

A FRENCH REPEATER CASE: EVENTS AT LES NOURRADONS

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Translation: Gordon Creighton.

MANY investigators of the UFO phenomenon have already noted that certain places seem to be more favoured than others by this type of manifestation. Examples of such so-called "repeater-cases," or "repeater-places," have been emphasised by Jacques Vallée in the USA, by Aimé Michel in France, and by Antonio Ribera in Spain.

Lumières Dans La Nuit has carried material concerning certain regions in the Département of Doubs (extreme eastern frontier of France, adjoining Switzerland) which seem to be frequently overflowed by UFOs, or which have been the scene of particularly interesting landing cases.

We have now discovered a similar site in the vicinity of Draguignan, in the Département of Var (S.E. France). *Lumières Dans La Nuit* (Contact Lecteurs) No. 4, November 1971, carried an excellent report by Messieurs Jean Chasseigne and François Moll¹ on one of the Draguignan sightings, which had taken place on March 29, 1971.

I will recapitulate the facts briefly: two young men from Draguignan named Pierre Calafat and André Bouchaud, members of a dance band, go to an isolated

house which they have rented for the purpose of practising there. On the evening in question, these two are the first to arrive. As soon as they start to drive up the little road leading to the house, they notice a reddish light overhead. Then they observe a large reddish disc, having the shape of a plate, flying around above a vineyard situated beside the house and at a distance of some 150 metres from them (Photo 1). They park in the forecourt and watch the UFO performing zigzag movements, and then see it come to a halt at a height of ten metres or so above the ground and only about 50 metres from them. Then, two minutes later, the craft performed a roll and headed away towards Flayosc, which is in the same direction from Les Nourradons as Valensole.

It was not until September 11, 1971, that we found the traces left by this UFO (Photos 2, 3, 4, 5).

These traces are in the field which adjoins the vineyard on the north. The grass there is long, of the graminaceous sort, and very thick. When we found the marks they were so fresh still that they could not have been made in March, but much later, and in any case they could not in all probability have been more than

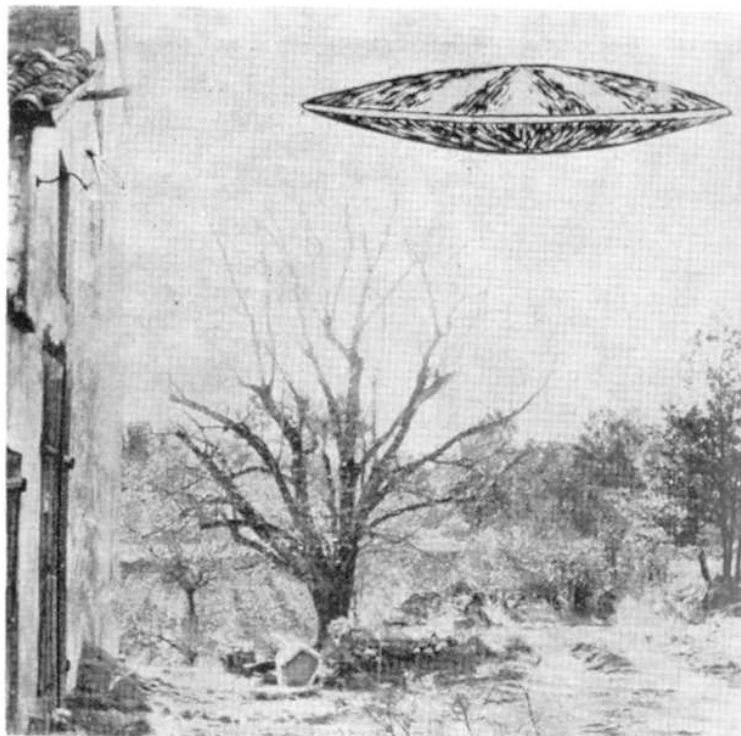


Photo 1. Reconstitution of Calafat's and Bouchard's sighting of March 29, 1971. On the left the house, rented by the musicians, and in which poltergeist phenomena occurred. Photo taken facing N.E.



