

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ARGENTINA

Entity at Cerro del Valle

This account of an incident alleged to have taken place twenty years ago is taken from the newspaper *Córdoba* of December 31, 1972, where it appeared as a follow-up to the report of the experience of Señor Marcello Aballay and his three companions on December 23, 1972.*

"Sr. Aballay, who used to be a mica miner, and had his own mine at Cerro del Valle in the San Juan district, told our reporter that in 1953 a cousin of his, Eberto Villafañe, who worked with him at the mine, had gone out to look for guanacos, as the men (there were eight in all at the mine) were short of meat. At about midnight, Villafañe had unloaded his mule and made a primitive bed and gone to sleep. Suddenly he was woken by a feeling of malaise and an intense heat (which he realised was not the same thing as the feeling of distress experienced by the traveller when the hot Zonda wind strikes the region).

"He sat up, and saw what seemed to be a beautiful woman slowly approaching. He thought he must be dreaming but, getting to his feet, saw that she was making signs to him with her left hand as though asking him not to go away. This conduct on the part of the woman caused him to take a more careful look at her, and he then perceived that she was not wearing the usual clothing but a sort of tight-fitting green elastic mesh garment. Then he noticed that her feet had the shape of serpents' heads, with shining slanting eyes on the insteps. So, ignoring her signals, he fled the place and found somewhere else to sleep a couple of kilometres to the North.

"When he used to hear his cousin tell this story about the woman, Sr. Aballay told us he always thought that she was either the result of a nightmare through something his cousin had eaten, or the result of knocks on the head which he had received in a political brawl some years before, and which had left him a bit unbalanced mentally. Now, however, after seeing the procession of UFOs passing overhead, and feeling the sensation of great heat [see the account referred to below at*], he recalled his cousin's story about feeling great heat and seeing the 'woman' in green, and began to feel very differently about it.

"Continuing with details of his cousin's story, Sr. Aballay said that as

he fled from his improvised bed of sheepskins and pelts the cousin had looked back once at her, and had seen her settling down upon the pelts.

"When the cousin (who is now dead) had told Sr. Aballay about this experience, and Aballay had found the whole thing impossible, the cousin, Villafañe, showed him the sheepskins, which were still in his possession. Instead of their original colour, white, they were now yellowed, as though scorched."

Credit: Miss Jane Thomas, who also provided a translation.

UFO beams light on El Alto

Here is an account of a recent incident (unfortunately the date was not given) which was reported in the Buenos Aires newspaper, *La Razón*, on January 7, 1973.

"At the summer resort of El Alto, in the Catamarca region of the Andes, a UFO has been seen, of an apparent diameter of four times that of the Moon. According to the reports of the inhabitants of El Alto, the UFO was dish-shaped and its 'circular wings' were lit with a vivid red light while the 'nucleus' of the craft was a vivid white. Between the inner and the outer sections a number of small dark windows were visible. The mystery craft appeared towards the south-east of the town, in the direction of the Coyagasta dam, and was apparently hanging a few feet above the ground. Then it rocked to and fro and rose to a position a few metres higher, where it remained stationary for almost half an hour. The red and light beams from it were of such intensity that they lit up a vast area of the town, just as though there were a full moon. Finally, the UFO made off towards the S.E., climbing as it went, and was lost to sight in a few minutes.

Credit: Miss Jane Thomas.

BRAZIL

"Dino Kraspedon"

One of our informants in Brazil states that, so far as he can ascertain, this gentleman was released after a brief initial spell in prison, but was promptly re-arrested, and at the end of October 1972 was still in detention.

Our informant states that, shortly before "Dino's" arrest, he, the informant, had the opportunity to talk with the Master. The latter proved to be a modest enough sort of fellow, if we are to judge by his claims. He revealed that

he had invented a machine which demonstrates the reality of perpetual motion, and had designed the space-suits worn by American astronauts. In addition, he has made a translation of the Bible, served as a colonel in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, and is the Antichrist for this planet.—G.C.

CHILE

Shape-changing UFO stops car

From *La Crónica* (Buenos Aires) of January 3, 1973, we take this report of an incident which again, unhappily, is not dated, but which may well have occurred a day or two before publication in Argentina. The source of the report was ANSA, Santiago, Chile.

