

us by telephone, told us that, during the night of October 9, his wife and his mother were awakened by a powerful light shining in through the shutters of the window. The light was so bright that both ladies thought it was already the dawn. But it was in fact about 3.00 a.m. (in other words, says Signor Wiechmann, half an hour before the landing at "La Radicchia"). The two ladies did not get out of bed and so did not go to the window to see where the light was coming from.

---

(Translation from Italian)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,  
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

Rome

Date: 21 (illegible on photostat) 1985

Ref. No.: 2/24419/14.1.29/85

SUBJECT: LANDING OF UNCONVENTIONAL  
AIRCRAFT AT POLCANTO (F1) IN T.E. MILI-  
TARY ZONE IN NIGHT OF OCTOBER 9, 1984.

TO: CENTRO UFOLOGICO NAZIONALE  
Via Odorico da Pordenone, 36  
50127, FIRENZE

With reference to your letter RP/001 of January 16, 1985, and the contents of the Report enclosed therein, it is our understanding that the enquiries which have been made of the Authorities concerned with Air Defence, Air Traffic Control, and Meteorology, have produced no elements of significance such as might be corroborative of the occurrence indicated in your letter.

With regard to the arguments formulated in the "Conclusions" of the above-mentioned Report, it is considered that they do not correspond with the reality of the assured facts as ascertained so far.

Accordingly, the statements that there have been persistent violations of the national territory by craft piloted by presumed military spies appear to be devoid of any serious foundation.

By Order of the Minister,

(Signed): Vice-Chief of Cabinet

COMMENT BY C.U.N.:— "Convenient scepticism".

---

## UFO STUDY IN THE USSR

Jüri Lina (Norsborg, Sweden)

LITTLE is known in the West about the beginnings of Russian UFO research. The first sign of such an active interest was a lecture, delivered in Moscow in 1947, entitled "The Meaning of the Tunguska Meteorite", by the engineer and science-fiction writer Aleksandr Kazantsev and the assistant-professor (*dot-sent*) Dr Yuri Feliks Zigel'.

Discussing the well-known catastrophic explosion which wrought such havoc in the Siberian *taiga* on June 30, 1908, Kazantsev and Zigel' proposed the hypothesis that the cause of it was an accident aboard an extraterrestrial spacecraft. Systematic work and actual research on UFOs had to wait, however, a few more years, until 1952, when Dr Yuri Fomin, a senior professor of automation at the Moscow Institute of Technology, began to make a study of the *foreign* literature on the subject. Subsequently, in 1958, he started collecting case-reports from the Russian Federative Republic and other parts of the Soviet Union, and he became an exponent of the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

### The First Russian Wave

It seems clear that the first Russian wave of UFO reports had already occurred in 1946, when numerous cigar-shaped objects were seen in the skies. There do not seem to have been many more detailed reports until 1954, when a significant "intermediary wave" was registered. This included the well-publicized incident which took place at 4.15 p.m. on November 27, 1954, when people on Red Square in Moscow observed a "cylindrical vehicle" flying at an estimated height of about 300 metres.

In 1959 Fomin was joined in his research by two engineers, B. Makarov and V. Gulikov. They began to give lectures on UFOs at the Moscow Planetarium — a difficult undertaking, seeing that the subject of UFOs was at that particular time coming in for very harsh criticism. A whole series of sceptical press articles appeared, and Yuri Fomin was expelled from the Moscow Political and Academic Propaganda Institute. A hiatus of several years now occurred in Russian UFO research.

## Sightings During the 1950s

There were frequent UFO sightings in the USSR during the 1950s, including some by scientists. One of these was the well-known case of Murashov, an Arctic explorer, who even succeeded in photographing an "unknown object of unusual shape, which appeared to be some kind of fantastic flying vehicle". Not a single report of any of these cases was permitted to appear in print.<sup>1</sup>

## Recognition in the 1960s

In the early 1960s, UFO activity over the USSR intensified, and the subject was officially, even if disapprovingly, granted some recognition. On January 8, 1961, an article<sup>2</sup> appeared in *Pravda* under the title "*Flying Saucers*". The author,<sup>3</sup> Artsimovich, ridiculed — as "misinterpretations of real and known phenomena" — Soviet UFO reports that are today openly acknowledged as genuine.

