

Sr Crivillén adds that he has personally discussed this case with Carlos Yárnoz, the author of the article, and says that he is himself in a position to be able to confirm many of the details of the story as given.

If, therefore, it looks as though one is now under an obligation to regard the "UFOS" of March 5, 1979, as highly dubious, what are we to think of a much earlier report, dating from June 22, 1976, which was compiled at some length by J.M. Sánchez and constituted the lead-story (with cover-photograph) for FSR 23/3 (October 1977)? J.M. Sánchez's account dealt not only with various "things seen in the skies", but also with a huge luminous sphere seen hovering very low over Gran Canary Island and containing two gigantic entities about 3 metres in height.

One has to recognize that the photograph taken from Maspalomas in the southern part of Gran Canaria Island that night does look all too suspiciously like the photographs of the "Soviet missiles" as now identified by the Spanish authorities! So what are we to think?

But, on the other hand, be it noted that the huge craft which was seen by many witnesses (including members of the crew of the Spanish warship "Atrevida", then cruising south of Fuerteventura), to fly in a northwards curving trajectory, at a speed of some 3,000 km.p.h., and from east to west, across the whole of the Canary Island Group, from Fuerteventura in the east to Tenerife in the West, was not travelling in the correct direction to be a Soviet missile bound for Siberia!

At this late date, it is not likely that we shall ever learn much more about these two episodes, namely of June 22, 1976, and March 5, 1979. But we can tuck them away carefully in our "mental records", as we have always done over claims by James Oberg or others that certain "UFO phenomena" over Russia have really been rocket firings from Plesetsk. After all, all these things are perfectly possible and perfectly reasonable. (*But nobody, in 1988, is going to persuade*

us, as Oberg wishes to do, that all "UFOS" are Russian rockets!)

And — as regards the Canary Islands — given the normal degree of Government secrecy on UFOs still prevailing in Spain, how do we know that this latest story about the Soviet submarines isn't itself just another *cover-up*?

2. Queen Sophia of Spain sees secret UFO files

The article by Carlos Yárnoz concludes with an interesting item. It will be recalled that, in FSR 32/3, we have just published the *magnum opus* by J.P. Crivillén and his colleagues on "The Attitude of the Spanish Authorities towards the UFOs", and the strict secrecy maintained on our subject in Spain.

Carlos Yárnoz now tells us that

"When no logical or reasonable explanation is found, several possible hypotheses remain, and the case is filed away.

"In the Air Force Headquarters there exists a small Archive where all these files, classified as "materia reservada", i.e., secret material", are kept.

"This Archive is inside the Flight Safety Section, which is under the direction of Colonel Sergio Rubiano.

"In recent years, only one person outside the Air Force Headquarters has been able to read these reports on what are considered to be UFOs. This is the Queen, who takes a keen interest in these matters, and who, some months ago, asked whether it would be possible for her to see the documents in question. A few days later, the entire set of files, complete, was forwarded by the Air Force Chief of Staff to the Royal Palace (Palacio de la Zarzuela) and, shortly afterwards, the Queen returned them." — G.C.

PECULIAR DEATH OF A BRITISH SCIENTIST

As FSR readers will know, there was a spate of "mystery deaths" in 1987 involving British scientists who had been engaged on secret defence work, communications satellites, and such projects.

One of these cases involved David Sands, a Marconi scientist who died when his car crashed at high speed into a restaurant wall and exploded into a ball of flame.

The North Hampshire coroner, Mr John Clark, was told by the Police that there had been much speculation in the British media that this death might be "linked in some sinister way" with the deaths of other scientists, several of whom had recently died in mysterious circumstances in and around one particular region in the West of England even though they did not all work or live there. However, the coroner said he found no grounds for linking the deaths.

David Sands, aged 37, of Itchen Abbas, Hampshire, had been a project manager with Easams, a sister company of the big British defence contractors, Marconi.

Pathologist Dr Roger Ainsworth told those participating in the inquest that the crash had occurred at Popham on March 30. Mr Sands, who, as the pathologist emphasised, *had not been drinking*, was badly burned, and sustained multiple injuries which proved fatal.

Mrs Anna Sands told the inquest members (the

enquiry was held in Basingstoke, Hampshire) that her husband had been happy in his work, though he was concerned at the prospect of the imminent death of his father. She said they were happily married, and had two children.

Mr Sands had talked vaguely about seeking a change of job and, *two days previously*, had "seemed a bit confused" when he returned home after being "missing" for several hours. She said he did not seem to realize how long he had been absent.

The officials at the inquest heard that Mr Sands had been dedicated to his work on Communications, including work on *satellites*. He held a senior managerial post, and was very successful. He had never expressed dissatisfaction with what he was doing, and in any case could always have switched to work on other projects had he so desired.

