

# UFOs AND THE MYSTERIOUS SMALL SPHERES

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ACCORDING to the American Ufologist James M. McCampbell, "When witnesses report a UFO sighting which involves an object moving near to the surface of a body of water, they may describe a ripple effect on the water, which ripple appears to have been caused by the object. The UFO researcher should be interested in studying the possible cause of this effect, and what this may suggest about the nature of UFOs."<sup>1</sup> And we must bear in mind that, although no definite conclusions can actually be reached at present regarding the means of propulsion and the effects produced by UFOs, science can nevertheless still serve us in some degree as an instrument for resolving the UFO enigma. As we shall now see, such ripples could, for example, prove to be a key effect that might serve to explain still stranger effects.

On October 21, 1963, a very curious UFO sighting occurred near the town of Trancas in Argentina. It has been described for us by Dr. Oscar A. Galíndez in his article *Trancas, After Seven Years*.<sup>2</sup> In this article he described how, beneath the air-space where "object 'f'" (one of the six UFOs in the case) had been rocking to and fro within a circle some 28–30 ft. in diameter, the witnesses discovered a perfect small cone-shaped heap, 3 ft. high, and consisting of innumerable little white balls half-an-inch in diameter. Next day, furthermore, they discovered more of these little white spheres on the railway line, where the rest of the UFOs had been seen, though here the spheres were not in such vast quantity as in the garden where the "cone" was found.

The little white spheres were found to crumble under gentle pressure. The head of the chemical laboratory of the Institute of Chemical Engineering in the University of Tucumán, Sr. Walter Gonzalo Tell, carried out an analysis of them, which showed that they contained 96.4% of calcium carbonate and 3.51% of potassium carbonate.

Now, we should bear in mind that the witnesses had described the UFO designated as "object 'f'" as a solid body, some 28 to 30 ft. in diameter, its surface appearing to be of metal resembling aluminium. They said moreover that it was at a height of less than five feet from the ground, that it was rocking to and fro without revolving, and that "a whitish mist was coming out of its lower extremity." This whitish mist "gave off a penetrating odour resembling the smell of sulphur."<sup>3</sup>

Let us look now at another case, namely the

landing at Glassboro', New Jersey, USA. Two teenage boys, sons of Mr. Ward C. Campbell, a prominent Glassboro' citizen (and a man who had received a technical education), were fishing in a pond one day, at a place that their father had forbidden them to visit (i.e. the pond was on someone else's property), when they were approached by two tall young men with long hair and bare feet. These slim, blond young men greatly impressed the two teenagers. One of the features that had struck them particularly was the men's beautiful (non-pimplly) fair complexions."

As Dr. Berthold Schwarz described the episode in his account,<sup>4</sup> "this meeting was unusual for the time of the year and for the place, and for the fact that the soil there was gravel and contained a lot of broken glass (the two men being barefoot). Also, in a small town, everyone knows everyone else. This was before the time of the 'hippies.' The two young men were total strangers. They asked the teenage poachers about UFOs, and specifically wondered if they were interested in seeing one. The long and the short of it is that, soon afterwards, almost before their very eyes there occurred a widely observed and well documented UFO landing (we may discount the ludicrous attempt that was made at a cover-up), and the deposit of some whitish powder-like substance that was originally the size of golf balls, but which shrunk down. When a policeman picked up some of the powder, he dropped it quickly, in surprise, for it was as cold as an ice cube. It retained the cold feeling for at least 24 hours."

The two teenage boys were reluctant to tell their strict father about the affair, not only because of the weird nature of their encounter with the tall, long-haired men, but also because they had arrived home late. And they were also fearful of being reprimanded for fishing where they were not supposed to have been.

Now we can note several important points in connection with the cases at Trancas and Glassboro'.

1. In both cases the small white balls seem to have been of a uniform size, as though there were a strictly defined weight which could not be exceeded.
2. In both cases the balls are described as *whitish* and *crumbly*, and consequently as consisting of a *powder*.
3. We may also note that, at any rate in the Trancas case, the heap of white balls formed a *cone*, as if the balls were produced by an *axially symmetrical field*, such as, maybe, a *magnetic field*.

