

# A TURKISH REPORT: UFOs OVER ISTANBUL

Ergun Arikdal

Mr. Arikdal's article has been translated by Gordon Creighton from *Lumières dans La Nuit*, No. 115 (December 1971), to whose Editors we are indebted for permission to reprint it here. LDLN address: M. Raymond Veillith, "Les Pins", 43 - Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France.

THIS observation occurred on July 7, 1963, at 9.20 p.m. (local time), from the sixth floor of a building on Gülden Street from which there is a splendid view westwards over the Sea of Marmara and the Princes' Islands Archipelago.

It was a warm night, with no wind, a cloudless sky, and the Moon had risen. The two witnesses, Mme. Naime Suar and Mme. Nazire Kutsal, said they had seen three objects to begin with; then, flying in a straight line in groups of three came nine more, making a total of twelve UFOs.

Describing the objects, the witnesses said:

"In the moonlight their colour was silvery, but when not in the moonlight it was a metallic grey.

"The upper portions of the objects were hemispherical and the under portions more pointed, and the under portions were also surrounded by a ring of whitish vapour like the rings of Saturn.

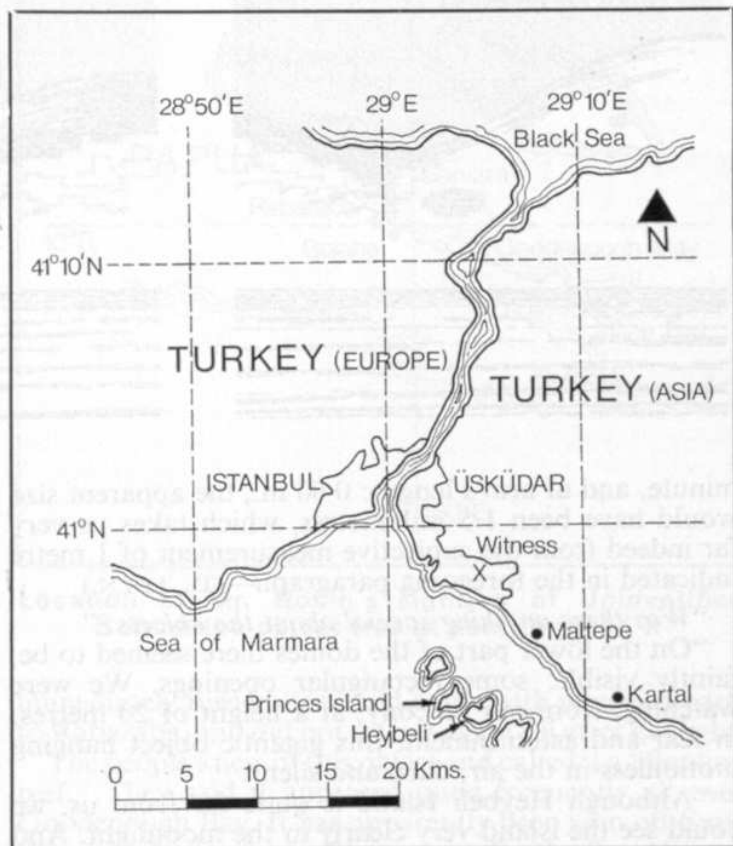
"We were able to get a particularly good view of this ring on one of the objects. At times the ring was very distinct, while at other times it had the form of a mass of cloud and rendered the UFO invisible. The most important feature about it was that this thing, this "ring," which it is difficult to describe either as a cloud or as a mass of vapour, did not remain behind in the air, like the trails left by jet aircraft, and did not dissolve as these trails do. The thing had the definite appearance of a ring and it went along with the spherical objects without separating from them.

"The first three objects were camouflaged from our sight by small masses of this cloud, just as though a silent explosion had occurred. We could not see the objects, but only the clouds.

"Shortly afterwards three more arrived, coming from the East, looking like little clouds, and, in the moonlight, reflecting three round shadows on to the ground. They came from the direction of Kartal and Maltepe. Their shadows on the ground were very marked. Then, having reached an area of the sky where we could observe them very easily, they separated and flew off towards the Princes' Islands, at first at the speed of helicopters, and then increasing their speed and vanishing towards the Sea of Marmara.

"It seemed as though they might have been at a distance of nine or ten kilometres from us and at a height of four or five kilometres."

"What was the apparent size of the objects?"

