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AN ASTONISHING NEW TURN: ARE THESE CLAIMS TRUE?

Over the years since the “eruption” of the UFO Phenomenon in 1947, the evidence for its parapsychical and parapsychological aspects has continued to accumulate and is now massive.

Once we humans had begun to be aware of the so-called “abduction feature” in the situation, it was naturally not long before investigators here and there were starting to compare the statements of “abductees” with the already voluminous body of declarations received from individuals who had

no “UFO story” or “abduction story” to tell, but who simply claimed to have undergone “out-of-the-body experiences” (OBEs) or “near-death experiences” (NDEs), and the investigators were astonished by the similarities.

Today — believe it or not — Raymond Fowler, one of America’s absolutely “top-notch” investigators - and not only he, but also Whitley Strieber and some others — have begun quite seriously to postulate that the abduction stories and the OBEs and the NDEs are indeed all one — all part of some gigantic new prospect which is being unfolded for us.

Personally I must admit that at first I didn’t want to contemplate such a suggestion at all. It is going to raise a lot of questions and of course it plainly indicates that (*as I have always surmised*) the UFO beings are “not all out of the same biscuit barrel”. Though many of them - maybe most of them — seem patently to be *devils*, it begins to look as though others are definitely “not of that ilk”.

We must have much, much more to say about these questions in future issues of FSR. ■

A SAUCER OVER FLORENCE (1978)

© *By Gordon Creighton*

In mid-July of 1978 an Italian physician, Dr. La Magna, and his wife Rita and daughter Liliana, were on vacation in Florence (Firenze), from their home on the Island of Sicily, and in their holiday party with them were their friends, another married couple, Signor Angelo Scammacca and wife, plus their two children.

On one particular day (nobody any longer recalls precisely *which* day) they had all been out to Fiesole for lunch, and were back in Florence at about 3.30pm and were taking photographs at a spot on one of the several bridges over the River Arno.

In order to secure a picture showing their whole party, Dr. La Magna did what so many folk do: he asked a passer-by to help by taking the snap. The man did so, but Dr. La Magna did not feel confident that the camera setting had been right (in fact it was), so he asked the man to hand the camera to him for a moment so that he could check, and then gave it back to him and asked him to make sure by taking a second photograph. During this interval, which can have been only of the briefest duration, some of the party changed their positions slightly.

Two weeks later, when they were all back home again in Sicily, Dr. La Magna asked his uncle to develop the photos. When the uncle had done this, he asked Dr. La Magna whether any member of the party had seen the UFO on one of the photos?

Of course neither the doctor nor any of the others could have seen a UFO, since they all had their backs turned towards it, and at first Dr. La Magna thought his uncle was joking. (Had the passer-by seen it, surely he would have cried out!).

In October 1993, a colour print of the second photograph - with the UFO - was brought to me at my house by an Italian reader of FSR, Signor C. Pennisi, also a Sicilian, who is resident and working in London, and is a friend of the La Magna family.

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I found the photograph so interesting that I asked Signor Pennisi whether he could get the negative for me. In 1994 he did so, and also brought with him (but without a negative) a colour print of the *first* snap taken by the passer-by, which shows no UFO. (So far the negative of the first picture has not surfaced, and this after all is not surprising, for it had nothing odd or strange about it, and may still be somewhere in the La Magna household if not lost or destroyed.)

In April 1994 I sent the one negative and the two colour prints to FSR's Photographic Consultant, Mr. Robert Rudge, of Cheltenham in the West of England,

and in due course I received from Mr. Rudge the following report on his examination of the case. Publication of this case in FSR has been delayed owing to the sheer volume of material on hand and the impossibility of coping with it all.

In conclusion I should add that Signor Pennisi said he felt sure he could also see the UFO as a tiny speck on the first photograph, but Mr. Rudge, with all the technical resources available to him, states categorically that he could not find the UFO on that first photograph.



THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S REPORT

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April 20, 1994

Dear Mr. Creighton

I am pleased to return the 'Florence' photograph and negative, having studied both at some length during the past few days.

My observations are based on the fact that I have been a Commercial/Industrial Photographer for 25 years, rather than possessing any specialised equipment for photo-analysis. Having had many thousands of negatives pass through my hands over the years, I am in a position to know the obvious things to look out for when dealing with photographs that may have been altered in any way.

