so, and then reappeared.

Boy "Zapped"

One of the boys cried out in fear, whereupon one of the beings "froze" him or "paralyzed" him with a glance from his glowing eyes. This particular being had a sort of "tube", about 50 cms. long, hanging at his side. (This sort of weapon has featured in several encounter reports from various parts of the world — particularly in the famous French case of Monsieur Maas at Valensole, and in some of the South American encounter cases.) The creature now pointed this "tube" at another of the boys (aged 16) and "zapped" him with a luminous beam, so that the boy vanished totally from the scene, to reappear again only after the alien craft and alien beings had departed!

(Some of the press reports from Russia indicated that the parents of this boy have not permitted any journalist to interview him.) The London Sunday Times (October 15) quoted a Mr Slava Martinov, a member of the local UFO study group, as stating that in fact most of the children eyewitnesses had not been permitted to testify before the Independent Enquiry Commission set up by the Voronezh authorities. (See more on this below.) Martinov said: "The parents all want their kids left alone." However, it seems that quite a lot of the children did talk to journalists, and of course all of the alleged statement by children eyewitnesses given in this article are claimed to have come through the journalists who went down to Voronezh to see them.

Ground Marks left by the UFO

The reports indicate that, at the spot where the craft had stood, a circular depressed area some 60 ft. wide was found, with four holes set in a rhombus pattern. Some versions said the four holes were some 15 cms. in diameter, and 4 cms. deep. (Lev Aksionov and Boris Zverev, the two journalists sent from Moscow to spend two or three days in Voronezh and write a detailed report for the English and French versions of *Moscow News*, were quoted as saying the holes were 25-30 cms. wide and 20-25 cms. deep.)

Local Official Investigation Committee Formed

Many reports described the local populace as very frightened. Within days, at the instigation of the local Parliamentary Deputy, Gennadiy Kabassin, the Mayor of Voronezh, Viktor Atlasov, and his assistant, Aleksandr Tsapin, set up an Investigating Committee, comprising scientists, criminologists, doctors, meteorologists (and even local UFO investigators!).

The press reports made mention of two different local "UFO investigation bodies", one being called the "Voronezh Branch of the Aleksandr Popov Scientific and Electronic Association", and the other one being called the "Voronezh Branch for the Study of Anomalous Phenomena". (We heard about the "Popov Society" years ago, and published a report on its activities. We knew in those days that its credentials sounded a bit phoney. Obviously the real UFO study group in Voronezh is the "Anomalous Phenomena Group". For our correspondents in Russia informed us recently that for years past they have been persecuted and badgered and chivvied and driven from pillar to post by the KGB, by the university academics, and by the astronomers and intellectuals, all because they insisted on calling themselves investigators of "NLOs" (Russian for "UFOs"). And in the end they were obliged to call themselves investigators of "ANOMALOUS PHENO-MENA"! Evidently a rose by any other name does not smell as sweet.

Genrikh Silanov

Prominent among the Voronezh Group of "Investigators of Anomalous Phenomena" there is a Mr Genrikh (= Henry) Silanov, and many of the press reports mention him. He runs an establishment with the official-sounding title of "Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory", but all the reports assure us that this is simply a private body run by Silanov. Silanov himself interrogated many of the eyewitnesses, both children and adults.

"Bio-Location" of the Site

Many of the foreign press-reports on the case described how the Russians talked about "bio-location" having been utilized in order to confirm the precise landing-site. All the American and British press agencies and journalists confessed to being baffled by this term, and complained that the Russians had given no explanation as to what it meant!

"Bio-location" is simply the Russian term for what we call in English "dowsing". Being second to nobody in the entire world in their knowledge of all aspects of Parapsychology and Occultism (studied intensively by the KGB in view of the tremendous possible uses in espionage, intelligence warfare, and skullduggery in general), the Russians naturally know all about dowsing. And they take it very seriously. Like a lot of things at which we profess to snigger.

According to Genrikh Silanov's statements, he and his fellow-investigators used their dowsing equipment, and found that the UFO had landed precisely where the boys and other witnesses said it landed.

"Intense Magnetic Field" Found?

According to one of the foreign reports (seen only in the *Pensacola News Journal*, Florida, USA, October 12) a Russian aviation engineer from a nearby factory at Voronezh said that he and his colleagues examined and measured the landing site, and found there "an intense magnetic field".

Gamma Radiation at the Site

According to the reporters Aksionov and Zverev (of *Moscow Weekly News*), two of the holes made by the feet of the craft showed far higher *gamma radiation* than adjacent ground. The soil around about in the park showed an average of 10-15 microroentgens per

hour, whereas one of the holes registered 30 microroentgens and another gave 37 microroentgens. (According to another press report seen, it was technicians from the Soviet Ministry of the Interior who discovered and measured this radioactivity.)

Probable Weight of the Craft

This was stated to have been estimated as 11 tons.

The Red Sandstones

There was a tremendous hooha in some papers about certain pieces of red sandstone allegedly found at the landing site. At first it seemed as though Genrikh Silanov himself was quoted as having said that this red stone was something never before found anywhere else on Earth! Later he was however quoted as stating firmly that it was simply a bit of ordinary haematite such as is normal in those parts of Russia.

Britain's "best and most famous newspaper", SUN-DAY SPORT (October 22) had a wonderful time with the red sandstones, announcing that these were "alien eggs" from the Cosmos, and claiming that "their man at Voronezh" had even brought one home to the Head Office in London; that examination of the "egg" by British doctors and scientists had already established the presence within it of some sort of humanlike embryo; and that they would soon be announcing a "happy event" to their readers. (Since then, for some curious reason, the "Sunday Sport" seems to have "gone off" its "cosmic eggs", and has no doubt found something else with which to tittivate us and drum up business).

Soil Samples Taken?

In addition to the holes made in the soil by the "feet" of the alleged alien craft, investigators were reported to have found another hole (no dimensions mentioned) from which it was thought that the visitors might have taken soil samples — just as has been reported in many other UFO cases.

Statement by Lt. Sergei Matveyev of the Voronezh *Militia* (Police)

This young policeman told investigators that he had been one of the eyewitnesses to the landing. He said that, at about 7.00 p.m. on September 27, 1989, he had been passing near the Park, when he suddenly saw an "incandescent ball" pass across the sky in horizontal flight, very fast, and at an altitude of about 200 m. He reckoned its diameter as being about 15 m. He watched this "ball" in flight for about five seconds. It was making no sound of any kind. When questioned further as to its apparent solidity, he insisted that it was definitely three-dimensional, and was no hallucination or trick of light or solar beam in the atmosphere.

Statement by a Colonel of the Voronezh Militia

Police-Colonel Ludmilla Makarova, Head of the Voronezh Department of Criminal Detection (she is consequently, an official of the Soviet Ministry of the Interior) commented on the case as follows:—

"I don't know what it was that happened here, but I do know one thing — the radioactivity at the site is very high. WHY? No doubt because of some isotope particle. But then another question arises: Why the radioactivity inside the holes and not on the surface of the ground?

Statement by a Soviet Nuclear Physicist

Another important Voronezh personage whose statement was published along with the others in the Moscow Weekly News No. 43 (October 22) was Professor Stanislav Kadmenskiy, holder of the Chair of Nuclear Physics in the University of Voronezh, and also a member of the Commission of

Enquiry into the Voronezh Incident.

He described how he and his colleagues had collected 17 soil samples at the site and sent them away for analysis. Discussing the possibility that alien beings might visit our Planet (which he did not appear to deem ridiculous or impossible!) his answer showed none of the hysteria displayed over this affair by our American and British press. Like Stanton Friedman he is, of course, a nuclear physicist, and therefore presumably not a total buffoon. At any rate, he merely made the remarkably interesting statement that, if a landing by a UFO at Voronezh were to be proved, then it would mean that we have something to learn about the Special Theory of Relativity, and it would indicate that there exists another sort of Physics that is at present unknown to

"Religious Rumours"

A rumour circulated to the effect that a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church had visited the landing site, and blessed it! The story went on to say that true believers were flocking to the Voronezh Park to offer prayers there.

So the two journalists from the Moscow Weekly News contacted the Episcopal Office in Voronezh, and asked whether this report was true. They re-

ceived a categorical denial:-

"It is an act of Satan — not of God!

A true Christian would never go to that place in the park to pray."

Consistency of Eyewitnesses' Statements

Apart from the fact that, as stated above, a number of people seem to have mentioned seeing a "banana-shaped object", and that more than one sighting, and possibly more than one landing, may have taken place, and on a number of days between September 21 and October 3, the Authorities and the investigators at Voronezh admit that the accounts give by eyewitnesses show a remarkable degree of uniformity and agreement. This is particularly so of what the children said. And an odd fact which emerges, according to the two men from the Moscow Weekly News, is that some of the Voronezh children's descriptions and sketches of craft and aliens and "robots" coincide to an astonishing degree with the accounts and sketches of the children who claimed to have seen landed craft and entities at the village of Konantsevo, near Kharovsk, in Vologda Oblast' (Province) in June

(For a preliminary report on that case, see page 1 of FSR 34/3. And we shall provide a fuller account on the Konantsevo/Kharovsk story in the near future.)

Indeed, when the work of translating all this year's crop of reports received directly from our Russian correspondents is done (these are investigators' reports - not press reports), we may be in a

position to show that at both Voronezh and at a place near Chernushenskiy, far away in Perm Province, in Siberia, the accounts speak, at least in part, of black, square, robot-like beings, and tall beings with excessively tiny "knobs" in place of heads. All of this will have to be covered in one of the two or three further articles which will be required if we are to deal properly with all the weird "poltergeistic" UFO stories received from Russia in 1989.

Statement by the Mayor of Voronezh about the Children

Discussing the eyewitnesses' accounts at Voronezh, Mayor Atlasov of that City told the two reporters from Moscow Weekly News that he was quite positive that the local children were telling the truth. He said he had listened very carefully both to their statement and to the taped recordings of their statements. He commented:

"I am not very young myself. And I am positive that an adult can always perceive when a child is telling the truth and when he is giving rein to his imagination. I believe what they are saying."

Reports also treated seriously by other Voronezh Authorities

Vladimir A. Moisevey, Director of the Voronezh Regional Health Office, together with other City Authorities and, as stated, the TASS News Agency's staff, all treated the entire story throughout as a serious scientific phenomenon. Interviewed by telephone by the New York Times on October 11, Moisevey said that, despite all the reports of "widespread fear" in Voronezh about the UFOs, none of the eyewitnesses had, so far, applied to his Department for any sort of medical aid or counselling. But, he went on, "We are certainly planning to examine the children". (He gave no explanation why no such examination had yet been undertaken, seeing that two whole weeks had already elapsed since September 27, the day of the claimed landing in the Park.) But the children certainly were questioned at some later stage.

As regards talk of surveillance of the alleged landing site, Mr Larin, Duty Officer at the Voronezh Offices of the Soviet Ministry of the Interior, said that his own department was much too shorthanded to have extra men available for patrolling the Park, but he said that "If they (the Aliens) appeared there again, troops would be despatched to the

Statements by TASS News Agency Spokemen

Asked whether the Voronezh story could be a hoax, a genial spokeman in the TASS Moscow Office replied: "So far as we are concerned, this is no joke. We never joke. If we start joking, we'll stop existing."

Questioned by British journalists in London and on British television, the TASS Correspondent in London, Yuri Sidorov, said (October 9, 1989):-"No. This is not April Fool's Day. We are a serious agency, and do not report things that are not true. Personally, I do not believe in flying objects, but if TASS says something, it must be so."

Personal Statement by TASS Correspondent Lebedev from Voronezh.

The TASS correspondent Vladimir V. Lebedev, aged 59 and a veteran of twenty years in the TASS service, who was the man sent from Moscow to Voronezh to investigate and report on this case from the spot, told *United Press International* (report in *Los Angeles Times* of October 11) that in Voronezh he questioned "about ten youngsters aged 12 to 13", and added that he felt this large number sufficed to show that something had indeed happened there. He did not claim to have seen any UFOs or entities at Voronezh himself. He said that, in all, the Voronezh eyewitnesses had spoken to him of three landings by alien craft seen by them at Voronezh, the main one being on September 27, and the other two on September 23 and September 29.

In a report carried by the *New York Times* (October 11) Lebedev was quoted as saying that the three children from School No. 33 who first saw the UFO when it arrived while they were playing football were Vasya Surin (boy), Yuliya Shokholova (girl) and Zhenya

Blinov (boy).

When Esther B. Fein, the *New York Times* representative in Moscow, telephoned to Lebedev in Voronezh about the case, she reported that he "sounded quite insulted"; by the idea that anyone should treat his story of the Voronezh landing with anything but the full seriousness that he and the TASS Agency had given to it!

He went on to say that Genrikh Silanov of the Voronezh Geophysical Laboratory, had asked the children, on October 10, to sketch for him what they

had seen.

Though isolated from one another, he said that several of the children had also drawn a "banana-shaped object" and a sign which resembles the letter "X". Such a sign, he said, had already been reported as typical of UFOs in an article in the now defunct American magazine SAGA.

In an article about Voronezh, in the new Spanish magazine *Mas Allá* (Special No. 9, November 1989) one of the children's drawings is published, but unfortunately too unclear for us to reproduce it here. What it clearly does show, however, is the famous and mysterious "UMMO" sign () known to us all

from years ago in Spain!

What are we to make of this! These Russian children are hardly likely to have ever seen the "UMMO" symbol anywhere, even if it had once been reproduced in SAGA — and that is by no means certain anyway. If the Russian children, or any other witnesses, really did see the "UMMO"; sign at Voronezh, then it indicates pretty clearly that one and the same agency is behind "UFO phenomena" in regions as far apart as Russia and Spain.

Describing the Voronezh landing site, Lebedev said: "The traces were still to be seen. I saw holes of a clear shape, that resembled the footprints of

elephants".

