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EDITORIAL

When I was a little girl in a Cape Town, S. Africa, boarding school, I used to keep the other small children entertained at night by telling them stories. The stories always ended happily. There were good fairies and bad fairies and often monsters (UFOs had not yet entered my vocabulary), but in the end the baddies got their 'comeuppance' and the good guys triumphed over evil. No doubt half the 6-7-8-year-olds had fallen fast asleep before I'd finished, but at least they would know in advance that nothing really awful ever happened in my stories.

Not so today! How many times have I been misquoted in interviews; had words put into my mouth which I certainly never uttered; and had stories (re UFOs mostly) so distorted that I had to think twice before I recognized what the media were talking about. Even in pre-recorded TV interviews, I have been cut off before completion of what I was saying, so that if I didn't come over as the most gullible, stupid of morons, I did appear as a blithering idiot.

Just recently, in our usual exchange of magazines with friends from all over the world, I have picked up numerous reports of similar treatment in Australia, the USA, Great Britain and many, many other places.

What can one do about it? You could sue the journalist, reporter or whatever if you had absolute proof. But without proof, and only a question of their word against yours, there is little to be done. I do know of one case where Prof Stanton Friedman sued leading British UFO investigator Jenny Randles for, I believe, defamation of character. I am not sure what transpired, but Friedman won and Jenny had to pay out a substantial sum. Knowing them both, I'm sure Jenny thought she was certain of her facts and only wrote what she said in all sincerity. But it only goes to show that everyone can be mistaken.

So what is the answer?

- (a) Be more careful;
- (b) check with your interviewee when it is something controversial;
- (c) submit the article to the person interviewed for comment?

Well, of course, (c) is easily the best, but not always practical or convenient. (a) is an essential, and if (b) were put into practice more often, we would all be far happier with the results.

Paul Norman, in his September 1996 issue of THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN magazine produced by VUFORS (Victoria UFO Research Society) in Melbourne, Australia, says:

'One newspaper was not very helpful, especially the newspaper with journalistic licence, exercising their expertise' in misquotations and out of context reporting... we learned years ago that seldom does a completely accurate article appear in some newspapers.'

My most recent experience was with a Bulawayo newspaper journalist who reported on a talk I had given there. The report was reasonably accurate, except that the journalist had mixed up some of the conversation heard on a videotape, with my actual talk. Nevertheless, it did no harm and would not mislead the reader to any great degree. But I had recently been involved with a UFO landing in a school not far from Harare, admittedly more than 18 months previously, and this was one of the main subjects of my talk. A couple of months before, I had a request from a German TV producer who wanted to visit the school and interview the Headmaster and the children. When I phoned the Head about this, he told me that he had 'closed the book' on the case. The children were traumatised, he said, and some were having nightmares and counselling. Besides, it had all happened 18 months before and he felt it was enough!

My remarks, both during my talk and in a discussion with the reporter afterwards, were that it was sad this had happened as the incident would not go away for the children, but that I respected the Headmaster's decision as he had the interests of the children at heart.

That, of course, was **not** the way it was reported, and I quote verbatim:-

'Unfortunately, she (meaning me!) will not be able to conduct her interviews with the children as the Headmaster has stopped all interviews.' This, she said, was terrible, not because it made UFO research more difficult, but **'because the children were traumatised**

and needed to speak about the episode and to realise that they were not the only ones to have had such an experience.'

I have highlighted the words I actually used. After the word **Headmaster** I said 'had closed the book on all interviews, because the children were traumatised and having nightmares and some were having counselling. Besides, it all happened 18 months ago.

It is sad that there will be no more interviews because the UFO experience won't go away, but I respect what the Head has done as he only has the children's interests at heart.'

A very different concept from the way it was reported!

One can hardly blame the Head for taking offence; after all, the wording in the paper put him in an invidious position. He, naturally, has taken umbrage and I feel it has spoiled our relationship.

When I asked the journalist to apologise or rectify the wording, she did not feel her article required an apology, and refused to correct what she'd said. So what is my defence? Literally none at all!

A few years ago I gave a talk in Harare for the Union of Jewish Women at the small hall in the Harry Margolis Centre. I kept it light and reasonably amusing as most of the people attending were not very knowledgeable about the subject and I didn't want to bog them down with facts and statistics which would mean little to them. I did not know that two reporters from a farmers' magazine were present, but they must have been bored out of their minds, or had their thoughts elsewhere, as they certainly weren't reporting what I said that day.

One of my main cases was the one concerning the forestry workers at La Rochelle, 9 Km from Mutare. Twenty workers had seen a large fireball sweep across the lawn, climb the wall to an Observation Tower and finally move to an Orchid house where it burst into flames. Clifford Muchena had seen three men in overalls and when he called to them, thinking one was his superior, they turned towards him and a great energy emanating from them threw him to the ground. Eunice Kachiti saw two men looking at the ball of fire, with unusually narrow elongated torches in their hands.

The report in the magazine stated that I had seen a UFO come out of the clouds at La Rochelle, just one of the many jumbled reports.

In this instance, I wrote to the Editor, recommending that he/she informed their journalists of what **accuracy** meant, and at least to check with the speaker before printing such misrepresented statements.

To their credit, they published my letter so at least Clifford Muchena was vindicated.

Finally, I had a letter recently from Jan van Eetvelt, of Bornem, Belgium, a TV producer. He was just checking with me regarding a TV show on the schoolchildren who had seen a UFO. He wanted to find out if Prof John E Mack, a psychiatrist from Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, Boston, and I had bribed the children with sweets to tell their story about a UFO landing in the grounds adjacent to the school and two small men running around their playground. This is how the television had represented our involvement. **How else, asked Mr van Eetvelt, could they have told such a ridiculous story?**

So what does one do for a bit of honest reporting? As far as I am concerned, both Maria Sullivan and I are most careful about the accuracy of our reports in UFO AFRINEWS. We indeed do apply the (c) factor in contactee or 'experiencer' reports. And should we make a mistake (for goodness sake, no-one is infallible!) we do apologise or point this out, or retract our erroneous words!

And that, surely, is how it should be!!!

Patrick Moore stated in the American magazine SPACE FLIGHT (August 1996): 'Most people, including me, believe that life is widespread in the Universe, and that there are many other planets harbouring life - very possibly of exactly the same kind as ours.'

The farm where Johnny Petersen (not his real name) lives with his mother and his sister's children, is about 125 kms from Harare on the Beit Bridge-South Africa road. His sister visits occasionally but is not resident there and Johnny and his mother take care of her children.

Four of us (Maria, Doug and Gunter (part of the team I work with), and I) set off to interview him on Saturday, 29th June, 1996. For the first 93 Km the road is wide, tarred and busy, but when we turned off to the farm, the road was poorly kept and full of pot-holes for the balance of the 30-odd kilometres.

Johnny lives in a medium-sized farmhouse set on a hill. There is building evidence of additions to the house and quite a few workers were busy in the grounds. The family is part of an Afrikaans community originally emigrating from South Africa to Zimbabwe, but feel they were neglected by the previous government, i.e. lack of dams, running water, good roads, etc. They are hard workers, but not wealthy (like our tobacco farmers!) and sometimes struggle to make ends meet. On this farm they have cattle, sheep and pigs, and grow vegetables for themselves.

Johnny is 31 years old, sturdy and good-looking, with sea-green eyes and brown hair.

When interviewed, he said: 'It had been raining for a couple of days non-stop, but not heavily; light rain, and the ground was quite saturated. It was about midnight or a quarter past; I didn't check the time. I heard a car go past. Before that, I had a very disturbed dream. I woke up because of that and at the same time I heard this car, so I stood up and glanced out of my bedroom window, which looks out to the front part of the farm.

When I looked down there, I saw a car going past, so I thought it might be these poachers that come along at night. But at the same time as this car goes past, I can't explain it exactly, but it's as though another car comes along, and they go past each other, but one comes this way much, much slower than the other, and it pulls into that gate there.' He indicates a gate well beyond the house. 'We can walk up there just now.'

There is a gate just this side of that blackish thorn tree across the road, then there is a little cattle gate that goes into this front area where you can see those cattle there. There's a reservoir and an engine room there. And I thought, Oh-ho, these guys have come to pinch my engine, because we've had engine thefts before. So I stood up and rubbed my eyes and face to make sure I wasn't sleeping. Then I looked at the car and I thought, what am I going to do now? I've never had a problem before and this area is pretty secure; we don't have problems here, really, apart from the odd theft.