Whereas ten years earlier — in 1953 — all UFO reports (and of course they were all from the West) — were being treated by the Soviet authorities as pure fantasy, by 1963, the USSR Academy of Sciences were starting seriously to collect information about UFOs from the West. (*And in June 1963 they wrote to us asking for FSR! ED.*)

The local Russian reports also began to grow more dramatic. In Moscow accounts of UFOs were published from astronomers at Gor'kiy, at Murmansk, in Kazakhstan, and at Kraków (Poland). In Kazakhstan a huge globe was seen on July 18, 1967, travelling at an estimated speed of five kms. per second, and there were two other similar reports of that same summer.

(Polish publication "*Przegląd Techniczny*" — "*Technical Survey*", No. 43, October 30, 1977.)

## A major Soviet "Wave" in 1966, and first Commission set up

A major wave of UFO sightings that began in 1966 focused greater attention on the subject. The first official Soviet UFO investigation commission, consisting of 45 members, met in the Space and Aeronautics Centre in Moscow on May 17, 1967.

It was headed by Major-General Pyotr Stolyarov<sup>4</sup> and his assistant, Dr Feliks Zigel,<sup>5</sup> who was then a lecturer at the Moscow Institute of Aeronautics and this indicated clearly that UFOs were now considered to be a subject of importance. Simultaneously, a burst of positive press articles about UFO sightings appeared in various newspapers in the Russian Republic, in the Ukraine, in Latvia and in Estonia. And, in a criminological laboratory in the USSR a sample of "*Angel Hair*" from a New Zealand landing was subjected to

analysis, but they failed to identify what it was composed of.

## The Communist "Backlash" and End of Commission

This open and intense interest in UFOs was apparently disapproved of by the more "conservative" elements of the Communist Party. In due course, an article in *Pravda* of February 29, 1968, branded talk of "flying saucers" as *ignorant fantasy*. It was claimed that there never had been any Soviet UFO sightings, either by private individuals or by scientists. The UFO investigation commission under General Stolyarov was promptly dissolved. And no further UFO reports appeared in the Soviet newspapers. Instead, derogatory articles were once more the norm.

This reaction is highly understandable! For, as Lenin had admitted to the English writer H.G. Wells in 1920: "IF WE SUCCEED IN CONTACTING OTHER PLANETS, WE WILL BE FORCED TO RECONSIDER AND CHANGE ALL OF OUR PHILOSOPHICAL, MORAL, AND SOCIAL VIEWS!"

## Dr Yuri F. Zigel' tries again

Despite the sudden chill, UFO research still continued behind the scenes, and over the next decade the situation began to improve again.

In 1970 Dr Zigel' started up another UFO research group at the Moscow Institute of Aviation.

In the years 1977-78 the USSR had its fourth major wave of UFO sightings, following upon which, despite official disapproval, a new special UFO Commission was set up at the Moscow Academy of Sciences.

In January 1979, in the weekly review *Nedelya*, J. Migulin had an article in which he discussed recent UFO cases. He referred to events that had recently taken place in Karelia and other northern regions of the USSR on September 20, 1977, and requested any witnesses of those events to come forward and report their observations.

This was the first occasion on which any Soviet scientist had publicly admitted that there were any "atmospheric phenomena" which he was at a loss to understand. "*Atmospheric phenomena*" had now become the Soviet pseudonym for UFOs.

During the early 1970s, in the Baltic Republic of Estonia (under Soviet occupation) it was even possible to organize public lectures about UFOs under this useful rubric.

## A third Soviet UFO research group

Meanwhile, things were moving again in Moscow, and on July 17, 1979, Vladimir Azhazha,<sup>6</sup> a former submarine captain in the Red Navy, set up a *third* UFO study group, in the Popov Institute in that city.