Pressed by other foreign correspondents who telephoned to him, Lebedev was quoted as sticking firmly to his story, while admitting that "some exaggerations might have crept in at some stage". He said: "I think there is a certain portion of truth, but it is not excluded that there is also some fantasizing". Asked to explain further what he meant by this, he replied: "Mature people may have added certain things". (Quoted in an article in the Los Angeles Times, October 11, 1989.)

Reaction and Coverage by the Internal Soviet Press and TV and Radio

In view of the enormous size of the country and the tremendous number of newspapers and other publications, we shall never know how much publicity the Voronezh landing story received *inside* the USSR.

According to one foreign report, the Soviet TV (presumably from Moscow) claimed that they had sent a team to Voronezh to investigate and that, after being four days there, had still failed to locate a single adult witness. (Should this be true, it would in no way be surprising. Any adult witness coming forward might well expect to be "in for trouble" and, as Russians prefer to do on most matters, would keep quite!)

However, it does seem that (Associated Press report of October 12 from Moscow), on the evening of Wednesday October 11, Soviet TV viewers saw a fifteenminute VREMYA programme from Voronezh about the case. The two "star" child witnesses appeared on it, and their sketches were shown. The boy Vasya Surin, aged 11, said, in the programme: "We were scared. It hovered over this tree. Then the door opened, and a tall person about 3 metres high looked out. He didn't have a head, or shoulders either. He just had a kind of hump. There he had three eyes — one on each side and one in the middle."

The children stuck to their story, while admitting that they do enjoy reading Science-Fiction.

Statement by the Soviet Embassy in London

At the London Embassy, a spokesman told the Daily Express (October 10, 1989):-

"TASS is very reliable, and you can believe what they say. I don't think there is any official position on this matter."

Statement by the British Ministry of Defence. (Daily Express, October 10, 1989).

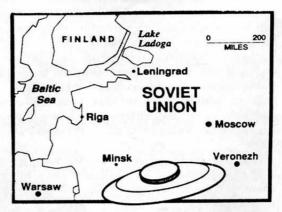
"We do not entertain opinions about men from Mars."

Statement by British Meteorological Office, London. (Daily Express, October 10, 1989).

"It's not April Fool's Day, is it?"

Reaction by the Soviet Ministry of Defence

Right at the outset, on or about October 9, a spokesman for the Ministry of Defence of the USSR was reported to have "refused to comment upon the story".



Reaction by the Soviet Ministry for Foreign Affairs

On October 9 a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Office was also reported to have "expressed scepticism about the story".

Below: Slava Martinov, member of the Voronezh UFO Investigation Group

Bottom left: VORONEZH, Soviet Union (Reuter) — Eleven-year-old Lena Sarokina shows a drawing of a spaceship on Saturday as she meets with members of a local commission to investigate reports of a landing by three-eyed aliens in Voronezh on Sept. 27. (MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, Tokyo, Oct. 17, 1989)

Right: Witnesses: Volodya Startsev, Vasya Surin, Alyosha Nikonov











III — THE "MOSCOW NEWS" REPORT (FULL TEXT)

MOSCOW NEWS, No. 43. TOPIC OF THE DAY (OCTOBER 22, 1989)
ALIENS VISIT VORONEZH
EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS

By Lev Aksyonov and Boris Zverev

The latest sensation (according to the "NEW YORK TIMES of October 14, 1989, "the news of the century") comes from the Russian city of Voronezh. In late September — early October numerous witnesses said they saw unidentified flying objects (UFOs) within the city limits, and watched them land and their inhabitants come out. We went to the scene of events to follow up these reports.

usual urban landscape: a busy street, a residential neighbourhood, kindergartens, a meadow on the edge of a park. Here, in Voronezh's Levoberezhniy District, near Mendeleyev Street, as eyewitnesses say, mysterious occurrences were observed approximately between September 21 and October 2. At first journalists drew primarily on eyewitness accounts by adolescents - pupils of Secondary School No. 33 nearby. But enthusiasts in Voronezh who have come together to study abnormal atmospheric phenomena at the Aleksandr Popov Radioelectronics and Communications Scientific-Technical Association are also taking an active interest in this. They have talked to eyewitnesses, quite a number of adults among them, and carried out the first studies on the site where the "extraterrestrials" are supposed to have landed. By questioning each of the witnesses separately, they produced - on the basis of stories from people excited at what they had seen (or imagined?) - not only a detailed picture of the events, but also sketches of the appearance of the UFO and the "pilots". It is significant that descriptions of the aliens and their flying craft amazingly coincided with what was observed in early June of this year by the inhabitants of the Konantsevo village in the Kharovsk District (Vologda Region). (See report in FSR 34/3, ED.)

However, an eyewitness account is one thing, the objective readings of instruments is something different. On the site of the UFO's supposed landing, numerous dents were found in the soil which could have been made by the saucer's "feet". Their diameter is 25-30 cms., their depth from 20 to 25 cms. The "unofficial" enthusiasts say that, according to their calculations, the approximate mass of the body which exerted pressure on the ground in this spot was 11 tons. But, more interesting, in some of the dents the "incorruptible" dosimeters recorded a definite increase in the background gamma-radiation in comparison with neighbouring sites some two or three metres away. Whereas the usual level here amounts to 10-15 microroentgens an hour, in one of the dents they recorded 30, and, in another — 37 microroentgens an hour. (It was this particular dent that Vladimir Cherkizov, senior expert of the Voronezh Administration of Internal Affairs, photographed.)

Specialists are not concerned about such radiation, as it poses no threat to people's health. Prudence, however, is always welcome. "Such things mustn't be taken too lightly", we were told by a spokesman for the local Administration of the USSR State Security Committee [i.e. KGB! G.C.] at the site of the event. "We must accumulate information on any abnormal phenomena, wherever they take place, and carefully study them. This is primarily a task for scientists. For the time being, at the first stage, the investigation was

mainly carried out by enthusiasts. We are here to take steps — if necessary — to ensure the citizens' safety."

During our two days in Voronezh we met with many representatives from the City and regional authorities. The City's Mayor, Viktor Atlasov, played an active part in organizing research along with his first deputy, Aleksandr Tsapin; the leaders of the Voronezh Administration of Internal Affairs; ranking officials of the Regional Party Committee, including Valeriy Deryabin, head of its Socio-Economic Department. On October 12, at the initiative of Gennady Kabasin, first secretary of the Regional Committee of the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union) and People's Deputy of the USSR, a competent commission was set up, with scientists, criminologists, medics, meteorologists, and enthusiast-Ufologists as its members.

But let us return to the South Park. There was everything here — serious work by experts, and crowds of curious people, both those who believed in the "aliens", and the sceptics. There was even an excursion — we saw a bus drive in, bringing a group of vocational-school pupils, who longed to see everything with their own eyes. And Voronezh, with a population of nearly a million, was filled with rumours. Some even said that the Father Superior of one of the Orthodox churches had sanctified that place and that believers now come to the park to pray! We contacted the Voronezh Diocese. "This doesn't come from God — this is the work of Satan. A real Christian will never go to pray there", was the peremptory reply.

... When still on our way from Moscow, we wondered how to find eyewitnesses of the events as quickly as possible. We were preparing for a most difficult "operation", but everything turned out to be much simpler. As soon as we came to the Park we were surrounded by a flock of children. "Are you journalists? Will you question witnesses?" "We would like to — But where can we find them?" we replied.

— "We're the witnesses, and we'll tell you everything!" cried the boys, their eyes burning, excited. Despite the fact that classes were going on in the nearby school, the "friends of the aliens" seemed to have temporarily re-settled on the "UFOdrome". Classes could wait a little.

Denis Murzenko, Yuri Grinev, Yuri Sergachev, Roman Milkin, Zhenya Blinov — now called a "TV star" for giving an interview to Central TV — and many others vied with one another in giving interviews to the press.

Colleagues appeared — from Komsomol'skaya

Pravda and the Novosti Press Agency.

All the stories coincide in the main: the flyover and the landing of a mysterious ellipsis-shaped body about 15 by 6 m. with a hatch in the middle were seen from various distances. The object remained at a height of roughly 1.5 m. above the earth; then supports came out, and it landed. From the open hatch there emerged a three-metre tall figure which filled the whole of the "doorway". Distinctive features: a heavy gait, no neck (the "head", with something like three luminous eyes, was a kind of hemisphere lying directly on the shoulders). The alien — sometimes there were a few of them — walked near the craft for some time; examined the ground, and seemed to take soil samples. This is what the boys told us (and not us alone).

And the adults! We have no doubts that the children did not invent all this. Incidentally, the same view is held by Mayor Viktor Atlasov, who carefully studied the video recording with the boys' very first "testimonies". "I am not a young person, and, you know, an adult can always tell when a child is telling the truth and when he is not. I believe the boys", he admitted in a conversation with us.

We also found grown-up witnesses of repeated cases of flyovers — even of landings — by UFOs.

Thus, Lieutenant of the Militia, Sergei Matveyev, said that on September 27, at about 7.00 p.m., he was walking in the area of the Park. Suddenly he noticed a luminous ball sweeping past northwards at a colossal speed, strictly horizontally and at an altitude of roughly 200 m. He estimated its diameter to be about 15 m. He watched the ball's flight for about 5 seconds. The object moved noiselessly.

— "Couldn't it have been a mirage, some light spot, the play of light in the atmosphere?" we asked

— "No!", he confidently replied. "The body was clearly multi-dimensional".

The lieutenant's first reaction had been interesting. He decided not to tell his acquaintances and colleagues at once. "They might have thought: 'a militiaman does not have such fancies'..."

Sergei Matveyev made up his mind to talk only when the local press urged the city's inhabitants to report any strange things they might have seen. It must be said that his superiors took the young officer's story in real earnest.

We also spoke to two women witnesses. On September 29, at 7.00 p.m., Olga Poludneva, an assembler at a local industrial plant, saw a luminous ball, flying at a great altitude, through the gaps between houses. According to her, the flight lasted about ten minutes. Her friend Lyudmila Kupriyanova said that she was at home at that moment, and she heard cries out-

doors: "A saucer is flying!" She ran out into the street and only managed to see a luminous tail from the mysterious body. There were many people near the house, everyone greatly excited by what they had seen.

It is characteristic that, for some time afterwards, many witnesses of the mysterious phenomenon experienced an inexplicable feeling of fear and unusual sensations: heaviness in their feet, and restraint in movements. But these are only emotions.

Now comes the turn of the professionals. We spoke several times with a person of immense charm, whose objectivity cannot be doubted. Her profession precludes any bias. Colonel of the Militia Lyudmila Makarova, Chief of the Criminal Expertise Department of the Voronezh Administration of Internal Affairs, headed a group of experts who took measurements on the site of the event and examined it closely. "I don't know what actually happened here, but an increase in the radioactive background is in evidence. The reason? Maybe a grain of some isotope got in here. Then, one more question: why precisely in the dents, why not on the surface? We shall be able to answer everything only after thorough investigation."

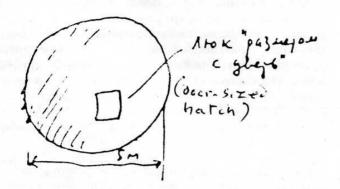
Thus, a highly competent Commission is at work in the City. Taking part in it is the cream of local science, specialists in the most diverse fields, and officials. We met with Professor Stanislav Kadmenskiy, DSc, Head of the Nuclear Physics Chair at Voronezh University, who is a member of the Investigation Commission.

The professor told us that 17 soil samples had been taken in the area of the supposed landing. Since the question is extremely urgent, ten workers of the Faculty led by him neglected the Labour Code and worked on the available samples both on Saturday and Sunday.

Doubt does not amount to negation. Speaking about the possibility of aliens appearing on our planet, Stanislav Kadmenskiy remarked:

"If extraterrestrials are a reality, and if they are really inhabitants of distant worlds lying outside the confines of our Solar System, the very fact of their arrival imparts colossal optimism to physicists. If it has been proved that such flights are possible, the recognition of their reality will entail the need to reconsider conclusions from the Special Theory of Relativity. It means that there is another Physics, which is still unknown to us."

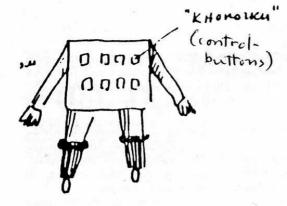
We were promised the Commission's final document. We continue keeping track of the development of events.



At 9 p.m. on Sept. 23, as I was returning home, I saw in the sky a round, red object with a black hatch of the size of a door. It was about 5 metres in diameter. As it landed, four legs came out, and the hatch opened and a 'robot' came down the ladder.

Eyewitness Roma Torshin, Sixth-Former, School

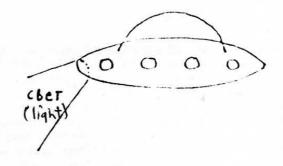
No. 33. (Sketch by Roma Torshin)



Sketch by Roma Torshin, a sixth-former of School No. 33, of the 'robot' which he says he saw emerge from the hatch of the round, red-coloured craft, 5 m. wide, which he says he saw land in the park at 9.00 p.m. on September 23.



Zhenya Blinov, a classmate of Roma Torshin, said that on Sept. 26 or 27 (he does not recall precisely which day), at 7.00 p.m., and at the same spot, he saw an object with portholes. Someone about 3 m. high emerged from it. "On his head I saw two eyes and, slightly above them, a red lamp. On his breast there was a disk with three spots of different colours, and slightly below it there was a rectangle which started sticking out from the body. (Sketch by Zhenya Blinov)



Zhenya Blinov's sketch of the UFO seen by him on Sept. 26 or 27.

(The shape is that of our conventional "flying saucer", so it looks as though several types of craft were seen at Voronezh).



