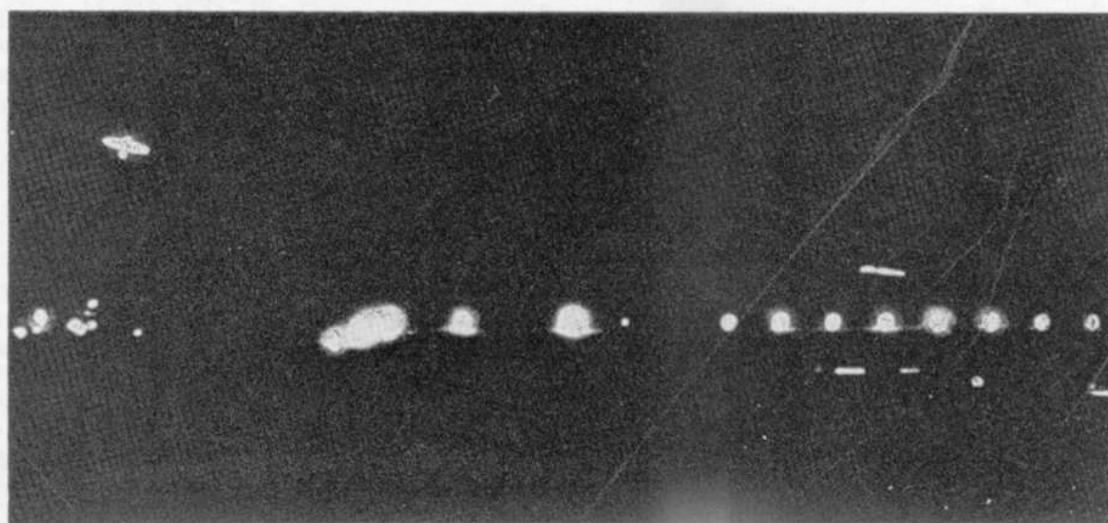


PROGRESS AT CRADLE HILL

Charles Bowen

WHEN Mr. John Ben first showed us the photographs taken from Cradle Hill by Mr. Foxwell on March 28, 1970, we were delighted to learn that they had been obtained, as far as we could ascertain, without the knowledge or collaboration of the enthusiastic Warminster ufologists. We were also favourably impressed by Mr. Ben's quiet objectivity, and it came as no surprise when, whilst agreeing that the pictures should be published in *Flying Saucer Review*, he stressed that there was still much research to be done, and many

At this point it is necessary to remind readers that investigations of reports of UFOs which are recorded in our two journals are carried out on a spare-time, amateur basis, and invariably the expenses are borne by the investigators themselves. The best the Editor may hope is that dedicated people like Mr. Ben and his friends can, once in a while, find the funds and the time to make a week-end trip to the scene on an incident whether from Kent, or London, or Essex, or places beyond.



Photograph 1 as published in FSR for July/August 1970: the object, high to the left. Note, to the right, the lights of car moving on the hill beyond the street lights

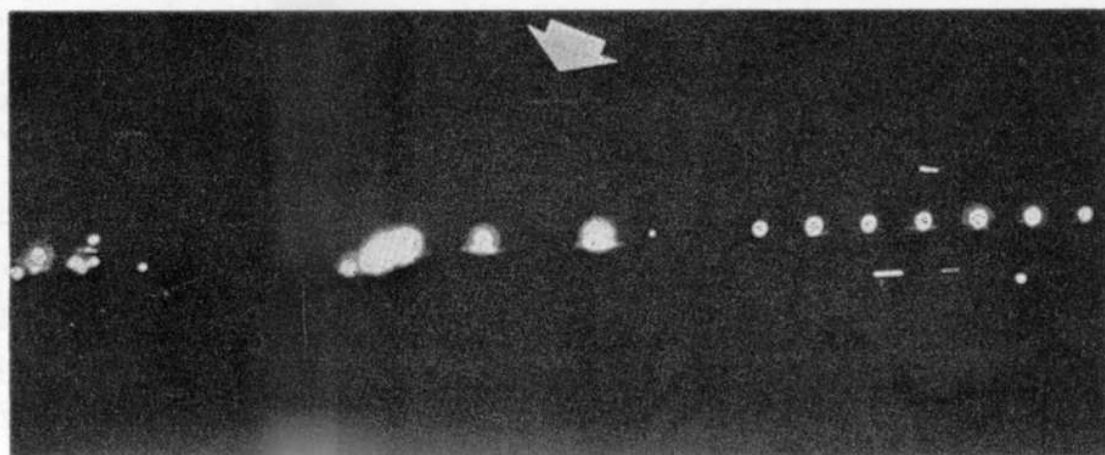
questions about the photographs to be answered.

As readers are aware, the Cradle Hill photographs were exposed to the public gaze in our July/August issue of 1970. In a production sense, we had passed the point of "no return" with that issue when Mr. Ben told us that he and Mr. Collins had concluded that the glowing objects in the photographs were *below* the crest of Battlesbury Hill. I pointed out that others might come to the same conclusion, and that it was desirable, therefore, that further investigation be made at the earliest opportunity.

By the end of 1970, John Ben assured me that it would probably require only one more trip to find relevant details about a private track along the side of Battlesbury Hill, and the persons who would be able to use it.

By mid-January, 1971, news had reached me that there had been a little lightweight criticism of the Cradle Hill photographs. However, something of a more serious nature followed, just beating the onset of the postal strike: it was a letter from a friend of FSR of long standing, Mr. S. E. Scammell. After reading the letter (it is reproduced in these pages) I telephoned Mr. Ben and

Photograph 2 from FSR July/August 1970: the object has moved to the right and its luminosity appears to have diminished. (Dr. Guérin showed, after cleaning the negative, that this was the same geometrical shape.) Note the new position of the car lights