P.C. Anthony Rush, giving evidence, said Mr Sands was wearing his seat-belt at the time when his car was driven "at high velocity" into the building, where it demolished the wall and became embedded in the property. There were no skid-marks on the road. The vehicle could have been steered into the building or it could have deviated into it for some other reason.

The coroner said that it would be unsafe to return a verdict of "suicide", as there were no letters or notes left by Mr Sands, who had gone to work that day in the usual fashion. It seemed, however, that for some

reason or other he had chosen to turn back and had struck the building. Recording an open verdict, the coroner said: "The evidence does not specifically reveal facts for which any other verdict could be brought."

Commenting on this case in a letter to us recently, FSR Consultant Rev. Donald Thomas of Oxford draws attention to the fact that Sands was described by his wife as having "returned home confused two days before, after being missing for several hours", and he comments:

"We have heard of that before!"

Yes, indeed. We have.

There are countless mysterious deaths of this kind. What, we may wonder, lies behind the recent long series of disasters in the American Space Programme? About twenty years ago, it will be recalled, we heard that Russian authorities were seriously worried when one of their top scientists was pushed in front of a train on the Moscow Subway by a woman who had no

idea who he was but said that "Spacemen had told her to do it!"

Is an alien campaign of *mental sabotage* being stepped up?

We might bear in mind, for example, that, as Timothy Good shows in his new book ABOVE TOP SECRET: THE WORLDWIDE UFO COVER-UP, there is a lot of good evidence that the American astronauts were warned off the Moon.

(Incidentally, if they weren't warned off, how does it come about that nobody ever talks or writes about the Moon any more, and nobody talks about going back there?) — G.C.

Postscript

Note that the death of Mr Sands as described in the article above, occurred in *Hampshire*. *Hampshire* is one of the counties where "something" is so busily creating rings in the cornfields. — G.C.

"BE PREPARED TO MEET THY ALIENS!"

UNDER this superbly fatuous headline, the London *Evening News* of July 21, 1987, carried an interesting item about the attention given by the Vatican and the Catholic Hierarchy to "our subject".

It is in fact more than twenty years since FSR first received very trustworthy reports, from several sources, that the Vatican was devoting a lot of thought to the UFO Problem, and it will be recalled that even Pope John XXIII himself was said to have had a UFO sighting one day as he walked in the Papal Gardens.

One remarkable feature of the story as now published is the completely stupefying conceit which assumes so blandly that any alien creature encountered in the immensity of the Cosmos must necessarily stand to benefit from a course of instruction in Higher Matters from representatives of terrestrial mankind!

Even more stupefying of course is the assumption that the creatures they would meet must necessarily come from "Outer" Space, whereas so much of the available evidence indicates that (a) they are from our "Inner" Space right here, and (b) that they are probably nothing but the typical old-fashioned common or garden demons. (Such "Gentry" were thoroughly familiar to the Founders of Christianity, and we know what both Jesus of Nazareth and St. Paul thought and said about them. But we have all got so much smarter now and, enlightened by the clear beam of Marxism,

sensible folk realize that there *are* no demons. Except, of course, for ... you know whom ...)

Highlights of the Vatican Report:

... "The strange and historic decision was taken after Vatican theologians had decided that future developments would make the training of Space missionaries of prime importance.

"Jesuit scientists at the Vatican Observatory at Frascati, near Rome, have reported moving lights and other unidentified phenomena in the sky.

"Starting in September, the Vatican University will have a special UFO Section.

"Vatican theologian Father Pierre Thorel said that special courses concerning future missionaries in Space and first contacts with alien races would be held by Professor Resch, who is responsible for the new Chair at the University's Alfonsian Academy.

"Father Thorel said: 'I am surprised that there should be this enthusiasm over missionaries in Space or the Christianization of alien races. After all, the existence of the alien races is hardly *certain*. However, the main worry of the Church is to keep up with the times, and this means we can neither ignore Space exploration nor the possibility of meeting other living creatures'".

DOROTHY KILGALLEN — ANOTHER STRANGE TWIST?

OLDER readers of FSR will recall that, on page 6 of our Volume 1, No. 3 (July–August 1955) we reproduced, from the *Los Angeles Examiner*, the strange syndicated account dated May 22, 1955, from this lady journalist, of her meeting in London with "a high British official of Cabinet rank" (believed by us at the time to be Lord Louis Mountbatten) who had assured her that a crashed UFO, "crewed by small men, probably under four feet tall", had been examined by British scientists and airmen.

In common with a number of other people, I at once wrote to Dorothy Kilgallen, but never got an answer from her, and we took it for granted that she had been silenced in the usual fashion.

Dorothy Kilgallen was a well known and very widely syndicated staff correspondent of the *New York Journal-American*, and her column appeared regularly in scores of newspapers across the United States.

(See page 23)