#### Fourth — and even fifth? — Groups

Official approval for — and even sponsorship of — veiled UFO research arrived in the 1980s. Apparently a secret investigation group was set up at the Soviet Space Launch centre at Baikonur, in Central Asia. Its leader, the cosmonaut Georgiy Gretchko, told Nikita Schnee,<sup>7</sup> a private UFO researcher, that “*the world would be astounded if I could speak freely about UFOs in the USSR*”.

On May 29, 1984, the newspaper *Trud* carried an article stating that in February 1984 a *State Commission to Investigate Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena* had been established. Its head was the Soviet cosmonaut Pavel Popovich. We will examine the activity of this State Commission in more detail later.<sup>8</sup>

#### Individual operators and private groups

Supplementing the efforts of the various Soviet UFO study groups described so far, there have also been a number of individuals operating privately, and small local groups. Foremost among the private individuals were the geologist Vladimir Avinskiy of Kuibyshev; Kiril Butusov of Leningrad; Nikita Schnee of Moscow; Vadim Vilinbachov of Leningrad; Vladimir Rubtsov<sup>9</sup> of Kharkov; Valeriy Sanarov<sup>10</sup> of Novosibirsk, and Igor Lisevich.

By 1977 the private and semi-official ufologists of Russia had collected nearly 200 reports from the Russian Republic, the Ukraine, and from Central Asia.<sup>11</sup>

Private investigators had traced accounts of sightings going back to the 1920s and 1930s, a period when there were frequent reports of extraordinary, silent, flying machines and balls of light, coming in from people aboard vessels on Russia's largest rivers, such as the Volga.

#### First Soviet “Humanoid” Report

The first known Soviet “humanoid” report originated from Northern Kazakhstan in the winter of 1936. However, most of the early sightings seem to have been at a distance, and not of great interest.

#### The Soviet “Waves”

The major “Waves” of Soviet UFO sightings began in 1946, and have usually recurred since at ten-yearly intervals, interspersed with minor “Waves” such as those of 1952-53, and 1962-63. The largest “Wave” occurred in 1977-78, followed by a widespread “Intermediary Wave” in 1983-84.

#### The Next “Wave”

Soviet Ufologist anticipate that the next “Peak” will be in 1987-88.

Since September 20, 1977, a day on which UFOs

were sighted almost simultaneously right across the whole huge expanse of Soviet territory, the collection of reports has been accelerating especially rapidly.

Merely in Moscow on that day, the researchers there received hundreds of sighting accounts, including reports of “flying discs”, of “humanoids”, and of “close encounters of the third kind”.

#### NOTES AND COMMENTS BY EDITOR, FSR

(1) This statement, I suggest, is not correct. Because both *Pravda* and its companion-paper for the younger age-groups, *Komsomol'skaya Pravda*, of January 8, 1961, carried one of Murashov's photos of UFOs in the Arctic, and I reproduced it in my article “*Saucers Over Russia*”, in FSR Volume 7, No. 2 (March/April 1961). Incidentally the article dealt mainly with Professor Artsimovich's savage attack on Ufologists and UFOs.

(2) See Note (1) above.

(3) L.A. Artsimovich was a Member of the august USSR Academy of Sciences.

(4) and (5) On Major-General Pyotr Stolyarov and Dr Yuri Feliks Zigel', see my series of three articles, *Dr Felix Zigel' and the Development of Ufology in Russia*, in FSR 27/3, 27/4, and 27/5. See also the very important book, *The New Soviet Psychic Discoveries*, by Henry Gris and William Dick (pub. by Prentice-Hall Inc., USA, 1978; Souvenir Press, London, 1979).

