

over Barnes School and then disappeared. I have never seen anything like it in my life before.'

"Earlier in the day when her son returned home at lunch-time from Thornhill School he said he had seen four UFOs together. Then on his way home from school last night he saw another. 'I didn't really believe him until he called me outside and showed me the one by Barnes School,' said Mrs. Naylor."

I find it hard to believe that the above sightings could all have been meteors, and equally hard to believe, assuming they were UFOs, that their appearances around about the time of the explosion could be mere coincidence, even if the explosion was due to a natural cause — which as far as I know has not been proved.

STRANGE AFFAIR ON THE KIMBA ROAD

Keith Basterfield

ON February 4, 1973, approximately 32 miles from Kimba, South Australia, a young man and a young woman, Mr. Brian Hunt and Miss Sharyn Finckler of Kimba, were travelling from Iron Knob to Kimba on Highway 1 (Eyre Highway) that evening. Mr. Hunt, who was driving, noticed what he at first called a "red flare" to their right, just off the road in a clearing. It was about 9.50 p.m.

Brian Hunt looked back and saw a rectangular shape, orange-red in colour, 10 feet high by 5 feet wide, with a sharply defined figure, in what he called a "white spacesuit," floating in the middle of it. This figure, looking like an ordinary human figure, appeared to be motionless some two to three feet from the ground, surrounded by the orange-red glow, with its hands and legs pointing slightly downwards, covered all over in white.

Realising "just what it was" he had seen, Brian Hunt accelerated the car from the steady 55 mph he had been doing, and motioned to Sharyn Finckler. It was a few seconds before she realised that he wanted her to look out of the car. When she looked back she saw in the clearing a deep orange-coloured glow rectangular in shape, with a white blob on top of it. She turned around to comment on it, and upon looking back again, observed that the orange glow now appeared to extend right across the road behind them. Several seconds later she again looked back, but this time there was nothing to be seen in the darkness.

Mr. Hunt, meanwhile, had concentrated on driving. He did not notice any unusual effects on the working of the car, and the witnesses themselves experienced nothing unusual, and noted no strange noises or odours.

They drove at speed to the house of Miss Finckler's parents in Kimba, and told them of the incident. Shortly afterwards they got in touch with the local police, and Constable Peter Summerton later drove out to the clearing with them. By 11.10 p.m. they were at the site of the observation, and they took a good look at the ground, trees and scrub in the area. They found no evidence to suggest a hoax, or to indicate a recent fire. There were no signs of any vehicle or pedestrian tracks.

The following day a Ceduna truck driver related to

Mr. Basterfield, whom we thank for this interesting Australian report, informs us that when Dr. J. Allen Hynek was in Australia last year the opportunity was taken to tell him about it and that, in view of the fact that it is a multiple-witness case, Dr. Hynek suggested that the full story be forwarded to FSR. We are happy to publish this account, especially in view of the similarity between the observed object in this case, and that reported by Miss E. Clappison at Rosedale, Alberta, Canada (see *FSR Case Histories*, Supps. 10 and 16 of June 1972 and August 1973 respectively).

Mr. Basterfield's investigatory organization, known as UFO Research, is, as he informs us, scientifically orientated, and has been in existence for six years, and aims to conduct deep probes into cases of this kind.

EDITOR

the Kimba police that he had passed the same spot [what *transpired* to be the same spot—? EDITOR] at about 10.00 p.m. on February 4. He had seen, inside the fence line, what appeared to him as a brightly lit caravan doorway, except that it was much taller than a normal door, and had a rectangular shape, twice as high as wide. It had a shape outlined in white inside it. He did not stop to take a closer look.

Brian Hunt recalled that a car had passed them just prior to their reaching the clearing. The driver of this vehicle was located, and stated that as he passed the clearing he saw "...a glow of light, rectangular in shape and orange in colour" which was a chain or two* outside the fenceline.

The investigation

The case first came to our notice through a news clipping from the *Whyalla News* of February 16, 1973, which reached us by February 24. That evening we tried to telephone Mr. Hunt at Kimba but he was not available. We then despatched a reply-paid telegram. A reply was received, and arrange-

* A chain = 66 feet, or 22 yards,—EDITOR

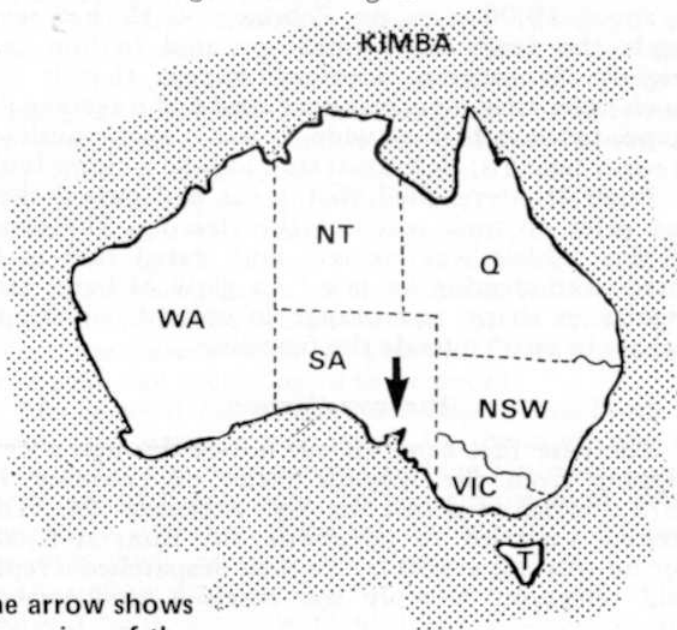
ments were made to interview Mr. Hunt and Miss Finckler on the following Saturday, March 3. Four members of our investigating team, Dean Piovesan, Peter Horne, Peter Powell and myself, made the journey to Kimba.

We made a stop on the road at a point 23 miles from Iron Knob and 32 miles from Kimba. The terrain there consists of flat land, with trees ten to twenty feet high, and small scrub set in a deep reddish-orange coloured, dry soil. The barbed wire fence line lies some 20 - 30 yards from, and parallel to, the road at this point.+ Visibility is limited to about 50 - 100 yards from the road, depending on the angle of vision regarding the trees.

We drove on to Kimba, and first called at Miss Finckler's house. Her father confirmed that on the night of the incident the couple had returned there at about 10.30 p.m. He saw that Mr. Hunt was white-faced and trembling, and obviously distressed about something. When they were told what had happened, the police were called. A police constable arrived and soon afterwards drove off to the site with his daughter and Mr. Hunt.

Our next move was to put through a telephone call to the police constable's house. His wife answered and told me that when her husband arrived home she would ask him to come to our next interview, which was to be at the Fincklers' home. When we arrived there at 2.00 p.m., Miss Finckler and Mr. Hunt were present, and the constable arrived five minutes later.

Miss Finckler and Mr. Hunt re-told their accounts, and Constable Summerton confirmed that he had gone out to the clearing, some 32 miles from Kimba, where, he stated, he had been unable to find any trace of footprints, or tracks, or other marks which could possibly account for what the young couple reported they had seen. When referring to his notebook he showed us a sketch of the object and "man" as drawn by Mr. Hunt. It was then too that he confirmed that two other people had reported seeing an identical thing the same night.