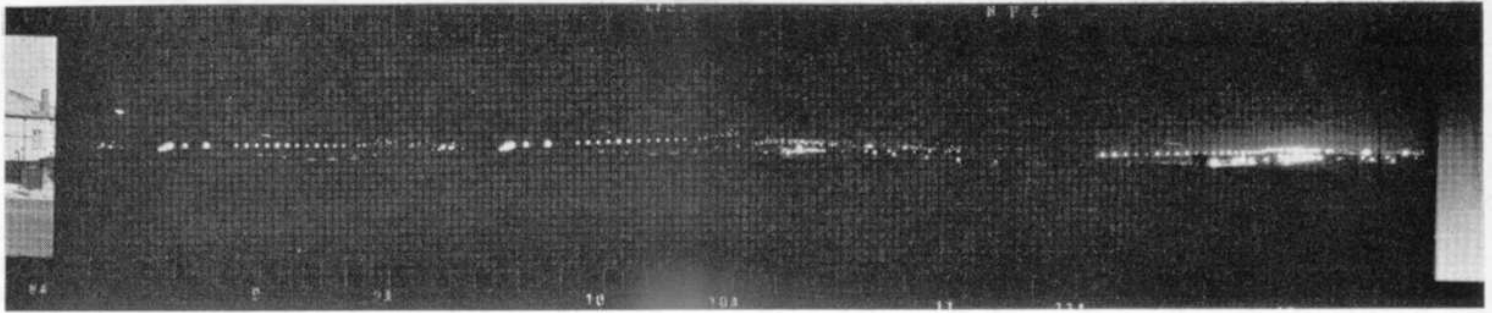


Photo 1

Photo 2

Photo 3

Photo 4

Contact print, slightly reduced, from the negative strip showing the order of the four exposures

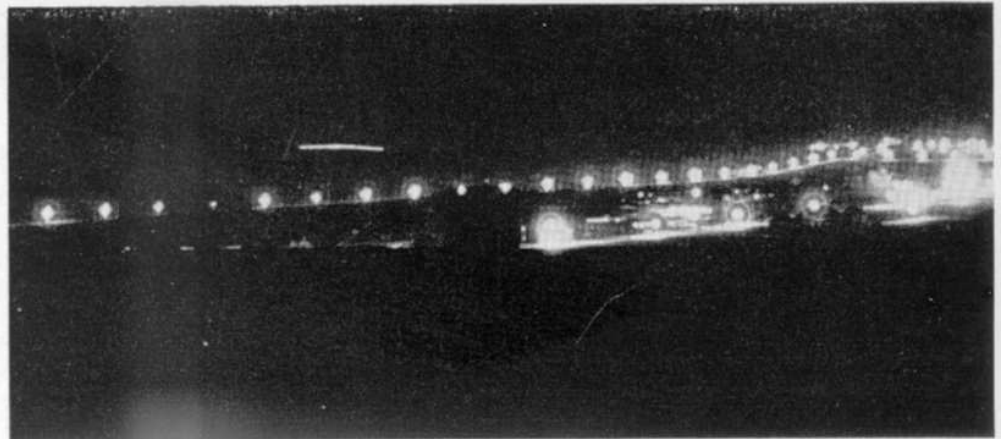
asked him if, during his visit to Warminster (arranged for the week-end of January 23-24) he would take daylight photographs from Cradle Hill across the valley to Battlesbury Hill, both from the position where Mr. Foxwell had mounted his camera, and from points of the track up to the Field Barn. He agreed that this would be done, weather permitting. I explained that there had been "some criticism of his daylight photograph" which had been published in the July/August issue of FSR.

In view of Mr. Scammell's letter, it is considered necessary to reproduce once again our original photograph No. 1 of March 28, 1970, together with a print of the negative strip (which was studied and cleaned by Dr. P. Guérin) in which the photograph is situated. In this same strip there is a third picture, which was not reproduced either in our issue for July/August 1970, or subsequently. This interesting photograph is now reproduced (photo 4): no glowing object is visible, but

the "debate" which follows, in which, unknown to themselves (until they read this magazine), Messrs. Scammell, Ben, Collins and Samuels participate. A debate which demonstrates that perhaps, after all, we have made a little progress at Cradle Hill, albeit strictly in our own time. Again, having been privy to the discussions—and the occasional doubts—of Mr. Ben and his friends, I cannot agree with Mr. Scammell that *all* thinking connected with Cradle Hill is of the woolly kind, although I am at one with him on the score of many of the reported incidents.

FSR has always regarded with the greatest suspicion all reports emanating from Warminster. It was stated quite clearly in the Editorial article of the July/August issue of 1970 that the photographs from Cradle Hill had been welcomed because neither Mr. Ben nor Mr. Foxwell were connected with the local Warminster investigators. Indeed the purpose of including Mr.

Photograph 4; note the post in the foreground (see daylight photograph by Mr. Samuels on p. 20) and new position of moving lights on hill



the silhouette of the fence, near which the camera and tripod were mounted, is seen quite clearly and may be compared with the photographs taken by Mr. Michael Samuels in the presence of Mr. Ben and Mr. Collins on January 24, 1971, and reproduced with the article under his signature elsewhere in this issue.

These lines are designed merely to set the stage for

Shuttlewood's item in that same issue—and it should be noted that that item was heavily cut from the original—was to demonstrate the difference in approach to the subject of these two groups. It was felt at the time that this had been made sufficiently clear in the Editorial article, but it seems now that that might not have been the case.

IMPORTANT NOTE: CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It is with deep regret that we announce that Mrs. E. Spencer has been forced by continuing ill-health to give up her valued and valuable work for FSR, a task she has diligently performed since issue No. 1 in the Spring of 1955. We are glad to announce, however, that the telephone connection will remain as heretofore. Please note that all letters, orders and subscription renewals should now be sent to:

21 Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London WC2

MAIL BAG

A SURVEYOR'S CRITICISM

Dear Sir,—Because, unfortunately, some early data has been distorted, mis-used and inflated with imaginary matter by over-enthusiastic local journalism of a kind that can do so much harm, it is necessary to look with close suspicion at any claims deriving from Warminster. When the Cradle Hill photographs were published in the July/August number, I saw at once that this was a case in which the cold eye of a land surveyor could establish some additional facts that might or might not be relevant, but would at least be facts.

The punch-bowl in the photograph contains, as you know, the School of Infantry, and the surrounding hills are the play-ground of every kind of tracked or wheeled vehicle at all hours of the day or night. It becomes necessary therefore to establish that the light in the two photographs is at an elevation that rules out the possibility of a tracked vehicle on the opposite hill-side. The street-lamps on the night and day photographs can be identified, and by superimposing on the latter measurements taken from the former, at first sight the light in the first night photograph is well above the skyline.