Photo 2. The marks in the field. Photograph taken on September 11, 1971, facing S.E.

two weeks old. The chief mark is a perfect circle with a diameter of 5.60 metres. Inside this circle the grass is discoloured. The vegetation is flattened only along the periphery of this circle, or, to be more precise, the grass is swept in an anti-clockwise sense. The width of this flattened ring is about 0.6 metre (see photo No. 1). There were no holes in the ground, and no marks that would indicate that an actual landing occurred. To the east of this principal mark there was a second circle, about one metre in diameter, and presenting the same discoloration of the grass. The distance between the large circle and the small one was one metre. A Geiger check for radioactivity gave a zero reading.

In the vineyard itself, we found no burn marks.

Two trees, an almond-tree and a cherry-tree, were dead—still in bud. But as the analysis has not yet been carried out, we do not know whether these two trees died of some disease, or as a result of the UFO fly-over of March 1971.

While looking through the archives of the newspaper *Le Provençal* (Var edition) we found a UFO sighting report of 1965. *And the place overflowed is the same.*

Here is the text of the article which appeared in that paper for November 15, 1965:

“A young man aged 17, studying in Draguignan and living at Lorgues, recently saw, and watched for about ten minutes, an “unidentified object” akin to the flying saucers which, for a good many years past, and in diverse sorts of circumstances, have already been observed by reputable people.

“M. Christian Fabre,² son of the president of the Lorgues sports club (l’Etoile Sportive Lorgaise) was

riding on his motorcycle to Draguignan at about 4.00 p.m. last Friday when he saw, to his left, at a point a few hundred metres after the Castel Roubine hill, and shortly before reaching the “Content” roadside-shelter, a machine shaped like a flattened cone, bright and shining in colour, standing out sharply against the background of the blue sky, at a distance of about 200 metres from him and at a height of less than 100 metres above a wood.

“M. Fabre stated that, all around its base, this sort of aerial craft was emitting a band of orange light which seemed to be in motion.*

“He said: ‘Above all, I was astonished that I didn’t hear any noise from it. And, in order to make quite sure that the craft was indeed totally silent, I had switched off the engine of my motorbike.

“‘For about two minutes the thing hung there, motionless, rocking sideways from time to time, which enabled me to see, on one of the sides, a sort of fin.

“‘The size of it looked to be considerable: about four or five times as big as the helicopters we often see round these parts.

“‘My puzzlement increasing, I went about 50 metres closer so as to be able to get a good view of it from a more open spot, and perhaps to be able to get right up to the place over which it was, but while I was closing in, it suddenly vanished.’”

In July, 1971, Bernard Blanc, a guitarist in a pop group, rented Les Nourradons where the craft had been seen in March.

* The object seen in March 1971 was also bathed in a red glow and seemed to be rotating.