The arrow shows the region of the sighting

The first of these was the truck driver, Mr. Allan Degnor (c/o Post Office, Ceduna) who said that he was passing the clearing at about 10.00 p.m. when he saw a large caravan "doorway" with a figure in white in the middle of it. There was, however, nothing else of a structural nature to be seen at the top, bottom or sides of this "door." He said that he had not stopped.

Secondly, Mr. Max Inglis had been driving a car which passed the young couples' car a short distance before reaching the clearing. Brian Hunt and Sharyn Finckler remembered that a car had passed them at this spot, and they told us that they had stopped about a quarter of a mile from the clearing for about two minutes while Mr. Hunt "went behind a bush." At this stage they had noted nothing odd.

Mr. Inglis had told the policeman that, just after passing the stationary car, he had seen an orange glow to the right-hand side of the road. It was a "glow of light, rectangular in shape, orange in colour," which would have been a chain or two outside the normal fence line. He said that he would have placed this clearing at about 33 to 34 miles out of Kimba. However, we learned that after Mr. Hunt and Miss Finckler saw the object they travelled approximately two miles before they saw a post indicating that it was 30 miles to Kimba. In the circumstances they consider their estimate to be reliable.

Mr. Inglis stated that he thought that what he saw might have been an accident, and he slowed down, but as soon as he realised that something wasn't quite right, and seeing that there would soon be another car (Mr. Hunt's) following his, he decided to keep driving slowly and see what the following driver did. When the following car was seen to accelerate after passing the clearing, he too put on speed and arrived in Kimba well clear of the other car.

Everything stated independently by Mr. Hunt and Mr. Inglis confirmed the statements of the other party.

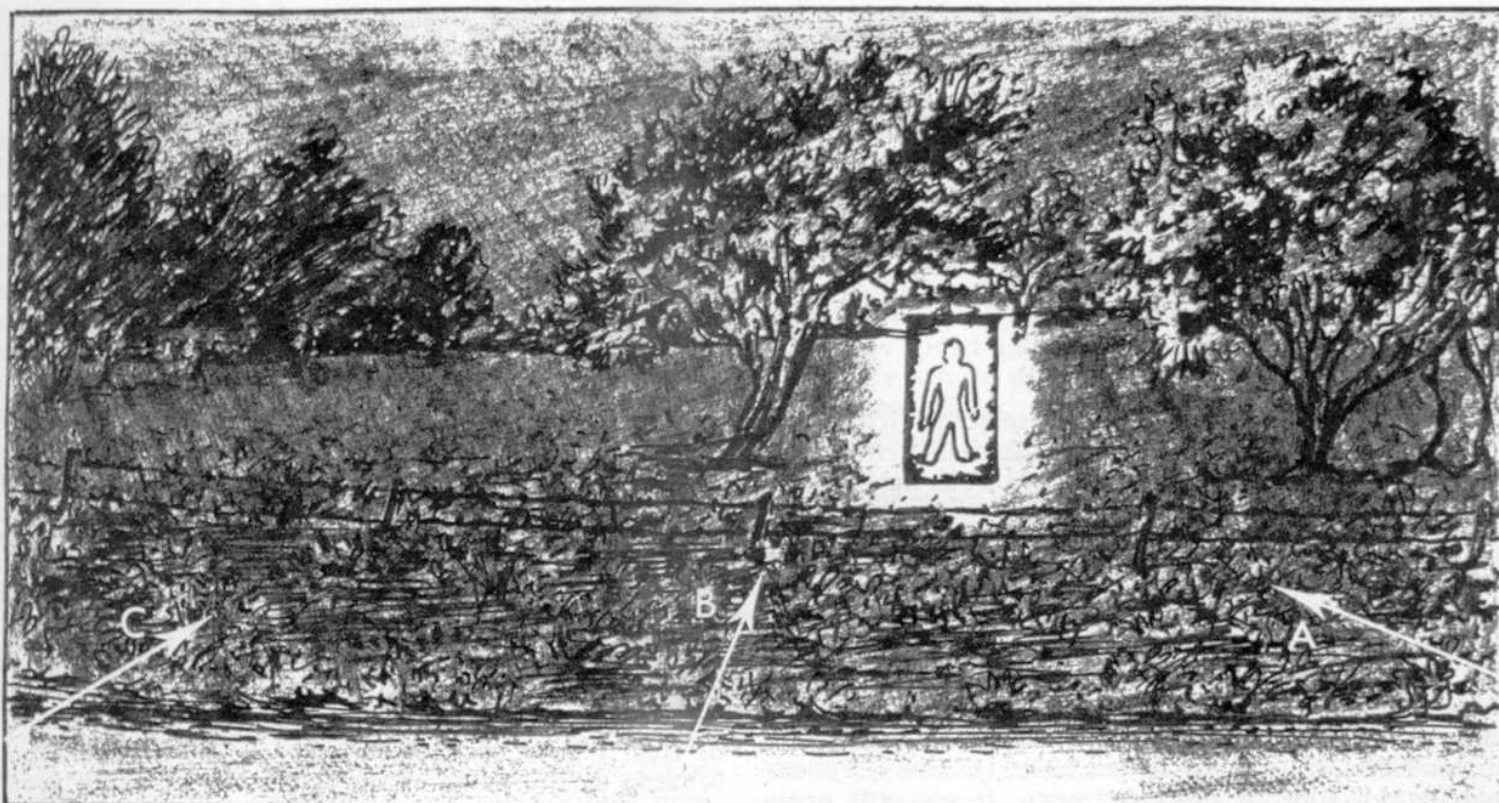
Finally we went out to the clearing with Constable Summerton. It was found to be semi-circular and about 100 yards across. It was clearly visible from the roadway once one was level with it, but there was a limited view of it from the approach side. The side that followed was fairly open, and that tallied with the description of visibility given by the young couple.

In a rigorous search of the ground, trees and scrub, we found no marks, depressions, burns, rope marks on trees, and so on, although it should be remembered that we were there four weeks after the incident.

The witnesses

About two hours were spent with the main

+ When he read this account Mr. Creighton thought there may be a discrepancy here, for, as he saw it, a "chain or two outside the fence line" would have meant that the phenomenon was right on the road. As I read it, however, I take it that the road is *inside* the fence line, and that the great wide scrubland is *outside*.—EDITOR



Reconstruction of the event on Highway 1, as seen by Miss Finckler and Mr. Hunt. A: Mr. Hunt's first view. B: Mr. Hunt's second view. C: Miss Finckler's view.

witnesses, both of whom are in their early twenties. Brian Hunt works in Kimba itself, while Miss Finckler is a nurse at the Port Lincoln hospital.

On the evening concerned they were travelling home from Port Pirie where they had been on a visit to Mr. Hunt's parents. Their accounts did not vary when they were questioned in front of the police constable, who also asked questions. Constable Summerton knows them personally, and was sufficiently impressed with their testimony to make the 65-mile round trip.

Minor discrepancies, such as in their first estimates of distances and times of duration, were pointed out to them. We were able to get them to re-live the event in "real time" and found that the incident probably took less than one minute from start to finish.

Nothing unusual was noticed about the witnesses — which is not always our experience when interviewing some close encounter witnesses, or contactees. We feel there can be no question of their having concocted the story.

Comment

One is left with a firm impression that these people witnessed a real event of some kind. None of the witnesses saw the phenomenon come or go; it was simply there. There was an indication of movement, since Mr. Inglis saw only an orange shape, whereas Mr. Hunt saw both the shape and a figure in the middle of it, and Miss Finckler saw an orange shape with a white blob on top.

