

UFO SPEED IN OUR ATMOSPHERE

Irene Granchi

Our contributor was, for many years, closely associated with the late Dr. Olavo T. Fontes, APRO representative in Brazil.

THE photos illustrating Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz's article in the *Flying Saucer Review*, January/February 1972 (pp. 8, 10 and 12) immediately brought to mind those I had seen in stills taken from Fernando Cleto Nunes Pereira's film, the similarity striking me as being very great. On being shown these pictures, he agreed with me, and it was decided to let FSR know about them.

Cleto's film, taken by Ortiz Rubio, a now deceased TV Tupi cameraman in the presence of Hilton Gomes, a well-known TV showman in Brazil, was bought by him only three days after it was shown as an extra news-item on the night of November 11, 1957. This was in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Nobody had believed it worthwhile keeping at the time for all that could be seen in its 1½-minute duration* was a round light swelling and splitting, then joining again. At one point the two lights split into four. That was all. Who would want anything so unsensational to watch?

Background evidence to the authenticity of this film is plentiful, for not only had there been a blackout at the TV studios in Urca district, but also the two TV men had been called to the scene of the sighting by eye-witnesses—there were hundreds of them—as was testified by the papers on the following day. Among them, there was a Professor Sergio Raul de Barros Regina who, in an interview, said he had watched first one luminous point travel horizontally across the sky, then two, then two more, all flying at an incommensurable speed first towards the Sumaré (near the Corcovado Christ) then towards the suburb of Leblon. It was nearly midnight when he saw a huge flash, again in the vicinity of the Samaré. All of this was seen from the window of his Rio de Janeiro apartment, looking towards Corcovado.

The little UFO movie was to afford some very astounding revelations. According to Fernando Cleto's studies and his consequent statement, it represents perhaps the most important document proving the *rate of speed* developed by UFOs within the atmosphere of our Earth.

Examination of the film revealed that a luminous central body was the constant target of the cameraman, just as it was to the hundreds of eye-witnesses to the sighting. By slowly unreeling the film and observing the sequence in separate frames, other lights are seen to appear in it.

The film camera used was a Bell & Howe, year unknown. Ortiz Rubio having died, it is no longer possible to ascertain which film-speed was actually used, but the minimum employed was 1/16th—it could have been 1/24th—so it was deducted that the movements appearing in isolated frames occurred at the minimum of 1/16th of a second.

Consequently, every time a new luminous body appears in one of the stills, and does *not* appear in the subsequent one, nor in the one preceding it, one can be justified in saying that the movement was produced within a minimal fraction of a second, in other words 1/16th up to 1/24th.

The film was taken with the nocturnal background of the "Mesa do Imperador" which lies somewhere between the Corcovado and the Pedra da Gavea, both famous Rio de Janeiro landmarks, around 700 metres high. The UFO was flying 300 metres above this. It was filmed from a distance of about 3,000 metres. The field of the telephoto lens covered about 1,200 metres. While sixteen photos were being taken per second, *one* object crosses the whole field in only *one* picture. The luminous central spot is maintained by the cameraman all the while. This means that the speed of the UFO

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Town. This object, which was brown in colour, passed below the plane. Ground control, Cape Town, knew of no other aircraft in the area at the time. (*Sunday Times*—S.A.—of July 9, 1972.)