(6) On Vladimir Azhazha, a former Red Navy submarine captain who by 1979 was serving (how very “interesting”!) as Director of the Section of Underwater Research in the USSR Academy of Sciences, see my note on page 25 of FSR 25/1 (Jan./Feb. 1979) as well as my translation from Russian, on the same page, of a smuggled summary of an important lecture allegedly given by Azhazha and entitled “*Life In the Cosmos*”. This paper was circulating in those years in Russia in the “underground “*Samizdat*” (clandestine mimeographed or printed literature). Azhazha (like so many others in Russia, where life is just about as chancy as it was here in Britain in Tudor times) seems to have “come unstuck” later on, and we heard that he was under house-arrest and his UFO study group closed down, and we have heard no more of him since. (A normal story, alas.)

(7) Nikita Schnee, who also seems to have been subsequently liquidated or at any rate converted into an “*un-person*”, was the Scientific Secretary of the Section for the Investigation of Anomalous Phenomena in Surrounding Space, a department of the A.S. Popov Scientific and Technical Society for Radio, Electronics, and Communications (NTORES) In Moscow. See my translation, in FSR 27/1 (June 1981), of Nikita Schnee's paper *Ufology in the USSR: An Assessment of the Present Situation* which — amazingly enough! — was actually SPECIALLY WRITTEN for FSR and for the Finnish UFO Magazine ULTRA! (Ah — those were the halcyon times of so-called “*détente*”. The KGB, always powerful, were then, however, as we now perceive, far less effective in their grip. One day, sitting here in my home in Hertfordshire, I suddenly took it into my head to telephone Nikita Schnee in Moscow and — *hey presto* — I had him in one second, quicker than I can get London, and we actually talked. That was the first and only time I have ever tried to telephone Moscow! For the sake of the poor chap at the other end I wouldn't like to try to repeat the trick now!)

Nikita Schnee's article on Ufology in Russia was full of highly interesting, indeed fascinating, background material

about the difficulties under which UFO research in Russia had to labour, and about the lectures he and Azhazha had tried to arrange, but it also contained a lot of sniping aimed at Dr Yuri F. Zigel. (Evidently the same Forces are at work stirring up backbiting and bickering among Russian Ufologists as are "busy on the job"; elsewhere in the world.)

Schnee's descriptions of the machinations of the KGB and the lengths to which they would go in order to thwart the attempts of the Russian Ufologists to convene meetings are positively hilarious.

I wonder where he too is now???? . . . .

(8) Our author, Jüri Lina, fails to return to this theme. I have, however, given a little information on Popovich and his Commission in two more recent articles, viz. *The Russians Again* (FSR 30/4), and *Russian UFO Report: At 4.10 Precisely . . .* (FSR 30/5).

(9) Dr Vladimir V. Rubtsov of Kharkov in the Ukraine, is an old and warm and valued friend and correspondent of FSR of long standing! He sent a good many reports to Charles Bowen from time to time, and in FSR 30/3 we were very happy to publish the latest letter which we have had from him.

(10) Dr Valeriy Sanarov is another staunch and valued old friend of ours in Russia. He is a research worker in the Institute of Chemical and Experimental Medicine under the USSR Academy of Medicinal Sciences, and based at their Siberian branch in the "Think-Tank" city of Akademgorod near Novosibirsk. He has been a reader of FSR for years and is greatly interested in stories of "close encounters", "humanoids", etc. He has even translated into Russian some of my own writings on these themes, but naturally enough such material could only be published in Russia if suitably disguised as "folklore"! I have a copy of his excellent paper "UFOs and Ufonauts in the Light of Folklore" which, appropriately enough, as one might think, was published in the splendid Soviet Journal of Ethnography (*"Sovetskaya Etnografiya"*), No. 2 of 1979!

(11) This figure of "200 Soviet UFO reports" sounds a bit silly, because, more than twenty years ago, when he was passing through London after having been to Moscow to meet the Soviet Ufologists, Dr Jacques Vallée told me that, *at that date*, if my memory is not at fault, the Russian Air Force already had 15,000 UFO reports on file compared with the U.S. Air Force's figure of some 10,000 or so.

