

ISRAEL'S FIRST "UFO FLAP"?

© By Barry Chamish

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The author of this extremely interesting report from Israel is a writer with over 300 U.S. credits, including articles in *The Atlantic*, *Boston Globe*, and *Reason*. In 1922 he wrote a book on political corruption in Israel, and it was issued here and reviewed by the *Economist*, *Sunday Telegraph*, *New Statesman*, and the *BBC*.

Currently, Mr. Chamish is the Editor of a newsletter called *Inside Israel*. He has been a keen observer of the UFO phenomenon for the past 25 years.

So far as we know, Israel is a land where the authorities keep a very tight control on all discussion of UFOs, though whether this really was their first "UFO Flap" seems hardly likely, as I recall much talk of UFO sightings there years ago, at the time when our friend Dr. Andrija Puharich visited the country and "discovered" the weird powers of Uri Geller who at that date was a rookie in the Israeli Air Force and was already becoming famous for his "demonstrations" in the Air Force Camps.

I am sorry we did not publish this report last summer. As readers will know, FSR could do with a few six-armed Shivas or Buddhas.

In his accompanying letter to me, Mr. Chamish emphasises that this "is a UFO incident where cover-up will be difficult. The dozens of metal shards found at the site are in the hands of twenty people committed to UFO research." EDITOR].

As these words are written (Summer, 1993) Israel is in the midst of a serious UFO flap. Although the country has had its UFO incidents, until the fall of 1989 there was no prolonged wave of sightings and landings. Thus Israelis were mostly UFO skeptics. Things are different today.

Two days before Yom Kippur in 1989 a UFO landed on Shikmona Beach, a few miles south of Haifa. There were dozens of witnesses including a teenage couple making out in the sand as the craft landed.

Ami Achrai's story may be the most interesting. He was travelling toward Shikmona along the coastal highway when he saw a sixty-foot apparition hovering six feet above the highway and 120 meters in front of him. It was circling in a counter clockwise direction and emitted a rumbling noise.

Achrai stopped his car and got out. Then as he recalls, "I was back in my car like I was pushed. I have no idea how I got there." He travelled a few miles north to a service station and, along with a half dozen other witnesses, saw the craft remain stationary some two hundred yards above the station and then disappear in a second in the direction of the Mediterranean.

Returning home, Achrai suffered shivers and goosebumps. He reported the symptoms to a hospital but was mocked. The next day he returned to the scene of the sighting and searched for clues. What he found was a twenty-metre long, crescent-shaped imprint burnt into the sands of Shikmona Beach.

SHARDS OF METALLIC FOIL

He approached the site and noticed frail metallic paper strewn around the area. He picked up a piece, received a shock and for the first time in his life, his eyeballs rolled backward. The paper disintegrated into the air after it released its effect.

Achrai had the presence of mind to contact the newspapers to report his experience and also to locate UFO researchers. They arrived on the scene before the Air Force and so this, Israel's first known close encounter of the second kind, was publicly investigated.

No one found a way to preserve the metallic foil against disintegration. That left the scorched sand to be investigated. To this day, no logical explanation for the scorching has been offered. But the black sand was tested twice, and the results showed a magnetism reading of 7.6 compared to the surrounding sand's level of .00007.

VALLEY OF JEZREEL AND KADIMA

In February of 1990 a 60-foot red UFO with port-holes buzzed the Jezreel Valley. There were dozens of witnesses but most credible of all, the police chief of Migdal Ha'ir chased the craft in his squad car for two hours. He appeared on the national media and the country was talking UFOs.

On September 9, 1991 Eli Cohen of Tsur Moshe, a village situated 800 yards from Kadima (the significance of which will soon become clear), was alerted to something unusual by his home suddenly lighting up. He found his pistol and video camera and ran outside not knowing exactly what to expect.

The result was Israel's first privately-filmed UFO incident. The sky was clear and the early evening light perfect. The tape shows a silver craft shaped like an upturned stetson flying in a straight line at about 55 degrees above the horizon. When blown up, the image is of a ship with wings or a rim on top of a concave body.

Cohen's was the first sighting in what has become commonplace in the immediate area of Kadima, a farming village east of Tel Aviv.