Sketch of the head of an alleged "extraterrestrial' by Oleg Chebotaryov, a third-former of School No. 33, who was also a witness. He said that during the last days of September he was in the park with other boys when he observed the landing of a 'saucer' some 8-10 m. in diameter. He recalled that the hairs on the head of this 'crew-member' of the 'saucer' were of different colours: light blue, red, and navy blue.

IV — CRISIS OVER! PROBLEM FINALLY SOLVED...

From MAINICHI DAILY NEWS (TOKYO) (ENGLISH EDITION) Monday, October 30, 1989.

(Credit and thanks to FSR Consultant Yusuke J. Matsumura, Japan.)

Soviet Study finds no proof of UFO visit

 $\mathbf{M}^{\mathrm{oscow}}$ (AFP-Jiji) — A Soviet scientific commission has concluded that there exists no verifiable proof of a landing by aliens last month in the town of Voronezh, in southern Russia, the commission chief said on Saturday.

Sixteen radiometric analyses, 19 checks on the ground, 9 tests of micro-organisms, and 20 spectro-chemical measurements, failed to uncover "any anomaly either in the earth or surrounding vegetation" that might indicate the landing of an unidentified flying object, the commission reported.

Igor Sarotsev, vice-rector of the University of Voronezh and chairman of the commission, said that the presence of a larger-than-normal quantity of the radioactive isotope *caesium* in the area of the alleged sighting did not constitute proof of a landing.

"After Chernobyl, this kind of phenomenon has been found in many areas", said Sarotsev to the newspaper *Sovetskaya Kultura* on Saturday — referring to the April 1986 accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant that sent a radiation cloud over Europe and killed 31 people.

V — LAST WORD

W^{ELL} now — isn't that just cute! All solved, on October 30, 1989, by a "Soviet Scientific Commission" who inform us that there was nothing whatsoever in the Voronezh story!

What is interesting is that, precisely two days later, we receive from our correspondents in Russia, who

are one of the leading UFO investigation groups in that country, a report which, in translation, reads as follows:-

"In its session held on July 5, 1989, the Presidium of the Committee on Problems of Energy Information Exchange under the Directorate of the N.I.O.* Union of the U.S.S.R. established a Ufological Commission. Dotsent (Assistant Professor) V.G. AZHAZHA was confirmed as President of the Commission, with Pilot-Cosmonaut P.R. POPOVICH, Twice-Hero of the U.S.S.R., as Vice-President."

But if one looks back through the pages of FSR as far as the autumn of 1964, when, on the sudden death of Editor Waveney Girvan, Charles Bowen saved the day by taking over as Editor, one will see that the Russians have constantly been announcing the formation of committees and commissions to study UFOs! Without looking at them all (we have not the time for that) we recall the names of Zigel', General Stolyarov, Azhazha, and Popov. We have heard of them all already, long ago. Popov seems to have been the last. Before

him it was Azhazha, and we had plenty about him, and by him, in FSR.

For a long time we thought that Azhazha had been liquidated, but now here he is, popping up again. From all of which, we feel the reader can safely conclude that there is today no more "glasnost" in the Soviet Union on the subject of UFOs than there is in Britain or Europe or USA or anywhere else in the world. G.C.

*We do not know what the initials "N.I.O." stand for, and, being in a hurry to get this off to press, we have not the time to find out. — G.C.

VI — TAIL-PIECE ON VORONEZH

Nor is this the first time that FSR readers have heard of the city of Voronezh.

In issue No. 105 (June 1-15, 1962) of the Italian journal Oltre Il Cielo: Missili & Razzi (a serious publication on rockets, not on UFOs) the Italian investigator Alberto Fenoglio published an extraordinary series of UFO stories which he had personally learned from Soviet engineers and diplomats visiting Italy. I translated and published them in full, and they appeared in FSR Vol. 8, No. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1962) under the title of "AMAZING NEWS FROM RUSSIA: CAN THIS BE TRUE?".

Report No. 4 of the Russian series of accounts read as follows:-

"Last summer, over the city of Voronezh, a giant cigar, at least 800 metres long, came down to a height of only 2,000 metres, in daylight, and hung there immobile. Thousands saw it and there was tremendous panic. Suddenly the cigar "began to grow transparent". It disappeared completely. Shortly after this, some fighter aircraft arrived and flew around, evidently searching for it. Seconds after the baffled pilots had departed, the monster was back again "in the same place" above the city.

Then a vast jet of flame suddenly shot out from its stern. The "cigar" began to move, rose steeply into the sky, and vanished at immense speed." — G.C.

BOOK REVIEW

By Paul Whitehead, FSR Consultant

THE TUJUNGA CANYON CONTACTS

By FSR Consultant Ann Druffel. Co-Author D. Scott Rogo.

The original hardback of this book by two Californian researchers was published in the USA in 1980. The new paperback edition, by Signet Books (May 1989) has been updated with much fascinating new material.

Linibility Strieber told the world about this own alleged visitations in "Communion", similar things were going on on the other side of America. In 1953, more than 20 years before Strieber's contacts with something (ranging from himself to demons or aliens) began, two women in California had experienced an apparent abduction, medical examination and operation et al. Other women they came into contact with had experienced a similar trauma — beings with large heads in their bedrooms at night; flying saucers landing nearby; white globes of light; and Close Encounters late at night by motorways.

Unfortunately, much of the information was retrieved under hypnosis, and only many years later, and author Ann Druffel recognises the problems associated with this approach. However, she is thorough in her research and cross referencing and, although it appears at times that some "witnesses" were given

some leading questions — especially by one of the hypnotists — the overall weight of evidence that something unusual had indeed happened to these women is strong.

What did happen — and why were females involved? Generally, the women led a lesbian-orientated lifestyle, and Druffel points out that this may have attracted the attention of aliens engaged in studying us earthlings.

However, the story should not be viewed as a "nuts and bolts" tale of close encounters, Druffel and coauthor D. Scott Rogo caution. There are fascinating parallels with other close encounters separated by many years, and unknown to those concerned.

In 1975, for example, U.S. airman Sgt Charles Moody saw what one of the Tujunga Canyon women had seen in the early 50s — aliens with masklike faces, grey-coloured skin, wearing skintight, black

clothing with no zippers or buttons showing. Each also reported that when inside a craft, they came across an alien dressed in a light grey suit — different from the others, and that a few of the aliens were taller than most.

One feature common to every case is the apparent "block" put on the witnesses, which made it difficult for the hypnotists to extract information.

Another common feature is the aliens' mouths often depicted as a thin straight line which does not move when they talk. "Emily" (a pseudonym to protect the actual witness) speaks of mental communication, and similarities between "them" and "us".

Indeed, in one session, Emily denies that they are aliens - while they look different to us, she says they "think" the same. She then lapses back into uncontrollable crying. Later, when out of hypnosis, she says over and over again: "All life is one, It's the same".

Interestingly, there is an interaction on a highway with very tall beings with thin faces (like the ones allegedly seen in a Russian park in 1989?)1

Much is written about loss of will among witnesses while they are having their unusual experiences. It is as if their minds are taken over by a superior intelligence. "One can only guess as to what extent these beings can manipulate our minds, brains and sensory perceptions," Druffel writes.

They may, one of the witnesses states, be intelligences which can mould themselves into any shape they please - a theory already espoused by John Keel, as Druffel points out. "Invisible energy forms that can take on any shape they wish."

Druffel believes aliens to be similar to the Muslim "jinns" discussed by Gordon Creighton, editor of Flying Saucer Review. The jinn theory, she says, has upset some people in a big way. "Since Volume 29 No 1 of FSR was published, there has been an underground denunciation, slowly increasing to diatribe, directed against the journal mainly by English researchers who disagree violently with Creighton."

The jinn theory need not be gone into here, as it was dealt with in depth by Creighton in Volume 29 No 1 of FSR. Suffice to say, however, that interactions with "aliens" were reported centuries ago in the Middle East (and elsewhere), and that these creatures are called "jinns" in the Muslims' Koran.

Quite why a small clique of British researchers should get so upset at what is, after all, a theory which is close to others, is indeed surprising.

Without giving too much of the book away, let's hear what Druffel says: "When I first read Creighton's article, the idea of jinns seemed strange, but as time passed I realised that the powers traditionally ascribed to these beings are, indeed, the same powers attributed to UFO occupants: powers that were reported over and over again in UFO literature. I also realised that my own theory stated in the original Tujunga Canyon Contacts — namely that UFO visitors came from intradimensional sources rather than our own space/time — seemed to merge with Creighton's, and his theory amplified and clarified my own.

The co-author, D. Scott Rogo (a parapsychologist) takes a different but a partly complementary path: "The UFO mystery seems to be a cosmic reflection objectifying man's own technological concerns and potentials into objective existence." UFOs, he says, are "linked to our minds," and it is curious, he notes, how those who have close encounter experiences are dogged by the phenomenon and by psychic experiences for years afterwards. This he calls "paranormal

Rogo likens UFO activity to poltergeist² phenomena, in which telekinetic (or psychokinetic) energy is generated by individuals under some kind of stress. And here we come to the Keel theory - Rogo uses it to support his own. Rogo suggests that the human mind sometimes reacts with a supermind (people with "psychic abilities" would be best placed to have this connection) and is subjected to symbol-laden dramas created by the supermind. The individual has a highly personalised "close encounter" or "abduction"; it is certainly intriguing that while some "abductions" have some common general features, the fine detail itself is often different.

Many examples of these commonalities and discrepancies arise during cases. Virginia Horton, for example, saw classic grey beings with long fingers but protective eye covers. In other cases, these grey beings don't have eye covers; the actual details of the eyes themselves are given by the witnesses.

For those who like a long and fascinating read, this paperback book of 326 pages is highly recommended. Anybody hoping for a short explanation of what it is really all about won't, of course, find it here — or anywhere else, for that matter.

COMMENT BY EDITOR OF FSR

- (1) Not so. It can be stated categorically that the descriptions (very unanimous) given of the tall creatures allegedly seen in the Yuzhiny Park, Voronezh, Russia, on September 27 of this year in no way resemble any of the creatures described in the Tujunga Canyon story or in Whitley Strieber's Communion.
- (2) Thirty years ago, at a date when Mr Scott Rogo had probably not yet begun even to think about such matters, FSR was frequently referring (and we were the first anywhere in the UFO research field to do so) to the similarity — indeed even the identity — between the so-called classic features of poltergeistery and the new phenomena of "Ufology". The civilizations of the peoples of Western Europe and the Americas are far younger than the civilizations of the East. From the Arab lands right across to China and Japan, the peoples of those countries have for centuries known all about these matters, and nowhere are they better understood and better described than in Islam.

If the nations of the West were better educated, perhaps there wouldn't be such a hysterical fuss as we are now seeing when the jinns are beginning stage a large-scale reappearance here. — EDITOR

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Will FSR's many overseas and foreign readers please note that, year after year, their hard-pressed

magazine loses a lot of money in bank charges on conversions of foreign currency to pounds. PLEASE THEREFORE PAY US <u>ONLY</u> IN GB POUNDS, U.S. DOLLARS DRAWN ON A NEW YORK BANK, OR BY INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER.

Please note that foreign postal orders are particularly difficult for us, and mostly not exchangeable.

THE JINN — FROM A SCIENTIFIC (?) VIEWPOINT

By Chris Line, FSR Consultant

THIS article came about as a result of a discussion L concerning the nature of the JINN, and their apparent activity in the UFO and psychic fields.

The assumption that underlies the following viewpoint is that the Jinn are beings which dwell on a parallel level to man, but due to their existing at a different vibratory rate, they are not normally visible to us or detectable by us.

In spite of this invisibility, when UFO events or psychic events occur, there are often changes in an energy that we can measure - and this is the electromagnetic spectrum.

This article, then, is an attempt to bring together (1): observed effects associated with UFOs and with psychic events; (2) traditional "occult" wisdom; and (3) contemporary scientific knowledge.

Our starting point is with the traditions of Islām, and, in particular, the Qu'ran, which contains some quantity of information of a metaphysical nature, a proportion of which deals with the Jinn. This material is summarized in Gordon Creighton's article, "A Brief Account of the True Nature of the UFO Entities", published originally in FSR 29/1 (October 1983) and reprinted in FSR 33/3 (September 1988).

The Jinn and the Infra-red

In that article, the Jinn are described as having "bodies of essential flame",1 or "smokeless flame",2 or "smokeless fire".

Now, that struck me as a very close description of what we now call infra-red, — i.e., heat with no flame and no smoke.

The Angels and the Ultra-Violet

In the same article by the Editor, ANGELS are described (according to the Qur'an) as having bodies of light.3 Since they are generally invisible to us, and also for reasons which I will put forward later, I would suggest that the Angels' bodies are of an invisible energy from the opposite end of the spectrum, i.e. — the ultraviolet.

Before I get too involved with technical discussions, I would just like to point out that there is another well known Islāmic book that also deals extensively with our unseen neighbours. In fact one might almost call it a manual of mankind's interaction with the Jinn! And this is "THE THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS",4 or "ARABIAN NIGHTS".

Why did UFOs Appear En Masse in 1947?

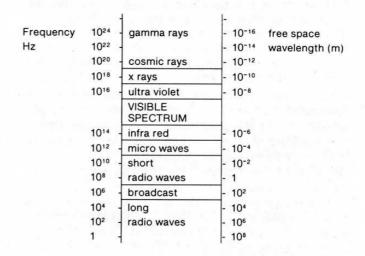
One of the questions that often crop up in the UFO field is: "Why did UFOs start to appear in great numbers, around and after 1947?"

Although plenty of UFOs were undoubtedly seen long before the year 1947, it does seem that something may have provoked their increased activity, and increased appearances, at that time.