---

## TSIOLKOVSKIY AND THE WELLSPRINGS OF UFO SIGHTINGS

JÜRI LINA

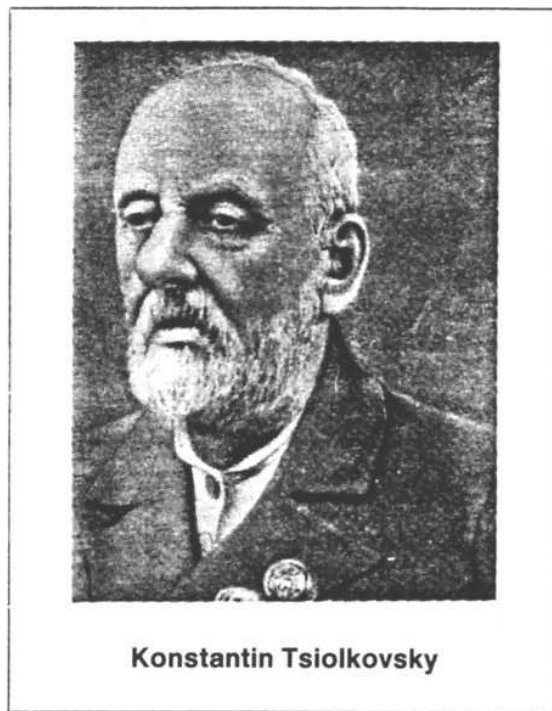
(Norsborg, Sweden)

MANY prominent individuals are self-taught, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Thomas Edison, and the writer Mabel Collins among them. Such an individual was the Polish émigré to Russia, Konstantin Tsiolkovskiy, (1857-1935), who achieved fame there as the great pioneering rocket scientist. Few know, however, that as early as 1920 he already believed that Earth was being observed by extraterrestrial civilizations, and was theorizing about why they hadn't openly sought contact with us. In some sense he may be considered to be the trailblazer for serious UFO study globally. This side of Tsiolkovskiy's multifaceted work warrants more attention.

### The Galactic Spread of Civilizations

"Intelligent beings are found in endless number. . . . The spread of life from one solar system to another, even from the Milky Way to other Galaxies, is entirely possible. . . . Certainly advanced extraterrestrials possess the means of interplanetary travel," he wrote. J. Fadeyev\* comments: "Tsiolkovskiy believed the spread of alien civilizations through the Cosmos to be not only possible, but necessary. . . . Having fully utilized its home-planet, a race will, 'colonize its solar system.'" In Tsiolkovskiy's own words, "If life does not spread, but remains tied to its home-planet, it will re-

main incomplete and fated to a sad end. In the Cosmos undoubtedly exist evolutionarily more developed beings. . . . A huge number of planets and other inhabitable bodies are already colonized so that the Cosmos is rich with higher life forms." *He was even a proponent of esoteric views: "Advanced beings mainly colonize*



Konstantin Tsiolkovskiy

*the etherial plane around stars.”†*

Tsiolkovskiy's primary concern was contact with these higher extraterrestrials, and their benevolence in accelerating the development of other societies was his main thesis. He assumed that forms of communication could exist of which we have no conception, and believed that cosmic civilizations would have formed interstellar or even intergalactic federations. "What would happen if the earth encountered significantly more advanced beings? Would they use their power to destroy mankind and occupy our planet?" he asked. Still, he thought that advanced non-terrestrial civilizations would not be aggressive. They might not even see any advantage in communication with us. Inter-course with an immature society could bring for it serious difficulties and dangers. Tsiolkovskiy argued that advanced civilizations would observe immature ones unannounced, in order to determine at what point they were ready for interstellar co-operation, and would give help to hasten its arrival. All contact, whether secret and one-sided or open and two-way, was intended to further the primary aim of discovering and increasing co-operation with alien societies for the common welfare of all. In Tsiolkovskiy's opinion, it was not because we weren't being visited by extraterrestrials, but because our civilization wasn't ready for interstellar relations, that we hadn't been approached. Their knowledge, even their very appearance might trigger social turmoil here, doing more harm than good.