From the gate on the road on Cradle Hill, from which point the day photograph was taken, a track runs up the hill (almost on the axis of the photograph) for 0.3 miles to Field Barn 100ft. higher. The horizon of the daylight photograph is only 0.9 miles distant. The right-hand edge of the daylight photograph as published is about 0.55in. to the left of the right-hand edge of the night photograph.

On investigation it is found that:

- (i) the night photograph was taken from an elevation about 100ft. higher than the day photograph (in fact evidently from the vicinity of Field Barn). (This can be calculated knowing the height and distance of the trees and street-lights in the right middle-distance and ground-level at all the relevant points: in the night photograph, unlike the day photograph, the line of street-lights is seen clear over the top of the wood, so that this conclusion is quite undeniable.)

- (ii) If the first and second positions of the UFO are plotted on the daylight photograph with correct allowance for the above factor position A is no longer above the sky-line, and lies instead exactly on the horizon at the rampart at the left-hand end of the earthwork.*

From the rampart at this point a track runs from left to right (descending transversely along the face of the hill below the earthwork). If position B is then similarly plotted with the same essential adjustment it is found again to lie with some exactitude upon this track, which moreover at that point is in a slight cutting (a common feature of tracks descending chalk hills) which could cause a light upon it to fade out for the observer at this point leaving only a faint glow or halo as described. The distance between the two points is about 0.2 miles and the sighting is stated to have lasted 1 to 1½ minutes and was apparently stationary for at least 30 seconds: the speed while in motion was thus about 15 m.p.h., a very suitable speed for a wheeled or tracked vehicle on this rough track.

The "car headlights on the distant hill," correctly pointed out in Mr. Hennell's article, are in fact on the same track where it reaches the foot of the hill. But for the curious shape of the light in photograph A therefore we have a clear case of one Service vehicle following another (Mr. Hennell's) down the track. As to the shape of the light one has to bear in mind that the terrain is such that in photograph A any such vehicle could be either head-on or sideways to the observer, and that the external and internal lighting of tracked Service vehicles on night operations may be unusual. "The object appeared very suddenly as if it came through the clouds": it was in fact a dirty night, the observer could have no notion as to where the horizon was, and the light appeared suddenly as it came up over the horizon (particularly so if climbing the rampart). Its subsequent halts and hesitations (which as the observer quite rightly remarked could have meant that it was merely turning towards them) are quite in character

with a tracked vehicle manoeuvring on steep ground.

As I think you are aware, I am not one of those persons who wish to discredit any and every UFO sighting. I have long been convinced that they are controlled or manned artifacts of an origin extra-terrestrial or extra-temporal. It is possible of course that this light was air-borne—between the observer and the hillside, at a range of less than a mile, hanging at an elevation of less than 200ft. above the guard-room of the School of Infantry, unobserved by the Guard (certainly a bad mark for the C.O. of the Demonstration Battalion in that month). Had the Guard observed the light they would I feel merely have observed, and correctly, "There's them poor beggers in (A, B or C) Company coming down at last."

When, as regards position and movement, a land-borne explanation fits the case so exactly, I cannot feel that the sighting deserves the attention that it has received, and I must admit to being somewhat shocked that the matter has gone so far before anyone has troubled to check upon these very elementary points of survey. Had this been done immediately it might have been possible to check with the School of Infantry as to whether vehicles were operating on that track at the time in question.

In passing, perhaps I should point out that Mr. Shuttlewood in the same issue is in some confusion with his compass-points. His "golden ellipsoid" (not I hasten to state, on the same date) 50ft. above ground and "no more than a mile distant almost due south" from the same gates on Cradle Hill, places itself just clear of the School of Infantry, evidently balancing upon the hangar-roofs of the R.E.M.E. Depot. R.E.M.E. also no doubt have a Guard, unless they hire the job out to a night-watchman, but in either case seem to stand exonerated by the fact that Mr. Shuttlewood apparently mistook South for North-West since he states that his "ellipsoid" was, on the contrary, between Cop Heap and the Warminster Downs, "edged by West Wilts Golf Club greens." This last can only mean that one edge stood 50ft. above the edge of one of the greens and the other edge above the edge of a second green: unless Mr. Shuttlewood has again misexpressed himself as seems more likely.

There is a flock of sheep on Cradle Hill. It seems that for many if not all of these alleged Cradle Hill sightings their woolly type of thinking has become infectious.

Yours etc.,

S. E. Scammell, East Knoyle, Salisbury,
January 13, 1971.

* Without more exact measurement, for which a 6in. ordnance sheet is required, one cannot calculate with certainty whether this level is at the top or the bottom of the rampart: if the latter the case is even simpler,

since any such vehicle was in that case not manoeuvring on the rampart but merely following the track that runs past the rampart from the main-road at Sack Hill.

CONTINUED INVESTIGATIONS AT WARMINSTER

More thoughts on the Cradle Hill photographs

John E. Ben

IN a subject such as ours it is inevitable that a certain amount of speculation and criticism will follow any potentially important sighting. This is as it should be, for this is the only way that the hoaxers and the genuinely mistaken can be exposed. Unfortunately, many ufologists are only too ready with their criticisms when they are not in full possession of the facts. My personal belief is that these people are in a minority while the majority of investigators have a deep-seated desire to get to the bottom of what is a very interesting but deeply frustrating problem.

I was fortunate enough to be present at the sighting of an object from Cradle Hill, Warminster, on March 28, 1970, and for the benefit of this majority I would like to relate the subsequent findings, concerning this sighting.

When Mr. Foxwell's film was developed and Mr. Hazell brought me the prints and negatives I was dumbfounded; for the prints showed an object which bore no resemblance

to the object as I had seen it from Cradle Hill. A theory that seems to explain this divergence between the photographic and visual appearance, was put forward by Dr. P. Guérin in his article in *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol. 16, No. 6.