Well now — an interesting answer to our question has been provided by the New Zealander Trevor James Constable in his second book, "The Cosmic Pulse of Life", in which he states that UFOs began to appear in numbers around the time when man started to use Radar. Or — to put it in another way — the UFOs began to appear around the time when man started to fill the Earth's atmosphere with microwave radiation.5

Since the use of Radar became commonplace throughout the world shortly after World War II, the dates certainly coincide, and, if we look at the nature of Radar — bearing in mind that the Jinn may possess bodies of infra-red - then we can certainly see a good reason for their becoming concerned!

Microwave radiation is just below infra-red in the electro-magnetic spectrum (i.e. - just above Radio waves) - therefore our projection of microwaves into the Earth's atmosphere may well disrupt, or disturb, the bodies of the Jinn and the medium in which they live and dwell.



How the Jinn Materialize

In the Islamic texts it is stated that the Jinn are able to materialize or disappear at will. This would imply one of three things: - (1) They have control over the matter that we consider to be "everyday reality". (2) They have control over certain aspects of our own psyche, and can create in us the subjective experience of matter; (3) They can create illusions of an external and very realistic nature in the same way that we create holograms. It is possible that this last suggestion includes the first.

The reason for this is as follows:-

A Blueprint for all Matter?

Various researchers on the cutting edge of nuclear physics (i.e. Paul Davies) and also in the border-line medical field (i.e. Harry Oldfield)⁶ have speculated that there exists a kind of blueprint for physical beings and physical materials - this may be an electromagnétic lattice or hologram which tells each atom or molecule what to do and where to go.

The reason for this kind of speculation is that our present knowledge of natural control systems is unable to explain the degree of specialization that many

atoms/molecules/cells exhibit.

The Mysterious "Crashed Discs"

Suppose, then, that the Jinn were able to construct and to destroy electromagnetic blueprints, and suppose, further, that, once set up, a blueprint will attract to it, from our environment, the necessary minerals, gases, etc., in order to make up the corresponding physical form. When the blueprint is removed or destroyed, the physical form will disintegrate or "return to dust".

This may provide an explanation for the physical reality of the *crashed discs*, whilst still allowing that they are actually *of etheric origin*.

Jinn may function on Two Levels?

In ascribing intelligent behaviour to the Jinn, it must be accepted that they have at least two levels of functioning — i.e. (1) the body of electromagnetic energy, and (2) a psyche of some finer energy. (This might be called "etheric", or possibly "astral", in the Western Occult Tradition.) The reason why I am unsure about this terminology is that it may well be the case that the term "etheric", as used, is a traditional, empirical description of the electromagnetic environment which surrounds us. Therefore the psychology of the Jinn would have to be on what we call the "Astral Level".

Here I think it is necessary to clear up a misunderstanding which often occurs with regard to the term "Ether" or "Etheric".

The Etheric Level

In the Western Occult Tradition, the "Etheric" is described as the *innermost* of a series of "bands" around the Earth, penetrating deep into the Planet, and reaching to a certain height in the Atmosphere. Higher above that in the Atmosphere is the "Astral";⁷ above that is the "Mental"⁸ — and so on, depending on which terminology you prefer to use.

At some point one of the unseen levels must be so expansive that it is — in fact — *interplanetary*. (This would perhaps be the "Spiritual" or "Causal" Level.)

would perhaps be the "Spiritual" or "Causal" Level.) Another use of the word "Ether", which conflicts with the occult method of usage, is to employ it in order to describe the *interplanetary medium*. This application of it was used, up until the late 19th century, by astronomers and philosophers, but, as I have explained above, the "interplanetary medium" would in occult terminology probably be called the "Causal" or "Spiritual" Level.

Trevor Constable's "They Live in the Sky"

Therefore problems can occur, as, for example, in Trevor J. Constable's¹¹ first book, "They Live In The Sky",¹¹¹ where the (apparently beneficent) contacting entities describe themselves as being "from the interplanetary Etheric". Later in the same book, they are responsible for protecting Mr Constable from attack by a lower order of unseen entities which I would call "Etheric", using the occult terminology to refer to the unseen "band" closest to the Earth.

Be it noted, therefore, that any reference in the present article holds to the usage of the term as employed in the Western Occult Tradition.

Having thus set out the basis of this idea concerning the nature of the Jinn, I would now like to bring in some corroborating examples from the field of Psychical Research.

Changes of Temperature and Psychic Phenomena

In the typical "Ghost experience", a *change in temperature* is often felt around, or preceding, the appearance of the apparition.

Since, to my knowledge, our experience of heat is directly related to the amount of Infra-red present, then if an apparition were created by concentrating or converting localised electro-magnetic energy, one would expect there to be a drop in Infra-red (and probably other frequencies) around the phantom, — hence a drop in temperature?

Matthew Manning

Matthew Manning, the British psychic, describes in his book "The Link" 13 how, when he was sleeping in his boarding school dormitory, "poltergeist" activities would occur. On one such occasion a large red circle appeared on the wall, and it became very hot. This — it turned out — was a way of attracting his attention, used by the earth-bound spirit of a girl who had died some fifty years before in tragic circumstances.

The obvious inference is that the red circle that became hot (so hot, in fact, that the people were afraid of a fire starting) was a concentration of Infra-red.

"Psychic photographs"

There have been in the past many psychic and paranormal photographs. Many admittedly were probably fakes. However, a proportion remain which have been authenticated. In his book "Beyond The Spectrum", 14 Cyril Permutt surveys many of these photos and he describes the techniques required for securing paranormal psychic photography of this kind. He found that the best results could be secured with Infra-red, and this again would seem to bear out a theory which I will put forward in the following paragraphs.

The Earth's atmosphere

Pursuing the idea of there being various different Planes in the unseen world, which surround the Earth, and pursuing also the thought that they might be connected with electromagnetic energy, I began an investigation of the Earth's Atmosphere and its practical structure.

Putting it in a simplified form, it seems that High Energy Radiation (Cosmic Rays, etc.), from the Sun, penetrate right through the Earth's atmosphere and are absorbed by the Earth, to be re-emitted as Infrared, Radiation, producing most of the warmth that we experience. The Infra-red is kept in the lower part of the Atmosphere by clouds and by the Ionosphere (Ozone Layer) from which it is reflected.

"Infra-red" denizens could dwell inside Earth!

Lower-frequency Infra-red penetrates deep into the Earth. Consequently, if a being had a body of low-frequency Infra-red, it could live deep down inside the Earth, interpenetrating what we consider to be solid materiality.

The Ionosphere has — as is presently well publicised — another function: this is the reflection of Ultra-Violet coming from the Sun and hence reducing the amount of it that reaches us. Therefore it can be said that *above* the Ozone Layer there is a comparatively high level of Ultra-Violet and a *low* level of

Infra-red, whilst *below* the Ozone Layer there is a much higher amount of Infra-red, but comparatively *little Ultra-Violet*.

The Angels dwell in Ultra-Violet

If we take the Islāmic description of ANGELS¹⁵ as having bodies of Light, and if we ascribe this to the lighter or finer end of the spectrum (i.e. the Ultra-Violet), then we have an explanation for the age-old tradition that Angels live "in the clouds", i.e., above the Ozone Layer, where Ultra-Violet prevails.

Lower-level creatures inhabit Infra-red

This is why, I suspect, Cyril Permutt, author of "Beyond The Spectrum", had greater success with his Infra-red photography, since we humans dwell in the Etheric, where Infra-red predominates. It must be comparatively rarely that the "FORCES OF LIGHT" come down and help us on our way. Conversely, of course, most "ghost experiences" occur in darkness or in dark places, from where the "Forces of Light" (Ultra-Violet) have receded.

From the "occult" point of view, as given in the Western as well as the Eastern Traditions, it may very well be that the upper limit of the so-called "Etheric Plane" is the Ozone Layer (Ionosphere), and that

above and beyond this lies the "Astral".

The tradition that unseen beings originate from different areas within the Etheric (i.e. Dense Etheric) may be explained by variations in frequency of Infrared: i.e. *Dense Etheric* around 10¹² Hz., and *Finer Etheric* nearer 10¹⁴ Hz., which would seem to imply that there should be a corresponding frequency gradient through the lower part of the Atmosphere, the frequency rising with the height above the Earth's surface. (Whether or not this is a fact remains to be seen.)

At this point I would like to make it clear that, whilst it is possible that electromagnetic energy is the medium of the Etheric, it is equally possible that electromagnetism interacts with a finer energy which is the true Etheric medium, but that it interacts in such a way as to be like a stain or indicator, showing the form of the unseen Etheric/Psychic Energy.

Radionics

Those who are familiar with Radionics and radionic devices will know that some of the early devices emitted radio waves which seemed to act as carrier-waves for etheric/psychic energies, and in various devices magnets have been used for the purpose of focusing psychic energies.

Finally, a couple more points which would also seem to corroborate the theme of this article:-

Baron von Reichenbach

The German scientist Baron von Reichenbach¹⁶ wrote, in the last century, about what he called "the Odic Force", visible to sensitives, and emanating from each end of a natural crystal, one end being OD POSITIVE (red and warm), and the other end producing OD NEGATIVE (light blue and cool). Could these be the Infra-red and Ultra-Violet respectively?

Trevor J. Constable¹⁷ suggests that if one looks through a red filter at ordinary daylight for some time and then looks at a living thing without the filter, the aura of that living thing becomes visible for a short while. This information probably originates with the British Dr W.J. Kilner,¹⁸ who worked during the early

part of this century on the human aura, employing magenta filters. Now, if the eye accommodates in the same way as our other senses do, then, after looking for some time through the red filter, it may begin to recalibrate the visual range, taking red as if it were the usual light blue (of the sky in daylight). Hence, when the filter is removed, the usual range may, for a short while, extend down into the Infra-red.

Clairvoyant faculties

This latter idea brings up an interesting explanation for psychics like the Anthroposophist Dr Rudolf Steiner, ¹⁹ who are able to see into the Spiritual Realm. Suppose that, for reasons of exceptional physiology (or possibly only of mental programming) they are able to perceive a greater range of frequencies than is normal, and can therefore see into the Infra-red and the Ultra-Violet realms?

In conclusion, I would like to bring a few points to

the fore:-

Man's pollution of both the material level and the finer levels?

Ever since the Industrial Revolution, spurred on by 19th century Rationalism, we have been poisoning and disturbing life for other types of physical beings on this Planet. Perhaps with the harnessing and mass employment of electromagnetism, we have now started on yet a further stage, i.e., the poisoning and disturbing of life for a whole variety of beings dwelling on the subtler levels of this Planet?

If so, is it any surprise that many of them should be

hostile towards us?

I see no reason to consider the lower unseen kingdom — i.e., the Lower Etheric — to be in any way different from the Animal Kingdom in which we ourselves live. Some of the animals here like us humans. Some of them hate us. And some are simply benign and objective.

NOTES & REFERENCES (BY EDITOR, FSR)

(1) "Min nāri al-samīmi".

(2) "Min mārijin min nārin".

(Incidentally, one very highly-placed British-trained Arab doctor, Dr Adil Mosa Al-Nahhas, MB, Chb (Baghdad), MSc (London), who was educated and trained at London University and St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and who in 1984 was the Head of the Department of Nuclear Medicine, in the Institute of Radiology & Nuclear Medicine, Aliwiya, Baghdad, Iraq, had this to say in a letter to me about the UFOs and the "JINNS" dated March 22, 1984, and which I subsequently published on page iii of FSR Vol. 29, No. 4 (1984).

"Regarding the explanation of the verse from the Holy Qur'an which you quoted on page 8 of FSR Vol. 28, No. 6, I could not find in any of my reference sources a better explanation for the UFOs than yours. The sources all speak of some sort of 'smokeless fire, a pure flame which penetrates even

the orifices of the skin and which kills!"

(In further private correspondence with me, Dr Al-Nahhas, who has long been a subscriber to FSR, agreed with me that maybe plasma, or something of the nature of plasma, may be involved. At any rate — something — as he says, that is not yet known to our modern Science.)

Apropos of this matter of the "Islāmic theory about UFOs", it is to be noted that, in the new and enlarged 1989 edition of her very important book "The Tujunga Canyon Contacts" (first published in 1980. See her article "Can We Battle These Entities?", in FSR 33/3, 1988), Ann Druffel, FSR Con-

sultant and Contributing Editor to MUFON UFO JOURNAL, has shown herself to be the only person in the Western world who has had the guts to state that she thinks the "Jinn Theory" may very likely be right. (Several other leading "Ufologists" have written privately to me to say that they too think there "might be something in it". Not one of them has had the guts to say so publicly.)

On page 285 of the new paperback edition of the "Tujunga Canyon Contacts" (New American Library, 1633 Broadway, New York City, U.S.A., price \$4.95), Ann Druffel discusses the "underground denunciation, slowly increasing to diatribe, directed against FSR, mainly by English researchers who dis-

agree violently with Creighton".

Some of my correspondents seem to think that this deluge of venom is directed at me "because I am a Muslim" (!). I don't happen to be a Muslim. I have been a student of Hindu Vedānta and of Buddhism for almost 50 years. And I happen to detest a great deal of modern Islām, and the modern Ayatollahs, for their cruelty and bigotry and sub-human intolerance, in which they are even far worse than the Christians have ever been. (And that is saying something!)

The reason for the hate-FSR campaign is far simpler and far easier to find than that. It is:In the seven years since I took over the editorship, FSR has not foundered without trace, as they had all hoped it would. Several of the venom-bags even wrote to me at the outset giving me details of how they intended to bring this about. The objection to me is in any case not based on any "religious" grounds, since none of these individuals is remotely "religious", as their conduct proves. (On the other hand, had I been a Commie, like some of them, things would no doubt have been very different.)

