

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Taboo Theme!

Dear Sir, — At Canadian Aviation Electronics, the firm where I work, I have been in the habit, from time to time, of discreetly broaching the subject of UFOs with pilots, and have sometimes left on their desks photocopies of UFO-related material. I was of course always careful not to push matters too far, well knowing that there is a standing order for silence on this subject.

However, today my Security Supervisor has very politely informed me that, at the express request of the pilots, I am in future to refrain from all discussion of UFOs and from leaving such material on desks.

Clearly the matter is productive of too much embarrassment!

Yours faithfully,
Ronald W. J. Anstee,
6565 24th Avenue,
Rosemount, Montreal,
Quebec, Canada H1T 3M6.
November 14, 1984.

"Swirls" and Bath-Water Myths

Dear Sir, — That the "swirl"* is regulated by whether or not it is in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere is simply *myth*. The geometry of the plug itself is the main cause, and the water can go either way in either Hemisphere. The observer can also initiate the direction in which it turns.

Were the bath-water myth valid, the logical conclusion would be that at the Equator bath-water would not spin at all — and I'm very sure *that's* not the case!

Yours faithfully,
A. Calvert,
61 Brent Place,
Barnet, Herts EN5 2DS
January 10, 1985.

* In connection with the alleged "swirl" shown in photographs, we forgot to mention in our last issue one all-too-obvious consideration — namely that, if

you *print* your UFO "nest" photos the wrong way round (as we think happens not infrequently with UFO photos) then you are inevitably going to get a "reversed swirl"! — EDITOR.

News from Russia

Dear Mr. Creighton, — Several years ago Mr. Ch. Bowen kindly published two short articles of mine in your splendid journal. Though it has lately become much more difficult to get acquainted here with FSR, I have some possibilities to read it occasionally. I am much glad to note that even in these hard times of declining public interest to the UFO problem your journal maintains its high standards of ufological researches. The articles which are now published in FSR are of the same use and value to every ufologist as ever. Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on this occasion.*

Recently I have published several new articles on the ETI problem in the Soviet and foreign press. You will find enclosed here a Xerox copy of my Letter to the Editor published in JBIS, 1983, Vol. 36, No. 11. It has been mainly devoted to the problem of ancient Space visits to this Earth, but its conclusions bear a relation to the problem of *modern* ones as well. I hope the correspondence will be of some interest to you. (Not printed here due to the lack of space. G.C.)

This year the Moldavian branch of the *Nauka (Science) Publishing House* has issued here my and Dr. A. D. Ursul's book on the ETI problem. I would be much obliged to you if I might avail myself of the facilities provided by your Mail Bag column and offer to the attention of your journal's readers the following advertisement:

The Shtiintsa (Science) Publishing House (Kishinev, U.S.S.R.) has just issued the book entitled *The Problem of Extraterrestrial Civilisations* by Dr. V. V. Rubtsov and Dr. A. D. Ursul. The

book is the first scientific work dealing comprehensively with the ETI problem. It surveys and analyzes, in particular, such questions as the history of the problem, the search for extra-terrestrial artifacts, the enigma of the Tunguska explosion, the problem of ancient Space visits to the Earth, etc. A special section is devoted to scientific investigations of the UFO phenomenon. Editors and Publishers from any country interested in publishing translations of this book are welcomed to contact the Soviet Copyright Agency (B. Bronnaya 6A, Moscow 103670 GSP, U.S.S.R.; telex: 7627 AVTOR SU) or directly the Shtiintsa Publishing House (Ul. Grosula 3, Kishinev 277028, U.S.S.R.).

Allow me once more to express my admiration about your splendid journal and to wish to you personally and to your colleagues every success in all your endeavours.

Sincerely,
Dr. Vladimir V. Rubtsov,
Ul. Chernishevskogo 88, kv. 66,
Kharkov 310023,
U.S.S.R.
October 22, 1984.

* *It is a tremendous pleasure to hear again from one of our Russian friends and readers, for I have maintained a cordial correspondence over many years with investigators in that country, and have also the happiest memories of being a member of Russian clubs and societies and of attending the Orthodox Church during the eleven years that I spent among the huge communities of kind and warm-hearted Russian people in Further Asia (all of whom knew how to vote with their feet, and did so.)*

However, Mr. Rubtsov takes a rather more charitable view of us than does a choleric Mr Ian Mrzyglod of Bristol, who wrote recently to tell us that "FSR has now become little more than a comic, digging up old and irrelevant cases from the 1950s, and making extremely STUPID remarks about demonic UFOs". — EDITOR.