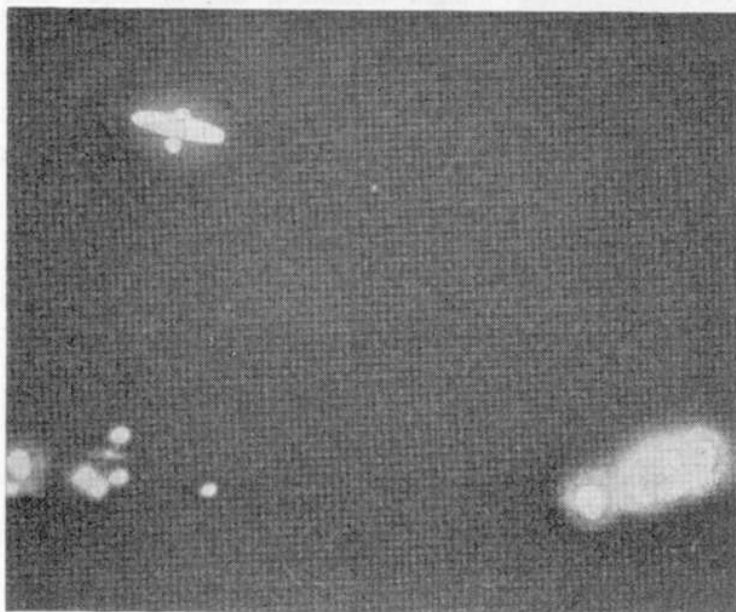
On my next visit to Warminster at Whitsun 1970 I was accompanied by Messrs. T. R. Collins, S. Hall and C. Farrow; we were unable to find any other facts relevant to the case in hand, as at this time we still believed the object to have been over Starr Hill. However, while we were there we took a photograph from Cradle Hill at dusk which shows the contours of Battlesbury Hill, and the positions of the street lamps. This was published in *FSR*, Vol. 16, No. 4, with my article. This photograph was taken from the same position as Mr. Foxwell's prints, as far as we could remember. We are certain that we could not have been more than 10ft. from his original position.

Several weeks later, when I next

saw Mr. Collins, he put to me the theory that the object was *not* over Starr Hill, but was in fact below the crest of Battlesbury Hill. This was confirmed when he drew a plan of the area and plotted the positions of the object in relation to the street lights upon it (see p. 00). This proved my earlier estimate of the object's elevation to be incorrect. I arrived at the figure of 20° elevation through taking the street lights to be near the skyline—we had arrived at Cradle Hill after dusk and I did not realise that Battlesbury was so high (682ft. as compared to approximately 550ft. at the observation point).

We were also puzzled by the car headlights in Mr. Foxwell's photographs. We had not noticed this car at the time as all our attention was focussed upon the object. We were greatly intrigued by the fact that the headlights appeared to be above the street lights, and also that in both photographs the trail left by the headlights terminated in the same place on the right side.

With all this in mind I made another trip to Warminster with Mr. Collins, and on this occasion we were accompanied by Mr. C. Weller. On this visit we were able to find the area above which the object had been hovering. We located this position by the street lights which line Battlesbury Road at the junction with Imber Road. On the slopes of Battlesbury Hill, across a small field and above the level of the road, we found a narrow, rough track. This track could only be negotiated in safety by a tractor or a Land Rover, and at its junction with the road we were confronted by a locked gate. Nevertheless, only a vehicle on this path would correspond to that in Mr. Foxwell's photographs. Also, we found that



Under - developed print of Photo 1; note the hazy glow effect



Close-up of street lamp (C on Terence Collins' diagram across pages 16 and 17) with track beyond on lower slopes of hill

as viewed from Cradle Hill a clump of poplar trees that line part of Imber Road partially obscure this track, and this accounted for the lights apparently terminating in the same position on the right-hand side in the photographs.

This led to some interesting speculation as there was apparently only one vehicle concerned. We feel that in the first photograph the vehicle is moving forward, emerging from behind these trees. In the short period before the second photograph was taken the driver has seen the object, stopped the car, and reversed back behind the trees (there is no room to turn the car around). This is pure speculation, but seems to be borne out by the object descending and moving towards the vehicle.

It was felt that locating the driver would uncover many important details, but unfortunately in the available time we were unable to find out to whom the land belonged.

During this visit we tried a simple experiment which had been suggested to us by Michael Samuels, F.R.M.S., a professional photographer. When we arrived at Cradle Hill at about 9.00 p.m. on the Saturday evening, we distributed a number of light-tight envelopes containing X-ray film over an area of about one square mile centred on Cradle Hill. This was to enable us to check if there was any area of unusual radiation, and also, in the event of any object being seen that night, to check if its presence could be recorded on the X-ray film. One of these envelopes was left at a spot previously indicated by Mr. A.

Shuttlewood as possessing abnormal radioactive properties since the reported landing of a UFO. The positions of all these envelopes were marked on a map, and we collected them the following morning. On the Monday they were processed, along with a control, by Mr. Samuels, but none of the films showed any fogging.

On our most recent visit to Warminster (my wife and I accompanied by T. Collins and M. Samuels) it was found that the area around Battlesbury is military territory though it appears to be in infrequent use. This leads us to believe that the vehicle (the headlights of which appeared in the photographs) must have been military; and therefore it was impossible to gain any further details. As for

the object, we were able to speak to a civilian employee of the army and he was quite adamant that the army have no vehicles which would reproduce the corresponding light pattern.

Conclusions

When I first contacted Mr. Charles Bowen about this case, I stated that the object in the photographs was not how we saw it. When I first saw Mr. Collins' impression I was again surprised, for he showed a red diamond inside a white and purple sphere with a red periphery. This is not how I saw the object. Both my wife and I saw a bright purple ellipse edged with white. I made this point clear to Mr. Bowen, but Mr. Collins, being a professional artist with a trained eye, might well be correct. In the painting which he did from memory, the street lights correspond almost exactly with those shown in the photographs. Both Mr. Collins and Mr. Hall watched the object through binoculars. They both "saw" a red diamond at the centre, though Mr. Hall thought he could see a purple and red light around it which was also diamond-shaped. It is interesting to note how each person saw the object in a different way.

It has been suggested to me that Mr. Foxwell does not exist, a fact which I am sure will amuse him. The answer is quite simple; in a letter to me, which is now in the



The army huts with lamps which form the cluster in Photograph 1 on page 12

possession of FSR, he stated that he wished his address to remain unknown—this is surely an understandable reaction in view of the way many witnesses have been, in the past, been the subject of adverse publicity.

After almost one year we are still

left with the enigma of these photographs. The object shown is not located on or near any path or track, and was in fact above a thickly vegetated steep incline on the side of Battlesbury Hill. I think this shows that the object in question was not an illuminated lorry

or coach with fluorescent interior lighting and so on. What the object really was I do not know, but 30 people saw an object from Cradle Hill that night, and each seems to have seen it in his or her own way while the camera has recorded it in yet another way.

