

A VERY PERSONAL ENCOUNTER "SOMEWHERE IN SUSSEX"

Patricia B. Grant

THE letter UFOIN received from this witness seemed to be a straightforward account of a daylight disc observed for about 15 minutes at fairly close range. Subsequent interviews and correspondence have uncovered far more detail to give rise to speculation that the witness remembers only part of the sighting.

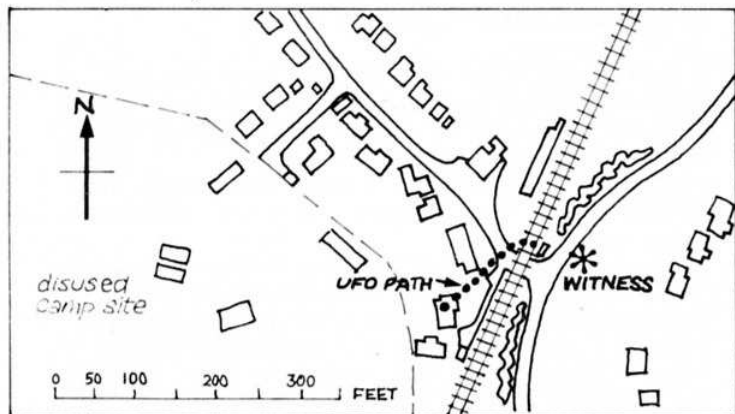
Denise is a highly intelligent young matron with an above average standard of education, and has recently served in a branch of the British Military Services where she was fully trained in aircraft recognition. On a bright cloudless day in the autumn of 1977 she stood at a bus stop on the outskirts of a small village in the South East of England. It was about 5.20 p.m., although her bus was not due until 5.40. This was due to the fact that she had missed it in the past because the hourly service had been erratic, sometimes very early and sometimes late.

The UFO

She had just finished lighting a cigarette when she noticed a sharply defined, black oval object which appeared over the roof of a house about 220 feet away and almost due West South West from her position. (In retrospect she feels the object may have been rising from the grounds of an abandoned camp site behind the house, but this thought did not occur to her until months later when she and I were studying the Ordnance Survey map of the area.)

As she watched the object and tried to determine what type of aircraft it was, she felt "extremely amazed that there was absolutely no engine noise at all..." The speed of the craft was equally astonishing. "It was at an elevation of about 50 degrees rising to 55 degrees in a total of five minutes... the speed was so unnaturally slow for a vehicle of such a size..."

The she stated: "A Harrier would be able to



This map of location and sighting is accurate to scale shown, and to cardinal points.

Mrs. Grant is a member of UFOIN who lives in mid-Kent, and this is the first investigation she has undertaken. Readers will appreciate the need to withhold both the proper name of the witness (the name used here is a pseudonym) and the nature of her work, as well as the location of the event, in East Sussex; the interests — indeed the well-being — of the witness have to be protected in any report when requested. The features of the incident that are of real interest lie in the way it happened to a "repeater" witness, in the continuing effects on the witness, and in the subsequent incidents such as the figure at the window, and the surprising effect on the dog. Certain aspects of this case bring to mind that of Mrs. Coombes, the "repeater" witness who lives near Broad Haven in Dyfed, the subject of a number of reports in FSR.

— EDITOR

make these manoeuvres but the engine noise would have been unbearable." It was a very large craft (the object appeared to her to be larger than a 4" diameter plate held at arms length). She believes that it may have been no more than 300 feet in altitude, but concedes that there is no way to establish this because at no time did it pass in front of any object to which she could relate it.

Denise continued: "Still appearing to be black, the 'nose' part of the oblong shape appeared to be red. I feel this was possibly a reflection of the sun."