"An important businessman from Osorno, a town some 800 km. from Santiago, has stated that an unknown object twice flew over his car and stopped the engine. The man has not been identified except by his initials, O.K.L. He states that, shortly after midnight, as he and his wife were travelling by car, the engine suddenly stopped and at the same moment they saw pass overhead a flying object which resembled a gigantic bat, but which they later perceived to be a disc-shaped craft with a green light and a red light flashing on and off beneath it. As the object moved off, the engine came to life again without his having to switch it on."

Credit: Miss Jane Thomas.

ENGLAND

Another Dover object

The *Dover Express and East Kent News* of March 2, 1973, carried the following account:

"Mr. Garry Gill (27) of Park Avenue, Dover was driving into Dover in Green Lane, Buckland Estate, about 9.45 p.m. on Saturday with two companions.

"We saw this bright object in the sky over what I considered to be the St. Radigunds Abbey area. It was an orange pink colour.

"I set off after it and we had it in view for about 15 minutes. It was not a star. At one stage I believe we were about 200 yards from the object. It hovered above thorn bushes about three-quarters of a mile on the other side of St. Radigunds Abbey, and about 100 yards above the ground.

"Suddenly it began fading and took on a red colour. While it was bright it

did not illuminate the area. After about 15 minutes it disappeared. It was very strange,' says Garry, who is a clerical worker with Seaspeed."

Credit: **Ian Taylor** of Dover.

"Cigarette" UFO over Essex

Another of those sightings of a distant object which so frequently turn out to be misidentifications was reported in the *Colchester Evening Gazette* of Monday, February 26, 1973:

"Housewife Elsie Long . . . got up early on Saturday morning to put the dog out, when a bright light in the sky caught her eye.

"It was a cigarette shape and very bright,' said Elsie, of South Close, Halstead.

"It was stationary for about five minutes. Then the tail faded and it moved off slowly. It seemed to be spinning very fast by the way it caught the sun,' she said.

"I know it wasn't a plane or a helicopter, I just don't know what it was. I have always been interested in reading other people's stories of UFOs but this is the only one I have ever seen."

"After the object disappeared she went back to bed and told her husband what she had seen. 'He just laughed,' she said."

* * * * *

The *Colchester Evening Gazette* of February 27, 1973, printed two confirming reports by un-named witnesses, one of whom, a woman pensioner, stated that the early morning object was coloured a bright yellow. Then, on March 2, 1973, the same newspaper published a letter from a Mr. G. W. F. Ennew, of The Avenue, Wivenhoe:

"I was not surprised when I read of Mrs Long's sighting of a UFO around 7 am. I was in Marks Tey on the same morning.

"The object I saw was in the east, and I just couldn't keep my eyes off it.

"It was a most beautiful golden colour, which I kept sight of for all of 15 minutes. When I first saw it, it seemed like a massive saucer flat on its back, then it appeared to come upright, the sun's reflection apparently giving it a cigarette shape, confirming what Mrs Long saw. I do know one thing, I am not laughing."

Credit: **Ray Wilkinson** of Colchester.

Buttertubs UFO

The following account is taken from *The Northern Echo* of March 26, 1973—

"A greengrocer was recovering from shock yesterday after being buzzed by an unidentified flying object.

"In the very early hours of Saturday morning, 17-year-old Alan Blades, of Hawes, was driving over the bleak and lonely Buttertubs Pass connecting Wensleydale with Swaledale.

"As he approached the downhill run to Hawes from the moorland pass, famous for its limestone formations which resemble buttertubs, he saw a red glowing oval shape just above his car and between it and the 2,000ft. summit of Stags Fell.

"Alan said yesterday: 'At first I thought the car lights were shining on something, but when I stopped and switched them off it was still there. I did not dare switch the engine off in case it would not start again.

"At first it was upright but then seemed to cant to one side and move slowly away. As I watched it seemed that the underpart was spinning.

"By this time I was scared stiff and set off for home. As I approached the first houses at Simonside it had been keeping pace with me, but then suddenly it accelerated to the South-East."

"Neighbours in Hawes yesterday described Alan, who works in his father's greengrocery business, as a very rational and sensible man who does not drink. He had been to a dance in Swaledale on Friday evening and had then taken his girlfriend home before driving the six miles over the pass.

"Alan's father, Mr Joe Blades, said: 'When he got in he woke us all up and we hardly slept anymore for talking about it.'