On March 30, 1993 at 3.00 A.M., Aviva Carmel felt drawn to leave her bed and go outside. There she witnessed a silver craft land in two stages; first the front touched down, then the rear. She estimated the size and shape of the craft to be similar to an "orange-storage tank" or a fruit silo, about sixty feet in circumference.

She approached the craft to investigate and from about twenty feet away saw one of the crew. He was 2.5 metres tall and wore silver foil coveralls that clung to the body like a second skin. He wore a helmet but its

tinted visor prevented her from seeing the face.

The next day Carmel ventured into her backyard and saw the imprint of the craft. It was a circle 22 feet in diameter formed of living vegetation. Plant life outside the imprint had died.

Carmel, a confident and cultured woman, was not frightened by her experience. She took the same route as Achrai, reporting her close encounter of the third kind to private UFO researchers. With nothing more to go on but her word, and an imprint in the grass, hers was not a breakthrough incident.

The very next night, March 31, the craft landed again and this time it left behind hundreds of silvery shards. The researchers descended on Kadima, each taking a sample of the oil and some shards. There was no way the authorities could keep the incident a secret. The oil stains and the metal shards were carefully studied at Tel Aviv University, and determined to be "of unknown origin" This time the craft leaked a red fluid that caused two days of nausea to anyone who came near it.

GALILEE

In the early morning of May 28, 1993 hundreds of people in Galilee, northern Israel, witnessed a red UFO cruising low. It or possibly another craft landed in the backyard of Shoshi, the Treasury of the Kadima village council. Once again within the imprint was a red fluid that caused the same nausea that Aviva Carmel experienced.

Israel was now in the midst of something that could no longer be ignored. In early June, 1993, the government TV channel broadcast a one hour show on the flap. Over 20 witnesses, including those from Kadima, were brought together and permitted to tell their stories and display their evidence.

Prior to the show, a clinical psychologist, Nachman Raz, held sessions with the witnesses and declared that, "There is nothing clinically wrong with any of them. This is a collection of people who never met but experienced similar incidents."

The tone of the show was skeptical. That changed noticeably in the middle when the results of a private analysis of the shards left behind at Kadima were read.

The show's producer had submitted a shard to the

State of Israel Institute For Geology where it was analysed by Dr. Henry Fuhner, director of the biochemical department.

NOT FOUND ON THIS PLANET

His report read; "On Thursday 27//5/93 we received a sample weighing 2.7 grams and submitted it for analysis. After putting it through two separate tests we have found the material to be composed of elemental silicon, A SUBSTANCE NOT FOUND ON THIS PLANET".

Silicon that is found on this planet is artificially created out of polymers. The shards left on Aviva Carmel's yard were not manufactured by any process known.

The flap has resulted in at least one individual being abducted, who would not appear on the show but agreed to speak by phone. According to this woman, named Ophra, she was lifted onto the "M-ship" by a ray of light. She could not struggle or resist in any way. She was lifted into a room entirely composed of a brilliant crystalline material. She communicated in English telepathically to a crew of three, one of whom was clearly the leader.

The three were tall, very fair, blond and handsome, something like a Nordic god or a California surfer. The leader informed her that they were known as the "light people." Ophra considers them "wonderful."

The show had barely ended when a UFO was spotted hovering over Carmei-Yosef a few miles from Kadima. For six straight nights the craft returned and waiting below were hundreds of witnesses. The UFO was filmed many times over but was just a bit too high for a distinct image. However, fuzzy as the image was, the hundreds of witnesses mostly agreed that they were not seeing a star, helicopter or cloud.

The question that must be addressed is, *why Kadima?* What is so important to the craft that it has landed at least four times there in two months and has hovered above the area another six times? No one can even venture a theory though many admit that interest in Kadima has seemingly now become inter-stellar. ■

TWO RECENT SIGHTINGS OVER WARDOUR CASTLE IN WILTSHIRE

© By Don Tuersley, FSR Consultant

FIRST EVENT: April 24-25 1994, 12.02 am. Light travelling approx. North to South

It was just after midnight when my wife got out of bed to go to the bathroom; there was no need to switch any lights on because there was a full moon that night, and it was bright enough to move about the house without difficulty.

The bathroom has two doors, one to each bedroom. These were ajar at the time and, through the door almost behind her, a bright white light illuminated the bedroom; it passed over the house and immediately afterwards it lit up the other bedroom and the back of the Castle chapel which can be seen through the window.

The following morning we asked our son who lives