

behave. Now, thanks to J. Allen Hynek, the world knows how things really were at Project Blue Book, how cases were investigated and how their merits were assessed. More to the point, he has come away with a store of valuable knowledge.

This knowledge will stand his newly-launched Center for UFO Studies in good stead, and *Flying Saucer Review* will be happy to collaborate in every

way possible with this new Institute.

We know our readers will join with us in extending a warm welcome to our new consultant. Our fervent hope is that our joint efforts will help to advance human knowledge, and so help in our endeavours, or the endeavours of those who come after us, to establish the truth about the enigmatic UFOs.

SPANISH UFO FIESTA

Eileen Buckle

UFOLOGICALLY speaking, Spain has been quite lively again this year, and it looks as though last winter's flap in France has spilled over the Pyrenees. UFOs have been appearing there so frequently, that local UFO groups must have been having quite a feast. One of our most faithful correspondents in Spain, Sr. R.B. Guérard y Holmes, sent us newspaper articles, as they came out, together with excellent translations. In some cases he was able to contact witnesses and obtain more information by correspondence. Things became very lively in mid-March, and a selection of some of the more interesting reports is given here.

In a garden in Gerena

Perhaps the UFO denizens, wherever they come from, enjoy their trips to our world. Some of the Spanish witnesses, however, did not exactly enjoy the experience of their presence. Antonia Díaz Ramos, a resident of Gerena, Seville Province, was one. The story of a UFO-landing in her back yard was reported in the Madrid *ABC* of March 20. The lady, it was said, belonged to a well-known and respected family in the town; she is married and is the mother of two children. In her own words...

"As always, I was cleaning up in the kitchen, and everyone except my father was already in bed. A very strong light that left me momentarily blinded, entered the house through the window that overlooks the yard. Immediately thereafter, and followed by a series of deafening high-pitched squeaking sounds, I saw a strange contrivance, already in the yard, at window level. Due to the smallness of the yard, I calculated that the strange device was approximately four metres distance from where I was standing and about one metre off the ground."

The witness described the contrivance as being egg-shaped, some two metres long by approximately one metre in width, shooting forth a bright, twinkling reddish colour with a transparent white centre. She said, "In spite of the fact that it dazzled me, I was able to observe two black, bulky objects inside the device, which were clearly discernible."

She said the sight lasted for some minutes, during which time the contrivance manoeuvred in different directions, then rose and quickly disappeared. Antonia's husband, Manuel Valderas Fuentes, hearing her screams, ran to her aid. When he reached his horror-stricken wife, the object had disappeared. Although he states he does not believe in UFOs, he was certain something highly unusual had happened to Antonia.

Tarragona "Train"

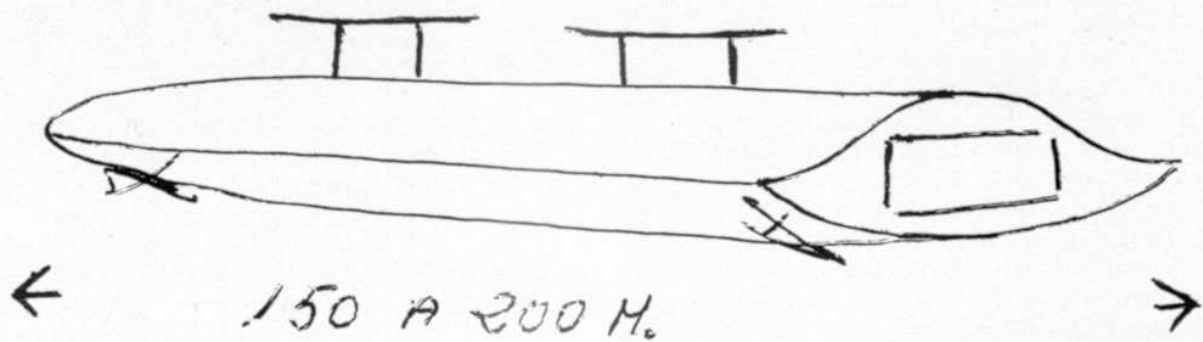
Another unnerving experience befell seven people from Almosa while they were in a field in Tarragona, on April 2. They were two married couples, Sr. Paulino Torner (a tool sharpener) and his wife Josefina Gisbert, and Sr. Bartolomé Rubio (a brick mason) and his wife Francisca Bonaguera, and the three children of the first mentioned couple. One of them described what happened for the Madrid *ABC* of April 3:

"We heard a very loud noise, like that of a train travelling at great speed, and we were very surprised because the railroad is a long way off. Then we saw something heading directly for us and travelling at very high speed; it stopped in its tracks, so to speak, but continued to spin. It was very near us. Then immediately afterwards it turned and went away. I thought it was going to land on top of us all. I pushed the children and yelled to everyone to hit the ground. It neither gave off sparks, nor smoke,

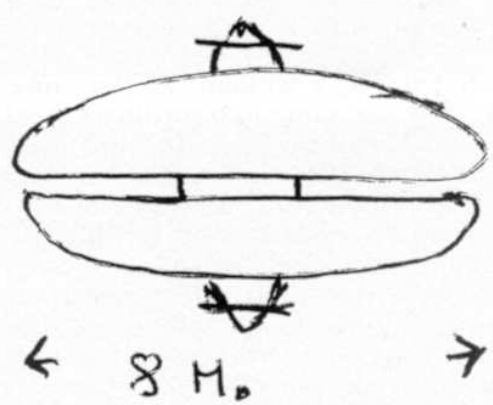
REMINDER: OUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED

All mail, editorial and subscriptions, should be sent to:

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Above: Sr. Sanchez's drawing of a huge air ship he claims to have sighted
 Left: One of the small craft said to have entered the larger one



making any sound at all. These ships were of a colour that looked like aluminium, gave off no lights or noises, and this is about all I can tell you, except that, just seeing it quickly and under these conditions, I did not notice anything that appeared to be windows or openings that might serve as doors.”
 Sr. Guérard points out that the witness reported the incident to the “Guardia Civil,” and no man with a good business reputation and a family would dare make fools of this branch of the Spanish Police.

nor any light at all. But it did give off a tremendous noise, a whistling sound, just like the jet planes when flying low. The olive trees bowed under the blast, as when there is a strong wind, lifting leaves and branches from the ground like a whirlwind. It was of an earthy colour, about 70 or 80 centimetres in diameter, round like a plate with another plate on top of it but upside down.”

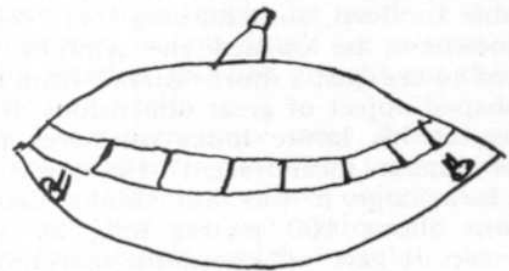
Near-landing at Jerez de la Frontera

Numerous residents of Jerez de la Frontera, Cadiz, saw a strange craft on March 27. One who reported it to the authorities was a 13-year-old boy, Pedro Jiménez Aguilar. In response to Sr. Guérard's request, he wrote out a full description of what occurred:
 “Some friends and I were playing on the hills behind the residential area called Santo Tomás de Aquino (Jerez de la Frontera), in front of my own housing estate, around 8.30 p.m., when suddenly I saw a phenomenon so strange that at first I was frightened, but when I had controlled myself I was able to enjoy the sight. It was then that I realized

Salesman's encounter

A pocketbook salesman, Adrian Sánchez Sánchez, also got a fright, and this is how he described his experience in the vicinity of the township of Castillo de las Guardas, Province of Seville, in a letter to Sr. Guérard:

“On March 20, between 11.00 and 11.15 a.m., as I was making the rounds of my customers, I saw an object fall from the sky. I couldn't tell what it was but thought that it might be an aeroplane crashing to the ground. I ran to help the possible victims and found an airship of gigantic proportions, which I calculate to have measured between 150 and 200 metres long. I was surprised but not frightened and did not realise at that moment what I had actually seen. I noticed how a large door opened in the tail end of the ship and how a formation of three smaller ships, in the shape of yo-yos, approximately 8 metres long, proceeded to enter the larger one; but the last one turned and came slowly towards me. At this, I turned on my heels and ran quickly to my car and drove off, and was followed by this smaller ship, at intervals, for a distance of 15 kilometres. It then disappeared at an extremely high speed without



Jiminez Aguilar's drawing (fig. 1)

that it was neither an aeroplane nor a helicopter but something I had never seen before. The drawing shows more or less what it was like. (see Fig. 1).