- (3) While the Qur'ān has several express references to the fact that the physical body of man is made of "soil", or "clay", or "loam", as it is rendered by various translators, and that the bodies of the Jinn are of "smokeless fire" or "smokeless flame", as already stated, the description of the bodies of the Angels (Malak, pl. Malāyīkat) as consisting of "light" (nur) is not to be found so far as I can see within the Qur'ān itself, but in the body of traditional notes and references known as the Hadī th
- (4) The Thousand Nights And One Night (Alf Layla wa-Layla).
- (5) We should also not overlook the claim, which has been repeatedly voiced, and appears to be well-founded, that curiously enough — it was the Americans' radar which brought about the malfunctioning and resultant crashes of the first discs in 1947 and 1948!
- (6) My friend Harry Oldfield, the British pioneer in Electrocrystal Therapy, has made a remarkable impact upon the medical profession and the hospitals in recent years. With his books and articles and his School of Electrocrystal Therapy, at 117 Long Drive, South Ruislip, Middlesex, and his many journeys overseas to demonstrate and to lecture, he has really "started something", and that "something" commands attention.

See: The Dark Side of the Brain: Major Discoveries In The Use of Kirlian Photography and Electrocrystal Therapy, by Harry Oldfield and Roger Coghill. (Element

Books, Longmead, Shaftsbury, Dorset, 1988.)

(7) It seems difficult to establish when this term "astral" was first employed by Western mystics and occultists. Interestingly enough, however, it is a fact that away back in the earliest Sanskrit literature of 2,000 years ago, there is a philosophical or metaphysical term, "Akāsha", which may possibly encompass both "astral" and "etheric". And it is also a highly interesting fact that, when the British scholars in the 19th century set about translating India's great classical texts into English and making the richness of Vedānta known to the world, they cast around for a long time in search of a good rendering for "Ākāsha", and finally they plumped for the words "Ether" and "Etheric". According to the ancient Hindu philosophy and cosmology, "Ākāsha" is in fact one of the seven recognized states of matter.

Whereas we in the West perceive and recognize "matter" in three forms — solid, liquid, and gaseous — the ancient Hindu writers state emphatically that there is also "Ether" ("Ākāsha"), and that there is not merely one form of Ether, but four different levels of it, thus giving a total of seven levels on which existence is possible.

During the 19th century the hypothesis of the existence of the Ether (from the classical Greek word for the upper atmosphere) as a substance filling all space, inclusive of those volumes occupied by ordinary matter, and serving to transmit those forces (gravitational, electric, magnetic) which one material object exerts on another located at a distance, seems to have been accepted by all competent Western scientific authorities, although there was, of course, diversity of opinion as to the Ether's possible properties. So far, then, one might have said that this Western concept of the all-pervading Ether corresponded very largely and very neatly to the old Hindu idea. By 1850 the concept of the existence of the Ether appeared to have triumphed, but the failure of the famous Michelson-Morley Experiment in 1881 dealt it a fatal blow, and by 1900 it seems that no Western scientists any longer believed in it. Nevertheless I recall that by the 1920s, so important a scientist as Paul Dirac, who died only recently, was expressing most emphatically his conviction that "we would have to return to the Ether Theory".

So — who knows? Maybe the ancient Hindus were right after all!

- (8) and (9) What is called the "Mental Level" in Western philosophical, religious, and "occult" speculations corresponds very exactly with the level of what is called in Sanskrit "Manas", MIND, cognate with the Latin word MENS. In the Hindu scheme of things this was another one of the seven levels of which the Universe is constructed.
- (10) and (17) Trevor James Constable, a New Zealander by birth, was serving as the Radio Officer aboard the huge British luxury liner RMS Queen Mary in the years immediately following World War II. And our Editor of that time, Waveney Girvan, published the first article by Trevor James (the pen-name being used then by Constable) in FSR Vol. 5, No. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1959), under the title "Saucers And Psychism".

Subsequent articles were "Scientists, Contactees & Equilibrium" (FSR Vol. 6, No. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1960); "Space Animals — A Fact of Life", in FSR Vol. 6, No. 4 (July/Aug. 1960); "Get Off The Defensive", in FSR Vol. 6, No. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1960); "The Case For Contact", in FSR Vol. 7, No. 6 (Nov./Dec. 1961) and Vol. 8, No. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1962); "Ufology: Something More Than A Science", in FSR Vol. 8, No. 4 (July/Aug. 1962).

Naturally, Trevor James Constable's claims to have made Infra-red photographs of some mysterious and unknown forces or energies or even craft or living beings (some of the photos look, as Constable says, merely "two-dimensional") have been received with total suspicion by not only all scientists, but also by all laymen who cling to the purely materialistic explanation for everything. I regret that I lack the necessary knowledge required to say more about it. But I will state most emphatically my complete confidence that Trevor James Constable is no trickster, but, more likely, a great pioneer. (As such, he cannot expect to be treated any better than his remarkable contemporary, Dr Wilhelm Reich, who had the misfortune to re-discover — as Constable has done — some of the things that the great German scientist Baron Karl von Reichenbach (1788-1869) had been investigating. Though pilloried then and forgotten today, Karl von Reichenbach at least did not die at the stake or on the scaffold, as so many pioneers have done. But Dr Wilhelm Reich did. He died in 1957 as the result of incarceration in a United States prison, and because he had discovered too much. Such a termination of life is called murder. And justly so.)

(11) "They Live In The Sky!", by Trevor James, appeared in 1958, when he was 26 years old, and was his first book. It only underwent two impressions and the photo-

graphs in the first were much better and clearer than the second. The brave sponsor and publisher of this "uncomfortable" book was Dr Franklin Thomas, and there were plenty who felt no surprise when they learned that Dr Thomas had died very soon after its appearance. (Publishers: New Age Publishing Co., 1542 Glendale Boulevard, Los Angeles 26, California.) Trevor James Constable's second, and far better known, book, is "The Cosmic Pulse Of Life", published in 1978 by the Merlin Press, P.O. Box 12159, Santa Ana, CA 92712, California. It discusses at length the ideas of Dr Rudolf Steiner and Dr Wilhelm Reich, and is a very valuable source for details regarding the hounding in the U.S.A. of Dr Reich and likewise the hounding and persecution of another equally important pioneer investigator of "unpopular" subjects, Dr Ruth Drown, who was also "legally murdered".

(12) The young British paragnost, Matthew Manning (born 1956) has obliged not a few doctors and scientists to take "psychic phenomena" seriously. In June 1974 he was the subject of extensive tests and experiments in Toronto. Twenty-one leading scientists, among them Britain's Nobel Prize Winner in Physics Prof. Dr Brian Josephson, and Dr George Owen, examined Matthew and his abilities, and having done so they at once stated publicly that he was probably the most gifted psychic in the western world. The scientists' discovery in Matthew of an entirely new brainwave pattern has set a milestone in psychical research. With his three books and numerous lectures and cassettes and many TV and radio appearances, Matthew Manning has become known to most households in Britain and many overseas. He is also a healer with many remarkable successes to his credit, and there are cases of people, formerly gravely ill, who have even been cured simply by listening to his tapes.

(13) His main writings are:-

"The Link: The Extraordinary Gifts of a Teenage Psychic". (Pub. by Colin Smythe, England, 1974.)

"In The Minds of Millions". (Pub. W.H. Allen, London, 1977.)

3. "The Strangers". (Pub. W.H. Allen, London, 1978.)

(14) Cyril Permutt; "Beyond The Spectrum". (Pub. Patrick Stevens, 1983.)

(15) The ANGELS. See under (3) above.

(16) BARON VON REICHENBACH (1788-1869). A remarkable pioneering German scientist, who, like so many others whom we have mentioned, had the misfortune to be born far ahead of his time. There is a mysterious vital force or energy that permeates all Nature. It is bluish in colour. It can be demonstrated visually, by heat, and by electric charge, in plants, animals and human beings. It may well be the most important Force in the Universe. But it has one strange and perplexing characteristic: it can only be perceived by individuals of great sensitivity under careful guidance by sympathetic scientists. In other words, it is in the same predicament as the study of telepathy, clairvoyance, and other subjects of Parapsychology. Baron von Reichenbach was not the first human to have stumbled upon this mysterious force, to which he gave the name of OD. Two thousand years ago and more, the sages and gurus of India knew all about it. And they had a name for it. They called it PRANA (the Life Principle). It was also the Vis Medicatrix Naturae (Healing Power of Nature) of Hippocrates in the days of ancient Greece. It has been rediscovered many times, and continues to pop up, as the Mana of the Polynesians; the Telesma of Hermes Trismegistus; the Pneuma of Galen and the Greek Stoics and others; the Astral Light of the Kabbalists; the Spiritus of Fludd; and the Magnetic Fluid of Mesmer. And, nearly a century after the death of Baron von Reichenbach, another German, Dr Wilhelm Reich, was rediscovering it and calling it ORGONE - and lost his life on account of his "unwelcome" revelations.

Von Reichenbach had a brilliant career as a metallurgist, building some of the first big steelworks, blastfurnaces etc., and achieving vast wealth as an industrialist. He was also a recognized expert on meteorites. But all to no avail. None of that earned him a decent hearing anywhere once it became known that he had discovered this new universal cosmic force and named it OD.

In 1845 he published his findings. From then until the day of his death in 1869 he and all his indefatigable studies were totally ignored or condemned without a hearing. But they have remained the precious possession of a small number of scientists and students who have kept the memory of von Reichenbach and his work alive for posterity.

The most important of Baron von Reichenbach's

publications are the following:-

1. Untersuchungen über die Dynamide des Magnetismus, der Elektrizität, der Wärme, des Lichtes, in ihren Beziehungen zur Lebenskraft. (2 vols.) (English title: Researches Into The Forces of Magnetism, Electricity, Heat, and Light, in relation to the Life Force.) The English translation, by Dr William Gregory, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, came out in 1850.

2. Odische-Magnetische Briefe. (1852). (English title:

"Odic-Magnetic Letters."

He also wrote a mass of other material, none of it, I believe, ever translated into English. In his native land, Germany, Baron von Reichenbach had a vast reputation as a scholar and a scientist. Today you will not even find his name in the Encyclopaedia Britannica! Yet Chemistry, in particular, owes him several important discoveries, notably those of paraffin (1830), eupion (1831), creosote (1832), and pittacal (1833)! In the field of geology, he was the first person to produce an exact, scientific account of the geological formation of the region of Moravia (now part of Czechoslovakia). This was published in his "Geologische Mittheilungen aus Mähren", in 1834.

(17) Trevor James Constable. (See under (10).)

(18) Dr. Walter J. Kilner, B.A., M.B. (Cantab.) M.R.C.P., etc. Some time Electrician to St. Thomas's Hospital, London.

This remarkable man discovered a scientific, physical, method for rendering the human aura temporarily visible, and wrote a remarkable book about it. From 1879 to 1893, he was in charge of all electrotherapeutic work at St. Thomas's Hospital, and wrote many learned papers on a wide range of subjects. In 1883 he became an M.R.C.S. (Member of the Royal College of Physicians). He had a private practice at Ladbroke Grove, London, then a very fashionable neighbourhood. In his spare time he was a keen and brilliant chess player.

In 1908 he conceived the idea that the human aura might be made visible if viewed through a suitable substance, and he experimented (successfully) with dicyanin, a remarkable coal-tar dye. Published in 1911, his book was at first called "The Human Atmosphere". Kilner said that there were marked changes in the appearance of the human aura in states of health and sickness, and that his viewing screen could be used for

diagnosis!

In a review published in the august columns of *The British Medical Journal* (January 6, 1912) a decidedly sceptical view of the whole affair was of course proclaimed. "Dr Kilner has failed to convince us that his aura is more real than Macbeth's visionary dagger."

In making his claim about use of the aura to diagnose disease Kilner was of course only doing what clairvoyants have been saying for centuries past, and are still saying today! (Phoebe Payne, one of the 20th century's greatest clairvoyantes, used to work professionally from her office in Chelsea, supporting and confirming the medical findings of her husband, Dr John Bendit, M.D., and with resounding success, as I know personally, for I was their medical patient over quite a long period. Incidentally Dr Bendit received his PhD. from Cambridge University on the strength of his thesis on the psychic and diagnostic powers of his wife! G.C.)

Gradually some very important people began to be interested in Kilner's studies and discoveries. Sir

Oliver Lodge was one of them. But in 1914 the First World War interrupted the work.

In 1920 a new and revised edition of Kilner's great book received a far more favourable reception in "The Medical Times". Many reputable medical men were now endorsing Kilner's views. And in March 1922 there was even an enthusiastic review of the book in the prestigious but cautious journal, "The Scientific American":

But Kilner did not live to see either of these favourable reviews. He had died on June 23, 1920, at the age of 73

Afterwards, an Englishman named Harry Boddington devised the well-known "Kilner goggles", which may possibly still be available today in some quarters.

Kilner's book, more aptly re-titled THE HUMAN AURA, was edited by my good friend Leslie Shepard, and re-published in 1965 by University Books Inc., New Hyde Park, New York, U.S.A., otherwise it would

by now probably have "sunk without trace".

(Incidentally, in 1968 the same American publishers brought out what is probably the only book available in English today on Baron von Reichenbach. This is THE ODIC FORCE, LETTERS ON OD AND MAGNETISM, translated into English by F.D. O'Byrne, and once again the Foreword is written by Leslie Shepard. As Gurdjieff always taught, for every piece of "new knowledge" mankind acquires, ten pieces of "old knowledge" are lost. Undoubtedly this is true, but nobody has done more to attempt to stem the process than Leslie Shepard.)

(19) Very fortunately, there is little likelihood that the human race will be permitted to forget Dr Rudolf

(1) "Min nari al-samumi"

Steiner (1861-1925) or that his enormous output of books and articles and lectures will be lost, although it is true that there is still a lot of valuable material by Steiner (written in an unusually difficult style of German) which nobody has yet translated into English. Steiner's Key Works:

OCCULT SCIENCE: AN OUTLINE. (DIE GE-

HEIMWISSENSCHAFT IM UMRISS).