The 'thing' itself was long and wide. It looked and even sounded like a large American car. It had a distinctive hum; sounded like a very smooth-running 'Straight Six'. I've heard these American cars when they're nicely tuned, you can hear them like that. And it had these lights; a row of red lights at the back, and headlights, or a type of headlights, that shone into the trees.

Then I saw the lights go up, like that [pointing upwards] and they illuminated those Msasa¹ trees behind there [they can reach 15m in height], you can see them, because there is actually a road that goes in there. But this 'thing' stopped at the gate for a good 30 seconds; then it drove on, as if they'd opened it. Somebody could have got out to open the gate, just like anyone would do for a normal car.

And that was it: it was GONE!

So I watched for probably half a minute, but couldn't see a single light; then I ran into my Mom's room and said, "Look, there's somebody here and I think they've come to pinch the engine."

When I told my Mom, she begged me not to go, and I said to her, "No, no, hold on, what I'll do is go to the compound and fetch somebody and we'll all go and look."

¹ BRACHYSTEGLIA (Msasa) an indigenous tree widespread in Africa, a deciduous tree with rough and grey bark. A fine shade tree, with sweetly scented flowers and a large woody, dark brown pod. It has medicinal uses, as well as others.

So I took my dogs, my torch and my rifle, and with four workers, went to the gate. There was no spoor at the gate; no car tyre tracks. I searched thoroughly round the gate, using the torch; then I thought, I'll just go and have a quick look at the other gate. I walked about 15 or 20 metres, and I started feeling this heat: an oppressive heat. It felt as if there was heat coming up from the ground, but thinking about it now, I suppose you could say it radiated from the ground. My face started sweating profusely, but that could also have been out of fear. But I started getting a bit anxious and nervous about this, you know, and the heat was all around me, even my ears felt flushed.

It could have been a nervous reaction; it was really hot, but without glowing or anything like that. The time would have been about 12:30 by now - it took me some time to get myself together. And then I thought, no, I'm not going to go any further; they could have stopped their car behind the trees there, and just be waiting to finish me off. So I went back and fetched a whole lot of my workers from the compound - and one of them had heard the car that went past. He said, "I heard the car go past."

I said, "OK, but that is another one there now - let's go." So we all went to the 'thing' there; all my boys - and they just kept quiet, because they know this sort of thing; this strange phenomenon. We looked, but there was no spoor (tracks) whatsoever. We searched, but then I dismissed them and we all went back home.

The next morning we all talked about it. I was digging a trench for laying a pipe here. One of the other workers who had not been with me the previous night, but was on duty collecting the sheep we lost the day before (which had run over to a house you would see as you came up); he had gone to fetch them. And you see this cattle grid, a small grid here, there is another one just a short way down the road.

Between those two grids, somewhere - he didn't tell me where - this worker saw something sitting in the middle of the road, and he maintains it's the very thing that I saw.

This was in the early evening; in fact, it was going on to be quite dark by the time he got back. And the sheep just calmly ran around this thing, then they joined up in front and carried on. It didn't bother them at all, except that they

wouldn't walk where it had been. That's what the worker reckons. That would have been around half-past seven or eight o'clock; it could have been even earlier, but it was the same day. But this same thing, my workers tell me, they all saw last year on two occasions. However, this year they saw it much earlier than the night I saw it

I'm telling you, I think it's actually a 'phantom'; it's a spiritual phenomenon, I'm actually a Christian myself and I don't believe any of that sort of thing [UFOs - Ed].

In 1984, I remember it very well, we went shooting, myself and one of my workers. It was very late. We thought we had wounded an Eland (buck) but we hadn't, so we followed it but it just wouldn't slow down and you know, it should have slowed down by then. We came home and I got a vehicle, took all my dogs with me and went and tracked the buck down. We found it and chased it into the next door neighbour's farm. I was a bit nervous about going in there and thought I'll just go and have a look. By this time (there was a full moon that night) it was late, starting to get dark. We walked probably one kilometre into the farm, I left the truck inside our own fence and it was among the Msasa trees.

As we got to the fence, there was a ball of white light; it just fell from the tree, slowly came down on to the roof of the car and I just stared at it. It was about one metre in diameter and really **bright**. I was 19 at the time and remember the incident very well.

And then, one night, we went on a donkey cart after some Impala buck we had shot, and only got back home late. But between eight and half past (also in wintertime), we saw the red lights; they were just hopping from tree to tree; literally sort of floating from tree to tree and eventually they disappeared! This was in the bush, back of us there.'

We asked Johnny if there were granite rocks on the farm. He said, 'No granite, but conglomerate, in small outcrops.' He went on: 'Personally, I don't know what those things are, they could be gas balls. They don't do anybody any harm and they don't make a noise. But that one I saw here in February, it **did** make a noise. It was a humming, almost like a very well tuned 6-cylinder motor.'

'There were no red lights circling or anything like that, just a row of red lights at the back of the thing, like a large American car, as I told you. It looked just like a car, with a type of headlights that shone into those trees over there and illuminated them. In fact, the headlights would have been pointing a little bit high, as if the car was sloping up, or the lights not properly adjusted, or maybe they were on dim. I really thought it was a truck, I was convinced that somebody was coming to 'load up'.

We wondered if he had found (since his experience) anything in his life that felt different from before, but he said no. 'The only thing I can think of that brought these funny things on, this last year, is the drought; that was the end of the 3 or 4-year drought period. We had good rains and that 'thing' only came near the end of the rains, so - it was a weird thing, very strange. I must admit I was a little frightened when I went in there; but up until then I wasn't all that afraid. But I promise you, if it ever comes again, I will actually shoot it.'

We interrupted to say, 'Please don't do that!'

'I reckon one **MUST**. I think I've made up my mind to do it: if it looks like a vehicle, I'll definitely shoot; I'd like to incapacitate it.'

Asked about family reaction, Johnny said, 'At first my Mom was very doubtful about it; but they know that I don't talk bull-dust. I said, "Look, I saw this thing, I was **NOT** dreaming, I got out of my bed and was standing watching it from this very window where I could see all around."

I wasn't drunk, I'm not a heavy drinker. I **KNOW** I was awake and I saw it!'

Johnny then went with Gunter and Doug, to show them the exact spot where the 'vehicle' had stopped, then had moved forward into the treed area and disappeared. Photographs were taken of the site. Gunter said that when they reached the second gate and Johnny was explaining what happened, he suddenly remembered that although the car had stopped at the gate before going through, when he arrived there the gate was closed; and yet he remembered distinctly that the car had gone straight through, not stopping for someone to close the gate. He also pointed out that it was unusual during the week to have any traffic on these isolated roads.

Johnny also told us that he has a gold claim on his 7000 acre farm, which he was going to work. There were also other minerals present.

Johnny Petersen feels that the object was a 'phantom car', a satanic device or deception by 'the devil'. He mentioned several times that he was a Christian, and quoted from the Bible knowledgeably, in particular from Revelations which tell of the 'end days' when strange phenomena will appear in the skies. He is sure that this is one of those deceptions.

We found him to be straight-forward and he appeared sincere in all he said. All four of the investigators were impressed with his attitude and his report and we feel he told his story as he had perceived it.

POEM BY BRUCE ROWLANDS (WRITTEN AT AGE 12)

A COWARDLY LITTLE UFO.

It was the darkest, the scariest, the blackest of nights,
When the tiniest of squeaks gives the biggest of frights.
It came t'wards me, shooting missiles of heat;
I was ducking and diving to save my heat.
It froze for a moment and then shot overhead,
Flashing its lights of pulsating red.
It rose to the stars and then dropped without sound,
Quickly it levelled before hitting the ground.
It came angrily back for a second shot,
Below it I ducked and Joe, it was hot!
The strange aircraft was frustrated and tired
But again it zoomed back - a lazer it fired.
It nicked my toe and I leapt in the air;
I spun around and gave it a threatening stare!
It trembled and quivered at an unrhythmical pace,
Then it burst into tears and shot into Space.

PULSATING DISC OVER SOUTH AFRICA

Case N° 126

Thanks to MUFON friends and Marius Lubbe of Cape Town, as well as Tinus de Beer of Pretoria, we have learned further about the happenings of the unidentified object in the skies over Pretoria on 28th August, 1996.

