

World round-up

of news and comment
about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Luminous wheel near Hengistbury Head

Graham Wye of Poole, Dorset, sent us an intriguing report from the *Bournemouth Evening Echo* of February 12, 1973. The sighting was made in the early hours of February 11, 1973, by Mr. Carl Whiteley, a staff reporter on that newspaper. This is his account:

"This is a story I have been waiting to write since first I heard of flying saucers . . .

"For 45 breath-taking minutes early yesterday I watched a mysterious disc-shaped object travelling across the clear, moonlit sky.

"It was like a huge luminous wheel and it moved silently, slowly on its end in a straight line from west to south. As it came closer it appeared to be rotating.

"I was on auxiliary coast guard duty in the look-out hut on Hengistbury Head. Visibility was exceptionally good. With the powerful binoculars I could pick out cars across the bay at Swanage. So I pointed the lenses towards the westerly sky to view the stars.

"Through the mass of twinkling lights emerged a moving light high over the Purbecks. At first it gave the impression of a luminous tube. But as it moved southwards its circular shape became apparent.

"It was not an aircraft and it could not have been a cloud or weather balloon for it later returned westward against the wind, banking at an angle as it disappeared.

"The experience was uncanny, perhaps haunting. The UFO was like a phantom gliding through the night sky.

"Over the years I have reported other people's sightings . . . but this was my own observation! And auxiliary coastguard colleague, Mike Parker, well known fisherman of Gentle Calm, Mudeford Quay, was my witness. He, too, saw the mystery object.

"Some 20 years ago Mike and his brother, Charles, saw a cigar-shaped object in the sky while night fishing at Mudeford.

"The flying disc was not visible to the naked eye. It must have been at a vast height and being so high one can assume it was of great size."

Flying 'Polo-mint'

Mr. Wye included another cutting from the *Bournemouth Evening Echo*

with the one given above. Unfortunately no date was given for it, but as it mentions the sighting of a disc-shaped object with a hole in it there may be a connection with Mr. Whiteley's sighting, and therefore worth quoting:

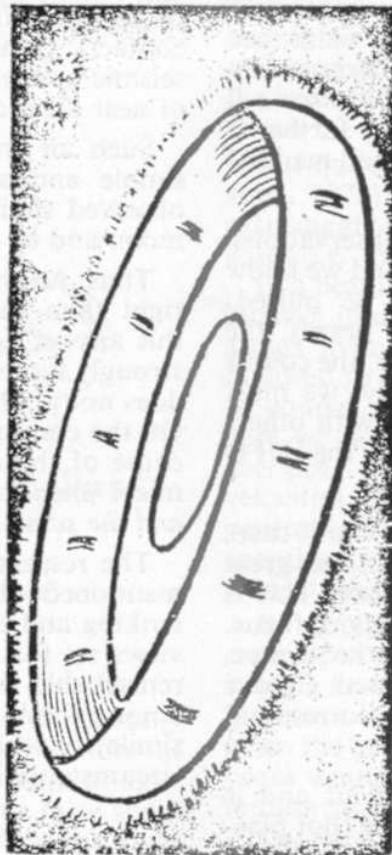
"Strange lights in the sky have again been spotted by youngsters from Fern-down Common. A group of Scouts leaving their Scout hut at about 10 p.m. watched four lights hover close together for about a minute, descend slowly out of sight and then rise again.

"At first there were three lights and then a fourth joined them," said one of the youngsters.

"About four weeks ago a mysterious object, said to look like a flying 'Polo' mint, was seen by Scouts on the common."

'Saucer' with dome and 'portholes'

We wrote to Mr. Whiteley, hoping he might be able to tell us the date of the Boy Scouts' sighting. This he wasn't able to do as he did not write that particular report, but he told us



Looking like an enormous luminous wheel—an artist's impression of what reporter Carl Whiteley saw

about an equally interesting sighting he made a week later, and which was not published in the newspaper:

"On the following Saturday evening, February 17, 1973, at about 7.45 p.m. I saw an even more convincing sight. I had my binoculars on another "luminous wheel" coming over from the West, over the sea, when suddenly I was aware of an orange coloured movement. It seemed to come from the wheel. I fixed the binoculars on the orange object and it was clearly the shape of a flying saucer complete with dome and what appeared to be portholes. The bottom section—the circular section below the dome—appeared to rotate. It hovered, then moved slightly upwards and finally disappeared out of sight. I observed the object for about six or seven seconds. It was unbelievable. This was not witnessed by anyone else with me. But I am sure of what I saw. I checked for reflections but could find none. The same evening, a little later, I saw a similar object for about two seconds as it came into my vision while I was peering at the night sky.