### Aliens Already Influencing Mankind

Finally, and most importantly, Tsiolkovskiy put forward the hypothesis that advanced alien societies were already, unbeknownst to us, influencing or trying to influence mankind, and felt it to be a necessity that we try to detect this. The greatest obstacle to this search he held to be the traditional human anthropoc-

entrism which still dominates the psyche of many today. "It is difficult for us to accept the possibility of beings higher than those on Earth, whether in evolutionary or technical development," he wrote. "With such a constricted view, we cannot even imagine these other beings intervening in Earth's affairs." Interstellar contact is necessary, but its achievement depends not only on the efforts of extraterrestrials, but even more on those of humans.

Few who study UFOs today achieve such a deep appreciation of the phenomenon as did Konstantin Tsiolkovskiy. The Estonian, Tunne Kelam, is one who has. Furthermore, few who take an interest in the field regard such theorizing as more than subjective fantasy, to say nothing of those who encounter it for the first time. In the face of this, one of Tsiolkovskiy's own characteristic statements seems appropriate in closing. *"Initially there is inevitably idea, dream, and fantasy. Scientific study follows. Only in the end is the idea crowned with proof."*

### References and Notes

\* Fadeyev, J. "Tsiolkovskiy as the Father of Astrosociology". An essay on Tsiolkovskiy's ideas and on astronomical problems. In: *Mashinostroyeniya*, Moscow, 1974. (In Russian.)

† Note by Editor, FSR

Even at so early a date as the 1920s, we see that Tsiolkovskiy realized that mankind would have to launch into a very serious study of the "esoteric" and the "arcane" if he hoped to learn anything about the real nature of the Universe. Thus we find him actually suggesting that "advanced beings mainly colonize the etherial plane around stars"!

In his lecture in London on June 30 of this year on "Close Encounters of the Fourth Dimensional Kind", Dr Jacques Vallée confirmed what many of us (including the late Dr J Allen Hynek) have suspected for a long time — namely that the UFO Phenomenon is probably entirely of "other-dimensional" origin — in other words, "from right here", and that the "Extraterrestrial Hypothesis" is nonsense.

Hynek and Vallée are talking the same language as their predecessor, the great pioneer Tsiolkovskiy. — G.C.

---

## RUSSIA'S "POLLUTED ENVIRONMENT"

ARTICLES published in FSR 30/4 and 30/5 dealt at some length with the report of the Moscow newspaper *Trud*, of January 30, 1985, concerning a huge phenomenon said to have been observed by the crews of Soviet airliners operating between Tbilisi (Tiflis, Georgia) and Tallinn in Estonia.

Further information has now reached us from individuals in the USSR who share our interest in matters ufological, and here it is:-

The nice new title which the Soviet Government has selected for its boffins who are researching UFOs is "The Commission For Research On Anomalous Environmental Phenomena". This mouthful of a title

pleases us enormously, and we hope it will be adopted widely elsewhere and thereby brighten up many drab lives.

In an Appendix, below, we give the names of the Soviet personalities who are reported to adorn this Commission.

The precise date of the alleged sighting of the huge UFO (we had never seen it quoted before) is now established, it seems, as *September 7, 1984*. (The *Trud* report consequently came almost four months after the event).

We are informed in confidence that the members of the UFO research group in Tallinn were never able to

interview any of the pilots involved. The story of how the *Trud* account came to be written is, however, itself highly interesting! The journalist in question, V. Vostrukhin, Special Correspondent of *Trud*, had in fact arrived in Tallinn from Moscow for the purpose of interviewing certain pilots about *another and earlier* sighting, when pilots on a flight from Osel (Saaremaa) to Tallinn, saw something. On reaching Tallinn, however, Mr. Vostrukhin learned from the local UFO study group about this new incident of September 7, 1984.