We may reach the following simple conclusions about these two reported cases:—

The UFOs are able to create an antigravitational field, axially symmetrical, and more powerful at the centre, and leading to the formation of small spheres composed of powdered soil attracted and conglomerated together by an effect roughly similar to what occurs in Outer Space, when particles are conglomerated together to form spheres, the gravitation being near to zero (independently of the well-known effect of surface tension for liquids).

The process whereby the small spheres are produced might, I suggest, possibly be as follows:

Stage 1: the powdery soil is sucked up and starts to conglomerate.

Stage 2: the size (weight) limit having been reached, the balls drop to the ground, *being now too heavy to be attracted.*

We must of course envisage the UFO's antigravitational field as being strongest in the centre, diminishing outwards towards its periphery. The field is to be envisaged as constant and unchanged in area during the relatively short period of time in which the UFO is stationary over the site.

As regards the contents of the white spheres, identified as being calcium carbonate and potassium carbonate, we should remember that ordinary soil is very rich in carbonates. Owing to wind erosion and drying processes, it is very friable and crumbly, thus yielding plenty of powder for the little globes. Another possibility that we might envisage, moreover, is that the force-field of the UFOs might perhaps actually induce the formation of calcium and potassium carbonates, by drawing the calcium and potassium from the soil and combining it with the carbon dioxide of the atmosphere.

Finally, we must ask ourselves why it is that so few cases of these small white balls seem to have been reported? The probable answer, perhaps, is that

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The further sightings by Stephen are another matter, I believe most, if not all were misinterpretations of common objects such as aircraft, satellites, and stars. Although the object seen at 22.56 on May 26, is almost exactly the same as the object seen near the greyhound racetrack at Walthamstow, East London in February of this year, it also resembles the object seen by himself on May 22 after the "Change."

This report must be compared with other similar cases where the witness will have an initial encounter then continue to see LITS ever after. The one case that sticks in my mind is that of Russell Smith, who since early 1975 has seen more than 300 'UFOs' mostly of the LITS variety.

It would be hard for me to speculate why the object seen on May 22 advanced to within 20 ft. of the witness then changed its complete appearance, although of course this has been noted in several past cases.

No further witnesses have come forward to corroborate this encounter, although we do have enough evidence to put this very odd event on the record.

certain factors are required to be present to create the ideal conditions, as regards the atmosphere and as regards the composition of the soil, for the phenomenon to occur. It is to be hoped that in due course fresh cases will yield further data which will strengthen our hypothesis. One interesting point to be noted from the Trancas case at any rate is that the cone of white balls there reached very nearly up to the base of the UFO itself, for it was no less than 3 ft. high, the UFO being suspended at an estimated height of 5 ft.

## References

1. See *Skylook* (now *MUFON UFO Journal*), No. 94, September 1975. James M. McCampbell, *Microwaves and Water, Scientific Deduction and UFO Investigations*. McCampbell's well-known book, *Ufology*, has recently been republished in a new edition by Celestial Arts, 231 Adrian Road, Millbrae, Calif. 94030, USA.
2. See FSR, Vol.17, No.3, p. 18. Oscar A. Galíndez: *Trancas After Seven Years*. Also: *OVNIS, Un Desafío a la Ciencia*, Año 1, Nov/Dec. 1974, No.4, p.7. "Debago del sitio en que se balanceó aquel objeto, y dentro de un círculo de 8 a 10 metros de diámetro, comprobaron la existencia de innumerables bolitas blancas de 1 cm. diámetro." In his book *Los OVNIS ante la Ciencia*, Dr. Galíndez also mentioned that the white balls formed a perfect cone, "un perfecto cono de un metro de altura." (p.89.)
3. See FSR Vol.17, No.3, *op. cit.* Also *OVNIS, Un Desafío a la Ciencia*, p.5, where Dr. Galíndez describes the penetrating odour resembling sulphur, and he also gives (p.4) the distance of the base of the UFO from the ground as scarcely 1.5m.
4. See *MUFON 1974 UFO Symposium Proceedings*, Akron, Ohio, June 22, 1974, Case 6 (p.92.)

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