KNOWLEDGE OF THE HIGHER WORLDS: HOW IS IT ACHIEVED? (WIE ERLANGT MAN ERKENNTNISSE DER HÖHEREN WELTEN?)

THEOSOPHY: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SUPERSENSIBLE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD AND THE DESTINATION OF MAN. (THEOSOPHIE, EINFÜHRUNG IN ÜBERSINNLICHE WELTERKENNTNIS UND MENSCHENBESTIMMUNG.)

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FREEDOM: A BASIS FOR A MODERN WORLD CONCEPTION. (DIE PHILOSOPHIE DER FREIHEIT.)

For a general account of Steiner's life and work and ideas, see also the excellent

A SCIENTIST OF THE INVISIBLE: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE & WORK OF RUDOLF STEINER,

by Dr. A.P. Shepherd, D.D. (London, Hodder & Stoughton, 1954).

For other books and general information, consult THE RUDOLF STEINER CENTRE & PRESS, 35 Park Road,

London NW1 6XT

ESOTERIC TERMINOLOGY (SANSCRIT, ARABIC, GREEK, LATIN)

"of essential fire"

(2) "Min mārijin min nārin" (3) "Malak" or "Malāk" (4) "Nur" "Light" "Thousand and One Nights" (5) "Alf Layla wa-Layla" "Ether" 3191 (6) "Akasha" "Upper Air" "Upper Air" "Clearer Air (7) "Aither" (8) "Manas" "Life Principle (9) "Prana" TEXECUTY (10) "Telesma" "Wind" "Air" "Breath" (11) "Pneuma" "Breeze" "Breath" (12) "Spīritus" G.C.

A HISTORY OF U.S. GOVERNMENT SECRECY REGARDING UFOS

Dr. James A. Harder, PhD. Copyright © 1986

This distinguished FSR Consultant is the Professor of Civilian Engineering in the University of California, at Berkeley, and was for a long time actively associated with APRO, Mrs Coral Lorenzen's fine organization which has played such a prominent role in UFO research and was the first in the field. Dr Harder testified before the Condon Committee and before various U.S. Congressional Committee meetings on UFOs, and we have already published two articles by him in FSR 29/6 and 33/1. EDITOR

When Peter Gersten and "Citizens Against UFO Secrecy"* (CAUS) filed a suit in 1979 under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to compel the National Security Agency (NSA) to release documents, few thought anything would come of it. The NSA (No Such Agency, as it is sometimes called) is probably the most secret intelligence agency in the U.S. that has a name known to the public. CAUS was seeking documents relating to UFO sighting reports. When the NSA representative, Mr. Eugene F. Yeates, appeared before a U.S. court in late 1980 in response¹, he admitted that his agency had found 239 documents of the sort sought. Seventy-nine had originated with the CIA and other agencies, and he stated that they had been referred to the other agencies for direct response to the plaintiffs. Yeates did not produce any of the remaining 160 documents, but handed Presiding Judge Gerhard Gessel a 21-page memo telling him that the documents were so sensitive that he, and presumably any of the judiciary, could not see them. Normally, in order to protect the public against spurious claims of national security, it is required that documents in dispute in FOIA cases be examined by a federal judge.

In this case, however, the 21-page memo itself was classified above Top Secret, at a security level that was itself classified. The judge and only the judge could read the memo "in camera". One can imagine a security guard watching over the judge until the memo was handed back. The usual excuse for secrecy regarding UFO reports in the hands of government agencies is that secret methods of obtaining information, and how the agencies go about listening in on foreign radio and radar transmissions, might somehow be compromised. It is possible that this excuse was contained in the Top Secret memo, though it is hard to believe that all 239 of the documents could be reasonably restricted by this consideration.

However, in 1982 a sanitized version of the memo was released. About 90% of the space is totally blacked out, and the remaining 10% has significant phrases blacked out. But there are enough bits here and there to be most intriguing. For example, on the third line from the bottom of page two is the statement: "One document... was erroneously treated as a part of the subject matter of plaintiff's FIOA request. It is an account by a person assigned to NSA of his attendance at a UFO symposium and it cannot fairly be said to be a record of the kind sought by the plaintiff." We are left to wonder how many other documents concerning the activities of the NSA were left out because they did not meet the specificity requirements of the FOIA, and how many other operatives had been sent to observe meetings devoted to UFO matters.

Also contained in the observable 10 % of the memo is an explanation of why certain parts of selected "non-COMINT" reports could not be revealed even though they did not relate to special intelligence-gathering activities. The acronym COMINT is used in the memo to describe material that cannot be disclosed; it means "Communications Intelligence". Ref-

erences are made to non-COMINT documents that had been partially released. For example, one document had been released to the plaintiffs, but with certain deletions. The report was entitled UFO Hypothesis and Survival Questions. The name of the author and his "NSA component" were deleted. A second document was partially released, according to the memo, but with all of the title deleted after "UFO". This document apparently was a three-page draft of a criticism of NSA's "COMINT" interception and reporting procedures. The memo states that "... (the author) uses the UFO phenomena to illustrate his belief that the..." There are then further deletions of several lines. Then the visible parts of the memo's quotations continue: "... of the handling of the UFO phenomena as it demonstrates what he believes is the..." The memo explains that these remarks cannot be revealed because they might stifle the candor of internal criticism of the NSA.

The deletion of parts of paragraph three of document #2 is further explained: It contains information about signals intelligence (SIGINT) operations, the withholding of which would seem to be reasonable. However, this paragraph is stated to contain material (presumably not SIGINT) that "concerns the organization and operational activities and functions of NSA ... " At this point the last 15 letters and spaces of one line and the beginning 17 letters and spaces of the next line were blanked out. An interpretation of the first 15 spaces was made by Mr. William E. Moore: ... with respect to. On the new line the words its UFO programs. fits the 17 characters and spaces blacked out. Of course a number of other possibilities exist for the 17 characters, but the logic of the earlier sentences suggests that were the operational acitivites being hidden really connected with SIGINT or another legitimate subject, this would have been stated. If the UFO-subject-matter interpretation is accurate, it suggests that the NSA does not wish to reveal any organization and operational responsibilities in the UFO area. It thus may be the current center of this activity, which some thought had been the responsibility of the Air Force. The NSA is particularly well placed for covert operations insofar as Public Law 86-36 provides that "no law shall be construed to require disclosure of the organization or any function of the NSA or any information with respect to activities thereof." The primary function of the NSA is technical intelligence-gathering, and few would suspect that it is otherwise engaged.

Apparently a discussion of two other "non-COMINT" documents was lost in the blanks, since the memo then goes on to discuss (in about seventeen blanked out pages)** the remaining 156 COMINT documents. Thus one is left with the impression that the vast majority of the NSA documents dealing with UFOs are connected with communications intelligence. This may well be an artifact of the particular request made by CAUS, however; were a specific request to be made for documents relating to "organizational and operation activities and functions of NSA

with respect to its UFO programs" who knows how many documents (none of which would be disclosed because of Public Law 86-36) could be enumerated?

Whether or not the NSA is actually the current center for government UFO operational activities, there is much evidence that there is such a center. The particular needs of NSA for secrecy would make it a prime candidate for locating super-secret activities there — even the President may have but limited access. Were he to inquire, it could easily be explained that he has no "need to know" about sensitive intelligence-gathering activities that have nothing to do with policy. If he persisted, it might be easy to provide so much information that anything about UFOs would be lost in it. If the President were expected to further persist, as President Carter may have (recall that during his presidential campaign Carter promised to open UFO files to the public) a contingency plan could have been worked out in the time between election and inauguration. In the view of some intelligence professionals, there are secrets too sensitive to be shared with an officeholder whose tenure is at most eight years.

Early history of governmental cover-ups

The above instance of a probable NSA cover-up of UFO activities is but a recent part of a long history, reaching back to at least 1941, of how the U.S. government has dealt with the UFO matter. The problem of uncovering this involvement is not unlike trying to discern the bottom contours of the Pacific Ocean from a few soundings and the appearance of a few islands that break the surface. We do know that the ocean is there, and that parts of it are very deep. In what follows the independent discoveries of many tireless UFO investigators will be integrated into an overall picture that is as clear as can be presented without access to classified information.

One starting point is the recovery of a crashed UFO from the Sonoran Desert of Mexico in late 1941.*** Although this case is still under investigation, and is not as well documented as others, it is of interest because of its early date, and because of reports that it was recovered by a team from U.S. Navy Intelligence. At that time, Naval Intelligence was the premier U.S. intelligence agency in terms of scientific prowess, and it would have been natural that it should have been placed in charge. The case came to the attention of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) when an informant came forward to reveal an experience he had had at the age of ten. The informant, now a very successful business manager, was lurking on the landing of a stair instead of being in bed, and observed an older relative, an officer in the U.S. Navy Intelligence, bring out a sheaf of 8 by 10 glossy prints. He was apparently sharing with his family a secret too wild to keep to himself. In one of the photos a grounded UFO took up most of the scene. In another, one of his friends was depicted, standing in front of the craft holding upright one of the several dead bodies the team had recovered. I was present during the hypnosis session, wherein the witness to the scene was able to clearly recover the images of the photographs from memory. Other details are still under investigation by APRO. The retired Navy officer, when reached, denied any knowledge of the matter.

Intelligence agencies do not communicate their findings to other agencies, even other intelligence agencies, unless there is a "need to know"; thus the staff at the Air Material Command (AMC) at what was then called Wright Field Army Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio (AMC was a part of Army Air Force research and development) did not know, in the summer of 1947, that there was

already another player on the field. Stimulated by the Kenneth Arnold sighting (flying saucers over Mount Rainier) on June 24, 1947, the AMC gained permission to investigate the so-called flying discs. In a letter to the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington D.C., Lt.-General N.F. Twining wrote in a Secret report (later declassified and included as an appendix in the Condon Report) that "the considered opninion" was that the so-called flying discs were "something real and not visionary or fictitious.. the reported operational characteristics such as extreme rates of climb, manoeuverability (particularly in roll) and action which must be considered evasive when sighted or contacted by friendly aircraft and radar, lend belief to the possibility that some of the objects are controlled either manually, automatically, or remotely..."2 The letter was dated 23 September 1947. Subsequently the AMC was given priority 2-A and a project name "SIGN". One important reason for staff concern was a fear that the discs reported were something the Russians might have developed, perhaps based on secret design information gained from the Germans at the end of World War II.

After several months of investigation, the AMC was in a position to come to an "Estimate of the Situation". In a Top Secret report dated August 8, 1948, the estimate was that the reported sightings were of extraterrestrial spacecraft.3 When this report got to General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Air Force Chief of Staff, he would have none of it. Even when a delegation of scientists came from the AMC to bolster their report, he could not be budged. Maybe he knew or had learned something he could not reveal to the folk at AMC. From that time the Air Force operation at AMC was put into a holding position of making some investigations, but with the main job of denying that there was anything to UFO sightings except mistakes and frauds. In February of 1949 the name of the project was officially changed to "GRUDGE" with what some personnel saw as an indication of an official attitude. In the meanwhile AMC was renamed the Air Technical Intelligence Center (ATIC).

What General Vandenberg might have known is that there was a branch of Air Force Intelligence that was playing host to UFO operations, the personnel of which may have moved over from Naval Intelligence. This group's activities do not seem to have been known to Project GRUDGE or its successor, Project BLUE BOOK. However, the staff at ATIC were not the only ones to find that they had been pre-empted. The summer of 1952 saw an extraordinary outpouring of reports from all over the U.S.; UFOs were seen over Washington D.C. during the Democratic National Convention and it was all the Air Force could do to keep the cover from being blown off. All of this activity sparked an interest at the Office of Scientific Intelligence (OSI) branch of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). Massive evidence compiled by Brad Sparks speaks to a considerable interest in the "substantive issues" of UFO research at OSI during the fall of 1952. CIA documents describing UFOs flying at high speed, and over forbidden military zones, leave little doubt that the OSI considered them to be extraterrestrial craft; furthermore, Sparks obtained interviews with agents who admitted this implied conclusion, though their reports were couched in the somewhat more conservative wording that the sightings could not be explained by any man-made craft. In the fall of 1952 a conference was planned, later to be known as The Robertson Panel. But by the time OSI could get started on the substantive issues, there was a change of personnel as the new President, Dwight D. Eisenhower, promoted Alan Dulles from being deputy director to the Directorship of the CIA. Subsequent events show that the OSI was deflected from its original interests in "substantive issues".

Far from being a discussion of the substantive issues of UFOs, the Robertson Panel seemed principally concerned with the dangers posed by the phenomena; this was seen to be of two sorts: one, that there was a danger that UFO sightings could be mistaken for those of enemy aircraft and that reports of them might clog military channels of communication in an emergency, and second, a certain "subjectivity of (the) public to mass hysteria and greater vulnerability to possible enemy psychological warfare".

One of the panel recommendations was that there be a double barrel program of training and debunking. The training (for military personnel) would result in the proper recognition of unusually illuminated objects that were assumed to be at least partly the stimulus for UFO reports. The debunking aim was to:

"result in (the) reduction of (the) public interest in 'flying saucers' which today evokes a strong psychological reaction. This education could be accomplished by mass media such as television, motion pictures and popular articles. Basis of such education would be actual case histories which had been puzzling at first but later explained. As in the case of conjuring tricks there is much less stimulation if the 'secret' is known. Such a program should tend to reduce the current gullibility of the public and consequently their susceptibility to clever hostile propaganda..." (4, p. 915)

A television program fitting this description was produced by Jack Webb and appeared weekly in the early 1970s. A friend of mine, Jim Miller, was one of the writers, but quit after he had submitted three drafts of one episode — he was not able or willing to satisfy the producer who wanted a certain slant. The slant wanted, it appeared, was very similar to that recommended by the Robertson Panel report.