By this time Denise had realised that this was no known aircraft and on impulse she waved in its direction. "I hope you won't think I'm crazy, but I thought 'come down here and let me get a good look at you.'" She was not at all frightened and sensed no hostility or danger. Immediately the disc changed course and began to move in her direction. "It then very slowly moved to an elevation of 90 degrees. This manoeuvre took a total of ten minutes. Still no noise at all..." She finds difficulty in determining the size the object appeared to be at this stage, but she says it was "very close."

At this point the witness became aware of the time, and was wondering when the bus would arrive. It was very late. Then: "The black oblong shape appeared to decrease in length and the sun's reflection showed me it had a type of dome on top and was oval underneath."

She could see it clearly now. It seemed to be a light greenish grey metal with a moderately reflective surface. There was a "greenish-blue" light at the top of the dome. The dish-shaped underside was slightly tilted towards her. The whole object was slowly spinning in a clockwise direction and hovered over a shed 50 feet in front of her, about 15 degrees North

of due West from her position. Denise said: "I know it sounds silly but I felt as though I was being watched by it" and she had the sensation of being surrounded by an "invisible ray" which came from the underside of the craft.

The Bus

Suddenly she became aware of the bus in front of her, motor idling, and realised she had not heard it coming, which was most odd. One could always clearly hear it approach a minute or two before it came into view. She discovered that she still held her cigarette, burned down to the filter. As she fumbled for coins to pay the bus driver Denise experienced a numbness, stiffness and lack of co-ordination in her fingers. Her motor nerves seemed to have been affected and she stumbled while mounting the stairs to the upper level of the bus. She had hoped to see the craft at closer range from this vantage point, but it had completely disappeared.

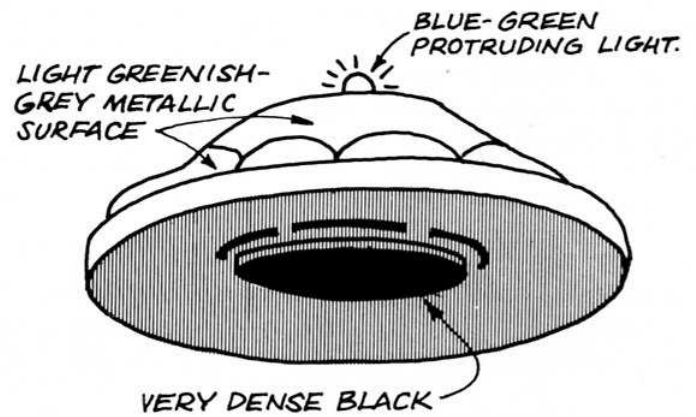
There was only one passenger on the bus, an elderly lady who was seated on "the sideways seat beside the driver" and was "staring into space at her lap." I pointed out that the driver must have seen something, as his view would have been unobstructed for approximately 800 feet from the bus stop, but he gave no indication of having seen anything untoward. Denise felt that this man, whom she knew from having ridden on this service regularly, would have said nothing if he *had* noticed the craft. An elderly man, "morose and miserable," he had never spoken to his passengers and was never friendly. "I remember only too well at the time how annoyed I felt when I saw the driver was HIM of all people. If it had been any other driver I would have immediately mentioned the thing I saw, and they would have been a witness to the sighting."

Post-encounter Symptoms

Almost immediately after taking her seat, Denise developed an acute headache which persisted until the following morning. Her bus journey was "a very quick one for me, although probably the bus was only travelling at its usual speed. I was so nervous and angry because there were no people with whom to discuss what I saw...Angry, because they would not be able to say they also saw it. I wanted to prove to society that UFOs were obviously real, although at 4 o'clock that same day I didn't really know what to think on the subject."

She does not remember walking from the bus station in the town to her place of employment. She was ten to fifteen minutes late, and during her hours at work she was nervous, shaky and unaccountably clumsy in her movements. She said: "I felt unsafe and I longed to get home to 'security' but, when I eventually did get home, I still felt the same way. I remember my heart racing. It is racing now as I remember all this and write it down."