This is certainly one of the most puzzling reports which I have investigated.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEXT FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (Vol.20, No. 2 of 1974) . . .

**FRENCH MINISTER SPEAKS ON UFOs
UFO LANDING AND REPAIR BY CREW**

by Ted Bloecher

**LUMINOUS 'SNAILS' NEAR TRAUNSTEIN,
AUSTRIA**

by Ernst Berger

SOME RECENT WELSH CASES

by F.W. Holiday

THE ITALIAN SCENE ONCE MORE

by Gordon Creighton

NOTES ON 'URI' AND A NEW 'CONTACTEE'

by Charles Bowen

AND, A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE...

HIGHLIGHTS OF ISSUES TO COME (Vol. 20, No. 3 and so on) . . .

AN "ARMY OF HUMANIDS" IN SPAIN

by Ignatio Darnaude

AN ARABIAN LANDING?

by Gordon Creighton

UFO FIESTA IN SPAIN

by Eileen Buckle

THE "THINGS" AT YSSANDON

by Joël Mesnard

ANTHROMORPHIC PHENOMENA AT

SANTA ISABEL

by Dr. Oscar A. Galindez

STELLA LANSING'S CLOCK-SHAPED UFO

FORMATIONS

by Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz

TWELFTH NIGHT... AND A UFO

Which, with an Andalusian farmhouse incident, comprise two Spanish cases from 1961.

Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos

Translation by Gordon Creighton

THESE two cases have been selected from my Catalogues of Landings in the Iberian Peninsular. Both involve multiple witnesses and both have a high *strangeness rating*.

1. Twelfth Night...and a UFO

A few words first about the principal witness in this case, which I have chosen for the sobriety of his account and for its interesting details. He is Don Luis G. Ferré Casas, a young man with administrative and technical qualifications having pursued courses in business studies and in teaching. He was 33 years old at the time of his experience. It was not until more than ten years later that our investigation group, CEONI, gathered all the data which I give below. In June 1971, having found out where the witness lived, we wrote to him requesting his co-operation, and he completed one of our questionnaire forms. Further details were secured in the course of subsequent correspondence between him and myself.

The time was around 3.00 a.m., in the morning of the day of the Feast of the Epiphany, that is to say, January 6, of 1961. Sr. Ferré and his parents and his sister were staying for a few days on an estate at Torroja del Priorato, in the Province of Tarragona. His father, accompanied by the family's dog (a pointer), had just retired to his room on the first floor, and the rest of the family were still downstairs chatting in the dining room and about to go up to bed themselves.

For some reason which has not been specified, the mother went out on to the terrace, and at once called urgently to them to come, whereupon the witness and his sister both went out to the terrace. And there, right in front of the house, on the mountain, at a distance of some 1,500 or 2,000 metres from the house, they saw what at first looked as though the Moon had quitted the sky and had come down and landed on the Earth. But the Moon was still there in the sky, full, shining as brightly as ever, and without a cloud to veil it. It was a perfect night, with clear visibility, and the temperature in the neighbourhood of 10° Centigrade.

What they observed has been described as a disc-shaped object, seemingly solid, with clearly defined edges, with a colour and brightness resembling those of the Moon itself. They could detect no sound from the object. It was on the ground on the mountainous terrain, in a spot where there was a fair amount of vegetation round about. Comparing the apparent size of the object with a nearby water tank owned

by the local waterworks (this tank is a few hundred metres from the house) Sr. Ferré estimates that its real diameter might have been about six metres. (See sketch by Sr. Ferré.) The effect which this sight produced in the minds of the witnesses is well summed up by Sr. Ferré:

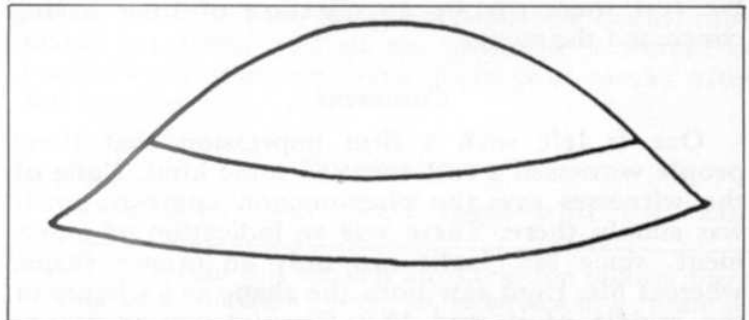
"A desire to investigate came over me, and I said I would like to get my shotgun and approach the object by a roundabout route. The object was as bright as the Moon. Or even brighter. But Mother went into a state akin to hysteria and so, in the face of this, I gave up the idea. So then we stood there looking at the thing as though it had been the most natural, purely everyday thing, and a great sense of tranquility took possession of us. And then, as there seemed to be no change, and without paying great heed to the matter, we went off to bed."

About twenty minutes had elapsed. The object had remained there in the same position throughout this time.

Next morning however, the mountain looked just as it did on all the other days. Although Ferré tried to find something which might have reflected the rays of the moonlight as a mirror does, he was forced in the end to the conclusion that there was nothing up there that could have done this.

And here is one final point, in the realm of the possible psychobiological effects produced in living beings by the UFOs. One day, as the witness was out hunting, with a pointer dog with an extremely good nose, he happened to walk across the place where the object had stood. The dog refused to follow him, and made a detour around the area.

Finally, the witness declares that on subsequent occasions, when the Moon is full, and looking out from that same window, he has never seen the phenomenon repeated.



Sr. Ferré's drawing of the UFO he saw on
January 6, 1961

2. A visit to a farmhouse in the Province of Andalucia

In our opinion the next case is one of the most remarkable that we have on our files. We think this for two reasons: namely, because this sighting, so meticulously reported, is a typical example of all those varied features which go to constitute the world-wide UFO phenomenon, and, secondly, because our source happens to be a personal friend in whom we have the utmost confidence. He is a Sevillian, of a family that is held in high esteem, and a man who, by virtue of his whole background and career, academic and personal, is worthy of the highest praise. He is, to put it in a nutshell, in my opinion the ideal witness.

José-Gregorio Darnaude y Rojas Marcos was 28 years old at the time of his sighting. He took his bachelor degree, then did a three-year Law course in the University of Seville, and he has done courses in Economics and Business Management. In 1961 he was the manager of one of the enterprises owned by his family, the agricultural and cattle-breeding firm of Fuenteluenga S.A.

First a brief sketch of the setting. The Fuenteluenga Estate consists of 1300 hectares of mountainous terrain, low hills, meadows, an olive-grove, pine groves, and an orchard in front of and skirting the valley where the cluster of farm buildings lies. The property is within the municipal boundaries of Villanueva del Rio y Minas, Cantillana, and El Pedroso, at a distance of some 50 kilometres from Seville.

The time is 11.00 p.m. on June 11, 1961, a typical hot night of the Andalusian summer. José Darnaude is lying in a hammock in the garden in front of the house, when he feels a sensation of discomfort and a peculiar malaise, with a pricking and itching throughout the whole body and particularly on his head. And suddenly, from behind the house, there appears a luminous disc flying at enormous speed on a NE-SW course. With an abrupt 90° turn it then comes down and hangs in the air, at a height of some 20-30 metres from the ground, and practically on an eye-level with him, as the situation of the farmhouse is lower than the area over which the UFO was hovering. From where the witness was, the horizon (in this case bounded by a hill), appeared to be above the stationary object. The distance of the object from him was about 250 metres. It emitted no detectible sound and gave the impression (although he is not fully sure on this point) that it was spinning on its axis, while all the time changing in colour and intensity of colour through white, orange, red, purple, and back to white again, always scintillating and flashing.