On that day, at 4 a.m., an unusual object was seen over Pretoria, South Africa. Apparently it was recorded on video early in the morning. The footage was filmed by a police sergeant, Sgt Nico Stander² (who borrowed his Dad's camcorder), and shows a disc-shaped object, slightly pulsating. The photographer was sure this was something unusual, as there appeared to be lights flashing on the dome, which had a saucer shape.³

A contact of UFO AFRINEWS did telephone the police who insisted it was a hoax, a publicity stunt for the film INDEPENDENCE DAY, due to open in South Africa within a day or two of the event. It seems to us, however, that to perpetrate a hoax of this magnitude, a great deal of money would have to be spent, and as publicity for the movie had preceded it by several weeks, it would be an unnecessary expense.

Nevertheless, it is something to bear in mind as one never knows how far people will go!!

The story goes on to say that a police helicopter piloted by Superintendent Fred Viljoen, had taken four passengers and followed the object for quite a while. Viljoen was surprised at the speed of the craft and the fact that it moved in an undulating fashion.

² There seems to be some controversy with regard to Sgt Nico's surname; it is quoted as Bekker and then as Stander.

³ The photographer, who had several witnesses with him, said they were all certain this was something unusual, as they could see lights flashing around the disc.

The object, when first observed, was seen in the Centurion suburb of Pretoria, but both the police helicopter and a police car followed the disc-shaped unidentified north-east to Cullinan, a small mining town some distance away. After hovering for a short while, it suddenly took off at great speed. The helicopter climbed to 3000 ft. but the disc quickly outdistanced it.

The object was actually seen above Mamelodi at 70° above the horizon. Mamelodi is a suburb on the outskirts of Pretoria, 60 kms from Johannesburg.

In retrospect, it is interesting to note that on that same night, Asteroid 1991 CS did a near-Earth fly-by (0,0620 AU) and Brasil sent up a Sonda II rocket probe into Outer Space.

REPORT FROM NAMIBIA

Case 123

by Roland Roesis

Location: Sam Nujoma Drive, Klein Windhoek.

During September/October 1995, Mrs Fraser's Company had a farewell barbecue for her in the back garden of her home.

At 21:00 hours, someone noticed a strong light above the house, about the size of the planet Venus. However, this was no planet: the light moved down and then after hovering a while, it shot away at a great speed in an easterly direction.

The whole episode took place in a matter of 5-7 minutes, but long enough for Mr Emery, one of the observers, to see it through his telescope, which was mounted. Through this, Mr Emery was able to see that it was a bright white light emitting intermittent red flashes.

OUT OF AFRICA

ETs CAPTURED IN BRASIL

It was brought to my attention by Dr Diana Cammack, Cynthia Luce of Brasil and a Swiss professor, that an extremely strange event had occurred in Brasil on January 20, 1996.

On the afternoon of that day - a Saturday - at 15:30 hours (their time) three young girls noticed a strange creature in a field of small bushes, not far from where they lived. They were returning from work in the city of Varginha, in the State of Minas Gerais in Central Brasil, when they spotted 'a strange being', just a few metres from where they were. The creature was kneeling and looked as though it had been injured and was in pain. The girls (Liliane, Valquiria and Katia) watched for a few moments, but then, unable to identify what it was, ran away, afraid that it might be the devil!

The three girls, quite unsophisticated, described the creature as being dark brown in colour, with a small body about 4-5ft tall (1,20-1,50m), no hair, a big brown head and a small neck. It also seemed 'greasy', with dark oil on its skin.⁴ It had two big red eyes with no pupils, and a very small mouth and nose. The girls also noticed three protuberances on its head, which were like horns, but part of the skin of the creature. There was no sign of a craft of any sort.

Dr Ubirajara Franco Rodrigues and Vitorio Paccaccini, who live nearby, were the Brazilian UFO researchers who dealt with this case. Both are well-known in Brazilian UFO circles and respected for their reporting.

Both men made enquiries to find out if anyone else had observed the creatures and they soon found out that there were several other witnesses in that location, and some who had seen entities in other locations.

⁴ . The wife of one of the firemen who were on the scene later, said that the greasiness from the creature had rubbed onto her husband's uniform and she was so upset she burned the uniform.

They also found people who had seen Army trucks and other military vehicles a few blocks from where the girls saw the creature.

Rodrigues and Paccaccini interviewed several soldiers, and eventually obtained a secret statement from a Sergeant. He said that at 09:00 hours on January 20, 1996, the Fire Department of Varginha was called to capture a strange animal. However, when they arrived, they saw it was not a strange animal and called in the Military from the city of Três Corações, some 16 km away. An Army truck was sent to Varginha and, using nets, the creature was captured and returned to Army HQ. The men were told not to talk about the event.

As a result of this revelation, other soldiers came forward to confirm the statement, and to say that a second creature was also captured at night on the 20th January. The creature was taken to the Regional General Hospital in Varginha and later transferred to the Humanitas Hospital. It remained there for two days, when it died and was then transferred by the Military.

Apparently, three Army trucks were involved to remove the single body to avoid anyone knowing in which truck the body lay. Nurses and personnel from the hospitals were threatened and told to say nothing, particularly in their relations with investigators or the media. Personnel from the Army Internal Intelligence (S-2) were responsible for moving the body.

The three trucks, in the middle of the night, then drove to a Military facility in Campinas, State of São Paulo, about 330 km from Varginha. There the corpse was allegedly moved to the University of Campinas, one of the best institutions in the country.

It was believed that the body was autopsied by Dr Badan Palhares, the man who autopsied Dr Mengele (the Nazi who medically experimented with Jews), although Dr Palhares denies any knowledge of the creature.

Top UFO researchers such as A J Gevaerd, who is the MUFON representative for Brasil, and others, have been assisting Rodrigues and Paccaccini, and the media have been especially active. Many people believe the story is true and that the Military are covering up. There has been talk of soldiers being imprisoned and non-commissioned officers removed from their Stations. **O GLOBO**, the biggest Rio newspaper, was apparently threatened by the

Military if they did not leave the story alone. It is also said that after this happened the area where Varginha is located was subjected to a huge wave of UFO reports.

I am also indebted to Gevaerd for part of this report. I know him well and he met me off the plane when I arrived in Curitiba, Brasil in October 1995, for a UFO Conference run by the Curi brothers. Coming from him, I can be sure that this report is based on fact and that he will support the investigators to the best of his ability, whatever the final answer might be!

Follow-up to this Report

It is now believed that an autopsy was performed on one of the creatures found in Varginha, by a top Brazilian surgeon. Apparently, some scientists arrived in Brasil from the USA. Eye witness accounts say that a fire-truck was called in and a large crowd gathered at the site. Some people admitted to two researchers that 'a strange creature' had been captured. Hospital staff were sworn to secrecy but one nurse reported that she had overheard the surgeon tell a nurse that he did not know what it was, but it could be an alien, as he had never seen anything like it before!

Professor John E Mack, a professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, who had, allegedly, been called to a Disciplinary Committee regarding his involvement with UFOs, and the fact that he published his book **ABDUCTIONS** without first submitting his cases for scientific approval, **was not disciplined** by Harvard officials.

The Dean of the School met with Dr Mack and said that high standards were expected of Harvard employees. But at the same time, **he reaffirmed Mack's right to study any subject.**

It hardly makes up for the US\$100 000 Mack spent in vindicating himself!

'ALIEN' WITH ASATCHEL

Bindura, Zimbabwe, 6th March, 1996.

Case N° 122

We received a letter from Lloyd T. Karambakuwa, a 17-year-old 'O'-level student at the Herrmann Gmeiner Secondary School, sometime in May 1996. He had a most interesting and detailed story to tell.

On the night of 5th March, 1996, he went to bed as usual at 8 o'clock in the evening. He found it more conducive to work during the early hours of the morning when the Township where he lives (Chipadze), 10 km outside Bindura, was quiet and he could study undisturbed.

He woke at approximately 01:00 and started to work, but was soon aware of a continual 'clicking' sound coming from outside, on the road, some distance away. At first he thought it might be someone with a cordless phone (the sound was not dissimilar) but it appeared to be advancing towards him and the 'clicking' never stopped (There were no telephones in the area).

Lloyd thought of going outside to see what was causing the noise but he also felt afraid. He could not pinpoint the noise and it really scared him. He was on his own at home (his mother was staying with his sister) and it took a while for him to reach a decision as to what he should do. But in the end, his curiosity got the better of him, and he opened the front door.