A FURTHER EXAMINATION OF THE WARMINSTER PHOTOGRAPHS

Terence Collins

Mr. Collins' report is dated November 9, 1970.

SOME weeks prior to the writing of this report, I attended a meeting of Mr. John Ben's UFO research group, which was held to discuss the group's past and future activities.

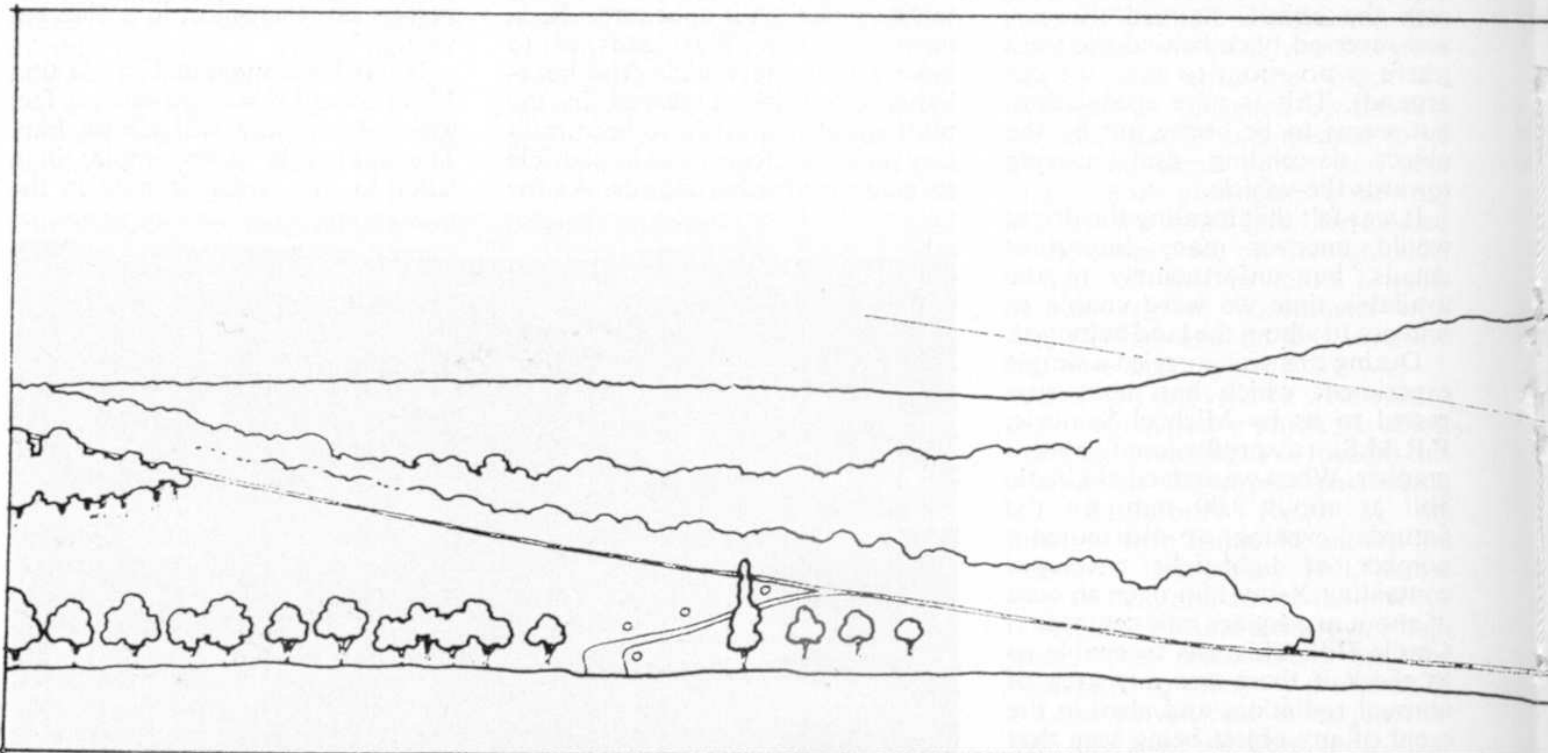
Several items were discussed at the meeting, one of these being the recent photographs taken by Mr. N. Foxwell at Warminster, which were later published by *Flying Saucer Review* (Vol. 16, No. 4).

During the discussion of these photographs, I became aware of something that had not been obvious to me when I had examined them previously, and which I thought might prove to be significant. This was, in fact, the position of the object in relation to Battlesbury Hill.

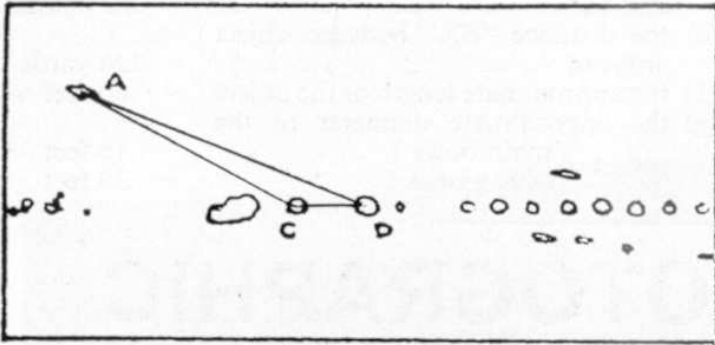
I had, until then, assumed the object to be at a point in the sky above the line of the hill, but now the opposite seemed to be the case and a close appraisal of the two night shots, in conjunction with the daylight shot of the hill, told me that the object was, in fact, below the skyline, and so being a lot closer to our observation point than we had thought originally.

My natural reaction was to draw up an elevation diagram, a copy of which is attached to this report, in an attempt to locate the position of the object in relation to the hill as accurately as possible.