The night was dark, with no Moon, but also with no clouds to hide the stars, and visibility was excellent. The apparent size of the UFO was roughly half that of the full Moon, and he estimated its actual dimensions at some 4-6 metres in diameter and 3-4 metres through from top to bottom (these being its major and minor axes respectively, as it was elliptical in form). Its appearance was as of two dishes set face to face and, as Darnaude describes

it, it seemed definitely solid, and with luminous, slightly diffuse, contours which were however brighter than the rest of the object. He could see no windows or other particular features.

Sr. Darnaude at once ran into the house and called to various members of his family and to the servants to come and see the phenomenon. The people in the house included José-Maria Barrera, Rufino Macías Helo and his wife Antonia, and some dozen other persons. Then suddenly the object, turning white again, shot straight upwards at an enormous speed and vanished from sight towards the West. The whole duration of the incident, from the initial sensations of itching and malaise to the disappearance of the UFO, had been some 7-10 minutes.

And now we come to yet another aspect of the complex riddle of the saucers, namely the changes brought about in the surroundings through the presence of an unidentified flying object. Darnaude informs us that all the insects, crickets, cicadas, etc., fell silent and only suddenly started singing again after the extraordinary machine had gone. In the stables (which have no openings in the walls through which the animals might have seen the UFOs) the horses and mules went mad with excitement. The sheep, some four kilometres distant from the house, at the far end of the property, broke through their hedges and wire-fences and scattered over the mountainside, so that the shepherds had to go and get help to round them up again. The mastiff dogs of the house, and the other dogs such as are usually found on farms, all cowered and were silent.

Moreover there is yet another indirect corroboration for this case: the watchman at a limestone quarry at a distance of one kilometre from the house declared that he had seen a "round light" cross the sky at high speed.

* * * * *

I will close this report as I began it, with some of my own impressions of the eyewitness. I made the acquaintance of José-Gregorio Darnaude in October 1969 and, in fact, precisely during a meeting of students of the UFO problem which was held in Madrid, and which I myself had organized. He never at any time spoke confidentially about this case, nor did he make it public. On our way home afterwards however, as we were driving together to Seville in his car, he gave me, almost casually, a few snippets about the sighting. The present report is the result of subsequent meetings that I had with Darnaude and of correspondence with him, in the course of which he filled in one of our questionnaires with extensive details. He assured us that, in 1961, he neither knew of, nor was interested in, the UFO problem. But it is logical that after that experience he should have had the desire to inform himself on the subject and to seek, maybe unconsciously, to find some explanation for the occurrence or some reassurance and support in the catalogues of the very numerous similar cases that have taken place throughout the world. Senor Ferré

too (the witness in the first case which I have recorded above) has had the desire — since his own experience — to read serious books on the UFO theme. Nor do we think that this fact in any way gives ground for doubting his statements. Both

these men maintained strict secrecy for ten years about their sightings, and only “opened up” to the investigating specialist when given prior assurance that their testimonies would be used solely for the purpose of scientific study of the UFO question.

GEORGE ADAMSKI STILL CASTS HIS SHADOW

Thoughts prompted by an interesting report from Peru

Gordon Creighton

WE are indebted to Captain Jorge Milberg of Lima, Peru, formerly with the Panagra Air Line, who has forwarded to us, through his old friend Derek Dempster,* a recent press account of a remarkable sighting.

This took place on October 19, 1973, when a Peruvian engineer named Hugo Luyo Vega allegedly photographed, with a Polaroid camera, an unidentified hovering object which appears to have been identical in all respects with the ‘Venusian scout-ship’ allegedly photographed at Palomar Gardens, California, on December 13, 1952, by the unfortunate and possibly much maligned George Adamski.

Captain Jorge Milberg states that he has a friend who knows the Peruvian engineer. There is consequently a possibility that a fuller report, and copies of the photograph, will in due course be secured for *Flying Saucer Review*, and we have asked Captain Milberg if he can help.

According to the account which we have, published in the October 23, 1973, edition of the Lima newspaper *El Comercio*, Friday, October 19, 1973, is a date that Senor Hugo Luyo Vega is not likely to forget. The time was about 3.00 p.m., and he was driving on the Peruvian Central Highway towards Lima, accompanied by a business client from Matucana. The client had just bought some mandarin oranges from a road-side stall, and now suggested that they take a little break for a few minutes and enjoy some of the mandarins.

Then, in the words of Hugo Luyo Vega: “We saw the flying saucer, just a few metres from us. My breathing grew faster. Neither of us spoke a word. A whole string of ideas raced through my mind. I managed to keep calm and ~~ran to the car and~~ and ran to the car and got out my camera. And I just did the best I could to secure a picture of it.”

He managed to get only the one photograph.

His story goes on: “At first the saucer was moving very slowly. But then it began to climb and was quickly out of sight in the sky, and this is why I was unable to get more than one picture.

“For a moment I didn’t actually think that the

picture would come out all right, for I don’t consider myself all that good as a photographer, and I was greatly surprised when I saw that it had come out. All the photo showed was the thing’s shape, but at any rate this little bit of evidence is enough to prove that it was a real ‘UFO’ and not an invention of my mind.”

Sr. Vega explained that when they first caught sight of the saucer it was “at eye-level.” The place was at approximately kilometer 54 on the Peruvian Central Highway, La Carretera Central. As he described it to the newspaper reporter: “The UFO appeared above the river Rimac and over the tremendous ravine. It was travelling very slowly, and my client and I just stood there enraptured by the sight.”

Description of the UFO

Sr. Vega described the saucer as follows:

“It was of the colour of burnished silver. The upper part looked like a cupola. At its apex there was a steady blue light,¹ and below that there was the shape of a turret with small windows, which we could see perfectly. Beneath that, the saucer terminated in a big platform about ten metres² in diameter, and, in the centre underneath, it had a cone with a very powerful dark red pulsating glow.”³