The door made a lot of noise when he opened it and by the time he got to the road, the sound had disappeared. Lloyd could see nothing! He decided to explore when, suddenly, the sound commenced again when Lloyd was some distance from his house.

Immediately across the road from Lloyd's house is the local Women's Training Centre, and the road curves around at the far end to pass in front of this (see map on next page/)

The sound appeared to be coming from somewhere in that area, although due to his view being obscured by the building of the Training Centre, Lloyd was not able to see what caused the sound.

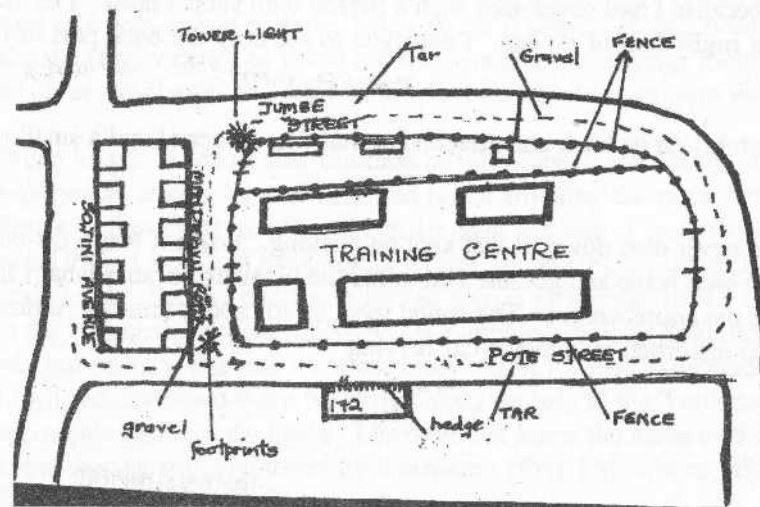


Figure 1: Map of Area

'The sound frightened me a lot. I went back to my house but left the front door open; I just closed it but did not lock it. I was so worried about what it could be. I switched off the light because I was nervous, but I wanted to see where the sound came from. I lay on my bed but after 10 or 12 minutes, it started again, about 20-30 metres away.'

Lloyd opened the front door slowly, walked forward cautiously and then hid in the hedge in front of the house. At that time it was thick and heavy with foliage (the rainy season in tropical Zimbabwe is from November to April and in 1995 the rains were good), but when our Investigating Team were there in June, the hedge was sparse.

'By the time I managed to hide myself, I could see this 'thing' about two metres away from me. I nearly died of shock! I had never seen such a thing!

I wished I had not seen it. Even now, that night still makes me feel timid if I think of all that happened. I saw a completely white, short, fast-moving, mysterious thing.

It was about 1½ metres tall. When I first took a glance at the 'thing', I nearly collapsed because I had never seen such a person with such a head. The head was like a rugby ball or an egg. I managed to see only the back part of the object.

It had a satchel on its back and attached to that was an aerial and a small red light.

The sound never died down; it just kept on clicking. When it was a distance away, I ran back home and got into bed under the blankets because what I had seen made me apprehensive. The sound went on for about three more times, until it was disturbed by a motor-car revving.'

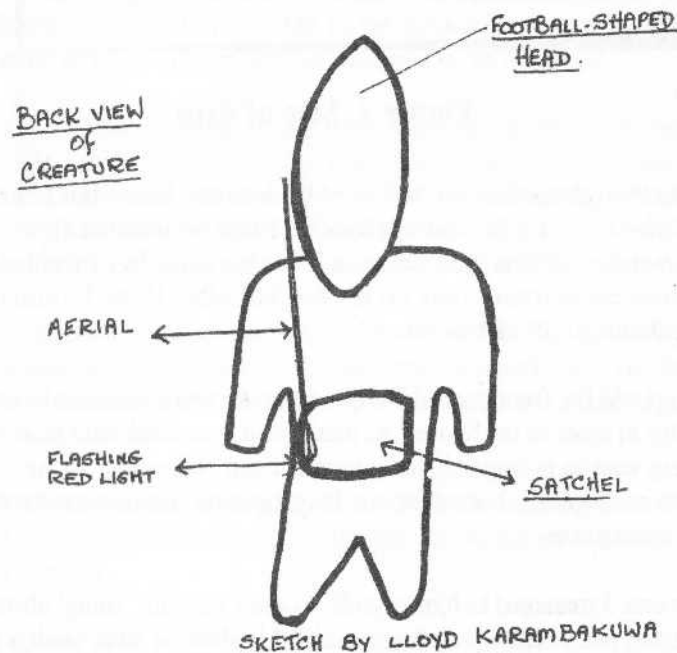


Figure 2: Drawing of Creature

When Lloyd woke the next morning at about a quarter to six, he followed the road to where he had seen the 'thing' to see if something had been left behind. But the only evidence he could see were some rather strange footprints, which he observed closely and drew in the sand for us when we were there.

When he got to school that morning he told some of his friends of his strange experience, asking them if they had heard anything the night before. All of them said they didn't usually wake in the night, but one of them thought it might be a UFO. Lloyd told me he did not think so, as UFOs were usually tall with small heads - not like the 'thing' he had seen (I presumed that he was referring to the Voronezh incident in Russia, as Zimbabwe having until recently been a Marxist country, this was the most likely report for him to be made aware of). Lloyd had also heard that a Security Guard on duty at the Training Centre had apparently also seen the figure. Lloyd did not know the name of the guard, but knew that he was employed by Chemasec (Pvt) Ltd, whose offices were in Bindura town itself.

Maria Sullivan, Gunter Hofer and I had driven to Bindura on Monday, 17th June, 1996. Bindura is some 90 Km NNE of Harare, but the roads are good and it was a pleasant drive. The Hermann Gmeiner Secondary School is a modern, well-kept school and we arrived just before the lunch break. Lloyd soon came out and took us to his home in Pote Street and told us his story. He also showed us where he had seen the strange footprints which were too large for a normal animal, and did not fit in with any known pad-mark.

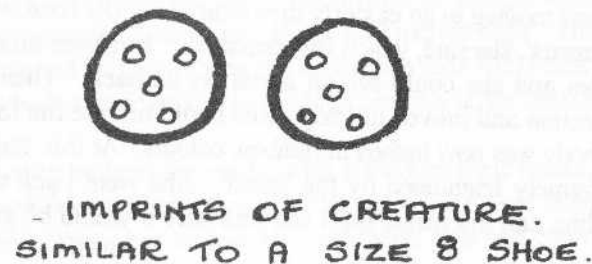


Figure 3: Drawing of Footprints

His home is the usual type of house in the area; built of brick and plastered over with cement; it was unpainted on the outside but neatly kept. Lloyd told us that on the day after the incident, when he checked the footprints, he noticed about 5 sets of the prints. (The fact that the prints were easily seen was understandable as the road was of soft sand at this point. In other areas the road was covered with small grey pebbles mixed with the gravel and was much firmer). The 5 sets of prints were in pairs.

We dropped Lloyd off at his school just before 14:00 hours and drove into Bindura. After several enquiries, we located the Security Company where the lady in charge, Constance Savanhu, attended to me. The moment I mentioned the date and the site, she said, 'Oh, that is the guard who saw the ghost.' She then surprised me by telling me that the guard was a woman, Kambudzai Gweshe, who had now left their employ and was working for the Cotton Company in Bindura. Constance also told me that Kambudzai was illiterate and it would be pointless my trying to contact her by mail. But she did agree to do what she could to interview her on my behalf.

Subsequent to this, I heard from Constance that Kambudzai thought this event had taken place between one o'clock and two o'clock on the 6th March, 1996. She heard the sound from a distance over a period of about 20 minutes. She found the noise **unpleasant** and like a 'clicking' sound which she likened to a lift alarm after someone had pressed the alarm button. She heard the sound for 5-10 minutes, then it went off and started again. Kambudzai went to investigate in the direction of the sound, when she saw a small figure which was covered in white.⁵

The figure was moving in an easterly direction along the road, very slowly. It looked 'unpleasant', she said, which frightened her. It moved along the road for some minutes and she could see an aerial on its back. Then it turned in a southerly direction and moved quickly. She could not see the face clearly, but she saw the body was now bathed in rainbow colours. At this stage Kambudzai became extremely frightened by the 'ghost'. She went back to the Training Centre building and hid inside until she was sure it would be gone.