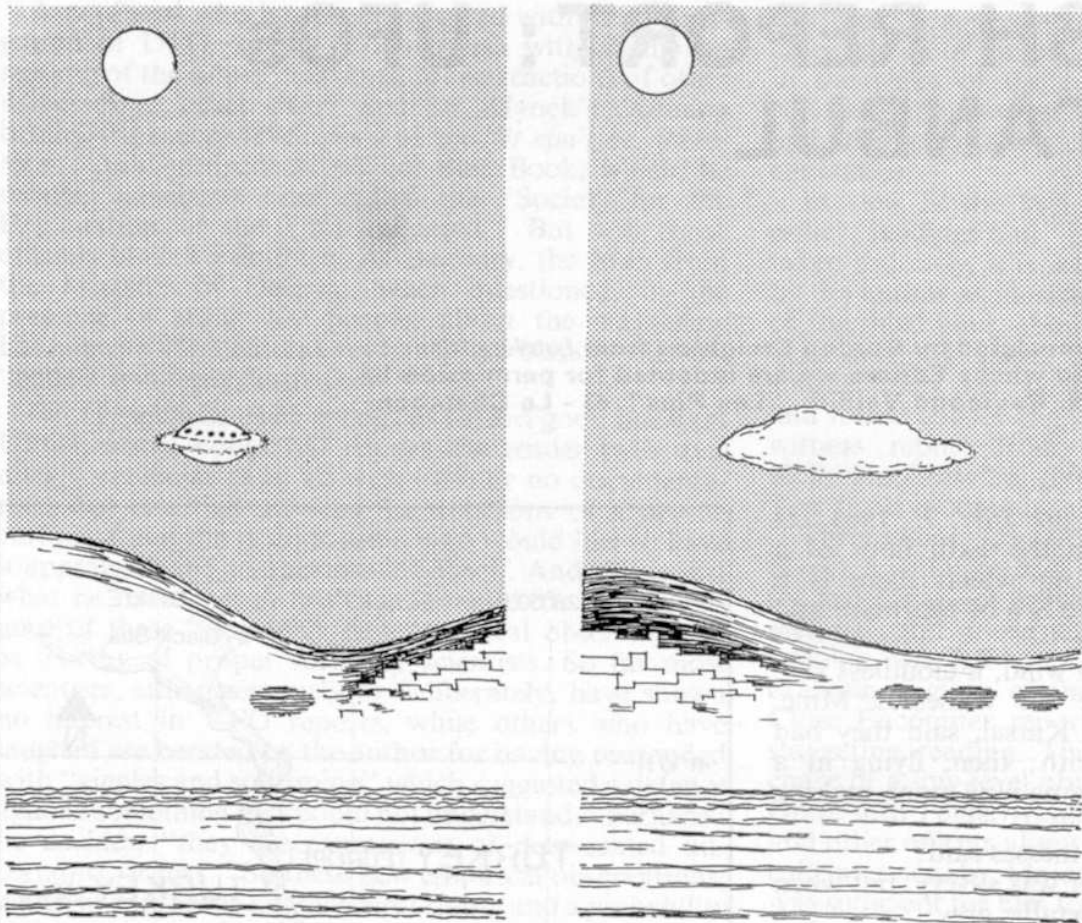


"The one that we saw nearest to us was of the width of a little more than one metre. (This is of course a mere piece of subjective guesswork, as the only valid measurement in such a case would be one made with arms fully extended so as to give an apparent angle.—EDITOR OF LDLN.)

"We heard no noise and the object was not luminous. A second object then approached, and for four or five minutes remained as though suspended in the air, above the Island of Heybeli. In size it looked as big as the dome of a large mosque."

"Was it as big as the Dome of Saint Sophia?"

"Yes, perhaps even larger. (Mr. Arikdal tells us that the Dome of Saint Sophia is 31 metres wide and 55 metres high. One can consider the position of the object well determined—despite the distance of about 12 km.—by the shadow which it casts on the Island. At that distance, the apparent angle is less than one



Far left. Fig. 1.

Showing the object, with portholes and vaporous ring over the town of Colins on Heybeli island.

Left. Fig. 2.

Showing the "little cloud" and the three shadows on the island of Heybeli.

minute, and at arm's length: 0.60 m., the apparent size would have been 1.5 millimetres, which takes us very far indeed from the subjective measurement of 1 metre indicated in the foregoing paragraph—ED. LDLN.)

*"Was there anything special about the objects?"*

"On the lower part of the domes there seemed to be, faintly visible, some rectangular openings. We were watching, from our balcony, at a height of 20 metres, in fear and astonishment, this gigantic object hanging motionless in the air, dark and silent.

