

1966:

Wilmslow, UK

CE1

Policeman.

(there may have been a 2nd distant observer).

(see FSR)

5

POLICE CONSTABLE OBSERVES A UFO

BUFORA has received the following report from Police Constable Colin Clive Perks of Wilmslow, Cheshire.

"On the night of Thursday / Friday 6th. to 7th. January 1966, which was a cold clear night with a Full Moon which made visibility very good . . . . I was checking property at the rear of a large block of shops which are situated to the East of the A.34 Road, Alderley Road, Wilmslow, at 4.10 a.m. I heard a high-pitched whine and could not 'place' the noise, which was unfamiliar in those surroundings. I turned around and saw a green-grey glow in the sky, about 100 yards from me and 35 ft. up in the air . . . . The object was about the length of a 'bus, 30 ft. long, 20 ft. wide and 15 ft. high. It was elliptical in shape and emitted the eerie greenish-grey light. It appeared to be motionless - at anyrate there was no impression of rotation - and it had a flat bottom. The object remained stationary for about 5 seconds, then, without any change in the whine, it started moving. It moved very rapidly in an ESE direction. When it moved it did not appear to rotate but moved off sideways with the 30 ft. side to the front and rear. It is possible the short side, given as 20 ft., may have been longer, as I was looking under the object at the time and may have been deceived. The object was of a sharp, distinctive and definite shape and of a solid substance. I did not notice any vents, portholes or other means of access to the interior. The glow was from the exterior and was the only light visible. I checked with Jodrell Bank and Manchester Airport shortly after the incident but they could not help or in any way account for what I had seen."

EVALUATION :

I have very slightly condensed the above report and have made a few minor changes in wording in order to render it more easily understandable. The overall impression is, indeed, one of a truthful and conscientious public servant attempting to describe a phenomenon totally outside the range of his ordinary experience. It is to be noted that Constable Perks reported the incident to his superiors, which he would hardly have done if he had not seen the object, since flying-saucer spotting is hardly an 'Open Sesame' to promotion in the Police Forces of the U.K. This lack of motive rules out hoax and I am at a loss to explain away the sighting in conventional terms. Hallucination would seem to be the only remaining "out" for the sceptic. Only - is it at all likely that a policeman on his beat, inspecting properties for possible signs of unlawful entry, will, all of a sudden, begin to see visions and dream dreams? ANY UFO report involving one or two witnesses could be due to hallucination, of course. One is obliged to fall back on commonsense, which forbids the introduction of such an explanation in cases which do not exhibit any obvious reasons why otherwise normal persons should suddenly become the prey of gross delusion.

It is interesting to speculate on the possible reasons for the UFO being where it was at 4 a.m. on a January morning. The old Cultist chestnuts, "survey" and "mission," hardly fit the case. What are these low-hovering UFOs really up to?

J. C-B.

BUFORA J. 1(9)  
Summer 1966

memorandum

(Date)

To: Mr. [Name]

From: Mr. [Name]

(Page)

(P) [Name]

[Name]

# Wilmslow P.C.'s Report

By R. H. B. Winder

**Our contributor, a Chartered Engineer, is an honours B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering (Leeds University, 1944), and an Associate Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.**

POLICE CONSTABLE COLIN CLIVE PERKS, four years in the Cheshire Constabulary, 28 years old, married, was on duty during the cold clear early morning of Friday, 7th January, 1966; and at 4.10 a.m. was checking the back door of one of the shops which border the east side of the Alderley Road (A34) in the village of Wilmslow, 11 miles south of Manchester.

As he faced the door, he heard a high-pitched whine unlike any of the ordinary sounds of Wilmslow in the dark. It was not loud enough to waken the sleeping natives, but had a penetrating quality. He said to us that a high-speed electric motor might sound something like it but he knew of no closely comparable noise. He turned around to look to the east over the car park behind the shops, and the meadow beyond, and saw a solid looking object stationary about 35 ft. above the grass and about 100 yards from him. He had a clear view, unobstructed either by the solitary lamppost (not illuminated at that time) in the car park, or by any haze or mist.

He said that its upper surfaces glowed steadily with an eerie greenish-grey colour. The glow extended into the air around the object but did not obscure its clearly defined outline, as was shown in the sketch he made 20 minutes after the event and which was widely publicised. He explained that the lines across his sketch represent rounded but fairly sharp changes in the profile, matched by shading in the glow. The top dome was simply a continuation of the surface, looking no different from the remainder. He did not notice openings anywhere in the thing.

The base appeared dark, circular, featureless and flat. It was probably horizontal but presented an elliptical outline to his point of view. He mentally compared its major axis with the length of a 30-ft. bus and judged its minor axis to be 20 ft. long. He concluded that the base was a 30 ft. diameter circle.

For five seconds, neither he nor the object moved. He admits to being frightened and attributes his immobility to his fear, but insists that

he kept his wits about him. He also attributes a slight stammer, which persisted for a few days afterwards, to the same cause. His speech is normally free from impediment.

After about five seconds, and without changing its sound, the object moved rapidly away to the E.S.E. passing near a leafless tree, over the ever-green hedge bordering the far side of the meadow, over the suburban road beyond it and out of sight behind the roof of one of the houses on the other side of the road. Gordon Creighton and I looked at all these things, and the grass, when we visited the place with Constable Perks on March 10th, but could find no traces of the object's passage.