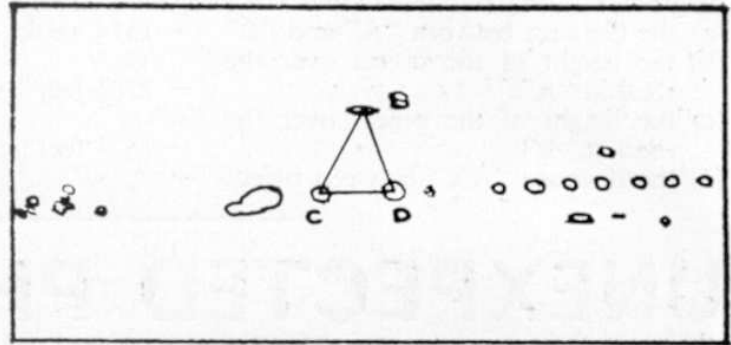
Initially I calculated that the night shots were approximately $2\frac{1}{2}\times$, in scale, larger than the daylight



Elevation of Battlesbury Hill from Cradle Hill: Showing the two points at which the object was photographed, relative to each other and two of the street lights on the new road.



Tracing of photograph no. 1



Tracing of photograph no. 2

Photographs of 1 and 2 on page 4 of Flying Saucer Review vol. 16 no. 4, and page 11 this issue

photograph. I then drafted an elevation of the hill from the daylight print, to a scale of $5\times$ the size of the photograph as accurately as possible. This diagram was then in scale $2\times$ the size of the night shots of the object, and by the use of two scales, I could plot, reasonably accurately, details from both sets of photographs on to my diagram.

I began by designating the two street lights, to the right of the large cluster in the night shots, "C" and "B" respectively. I then designated the position of the object in photographs 1 and 2, "A" and "B" respectively. By constructing lines from the centre of the object to the centre of the street lights, and connecting the centres of the street lights themselves in each photograph, I now had two triangles ACD and BCD.

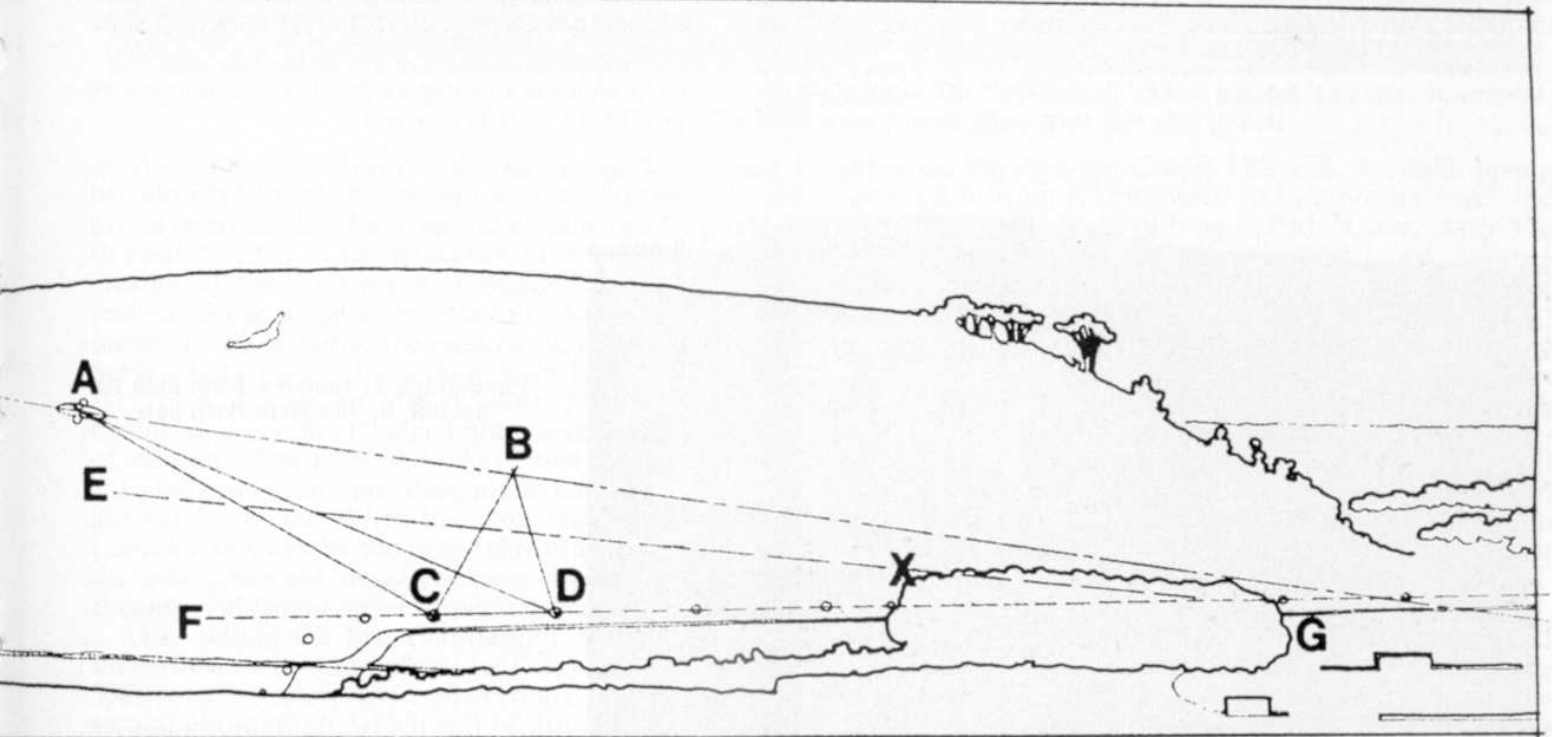
The next stage was to establish with accuracy the position of the street lights on my diagram, and a subsequent visit to Warminster enabled us to survey the road and measure off the street lights. Taking

bearings from Cradle Hill and the surrounding landmarks enabled us to identify the two street lights in question. I was now able to locate, with conviction, the two street lights C and D on my drawing and consequently transfer the two triangles ACD and BCD to the appropriate scale also.

I now had the positions of the object in relation to Battlesbury Hill at its two photographed points. The object, in both positions, was below the skyline, and considerably lower at "B" than at "A."

Other features which I have marked on the diagram, with as much accuracy as was possible, are the position of the car headlights. "X" on the narrow road "E" on Battlesbury Hill. A projected line "F" through the street lights on the new road "G", which is not marked on the Ordnance Survey Map Sheet No. 166, 1 in.: 1 mile.