"Although Heybeli Island is quite far from us, we could see the island very clearly in the moonlight. And

a certain part of the island was covered by the object's shadow—a vast, round shadow. (As one reads this, it seems indeed that the object must have been far bigger than the Dome of Saint Sophia for the two eyewitnesses to have been able to see the shadow cast on the ground on the Island. We think we must multiply the size of the objects by at least five if not even more: thus their width would have been at least 150 metres—ED. LDLN.)

"After five minutes, it moved away towards the Sea of Marmara and was lost to sight on the horizon.

"From ten to twenty minutes later, more objects of similar appearance arrived from the direction of

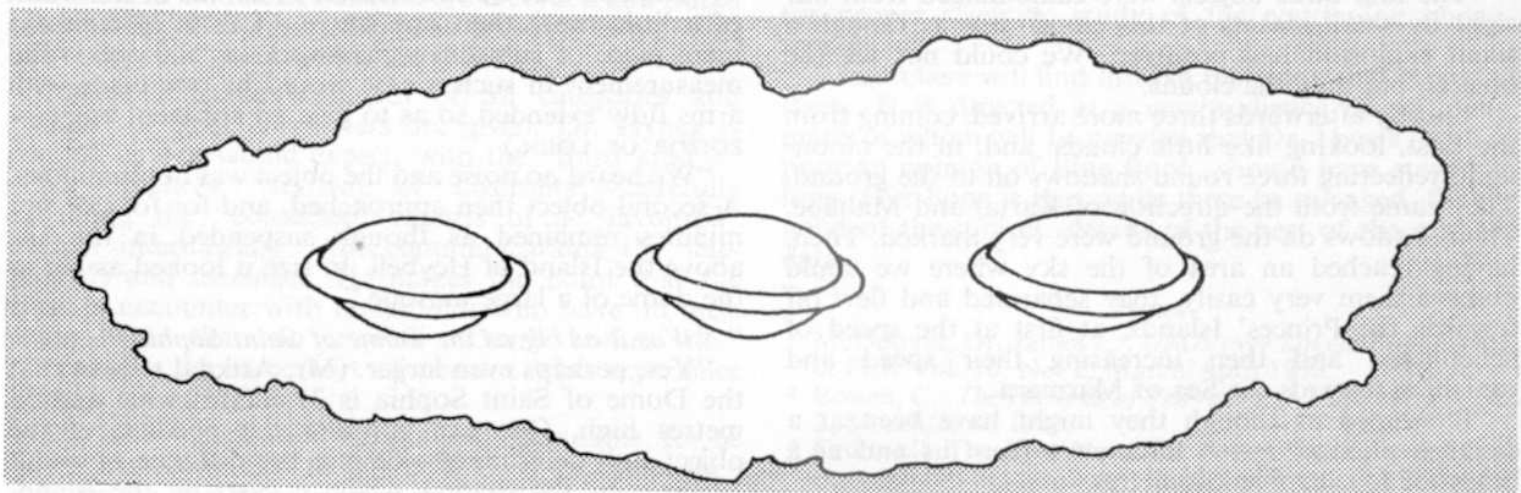


Fig. 3. The three silvery objects in the moonlight and their white, cloud-like rings.



