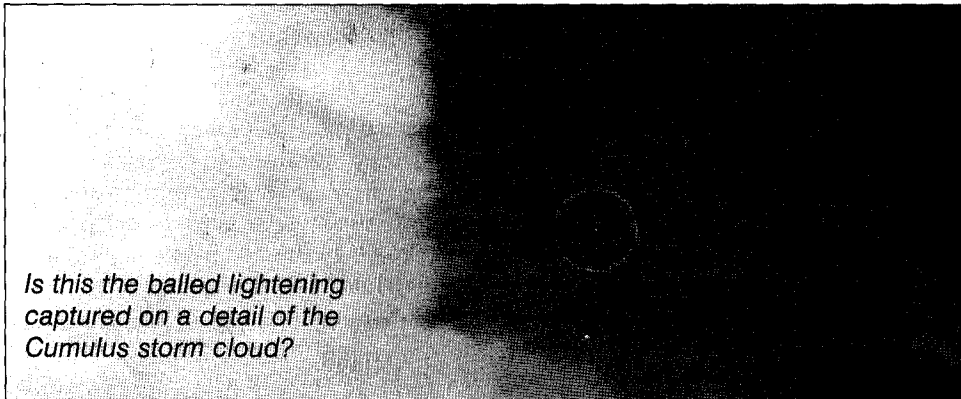


A close Encounter with balled lightning.

(By Omega)

A perennial subject in the field of ufology is the phenomena of ball lightning and its use as a universal sceptical prosaic explanation for UFO sightings. I would like to relate a recent event for our readers to ponder on - the closest encounter humanly possible with this rare occurrence. This happened en route to Mexico City airport where we made a stop over on my way to a research visit to Cuba. Approximately thirty minutes outside of Mexico airport, we happened upon very dense thunder clouds of towering cumulus which enveloped our plane. It was not long before I had camera at the ready and was taking pictures of the wonder formations. Fortunately I had a window seat over the left wing of the craft. This position enabled me to take excellent photographs.



Is this the balled lightening captured on a detail of the Cumulus storm cloud?

I had briefly stopped taking pictures deciding to gaze through the window when suddenly a bolt of ball lightning travelled down the Left wing of the plane and into the cabin, right in front of my seat. It was so close that the ball of plasma seemed to be between myself and the seat in front of me.

Then there was the most enormous loud bang which reverberated throughout the plane. This sound emanated from the window next to my seat. I would imagine the sound being similar to the aircraft being hit by a train.

The ball of lightning then, briefly entered the aisle section of the cabin and disappeared. There were very many witnesses to this event. Many others including

myself, observed the ball of charged plasma (if indeed was plasma) to be a blinding bright, white light colour. Interesting to note however, one person situated on the opposite side of the aisle observed a red ball of light.

All fell silent in the cabin. It was not long before the pilot announced we had indeed been hit by lightning but there was "nothing to worry about." A flight attendant then approached and enquired what I had seen, as she had not witnessed such an event in her twenty five years as an attendant. The air in the cabin briefly seemed to be electrified but there was no odour of ozone apparent nor did the event have any effect on cameras, watches or batteries. On landing I intended to try and inspect the plane to see if there were any scorch marks on the out-

casing of the craft. Alas, as we were travelling on a day of international terror alerts; a cover was red, so I was not able to access the affected area.

What is most important about this experience is its relationship to the recent proclamation by the official report Project Condign in the U.K. and also the earlier work of international sceptic Dr Susan Blackmore concerning the interaction of plasma and other high energy fields with the

temporal lobes of the brain causing hallucination. As quoted in the Condign report. **"Local fields, of this type have been medically proven to cause responses in the temporal lobes of the human brain. These result in the observer sustaining (and later describing and retaining) his or her own vivid, but mainly incorrect description of what is experienced."** While I was seated with a bolt of balled lightning almost sitting on my lap; my mind retained absolute clarity. Can there be a stronger natural electromagnetic field than the white hot plasma of balled lightning at virtual point blank distance to the human brain? Perhaps, our scientific experts all ready know this, but cannot face the storm

UFOs over Cuba. Omega.