"His wife added: 'Alan was in a terrible state, as white as a sheet and in tears when he arrived home.'

"This is the second time in a few months that UFOs have been spotted in the Buttertubs area. The first time Alan's brother, Bob, with his wife Elsie, were driving into Swaledale when they saw a similar object some distance away.

"On the same night Elsie's father, farmer Laurie Peacock, of Scar House in Swaledale, saw a curious object in the sky but too far away to identify.

"An official at RAF Leeming confirmed they had nothing in the area at the time."

Credit: **Mrs. U. A. C. Bernard** of Coundon, Bishop Auckland.

GRENADA, WEST INDIES

Diamond-shaped UFO

The following is a report made by Timothy Ashby, an American, age 18 years, of Westerhall Pt., Grenada, West Indies.

"At 11.15 p.m. on February 19, 1972, I was awakened by a bright light in the sky outside the open door of my apartment. Curious, I went outside on to the patio where the object was more easily observed. To the naked eye it appeared at least five times larger than the stars in the sky.

"The object was situated above the nearby peninsula of Bacolet in an East-North-Easterly direction. From my viewing point, the object was at an angle of roughly 35° E.

"I was able to see the UFO quite clearly through field-glasses. It appeared to be roughly diamond shaped, although flattened at the top and bottom with no definable points to the shape. In the centre of the object was a row of lights, that flashed alternately yellow, green, and blue. Surrounding this the object was covered by a bright red glow, which seemed to continually flicker around the edges of the object.

"After watching the object for thirty minutes, during which time it remained stationary, I woke my mother and brother to verify the sighting. About ten minutes following this, the object began to climb slowly upwards until it reached an angle of roughly 80° where again it stopped and remained stationary for a few minutes. After this the noise from a jet could be heard as it passed close to Grenada. I have no idea whether it was commercial or a Military jet. After another quarter of an hour the object dwindled to a tiny point and vanished."

Credit: **Denis Malins-Smith**, who writes that since the date of this report members of the Ashby family have seen another strange light in the sky which they couldn't explain.

NEW ZEALAND

Speedy Dunedin UFO

From the *Dunedin Evening Star* of February 19, 1972, comes the following report:

"Two groups of people reported sighting a UFO at 11.20 a.m., one at East Taieri and the other in Gilkison Street, Dunedin.

"From Gilkison Street, two men, one a professional mechanical engineer, sighted the UFO travelling north for about 5sec. before it disappeared behind Flagstaff.

"The engineer, also an amateur astronomer, calculated the minimum speed of the object to be 1,800m.p.h. 'Because it disappeared behind Flagstaff it must have been at least two miles away; I allowed three in my calculations. We watched it for 5sec. during which time it travelled through about an angle of 60 degrees. This makes its minimum speed 1,800m.p.h. If it was further than three miles away its speed would have been greater.'

"Describing the UFO as luminous and cigar shaped with a small 'ball of fire' following it the engineer admitted he did not believe in UFOs. 'If it was a meteor it was a huge one and its trajectory was different.' It was travel-

ling parallel to the western horizon.

"I know all the planets and constellations but have never seen anything like this before. It seemed to be travelling horizontally but could have been rising as our view was sometimes obstructed by houses," said the engineer who did not want his name published.

"The two men in East Taieri, Mr Major Miller and Mr Ken Bailey, watched the UFO for about 20sec. Mr. Miller described it as huge, with a bright yellow nose with the yellow changing to bright red towards the tail. 'It made no noise and looked like an aircraft taking off but was going far too fast to be one. It seemed to have a flaming tail following it and after about 20 seconds it just vanished.'

"Momonā airport closed at 9.20 p.m. so no radar operators observed the UFO. The only suggestion the aerodrome superintendent could make as to the object's identification was that it was a weather balloon . . ."

Credit: J. J. Burton of Dunedin.

U.S.A.

Piedmont, Missouri, flap

The following paragraphs have been extracted from a UPI report carried in the March 24, 1973, issue of *The Grand Rapids Press* (Michigan):

"There have been hundreds of reports of strange flashing lights in the sky around this countryside noted for its rich lead fields, and a UFO researcher thinks they are caused by a mining expedition from outer space . . .

"Hundreds of people in this Ozarks community of 2,000 have reported seeing strange flashing lights, either high in the sky or at treetop level. Some say the objects that give off the light surfaced from nearby Clearwater Lake . . .

