

I have spent long hours in editorial conferences presenting tape recordings, affidavits and other documentation to editors in order to convince them that certain pieces should be published. Most of the major magazines require the signing of a statement swearing to the authenticity of the material and listing the sources. Is our "technologist" also accusing me of wanton perjury? The only "censorship" I have encountered is the self-imposed kind; editors who are sceptical because they have been exposed to the rantings and ravings of the UFO buffs for years.

The true facts of the UFO situation are far more sensational than anything I could "make up", and a great many of the cases I have uncovered are unpublishable because I have been

unable to document them to my own satisfaction and would be laughed out of the editorial sanctum if I dared present them.

The scientists have been laughing for twenty years, not only at Keel but at all of us. Yet they cling to the myth that given sufficient government funds they can solve the "mystery" with computers and geiger counters. I'm afraid this is one situation which can not be resolved with money and ivory towerism.

What is needed is a solid, organised effort to collect and correlate the wealth of material *already available*. Unfortunately, the American scene is torn with dissent, shameless personality conflicts, rumour-mongering, and nit-pickers who write endless letters-to-

the-editor complaining about typographical errors and muddy semantics. Virtually no constructive research is taking place in this country and those few of us who are making the effort are subjected to endless harassment and criticism by the lunatics, buffs, and grant-grubbing "scientists". The side issues seem to have become more important than the subject itself.

Let's find our way back to common sense and get to work.
John A. Keel, New York City,
October 16, 1968.

[Mr. Keel feared his letter would fall into my category of "polemics", but it is reasonable he should defend himself against criticism.—EDITOR.]

World round-up

*of news and comment
about recent sightings*

ENGLAND

Another "spectre"?

From *Dunstable Borough Gazette* of September 27, 1968: "A mysterious white object sighted by a motorist while travelling in the dark along Dagnall Road between Bison Hill and Tring Road has caused speculation locally.

"The form was seen on Saturday night by Mr. E. Bennett and his 15-year-old daughter, Mandy, as they returned by car to their home at Hill Grove, Whipsnade.

"As the car neared the bottom of Bison Hill, says Mr. Bennett, a conical-shaped mass seemed to rise out from the grass verge about 25 yards ahead.

"It was six feet tall with an aura about it. It was a very odd appearance and it seemed to vanish through the hedge, although there was no gap it could have gone through," he explained. "It was an apparition of some kind, although I cannot explain it."

"Mandy's first reaction was to utter: 'Ooh Daddy! What's that?' Her natural instinct was to suppose it was a ghost. But Mr. Bennett has dismissed that idea.

"I am a most practical person, and I do not believe in ghosts," he stated emphatically. But he went on to describe it as 'very uncanny', because there were no cars approaching from the other direction, and there was no sign of any smoke or mist.

"There is no satisfactory explanation for it," he surmised."

Credit: Leslie Moulster of Dunstable.

ARGENTINA

Hospital landing at El Sauce

In the Buenos Aires magazine *Gente y la Actualidad* for September 5, 1968, we read of an episode that took place on July 23 of this year at the Neuropsychiatric Hospital of El Sauce:

"Señora Adela Casavieri de Panasiti, a nurse there, saw 'a strange object' and suffered burns on her face.

"Let us hear her testimony: 'For ten years I have been night-nurse in one of the blocks of the Neuropsychiatric Hospital. The flying saucers were of no more and no less interest to me than to the average run of people. At 1.20 a.m. on July 23, I began to hear a most intense humming noise which shattered my ears. At first I thought it was something wrong with me myself, due to being shut up indoors and the heat and the stove. I opened the door and went out into the patio. The humming continued and more strongly now. Suddenly I saw, in the middle of the patio, a sort of object like a spinning-top with two antennae emitting a most powerful light. The light was so strong that it burnt me. I was paralysed from the waist downwards. I covered my face with my hands.

"But I wanted to see, I wanted to see and I moved one hand aside. Then

I felt the burning sensation. The hum increased and the machine rose up through the branches of a pepper-tree. Only then was I able to move. I shouted. I related what had happened, and the only sign left that we saw was a sort of stamp that the object had left in the middle of the patio. The mark vanished in the following ten hours.'

"The 'case of the burnt nurse' led to many theories. Those who see a rational explanation for it consider it was all due to a state of semi-consciousness caused by being shut up indoors and by the heat of the stove. At any rate, there remained floating in the minds of many a remark that was apparently devoid of importance: 'The night that that business of the flying saucer happened to me' (said the nurse) 'something also happened that was very strange indeed. The patients were all so quiet, all sleeping away regularly in a way that never happens, for generally there are always some quarrelling, some shouting, some talking, some getting up to take a stroll, some asking for water. . . . That night, from just a little while before the apparition of the flying saucer, the block was in perfect silence. The discipline was perfect.'"

Credit: Guillermo J. Gainza Paz of Buenos Aires.

Police fire at "Ufonauts"

La Razon for July 26, 1968, carries

an account of how the town of Olavarria was again stirred by a fascinating sighting, as reported in *El Popular* of Mar del Plata:

"It was a little after 2 a.m., when a large part of the district close to the little stream Tapalque was lit up by a bright luminosity accompanied by an ever-increasing drone. A police corporal—whose name we withhold, and who at that moment was on his way to change guards—was amazed at this strange phenomenon. Hurriedly he returned to the police office with four other witnesses to report, and the police officer on duty authorised them to make an investigation.