"I did not report this in my paper. Too many sightings—particularly one like this—by a newspaper reporter could perhaps have resulted in a discredit by those who shut their eyes to UFOs.

"The UFO, by the way, would have been about a quarter the size of the full moon, looking at the moon with the naked eye. I was viewing the object through binoculars of a 124 magnification."

* * *

Mr. Whiteley tells us in his letter that he has been watching the night sky, as an auxiliary coastguard, for 15 years. During that time he has seen many strange lights, but has not written about them because he felt they could have been accounted for—though on each occasion his interest was aroused. But the sightings of February 11 and 17 were different and convinced him that UFOs are at large.

EILEEN BUCKLE.

UFO up before the "beak"

From the *Ashbourne News Telegraph* (Notts) of November 2, 1972, we learn that a mystery object appeared before a local magistrate—

"An exceptionally bright object was seen by Ashbourne magistrate Mrs. M. R. H. Sadler, of 2, Coachmans Close, Ashbourne, as she was driving

down Green Lane towards Clifton last week.

"She pointed this out to a passenger in her car, Mrs. A. Hughes of Mayfield Road, as they were travelling to the Clifton Smith Hall at about 6.55 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24th.

"The object, which was at an angle of about 45 degrees from ground level and moving at what seemed to be a fairly fast speed, was first thought by Mrs. Sadler to be the planet Venus but when the two women arrived in Clifton Mrs. Hughes noticed the object had appeared to stop above a group of trees in the village and again they examined it, this time more closely.

"Mrs. Sadler told the 'Ashbourne News Telegraph' that although it was possible to imagine spikes sticking out of the sides of the object and a fluctuating emission of light she was certain that it had been moving and then stopped—a fact that was borne out by the object's relative position to a telegraph pole.

"It was this changing of motion that had aroused her interest and along with other women at Clifton Smith Hall that evening kept an eye on the 'saucer.'

"Keeping note of its position in the sky, Mrs. Sadler found the object almost stationary until about 7.40 p.m. when it sank slowly to disappear from view after dipping behind a tree.

"The ladies would be interested to hear if anyone else witnessed this unidentified flying object."

ANTARCTICA

Officially observed UFOs

The following item is taken from the newspaper *Cronica*, of Santiago de Chile, for May 19, 1972—

"A UFO has been observed on two occasions in the Antarctic by officers of the Chilean Air Force and the Army, it was officially announced here.

"According to the bulletin released by the Air Force, the UFO had been seen on Saturday [May 13, 1972] in the Antarctic for about 15 minutes, towards the South West, in a stationary position with a 15° inclination. Its luminosity was three times greater than that of a star and varied from red to green and to a greyish blue. The report states that no noticeable alterations were observed in the radio system, but that in the 3,200 kilocycles waveband the signals were weaker due to the presence of the UFO. However, communication with the continent was not interrupted.

"The sighting took place on a clear moonlit night without wind, but the officers could not take a photograph of the object. This sighting coincided with another which took place on May 8 at the Military Base of the

Antarctic, where seven members of the Chilean Army watched the passing of a UFO going in a north-easterly direction. The reports despatched to Santiago declared that while the object remained stationary there were noticeable alterations in the radio communications."

Credit to Miss E. Greinert, Buenos Aires, Argentina who also sent a translation.

ARGENTINA

Mar del Plata UFO

This report is taken from *La Razón* of May 2, 1971—

"Last night at about 9.00 p.m., Armando Lenzi and his family were walking by the seaside when their attention was called to an intensely luminous object over the coast. This unknown object of elliptical shape remained stationary over the same spot for several minutes, and its very strong light caused many of the occasional passers-by and residents of the street along the coast and of Pueyrredon to join Lenzi and observe it. After this time, the light started to change from a violent red to blue, after which it moved with unusual speed towards the west, making a half circle before disappearing into the darkness of the horizon. 'A flying saucer,' said the many witnesses of this occurrence.

"Later it was learned that a cameraman of a Buenos Aires television channel had been able to film this happening, so that if the filming has been successful, it will be possible to see clearly the characteristics of this object.

"It is not the first time that flying saucers or UFOs have appeared over the Pearl of the Atlantic (*Mar del Plata*). On July 11, 1968, a flying saucer was seen zig-zagging from west to east from the control tower of the local airport. On the same day, at the intersection of the Maritime Boulevard and Avenida Luro, several witnesses observed three UFOs with extraordinary lights making strange manoeuvres. In August of the same year, four persons travelling by car near this city saw two luminous points on the road, and on coming nearer found that they were two objects with the shape of soup plates joined together; after a few minutes they disappeared at great speed."