⁵ The head did not look like the head of a human being; it seemed as though it was an animal's head.

Next morning, she reported her experience to the Company at their offices and refused to do any more night duties. Soon after, she left their employ and started day-time work at the Cotton Company in Bindura, where she is presently employed.

There is no doubt in my mind that what Lloyd and Kambudzai saw was the same 'apparition' - for want of a better word.

Lloyd's reference to its being a 'UFO' was an explanation for the being itself, as no craft was seen at any time. However, the description does fit in with the general idea of an 'alien', although, on the other hand, if ghosts do exist, it could just as easily have been a ghost.

It is interesting to note that Lloyd totally accepted his friends' interpretation of the **creature** being a 'UFO', and looked no further for a machine or craft. It seems to me that this fact alone proves his total ignorance of what UFOs are!

COMMENT:

Reported in **Flying Saucer Review**, Nov-Dec.'69.
Contributed by Jean Bastide of France.

Mr Jean Senac is an old soldier. One day at 10:30, around the beginning of July '64, he was on Highway N°21 (from Tarbes to Castelnau-Magnoac). He saw an extremely bright, shining machine across the road. He estimated that it was about 2½-3 metres long and the height of a passenger car. He thought it was not quite touching the ground. It suddenly rose and flew off at great speed. While he was standing there, astonished, he caught sight of two strange forms. They were like dwarfs, just about 1,15 metres high. They were wearing khaki clothing and walking along the hedge towards Mr Senac; then they went through the hedge and walked in the bracken to a large chestnut tree.

'They seemed to be bent forwards, with a load on their backs, and I could see a sort of sack on the back of each of them...' Mr Senac would have liked to have spoken to them but he had his cattle with him and could not leave them unattended, on the roadside, so he led them back to his place and when he returned, the men were gone.

QUITE A BIG BIT OF ASTRONOMY

I am indebted to Dr Diana Cammack for a piece of really interesting news which appeared on Internet recently.

On January 30, 1996, on the Alan Handlemann radio interview programme in Charlotte, North Carolina, a highly respected engineer and former NASA scientist, Dr Norman Bergrun, made a dramatic statement. He said that a Voyager space-probe, orbiting around the rings of the planet Saturn, took photographs of a cylindrical object with streamers (which might be exhaust ports). Dr Bergrun felt that this object was intelligently controlled and was some sort of space vehicle. It was observed on two occasions; in May and August 1995, but had disappeared by the 21st of November 1995.

In February 1996, SCIENCE NEWS reported that the Hubble Space Telescope had photographed a non-satellite orbiting Saturn's rings; this had disappeared in a follow-up photograph.

When Dr Bergrun was asked why there had been no photographs before, he said 'they' had a tendency to hide in their own exhaust. When asked why this information had not been released, he said that according to the 1958 Space Act, information of this sort can be withheld if something about it constitutes a threat, and that a vehicle of this size - 7000 miles long - **would** certainly constitute a threat. All these discoveries are presented in Dr Bergrun's book, RINGMAKERS OF SATURN (1996) which contains a photograph of this huge vehicle.

Dr Bergrun postulates that the rings of Saturn are not natural but the result of mobile objects orbiting the planet. He also feels that the objects have visited our moon and probably the Earth as well. He said, 'Most of us were taught that the rings of Saturn could be explained as... primordial matter or remnants of small broken moons that had collided around Saturn in the early days of the solar system.' These cylindrical shapes appear at different positions in the ring system, and Dr Bergrun believes they are partially responsible for the appearance of the rings. He thinks the rings are a kind of pollution left behind by the objects orbiting there. He also feels that these strange objects visited our moon and one left an impression of its nose profile.

These 'craft' or whatever they are, might also produce unusual weather conditions on Earth and the newly discovered 'dry lightning', or the devastating explosion over Tunguska in Siberia, in 1908.

Dr Bergrun has received many awards for his work in aeronautics and astronautics. He is a graduate of Cornell and LaSalle Universities and has done postgraduate work at Stanford.

What Dr Bergrun seems to be saying is, 'ARE WE REALLY ALONE?'

MARS

Because Mars has been in the news quite a lot lately, it would be interesting to look at some aspects of this planet. The surface gravity is .38 compared with Earth's 1.0. The atmospheric constituents are 95% carbon dioxide and 3% nitrogen.

NASA reported that a meteorite found in the Allan Hills of Antarctica millions of years after it was blasted from Mars, showed evidence of primitive life on that planet. The rock had formed about 4,5 billion years ago. Not all scientists agree and Dr Thomas Ahrens, a planetary scientist from Caltech University and a member of the National Academy of Scientists, claimed that NASA was being a bit over-enthusiastic. There is no comparative sample, he said, so how can they be so sure? What we need, he maintains, is for us to obtain samples from Mars, so comparisons can be made.

It is true that the Viking probes discovered no life, but that might be that there was no life where they landed. Mr Goldin, head of NASA, said that his staff were sceptical but nevertheless thrilled by the prospect of finding life on Mars.

On 21st August 1993, communication with NASA's Mars Observer spacecraft was lost after an 11-month journey to the planet. It failed to respond to commands from the ground. Repeated attempts to restore communications were made, but to no avail. It is not known if the Mars Observer went into orbit around Mars or has entered a solar orbit.

One cannot really read anything overly dramatic into this, such as being 'shot down by aliens' or anything of that nature. Where Outer Space is concerned, nearly all our efforts are experimental and before we jump to any startling conclusions, we have to bear in mind that **anything** could have happened.

The first Mars Observer was launched in September 1992, and expected to send back data on geological and climatic conditions. The probe was reported lost on the 21st August 1993.

Since 1979 some highly qualified investigators have studied, extensively, a number of photographs taken by the 1976 Viking Mars mission in the Martian region called CYDONIA. These photographs show one side of an enormous human-like face. At first glance the obvious conclusion is that this is a trick of shadows and lighting; but computer enhancement, it seems, shows clearly that the other half of the face is also there. There are also several pyramids in a cluster, so one is bound to ask, why here and nowhere else? The face was at Longitude 9.52° and Latitude 40.89° in Cydonia. The facial features were approximately one mile wide. The picture was enhanced using a digital computer.⁶

Some investigators feel that some of the features shown could be artificial. Many reputable scientists have called for further investigation by NASA.

A very close friend of mine told me a story of how some years back, she walked in on a couple of her friends who were busy showering or bathing at the time. She was alone in their living-room. Both worked on secret government projects, and although they were **good** friends, she was not aware of the specific work they did.

On this occasion she sat down to wait for them and noticed some photographs on a table, of what looked like broken-down buildings in a rather arid terrain.

⁶ Unusual Mars Surface Features (Fourth Edition) by Vincent di Pietro, Gregory Molenaar & Dr John Brandenburg.

When her friends entered the room a little later, one of them went immediately to the pictures, picked them up and said, 'I hope you didn't look at these?' Before she had time to reply, he laughed and added, 'Because they are highly secret photographs taken on Mars.' She smiled, and although not actually committing herself, just shrugged innocently. Maybe they were just joking, but who knows?

Dr Stanton Friedman, astrophysicist and eminent lecturer on UFOs, says of Carl Sagan: 'Unfortunately, Carl has consistently misrepresented the facts about the few cases [of UFOs] he discusses.'

Recently, Dr Sagan's book 'DEMON HAUNTED WORLD: Science as a Candle in the Dark', has been published. Dr Sagan is a great supporter of SETI - Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence - but does not believe that UFOs have ever come to Earth.

To me, you have to be an active investigator **as well as** have a sound scientific background, to really make definitive pronouncements. It would be interesting to know what 'on site' investigations Dr Sagan has been involved in?

We have just learned, regrettably, that **Dr Carl Sagan** has recently passed away due to cancer. Despite the fact that we could not agree with his total disbelief in UFOs we always respected his efforts to bring the stars and galaxies to the attention of the general public. With his Cosmos program he made all so much easier to understand and his contributions should never be denied.

We can only wish him well on his final cosmic journey.

ROUND LIGHT OF LARGE PROPORTIONS Case N°125
Chakari, Zimbabwe.