The UFO phenomenon knows no national boundaries

In September 2006 I spent time with Cuban researchers to assess the national UFO situation. I found the average Cuban had a keen interest in UFOs. I was fortunate enough to meet with a group of ten of the country's leading UFO investigators in Havana and was able to interview a number of them regarding the most significant sightings and encounters documented on the island. Members of this group included university professors, meteorologists, a film maker and a member of the clergy. Even though Cuba is a small island it had taken some of them over four hours driving to get from their place of residence to the city of Havana. My friend Orestes is the head of the meteorological department,

Jesus Diaz Silva acted as translator in the group. I was very impressed with the way this OVNI research group went about their research. It was conducted professionally, with an appropriate level of serious gathering. This factual approach also extended to press coverage, presenting UFO activity to the audience as it was another news item. Cuba is considered a repressed state by many Western nations; Cuban ufology therefore grown up in relative isolation. Cuban ufology began in 1952 when the first UFO picture was published in the newspapers of Havana. In 1959, three boys who were camping near the area of Matanzas, reported seeing a spectacular UFO.



This newspaper article taken from 1st July 1952, in a publication called "the unprejudiced" it features photographs of an illuminated disc over Matanzas, Cuba. The article describes the following:

"This event caused great sensation in the scientific, public and journalistic circles of the country".

"Since last night we have received numerous phone calls from leading newspapers and scientists, interested in details of the presence of the mysterious artefact in the skies of our city." "At about 11:20 am a celestial body was observed from the terrace of a house of Tello Lamar 43. Manoeuvring at a height of 1,200 ft for about 7 minutes, it then disappeared at high speed. During these minutes photos were taken of the flying disc. The disc appeared from the southeast and manoeuvred until being situated in a vertical position and moved with great speed until it was at a height of about 400 meters, where it stopped. In its dizzy track towards the south east, it made repeated similar movements included being stationary, before it finally disappeared".

In 1959, Mr Pablo Rodrigues reported that whilst fishing off the shores of Havana, the capital city of Cuba, about 8 am one morning, he noticed that the sea began to bubble. Mr Rodrigues likened the sight to that of soap suds on water. After a few moments an enormous metallic disc emerged from the sea. This large shiny craft, hovered in the air for a few minutes then, almost instantly, the craft vanished at high speed.

Interest in the UFO subject was spreading until the 1960's, when nearly all reports disappeared from the Cuban news media, in a similar suppression to the Soviet Union's blanket denials in that era. We only have the 1967 Cuban Jet incident (Covered in Stanton Friedman's article Zapped Planes in FSR 51/1) an incident where a Cuban Mig-21 was disintegrated while locking its weapons on to a flying sphere.

Let us move on to 1974, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, an account where approximately 300 sailors and marines were watching the nightly open air movies. At the time, the witness giving the report stated that he was looking at the stars when he observed a sphere, slowly moving across the sky. This primary object was then followed by 2 more similar objects. All three objects suddenly halted for ten minutes passed; then they departed in different directions. This incident was relayed to the Base Commander but nothing else was heard about the event although 300 witnesses had watched the aerial spheres.

In 1975 the first UFO group was formed in Cuba. The group often organized seminars and conferences. Now, we move on to 1995. This is the well known

case of Adolfo Zarate, which was covered in the Juventud Rebelde news paper. To summarise, Adolfo's cousin Ricardo had disappeared in the year 1993. Ricardo left his house early one morning to work on a farm, but alas Ricardo was never seen again. The search for the missing farmer lasted for over a month, to no avail. The case was then closed. To this day there has been no conclusion as to the fate of Ricardo. Adolfo greatly feared that something similar might happen to him.



Adolfo was working in a field, one lonely Sunday morning. The rain had already set in. As time went by Adolfo found himself looking skyward, only to see a strange looking sphere which descended from above. The object landed about 60 meters away. Fearing what would happen and thinking

of his cousin, Adolfo hid amongst the corn crops. Adolfo watched the unknown object for quite some time. The sphere remained stationary. Suddenly Adolfo witnessed an individual emerging from the object. The person or entity was wearing what appeared to be a face mask and camouflage clothes. These garments seemed to blend in with the surroundings. Adolfo noticed also that the craft seemed to be camouflaged as it also blended in with the surrounding corn crops.

The weather closed in and it started to rain even harder. Adolfo noticed that the being walked around the craft a couple of times and seemed to be speaking with another being inside the craft. The entity seemed to be picking up plants from around the celestial vehicle. The being then boarded the craft, a tremendous air pressure was felt, the craft then ascended skyward, not to be seen again. According to Adolfo the craft did not have any wings and was silent. The shape of the object was oval and also appeared to have some type of wheel structure on the under side of the craft. It was noted by Adolfo that tracks were left behind. The face of the being could not be seen but it was noted that the entity seemed to be "like a human being". This individual did not appear to be carrying any type of weapons.