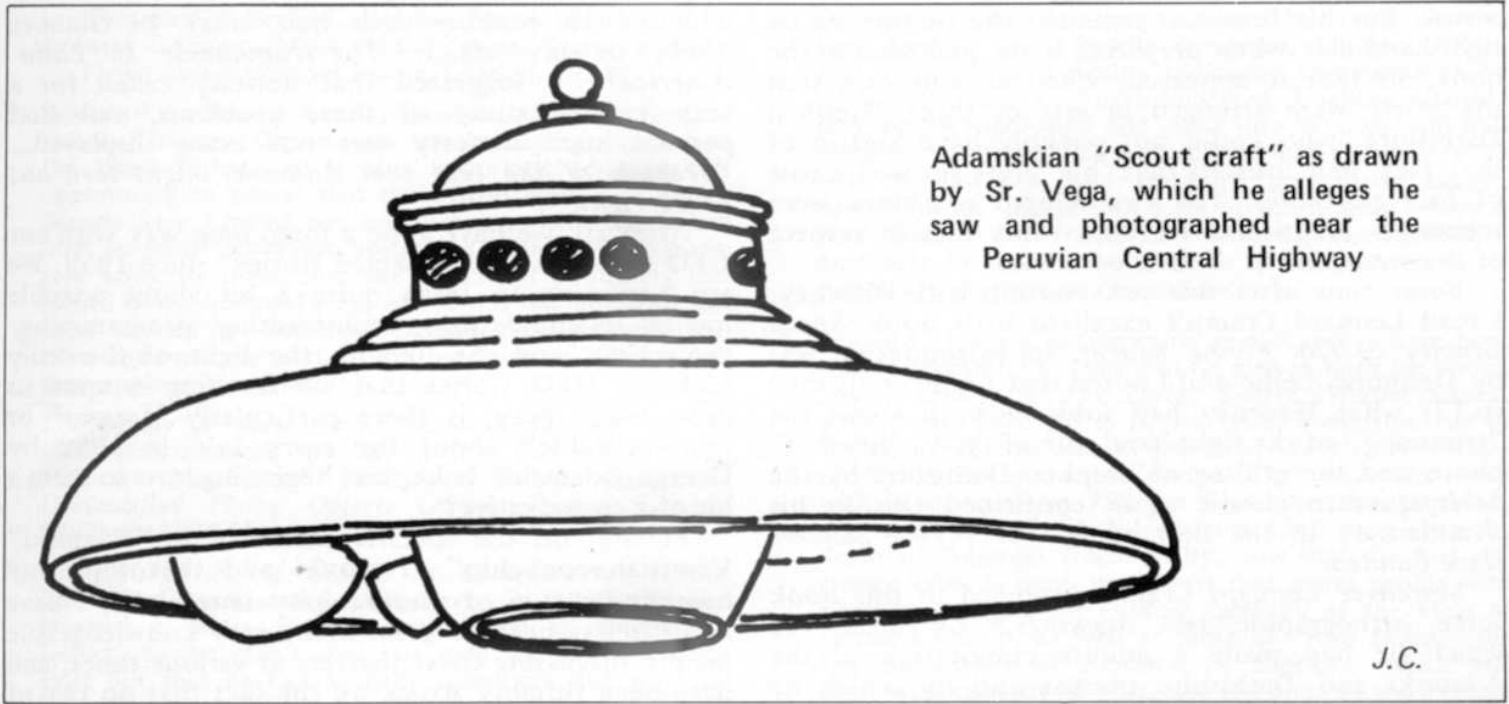
It took the two men some twenty minutes to recover from their astonishment, and even then they remained there discussing the affair for some time still before driving on.

Sr. Vega was reserved with the press on the matter of the identity of his companion. His concluding words were: “He is a wealthy man who prefers no publicity.”

The accompanying sketch was done for the newspaper by Sr. Vega. As can be seen, it displays the typical “Adamskian” bell-shaped “scout-ship.” It will also be noted that the sketch shows the portholes of the craft seemingly distributed *in fours*, and thereby hangs a tale which is not without interest and which may be unfamiliar to many readers, so I relate it again now.

It will be recalled that, some fourteen months after Adamski claimed to have photographed his “scout-ship” over Palomar Gardens, a thirteen-year-

* Mr. Dempster was first Editor of *Flying Saucer Review* in 1955/56.



Adamskian "Scout craft" as drawn by Sr. Vega, which he alleges he saw and photographed near the Peruvian Central Highway

J.C.

old English boy named Stephen Darbishire, the son of a doctor, produced two strikingly similar photos which he said he had taken on a hill above Coniston Water (Lancashire) in the Lake District, at 11.00 a.m. on the morning of February 15, 1954. He and his eight-year-old cousin Adrian Myer, had gone up to the top of Coniston Old Man (2,575 ft.), taking their simple, cheap little camera, in the hope of getting some bird pictures, for their hobby was ornithology. And there, hovering very briefly near the ground, they said they had seen this object, of which Stephen secured two snapshots, not very good ones, but sufficient at any rate to indicate the shape and size. According to Stephen, the thing had a silvery or glassy appearance, "like metal or plastic which light goes through but which you can't see through." At first it was directly in the sun's rays, and very bright. But as it began to rise, clouds cut off the direct sunlight, so that the boys were now able to see it more distinctly. "It was a solid, metal-like thing, with a dome, portholes, and three bumps or landing domes underneath. In the centre the underneath was darker and pointed like a cone... There was what looked like a hatch on top of the cabin dome."⁴

When Stephen Darbishire was being "grilled" by four journalists a few days later, it was evident that they were extremely anxious to induce him to change his mind or contradict himself on some small detail. They failed. They also tried to get him to admit that he had read the Leslie/Adamski book *Flying Saucers Have Landed* (first edition, London, September 1953).⁵ This he denied, as did his parents. But Stephen readily agreed that he *had* seen a reproduction of the Adamski "scout-ship" photo, which was published in the London magazine *Illustrated* of September 30, 1953. With devastating small-boy-logic, however, he argued that what he had seen and what Adamski claimed to have seen *were not the same sort of object at all*. Pressed to explain, he said that the reproduction in *Illustrated* had

shown an object with "three portholes in a row," whereas what he had seen "had *four* portholes in a row." As the object had shot downwards and almost brushed the earth it had indeed seemed to have the ports in threes, for this was the number that they first saw. But then the object rotated, and they perceived that there were four portholes set close together, not three.

The following year, 1955, saw the launching of FSR. I had just returned to Britain after many years of absence. I had seen a UFO over a Chinese city in 1941; in New Orleans I had noted (and extracted) the heavily censored American press reports of "foo fighters" seen during the Allied aerial attacks on Germany (December 1944),⁶ and, while in Brazil between 1948 and 1951 I had noted some of the first press reports there. So, not surprisingly, I became a reader of FSR right from issue No. 1, and before long I had met the then Editor, Derek Dempster, and also Waveney Girvan, then a director.

Waveney Girvan's post in the business world was that of managing director of Werner Laurie Ltd., publishers, of 1 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1. — the firm which had taken the gamble and been the first to publish the Leslie/Adamski book *Flying Saucers Have Landed*. (That they did so was purely through the advice of Girvan, who had already arrived, quite independently, at the conviction that there must be some element of truth behind the snowballing mass of UFO reports.)⁷

On one of our occasional midday meetings in 1955 (usually these took place in the charming Victorian *décor* of the famous "stage personalities pub," *The Salisbury*, in St. Martin's Lane, London W.C.2) Waveney told me an interesting thing about the Adamski "scout-ship" photos and the Darbishire photos. He said that, when he had received it from Adamski, the large close-up snap of the craft (frontispiece in the original edition of 1953, and photo no. 1 in Desmond Leslie's new and enlarged edition of 1970)⁸ did in fact show four portholes in

a row. But his firm had trimmed the picture on its right-hand side when preparing it for inclusion in the book, so that it appeared, when it came out, that the ports were arranged in sets of three. Stephen Darbishire, who could not possibly have known of that fact, had insisted that "his" craft showed a row of four portholes. The two alleged machines were seemingly identical after all, at any rate in respect of the arrangement of their portholes!

Some time after this conversation with Waveney, I read Leonard Cramp's excellent little book, *Space, Gravity & The Flying Saucer*. Its introduction was by Desmond Leslie and I noted that Leslie confirmed (p.17) what Waveney had told me both about the "trimming" of the right-hand side of the "scout-ship" photo and the grilling of Stephen Darbishire by the newspapermen. Leslie again confirmed this in his commentary in the new edition of *Flying Saucers Have Landed*.