"On the top I saw very strong green and amber lights which seemed to give off a blinking effect. In the centre there were some things which looked like windows, with red, revolving lights.

"This strange apparatus remained about 2 metres off the ground for approximately ten minutes. At one moment it turned off all its lights and elevated itself. From below I could see that it looked something like this (see Fig. 2).



Jiminez Aguilar's drawing (fig. 2)

"It turned out its lights once more and began moving from side to side until it finally disappeared from view."

Vigo UFO turns on the heat

The Madrid *ABC* of March 30 reported how an enormous UFO appeared over Vigo, coinciding with the annual Fiesta of the Reconquest, held on March 28 every year, celebrating the expulsion of the French invaders in the year 1809. The principal role in this case fell to an extremely well known, popular and highly esteemed resident of Vigo, Sr. Juan Minguela Dominguez, owner of a beauty salon in the city.

Sr. Minguela's house is several kilometres outside the city, on the coast of la Guardia. He awakened that night in a terrible, unbearable heat, and his three hunting dogs were howling desperately. As he was unable to sleep, and thinking there might be a fire somewhere, he opened the window and was astonished to see, just a short distance from his house an egg-shaped object of great dimensions. It was not far away, as his house looks out over the coast and was almost incandescent. He could not say exactly how large it was but thinks that it may have been about 100 metres long by some 30 metres wide. It gave off enormous sparkling flashes. It was situated just a few metres over the surface of the sea and part of the coastline, as though it were floating in the air. The reflections that came from it were extraordinarily bright.

Sr. Minguela, who was terrified, picked up his shotgun immediately, thinking that someone was attacking him, and when he noticed that the strange object was nearing the house, he hid inside a cupboard. But then, according to his story, as he was unable to bear being locked up inside the closet, he came out and approached the window again. He does not recall how long he was at the window, from which he could see how the UFO smoothly gained height, soon to disappear at enormous speed. The dogs continued howling in a state of real terror. Quite naturally, Sr. Minguela could not sleep the rest of the night. The following morning when he tried to take his dogs out, they refused to budge and were trembling with their eyes popping out of their sockets. It took him a long time to quieten them down.