One now has to ask the question, is there any supporting evidence? There were no physical traces left on Adolfo's body at the time (e.g. burn marks), however some time later his eyes became swollen and started to water. Perhaps these effects could well be caused by some form of radiation emitted by the craft during the encounter. One observation which was later noted regarded the ground on which the craft landed. The once fertile ground was now not able to produce anything whatsoever. Alfonso had little imagination and knew nothing of UFOs before this encounter.

Now we will touch upon a very interesting 2003 abduction case, involving a man named Reemberto Damaso who was a well known popular member of his community in the township of Trinidad, on the southern coast of Cuba. Working as a roof tiller, Reemberto had been observing lights in the sky sporadically for several years and was becoming increasingly aware of their presence. One morning - at about 5:30 a.m. -

Reemberto made an early call to the bathroom. On his way there he noticed a ball of light approaching him.

The next thing he was aware of was being flat on his back on the grass. The time was 6:05 – a mere 35 minutes had elapsed. He was not sure where he was. To his astonishment he was in Havana. How could this be? Havana is a five hour drive from his home in Trinidad (260 km



away). How did he arrive there? Reemberto was experiencing acute disorientation. The police were called in. They too were unable to deduce how he arrived in Havana – he still had his slippers and shorts on. The police drove him back to his home at 9 a.m. Interestingly, Reemberto's wife had only just realized her husband was missing and was just about to call the police.

A strange story was about to emerge. Reemberto had observed a craft shortly after the ball of light had appeared. The craft was described as being very bright, with a distinctive circular marking on the underside of the object. He mentioned that this was the entrance to the craft. When this circle closed, it was very similar in appearance to a shutter on the lens of a camera, comprising of many segments which met in the centre.

Reemberto told of being taken on board the craft by two entities. The entities had grey hair and white skin and were clothed in what seemed to be a smooth green suit. It was mentioned by Reemberto that other wise the beings were very human like in their appearance. The height of the entities was about 5ft 4 inches. During the 35 minutes between Trinidad and Havana, he told of time being speeded up as he was taken for a journey through the stars. Everything was swirling around. Finally Reemberto found himself on the grass in Havana. Some time had elapsed after being abducted, Reemberto showed signs of being quite ill. So much so, he decided to book himself into the best hospital in Havana and the top physicians were in attendance. The Doctors could not find out what was wrong with Reemberto. They performed many tests, to no avail. Slowly Reemberto's condition deteriorated and finally he passed away in 2005.

It is interesting to note that Reemberto had two middle aged sons. The younger son did not believe his fathers stories regarding the visitation of the lights. It was during Reemberto's last night on this earth that his younger son was visited by the exact same craft as his father had described to him. His son had also mentioned the circular aperture on the under side of the bright craft. A fitting end to Reemberto's time on this earth, one would think.

Moving to January 2004, an incident occurred at the resort of Guardalavaca, situated on the eastern side of Cuba. The scene is set with a group of people at a restaurant with family and friends having an enjoyable evening meal. Suddenly one member of the group noticed a bright light in the sky. It was not long before all of the people sitting at the table were looking at this anomalous light. They knew instantly that it was not a

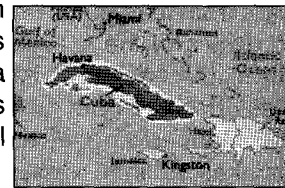
planet or a star. The light was motionless but began to pulse. One of the group mentioned that he had been watching the light for several minutes and then watched another orange light slowly join the primary light. Soon other diners began to watch this strange object, also the



Taking notes in Trinidad where the 2003 Reemberto abduction is public knowledge

restaurant staff joined in. A consensus was soon reached: "We all were sure by this time that the object was not of this earth. All together there must have been twenty people gathered around watching this pulsing, orange sphere. The object

remained in view for at least five minutes until it faded away." Coincidentally, the next morning a family member heard on the TV that a UFO had been picked up on radar. A similar incident was also reported in Indonesia at the same time. Was this coincidence or part of a global pattern of sightings?



Albert S. Rosales is a regular writer for FSR, He was born in Cuba and now resides in Miami.

A flying humanoid in 1965: In the daytime, at Santa Clara Cuba, I was walking home alone through an alley when something made me look up, what I saw was a white figure of a man that appeared to be standing in a cloudy background, this figure seemed to be making hand gestures towards me, which I answered doing the same, I could not see any details, except that it was humanoid (man-like) and completely white.