On the 17th October 1995, at 21:30 hours, Marx Machikiza (30) was on his way home to Makororo Farm, about 10 km away from Chakari. Marx was alone and since it was late in the evening, he decided to cut his route short and go home by an alternative way.⁷ After about 5 km, he became aware of a large light. It was larger than the size of an ordinary car - about 10 metres across - and bright white. He stopped abruptly. The light appeared as a round ball and, as he watched, Marx saw it move just above tree height. He could see the trees clearly because of the glow from the object.⁸

At first it ascended at a fairly slow pace, but then, as Marx thought back on the incident, he felt it became aware of him when it suddenly shot up at an incredible speed, like a shooting star. As it went upwards, it became smaller and smaller until he could hardly see it. Its direction was due South of SW.

Marx was left baffled and surprised, and as he resumed his journey, he wondered if it would come back again. He hoped it would as he had once read a book about UFOs and in that it said it would come again (once you had seen it!) and take you away. He did not know if that was true or not, but he felt it would be interesting to find out⁹.

⁷ The night was very still and partly cloudy.

⁸ There was no sound or recognizable smell. There were no tall trees in the area as it was farming land and most of the trees had been cut down; they were mainly bushes and indigenous thorn trees called Mubayamhondoro.

⁹ He arrived home at 21:55 hours, which was the normal time he would have reached his house. According to him, there was no time discrepancy.

Marx wanted to pinpoint his exact position at the time (although it would not assist in its identification at this time!) so he states:

'From Chakari, 500 metres towards Chegutu, you turn on the left-hand road to Blackmore Vale, then after 5 km, you turn to a settlement of gold panners - the actual place is called Masamba.'

From Masamba, there are 'Kariba' electricity pylons on the Northern side of Masamba and that is where Marx first saw the object. It was 5 km more to complete his journey and he ran the whole way, looking to both sides of him, in case it returned, but it never did!

AN APPEAL

I am trying to trace an African farmer/businessman who witnessed something very strange on the evening of October 20th 1996. The event occurred on the Lilfordia School Road, turning off from the Old Bulawayo Road, at between 19:30 and 20:00 hours that evening.

This man whose name and identity we do not know, is accustomed to buying vegetables (beans and such like) from farmers in this area. He then takes these to town in his truck and sells them to vendors.

On this particular night he was witness to something which landed or hovered on an open field with a large burnt log in its centre, near to a windmill just off the above road. The African man saw another car with a slightly disabled white man observing this strange event. He ran towards him telling him to go away as quickly as he could before leaving the scene himself.

It is important that I speak to this man and would appreciate any clues as to his identity or assistance in tracking him down.

It is important; **PLEASE HELP.**

THE UNEXPLAINED!

(Mainly because we're not sure how to categorise them)

From Laura (living in UK)

Case N° 127

This event took place in Benoni, South Africa

It began one night when I woke suddenly, feeling I was in a trance-like state. The time was 3 am. and I was staying at the time (1986) in Cairngorm Caravan Park in Benoni. My husband Mike was asleep next to me and could not be wakened. I automatically turned to look through the window and saw two 'alien-like' faces looking at me and waving furiously. Then suddenly, they walked in through the wall!

I was startled, but not afraid. The room seemed to be so bright and took on a luminescent appearance. Everything was bathed in this golden light. I could not take my eyes off the 'aliens' as they stood beside my bed. They were about 1,70 metres (5'8") tall, very slim, with no clothes on, and no hair. Their bodies were a transparent-opaque colour, with pear-shaped faces, slightly flat on top. They had two round, very deep-set eyes as if they were disappearing into their heads, with two dots for a nose and no mouth. Despite this, there was something so beautiful and familiar about them. They were surrounded by this golden light; the same light also came from the solar plexus. They seemed surrounded by a love and peace so strong, like I had never felt before; I did not want it to end.

At first I thought it was a dream but then I realised I was awake. I asked them who they were and the bigger of the two, whom I felt was female, bent down and kissed my cheek. She also told me, telepathically, that she was my mother. They then left. As they did so, I felt my cheek and it was wet. They came to visit me three nights in a row. Before they left, the woman 'alien' turned towards me and waved at me as one would wave to a child, by raising her hand and then bending her fingers in two in a mitten-like gesture, like a small child first learning to wave.

On their third visit, they brought a child with them, similar in appearance to them and about one metre (3'4") tall, with the woman holding its hand. I felt a great closeness to this child, like one would do to a sibling.

Then they left through the wall, as they did when they arrived. They were so beautiful and I was not afraid; just startled by it all.

I did feel a paternal bonding between them and myself and I was a little sad when they left.

I tried to wake my husband to tell him what had happened but he was dead to the world. When he did finally wake and I told him, he was absolutely surprised at what I said. I did not see them again until a year later when I was terribly ill and went into a coma-like state for over two weeks. They returned then and were with me all the time I was ill. I then began to have lots of minor ailments for which I could find no reason and I think my doctor began to feel I was neurotic. I had several allergies, arthritis, sugar and digestive problems, etc. and suffered a lot with sore throats. We were also trying for a baby, yet I miscarried each time; nearly all at three months. I went to the doctor and the pregnancy tests were positive, yet at three months when I returned to my doctor, I was no longer pregnant.'

Commentary:

Laura has undergone hypnotic regression by a well-known group in the UK. However, nothing emerged and she felt that they were sceptical of her experience which she feels was more spiritual than a 'nuts and bolts' contact. But she does say that her epilepsy has never recurred since her experience; and while perhaps not attributing this directly to the contact, she feels her spiritual awareness has broadened her whole outlook and her thoughts and perceptions have changed totally.

At the time, Laura was not aware of the significance of her experience and it was only when she went to live in the UK that she realised it was something of importance. The event remains with her until this day; as clear as if it had happened only yesterday. She still has a great deal of recall and conversations and teaching are regularly remembered.

She believes she is their child - a child of the Stars - and that her mission in life is to make others more spiritually aware and thus the Earth will become a better place to live in. They have told her many things, she says, and she must pass them on to others. They told her they were from the Pleiadian Constellation.

While I realise that there is no physical proof of Laura's meeting with these beings, this story is included as more and more books being published tell of this type of contact, and yet very few are known in Africa. I find Laura a sincere and intelligent person, not one given to embellishing: she tells the story as it appears to her.

One quibble would be the origin of the beings: time and again we are told where they live, where they come from. And yet, our name for certain stars in our Galaxy would not be their name for them. Also, there never seems to be any proof of their origins. Elizabeth Klarer was initially told by Akon that he was from Venus, but he changed this later to Meton on Proxima Centauri. Aliens are evasive when confronted: Henry (an engineer) in the Drakenstein Mountains of the Cape, South Africa, asked where they were from and the man [in the craft] pointed through the port-hole to the stars. He would be no more explicit than that.

In the Johannesburg abduction of Phyllis and Diane, they, like Laura, were told the entities were from the Pleiades, and Edwin's (Durban radio case) abductors claimed to come from Koldas, in the Confederation of Twelve Planets in an Anti-Matter Universe!

Truth or fiction? We don't think we will ever know, but why don't they say? Or is the reality of what they are and where they are from, too shocking for us to accept?

Books to read regarding this type of Abduction

- Witnessed (new)** by Budd Hopkins. (Pub. Pocket Books)
Star Children by Jenny Randles. (Pub. Robert Hale)
Abduction by John E Mack, MD. (Pub. Macmillan Int.)
Secret Life by David M Jacobs PhD. (Pub. Simon & Schuster)
Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind
by C D Bryan (Pub. Orion paperbacks)
The Watchers I & II by Raymond Fowler. (Pub. Bantam & Wildflower)
The Allagash Abductions
by Raymond Fowler (Pub. Wildflower)

From Pat T., of Bulawayo

Case N° 128

Recently, we received a very comprehensive report from one of our readers who lives in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Many of the incidents she told us about were more allied to the paranormal than to actual UFO incidents. However, the following events appear to fall in either category and we want to bring them to your attention.

Pat T. was at boarding school for most of her school-going years. The following event took place when she was about 9 or 10 years old.

She says: 'On this occasion I couldn't sleep one night. I had my hand above me in the air, playing with my fingers and occasionally dropping my right arm to the side of the bed, letting it hang loosely under the bed. I kept repeating this motion, when quite inexplicably my hand was firmly gripped by someone under the bed. I could not move my arm at all, nor could I move any part of my body: I was paralysed. However, quite suddenly my hand was released, so I quickly bent over the side of the bed to see the girl whom I thought was responsible for grabbing my hand, obviously playing the fool and trying to frighten me. But there was nobody there! I turned quickly, thinking that I would catch her on the other side of the bed, running away perhaps to her own bed, but there was no one, everyone was sound asleep. I was the only one awake.'