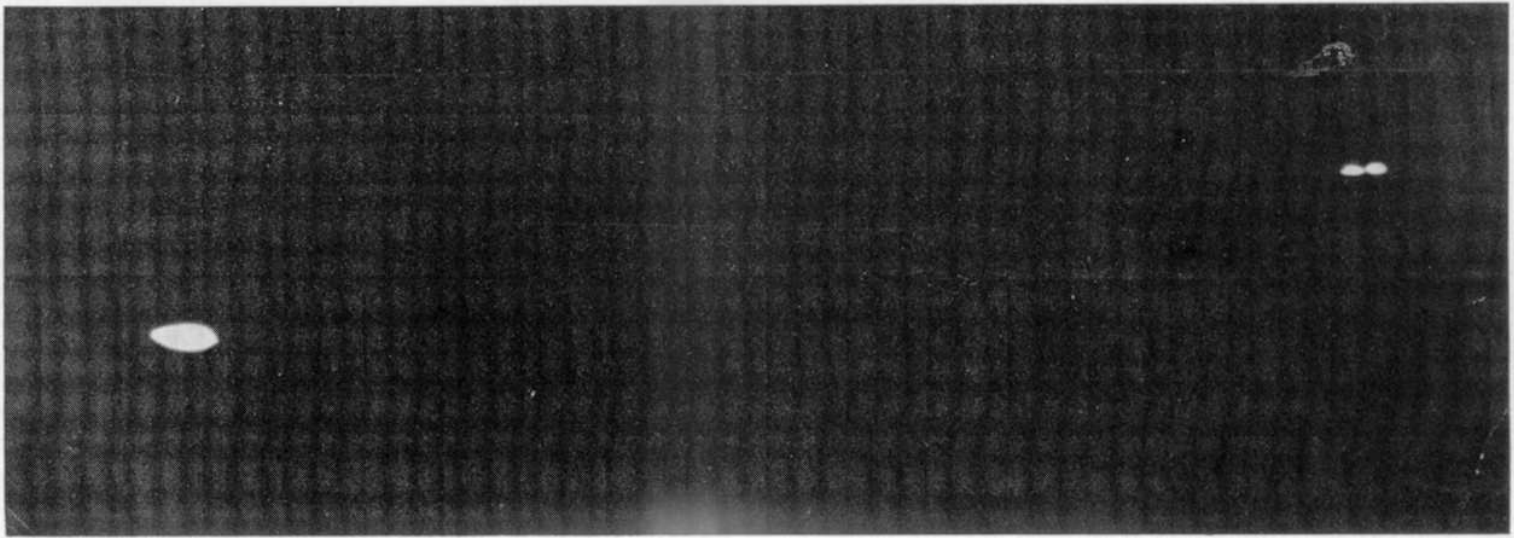
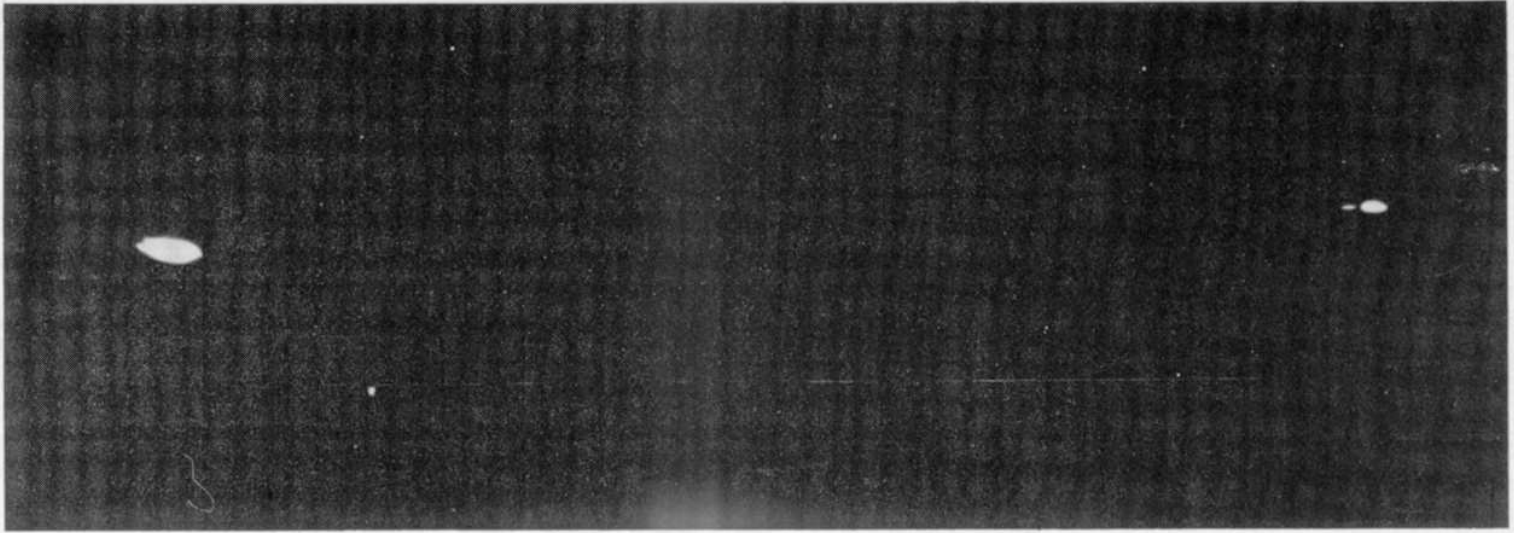
Another person, a woman, at the same hour, i.e. 3.00 a.m., felt the same extraordinary heat that had affected Juan Minguela. The story was widely told all over the town of Vigo and much commented upon due to the serious nature of the witness, Minguela, who didn't rapidly overcome his terrible fright.

At Malaga, a large, brightly shining, spindle-shaped object which remained stationary in the air, was seen by numerous people on March 27, and photographed by the picture editor of the newspaper *Sur*. The following morning, Srs. Juan Manuel Rey Bautista, Jose Garcia Olea, Jose Luis Moreno and Antonio Martin saw a mysterious object on the horizon. They said that it was very bright and looked like a disc. A smaller one came out of this big one, and after about half a minute, they disappeared. That same day, a radiosonic weather balloon was discovered on a farm at the town of Alahuil de la Torre, which is in the Malaga area. The conclusion not surprisingly drawn by the Madrid *ABC* was that the "UFO" had been "captured." This *might* account for the reports from the Malaga area, but it could not account for the other cases described above. Could it be that weather balloons turn up a *little* too conveniently, when there is a UFO flap?