"In a jeep, and armed with an automatic gun, they drove to the site where they had seen the light. To their great astonishment they saw a flat oval object a few metres above the ground, which emitted multi-coloured flashes as it moved about. Suddenly with intelligent movements and at an incredible speed it turned sideways and then landed beside some bushes behind the runway used by military planes in cases of emergency. The powerful light seemed to dim and the drone had become a mere hum. Beside the flying disc there stood three strange beings, over 2 metres high and clad in silvery uniforms.

"With slow, unsteady steps, the three strangers advanced towards the military garrison. Surprised and scared, the police officer tried to stop them by firing a volley of bullets at them. Fortunately he did not hit them. At this all three spacemen lifted their hands simultaneously, displaying a small luminous ball, at which all the witnesses were overcome by a strange lassitude and incapable of using their gun. Finally the three spacemen got back into their flying disc and, zig-zagging, flew away at a fast speed. Only then did the witnesses recover their senses and returned post haste to Olavarria to report on the happenings. Credit: **Miss E. Greinert**, who also supplied the translation.

ARGENTINA UFO over airport

This report is compiled from *La Razon* and *La Nacion* of July 25, 1968, by **Miss Edith Greinert**:

At the airport of San Carlos de Bariloche, near Bahia Blanca, there occurred an event witnessed by pilots, ground staff of various air companies, passengers of three aeroplanes, police, as well as many other people.

On Monday, July 22, at 2 p.m., an "excessively long" plane appeared over the airport and began flying around its perimeter at only 70 metres from the ground, as if looking for a place to land. On the runways at that moment

there was an AVRO of the Aerolineas Argentinas, a BAC-One Eleven of Austral, and a DC3 of the Air Force. The Control Tower had not received an announcement of the arrival or departure of any other plane, yet there was that unusually long object flying at low altitude over the runway and watched by all those present at the airport. According to the statement made by one of the officials of the airport—whose name we withhold, as he belongs to a government department—the plane or object failed to answer the radio signals authorising its landing. They then used the light-pistol, which is used for planes that have no radio transmitter, and flashed the green light permitting the landing. The object was like a very long aircraft with delta wings. Watched through binoculars, it was seen to make circuits over the runways and on arriving at the extreme end of runway 28, it rolled over quite unexpectedly on its axis in a 360° turn, using very little space to complete the manoeuvre, and then shot away towards the south-east.

The informant is an expert in all these questions and as a radio operator he is accustomed to observations, communications and identification of objects in flight. He said it was like a very long Canberra Jet with Delta wings, and bigger than a Constellation. It resembled a U-2, which the USA use for observation flights and of which there are several in this country. Yet it was neither a Canberra nor a U-2. No windows could be seen; at least none of a known kind. On one side four squares were painted in black: three small ones and a big one. Some witnesses pretended that the lower part was painted red, but this was not confirmed by the informant.

Mr. Sigfriedo Cortonodo, employed at the airport, confirmed the preceding details and added that the most amazing were the "harmonious" evolutions of the plane. In spite of its extreme length, apparent great weight and short wings, it glided about like a Piper and with the grace and ease of a bird. According to a member of the Gendarmerie, there were two turbo-jet engines, slightly sibilant, almost silent, which were situated in the lower part of the "cigar". What also impressed the experts was its ability to fly at low speed, for it seemed to have no planes of support (no planos de sustentacion). The fact that there exist airplanes which can rise and descend vertically, possibly accounts for the described ability of the unknown object. But what baffles the witnesses most is that this object, which did not want to identify itself properly, seemed about to land on the runway of the airport of San Carlos de Bariloche without any

apparent necessity to do so and that after having amazed everybody by its exceptional manoeuvrability, it just flew away at considerable speed.

UFO at sea

La Nación of July 12, 1968, reports: "Yesterday at 5.30 a.m. Radio Pacheco received a radiogram from Jorge Bóveda, captain of the Argentine motor-ship *Rio Grande* belonging to the Compania de Navegación El Plata S.A. Its text was as follows: 'At 5.05 a.m. GMT, while outside Necochea, at latitude 38° 36' 4" and western longitude 58° 41' 3", we saw a UFO at azimuth 174°, height between 3-5°, which for a duration of 60 seconds flashed lights over the sea. In the shape of a cone, its apex was uppermost, and its colours were orange and violet.

"This UFO advanced towards the ship till it was about half a mile away. Then it rose and disappeared. Present were the undersigned, the chief of the radio-communication department, and the helmsman on duty."

"Radio Pacheco forwarded the text of the radiogram to the Coast Guard."

Corroboration

The July 12 report was followed by another from Necochea in *La Nación* of July 13, 1968, which ran: "Referring to our report concerning a UFO seen by Captain Jorge Bóveda of the *Rio Grande*, and his crew, other witnesses confirm the sighting. Mr. Francisco Pazdera, Miss Blanca Zubillaga, Miss Diana Etcheverry and her sister Aurora, declare having seen the mysterious object at the same time, 1.05 a.m., while walking along the sea promenade yesterday night. Their report coincides in all its details with that made by Captain Bóveda."

Credit for these reports, and their translation: **Miss E. Greinert**.

BRAZIL

Reported Landing on Torres Beach

The following account has been prepared for us by **Professor Richard A. Frondizi** of Buenos Aires, and is based on a report which appeared in *La Razon* for July 22, 1968:

Professor Axel Aberg Cobo, aged 28, the son of wealthy Argentinian parents, was staying at the family apartment in Torres during the summer season.

Torres is a small resort on the coast of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, in the southernmost part of Brazil, close by the borders with Argentina and Uruguay. I know the place well, as my father used to build railways there for a British company.

One night towards the end of January 1968 Aberg Cobo was walking along the beach to visit the Torres Beach Friends' Association. Suddenly