My observations are as follows:

1. The negative is correctly exposed and sharp, which suggests that a modern automatic 'point and shoot' type camera may have been used. The actual pose of the group is not good, suggesting it was taken by an amateur - few of the group have given the photographer their attention.
2. The photograph appears to have been taken on a cloudy bright day, without direct sunshine on either the subjects or surroundings.
3. Having examined the negative with a photographer's magnifying glass, I can see no sign of any kind of mark

or fault in the emulsion that could give rise to the object shown in the sky.

4. I have ruled out any kind of tampering with the original photograph, the negative is quite sharp and of good colour balance - as one would expect with an original negative. Any tampering with and subsequent copying of a photograph would normally result in poorer quality of the 2nd generation of negative. The same is true when copying an audio or video cassette tape.

5. You will notice that the group of people is sharply focussed, while the background goes out of focus. This is usual when the camera is concentrating on a relatively close subject. The definition of the object in the sky is about the same as the buildings and bridges at about the same distance and further behind the group. One may almost certainly conclude from this that there is no way the object could be a hoax perpetrated either by mem-



THE SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE: WHAT IS FLYING ABOUT OVER THE MOON?

© By ALEXEI ARKHIPOV

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(Translated from Russian. G.C.)

(From newspaper *Vecherniy Khar'kov*, July 12, 1994)

Much is being written about "UFOs on the Moon". But almost all of it is compilation and re-narration of a fairly small number of ufological legends. The credulous reader is usually regaled with reports of flying saucers encountered by the first humans on the Moon; of a squadron of 31 saucers allegedly observed on the Moon in 1963; of a gigantic luminous cross-shaped UFO on the Moon; of a venerable sage who encountered and saved some astronauts, and so on and so on.

But, despite all this profanation of the subject, a problem nevertheless *does* exist. And, so far, very little indeed is known about it. Our enquiries, carried out at the Kharkov Scientific and Investigative Institute on Anomalous Phenomena, (1) can throw a certain amount of light upon the real state of affairs in this exotic realm

FROM THE FILES

Mysterious moving objects on the Moon had been noticed long before the "UFO Wave" of 1947. It may indeed well be that the first report of

this kind dates from as far back as 1715, when, in London, the well-known astronomer Edmund Halley and J.E. de Louville saw, on the occasion of a solar eclipse, "as it were a sort of flash or momentary vibrations of beams of light, as though someone were setting fire to gunpower trails as used in mining. These bright flashes were very brief in duration and appeared now here, now there, but always in the shade".

Since then, many other eminent astronomers, such as Charles Messier, J.H. Schroeter, W.R. Brooks, V. Shafarzhik, W.H. Pickering, and J. Classen, have reported movement on the Moon. The range of theories as to the nature of these unusual lunar phenomena has been very wide, from terrestrial meteorites to lunar lightning.

But in the scientific milieu of the first half of the 20th Century, the prevailing view was that the Moon was "dead" in both the biological and the geological sense.

So selenologists adopted a sceptical stance to all reports of any changes on the surface of the Moon. And in fact between 1941 and 1946, when L. LaPaz, E.K. White, and W.G. Haas were attempting to detect an atmosphere on the Moon, they sought - as they said- moving points of light on the night-side of the Moon — i.e.

To Page 10

bers of the group or some other party.

6. It could be argued that the object might be an aircraft shown at an unusual angle to the camera. To make this possible, there would need to be an airport quite close to this location for an aircraft to be flying at this fairly low altitude.

7. My own impression is that the object is probably no more than 1 - 2 miles from the camera. I have enlarged a portion of the negative, and enclose a black and white print. Although colour negatives do not translate very well to black and white papers, this at least gives quite a good view of the object, as I have printed it a little darker than normal to increase the density of the sky and the object.

Also enclosed is a section showing the object on its own. This is the equivalent of enlarging the whole of the negative to size 36 X 24". The white marks on this print are general dust and scratch marks, and would nor-

mally be apparent at this kind of magnification.

I think you will agree that the shape of the object as shown bears no resemblance to any known commercial craft, and from my observations, I share your excitement that this is probably a genuine photograph.

I would suggest that the photographer did not see the object at the time due to the fact that:

a) The object was passing across the sky and was only in camera view for a brief time. The photographer concentrating on his picture may have been totally unaware of something intruding into his photograph.

b) The object may have been 'invisible' to most eyes, being captured only on film. Presumably, UFOs are often reported as having been seen by one person and not another who may have been in the same vicinity.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Robert W. Rudge, LBIPP ■

Extraterrestrial Vampires in the Amazon Region of Brazil: Part II

© By Dr. Daniel Rebisso Giese
(Précis Translation from Portuguese, G.C.)