Humanoids reported

An incident experienced by a young lorry driver in Salamanca could in no way be attributed to a weather balloon. The newspaper *La Gaceta Regional* of March 29 published an interview with the young man, Maximiliano Inglesias, aged 21, who, it was said, has a reputation in his home town of Legunilla as being a sober person...

"Several days ago, when he was returning to Legunilla at 2.00 a.m., at a point near Valdehijaderos and next to Bejar, he was dazzled by a very strong light, which he thought came from another lorry. So he dipped his headlights to allow the on-coming lorry to pass safely. But then he noticed a strange, stationary object on the road just ahead of him about 200 metres distance away, which he described as looking like a 'saucer placed on top of a plate, which was larger than the saucer and round', and that he saw another, similar, stationary object in the air about 15 or 20 metres away from where he was.



The above photographs were obtained by Sr. Salas, the picture editor for the newspaper *Sur*, at Malaga on March 27, a chain of objects is caught by the camera, although only a single spindle-shaped object was reported as being seen.

Two beings alighted from the one that was parked on the road and one of them pointed towards the lorry. They then returned to the apparatus and it took off, leaving the other object still motionless in mid-air. The lorry didn't start up until sometime afterwards. When he got home, the young man went to bed thoroughly frightened, and said nothing to anyone the following day.

"That same day he had to return by the same road, carrying material in his lorry. It was on this trip home to Legunilla, about 11.30 p.m. and at the same spot as the previous night, that he met up with three objects parked in the road. They were silvery coloured with a sort of diffuse luminosity. 'I switched off the ignition,' he said, 'because the lorry refused to go. I got out of the cabin and saw four figures outside the objects, but I cannot say for sure whether they were already there or if they had just alighted from the objects, and I don't know whether they were male or female either. They came towards me and I ran away frightened. I struck off across the field running towards Horcajo, and they

were right behind me, running faster than I could. I was exhausted and hid in a ditch full of mud. They passed within about two metres of my hiding place but didn't see me, but I saw them go by. They were very tall (about two metres) and had arms and legs, but I didn't see their faces. I didn't hear any voices at all. When I saw them disappear into the distance, I returned to my lorry. I remembered that I had left the door open and now it was closed. Thinking one of them might be inside, I drew near slowly and peeped in, but didn't see anyone. I don't recall if the weather was hot or cold out there; you may imagine how I felt!

"Then I saw them once more, from a distance, and they looked at me again. They made signals with their arms and got inside the three objects. Later on, I could see how they got out again with some sort of tools in their hands, which I couldn't make out very clearly, and began making holes in the ground. Finally, they went away. I couldn't start up the lorry as the battery was dead.'

"The following day, he told this story to the

police and the Civil Guard began an investigation. Precisely at the spot where it all took place, they found a hole in the ground, which the lorry driver said he had not made. 'Everything I have said is true and anyone who wants to believe me may do so, and those who don't want to are free not to. I had no prior knowledge of such things as these. I don't remember too many details but I do recall that when they took off, I heard a very strong sound, a sort of powerful whistling that left me momentarily deaf. Now I am recovered from it all and have just one thing to say:— If on that second night, instead of being alone I had had someone with me who had not been afraid, then I wouldn't have run away. I'd have remained to see what would have happened.' "

At Cuenca, and near Torrelaguna

During May, two further reports were received. The daily paper *Informaciones* of May 9 described how a UFO was spotted near the city of Cuenca (half-way between Madrid and the Mediterranean coast) by three people who were motoring towards Madrid. The sighting took place just a little before 7.00 a.m. near a place called Alto de Cabrejas. The witnesses were Sr. Amadeo Villar Garrote, an industrialist from Cuenca, his daughter and chauffeur. All three of them saw a strange, oval-shaped object which gave off reddish lights while hovering over their car in a spinning fashion for about 40 seconds, after which it rose into the air and disappeared into the distance.