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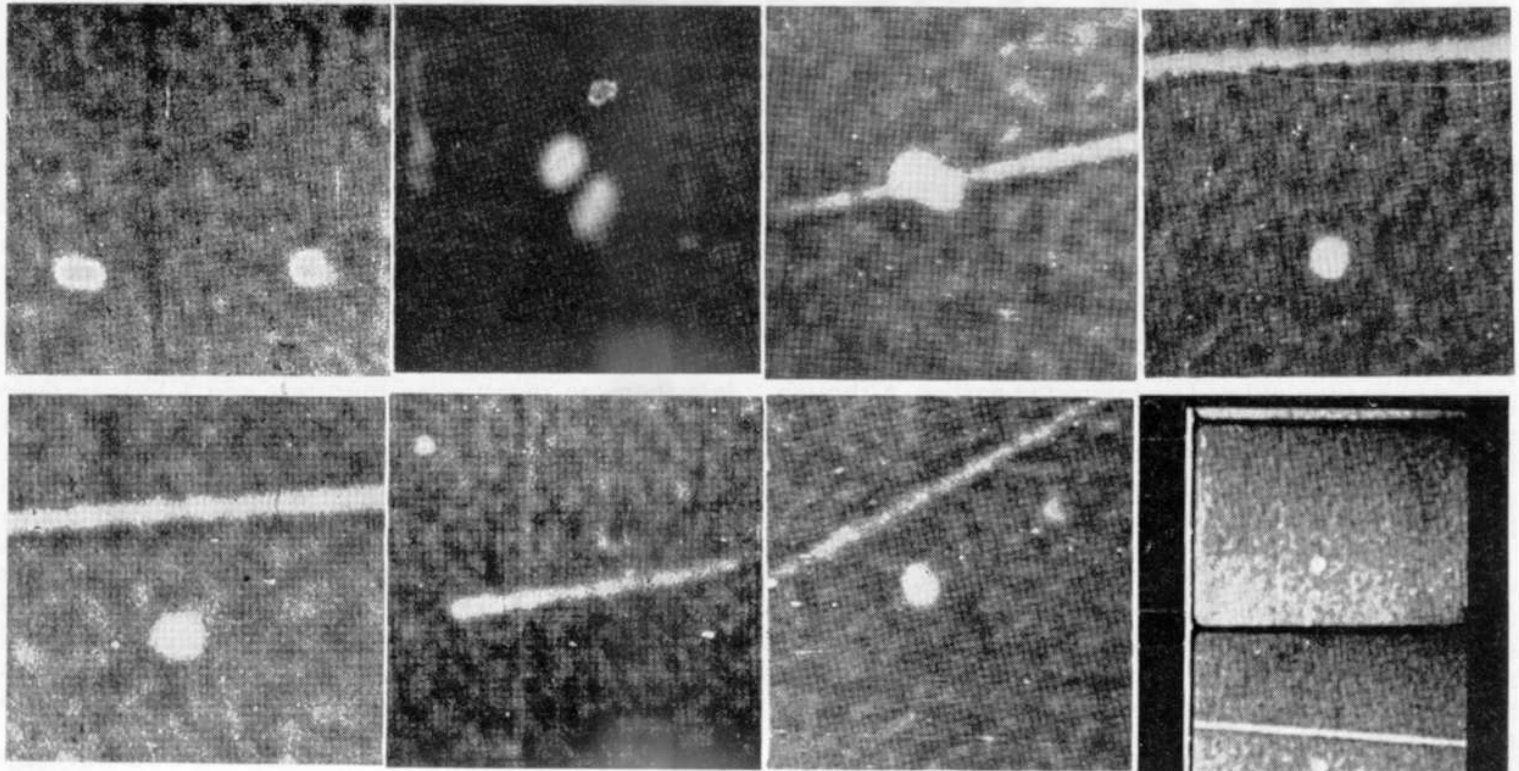
I wonder if there were any radar reports of the unknowns in these three South African Airways incidents?

I apologise to readers for presenting these accounts out of strictly chronological order. Further reports during South Africa's mini-wave will be included in

the second part of this collection, scheduled for the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

Notes

- 1 Bowen, Charles: "A hot reception at Fort Beaufort" in *FSR Case Histories Supplement 11*, August 1972.
- 2 At the request of Dr. McDonald, these were published, edited into the form of articles, in FSR 16/2, 16/3 and 16/5.
- 3 Fredrickson, Sven-Olof: "Recent observations over Southern Sweden," FSR 17/5.
- 4 Menge, Lin: "Shooting at UFOs is all right for some" in *Rand Daily Mail* of July 1, 1972.



crossing an isolated photo must have been at least 69,120 km. per hour. This is a modest estimate. Every shot can be examined in the same manner, deductions made with the same precision. As a working-plan, the probable distance of the UFO from the camera was calculated at 3,000 metres, but it could well have been 4,000 metres away—in which case the speed reached would have been 92,160 km. per hour. In 1957 that was indeed an unheard-of speed within our atmosphere!

Fernando Cleto Nunes Pereira sent a copy of his film to the Brazilian Air Force a short while ago. This study, according to him, can be of inestimable value to science, so he is now putting copies of his motion picture film at the disposal of scientists† wherever they may be in the hope that their conclusions will be made known.

In November, 1971, when I attended APRO's UFO Symposium in Tucson at the University of Arizona, I had with me a copy of this film which was viewed by the scientists participating at the Symposium in the Lorenzens' home. However, I had strict orders to return the film to Cleto here in Brazil, and scarcity of time prevented any copies being made on the spot for local study, or an extensive explanation of the facts involved.

All that goes above conveys Fernando Cleto's elaboration on the subject and deserves careful study and attention.

My own personal interest in these pictures stems from a different angle. I started out saying how struck I had been by their similarity to Dr. Berthold Schwarz's stills. I have numbered some of the enlargements F. Cleto Nunes has so kindly offered FSR to prove my point, so Nos. 1 and 2 can be compared with Fig. 2, Nos. 3, 4, and 5 with Figs. 4 and 6 on page 8 [of *FSR for January/February 1972*]. Obviously the twin lights are similar, the single light that seems to be doubling as if ready to split, like the duplicating of a cell, seen

in Fig. 4 and 6. Also the general outline and shape of each light. Let me quote Dr. Schwarz: "... the sky was illuminated by a sudden appearance of one, and then two, white-yellowish orange discs, which pulsed, changed size and colour, and merged into one, and then separated into two discs . . ." (page 7).