The witness added later: "I was very thirsty after my sighting . . . I downed at least a pint of lemonade as soon as I had the chance, but I remember feeling queasy . . . also I was thirsty all evening."



Artist's impression of object seen: This drawing has been approved by the witness

Denise also developed conjunctivitis, her eyes burned and watered for a week. At times her vision was very poor. Apart from this she suffered recurring gastric disturbances, continued to move in a clumsy manner, had difficulty sleeping and had none of her customary energy. These symptoms continued for a week, gradually diminishing. One permanent personality change did occur. She confesses to having had a strong temper before this event, but now she seldom becomes upset or angry.

Although she did not report her sighting officially at the time, she made discreet enquiries among her many friends in the village and environs and could find no-one who had seen anything similar to the strange craft. (This was, of course, the traditional time of day for the English "tea".)

Recurring dream and "conversation"

Upon further questioning I learned that Denise had a recurring dream about the incident. She described this to me in detail: "The dream I have *never varies** although very difficult to describe in the harsh light of day. I shall endeavour to try. I frequently dream the occurrence exactly as it happened. I see the UFO very clearly. It travels across the sky and then turns towards me, exactly as the event occurred, right to the last details of my clothes and the type of day weatherwise. It then becomes untrue." (I understand this last statement to mean that the dream from this point does not conform to her memory of the incident.)

"I have a telepathic conversation with the occupants. They are curious about me and want to speak with me. They are pleased I am not performing in the usual manner of observed subjects – I am not at all frightened and feel very pleased at their appearance. They say they know me, and they want to take me with them. I am very happy with the idea, but then I remember my family and husband. I say I would miss my family and want them to come with me to see whatever I will see in my travels with them to their home planet. They argue with me; they want only me. We reach deadlock, and they say that they will come again to see me and see if I then wish to go alone with them. They sadly say goodbye, I also

* My italics – PGB.

say goodbye. I am very, very sad at their going."

She continues; "I never actually see them in person, but I feel I know them well (their Race) but had forgotten about them while I was here on Earth. I seem to know subconsciously that I will never come back to Earth once I go with them. Also that I will not want to return."

More about the witness

It might be well at this point to say that Denise is a "country girl," happily married with very handsome and well-mannered children. Her home is consistently clean and tidy. Her husband holds a responsible position in agricultural work and she holds the GNC in nursing, although her present post is not in this field. Her health has always been excellent, her vision is good (she has never required glasses), her hearing is normal, and her life-style has always been one of vigour and activity. There is certainly nothing about her personality that could suggest the neurotic dreamer seeking mystical experience, nor could she be considered a lonely soul yearning for attention. She is "down to earth" and forthright in character. It took several interviews to learn all these details of this sighting, as Denise explained she wanted to avoid "sensationalism" and felt embarrassed to recount all that had happened.

Car pacing incident in the past

I asked her if she had ever had any similar previous experiences. She admitted that she and her husband had witnessed a large, round, luminous, orange object which followed their car for over thirty minutes one night as they were travelling through Ashdown Forest. The light, which was about 30 yards to the right of the car, matched their speed and seemed to change size, sometimes being as large as a football at arm's length, sometimes the size of a tennis ball.

"We commented at the time about this strange sight, but we thought it was possibly the moon. While we travelled along the main road where it was out of our view, I looked around for it, and discovered that the moon was high in the sky and bright yellow. When the orange light reappeared, again on our right side, we were both very frightened and were extremely glad to turn up the lane to our home. We did not stop to look if it was around, and we went indoors very quickly. I cannot remember how I felt at the time apart from frightened, but I did feel as though I was being surveyed. My husband also felt this way. We very quickly forgot all about it and did not mention this to anyone as we knew we would be laughed at. This occurred about 1968/69."

Her husband then reminded her of two other sightings which occurred about the time of the car chase, and in describing the first she pointed out that the papers had explained this phenomenon as being a satellite re-entry. This sighting needs no further description here as it was witnessed by thousands of people and was widely publicised at the time it occurred.