On May 11, at 8.10 p.m., Sr. Esteban Alfonso Martinez and his family saw a bright, cigar-shaped object in the sky, about double the size of a Jumbo aircraft. They had been motoring towards Madrid, and the sighting took place when they had reached the crossroads between the towns of Talamanca del Jarama and Torrelaguna. The object was stationary at a height of some 700 to 1,000 metres from the ground, but at an unknown distance from where they were. When Sr. Alfonso stopped the car, the object was hidden from sight by the trees on the side of the road. When he continued on in an effort to get a good look at it, the mysterious phenomenon had already disappeared from view. However, while he was busy looking for a place to park in an effort to get a better look at it, his wife and children saw another object, some 50 times smaller and shaped like a child's spinning top which manoeuvred to enter the larger object. This second object appeared to have some sort of elevation or fin attached to its superstructure towards the tail end.

UFO and occupants near Medellin

The month of June produced yet another "creatures" case. It was published in the Madrid evening paper *Pueblo* of June 22, written by a journalist by name of J.M. Amilibia. Sr. Guerard adds that Sr. Amilibia specialises in reporting on UFO sightings for *Pueblo*, and seems honest and sincere. He also wrote to the witness, but did not expect a reply, since he is a simple peasant and may not be able to write. This was the newspaper report:

"Santiago Pulido Romero, 46, married, the father of six children, born in and a resident of Medellin (Badajoz), a sunburned and weather-beaten outdoorsman, is the witness in a fantastic story, which he willingly tells to both sceptics and believers alike. Santiago isn't bothered by public derision, and if you tell him he's crazy, he doesn't mind. He really doesn't care, because he himself would have laughed just a few days ago if someone else had told him the same story that he now tells.

He told me his story on the spot where it took place. In front of us, we can see the Castle of Medellin, on top of a meseta, an important landmark in our history, where Calderon de la Barca wrote his famous work 'Life is but a Dream.' We are now in a clay-coloured field; to our right is a clump of trees.

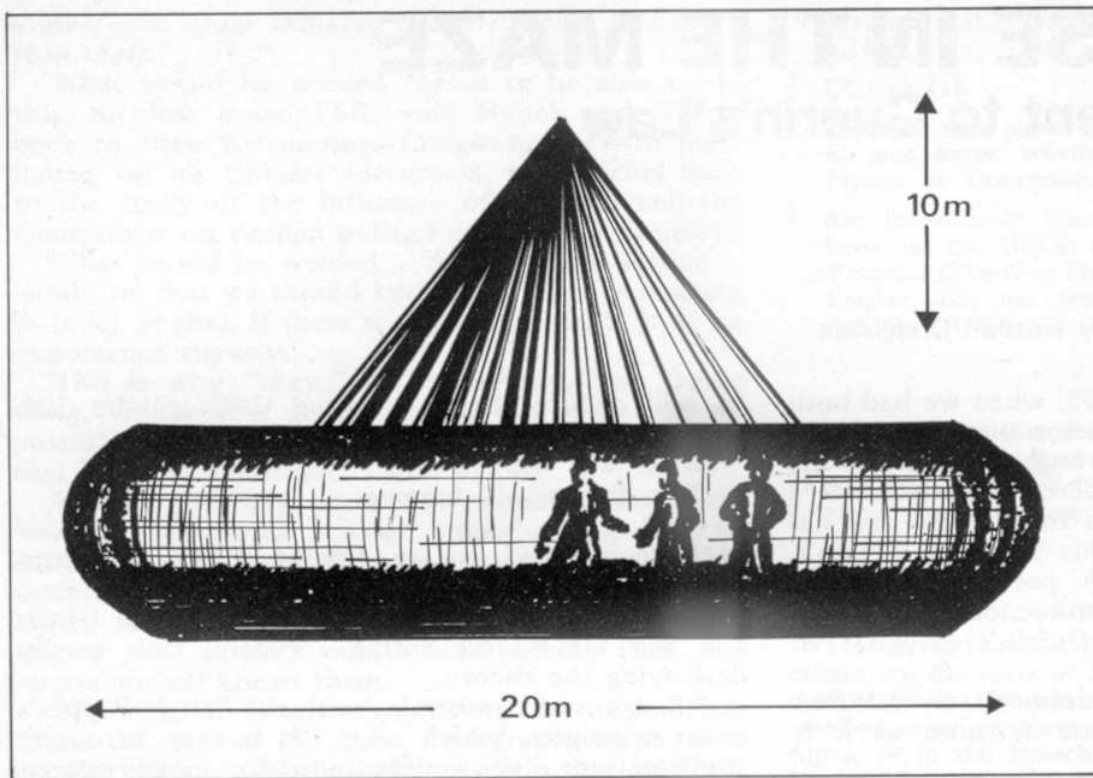
"The affair took place at 5.30 a.m. on June 14, 1974, and according to Santiago, this simple man who is completely balanced, and would seem incapable of such invention, says: 'That morning (it was still dark), I was going to my father's farm, and on passing that clump of trees, I was hit in the eyes by a strong light. I saw a funny-looking contraption flying at a low level, some 100 metres above the ground, I suppose. It was travelling at an unbelievable speed, as fast as my sight could follow it. It was on one side of the castle, and as it seemed to be coming towards me. I became so frightened that I thought that I'd jump out of my skin. Then I switched off my car lights and continued on in second gear, going very slow. I was shaking all over. Listen! You just can't imagine what a tremendous impression a thing like that makes on a man! I'd just like to see another man in my shoes at a time like that to see how he'd act! The thing is that this apparatus followed me for about 70 metres on my right, and when I got to that hill over there, I switched the lights of my car back on, and the apparatus came towards me again at very high speed but only to fade off when I turned out the lights. I got to the farm and noticed that it stayed near the door, about 100 metres off the ground, moving upwards and downwards at times. My first thought was to lock myself up in the house, and I did just this. Then, after having recovered a bit, I came out with a pitchfork in hand, just in case...you can imagine how frightened I was; so much so, in fact, that I was thinking of taking to the mountains where I know a few good spots to hide out...'