Pat T. has another story which is also fascinating:

'I have not knowingly seen a UFO as we understand it, certainly not whilst awake, but I did see one in my dreams. I dreamt I was standing in my garden overlooking our drive-way, when suddenly I noticed this almost transparent disc-shaped object just above the drive-way which is fairly wide in front of the house. It sort of moved in a diving motion and landed on our drive. I stood behind a little tree in the garden, quite astounded at this. I remember thinking, this is unbelievable, a UFO of all things landing on our property.

I remained behind this tree, excitedly waiting for further developments when suddenly a doorway opened and a short walkway appeared, leading from the vehicle to the ground. Then a tall man, very white and slightly stooped, emerged from the UFO.

He was wearing what looked like an oversized dark brown monk's habit with a hood over his head. And in his arms, he was carrying a brown-skinned boy of about 7-8 years of age; he appeared to be injured or unwell. I watched him coming towards me even though I was sure that he did not see me. I stared at him, wondering why he was wearing this monk's habit; and as he came closer, I thought that he had long, very fair or whitish-blond hair, which I could see under the hood.

I thought then that perhaps the sun on this planet was too strong for him, hence his attire. He walked past me towards the front of my house - and then I woke up!

About six weeks later, I picked up a book in the Bulawayo Public Library entitled THE JANOS PEOPLE. In this book an English family encountered a UFO on their way home one night and were very nicely asked to allow themselves to be tested by the beings who looked just like us. The beings were very nice and fair-skinned with blonde hair and they claimed that their ancestors originally came from Earth and they needed to see if we had changed very much since their ancestors had left here.

It appears that while they were in this disc-shaped object, the English family were told that the planet on which the beings lived had two moons and because of the heavy mining or whatever on one of their moons, this moon had fragmented and was drawn to their planet, damaging their nuclear stations and everything else, causing a dense dust. People were suffering from exposure to radiation and a special group of men and women were assigned to rescue as many people who were not too badly affected by this disaster, as they could. They had known this disaster would happen, but it happened sooner than they expected and they were not totally prepared. The family said they saw video tapes of what the planet now looked like, covered in dust, and one could not even make out a single landmark. The rescuers were dressed in dark brown habits as worn by the monks on their planet, and many of them were suffering from burns and radiation.

The story was supposed to be factual, not a science fiction story.'

Dream, or premonition?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

from Cynthia Luce, Sitio Tibet, Brasil.

I would like to refer to UFO AFRINEWS No. 13. Page 9, Case 106: In this case, you report the seeing of 'a tiny, man-like creature'... I have a recent case here and there were several witnesses. This friend looked out of her window and saw, not 40 ft. away, tiny 4-5 inch beings sort of fluttering up and down this light-pole (it was at night). They went out of the house and went closer and it was a real phenomenon. This happened about 1 year, 1 month ago and I could let you know the full details if you are interested.

Page 17: the summary of the presentation of Linda Moulton Howe and her comment about material received from 'off-record and anonymous sources.' Increasingly here, I am contacted by people who say they do not want any involvement with the media but want to discuss their experiences. Some of the material I receive is incredible indeed and from people who abhor the current structure of Ufology that makes clusters around 'Ego-dancers' and their retinues (my phrasing). I think the current structure is doing great harm. I am sitting on a great deal of information that I can't divulge. There is far more going on than that which gets publicized by the researchers who are the most aggressive, successful and visible.

I have a friend who was in a main City on a very quiet residential street with 2 others in a car; she was in the back seat. The person driving pulled over because everyone in the car all of a sudden got so sleepy that they could not control themselves and they all slept. My friend awoke because someone was touching her and it was an ET in the back seat with her! Now, I was the first person she told about this even though it happened years ago because she couldn't stand to contact the people whom she knew would make her story public. So what is to be done about that?

[Strangely enough, I have just been presented with a new case involving a family travelling from Harare to South Africa. At one point they stopped to have a drink and relieve themselves and the wife said she would take over the driving.

As she put her two young children in the front seat with her (5 years and 3½ years, the 5-year old holding the baby in a carrycot) the little girl of 3½ said she was sleepy. As they had had a good night's sleep and it was still early in the day, she could not understand this. But then the young boy also said he was sleepy, and they promptly fell asleep as she set off. The next thing she knew was a bright light coming straight at her and she veered sharply to the left (we drive on the left in Zimbabwe) and then tried to correct the sharpness of the turn. The truck overturned and although the baby was thrown clear, the two children were killed. She was unconscious and when she woke, she just kept on asking, 'What happened to the light? Where is the light?' She says that although everyone, including her husband, was asleep, she herself was wide awake. - ED]

From Mrs G. Infanti, of Bloemfontein, S.Africa

Thank you for a most informative, intriguing and interesting magazine. I am busy reading it for the second time now, and am quite willing to receive all that info and all that news at the new and fair [subscription] price of R17 for 1997.

From Stewart and Sally Rau of Eastlea, Harare

On the night of 10th March, 1996 we were having a braai (barbecue) at Tchipise near Messina in S.Africa, where we had stopped for a few days break on our journey back to Zimbabwe. I had gone into the rondavel (round hut) for something or other and we made a practice of looking at the night sky to see if we could see any satellites - they go over from about 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

As I was looking towards the Milky Way, I saw a satellite; and then noticed something else - it looked like a lit up stick going across but in a different direction, going sideways and not like the satellite at all. I asked my husband if I was seeing things - especially relevant after so many eye problems and being 80% blind in my left eye. But he said no, he also saw what I saw and we wondered what it was. It seemed to disappear before it dropped off the horizon. Do you know whether anyone else reported this? Or perhaps it was a meteorite? But it was very peculiar ... because it travelled sideways.

[What Stewart and Sally Rau were seeing was indeed no satellite, but the tether rope attached to Columbia space shuttle, which broke and descended to Earth.

We did get many reports of this from various areas in southern Africa. ED]

Letter to J C C Wigham of Harare, from Dr Diana Cammack, Malawi.
In response to his query published in UFO AFRINEWS N° 14, July 1996.

Sir: Because it has been a year since I attended the MUFON Symposium in Seattle, my memory of Linda Howe's exact words is unreliable. My notes of the lecture provide little additional detailed information either. To the best of my recollection, she did not elaborate beyond what I quote. Nor will you find specifics in the MUFON Symposium's Proceedings, as she was talking extemporaneously when she made many of her more intriguing comments - such as the one cited about ET's being neither 'extraterrestrial, benevolent, nor neutral.' I cannot answer your question, but share your interest in what she meant. I can only suggest that you contact her or read some of her more recent writings.

I will add that many specialists now subscribe to the Area-51 story that was popularized by Bob Lazar, and that many would agree that at least some ET's are malevolent (see Budd Hopkins, David Jacobs and the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, or Tim Good's new book BEYOND TOP SECRET, for instance, as opposed to John Mack and the later work of Whitley Strieber). Some feel that an important aspect of the ET is that they are spiritual, or inter-dimensional, rather than extraterrestrial, though some would argue that they are all three!

As for entities living at the south pole, I can make no comment except to recommend that you read Graham Hancock's FINGERPRINTS OF THE GODS, which sheds new light on the mystery. In fact, he and several reputable scientists and social scientists are holding a Conference in the USA on the topic soon, which will present evidence of a pre-historical human civilization at the south pole which may have spread north from there.

With regards,
(Dr) Diana Cammack, Malawi.
e-mail: dcammack@unima.wn.apc.org.

Editor's Comment:

As some people in Africa are not aware of Bob Lazar, he was a controversial figure in the 1980s. Lazar maintained that he worked on back-engineering of captured spacecraft (9 altogether) for the US government in S-4, the most highly secret section of Area 51 where the US government carries out tests on new aircraft and weaponry. Subsequently, the government discredited Lazar by going into his background and attempting to disprove his allegations. It is true that both CalTech and M.I.T. could provide no evidence of Lazar having been at these Universities, but later he produced a classmate who remembered him. He was also accused of 'pandering'- an American word for running a house of ill-repute - together with a family member, and he did admit to this.