Her other sighting, witnessed also by her husband, was of a bright ball shaped light near the Great Bear Constellation. The light made several right-angled

manoeuvres and then passed out of view by going over their roof.

Comments

In analysis, I think it is reasonable to assume that the witness has reported, with great accuracy, the details of the object she observed. In view of her training in aircraft recognition it is extremely unlikely that the object could have been an experimental aircraft or balloon.

Her narrative has contained no discrepancies over the months I've interviewed her, with the exception of a certain vagueness about the precise time between her arrival at the bus stop and subsequent sighting of the craft and her arrival at her work. We can be reasonably certain that she observed the craft for a full fifteen minutes, during which time she was completely alone. What is more difficult to analyse is whether or not there was a time lapse in her memory from the moment she felt encompassed by "an invisible ray" and the arrival of the bus. We know that she arrived at work about 6.10 to 6.15 p.m., and that the journey would not have taken over 20 minutes under ordinary circumstances. (This is a generous allowance. In fact, her recollection of the bus ride was that it was "a very quick one.") By drawing up a schedule of the events it seems that it could have been possible that she was alone and in close proximity to the craft for almost 35 minutes, 20 minutes of which she does not remember. It is also certain that there is a minimum of 5 minutes for which she cannot account. Because of this it was suggested to her that she undergo regressive hypnosis, but she is not very keen on the idea and is presently giving it consideration.

Possible fabrication on the witness's part is untenable. Her present post is one that requires the most stringent character reference and in any event, practical jokes are totally out of character for this girl. She is puzzled by the fact that she has had several sightings. She has not studied the UFO phenomenon in depth but believes she has probably seen interplanetary vehicles of some sort.

An interesting postscript to this case has emerged with the occurrence of various events which will be "old hat" to all students of the UFO problem.

Difficulties, and an apparition

During the months I interviewed Denise we began to experience difficulties in communication. One of my letters arrived torn in half, the stamp gone. Other letters seemed to appear at odd times from the remainder of the post and were "stuck in the door" rather than on the mat where the others lay. Then on 9 November, 1978, at 7.30 in the evening, as she, her children and the dog were sitting quietly in the lounge they were startled by a man looking in the window. He disappeared so quickly that Denise could give no description of him. Taking the dog by the collar she went outside but could see no one. Now one would have to visit Denise's home to realise how inaccessible that road is to the public. The light would not be seen by a casual passer by, the bungalow is fenced off, the gate is not easy to open and

the window itself overlooks open fields. I asked her if the dog had reacted in his usual way, (he terrifies me,) and she replied that he had behaved in a most uncharacteristic manner.

“Very strange† that you should ask... the dog ran

back inside after I let go of her collar. She didn't even bark, but just covered into the fireside rug and growled a bit.

† Denise's emphasis – PBG

SCHOOLROOM “LANDING” IN LORETO, ARGENTINA

Heriberto Janosch

THE first information received on this case appeared on January 15, 1979, in *La Razón*, the Buenos Aires newspaper, which told of an incident which was alleged to have occurred. I have summarized the contents of the article as follows:-

An unidentified flying object appeared suddenly before a boy, aged 12, in a school in Loreto, in the province of Santiago del Estero. Two humanoids descended from the object dressed in aluminium coloured clothing. The boy was immediately immobilized by them. They remained in the room for a considerable time. The incident is stated to have taken place at midday.

We wrote to the witness, Marcos Rafael Suarez, asking for detailed information and we received a reply through a Sr. Juan Angel Gomez, who lives in Loreto and who is kindly collaborating with us in this matter, by interviewing the boy on our behalf. This has enabled us to reconstruct the alleged incident.