Moreover Leonard Cramp produced in this book some orthographic test drawings,⁹ by means of which he had made a minute comparison of the Adamski and Darbishire photos and by which he demonstrated conclusively that, whatever the objects in question might be, they were at any rate quite certainly completely identical as regards their dimensions. Either Adamski had staged an extraordinarily well organized hoax extending from California to the English Lake District, or a thirteen-year-old boy had done so. Either way, the hoax theory was beginning to look a bit thin.

Nor, I must repeat, are these the only known "UFO" photographs in which the Adamski type of "scout-ship" appears. There have been quite a number of such photographs, their credentials generally no better and no worse than those of the rest. One such photo, which I recall particularly, I found in an illustrated Italian magazine of the spring or summer of 1963. The accompanying article was about an American Army officer named Madeira, and the object photographed by him was allegedly a landed saucer which he had seen one day, standing on or beside a main road in a Central American republic (I think Costa Rica). I could detect no difference between the object allegedly shown and the object in the Adamski photo. The Italian press was bursting with many remarkable UFO reports in 1963, and I translated a great many of them for FSR, including this one. However it was not used by Waveney, then Editor of the journal, and one can only speculate as to why he did not print it,¹⁰ for he was strongly convinced that George Adamski was no liar or hoaxer and this photo was in Adamski's favour.

The arrival of the Vega report from Peru suggests that we might perhaps be wise to prepare for a scrupulous re-think about Adamski's photos and about his story. For, over the years since 1952, there has not only been, as I have just pointed out, a steady dribble of reports and even photos of the "bell-shaped Venusian scout-ship" type of craft but — horror of horrors for the sceptic — even of precisely such tall, fair, long-haired, benevolent men as Adamski had been rash enough to describe (and at a date when no men in America or Europe were yet

addicted to wearing their hair long). In October 1966, in my article *The Humanoids In Latin America*¹¹ I suggested that honesty called for a very careful study of these problems, and that perhaps such honesty was not being displayed... "because of the fear that Adamski might turn out to be right."

After all, we have gone a long, long way with our UFO reports and "contactee stories" since 1952. We are beginning to learn quite a lot about possible mental manipulations, brainwashing, programming, projection, and the like. In the light of the truly fantastic UFO stories that are flooding in upon us now, what, pray, is there particularly "far-out" or "unacceptable" about the story told in 1952 by George Adamski? Is he, not beginning now to seem a bit of a conservative?

Finally, on the specific matter of the "Adamski" Venusian scout-ship", I would add that while my own knowledge of photography is minimal, I have nevertheless heard a great many very knowledgeable people discussing these matters at various times, and have been forcibly struck by the fact that no two of them ever seemed to be in agreement as to precisely what the pesky thing was that George had snapped. Among the small collection which I made of these "explanations," I find that impeccable authorities have, *inter alia*, ruled it to be:

1. A type of lamp used in hospital operating theatres in the U.S.A.,
2. A tobacco-curer,
3. A chicken-incubator.

That the mystery object can have served three such disparate purposes I am somehow loth to accept. As time passes, I find myself more and more inclined to think that it may far more probably have been precisely what George Adamski said it was... a "flying saucer," — whatever that may be.

Notes & References

- 2 Adamski said that his "scout-ship" looked like a translucent glass bell and that on the very top of it had "...a round ball that looked like a heavy lens of some kind. And it glowed." Numerous other UFO reports feature a flashing light, not always blue, on top of the craft.
- 2 "Around ten metres" is a very common estimate in accounts of those who claim to have had close sightings of UFOs. George Adamski thought the craft he saw was "about twenty feet," but said he had been too dazed by the whole experience to take a very careful note of its exact size.
- 3 Adamski mentions no glow or light from below, but his photo shows precisely the same sort of "cone" as we see in Sr. Vega's sketch. Moreover many other eyewitnesses have spoken of just such a cone, and a number of other photographs show it clearly or show some indication of it. Furthermore, the Adamski photo and the Vega sketch agree entirely upon the "ring of gears or heavy coil built into and encircling the side wall at the base of this domed top", the pronounced "ring" surrounding the cabin just above the portholes; the flange; and the "half-lowered three-ball landing-gear." And there may be still other similarities which I have missed.
- 4 See Waveney Girvan: *Flying Saucers and Commonsense*

- (Frederick Muller Ltd., London, March 1955).
Leonard G. Cramp, MSIA, MBIS: *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer* (Werner Laurie, London, 1954).
- 5 Published by Werner Laurie, London, of which firm, as stated, Waveney Girvan was the managing director at the time. Perhaps it is also important to take this opportunity to repeat that the British edition of *Flying Saucers have Landed* was the first anywhere. There had been no prior "American bestselling edition," as so many folk seem to think, for the American publishers had turned down Adamski's ms, and it was not until this had been wedded to Desmond Leslie's ms, and both had been tightened up and edited by Waveney Girvan that they appeared in print.
 - 6 For details of these early "personal glimpses" of the UFO phenomenon, see my article *Foo Fighters*, in FSR for March/April 1962, and Robert Chapman's *Unidentified Flying Objects* (Arthur Barker. London 1969, pp. 152-153).
 - 7 On p.10 of *Flying Saucers & Commonsense* (1955) Waveney Girvan stated that, early in 1953, he had received a letter from a man living at Weymouth, Dorset, to the effect that not only did flying saucers exist but that he had actually communicated with the pilot of one which had landed on the Downs behind that town. The pilot had told him that "they were visiting the earth because they had become alarmed by the state of affairs into which our politicians had allowed us to drift," a piece of perspicacity in which we can only concur, over twenty years later. Waveney Girvan continued: "When I read this letter, I pondered for some time and then, impulsively, tore it up and threw it into the waste-paper basket. I took the writer of the letter for a crank or a madman. About a month later the Adamski manuscript and photographs were on my desk, and I suddenly remembered the Weymouth letter — too late. If this book should chance to be read by that man in Weymouth — I have forgotten his name — will he please accept my apologies for my 'will-not-to-believe' and hasten to get in touch with me again?"
(So far as we know, he never did.—G.C.)
 - 8 Desmond Leslie & George Adamski: *Flying Saucers have Landed*, (pub. Neville Spearman, London, 1970). This new edition contains additional commentaries by Desmond Leslie. As I have indicated, I believe Adamski may yet be vindicated and come into his own, and that everyone interested in our subject might therefore do well to read this book carefully, particularly Leslie's *commentaries*. His present view of the Adamski story is very close to views that have been expressed in FSR, — especially as regards the possible nature and origin of Adamski's mysterious "Venusians."
 - 9 Leonard Cramp's orthographic test drawings have been widely reproduced. They can be seen in both his books, *Space, Gravity & The Flying Saucer* (Werner Laurie, 1954), and *Piece for a Jigsaw* (pub. Somerton, Isle of Wight, 1966), and also in Desmond Leslie's new edition of *Flying Saucers have Landed*. They were also dealt with in an article in FSR for September/October 1963, and again in FSR for July/August 1965 soon after the death of Adamski. (Incidentally, now that the fuel and energy crisis is upon us, I trust that many people with scientific training are looking carefully at the ideas of Leonard Cramp, as well as those of "Rho Sigma," the German author of *Research in Shackles*, which was dealt with recently in FSR, and the ideas of the Frenchman Leplantier and of our own colleague Professor R.H.B. Winder, all of whom have pondered long and deeply upon the problems of UFO propulsion.)
 - 10 I cannot get at my file copy of the translation, which lies buried under a vast pile of papers in a spare room. So far as I now recall, the original Italian press-clipping, with the reproduction of Madeira's alleged photograph, went with the top copy of my translation to Waveney Girvan, and we do not know what became of it. (After the death of Waveney Girvan in October 1964, extraordinarily little was salvaged from the FSR records in his home.)
 - 11 In *The Humanoids*, FSR Special Issue No. 1, October 1966; republished in an augmented edition by Neville Spearman Ltd., London W.C.1 in 1969. See pages 86-87.