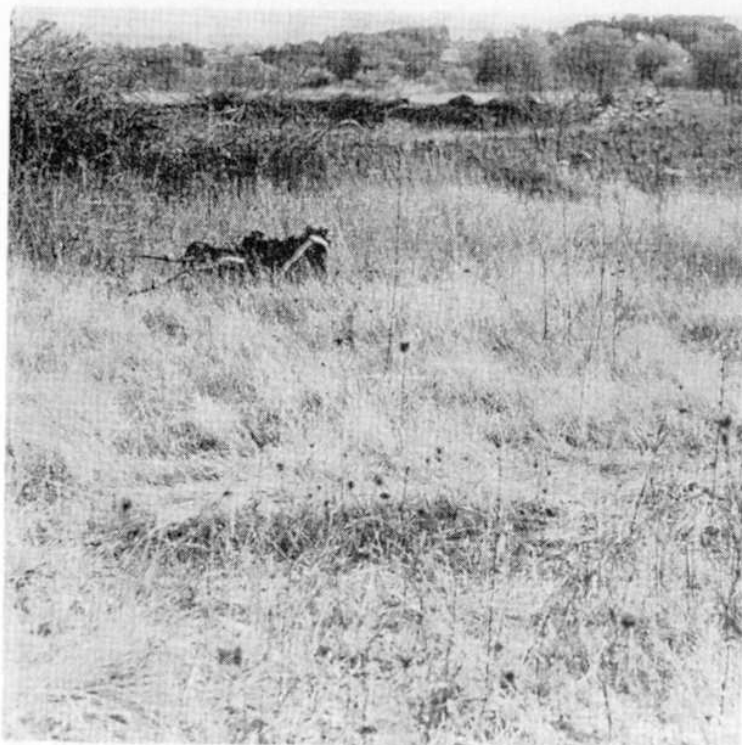


Photo 3. Detail of marks in the field. Photo taken at end of September 1971

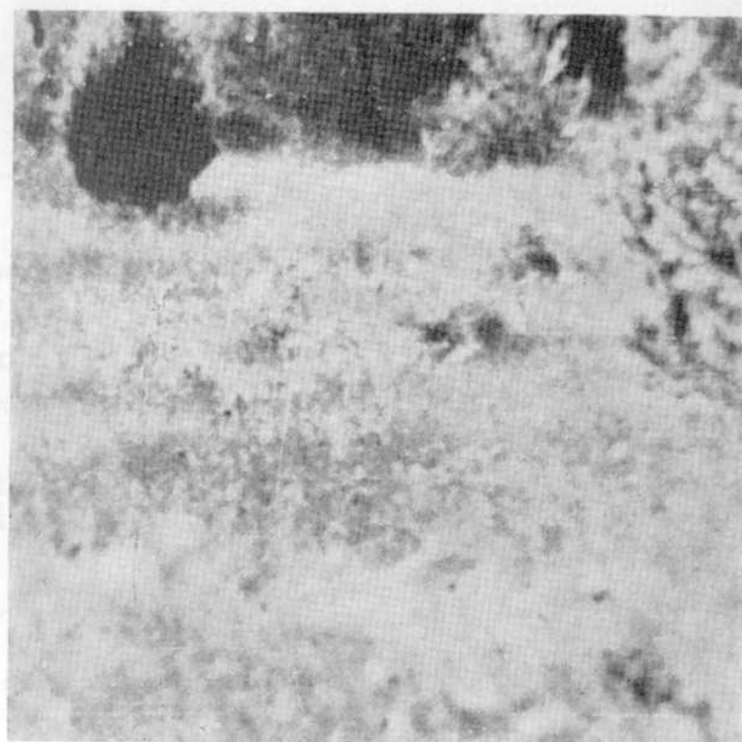


Photo 4. Picture taken with Nikon red filter and showing the discoloration of the grass, in the foreground

One night, after a concert, he arrived there to sleep the night, with some of his comrades. Here is his account of what happened:

"We were all using the same room. Suddenly, just as I was on the point of falling asleep, I heard a noise, difficult to describe, as though someone was coming down the stairs from the first floor. Then I heard a sort of whistling noise, growing louder and louder. At the same time I felt myself pervaded by an intense heat. My whole body was paralysed, as though enclosed in a suit of armour. The whistling noise had by then become so unbearable that I tried to alert one of my companions. I tried to stretch my hand out towards him, but my arm would no longer respond to the command.

"I was very frightened, but quite conscious of all that was going on. I could see the pale moonlight through the open shutters of the window. This situation lasted for about three minutes maybe. Then suddenly the noise diminished. There was a great flash outside, like a magnesium flash, and I immediately felt myself released and free in my movements. I recall very clearly that, just at that precise moment, my sleeping companions uttered sighs of relief. Two of them awoke, and each said to me: 'I've just had a horrible nightmare.'

"Next day, and for a period of three days in all I felt very weak, like someone who is just getting over a long illness."

On the night of this occurrence, the weather in that part of the country was fine.

