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money collected from the sale of her book, "Mystery On The Desert", * and although a 2 dollar tax is levied on each person flying over the Nazca Plain "for the protection of items of archaeological interest", not one cent has been spent on the protection of the figures. It has all been up to Dr. Reiche and her own private crusade.

Fortunately, Dr. Maria Reiche has now named a successor to carry on her work. She is an American scientist, Phyllis Pitlugar. Armed with all the latest technology and computers (something that Maria Reiche never had), Phyllis will try and unravel the secrets of the Nazca Plain. We wish her luck!

***NOTE BY THE EDITOR OF FSR.**

I had the good fortune to meet Dr. Maria Reiche in London about twenty years ago, when she lectured to a small audience in a room at London University on the marvels of her beloved Nazca, and to secure a copy of her book, which is entitled GEHEIMNIS DER WÜSTE/MYSTERY ON THE

DESERT/SECRETO DE LA PAMPA. It is richly illustrated with photographs, coloured as well as black and white, and has the entire text in German, English and Spanish. It was published in 1968 by NAZCA PERU SA, Lutzweg 9, Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany. — G.C.

INTRUDERS: THE INCREDIBLE VISITATIONS AT COPLEY WOODS,

by Budd Hopkins

(Random House, N.Y., USA, 1987),

(British edition by Sphere Books, London, 1988, £2.99.)

Order through a bookseller!

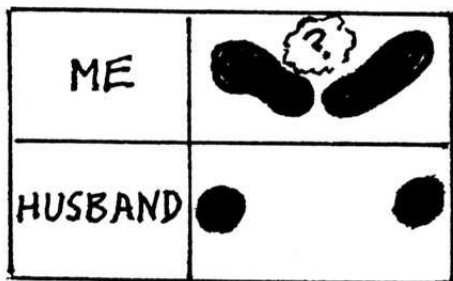
MAIL BAG

Correspondents are asked to keep their letters short and give full name and address (not necessarily for publication). It is not always possible for the Editor to acknowledge every letter personally, and so he takes this opportunity to thank all who write to him.

A Sighting near Oxford?

Dear Editor, — Thirty-two years ago my husband and I were living in England, he being with the U.S. Armed Forces and based at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire. This summer we revisited England and went over the old scenes. We were staying in the house of friends in Stanley Road, Oxford, when, in the late afternoon of August 6, 1988, I caught sight of two black objects, shaped like tear-drops, far away, high in the sky but below the cloud. I also had the vague impression of a third object above the other two. (see our first sketch).

I called my husband to the window. The second sketch shows what he saw.



What could it have been? Have you had any reports of such things seen on August 6?

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Joy Barish,
2 Pole Plain Road,
Sharon, MA 02067,
U.S.A.
August 25, 1988.

"Battling the Entities"

Dear Gordon, — It was a pleasure to

see my article, "Can We Battle These Entities", in the pages of FSR33/3. There was one editorial error which I feel should be corrected before every UFO investigator and reader residing in the state of Texas, U.S.A., objects to the intimation that the two cases, Melissa MacLeod and the daring lady who "bit through the hand" of an inquiring bedroom entity, happened in "Southland, Texas".

The original text of my paper said that these two cases happened in "the Southland". I was using a familiarity which Californians use often to describe *Southern California*. I did not realize the term was so provincial that it should not be used in text which goes out-of-state or worse, out-of-country!

I would appreciate your advising your readers that there is no place such as Southland, Texas (to my knowledge),* and it certainly was not where these two cases originated.

With all good wishes and success for your superb magazine.

Very best regards,
Ann Druffel,
257 Sycamore Glen,
Pasadena, CA 91105,
U.S.A.,
November 4, 1988.

*Very sorry! *Mea culpa*, I fear! In preparing FSR we have constantly to bear in mind that our readers are very widely scattered all around the world and require extra clarity. Now that I no longer work with the Royal Geographical Society's fine collection of 800,000 maps "right at my elbow", I fall back on one of our best available gazetteers, the huge *Times Atlas of the World* (Vol. V: The Americas), and this does indeed show that there is a

Southland in Texas, located at 33° 21 N., 101° 33 W. (20 miles south-east of Lubbock — of "Lubbock Lights" fame). I should of course have made it clear that this was FSR's attempt at a "clarification", but when you are short-handed you are usually in a hurry, and my "clarification" forgot to get itself inserted.

Although I was stationed in the United States for four years (during World War II and just after) I never had the good fortune to see the West Coast, and so I have never heard this word "Southland" employed to denote Southern California. (And I didn't notice the "the"). — G.C.

"Crashed discs" and Cloned Occupants as a Hoax?

Dear Editor, — As regards the reports of "crashed discs" and dead crews, it seems to me highly possible that this whole thing might be a trick by "them" to convince us that "they" really are "Spacemen".

Witnesses and abductees have been fed with this sort of "Spacemen" rubbish ever since about 1948.

All you have to do is to manufacture a few discs, put a few cheaply made clones inside them, and then crash them out in the desert. And: "There you are! You see, we ARE Spacemen after all! How can you doubt it?"

Yours sincerely,
David J. Hampton,
22 Tennyson Road,
Cowes,
Isle of Wight,
PO31 7QA.
January 13, 1988.

We have already suggested this many times as a possible explanation. Per-