PRELIMINARY CATALOGUE OF TYPE I CASES IN ARGENTINA — PART 5 (Concluded)

Prof. Oscar A. Uriondo

Translated from the Spanish by Gordon Creighton

This section concludes the sub-class A3 which appeared in *FSR Case Histories Supplement 17*. The remaining sub-classifications will be published in *Flying Saucer Review* as and when space permits.

14. (119). 1968, June 29; San Luiz del Palmer While driving along National Highway No. 5, Eduardo Sánchez Aguilar, Pablo Pastor Ortega and Damián Vega saw a circular flattened object which emitted a vivid orange light. As it passed at a close distance from their car, it shook the car violently and the gears went into reverse, the car moving backwards.

La Croñica, Buenos Aires, July 4, 1968, and Creighton: *A New South American Wave* (case 15), in FSR, September/October 1968.

15. (124). 1968. July 2; Sierra Chica (Buenos Aires). 23.15 hrs.

A party of five people (including a sergeant from the local police force) observed a light zigzagging slowly across a field straight towards them, at a height of only a few metres. Terrified, they threw themselves to the ground. The UFO accelerated, shot up vertically, and vanished in the distance.

La Razón, Buenos Aires, July 4, 1968, and Creighton: *The Remarkable Affair of Oscar Iriart*, case 19 in: *A New South American Wave*, FSR, September/October 1968.

16. (127). 1968, July 7; Cuesta de las Vacas (San Juan). Night.

Driving in his car, with six members of his family, business-

man Francisco Zamora suddenly encountered what he took to be a lighted railway coach, 30 metres long, which passed across the road in front of their car. But there was no railway line at that place, and the "train" gave the impression of travelling suspended in the air, at a height of about one metre from the ground. Their view of the thing was perfect as it was caught in the beams of their headlights. The object vanished into the darkness and they continued their journey.

Bulletin of AIDOVNI, Buenos Aires, No.15, September/October, 1968, pp. 46-47. Also see Dr. Oscar A. Galindez: *A New Teleportation Near Córdoba*, in FSR, May/June 1973.

17. (132). 1968, July 16; Andacollo (Neuquén). 00.15 hrs.

An officer and four sub-officers of the National Gendarmerie observed a flattish object, some 2 metres in diameter, slowly flying close to the ground and emitting a pale-blue light.

During the period of five minutes for which they had

the UFO in sight, the engine of their jeep had a loss of power.

La Razon, Buenos Aires, July 18, 1968.

18. (133). 1968, July 18, Lavalle (Mendoza). 07.30 hrs. Four women teachers, Amelia Arasqueta, Zulema Arasqueta, Mary Granada de Bariglia, and Silvia Grozona were driving to Lavalle when they saw a strange, reddish-orange, oval object, moving along at a height of a very few metres from the ground. It was some 20 metres in diameter, was travelling very slowly, and produced no sound. Before it vanished they became aware of a smell like that of damp paper, which became stronger and stronger until they felt it difficult to breathe. One of the witnesses felt sleepy.

Espacio, Rosario, No. 3, 1970, p.4.

19. (147). 1968, September 12; Ceres (Santa Fe). Night. A strange flying object, oval-shaped and 0.25 m. in diameter, which emitted an intense reddish light, came down and almost touched the roofs of houses. It finally made off towards the west.

La Razón: Buenos Aires, September 13, 1968.

Readers' Reports

UFOs spotted over Thanet

Dear Sir,—Here is an account I took from my local newspaper, (the Thanet edition of the *East Kent Times*) dated July 29, 1973. It describes my sighting of July 26, 1973. The statement I gave to the press is true in every way, but although I am looked on as a freak at work, I don't mind.

"As the row over night-flying continues, UFOs were sighted over Thanet early yesterday morning, Mr. Michael Barker, 25, a night-shift electrical worker at a Westwood factory, spotted four bright elliptical objects in the sky shortly before 3.00 a.m.

"During a tea-break I was looking at the stars with two friends when we spotted the objects," he told an *East Kent Times* and *Mail* reporter yesterday. "I am interested in astronomy and was waiting to see the American Skylab satellite, which is visible to the naked eye. Suddenly we spotted the four shapes. They were all the same size, an orange colour, and were surrounded by a bright glow. There was no trail left and we heard no noise."

"He went on: 'They travelled north towards Cliftonville and were visible for 30 to 40 seconds.' Mr. Barker telephoned the secretary of the Thanet Amateur Astronomers, Peter Jordon, and was advised to report his sighting to the RAF.

"Yesterday an RAF spokesman at Manston said: 'We are unable to explain the objects, but as far as we know there were no aircraft over Thanet at that time of night.' He said Mr. Barker's

report had been notified to the Ministry of Defence. Added Mr. Barker: 'I shall definitely be out to look for these objects again tonight.'"

That ends the extract from the newspaper report.

A fortnight later the Ministry of Defence sent me a letter explaining what the objects may have been, such as sun shadow, cloud formations, reflections, something to do with space junk...but I know they were not any of these, and I have two witnesses who will support my statement. [The names of the witnesses are: Mr. D.J. Latter, and Mr. J. Oakes. Their addresses were also supplied.—ED.]

The four objects were flying in a straight line except for the second from the back which was a little to the left of the other three, as though it were pulling out to overtake the others, but we did not see them long enough to see this. They were visible for at least forty seconds, with no noise. There was an orange light all around them but not in the middle, so we were thus able to determine their shape. They headed out for the Channel and were gone.

R. M. W. Barker
80 College Road,
Margate, Kent.



The four UFOs seen over Thanet as depicted by Mr. Barker

An eye-witness's account

Dear Sir,—As an investigator for BUFORA and WATSUP, I am submitting a rather interesting report of a case I have been investigating recently. The individuals who underwent the experience are Mr. P. C. Watson and Mr. D. M. Almond, both of Portsmouth. They are actively interested in UFOs and regard the event in a scientific manner. The following is Mr. Almond's account:

"One Friday in September, 1971, whilst teaching my friend to drive a motor-cycle on Portsdown Hill, Portsmouth, Hampshire, between Nelson's Column and Fort Southwick, we had a very strange experience. After Peter had been driving around for about an hour, and darkness was drawing in, he came back to me to say he had found a good track to practice along. It was very narrow with bushes one side and trees and bushes on the other. It was decided that I would ride pillion in order to assess Peter's driving skills.

"We then entered the path and began following it towards the top of the hill, and on coming to one particular bend in the path, Peter, for no apparent reason, drove straight into

the thicket. I looked ahead to see why he had come off the path, and there about 15 feet away and 9-10 feet from ground level — I saw a pair of eyes. They were elliptical in shape, at least twice the normal size and about 6-8 inches apart.