Having measured the distance between the street lights C and D we know CD to equal 42 yards. With this key measurement, and knowing the scale of the



KEY;

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| A: First photographed position of object. | B: Second photographed position of object. | C: Street light. | D: Street light. |
| E: Approx. position of dirt road on hill. | F: Line projected through street lights. | G: New road, not marked on O.S. 166 1" : 1 mile. | X: Approx. position of car in photo no. 2 |
| | | | CD: 42yds. |

diagram, it is now possible to make certain calculations:

(a) the distance between "A" and "B" = 157½ yards

(b) the height of the object over the road at "A" = 220½ feet

(c) the height of the object over the road at "B" = 157½ feet

(d) the distance "AX" between object

and car = 283½ yards

(e) the distance "BX" between object and car = 126 yards

(f) the approximate length of the object = 60 feet

(g) the approximate diameter of the object { main body } = 15 feet
 { plus globes } = 30 feet

UNEXPECTED PHOTOGRAPHIC EFFECTS AT WARMINSTER

Unusual findings associated with independent investigations at Cradle Hill

Michael Samuels, F.R.M.S.

Our contributor is an independent consulting photographer who was invited by John E. Ben to assist in the continuing investigations into the Cradle Hill photographs of March, 1970.

HAVING been asked by Mr. John Ben to supply a set of photographs of Cradle Hill and Battlesbury, I travelled with him to Warminster on Sunday, January 24, 1971. I was briefed to take photographs looking out over the valley between Cradle Hill and Battlesbury from approximately the position where Mr. Foxwell had mounted his tripod when he took the Easter photographs in 1970, and from other positions nearby. In addition, I was asked to take some close-up views of areas relevant to the case.

As a practising, qualified technical photographer, I undertook this independent brief. I must emphasise,

months later that he approached me to give an opinion on what had been photographed.

Arriving at Cradle Hill, I took my Hasselblad 500C* with an 80 mm. f2.88 lens (with which I was using Plus X Pan professional film rated at 125 ASA) and proceeded up the hill towards the "Barn" with John Ben and Terry Collins. We had left Mrs. Ben in their car at the Army gates on the hill.

A surprising meter reading

The first photograph was taken from the region of the "Barn", and includes a portion of the gate used to shut



Photograph 1: the view from high on the hill, by the Field Barn gate

however, that at the time when the original Easter, 1970, photographs were taken from Cradle Hill I had never met Mr. Ben, and that it was not until a couple of

* The Hasselblad is a single lens reflex camera, so the operator loses sight of the image for the duration of the exposure.



Photograph 2: the view from half-way down the slope from the Field Barn. The "aberration" which puzzled the author is arrowed. Our COVER ILLUSTRATION is an enlargement taken from this photograph

off the area of the "Barn". Before taking this picture I had decided to set the camera as I would normally do for an overcast day, i.e. Exposure Value (EV) 13, scaled to read 1/125th at f8. However, considering the technicality of the assignment, I decided to take a meter reading using a selenium Weston Master V exposure meter. To my surprise the reading on the Weston Light Scale was 14+, which would give an EV of 16 scaled to 1/125th at f22. I am told by both Mr. Ben and Mr. Collins that my face changed dramatically after a couple of seconds when I realised what I had read.

I checked again, and then made sure the meter was accurately zeroed. When the same result was obtained I decided to work by the meter (proven to be the correct decision when the negatives were processed later that evening and found to be of perfect density).

After taking the first photograph, we walked down the path to a position about half way back to the car. This took no more than 30 seconds. I then took the second photograph, which will be discussed later in this article.

The third photograph was taken from the position which Mr. Foxwell had occupied, after having carefully lined up with the street lamps which appear in his

pictures. We then left Cradle Hill and, the light having returned to what is considered to be a normal level, the close-up views were photographed. Later, with the weather breaking up, and the street lamps on, another exposure was made, this time using a tripod as the EV was now 8, scaled approximately to 3 seconds at f22.

Back at my studio the film was processed in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Ben and Mr. Collins. The Plus X Pan Professional film was processed for 8 minutes at 68°F in Actual Fx (recommended dev. time) diluted 1 + 10. The resulting negatives were of good density and overall quality, as would be expected from correctly exposed and processed material. These were then washed and dried, and placed in envelopes to await printing in order with other jobs.

Further surprise while printing

On the Monday evening, whilst engaged in making the prints, I was surprised to find on the second negative an area of low density in a sky which had a much darker density. I made a print and found the resultant image to be dark grey, of varying density, and rather "fuzzy" in appearance. Close examination revealed that this image had grain structure, and this immediately ruled



Photograph 3: daylight view taken from the position—or within a yard or two—of the position occupied by Mr. Foxwell and his camera in March 1970. Note the prominent fence post and compare with the original photograph 4, reproduced on page 12

out the possibility that dust had stuck to the emulsion and stopped light falling on this particular area. Also, the fact that there were no other similar areas on the whole of the film eliminated the possibility that air balls had formed because of lack of agitation during developing. A third possible explanation for such an image was that a speck of dust may have been on the lens, and had been brought into rough focus by the small aperture (f22) which had been used. This, however, seemed very unlikely, as the lens was focussed on infinity. Nevertheless, exhaustive tests were carried out, and eventually this third possibility was ruled out as well.

On completion of personal investigation, the negatives, and a print, were taken to Kodak Ltd., and they were asked to comment on what I described as the aberration. A spokesman for Kodak Product Services Department examined the negatives and the positive, and then confirmed my findings, saying he could find no photographic cause for such an image, and that he felt nobody could really say what it was. Asked about his feelings regarding the unusually high meter reading, he agreed with my view that an excess of ultraviolet radiation was present, and stated that a selenium cell was far more sensitive to ultraviolet radiation than the human eye.

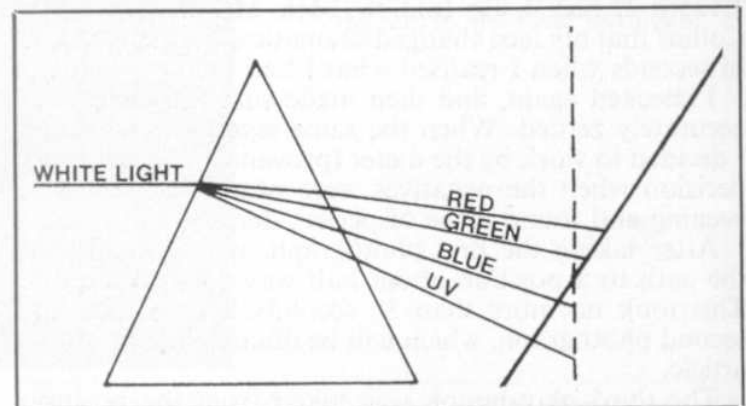
My feelings now are that some link needs to be found between the facts that the image that was formed on the film appeared during the time of excessive ultraviolet radiation—especially as none of the four persons present on Cradle Hill at the time when the photographs were taken remember seeing any object, either usual or unusual, over Battlesbury Hill.