Credit: Miss Edith Greinert, who also provided a translation, and who writes:

"The film taken in *Mar del Plata* was subsequently shown on television—one could see a very bright round light moving over the city lights, but due to the intense light no shape of any object was visible."

"Mother ship" seen by pilots

From the columns of *La Razón* for February 9, 1972, comes the following report—

"The pilot and co-pilot of the plane AVRO 748-LV-IEE, of Aerolineas Argentinas, were on a freight-flight from Catamarca to Buenos Aires with a stop at Córdoba. On arrival at the metropolitan airport, they reported that while flying between San Nicolas and Ramallo, they saw in front of them a strong light in the shape of a UFO 'mother-ship.'

"Cayetano Trigo, with 27 years of flying experience, and Alberto Parcampo, with 9 years of flying experience, stated that the strange object accompanied them for 5 minutes while changing colour from yellow to red and then to a greenish blue—always very bright. This fact was later confirmed by the meteorological observatory of Mar del Plata, situated at the military base. Moreover, several people walking along the promenade at midnight saw the strange light which flew horizontally from south to east."

Credit to Miss E. Greinert, and thanks for the translation.

VENEZUELA

MIB in a sports car!

Here is an old report which has come to us from Argentina (see note below)—

"A Spanish physician, Dr. Guillermo Arguelles de la Motta, a resident of Madrid, relates in a letter to the local evening paper *El Mundo*, the experience he had while visiting Dr. Antonio Arocha at the latter's country house near the town of San Juan de los Morros, 145 Kms. to the east of Caracas.

"At 6.00 p.m. he was in the company of his host and family, when suddenly they saw two men dressed in black (*curious detail*), with red ties and dark glasses, alight from a brand new vermilion *Mustang* about 500 m. from the house. The gentlemen waited for about five minutes, then fastened orange-coloured belts around their waists, while talking quietly to each other. All of a sudden there appeared a brilliant object in the sky which rapidly descended to within 60 cms. of the ground. It was bell-shaped in the lower part and had a tower on the upper part of the bell. It was about 30 metres in diameter. But what surprised them most was its rapid change of colour: from light orange to blue and then to white. As it became stationary it gyrated at nearly 180°. Then a tiny ladder, parabolic in shape, was lowered from the base, which allowed the two gentlemen from the *Mustang* to go

(continued on page iii)

MAIL BAG

Capt. Ivar Mackay on Demons

Dear Sir,—May I say how much I enjoyed reading Aimé Michel's fine contribution "Of Gods, Genii, Heroes and Entities," so ably translated by Mr. Gordon Creighton, in your March/April 1973 issue. I was, however, a little apprehensive of your reader's reception of it due to the unfortunate use of the word "demon" which was consistently used throughout the article. Michel's apologia for using this word, I feel, is insufficient to still the qualms of those readers who might be unversed in the philosophic and theosophic terms of those times.

Both the Greek *δαίμόνια*, more usually and accurately rendered, *daimones*, and the Roman, *daemon*, are synonymous, and translated mean: inferior race of divine beings; spirits holding a middle place between gods and men; a guardian spirit. Nevertheless *daimones*, as G. R. S. Mead points out, "... may be good or bad; they are not necessarily bad like the demons of the Christians."

The early Christian Fathers owed much of their basic philosophy and metaphysic to the Kabalists, Platonists, Pythagoreans, Neo-Platonists, *et al.*, and they naturally discarded those concepts which they found to be incompatible with their own. Consequently the poor *daimones* were subtly linked with the entities inhabiting those regions dominated by the Devil (the god of Saturn suffered much the same indignity when he became associated with Lucifer). It is thus, though in fact the process is far more complex, that through conformation to Christian dogma, inaccurate translation of the Greek New Testament sources and illiterate public usage, a *demon* has become associated, in the minds of the masses, with evil.

There exists a massive body of literature available to anybody wishing to delve further into the exercise set by Aimé Michel. To name but a few—the Corpus Hermeticum, Pistis Sophia, The Celestial Hierarchies of Dionysius the Areopagite, and the invaluable works of G. R. S. Mead on Hellenistic Theosophy, the Gnosis and other teachings, are to be recommended as being relative to the subject.

Incidentally, a slim volume of a new translation of The Golden Verses of Pythagoras was published by the editors of a journal entitled *The Shrine of Wisdom* in 1929; it is, of course,

out of print but one might be fortunate in obtaining a copy second-hand.