He therefore went boldly to the Airport authorities, showed them his permit to interview the pilots of the earlier sighting (Osel-Tallinn flight sighting), but, instead, he then proceeded to interview the pilots from the Tbilisi-Tallinn flight!

He then returned to Moscow and telephoned to Dr. Nikolai A. Zheltukhin, Associate-Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and Vice-President of the new "*Commission on Anomalous Phenomena*". Zheltukhin was however absent in Siberia, so Vostrukhin telephoned to him there, and gave him the details of the Tbilisi-Tallinn case (which were however quite different from what appeared in due course in *Trud!*). He asked for Dr. Zheltukhin's comments on the case and, misled by Vostrukhin's version, Zheltukhin gave them and, furthermore, what was more important, agreed that the journalist might quote his (Zheltukhin's) name in the article, as an Associate Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences!

The journalist had of course also to secure the consent of the Academy of Sciences to his article, but here again he was lucky! For the official whose consent was required was away on a trip to Bulgaria. His second-in-command was therefore in charge of matters and, hearing that Dr. Zheltukhin had already given his consent for the article, he gave his too!

So, what this all boils down to is as follows: no UFO investigators in Tallinn or anywhere else had ever interviewed the pilots about the Tbilisi-Tallinn flight case, and all that we have is the account written by the journalist Vostrukhin (who, it is true, *had* interviewed them).

The result of it all was that there was a row, naturally. The article in *Trud* produced a sensation throughout the USSR, for normally no reports about UFOs are allowed to be published, anywhere in the Soviet press.

The Editor of *Trud* was given "a severe warning", we understand, for his mistake.

(But what about the journalist! We don't hear any more about *him!* Maybe there's just another unnamed mound in Siberia . . .)

James Oberg in the USA has claimed that all these recent UFO reports from the northern regions of the USSR are rocket-launchings, and the Tallinn UFO study group would agree too that some of them at any rate have been precisely that.

Naturally, the question of what precisely the pilots of the Tbilisi-Tallinn and Tallinn-Tbilisi planes saw on September 7, 1984, does not appear to have been established. — G.C.

## APPENDIX 1.

### CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL RESEARCH

(we understand that this is not an office of the Soviet Government).

### COMMITTEE FOR PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

this is just one of 14 or 15 such sub-committees under the Central Committee)

### COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH ON ANOMALOUS ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA\*

(known as THE POPOVICH COMMISSION)

\*This seems an altogether admirable title, the more one looks at it. Perhaps we are on the way to seeing the UFO critters nailed at last as *pollutants of our Planet!* — G.C.

## APPENDIX 2

### COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH ON ANOMALOUS ENVIRONMENTAL PHENOMENA

Chairman: Vsevolod Troitskiy (Astrophysicist; Candidate-Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences)

Vice-Chairman: Dr. Nikolai A. Zheltukhin (Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences)

Vice-Chairman; Pavel Popovich (Cosmonaut)

Research Secretary: Arvid Mordvin; Sh\*\*\*\*dro (Soviet letter torn).

(Ret'd. Colonel of the Red Air Force; Aero-Engineer. Heads the Leningrad UFO Research Group).

G.C.

# CE-II ENCOUNTER (?) ON AN ITALIAN CHICKEN-FARM (1982)

*Antonio Chiumiento*

(President of C.I.S.U., Italy, and FSR Consultant)  
(Translation from Italian)

SIGNOR Zulimo Toffoli, 46 years old at the time of the experience (June 1982), is the owner of a chicken-farm at Volpago di Montello (Treviso Province, N.E. Italy). The place is some 17 kms. to the N.W. of the Provincial Centre, Treviso, and stands at 94 m. above sea-level, on the southern edge of the Montello mountain area. Toffoli himself lives at Susegna, to the north, but at certain times of the year it is necessary for him to spend whole nights at the chicken-farm, in order to check instruments, temperature, etc., and the UFO incident we are going to report, involving remarkable electromagnetic phenomena, occurred on one of these nights in June 1982, though when I interviewed him recently he could no longer recall the precise date.