Further checks were carried out on the exposure meter. It was placed at a distance of 2 inches from a 60-watt lamp, and this produced the same EV as was obtained on Cradle Hill. On a similar day in the open country, an EV of 13 was obtained.

Postscript

The firm of photographic instrument designers and manufacturers were given the facts of the unusual light meter reading, and informed me that under the conditions and circumstances which prevailed at Cradle Hill on January 24, 1971, a reading of that magnitude would be somewhat rare. It was stated that any fault in the meter would have been inclined to show a low light-intensity reading, with the resultant negatives being over-exposed. In view of the fact that the negatives were correctly exposed, they agreed that the possibility of a meter fault could be ruled out. It was also stated that the selenium cell used in this type of meter has a greater sensitivity to ultraviolet radiation than does the human eye, which confirms what was said elsewhere.

Regarding the screen which covers the aster cell, it was pointed out that this was made of perspex, which is a better transmitter of ultraviolet radiation than glass. Again, it was emphasised that the source of the ultraviolet radiation must have been considerable, for even in the Alps, with ultraviolet haze and snow, readings of this magnitude were rare. Furthermore, meter readings taken when using the "invercone" on this type of meter



Ultra-violet light would fall short of focal plane, thus giving an out-of-focus appearance

(in which a diffusing cone is placed over the cell window and the meter pointed from the subject to the camera or light source) rarely produced such a high reading.

If we assume that our object was of solid matter,

emitting ultraviolet radiation, we find, on consideration, that the solid outline would be broken down by the non-focussing ultraviolet radiation, but would still be dark enough to cause a loss of density on the negative.

THE LANDING AT QUIPAPÁ

(Continued from page 10)

Cruzeiros, Canhotinho.‡ For Marlúce said that the beings wore one-piece garments, of a colour of which she could not be sure—but perhaps it was grey—and, running across the breast, from shoulder to shoulder, they all had *an extremely luminous band*, the colour of which was changing the whole time, through pale yellow, green, blue, and so on. She told Sr. Rubens do Couto Soares that the blue resembled the bluish colour seen in electric arc welding.

She said that the diameter of the UFO was about three or four metres and that its height was about 1½ metres. She said she could not see whether it had any legs or supports, but that its base was not on the ground, but some 30 cms. above it. The UFO was thus hovering just above the ground, as has been reported in so many other cases.

Speaking of the lights or reflectors on the UFO, Marlúce said that they were of the size of a jeep's headlamps. Their colour was a pale yellow. Together with the brilliant luminosity of the headgear of the big entity they served to light up the whole surrounding area.

Sr. Rubens do Couto Soares got the impression from Marlúce that she definitely thought this taller being was "a man", though she did not recall having noticed any arms or legs. (Could it, I suggest, have been a collapsible robot, designed both to provide light and stand on guard for the smaller beings?)

As for the smaller creatures, these looked definitely "normal" to her, apart from their small size and their headgear which, although smaller than the headgear of the tall being, were also luminous, though they were not as bright as his.

She heard no noise, and detected no smell, but it should be borne in mind that the frightened girls were making a good deal of noise, so they might not have heard low sounds like humming or hissing.

Marlúce said that prior to this experience she definitely had never had any interest in such things as talk of UFOs or flying saucers. Now, she said, her main feeling was one of anger and exasperation because of her inability to prove the reality of her experience to the numerous sceptics who say it is all a lie invented by her.

She added that she had the impression that the UFO was "open on top" when they first saw it. But she admitted that she could not see how a man two metres high could get into a flying saucer only 1½ metres high, and when questioned on this point she had freely confessed that she found it peculiar.

Sr. Manoel Eugenio Gomes, accountant at the Águas Brancas Sugar Refinery, and his wife, Dona Maria José Rocha Gomes, live in a house only 50 metres from the

spot where the UFO was first seen by the girls, and Dona Maria heard the cries of the frightened girls. Her husband, Sr. Gomes, subsequently found the grass stamped and flattened at both of the sites where the girls saw the UFO.

The two da Silva girls signed the report, which they sent to Sr. Rubens do Couto Soares with a covering note from Marlúce saying: "I forward herewith the report, duly signed by us, as it corresponds precisely to the event experienced by us. Signed: M. Marlúce da Silva, Usina Águas Brancas S.A., Quipapá, State of Pernambuco, October 7, 1966."

Comments

This case contains a number of interesting features. First, as noted above, the luminous "breast-band" running across the upper part of the chest of the small beings seems identical with what José Camilo Filho reported regarding the small creatures seen by him at nearby Alto dos Cruzeiros, Canhotinho, on October 26, 1965.

Secondly, the headache felt afterwards by the girl Marlúce recalls the symptoms experienced by witnesses in several other recorded cases, notably the case of the boy Adilon Batista de Azevedo at Carazinho, Rio Grande do Sul, on July 26, 1965.§ Cases of this sort may perhaps indicate that what is involved is more than a simple irritation of the cerebral meninges, since ordinary headache pills do not seem to bring relief. The boy Adilon Batista de Azevedo had his headache for three days. On the other hand, it does not seem to be cerebral oedema either, for no serious symptoms seem to occur—not even in the case, or example, of Luiz Gonzaga do Carmo who had a UFO experience at Itabirito³ and whose headache lasted for a month.

In cases where there is a vascular (migraine-like) reaction, perhaps it would be useful to test whether substances related to ergotamine, histamine, or anti-histamine prove helpful. If not, perhaps something like the medicine Manitol (promoting copious diuresis) would be useful by removing oedema?

Numerous photographs of the witnesses and of the scene of their experiences, together with reproductions of Marlúce's sketches, were given by us in SBEDV Bulletin No. 54 (January/February 1967) on which this article is based.

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome. We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

‡ Case No. 65, "The Humanoids in Latin America."

§ Case No. 45, "The Humanoids in Latin America."