Yours sincerely,
E. A. I. Mackay,
5 Pitt Street, London W8.
June 14, 1973

Monsters and UFOs at Loch Ness

Dear Sir,—I recently read the January/February copy of FSR with great interest and particularly F. W. Holiday's article concerning "Dragons and UFOs at Loch Ness."

Having read Guy Underwood's accounts of dowsing, particularly the spiral formations occurring with great regularity upon ancient burial sites or stone circles, my attention was caught by the reference Mr. Holiday makes to the findings of the Vickers Submarine *Pisces*, after completing 47 dives in the loch in 1969.

I recall vague newspaper reports confirming a negative result, i.e. no monster, and that seemed to be that. However, this article has revived my interest somewhat.

Is it possible for you to inform me where I might obtain a copy of the "Report" mentioned in the References, at the end of the article—any information would be most welcome.

Yours sincerely,
G. D. Smith,
18 Chapel Lane, Headingley,
Leeds 6, Yorkshire.
April 5, 1973.

Suggested hypotheses

Dear Sir,—I was very pleased to read in your July/August, 1972, issue of FSR an increasing number of objective articles, which include two statistical studies. I gain the impression that UFO societies in other countries, especially the U.S.A., are becoming much more scientific in their approach to research, and have many highly qualified scientists acting as consultants, whereas few British scientists will even read the facts published.

I should like to suggest one or two hypotheses which might be considered by FSR readers who are interested.

1. Most UFOs can emit pulsed radiation which produces an ionised plasma around them. Stephen Pratt and his father at Conisbrough, Yorkshire, on March 28, 1966, saw a bright light moving through the sky, but the photograph they took showed three

saucers. If the shutter speed coincided with a shutdown phase of ionisation, it may be possible for anyone to repeat the effect by using a stroboscope with or without a camera. I have experimented with neon and xenon stroboscopic lamps as the flashing source and a slotted disc stroboscope as detector. I was able to change a rate of 2,000 flashes per minute, which appears as a fairly steady light to the unaided eye, into a rate of less than 50 flashes per minute, thus enabling the unlit lamp-holder to be seen by reflected sunlight. This is simply a suggestion to help to cut down the glare from a UFO if it is extremely bright. However, if a camera is also available the picture could be interesting if taken through the revolving disc.

2. UFOs can cause motor vehicle cut-outs and power drops. These could result from

(a) a drop in atmospheric pressure, or

(b) current leakage due to heavy ionisation of the surrounding air (or battery), or a combination of both. Statistical studies and laboratory tests could help to assess how easily either of these events could occur.

3. The blue glow around UFOs is the Tcherenkov effect, due to the emission of tachyons. This requires much more informed guidance than I can offer. I teach mathematics and I am in a senior post at a comprehensive school, however, my knowledge of physics is insufficient to follow up this last hypothesis.

If anyone has already studied these aspects, it would be interesting to hear of the results. I do feel that the construction of hypotheses and suitable tests to verify them would help our understanding of this phenomenon.

Yours sincerely,
Charles F. Lockwood,
5 The Ridgeway, Farnsfield,
Newark, Notts.
October 30, 1972.

[We apologise for the delay in printing this interesting letter—EDITOR.]

The psychokinesis hypothesis

Dear Sir,—It is difficult to settle on a hypothesis for the origin of UFOs, but I am forced to consider the least implausible one. Extraterrestrials, ultra-terrestrials? Not quite. Occam's razor cannot cut away psychokinesis of

which *humanity* is the agent. Miles up in the air there could be materialisations produced by the society occupying the ground below. The surface experiences, too, could be psychokinetic phenomena of which contactees themselves are agents. (Psychokinesis of the most fantastic kind is made more plausible after reading about Ted Serios' thoughtography and other spectacular cases in

psychical research.)

C. G. Jung (in *Flying Saucers*) and Aniela Jaffé (in *Apparitions and Precognition*) have related flying saucers and apparitions, respectively, to the psyche. Jacques Vallée (in *Passport to Magonia*) has related UFO sightings to folklore. It is now the task of other groups of specialists, such as parapsychologists and sociologists, to work on the relationships between the

aspirations and fears of humanity, on one hand, and the characteristics of UFO sightings, on the other, bearing in mind that the sightings are of physically real objects that may be anthropogenic materialisations.

Sincerely yours,
Seymour Newman,
501 West 123 Street,
New York, N.Y. 10027, U.S.A.
June 9, 1973.

WORLD ROUND-UP—(Continued from page 31)

aboard calmly and with aplomb. As the ladder was withdrawn, the vehicle slightly inclined to the left and, floating on an inclined trajectory, then shot into the sky at an impressive speed.