"The common description coming from Piedmont sightings is that the light is red, then turns multi-coloured while spinning white, green, red and amber lights. It moves without a sound and is very fast.

"Researcher Hayden C. Hewes said his UFO logging bureau has collected three types of evidence of the brightly lit red and amber UFO. He said there have been multiple witnesses, photographic evidence and electrical interference with television sets at the time of nearby sightings . . .

"Townpeople say there have been reports of unusual lights in the sky since 1942. However the recent rash of sightings began the night of Feb. 21.

"Reggie Bone, basketball coach at Piedmont High School, said a bright light followed the car in which he and five athletes were riding a desolate road from Ellsinore to Piedmont. The light,

Bone said, stopped and hovered over a field about 100 yards from the road. The object suddenly rose and disappeared at a high speed."

Credit: Jerome S. Gardeski of Grand Rapids, Mich.

U.S.S.R.

Visitors to Russia see UFO

Mrs. Judith Gee of Hampstead, London, reports that she and her husband saw an unusual phenomenon at about 10.00 p.m., local Russian time, on May 29, 1972, soon after leaving Smolensk, as they were travelling with a coach-party of tourists to Moscow. In a region where there is nothing for hundreds of miles but birch forests, they saw, away to their left (the North), "at about cloud height or lower," an orange object, larger than Venus, which paced their coach for a full minute, then dimmed to half-brilliance and finally blinked out. It was a pitch-dark night outside the coach, and they had the sensation of being under surveillance. The Russian woman courier Natalie C-, who was sitting in front with the Gees, also saw the object.

The point of occurrence was about 100 miles west of Moscow, and there was no other traffic on the road. The date coincided with President Nixon's visit to Moscow.

WALES

Hovering saucer at Croespenmaen

In an account in the *Western Mail* of April 10, 1973, we read how—

"The little mining village of Croespenmaen, near Crumlin, does not have many visitors—but two strange ones have been reported there during the past six months.

"Six months ago about 20 people—including policemen—reported a flying saucer-shaped object in the sky.

"And on Sunday evening [April 8], Mr. Glanmor Bebb, aged 52, and his wife, June, of Maes-yr-Haf, watched a similar-shaped object for about 10 minutes as it hovered above an empty advance factory.

"It hovered and then flashed across the horizon faster than the eye could follow," said Mr. Bebb, who is war-pensioned because of a hearing defect.

"In September last year Mr. Robert Phillips, aged 24, a plumber, of Meadow Walk, Croespenmaen, saw a similar object like a flying saucer in the sky. There were many other reports of sightings at the time.

"Mr. Phillips watched it for about 30 minutes through a telescope. The sighting by Mr. and Mrs. Bebb was in a similar spot, in the north-west,

towards the Brecon Beacons.

"Mrs. Bebb said that the object she saw was hovering 300 yards away. 'I did not know what it was but it definitely was not an aircraft light or a star,' she said.

"Mr. Bebb added, 'I cannot stand glare but I was able to watch this object. It was like a dim light bulb.' He said he had reported the incident to Blackwood police."

Credit: F. W. Holiday of Haverfordwest.

Another account of the same incident appeared in the *South Wales Argus* of April 10, 1973. We include extracts which differ in detail regarding the witnesses and the duration of their observations.

"I don't believe in all this bull about space ships and all that," he said.

"But when the object hovering near his home at Maes-yr-haf House swung away at high speed he ran to his home to alert his wife, June, he said on Tuesday.

"I had counted only to four, and it swung away towards the horizon. My wife, June, and daughter Sarah, aged three, both saw what seemed to be a diffused light. But by the time they spotted it, it was nearing the horizon," he said."

Credit: A. Badham of Newbridge, Newport.

[We trust someone will be able to discover which is the correct version—EDITOR.]

Coming shortly . . .

FSR CASE HISTORIES Supplement 15, June 1973

Highlights will include:

The great 'Cross' above the Vatican

Dr. Alberto Perego

UFO hovers over Crawley transformer

H. Watkins

When a UFO came to Abee (Alberta)

Ashley Pachal

The Los Angeles Basin sightings—1

Ann Druffel

UFO with Light Beams over N.E. France

LDLN Investigator

More on

The Investigations of General Uchoa in Brazil

Gordon Creighton

MAIL BAG

Important airship flap

Dear Sir,—I am attempting to gather material for a detailed study of the "airships" which were observed widely during the latter 19th Century and the early years of the 20th. The most famous sightings were those made in the United States during 1896 and 1897, of course, but readers of FSR will be familiar as well with others in Wales, New Zealand and South Africa.