In Cleto's numbers 6 and 7 there are several spots of light that can be compared with Figs. 3, 11, and 12 in Dr. Schwarz's article. Little lights are visible, and what is more important, the nearly straight line in Figs. 11 and 12 can be compared to the absolutely straight line in Cleto's enlargements, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, as well as in the photographic strip of four successive shots (No. 8). This most certainly indicates an object in flight. Again let me quote Dr. Schwarz: "... When the film strips were analysed frame by frame, some tiny blue discs and circular objects were seen . . . I call attention to it because the appearance of many such unobtrusive forms, where they appear as just flickers of light at slow motion projection speed . . ." (page 9).

The most indicative resemblances can, however, be found in the four strips of negative film where the two

SCIENCE AND LOCH NESS

F. W. Holiday

AS a cynic of long standing it seems to me precisely right that society should become instantly myopic and obtuse whenever the possibility of monsters, UFOs and kindred phenomena is mentioned. Religion and all things other-worldly are only tolerable insofar as they keep within their appointed realm and permit themselves to be manipulated by interested parties. Although the heads of state still pay ostentatious lip-service to the deity, the commercial and social life of the country proceeds on blatantly atheistic lines. The result is predictable. The mass of the people sell their sense of values down the river and buy a colour TV with the proceeds.

Provided monsters and UFOs are not a threat to the establishment or cause the Dow Jones index to sag, we don't really want to know. Quite the best thing about resurrections, the loaves and fishes, and similar assorted oddities, is that we have them entirely on hearsay. In fact if you adopt a certain attitude you can keep almost everything at hearsay level as the Medical Research Council manage to do with spirit-healing. By a simple schizoid manoeuvre of the mind it is possible to accept that certain alleged events in Roman Palestine are not repeatable. This dubious thinking is propped up by the insistence on "faith" from those with only febrile argumentations to offer. This is not good enough. As an active member of the Doubting Thomas Society I claim the right to inspect the evidence—with the proviso that the pundits of this world must do likewise.

When I was a starry-eyed child I truly believed that scientists were interested in knowing. This proved to be untrue. Some things they will not touch at any price no matter what taunts are flung in their direction. Outraged at this selectivity, we can only construe it as intellectual

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larger twin lights are seen in several frames. A total of about 40 photos can be derived from these strips and evidence even more conclusive by comparing them with Dr. Schwarz's and Stella Lansing's films. This, for the scientific study.

But to the layman, like myself, the thing that shakes the imagination and seems of much greater significance is that two films taken so far apart in time and space, of lights unidentified, should at all resemble each other, leading us to a telescopic view of other, greater resemblances that are all around us, as yet unrecognised.

Notes

* The total duration of the film is 3 minutes, for the sequel is repeated.

† There will be a charge for the copy and for airmail totalling \$10.00. Requests to: **Fernando Cleto Nunes Pereira**, Rua Aires Saldanha 25, ap 402, Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

cheating. These people—it now appears—are really Artful Dodgers turning their blind eye or their good eye towards events, as suits their purpose, before rendering their false accounts.

As an experiment I tried writing cheerful letters to various anthropologists and archaeologists to congratulate them on mentioning monsters and UFOs in their writings about ancient cultures. These letters stressed the validity of such research since the phenomena described are still occurring. Almost none replied, one of the rare exceptions being Dr. George Cansdale who agreed that there is more to the Loch Ness business than meets the eye. None of the mythology experts asked for further details or indicated that they were starting inquiries on their own account or, indeed, that they had any interest whatsoever. Having gone through the motions approved by orthodoxy their function was now concluded.

Science has now developed a sickening credibility gap regarding Loch Ness phenomena. Even an amateur statistician knows that quite a sizable bunch of professional biologists and zoologists must have observed Loch Ness monsters over the last 40 years. The law of averages insists on this because biologists are no more uncommon as visitors to North Scotland than are, for instance, electronic engineers, Commissioners of Public Health or Members of Parliament such as Sir Murdoch MacDonald, K.C.M.G. But whereas the latter group dutifully described their sightings of monsters, the biologists and zoologists never said a word.

There are exceptions to every rule, however, and when biologist Dr. Neil Bass reported watching a large black moving hump in Loch Morar it seemed as if the credibility gap was starting to close. Was not such a hump (and whatever lay beneath it) the probable causation for the sonar effects recorded at Loch Ness by Professor Tucker, Robert E. Love and Dr. Robert Rines during the course of three separate and independent surveys? Were not the sonar echoes caused by humps; and were the humps not monsters?

Being a public body (and therefore vulnerable) the British Museum is bound to make responsive noises if petitioned legibly and pointedly. To such a petition Dr. G. B. Corbett, deputy keeper of Zoology, replied: "I cannot agree with you that the sight of an unexplained disturbance in Loch Morar by Dr. Bass demonstrates that the sonar phenomena seen in Loch Ness were not artefacts or known animals."¹

This statement shows how the scientific accounts are falsified so let us look at it very closely.

Dr. Bass did not merely see an "unexplained disturbance" in Loch Morar; he also saw a large, black, moving hump. The actual words used in The Loch Morar Survey Report, 1970, are: "Dr. Bass noticed a black, smooth-looking hump-shaped object in the water about 300 yards away and called the others, but by the time they arrived it had submerged, going smoothly and