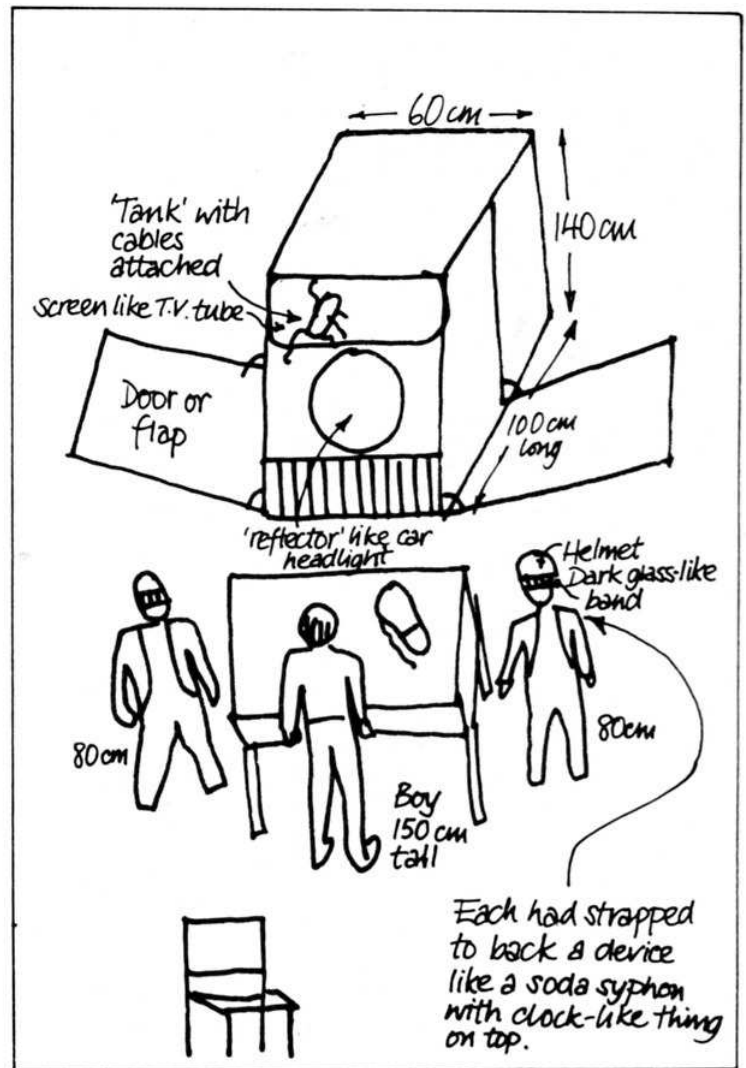
It took place on Saturday (possibly January 13th) at 11.50 a.m. in a room 4 by 4 metres in a local school, where the boy's father works as a janitor. In the room there was, among other things, a refrigerator worked by kerosene, a wooden table used as a desk, some small chairs and some other tables. There was also a box containing medicine, a record-player not in use at that moment, and electric lighting which also was not in use at that moment.

The boy was alone in the room at the time of the happening, putting a piece of water mlon in the refrigerator, and while doing this he heard a cardboard box full of newspapers fall on to the floor.

On turning round he saw a strange rectangular-shaped machine 60 cm wide by 140 cm high and 100 cm in length. It was aluminium-coloured, with a black type of screen like a TV tube, on the upper front part, and through which a section of the interior of the object could be seen. Through the screen the boy saw what looked like a tank with cables attached to it. Below the screen was a reflector similar to a car's headlight, and beneath the reflector there were black vertical lines of even length, spaced evenly across the front of the “Machine.”

The “machine” itself was suspended in mid-air at about 20 cm above the floor. A noise, like an electric fan in motion, could be heard.

Suddenly two doors (or flaps) one at each side of the object opened outwards and downwards. A small being about 80 cm high emerged from the right-hand side door, and this was followed by the appearance of a similar being from the left-hand side door. They were dressed in shiny one piece overalls, with shiny straps. They wore helmets of the same material



The incident, based on original drawing by the witness