The panel also took note of civilian UFO study groups and warned that such organizations should be watched "because of their potentially great influence on mass thinking if widespread sightings should occur..." (4, p. 917) Further remarks were made that the "apparent irresponsibility and the possible use of such groups for subversive purposes should be kept in mind..." In the conclusions section there is the statement "... the continued emphasis of the reporting of these phenomena does, in these parlous times, result in a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic... and the cultivation of a morbid national psychology in which skillful hostile propaganda could induce hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority." (4, p. 918)

This report was classified Secret, and might never have been discovered except that it was seen in the unclassified files at the Foreign Technology Division (formerly ATIC) headquarters by Dr. James Mc Donald. He was browsing through their unclassified files and, when he came upon this document, asked if he could have a copy. After a few weeks he was informed that the document had been reclassified by the CIA and was no longer available. It was partially declassified in 1966, perhaps partly because of this leak. Still later Brad Sparks secured the complete declassification of the main body. The report wa subsequently published, with some deletions and without its significant appendices, in the Condon Report.4 A somewhat amusing side effect was felt at APRO headquarters where Coral Lorenzen discovered in 1954 that one of her office "volunteers" was working for someone else too. She found a discarded second typing sheet, which, when the impressions were dusted with graphite, revealed a report on APRO activities written to an undisclosed agency by the volunteer. It is indeed beyond chance that at one time there were as many as two covert ex-CIA officers (in addition to the one known) on the board of directors of the National Investigations Committee for Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

Although the information is necessarily sketchy, the data from the first decade of government activity in UFO investigation (from about 1941 to 1953) suggests that an initial investigative group, perhaps from Naval Intelligence, successfully defended their turf from the Army Air Forces and the CIA. The number of persons who had inside information is unknown, but it need not have been large. Most interesting is how outsiders were successfully diverted from gaining inside information. More of this later. In the meanwhile, the pattern of initial interest on the part of scientific-oriented personnel, followed by a government inspired diversion, developed also in the Soviet Union.

Apparently acting on one branch of high government authority, Felix Zigel', a Professor at the Moscow Aviation Institute, and retired Major-General P.A. Stolyarov of the USSR Air Force, made a most unusual appeal over prime-time Soviet Television on November 10, 1967. They asked viewers from throughout the nation to send them information about any strange craft seen flying over the Soviet Union, explaining that the matter was a serious challenge to science. They provided details of the kinds of information sought. An article by Processor Zigel' in the January 1968 issue of Soviet Life offered many examples the author had collected, including reports from Soviet astronomers who had watched a UFO flying through our atmosphere.

Hundreds of letters flooded to the address announced by the television program, and soon over 200 documented cases were under investigation. Newspapers carried many stories of UFO sightings and of the research. This interest in UFOs was short lived, however, as *Pravda* issued a sharp statement in February 1968 showering the issue with ridicule. In March, 1968, the program was abandoned, and Zigel' was under severe pressure to stop seeking information about eyewitness accounts.

In Europe the British have been as resolute in ridiculing UFOs as have the Americans, which may be accounted for by their early close co-operation with U.S. intelligence. In France, a program called the Unidentified Aerospace Phenomena Study Group (GEPAN) began in 1977 with high hopes, but has reached a plateau even to the present day of not admitting any extraterrestrial hypotheses regarding strange things seen in the skies or landed on the ground. Instead, with a small staff of only four, supplemented by other government and police help, GE-PAN is resolutely polishing an image of scientific rectitude. (GEPAN is now defunct, and replaced by another body. ED.)

A conversation with Professor Condon

Thus there emerges a nearly world-wide pattern of an initial interest in the scientific study of UFOs that is aborted or diverted by what appears to be covert forces. In the U.S., political pressures for a study led the Air Force to issue a request for a proposal from university groups, a study which ultimately produced the "Condon Report" from the University of Colorado. During the preparation of the proposal from Colorado, Robert Low, an Assistant Dean in the Graduate

School, wrote the famous memo of how the University might deal with any controversy over the propriety of its participation.**** His memo, dated August 9, 1966, was in partial preparation for a meeting with Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) staff, scheduled for the next day.5 In it, Low argued that the proposed study would perforce be done almost entirely by non-believers and, while the project could never "prove" that no UFOs have ever come from another world, it could contribute impressive evidence for such a conclusion. "The trick", he wrote, "would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear to be a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of non-believers trying their best to be objective but having an almost zero expectation of finding a

Although the Air Force advisory committee that had recommended the study had suggested that "a few" universities or not-for-profit organizations be awarded study contracts (it can be argued that more than one point of view is useful when a controversial subject is to be studied), the AFOSR staff decided that one was enough, and Colorado was to be the one. Details of the contract were worked out during September in conferences between Professor Edward U. Condon, Low, and the staff of AFOSR. After the contract was awarded to Colorado, Robert Low obtained a leave from the graduate school to become director of the new project.

Condon, the nominal head of the project, took very little part in either administration or investigation, leaving a rather free hand to Project Director Low. Dr. Condon did not learn of the "trick..." memo until 18 months after it was written, when two project personnel found it in the project files; the two showed it to Professor James McDonald, who passed it on to John Fuller and Life Magazine. Amidst the resulting

tempest, the two were promptly fired.

In the summer of 1968, when the project was in its final report preparation phase, I made a visit to Condon in his own office. Condon and I had a very frank discussion of policy before Low was able to hasten over from project offices. Dr. Condon asked what I would do about publishing a project report that might reflect a conclusion that UFOs were a manifestation of extraterrestrial intelligence (ETH). I replied that I thought there would be other considerations than purely scientific ones, for example, those having an international dimension, or those affecting national security. He smiled the smile of a man who sees his own opinions reflected in the opinions of others, said he had given the matter much thought, and that he had concluded that if the answer were to be a positive finding of ETH, he would not make the report public. Instead, he would take the report to Washington, to the President's Science Advisor, and have the decision made there. Subsequently Professor David Saunders, one of the principal investigators for the project, recalled in his book "UFOs YES!" that Dr. Condon had expressed much the same opinion in staff meetings.

A trio of theories

There are at least three hypotheses that might explain the suppression of information from government sources and an apparent lack of government research on UFOs here or abroad. The first is, of course, that all UFO reports are the result of mistakes or frauds, so there is nothing to hide. A second is that all govern-

ments are independently following a program of suppression. A more likely theory is that there is to some extent an international agreement among the relevant intelligence agencies in both the western democracies and in the Soviet bloc nations to suppress information. Enough information has leaked out of the Soviet Union to suggest that UFOs are seen about as frequently over its territory as over the U.S., so Soviet intelligence agencies should have the same motivation for mounting a study as have their U.S. counterparts. They also have a stronger state apparatus for suppressing information about such a study, and seem to be using it.

Motivations for suppression of information

What would be the motivation for such a severe suppression, the mounting of programs of disinformation, and the general way in which ridicule is heaped on the subject and on those civilians who are trying to find out more about it? Furthermore, why would this happen in both the West and in the USSR? To gain some insight into such a motivation, may I suggest that the reader try, as an exercise, to get out of the mind-set of a person interested in UFO matters as an amateur or a scientist, and into the mind-set of a professional intelligence agent who has the job of studying UFOs not just a few hours a month, but forty hours a week. To this should be added, access to UFO information that is far more extensive and possibly alarming than the public knows, and a responsibility of an intelligence mission: to keep track of and study all that could be a threat to one's nation (or planet).

From this point of view, strangers on one's borders that show no sign of co-operation or communication surely invite suspicion. Since the intelligence agencies don't know the purposes or motivations of the strangers, the standard operating procedure would be to consider them a potential adversary. It would be natural to try to discover what they are capable of doing and to analyze a worst-case scenario of conflict. That is, after all, what intelligence agencies are expected to do. There is no place in their operations for a pollyanna faith that strangers (extraterrestrial or not) are friendly, even if they were to say they are. Thus we should not expect a response from intelligence agencies to the UFO "threat", given the mission they have, to be any different from what has been made.*****

I think this is a partial explanation for the secrecy that has surrounded the governmental programs. The first information that came to the attention of the government would naturally find its way to the military intelligence agencies, and the future of the investigations would be firmly established by their point of view. To them, the UFO phenomena must have seemed truly awesome — the worst of science fiction come to life. They would remember the panic caused by the first radio dramatization of H.G. Wells' War of the Worlds in 1938 and realize that this time there would be no way to admit the existence of UFOs without risking an unknown reaction from the public. So at first, at least, they decided to sit out what might have been a passing storm. If they felt they had to begin contingency planning to cope with a possible invasion, there was certainly every reason to keep that sort of planning secret. Making such plans in co-operation with their counterparts in Soviet intelligence would be very much needed, but hardly something one could explain to politicians here.

Then, after some time and further study, they would realize that objects similar to UFOs have been reported for centuries, so that the recent increase in

UFO activity may be but a stepped-up surveillance brought about by our development of atomic energy, and that the possibility of an invasion was remote. This would not automatically result in the abandonment of secrecy, absent any good reason. There would be many unknown consequences attendant upon public disclosure. It is true that public opinion polls show that a large majority of Americans believe that UFOs are real, as opposed to something imaginary. A majority, according to some polls, believe that UFOs are extraterrestrial spacecraft. But this is only superficial; there is little evidence that human life or basic belief systems have been, so far at least, directly affected by such opinions. We see pictures like "ET", depicting friendly little aliens, or others of space lizards out to subject the world, but this is only fiction. However, were there to be a government announcement, repeated to the point of no denial, that UFOs are very real extraterrestrial spacecraft, the sense of uncritical wonder the public now exhibits might change drastically. The potential impact (as Dr. Condon agreed) on international relations and national security could be a Pandora's Box full of almost unimaginable troubles.

Further reasons for secrecy

Once entered upon, the government programs intended to address the UFO problem would gain a life of their own, complete with the secrecy apparatus. Those on the inside would assume an almost godlike position of power - gatherers of intelligence information, architects of global security sitting in judgement of how much ordinary citizens could know. Yet this is not entirely fair — they are also, and probably see themselves as, devoted public servants serving their fellow citizens in ways they cannot speak of — a lonely task imposing a heavy responsibility. Furthermore, this very responsibility would lead to a covert cooperation with counterpart agencies within the USSR, where much the same concerns are being felt. A sense of isolation from their fellow citizens, together with a common supra-national responsibility and the cover of complete secrecy, would give scope for a limited sort of joint planning for a remotely possible alien invasion of planet Earth. Surely it would be difficult to explain this to a Congressional subcommittee without jolting the public unmercifully.

The more thoughtful of the insiders will surely have considered whether any good could ever compensate for the enormous problems attendant upon making the program public. Would there be any technological gains from a closer communication with aliens? Not likely. Could they be relied on to favor western democratic thought over Soviet collective thought? Problematical, particularly since an alien form of government might be expected to be highly collective. Could scientists learn anything from closer communication? Probably not, if the learning had the potential for making the Earth better able to extend its influence farther into space. On no front could advantage be expected. On every front, unexpected problems could be anticipated. One would be the fear that were the U.S. to make a clean breast of past secrecy and to admit UFO reality, the Soviets could take advantage of it. Thus it could be argued that while our citizens were clamoring for international co-operation to meet a common threat, the Soviets could stonewall the problem with their own people, keeping them in the dark. We might be demoralized in carrying out earthly struggles with real enemies, while they would have a free hand to continue what some call international subversion.

Would there be any advantages to contact?

Fantasy and fiction aside, I think there is little or nothing of a technical or scientific nature we can expect to be told by the ETs. Humans have been spectacularly successful in applying what technical knowledge they do have to the development of war instruments; to a wise group of ETs, the supply of additional technology to us, under such circumstances, might be compared to a proposal on our part to supply a group of chimpanzees with sub-machineguns and the training of how to reload clips.

On the other hand we might with a better expectation of success inquire about the social and psychological chracteristics of ET societies. This would hardly be information that would be dangerous. Surely it would be very useful for us to become aware of the ways in which advanced societies may have coped with problems we ourselves are facing in the here and now. Although from an ET point of view it may seem that we are already supplied with copious sources of wisdom to which we are inattentive, we could plead slow learning. If we could learn from the history of another civilization better than we have so far learned from our own history, the results could be spectacular. It is always good to have examples of past successes; we do have need for hope.

The effect of government secrecy on science

In the early years, the behaviour of UFO vehicles was seen as defying conventional scientific principles. Thus the fantastic accelerations, supersonic flight without a sonic boom, noiseless hovering maneuvers, observed strange force fields — were altogether fascinating, but could not be placed within any known theoretical framework. From a detached point of view, government programs of debunking UFO reality, combined with the withholding of data, probably had little effect on the progress of physical science at that time.

Today, however, particle physics has entered a new era in which experiments require equipment, like the proposed superconducting super-collider, costing many billions of dollars. At the same time theorists, less constrained by the possibility of experimental verification or non-verification, are spinning more and more fantastic descriptions of what may be possible. Super-string theory, which brings quantum gravity into particle physics, and which in some interpretations provides a prediction of a new type of hidden matter, is an example. Topology has provided an existence proof of additional four-dimensional manifolds that are very different from the one we live in. Finally, cosmologists and astronomers have yet to find 90 per cent of the mass required to regularize the motions of the Cosmos. They are also at a loss to explain an invisiable gravitational source, calculated to have a mass equivalent to 1000 galaxies but to be less than 1.5 million light years across, that is required to explain the gravitational lensing of the image of a distant quasar.

Is there anything from UFO observations that could contribute to a solution to the problems now being faced in conventional science? If anything is to be gained, the first step is to take UFO observations seriously, and then to quantify them. Although at first we could only expect to find new puzzles, it is possible that eventually all of the strange observations can be brought into harmony. Surely this is a worthy goal of our science.