# UNIDENTIFIED SUBMARINE OBJECT OFF PAPUA

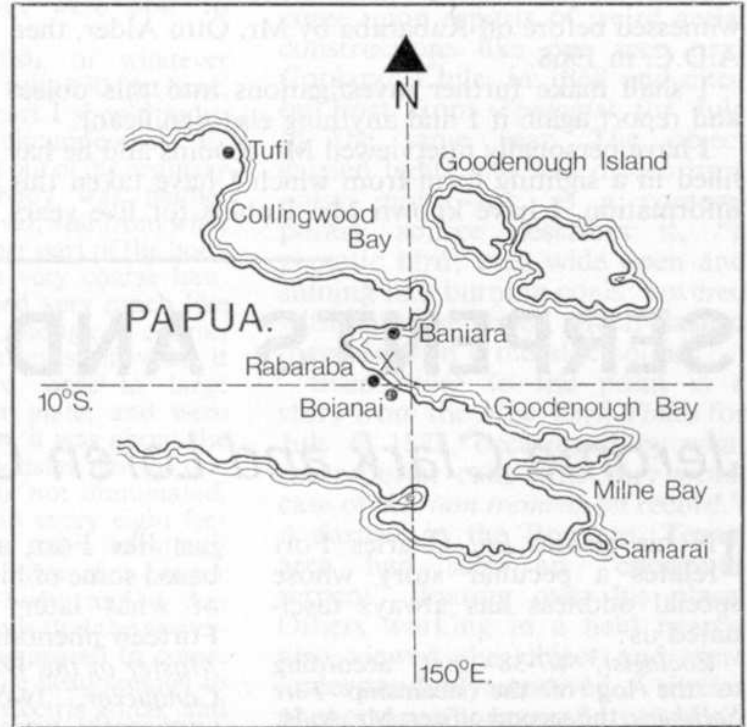
*The Revd. Norman E. G. Cruttwell*

ON a night in the month of April 1970 a remarkable submarine object was seen by Mr. Albert Robins, Store Manager, of Rabaraba, Milne Bay District. He was travelling in a small coastal motor boat from Rabaraba to Cape Vogel, about one hour north of Rabaraba on the waters of Goodenough Bay. The time was about 2.00 a.m. and the night was clear. The sea was reasonably calm. There were five Papuan crew on board who also witnessed the object.

A brilliant light appeared beneath the sea on the starboard side and a huge brilliantly lit object rose slowly from below the water: even so it seemed that about three-quarters remained submerged. Mr. Robins estimates its size to be about 80ft. in length. Its width and thickness were difficult to estimate because of the submersion, but it would have been at least four times as long as high (and wide). It was cigar-shaped, with both ends pointed; the top was somewhat flattened. He saw no detail of surface, or any irregularities or protrusions. The object was self-luminous, dazzlingly bright so that it hurt the eyes to look at it.

It was travelling at exactly the same speed as the boat, i.e. 7 knots, and paced it for four minutes. Mr. Robins and all the Papuan crew were, needless to say, terrified, and tried to take evasive action by turning to port, but the object did likewise and followed them relentlessly, keeping about 20ft. away from the boat on the starboard beam. They turned two complete circles before shaking it off. The crew were shouting with amazement and fear, but apart from this and the sound of the sea, they heard no sound from the object, which seemed to be completely silent.

The object then suddenly started to descend into the depths until its light faded and it was gone. The sailors



Location of Mr. Robin's sighting of Unidentified Submarine object was at point marked X

immediately turned back and made with all speed back to Rabaraba, and did not set out again till after daylight.

The people knew of this object and called it a "floating reef." They said it appeared quite frequently all over Goodenough Bay. It has apparently been seen off Cape Vogel and also from Dogura, in Bartle Bay. It was

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Heybeli, and moved away at great speed."

"Have you had any other sightings?"

"That same night, after 2.30 a.m., we had not yet gone to bed. We were watching the sky when, towards the South and at a considerable height, we saw four luminous orange objects. They remained stationary for a long time, looking like coals in a brazier.

"We again saw the same thing three days later, at between 3.30 and 4.00 a.m. On the following days, from the same position, all we could see was two stars.

"In 1964 we read in the newspaper *Hürriyet* a more simple account, stating merely that this case had happened. Since then, although we have often watched

the sky, we have never seen any more objects like those."

\* \* \* \* \*

The two eyewitnesses are educated ladies. Mme. N. Suar is a chemist, and Mme. N. Kutsal is a professor of German. They are serious persons, with positive temperaments. So far they have had no psychological malaise of any sort, and their mental equilibrium is perfect. I have examined them in my own capacity as a parapsychologist, and have found in them no tendency to hallucination. They were resistant to suggestion.

I gave them various illustrations of UFOs. They considered that what they had seen much resembled the unpowered craft seen by Daniel Fry at White Sands.

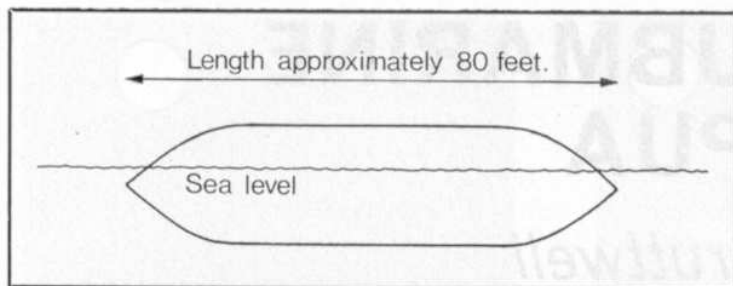


Diagram showing object partly submerged, as observed by Mr. Albert Robins.

witnessed before off Rabaraba by Mr. Otto Alder, then A.D.C. in 1968.