[For our first instalment from this Brazilian book, published in 1991, see FSR 39/3, Autumn 1994, EDITOR]

CHAPTER IV: COLARES ISLAND: A NEW "UFO STRONGHOLD." A STRATEGIC ZONE

Probably due to its position, Colares Island rapidly became a key UFO area.

A report in the newspaper *O Estado do Pará* (November 2, 1977) ran as follows. (This was an exception, for few such reports ever reached the press):-

According to Sr. Olímpio Martins, of the Bureau for Internal Affairs, on the morning of November 1, 1977, in the town of Colares, various persons were attacked by a cylindrical object emitting a greenish light. Some of the victims were sent to the Legal Medical Institute (Instituto Médico Legal) in Belém for diagnosis.

The "thing" had first appeared on October 19, no victims being at that time reported. However, on the next day, three women were targeted, being wounded in the breast. All three were overcome by tremendous nervous tension and an unknown sort of *lassitude* "as though they were receiving constant electric shocks."

According also to Olímpio Martins, at Juçarateua, near Colares, two fifteen-year-old youths were struck by a mysterious beam of light that caused raised weals on their chests and left them talking wild balderdash.

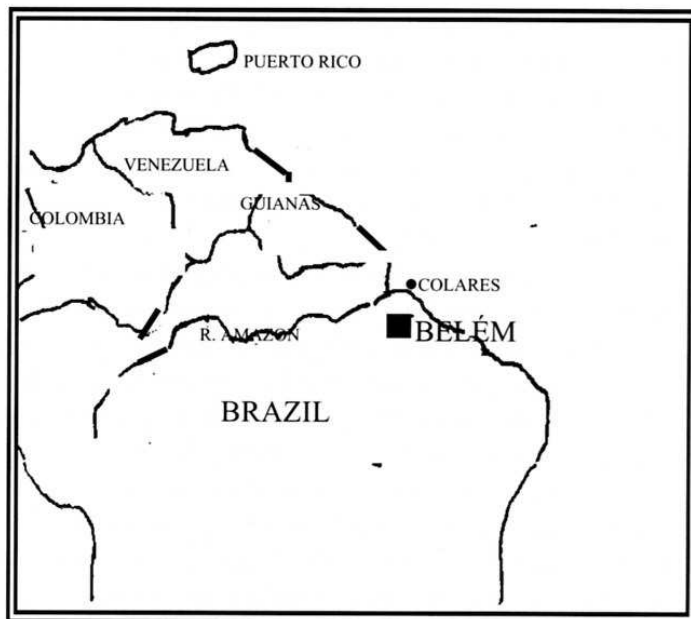
[*O Estado do Pará* newspaper, Belém, Nov. 2, 1977, "Colares attacked: Victims in Belém".]

LUMINOUS SPHERES

The nights in October and November of 1977 were a time of fear throughout the Island of Colares, particularly in the main town, Colares, itself, due to the bold and persistent appearances of the alien craft. Some of the local residents fled elsewhere for safety. Those who remained managed to work out a system of survival and still recall their difficult moments with the "*chupa-chupas*".

A carpenter named João Dias Costa (aged 44) and a fisherman, João da Cruz Silva (aged 54), both of Colares town, saw the notorious "luminous spheres" so greatly feared on account of their "low skimming swoops".

Another man from Colares town, Sr. Zacarias dos Santos Barata (74) saw the glowing balls on two nights. The first time, the object came from the direction of the Bay of Marajó, and rapidly vanished towards the interior of Colares Island. On the second night another ball, blue in colour, flew over the local football pitch. "It lit up all the trees around the field and then vanished towards the



town centre", said Sr. Zacarias.

Near the beach, in a modest wooden house, we met Sr. Sebastião Vernek Miranda (nickname "Zizi") who calmly describes his experience as follows:-

"I was there with my wife, Palmira, in front of the church on the sea-front, when - at about 8.00pm - we saw an intensely vivid "orangish" light coming in from the sea towards the town. As it approached, it climbed, and then, moving rapidly, vanished towards the inner part of the Island."

The barber Carlos Cardoso de Paula (aged 49), living at Travessa Deodoro da Fonseca No. 231, had a still closer encounter with the "lights", as he himself relates:-

"Everybody else was asleep. I was just still having my last smoke when suddenly a ball of fire entered our house up near the ridgepole of the gable. It started shooting round and round the room and then finally came right close to my hammock. It ran up my right leg as far as the knee (without touching my skin). I watched with much curiosity as it then moved across to the other leg. Then I started to feel feeble and sleepy. My cigarette fell from my hand and I came to and let out a yell. The fireball quickly vanished and everybody woke up. I think