What should be our response?

Whatever agency is at the core of government research, however much its hirelings are able to heap ridicule on those expressing an interest in UFOs, to whatever extent it can mount debunking programs against the average citizen, we still are a free nation. Here in the West, at least, these suppressions should have little impact on scientists who are aware of their heritage in searching for the truth. So if we, as a group, are being manipulated, it is to some extent with our own acquiescence. As Shakespeare had Cassius remark, "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves..."

REFERENCES

- U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, Civil Action No. 80-1562.
- Final Report of the Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects, Daniel S. Gillmor, Ed. Bantam Book edition, 1968 (the CONDON Report) page 894.
- Ruppelt, E.J. The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, Ace Books, New York (1956). Captain Ruppelt was in charge of Project Blue Book from March 1952 to February 1953, and from July 1953 to May 1954). Also Major Donald Keyhoe reported that he saw a copy of the document in 1952.
- 4. CONDON Report (ibid) pp 905-919.
- 5. ibid page 549.
- 6. ibid page x.
- 7. ibid page 550.

COMMENT BY EDITOR, FSR

- * We have referred frequently in FSR to CAUS and their lawsuits in connection with the *Freedom of Information Act*. In particular, see FSR 29/5 (1984); 30/1 (1984); 31/1 (1985); 31/2 (1986); and 31/5 (1986).
- ** For photostats of these erased or partly-erased pages in the 21-page Affidavit in Camera produced in 1980 in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia by Mr Eugene F. Yeates, Chief of the Office of Policy, National Security Agency (NSA), in the course of the hearing of the case brought against the NSA by CITIZENS AGAINST UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS SECRECY (CAUS), see the book "CLEAR INTENT: THE GOVERNMENT COVER-UP OF THE UFO EXPERIENCE", by Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood (published in 1984 by Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 07632, price in paperback US\$8.95).
- *** This is not by any means the first time that we have

come across the claim that the first crashed UFO with dead crew recovered by the U.S. Government was not in 1947 or 1948, but dates back to as early as 1941, and we think that it may very well be true. If so, the fact is of some importance, since it would seem to indicate the invalidity of the theory — held by some — that the current massive inspection of us and our planet by aliens began only in 1947, having been

— held by some — that the current massive inspection of us and our planet by aliens began only in 1947, having been provoked by the detonation of the first atomic bombs (in 1945). In such a case, the use of nuclear weapons here would seemingly *not* be the primary reason for alien activities.

**** The information that has reached us at FSR indicates that Mr Robert Low (now deceased) was an Intelligence Officer (from either the CIA or NSA) who had been seconded into the academic world as an Assistant Dean in the Graduate School of the University of Colorado, no doubt for the precise purpose of presiding over the gestation-period of the Condon Report. When he came to Britain, Professor Winder and I spent a day in entertaining him on behalf of FSR and taking him around, to Windsor and elsewhere. He displayed not the slightest interest (or even knowledge) whatsoever in the matter of Ufology, and ignored all the important material that we offered him. Having, myself, had plenty of dealings with CIA men in my own official life, I formed the firm conclusion that he was also one of them.

What did however strike me very forcibly about Mr Low was that he seemed desperately anxious to squeeze in a visit to Loch Ness. And when he discovered that I own a copy of practically every book ever written on unknown lake and sea monsters, he was keen to borrow the lot (but not a single UFO book or report) and carry them back to America for study. (I think he was convinced that sea and lake monsters were "all baloney", so probably he hoped to use them in his work of "debunking" the UFOs and also "debunking" us!)

For FSR's early announcements and comments on Condon, including our early announcements of the discovery of Low's *Memorandum* and the impending confidence trick at Colorado University, see Charles Bowen's Editorials in FSR 13/5 (1967); 14/1, 14/2, 14/3, 14/6 (all of 1968); and 15/2 (1969).

****** For many years past, there has been a slow accumulation of slight indications that, however much they might be at loggerheads on other and more general issues, the USA and USSR may long have been "in cahoots" (CIA-KGB collaboration) regarding the existence of a grave threat to mankind from aliens, and that consequently the so-called "Star Wars" programme of the much vilified President Reagan (a programme which our "Left Wingers" hate so much because they fear it might slow down or impede the Soviet conquest of the planet) may be not at all what the public has been led to think it is! (In which case, the Soviet attitude of "protest" might be what the Chinese call a piece of "shadow-boxing).

It will take time to assemble all the pointers which we have, but I feel that in due course it will be necessary to discuss this question more fully. G.C.

AN ANIMAL MUTILATION CASE IN SWEDEN

(Translation from Swedish) From the newspaper *Wermlands Tidningen* (September 30, 1988. (Credit and thanks to FSR reader Arthur Strong in Arvika, Sweden, for this report.)

Dead elk found near Hunneberg in August

- Never seen anything like it.
- Bones near the body crossed in the same place.
- Wounds on all four legs are exactly the same; otherwise no other injuries.
- No signs in the surroundings to suggest that a wounded elk had made its way to there.
- Injuries must have been inflicted on that very spot where the elk was found. (Or it must have been dropped there from the sky.)
- That it was struck by lightning is a possibility. But lightning would leave marks. Lightning could have struck the animal, gone into the legs, and

caused explosions in the joints. But nothing like this has ever been documented before. Nobody knows what could have happened.

The bones were cut from the body and sent away to the Veterinary Medical Centre in Uppsala, where they were X-rayed by Ms Margareta Steen, an expert on cause of death in elks. She found no signs of shotwounds, and no bullets. And she also does not believe in the possibility of lightning as the cause. Ms Steen can therefore find no explanation for the wounds, but the case does seem to indicate that it was some external violence, which caused the heavy bleeding of the animal.

In conclusion, Ms Steen said she hoped that if another dead elk should be found anywhere with similar features, she would like to be informed at once, so as to be able to go to the spot and view the carcase.

Paul Hellberg, a UFO researcher at the UFO Space Watch Station at Nyhammer, has received a letter from a lady who states that a friend of hers living near Hunneberg (and who does not want to be identified) saw a large unidentified object in the sky shortly before the body of the elk was found. The UFO was very low, over a mountain. A spot on it was shining, like

gold. The object was very beautiful, and covered with spikes sticking out all around it. From time to time it would sway to and fro.

When Paul Hellberg read about the dead elk, he recognized what had occurred, having read books on the subject. He says the same sort of thing has taken place with many cattle in the U.S.A.

The lady who was the eyewitness, and who saw the UFO, has telephoned to our newspaper to confirm the account that we had already received through her friend. But she still insisted on remaining anonymous.

STUNNED NEW ZEALAND GOLFERS SEE "GREEN MONKEY-LIKE BEINGS" ON THE FAIRWAY

According to a report by Douglas Golightly to the newspaper Sunday News (New Zealand) of May 14, 1989, early morning golfers at the Wairakei International Course saw three "green, monkey-like animals" stroll out of the mist onto the first fairway during the weekend May 6/May 7, 1989.

Mr John Harris, a resident of Taupo, was with two friends at the famous golf course in the centre of North Island, and they were just planning a quick round. (The position of Taupo is at 38° 41 S, and just north of the large lake of the same name. The exact position of Wairakei was not given in the report, but we can assume that it is in the close vicinity of this lake. — ED.)

So Mr John Harris was just about to tee off when, looking down the fairway ahead of him, he couldn't believe his eyes.

He said: "It was *unreal* — from out of the mist came these three bright green creatures. To be perfectly honest, I couldn't believe it. I shouted to the others, who were standing beside the tee, and they looked, and absolutely freaked.

"We jumped into the buggy, and took off down the fairway to try to see if those 'things' were for real, and they actually stood still there for a while. But, when we had got to about 50 metres from them, they 'took off'.

"We tried to find them, but it was hopeless. Only then did we realize how shaken we were — it was terrifying".

Mr John Harris went on to describe the 'beasts' as

34.

about 2 m. in height, slim, and coloured bright green, and with a luxuriant growth of hair.

What is even more interesting is that local residents say this is the *third sighting* of such creatures on that same golf course, the first reported sighting having been in 1984.

The second sighting was earlier this year, when two American golfers playing at Wairakei also glimpsed and heard the same bizarre sort of green creatures.

One of the American tourists (for fear of being ridiculed he would only give his name as "Chuck") told a New Zealand journalist: "As we got closer to them, we spotted what looked to be like a couple of big hounds — only that they were ... green! We carefully moved closer, but then they spotted us, made a weird highpitched squeaking sound, and darted into the trees.

"We didn't report it at the time ... would you? ..."

Taking a more light-hearted view of the matter (as is only fully understandable!) was the Wairakei Golf Course Manager Mr Pat Watson, who, tongue in cheek, said he "would be more than happy to accommodate any aliens keen on a round".

He added: "Of course they would have to pay their green-fees, and they wouldn't be allowed to use supercharged clubs or balls". And he went on to say that any golfers who want to catch a glimpse of the aliens are of course more than welcome at Wairakei.

"We cater for anyone down here, and the aliens might burn up the course. That would be a challenge to play against."

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MAIL BAG

Correspondents are asked to keep their letters short and give full name and address (not necessarily for publication). It is not always possible for the Editor to acknowledge every letter personally, and so he takes this opportunity to thank all who write to him.

A "Snooper" Disturbed?

Dear Sir, — At approximately 11.00 p.m. on Friday, June 20 of this year, I was a passenger in a car driven by a friend and we were travelling northeastwards and returning from Norwich to Lyng along the A1067 towards Fakenham, and passing through the area of scattered bungalows between Drayton and Taverham. Suddenly my attention was caught by a light ahead of us and to our left. My immediate reaction was to assume that it was an aircraft's landing light as the Norwich Airport was near by (distant only four miles).

Then I realized that the light semed to be very low and close to us, and also apparently stationary.

I asked my friend to slow down, and I saw that behind the first beam of light there were four more lights, all red, as though along the side of a craft or vehicle. They were arranged in an oblong pattern about 8 ft. high and 16 ft. long, representing the four corners of an oblong shape which was darker than the sky, and which may have extended somewhat beyond these dimensions in both directions.

I judged the thing to be at a distance of about 75 yards (225 ft.) from the road on which we were, and at a height of about 60 ft.

As we drew level with the thing and halted, I could see the beam of light pointing forwards to my left.

Then slowly the thing began to move towards the direction of Norwich (behind me on my left) and it was soon hidden from my sight behind the trees at the roadside. However, my companion, who had got out onto the road, and was standing there, could still see it moving silently and smoothly away.

There was no wind.

As the thing moved on, its light showed a definite beam preceding it. The night was clear, without mist, so the cone of light, like a searchlight, must have come from a powerful source.

The area of Norfolk in question is very much of an "air lane", being the approach to Norwich Airport. Consequently, the sight of powerful lights of aircraft-light type, would probably not attract much attention.

The features that my friend and I both found most inexplicable were (a) the low altitude of the thing; (b) the fact that it was hovering, stationary; and (c) the apparent absence of any sound from it as it flew away. To these features one would also add the odd set of lights and the apparent shape, dimly seen though it was.

The impression which I formed was that, when we pulled up, we disturbed it from its very low position above a bungalow, and caused it to move off.

When I arrived at my home some fifteen minutes later, I had a strange feeling of pressure inside my head". Yours faithfully, Mr. ——, (Name and address on FSR files), July 30, 1989.

"Has your head exploded lately?"

Dear Sir, — The item "Has Your Head Exploded Lately?", in FSR 34/2 was of great interest to me because, two weeks before I received this number of FSR, I was awakened one night at about 11 p.m. by what seemed to be a terrific explosion just above my head, apparently at the point where the brick wall and the ceiling of this single-storey house meet. Actually, it seemed like two bombs exploding almost simultaneously, perhaps at an interval of, say, one-twentieth of a second.

Although I have experienced many odd things in my life, this was certainly one of the strangest!

I am 34 years of age and reasonably sane and in very good health, with normal blood pressure, although I did have a stroke about ten years

Finally, your reference to UMMO* or the PLEIADES intrigues me, as you have mentioned these some time ago, and I wish you could expand on them, because some of my own experiences perhaps could be attributed to these phenomena.

Yours sincerely, Malcolm F. Bradley, 11/26 Jonathan Ave., Burwood East, Victoria 3151, Australia. July 25, 1989.

* My reference to "UMMO" and "THE PLEIADES" was intended purely as a joke, since I have no doubt whatsoever that these two ongoing "sagas" of alleged "E.T." activity on our planet are nothing more than hogwash - hoaxes played on us humans perpetrated by other-dimensional denizens of this same world. I agree that Mr Bradley's strange experiences, if he has had such, may very well stem from this same source, for alas, it is a fact that, nowadays, at least all over the USA and Britain, millions of humans are being bamboozled and hoodwinked and fooled by these creatures, via the means of ouija-boards, automatic writing, "channelling", spiritualistic séances, and all conceivable manner of tomfoolery.

There's no doubt that they get an enormous kick out of fooling us, and I have personally known several individuals who have been gravely injured (mentally) as a result. But the aliens are at the same time getting other and much more serious benefits which, in their parasitic fashion, they derive from us. I refer to the subtler and finer

energies which they regularly "milk" from us, and which are SOME OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THEIR VISITATIONS.

WE ARE THEIR "CATTLE". AND THEY "MILK" US. - G.C.

Charles Bowen

Dear Editor, — I was saddened to hear of the passing of Charles Bowen. He was a dedicated man who did so much for the *Review* and for Ufology. He is, and will continue to be, very much missed* by us all.

Yours sincerely, C. Edwards, 124 Eaton Road, Brynhyfryd, Swansea, Wales.

*And by nobody more than myself, who have to labour on without him. In their letters many readers and correspondents continue to pay their tributes, and I am sure that Charles Bowen's family will all be touched by this fact. — EDITOR

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