I shall make further investigations into this object and report again if I find anything else significant.

I have personally interviewed Mr. Robins and he has filled in a sighting form from which I have taken this information. I have known Mr. Robins for five years

and can vouch for his reliability.

As readers will see, this is right in the middle of the area of the 1959 New Guinea wave.\*

Explanations given by non-observers for the unidentified submarine object are:

- (i) bioluminescence in the sea,
- (ii) a school of porpoises stirring up phosphorescence,
- (iii) a whale or whale-shark, with luminous sea streaming off him.

Hardly adequate to account for what the Robins party saw. Mr. Robins and his crew are accustomed to normal sea phenomena. Furthermore, the question has to be asked: can bioluminescence be blindingly bright?

\* This fantastic wave is presented in detail in the Revd. Norman Cruttwell's contribution to FSR's 4th Special Issue, *UFOs in Two Worlds*—EDITOR.

## SERPENTS AND UFOs

Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman

IN his classic *Lo!* Charles Fort relates a peculiar story whose special oddness has always fascinated us:

*Zoologist*, 4-7-38—that, according to the log of the steamship *Fort Salisbury*, the second officer, Mr. A. H. Raymer, had, Oct. 28, 1902, in Lat. 5°, 31' S., and Long. 4°, 42' W., been called, at 3.05 a.m., by the lookout, who reported that there was a huge, dark object, bearing lights in the sea ahead. Two lights were seen. The steamship passed a slowly sinking bulk, of an estimated length of five or six hundred feet. Mechanism of some kind—fins, the observers thought—was making a commotion in the water. "A scaled back" was slowly submerging.

It was the mention of the "scaled back" that most interested Fort—and most interests us. Fort noted: "So doubly damned is this datum that the attempt to explain it was in terms of the accursed Sea Serpent." One thinks immediately of the *Nautilus*, Captain Nemo's submarine in Jules Verne's celebrated *20,000 Leagues under the Sea* (first published in 1870), a vessel whose appearance was designed to make those who encountered it believe they had seen some kind of sea monster.

(Perhaps this is more than mere coincidence. Jules Verne was a compulsive collector of *curiosa*,

just like Fort, and seems to have based some of his ideas on accounts of what later would be termed Fortean phenomena. For example, *Master of the World* and *Robur the Conqueror*, two related novels, apparently were inspired by mid-Nineteenth Century French reports of a mysterious "airship.")

A rather incredible event allegedly took place nine years before the *Salisbury* incident in the northwestern part of the United States—in fact not far from the area where the first great modern UFO wave erupted in 1947. The supposed witnesses, William Fitzhenry, H. L. Beal, W. L. McDonald, J. K. Bell, Henry Blackwood and two "eastern gentlemen" who asked that their names be not used, had left in the sloop *Marion* on a fishing expedition in Puget Sound just prior to the experience.

The following account, quoting one of the "eastern gentlemen," was published in the *Tacoma [Washington] Daily Ledger* for July 3, 1893:

"We left Tacoma about 4.30 p.m., Saturday, July 1st, and as the wind was from the southeast we shaped our course for Point Defiance, intending to anchor off that point and try our luck with rod and line. We cast anchor about 6 o'clock, the wind having died

out, and had fair success fishing. The wind coming up again pretty strong, Mr. McDonald suggested getting under way for Black Fish Bay, Henderson island, as he knew of a fine trout stream running into the bay, and also an excellent camping place near the fishing ground.

"So about 8 o'clock we weighed anchor and shaped our course for Black Fish Bay, which place we reached about 9.30. We landed and made everything snug about the boat and made a nice camp on shore, and as it was by this time 11 o'clock we all turned in to get a little sleep as it was agreed upon that at the first streak of daylight we should all get up. About 100 yards from our camp was the camp of a surveying party, but as it was so late we decided that we would not disturb them but that we would call upon them the following morning, and would probably get some valuable pointers as to the best places to fish and hunt on the island. After a few jokes had been cracked the boys laid [sic] down and in a short time everything about camp became as still as death.

"It was, I guess, about midnight before I fell asleep, but exactly how long I slept I cannot say, for when I woke it was with such startling suddenness that it never entered my mind to look at my watch, and when after a while I did look at my watch, as well as every watch belonging to the party, it was stopped.