"He still shows the remains of that panic on his countenance. Santiago speaks perfectly clearly, telling us what he saw, step by step. At times, he shakes with emotion as the chill of fear reminds him of the experience...

" 'When I came out of the house, it was standing still over the farm. The light it gave off was so intense that it looked like daytime. It was precisely then that I got the idea of focusing my headlights on it in order to see what was going on. Then the thing headed for me like a bat out of hell; I turned out the lights again and it stayed quiet for a moment and then began to move up and down.'

" 'How did the apparatus move?' I asked him.

" 'At very high speed and spinning in the same



The object seen at
Medellin, as described by
Sr. Santiago Pulido

spot, although at times, it zigzagged or remained still, or swayed like a pendulum of a clock. For a moment it would look like a star, and then, in the next moment, it was right there beside me. At times it seemed to me to move like a whirlwind, you know what I mean? — like an incredible maelstrom...Well, it's just that I haven't the ability to explain it; words fail me!

"What shape was it?"

"Round on the bottom and with a sort of cone-shaped tower on top. The round part was transparent and a great yellow light came from inside it. The tower shone and looked like a metal structure."

"You say it was transparent. Did you see anything inside when it drew near to you?"

"Yes. I could see three men clearly. Three very tall men, more than two metres tall, who seemed to be holding on to some sort of control levers, and they were wearing some sort of helmets on their heads. They were standing up. Listen, man, this was really something to see!"

"How big do you think the thing was?"

"The round part was about 20 metres in diameter; the tower, about 10 metres high."

"Did it make any special kind of sound?"

"No. It moved in complete silence."

"How long did you observe it from the farm?"

"Well, I'd say until the sun began to go down, around sevenish. It was then that it headed off towards Villaneuva at a tremendous speed. When my children arrived at the farm, I was still pallid, as white as a ghost...If I live to be a thousand, I'll never forget that experience! Never, never, never. I swear that it was a terrible thing. You and all the rest can believe me or not, it's all the same to me. I know it is true and that's all that matters. I was always very sceptical about such things; I used to think that they were the inventions of idlers and

dreamers, just a lot of nonsense. But now I know that there's something to it."

"What do you think it is?"

"Beings from other worlds. What I saw, that apparatus thing, is not from this world because there cannot be anything even similar. Well, at least, this is what I believe...because I never saw the likes of such."

"What was the closest you came to it?"

"About 50 metres. It was awful, simply frightening. And so silent and so brilliant. Now I've stopped going out of the house in the early hours of the morning. Now I wait for the sun to come out before going to the farm."

"This is the testimony of Santiago Pulido. But then there were others from Medellin who also saw it. For example, there was a young boy, going to Medellin from La Oliva, who saw it from the road, as well as two residents of San Benito. They also say that two traffic policemen from Medellin told their families that they had seen it too. At any rate, it is a testimony worth investigating. One more story to add to all of the others..."

Closing Shot...