Abductee Anisia undergoes hypnotic regression

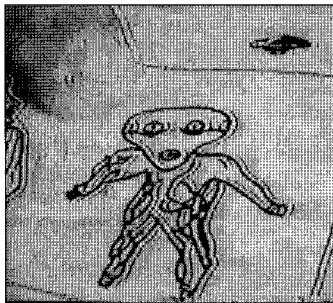
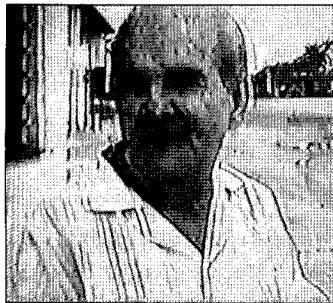
Pictures courtesy of the Cuban video UFOs over Cuba
Now, we can move to yet another Cuban abduction event. In this case we hear of an event which involves Anisia Anarias. In the year 1990, Anisia noticed a bright light in the sky. Anisia describes the object as being similar in texture and colour to aluminium and had the shape of a disc

The surrounding area of the craft was illuminated became surrounded by light" Anisia said. "I don't know what happened except, when I returned consciousness, I was back in my home." Under further regression more information was revealed. Let us see what we can learn from the regression hypnosis, what blocked experiences can be analyzed.

Anisia is heard to say the following: "Blond, I remember the face, blond and tall, equipment like radios,

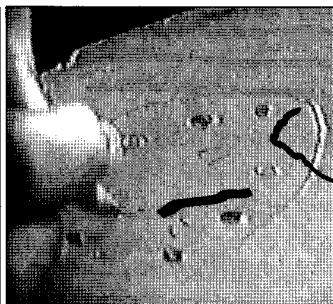
touched my arms. They tightened my head; they kept me seated on a white seat." When the regression hypnosis session was complete, Anisia could remember what the beings looked like. Anisia stated that "The beings had normal form but extreme thinness."

The year was 1995, the height of a UFO wave across Cuba, there were many reports of a silent illuminated craft which was in the area of Guara and in another incident over the area of Camacho, Cuba. "The craft was silent and was illuminated, suddenly, it totally disappeared", reported witness Ricardo Clara. Once more in the 1995 wave; we touch upon the case of Samuel Bahrenda, who had a close encounter with a craft. This anomalous object was observed by him in a near by field. Samuel reported seeing an entity emerging from the craft which he was able to pick out from a selection of pictures held by the interviewer. The man floated slowly at a height of about 50 cm from the ground, he then started to rise slowly and disappeared in a fraction of a second.



In the area of Matanzas, Cuba, many school children observed a white disc shaped object with luminous lights on the underside of the craft and also spaced around the periphery. All of the children interviewed

showed no apparent fear when recounting the mass sighting. It is well known that craft have been sighted in different shapes and sizes through out Latin and Central America. These bare striking resemblances to those



reported in Cuba. A school girl recounts, "We felt a strong breeze, all the surroundings became illuminated, we then saw a disc shaped object with many windows" **These accounts are a testament to the kind of UFO reports arising from Cuba; they are a salient reminder of a world wide phenomenon that knows no national or political boundaries. When we continue to compare the first-hand abduction and sighting reports, they all have a clear ring of similarity about them. We read the all too familiar scenario of people being taken, witnesses observing illuminated craft, objects seen emerging from forests, foothills and also the sea. In many cases the witnesses are humble, peace loving people who would have no reason to involve themselves with flights of fancy when they face daily hardship as crude farmers or poor fishermen. The Cubans were extremely enthusiastic in their welcome to outsiders to share in their UFO knowledge. There is a great spirit of fellowship between ufologists in the West and those in the developing World.**

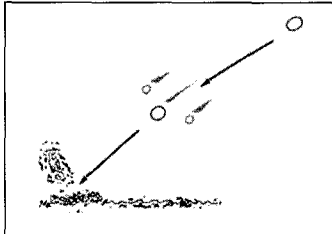
FSR Comment: A Shared Aspiration for global ufology. One can only wonder exactly how those flying over the skies in UFOs must see our perennial ideological differences. Some of them could conceivably identify this and exploit it as our greatest human weakness. If we continue to divert our eyes; and we fail to see how close our mutual interest is for an organised system of shared security; perhaps, fate may deliver us a stark choice. It has only been fifty years since governments first discovered the true magnitude of the UFO problem facing our world. A minute time historically, the possibility that an outside faction may one day emerge with strategic designs on all that we have in our possession is still a distinct possibility. The fact is we need a global intelligence system that deals with what has happened to the citizens of nations that politically and militarily oppose us just as much as we need to know what has happened to our friends abroad and our fellow countrymen at home. Civilian networks must now extend themselves across the entire globe, even into those countries whose beliefs are most alien to us. The civilian populations may be able to cement a viable global surveillance system where governments fear to tread. Our security services are rightly concerned about the possibility of espionage in such delicate matters as reported interactions with UFO phenomena. However, if protocol was correctly followed in these communications and only civilian data could be exchanged perhaps through some kind of central 'clearing house' for UFO data then this might minimise potential hazards to security while giving us the essential facts we need to learn. How does the unknown visitor deploy his forces? What are his movements? Is he offering us teints and distractions, what are his real objectives? When the visitor can hide himself from our most sophisticated technological surveillance, tens of thousands of organised human eyes may be our best hope.