The old buildings of Les Nourradons have the reputation of being "haunted." Strangely enough, a field

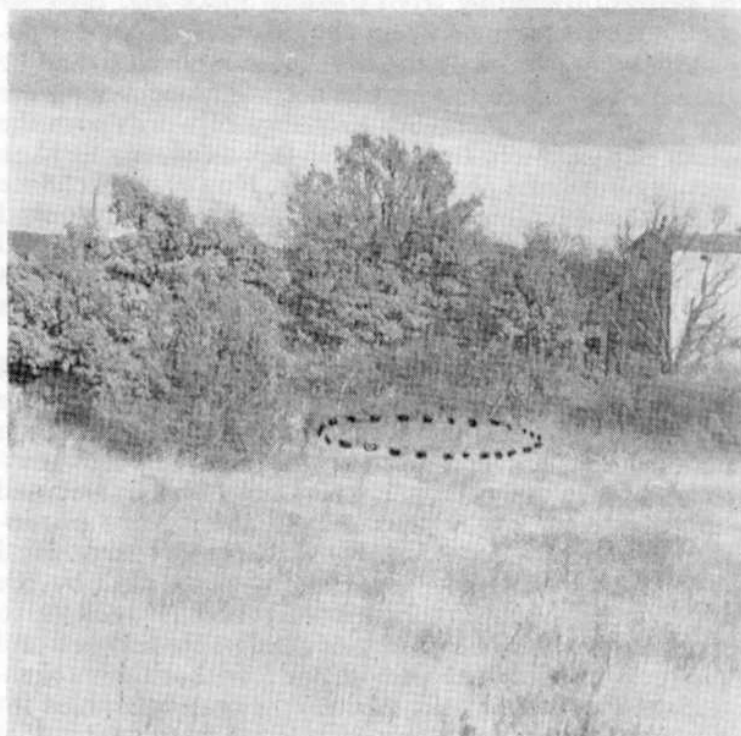


Photo 5. The landing-site, photo taken facing S.W.

adjoining the scene of the flyovers and landings is called "Clos Saint-Esprit"³ or "Clos des Esprits"⁴

Bernard Blanc continued with his account:

"A month later, that would be around about August 20, 1971, I was coming back to the house with Patrick and Georges (two other members of the band). It must have been about 9.00 p.m. We were walking up the dirt path, and, arriving at a point some 50 metres from the house, I was surprised to find that there were no lights on. Everything was off. I thought there must be a power failure. We approached closer, and then a sort of luminous sheet, of a milky-white colour, began coming towards us. It was visible for a few seconds, moving off then towards a vineyard field. We had a fair old fright! All three of us, without pre-agreement, had fled away down towards the main road. Then we sat down on the little stone bridge a bit below the house. Patrick, who didn't know anything about what happened in July, admitted to me, under the pressure of emotion, that, a few days previously, he had been paralysed in the kitchen at Les Nourradons when he had risen in the middle of the night to go and get something to drink.

"Next morning, I gathered up my instruments and left. I only heard a few days later about what had happened there in March. And then I understood everything. . . ."

So it looks as though there might be a good many areas in which the UFOs have the greatest interest. We shall have taken a big step forward when we are able to know what it is that attracts them to these places. In the meantime, we are going to concentrate our UFO detectors on this area of Les Nourradons, which has been the scene of a wave—or perhaps one should say, a "cluster"—since 1966. Maybe we shall get some valuable information. At least, that is, if our unobtrusive visitors are good enough to let us have the necessary time for it.

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

- ¹ See *Investigations At Draguignan*, by Chasseigne and Moll, in *FSR Case Histories*, Supplement 14, April 1973.
- ² Note that this young man Christian Fabre of Lorgues, who saw a craft "shaped like a flattened cone" near Draguignan in November 1965, is the same person who appears in Case No. 4 at Draguignan in March 1968, when he saw a glowing cigar-shaped craft drop down out of the sky over the centre of Draguignan. (See Chasseigne and Moll, *op. cit.*, Case No. 4.)
- ³ "Holy Spirit Field."
- ⁴ "Field of the Spirits."