"The battery operated lights on the motor cycle went out or were knocked out by the impact. Despite the fact that we were in total darkness, the eyes were still visible to both of us for a few seconds, and to me, they appeared to turn away to our left without making the slightest sound. It was at that moment we became very frightened of what we had seen. I quickly dragged the motor cycle out of the bushes, restarted it, and we made a hasty retreat from the area. After a considerable distance, I looked back towards the bushes and the area around it, but saw nothing. During the whole episode, there was no conversation between us.

"As soon as we arrived home, I asked Peter if he had seen anything. He replied that he had seen two eyes ahead of him, causing him to freeze and lose control of the machine. He told me he had seen the eyes about 5 seconds before me but did not see them go."

As the investigator of this case, I would state emphatically that in my estimation the two eye-witnesses (excuse the pun) are giving a true account of their experience. I formed this opinion as the result of a three-hour interview. Photographs of the area where the occurrence took place have been carefully studied and no logical explanation of the event can be found.

M. B. Handley,
9, Norman Road,
Southsea, Hants.

UFO Activity in Thailand

Dear Sir,—I have sent a clipping from the major daily newspaper of Bangkok, Thailand. The translation reads as follows:

"**GHOST FLYING SAUCER**—The object was confirmed by the two girls named Cristena Liewragwong and Lisaned who said that they saw the flying saucer (as shown in the picture) flying over the dormitory area in Soi (Lane) Aree, Sukhumvit Road, Klomg Toey District of Bangkok."

The date of this report was September 2, 1973.

I am unable to gather more details as I am currently assigned to an isolated signal relay site in N.E. Thailand near the amphur (district) town of Mukdaharn. But I have hearsay accounts from U.S. Air Force personnel in this region that several of the F-111's lost during combat in S.E. Asia have disappeared just as inex-



Two girls describe their sighting in a suburb of Bangkok.

plicably as the two which disappeared

in the state of Nevada, USA, in 1972. Also, an F-4 Phantom jet fighter bomber vanished from radar screens simultaneously as visual contact was lost by the wingman. No debris was recovered and enemy fire was not suspected as the incident occurred over Thailand just a few miles from Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base. **Sgt. Terry W. Colvin,** Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand.

Another Welsh report from the past

Dear Sir,—A reporter with the *Mid-Wales County Times, Express & Gazette*, I came across this interesting item, when searching through the newspaper's files of 75 years ago, in the *County Times*, of October 29, 1898. The item was headed **COMET OR METEOR?**

"A Welshpool correspondent writes:—

"Did anyone see the comet on Sunday night between 11 and 12 when it rose from behind the Long Mountain with great rapidity? A short luminous tail was perceptible. The nucleus appeared like a small moon, partially eclipsed. At the upper part of this were several tiny brilliant discs, red, blue, green and yellow, flashing like fireworks. Clouds hit it every now and then, but several times it could be perceived through them. I watched it for about an hour during which time it attained a great height and seemed to move in an oblique line. Thick dark clouds then concealed it, and watching seemed in vain.

"I shall be glad to learn if it has been observed in other places, and at what time.'"
Yours truly,
Barry Jones

1967 Sighting in Nebraska

Dear Sir,—My brother and I saw a flying saucer here in Beatrice, Nebraska in 1967. It was perfectly round, about 30 ft. in diameter, reddish in colour, and looked at first like the full Moon seen rising. It had no shine or twinkle such as a star has. It was just skimming along above the tree-tops, less than a quarter of a mile from us, and moving at about 30-50 m.p.h. (I was able to judge its distance from us, and its speed as it was just at the end of our lane. I have watched cars and trucks pass along there over the past 16 years).

It was not wobbling, as I have heard mentioned in some UFO reports, but going straight as an arrow, and it was emitting a very loud, rapidly pulsating noise.

Our dog was with us and he also saw it and went absolutely wild when it came into view.

As you probably know, many personal sightings go absolutely unreported, so I thought I would satisfy myself by sending this account to somebody intelligent enough to believe it.

Sincerely yours,
Tom Shuffs,
Beatrice,
Nebraska, U.S.A.

Brazil

UFO causes panic and traffic jam

From *A Luta Democrática* of April 6, 1972 comes the following report — “The sudden appearance of a flying saucer over the Estrada do Tinguá highway, at a spot near Paulo de Frontin, in the Brazilian State of Bahia, has caused a panic and stopped traffic for many hours. The UFO then flew about over the region, emitting lights of various colours and weird and unearthly sounds. The eyewitnesses totalled more than one hundred.

“Corinto Fontes, a taxicab driver, was travelling in his cab with his wife and with Sr. Joaquim Loureiro dos Santos and his wife, and following them was a bus containing 43 students of the Faculty of Law at Valença. When the cab-driver saw the saucer coming lower and lower towards them, he stopped and with his passengers fled in panic from the cab.

“The students in the bus meanwhile began shouting in terror. Other witnesses told the paper that the saucer was silvery and so dazzling bright that to look at it made one temporarily blind. The fantastic and terrifying noises emitted by it were said to be utterly indescribable.

“The UFO continued to fly around above the milling traffic-jam for a quarter of an hour, and then made off at high speed.

“The chief worry of most of the Law students afterwards was that they might be taken for madmen...”

Credit: Dr. Walter Buhler, Rio de Janeiro.

CENTRE FOR UFO STUDIES

Founded by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who is the Director, the *UFO Center* has been established for those who wish to see positive action taken to end a quarter century of misrepresentation and misunderstanding.

Details from: UFO CENTER
P.O. Box 11, Northfield,
Illinois 60093, USA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RECENT BACK NUMBERS OF FSR CASE HISTORIES . . .

1973

Supplement 17, December
UFO OVER NAGAI CITY, JAPAN
by Yusuke J. Matsumura

Supplement 16, August
THE HUMANIDS AT ROSEDALE
by Brian James

Supplement 15, June
THE GREAT “CROSS” ABOVE THE VATICAN
by Dr. Alberto Perego

Supplement 14, April
LOW-PASS UFO OVER THE A5 by G. Geldard

Supplement 13, February
HIGH ALTITUDE OBJECTS OVER ROMANIA
by Florin Gheorghita

1972

Supplement 12, December
A POSSIBLE LANDING AT MATADEPERA
by Jose Maria Casas-Huguet

Supplement 11, August
A HOT RECEPTION AT FORT BEAUFORT
by Charles Bowen

Supplement 10, June
THE STRANGE FORCE THAT MOVED A CAR
GICOFF report

Supplement 9, February
LANDING REPORT FROM DELPHOS
by Ted Phillips

1971

Supplement 8, December
CONTACT IN HELSINKI by Timo Pyala

Supplement 7, October
UFO LANDING AT SOUTH FREMANTLE
by Nancy L. Wilson

Supplement 6, August
HORSE ILL AFTER UFO INCIDENT
by John Magor

Supplement 5, June
THE REMARKABLE LANDING AT LAGOA
NEGRA by Jader U. Pereira

Supplement 4, April
OLAF DAVY AND THE WROXHAM UFO
by Peter Johnson

Supplements 1, 2 and 3

24p per copy, post paid (65c)

Remittance with order to F.S.R. Case Histories, c/o Compendium Books, 281 Camden High Street, London NW1, England