"The physician added that it was, of course, no helicopter. It was soundless and of a completely unknown and unconventional shape."

Credit: **Miss Edith Greinert** of Buenos Aires, who provided the translation, and who writes: "Unfortunately this clipping was handed to me without the name of the newspaper or the date. It is probably from *La Razón* between June and August, 1971."

IRELAND

UFO, or gas?

This account is taken from *The Irish Times* of May 16, 1973 [as *Skylab is still aloft at time of going to press, we can rule out that explanation—ED*].—

"Between 11 o'clock and midnight last night telephone callers from Malin Head to Shannon Airport anxiously rang both Armagh and Dunsink Observatories (each received almost 50 calls), Dublin Airport and newspaper offices with inquiries about a "large bright stationary object" seen in the northern sky.

"A caller from Kilkenny to *The Irish Times* said: 'At first I thought it was the reflection of a searchlight on cloud, but there is no beam coming up from the ground and it is a fairly cloudless night'. Another caller suggested that it might be the U.S. space-laboratory, Skylab, burning up.

"Nobody could identify the object with any certainty. Dublin Airport traffic control office thought it might be the Aurora Borealis (the Northern Lights). A spokesman at Dunsink Observatory said: 'It may be a cloud of gas very high in the atmosphere being illuminated by the sun'.

"At 12.30 this morning it was still there, as bright, as stationary and as mysterious as ever."

Credit: **Julian Shanahan** of Dublin.

BRAZIL

A smart fire-ball, and other matters

Gordon Creighton writes that the

three cases that follow should be read in conjunction with Dr. Walter Buhler's article *More Teleportations and Levitations* in *FSR* for January/February 1973 as they originate from the same area of Southern Brazil and all have been probed by the energetic investigation groups in that part of the country.

A SMART "FIRE-BALL"

At a place some 2 kms. from Canelinha (State of Santa Catarina, South Brazil) on several successive nights in 1972, dozens of people observed a red "fire-ball" travelling about over the fields near the Morro do Rolador (a hill). It moved along slowly and (so most folk said, silently) at a height of no more than a few metres from the ground, never changing colour, and maintaining its perfectly round shape, "round, like the Moon." Whenever anybody tried to get near it with a weapon in his hand, or accompanied by a dog, it "went out, as though by magic."

One man, Sr. Ilton Dias, was chased by the thing. It was on one of the religious festival days. Dancing was going on in a hall, and in order to prevent the "fire-ball" from getting into the building, the people shut all the windows. The episode was witnessed by the whole crowd of people attending at the hall.

This case, with many others in the same area, was carefully investigated, on the spot, by the members of the GPECE UFO Investigation Group of Curitiba (city in the State of Paraná), and these investigators found, after questioning a great many of the witnesses, that the press-reports had been correct.

Interviewed by the investigators, Sr. Ilton Dias told them that the strange "fire-ball" did make a noise. He said it was accompanied by a rumbling noise like the sound of a truck moving slowly. He said the size of the thing was about the size of a truck-tyre, and he said its luminosity (red) was much greater on the upper portion. He said that the lower side, towards the ground, was less bright. When seen from a distance the thing always looked red,

but when it was seen at close quarters it seemed to be bluish.

MORE DWARFS

The following case occurred in the same region as the foregoing at Fernandes, 4 kms. from São João Batista, at 7.30 p.m. on May 19, 1969.

Two women, Dona Aurora and her sister-in-law Clair Mefessoli, were going to a neighbour's house to get some milk. Coming round a bend in the road, 300 metres from their destination, they saw a light coming from behind them and, turning round, saw a luminous object descend almost to the ground and two little men, with features like those of humans, emerge from it.

The women, who ran in terror, said the little beings were about a metre in height. Dona Aurora's father-in-law, who lived close by, arrived on the scene, but by the time he got there the thing had left, she said, and he only saw the light of it.

The women said that the shape of the thing was elongated and that its colour resembled the yellowish light of electric light.

A TASTE FOR SUGAR?

Two weeks before that (first week of May, 1969) a truck was travelling along the road from Tigipió to São João, near Colônia. It was four o'clock in the morning, and the truck was carrying three passengers and a load of sugar cane. For a long time they were accompanied by a strange yellowish light, about 50 cms. wide, which kept sweeping round the truck, at times almost touching the sugar cane, while the truck bowled along at 40 kms. per hour through the night.

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These three reports come from Eduardo Santa Maria's series of nine articles on UFOs in the Rio de Janeiro newspaper *O Dia* between October 26 and November 4, 1972. The greater part of the series dealt with the investigations of General Uchoa, published elsewhere, in *FSR Case Histories*—EDITOR.