## The "Event"

The three sheds containing the fowls are linked up by an alarm-system which registers changes in temperature, warns of electrical malfunction, etc.

On the night in question, Toffoli was at the farm. Suddenly, at about 4.00 a.m., the alarm started to ring in one of the sheds, so he went to investigate. Stepping out from the shed where he had been sleeping (the middle one of the three), he immediately noticed that, near the electricity-inspection cabin, there was a *beam of light* shining towards the barred entrance-gate. The gate was shut but, a little way out beyond it, he perceived "*two red spirals*" which were rotating, and seemed to be "pointing at him". It was dark, and Toffoli, still drowsy, thought that this was someone who had come looking for him and was waving a pair of electric torches. He had in fact an interphone, but it had suffered some damage during a storm a few days previously, when it had been struck by lightning.

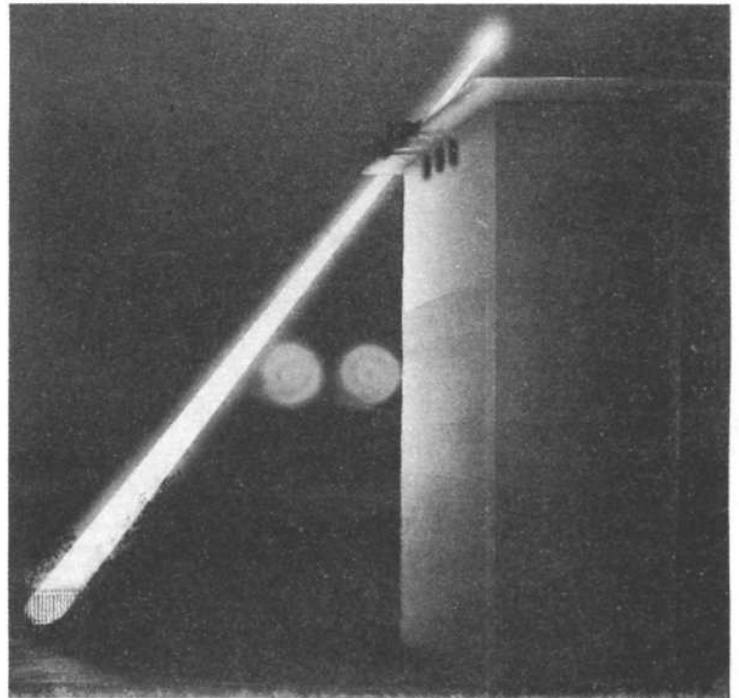
The beam of light was steady and motionless the whole time, and the alarm continued to ring loudly. So Toffoli made for the shed standing nearest to the electricity-inspection cabin and to the gate.

The alarm was giving warning of a fall in temperature — something totally unusual in June! Unusual also was the fact that the alarm had sounded in only one shed, since all the instruments were set to indicate the same danger-levels. So that the alarms installed on the other two sheds ought to have gone off too.

More worried of course about the cause of the breakdown (for he had once lost his entire stock of 50,000 chickens a few years previously for this very

reason) than about the strange lights, Toffoli first switched off the alarm, and then went over towards the electricity inspection-cabin to investigate the peculiar beam of light that was shining down on the gate, and the "red spirals" which he had at first thought seemed to be "aimed" at him.

The two red spirals were rotating, and there seemed to be a *dark mass* stationary directly above the inspection-cabin, and this mass seemed to be the



The Phenomenon on The Chicken Farm.

source of the beam of light, though he couldn't be sure on that point.

The beam of light was of a yellowish-white colour; "true light" (we assume that by this Toffoli means that it was "like daylight". G.C.), and it was coming from a point several metres above the electricity inspection-cabin, and was stationary throughout, whereas the red spirals, rotating close together, were spinning on their own axis. At least, such was Signor Toffoli's impression.

But the idea he had in his head was still that somebody was looking for him — possibly to play a joke