A Cuban investigation of a UFO that entered the sea near Cajio Beach Habana province.

The following article is taken from the Cuban UFO organisation 'ovnisclub' web site to demonstrate their disciplined and methodical approach to investigation. Cuban ufologists have a very healthy appetite for our subject, the roots of our collective endeavour to understand overseas UFO activity relies on getting good primary interview and field investigation evidence to give the fullest picture. When ufology is practiced as a discipline the results speak for themselves. The Cuban website is <http://es.geocities.com/ovnisclub>.

The UFO at Cajio beach

Carlos Alberto Grace



On the 28th August 1998 I took an expedition to the zone around Cajio beach, eighteen kilometres to the West of the port of Batabano, Habana province. This town is small, perhaps two hundred people. The area consists of a muddy coastal estuary marked by lots of channels capable of being navigated by boat. There are several keys dotted at four mile intervals. The reason for the trip was to investigate the object sighted from the port of Batabano in the winter of 1995. This would help me

fix its trajectory. Cajio beach is four kilometres from Comacho, people use this road to go to town to sell their fish. Initially I had difficulty locating witnesses to the event as three years had already passed. In spite of this a person was located who had reportedly seen it from the border outpost of the zone. Immediately I sought clarification and went to this place.

In the Border Outpost of the Beach at Cajio

The border outpost is at the extreme west of the town where fishermen's boats use the channel. There is a mast with a radio antenna approximately 7 metres high. At 7pm at night in the winter of 1993, a worker let a boat through the channel. On the boat were 7 men, six of which were military. The worker observed an intense yellow light originating in a place between Guira de Melena and Alquizar. The object flew over the vegetation, at low altitude at a speed less than 70 km an hour. The men thought it was a rocket and called out to protect themselves. The object was now 10 metres high passing over the antennae. At this moment the luminous object split into three directly over the border outpost. All three objects continued flying parallel a metre apart. They flew south in a falling curve to a position 3 miles out to sea in front of the south keys. They hit the water causing a considerable mass of the water to rise in a plume. It is important to emphasize that the object when only 10 metres above the witnesses made no sound. A search was made for fragments to try and detect any type of evidence, none was found. A person came from the academy of sciences in Cuba and gave an official

explanation that this was a rocket shot from a military establishment.

Considerations

Considering the waves of UFO's in the south coast of the province of Habana at the time of the sighting and considering the data of the interview this incident is a strong candidate for a UFO.

- Point 1:** The speed described by the witness is far too low for a rocket
- Point 2:** The object made no noise and showed no evidence of combustion
- Point 3:** There was no structure visible even at close proximity and the object was luminous. It also split into three and caused a great displacement of water so it must have had considerable mass.
- Point 4:** There was no evidence of a post incident military investigation and the general slowness of the reactions of the authorities.

A Cuban sighting on board a US Aircraft carrier.

© By Chester C. Grusinski (Michigan, USA)

These are details of several UFO sightings by crew members of the U.S. Navy's 45,000 ton aircraft-carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt CVA - 42. I was myself a member of her crew from 1958 to 1960, and I was one of the many eyewitnesses in one of the UFO sightings, in September or October of 1958. The ship was on a shake-down cruise off the U.S. Naval Base of Guantanamo in Cuba, at between 8.00 and 10.00pm, when a small light appeared and started following us and then headed straight for us. The sky was clear, the air warm, and, as I was not on duty I had gone up on to the flight-deck (where I should not rightly have been).



Suddenly the thing was overhead; it was cigar-shaped, with a row of windows, through which we could see the figures of people watching us. I could feel the heat from the craft on my face. It was quite silent. Altogether I estimate that up to 25 other men who were there on the flight deck also saw it.

Through the ship's intercom someone from the bridge watch was screaming for the officer of the deck or bridge to get up there at the double. Then suddenly the object turned to a red-orange colour. (This was when,