A CORRECTION

With reference to Hubert Malthaner's article in *FSR* July/August 1972, Herr Malthaner has written to me to say that a small error has crept into the text, in the 7th line from the bottom in the left-hand column of page 16, where instead of the word *vertical*, should be read *horizontal*. The thing was thus "rotating on a horizontal axis and anti-clockwise."—G.C.

A NEW TELEPORTATION NEAR CÓRDOBA

Strange luminous object by the roadside, 81 kilometres missing and a petrol tank half-full

Oscar A. Galíndez

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I—PRELIMINARIES

THERE has been fairly frequent talk of presumed manifestations of teleportation.¹ We freely admit that, in view of the fantastic character presented by the reports of this kind, we had always found it difficult to attribute any degree of credibility to them, particularly as regards the alleged Argentine cases of Bahía Blanca in 1959 and Chascomús in 1968.² For on each of those two occasions our spirit of curiosity was frustrated by a multiplicity of obstacles which rendered any direct study of the cases quite impossible. We were never able to interview in person the parties who, so it was claimed, had been the protagonists in such experiences, and this was not because we had opted for the comfortable position of merely citing the newspaper versions that were in circulation about the cases, without making any effort ourselves to evaluate the degree of truthfulness that there might be in them.

Very much indeed to the contrary: our efforts in the matter were intensive, but they yielded no fruit, because not one of the pieces of evidence examined by us led us to the parties themselves, if indeed such parties really existed. The press organs which had propagated the reports in the first place took refuge behind a barrier of alleged professional secrecy "out of respect for the trust placed in them by the eyewitnesses."

Faced with such options, our modest function had perforce to be confined to the gathering of the existing newspaper material about the cases, and to its dissemination at the international level—naturally with all the reservations that are essential in such matters. And the existence of other incidents, more or less similar to those of Bahía Blanca or Chascomús, which had seemingly occurred in other parts of the world, did nothing to diminish our great doubts regarding the feasibility of the phenomena of teleportation.

However, in the second half of 1972 we had the opportunity to make a study in depth of a happening of this very kind *one month before the Argentine press began reporting it*. This fact facilitated our task, inasmuch as the witnesses at no time displayed any weariness or any misgivings towards ourselves, and very kindly and helpfully submitted themselves to our interrogations.

The Encounter

Although it may perhaps be thought by some to be

unnecessary, we think it right and proper that we should first of all give a detailed account of the strange circumstances amid which our first meeting took place with one of the protagonists in the incident that we are about to describe.

In mid-August of 1972 an excellent archaeological exhibition of a high scientific level was held here in Córdoba. The exhibition was heavily attended by the public, one motive for their particular curiosity being the correlation, which the exhibition was endeavouring to establish, between certain figures and documentations of pre-Columbian civilisations of America, and purported extraterrestrial intelligences. This was especially the case with a small effigy, about 6,000 years old, from the Tiahuanaco culture, made of peridot and turquoises, and representing an entity from whose mouth emerge two tubes which converge towards his back, in the fashion of our present-day frogmen. This raised once again the much-debated problem of the possibility of our ancestors' having made contact with communities of beings originating from Cosmic Space and thus by analogy raising once again the problem of the UFOs.

My father went with me to see this exhibition, and he thought he recognised an old acquaintance among the crowd of people there. An exchange of words with the other party showed that it was in fact a case of mistaken identity but great physical likeness. However, as chance would have it, this unforeseen meeting was prolonged into an informal chat, which touched upon several matters connected with the archaeological exhibition and the extraterrestrial connotations that its organisers had sought to give it.

As soon as our conversation had got on to deeper and more confidential levels, our new chance acquaintance expressed his conviction that the UFO phenomenon denoted the activities of real physical presences inasmuch as a recent personal experience of his had caused him to change his mind radically about these phenomena. He had been led to visit the archaeological exhibition by a growing curiosity, nourished by the ardent need to know more about a problem which, up to then, had not preoccupied him greatly. He had not told the press about his experience for fear that the publication of the affair might create very real difficulties for him, and so he had confined himself to speaking of it only within the limits of a small family circle.