One of the most potentially important of the airship flaps has been completely ignored, however—the one that occurred in Germany during the 1850s. For reasons too complex to explain in this short space, this might well be the pivotal event of the entire airship saga. If I am right in my surmise, we could be a long way toward solving the airship enigma if we had the details of this particular flap at our disposal.

I urge German readers interested in unearthing these early reports to write me at first opportunity. I would like to emphasise again that research into the question is imperative if we are ever to hope to find the truth about the airships.

Yours sincerely,
Jerome Clark,
504 South 6th Street, Moorhead,
Minnesota 56560, U.S.A.

ITF

Dear Sir,—If only as a curiosity, those who are interested in such things as the concept of *ITF* may like to take a look at the detailed description, given in Daniel Fry's book *The White Sands Incident* (1952), of precisely how his "Space Visitors" allegedly went about the complicated job of teleporting their great "mother-ships" from their home planet to the surface of our Earth.

Gavin Gibbons included the account, for the benefit of British readers, in his book *They Rode In Space Ships*, published some years ago by Neville Spearman of London.

Although I have met the American rocket engineer Daniel Fry, and have heard him recount his extraordinary story of the White Sands episode, in which he claims that a small remote-controlled and unoccupied disc landed in the New Mexico desert on the evening of July 4, 1952, and took him for a flight, at 80,000 feet, to New York and back, in half an hour or so, I naturally have no idea of how much truth (if any) there is in it all. But, now that a

few people are beginning to think quite seriously about *ITF*, it might be wise to look again at what Daniel Fry wrote about it *no less than twenty years ago*.

Yours truly,
Gordon Creighton,
London.
February 20, 1973.

Cause of the Eerie Night?

Dear Sir,—Recently I was reading "The Marvels of Animal Behaviour" published by the National Geographic Society and the section on bats brought to my mind an article in Volume 16, No. 4 of *Flying Saucer Review* (July/August 1970).

This article, "Eerie Night at the Château des Martins," mentioned "The Monster of the Forest of Moulrière," and it occurred to me that this "monster" may have been some species of large bat. I enclose a rough sketch of one of the photographs from the National Geographic publication and a short quotation from the text. Although this publication says that giant bats are only found in the tropics, this may not be strictly true. It seems to me that the gamekeeper who shot



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.

the creature could have mistaken ears for "horns" if he was expecting to see the devil.

Yours truly,
Sheila Davis (Mrs.),
Old Carp Road, South March,
R.R.1 Kanata, Ontario, Canada.
December 28, 1972.

On "Gobbledygook"

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in Gordon Creighton's article "Gobbledygook" (FSR for November/December '72). Regarding the item "Voices on tape," I wondered whether it would be possible for a tape recorder to pick up radio waves from a long distance. Something like this could account for the jumble of languages, although not the rhythm of the voices. I put this question to a man who is an expert in electronics: he seemed to think it might be possible if the tape recorder had something which would act as a "rectifier"—I think that was what he called it.

This man told me of a true case he'd heard of: how a man was walking under the radio masts of one of the big broadcasting stations, and he heard the programme which was at that time being broadcast, *in his mouth!* He wasn't carrying a transistor set, oh no! A metal filling in a tooth had acted as this "rectifier" (or whatever the word is) ["Detector"?—ED.]. I know nothing of the workings of radio, but I did think the voices on the tape could have had a similar cause.

Yours truly,
Betty Allen,
Poolbrook Road, Malvern.

UFOs and battery-radio "blackouts"

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Creighton's remark, in the article *Brazil Once More* (FSR, September/October 1972), concerning the rarity of cases in which it has been reported that battery-operated radios have been blacked out in the vicinity of a UFO, I find, on doing some research into this matter, that in fact there seems to be only one other case on record where it is specifically stated that the radio affected was battery-operated. This is the well-known case which occurred on November 6, 1957, north of Ottawa, and is reported on page 75 of NICAP's *The UFO Evidence*.

Their account reads:
"Battery radio and portable short-wave radio failed, then single tone