Finally, I have just received a report from the Madrid newspaper *Ya* of July 11. It says that on July 10, between 9.30 and 5.30 p.m., in the province of Leon, a UFO was seen in the Bierzo region. It was in the shape of a half-orange and gave off variegated, sparkling beams of light as it travelled in a north-westerly direction, sometimes at moderate speed and other times extremely fast. First it looked yellowish, and then seemed to change to an orange colour. Sr. Guérard is hoping to obtain more information on this one, and following his return from holidays in September, he says he will continue his investigations into the Vigo sightings and other matters.

THE MOUSE IN THE MAZE

Or my amendment to Guérin's Law

Aimé Michel

Translation from the French by Gordon Creighton

AROUND about 1957 or 1958, when we had both been seeking for years for some sort of Ariadne's thread that could guide us through the maze of the UFO Wave of 1954, Pierre Guérin formulated, as a first step, the only law known to Ufology that has proved resistant to Time. This law has, I think, theoretical implications which provide an insight into the nature of the UFO phenomenon.

Let us begin by stating Guérin's Law. It is:

"In Ufology, any law is immediately falsified by subsequent sightings just as soon as it is formulated."

The word "falsified" is taken here in the Popperian sense: in Popper's terminology a theory is falsified when one can set over against it a fact which is not authorized by that theory. "Every good theory is a prohibition: it forbids certain things to happen. The more a theory forbids, the better it is."¹

I shall not examine any of these "laws that are immediately falsified as soon as they are formulated," for I should be taken to task for telling the story of my life — and on that score the critics would be wrong, for my life has been a very interesting one. I shall confine myself however to proposing a few thoughts on the subject of ascertaining whether Guérin's Law applies to itself — in other words whether it is legitimate to complete it by the following amendment (which we might call "Michael's amendment"):

"...including Guérin's Law."

* * * * *

Let us note straight away that Guérin's Law does not forbid us to continue to seek confirmations of a law when we have formulated it: one may perfectly well go on finding facts that are consistent with that previously discovered illusory law. But these "consistent" facts can no longer confirm anything; they have no value as confirmations since — and this is what Guérin's Law states — other facts have been discovered in the meantime which show that the law is false.

Let us suppose for example that a Ufologist discovers a relationship between a UFO's acceleration and the energy of the luminous colour emitted by that UFO. Overjoyed with his discovery, he will announce to the world a law which says that the more rapid the acceleration of a UFO the more will the light it emits tend towards the blue. From this

he will deduce that a hovering UFO will be dark red².

What will happen then?

Two things will happen:

(A) People will go on finding UFOs that turn bluer the more rapidly they accelerate.

(B) But they will also find stationary blue UFOs; and red UFOs accelerating abruptly, thus totally destroying the theory.

All this is in conformity with the first of Popper's seven principles, which says: "It is easy to obtain confirmations, or verifications, for nearly every new theory, if we look for confirmations."³

When Popper says "nearly every theory," this is because, even so, there exist theories for which one encounters real difficulties in finding confirmations, as, for example, the theory that the Moon is a Camembert cheese or indeed the theory that Nero burned the Papists because he was an Orangeman⁴.

But a theory for which some confirmations have been found will assuredly find some more, even if it is false, and yet, just as soon as we have established the truth of a fact that was forbidden by the law, this law is falsified, however numerous its "confirmations" may be. *If the law were true no fact in contradiction to it could exist.*

In the ordinary sciences (all the sciences with the exception of Ufology) the laws we discover have a certain life-expectation. Sir John Eccles reckons for example that in biology a law can hold for fifteen years before being refuted (falsified): it is, he says, in that case a very good scientific law.

Guérin's Law serves notice on us that the laws of Ufology have *no* life-expectation whatsoever. Those features that have been the best proven in past observation never take very long to be falsified. As soon as it had been noticed that UFOs were round, square ones began to be seen. As soon as a correlation had been shown between Mars and the dates of the UFO Waves, there were uncorrelated Waves, etc.

* * * * *

Contrary to what one might think, Guérin's Law expresses an optimistic view of Ufology, and it is for this reason that I propose my amendment. For if it were truly proven that every law is refuted as soon as it is formulated, then at least something, in Ufology, would be proven. Which I don't believe. I believe that absolutely nothing is proven, *with the exception of precisely that which is required in order to prevent us from placing the problem in the bottom of a*