Lazar said he had lived in Las Vegas while working in S-4 and it was later found that he had been listed in the Las Vegas telephone directory for the time he stated. But there is some mystery about his background and one wonders whether it was because the American government wanted to 'wipe him out' for talking, or whether there was something not quite right about him. I actually find him credible, but then I live a long, long way from Area 51!

To confirm what Dr Cammack is saying, it is true that some of the top investigators now believe that ET's originate from another Dimension or another Time, a theory to which I too subscribe. I have some doubts about the malevolence of ET's, though; I think that perhaps their interest in us is for their own benefit and therefore they are not always as careful as they could be.

If it is true that they cannot reproduce and therefore need our ova and sperm, then that does mark them as malevolent. On the other hand, if they require our body organs for renewal, then they would have to kill humans to obtain what they need!

This is still a worldwide controversial question and one that has never been solved. - ED.

OBITUARY

I have just heard that Henry, the main and only witness in 'The Alien and the Engineer' story, passed away on 15th October 1996. He had been ill for some time with heart problems and this was probably the cause of his death. The reason I am not sure, is that his wife is Spanish and does not speak English, so I only have the announcement of his passing from her.

Henry always wanted to remain anonymous because of his position as Chief Engineer in his firm in the Cape area of Paarl.

He questioned what had happened to him and never accepted it totally, despite having found marks where the craft stood when he returned to the site the following day. Because he was an engineer, he found it all far too difficult to accept.

He was a kindly man and very analytical in his approach, and I regret I did not see more of him, nor have more time to discuss his experience.

Farewell, Henry; I'm sure you now know **all** the answers.

SNIPPETS

Astronomers can't identify 97% of the matter in Space (that which they can see!)

p. 36, TIME Magazine, Jan. 18, 1993

National Geographic, January 1994, suggests that all we can identify is 1% of matter in Space.

from E B Etheridge, Harare.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

WITHOUT CONSENT, by Philip Mantle & Carl Nagaitis.

All about abductions in Great Britain.

Can be obtained directly from the author at 1, Woodhall Drive, Batley, W. Yorkshire WF17 7SW, at £16.00, plus postage.

Readers ordering the above can also enquire about the follow-up title, hereunder:

BEYOND ROSWELL, by Michael Hesemann & Philip Mantle. Published by Marlow & Co. Price not yet known.

This book covers Roswell, MJ-12, Area 51 and much more; also comments on the Santilli film of the autopsy of an alleged alien body in 1947. This is treated in a positive manner and until the negative (some comments are certainly valid) side is proven, we have an open mind.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE FOURTH KIND, by C D Bryan.
Price: £8.50.

This is an excellent covering of abductions, mostly in the USA. Bryan has treated the matter without prejudice and is not totally gullible in his assessment. He has stated the facts and leaves the reader to judge, and the facts alone present some fascinating correlations with the few abductions we have heard about in Southern Africa.

This book will be reviewed at a later date.

BEYOND TOP SECRET, by Timothy Good.
Price: £17.

As is his wont, this book is carefully and reliably researched by Timothy Good. It is a virtual follow-up of **ABOVE TOP SECRET**, and for the serious investigator and student of UFOs, this is a **must**.

OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS, by Nick Pope.
Price £14.

Until recently, Nick Pope worked as UFO co-ordinator in the MoD in Great Britain. Although he doesn't 'spill the beans' completely, there is enough material here to show that there is more to UFOs than the British Government admits.

NB. With the exception of the first book, all the above may be obtained from **Lionel Beer, 115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2QY, England.**

BEYOND THE LIGHT BARRIER, by Elizabeth Klarer
THE TWELVE PLANETS SPEAK, by Carl van Vlierden
UFO AFRINEWS *

The above books on Southern African UFOs may be ordered from Aquarian Book Centre, Shop 18 The Galleria, Rosebank, Johannesburg.

UFO AFRINEWS may also be ordered direct from **Gemini, Box MP49, Mt Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe.** Payment by cheque/Postal Orders made out to C R Hind. Please write for prices.

UFOs AND ABDUCTIONS IN BRASIL, by Irene Granchi. Pub. Horus House Press, Wisconsin.

A great read of some of the most exciting cases in Brasil over a period of many years, up to 1975. The author is busy on a follow-up to bring her cases up to the present. Irene Granchi is President of CISNE, the Brazilian UFO group operating from Rio de Janeiro. She is experienced and knows her subject extremely well. Don't miss out on these fascinating cases.

THE UFO ENCYCLOPEDIA, by Jerome Clark. Vols. I, II and III.
Price, US\$56,95 per volume.

For those who can afford it, this is the answer to the study of UFOs. Jerome Clark is absolutely meticulous in his reporting of UFO cases. He is neither too

gullible nor too denigrating; his records are as near to the actual case history as you will ever get. A true chronicle of what is happening around us and which is being ignored (or deliberately hidden) by the governments of the world.

NEW...NEW...NEW...

WITNESSED, Price, US\$23. New book by Budd Hopkins, the foremost exponent of abduction cases in the USA. This is the **Linda Cortile** story, where her abduction through the closed windows of her apartment, in full view of several witnesses, took place. One of the witnesses is alleged to have been of the highest in the land, together with two of his bodyguards. Also, motorists on Brooklyn Bridge, stalled by the presence of the UFO, have reported their viewing of this extraordinary case.

UFO DANGER ZONE, by Bob Pratt. Pub. Horus House Press, Wisconsin. Price, US\$16,99.

If you really want to know what is happening in the world, you need to read Bob Pratt's record of cases in Brasil. Examples: Lights in the sky which turn into aggressive UFO attacks on individuals, trying to draw them into the UFO by a strong suction method, or pouring hot liquid on **recalcitrant** victims who cling to trees, bushes and fences in defiance of the UFOs wanting them on board.

For the first time, we read of people dying after these attacks; perhaps not directly caused by the UFO, but certainly as a result of stress, strain and terrible anxiety as to their ever coming home again.

Nevertheless, the advent of extreme heat (resulting in burned tissue) or extreme cold from the UFO, could also have a direct result, not to mention the nausea, severe headaches and paralysis often suffered by people who have no immediate access to medical care. Whilst Bob Pratt does not want to be an alarmist, he certainly reports with honesty and unbiased assessment.

Wake up, World, we really need to know **WHAT'S GOING ON!**

NB. Both the above titles may be ordered from Arcturus Book Services, 1443 S.E. Port St Lucie Blvd, Port St Lucie, FL 34952, USA.

COMING SHORTLY:

UFOs AFFECTING AFRICA, by Cynthia Hind. Pub. Horus House Press, Wisconsin. Approx. price, US\$16.99. Due out in April 1997.

An in-depth study of UFO events in Africa, most of which have been personally investigated by the author. If you think Africa is off the beaten track, UFO-wise, then read this book for the real story. Written with international denigrators like Carl Sagan and Philip Klass in mind, this book goes to show that although abductions in Africa are minimal, cases like La Rochelle (Zimbabwe), Drakenstein Mountain Pass (Cape, S.Africa), Pilot Report (Mozambique), Ariel School children (Ruwa, Zimbabwe), and many, many more from both the rural population and the more sophisticated people of Africa, will certainly astound you.

UFOS - whatever they are, are **HERE!**

So wake up, Africa, to their reality.

MAGAZINES:

MUFON JOURNAL - Monthly. Subscription, US\$30 per annum. Issued by MUFON. Editor, Dennis Stacey. Address: 103 Old Towne Rd. Seguin, Texas 78155-4099, USA.

Unbiased analyses of recent UFO cases from USA and around the world. With some 5000 members, this is the largest and most powerful UFO organization in the world.

IUR - International UFO Reporter - Editor, Jerome Clark. Subscription: US\$30 annually. Address: 2457 W.Peterson Ave, Chicago IL 60659, USA.

Issued quarterly, with some of the most prestigious contributors in the world supplying articles, this is a well-worth read.

SPECULATION

I saw this light, shining on high,
Hung like a jewel, bright in the sky.
I gasped open-mouthed, wond'ring why
It seemed to be like a curious eye.

I saw it move, just to and fro,
And then it was gone, not far below...
The trees were glist'ning with winter snow.
I can't help wond'ring, where did it go?

Could it have been an alien craft,
Drifting in Space like a sea-tossed raft?
But my friends all cried, 'Don't be daft,
It's the planet Venus', they pointed and laughed.

I'm not so sure; I think they would dare
To commune with me; I can almost swear.
And if they were not, what do I care?
I know they exist; I know they are there!