We understand that a colleague of the witness looked at the northern end of the car park (behind the Rex cinema) soon after the event and found it thinly covered by glass-like particles. This aspect requires further investigation. Perks did not see the arrival of the object, but its departure line if projected backwards would intersect the area in question.

After the departure, Perks hurried to the station and wrote a report. He also phoned Ringway Airport and the Radio Telescope installation at nearby Jodrell Bank: both were unable to assist in his enquiry. His superiors inspected his report but it was not published until March 2nd. In the meantime two Ministry of Aviation representatives interviewed him and inspected the location but gave no opinion.

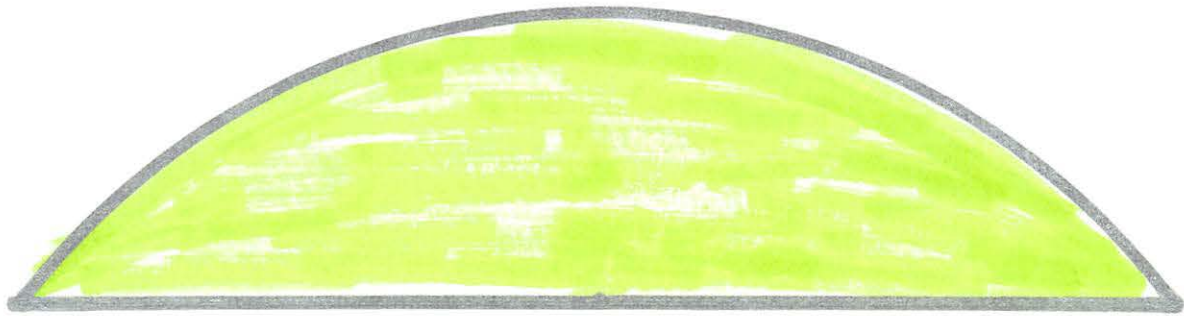
After publication, one corroborating witness came forward: Mrs. Amy Walker claimed to have seen a pearly green object over Lindow Garage 50 ft. away from her house. I have written to ask her for more detail.

This is a preliminary account of what seems to be an important sighting by a reliable and competent witness. I shall study it further and report again if any more data emerges. It is too early yet to draw any conclusions or comparisons. We understand that our colleagues in the Manchester UFO Society are also active and look forward to seeing what they have to say.

FSR 12 (2): Mar/Apr 1966.

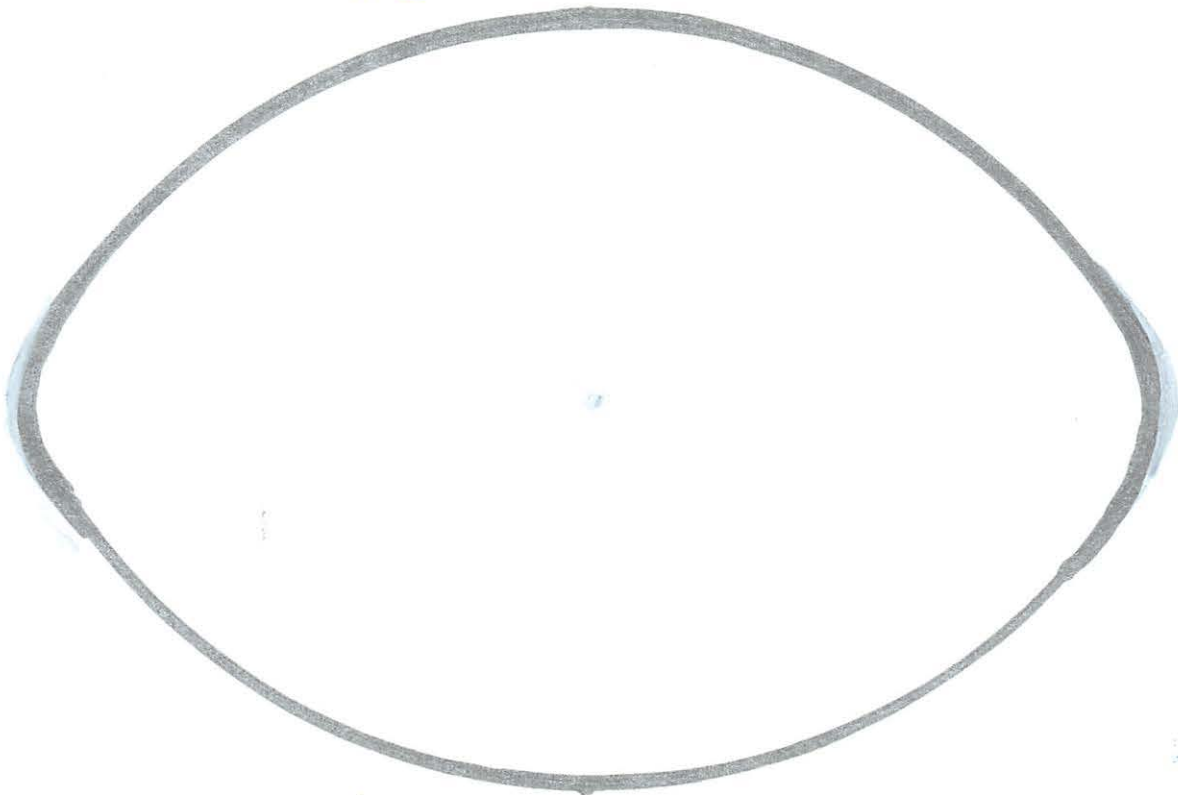
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Fig 15 (S): New York 1899.



Looking at the Object as it flew  
(i.e. horizontally)

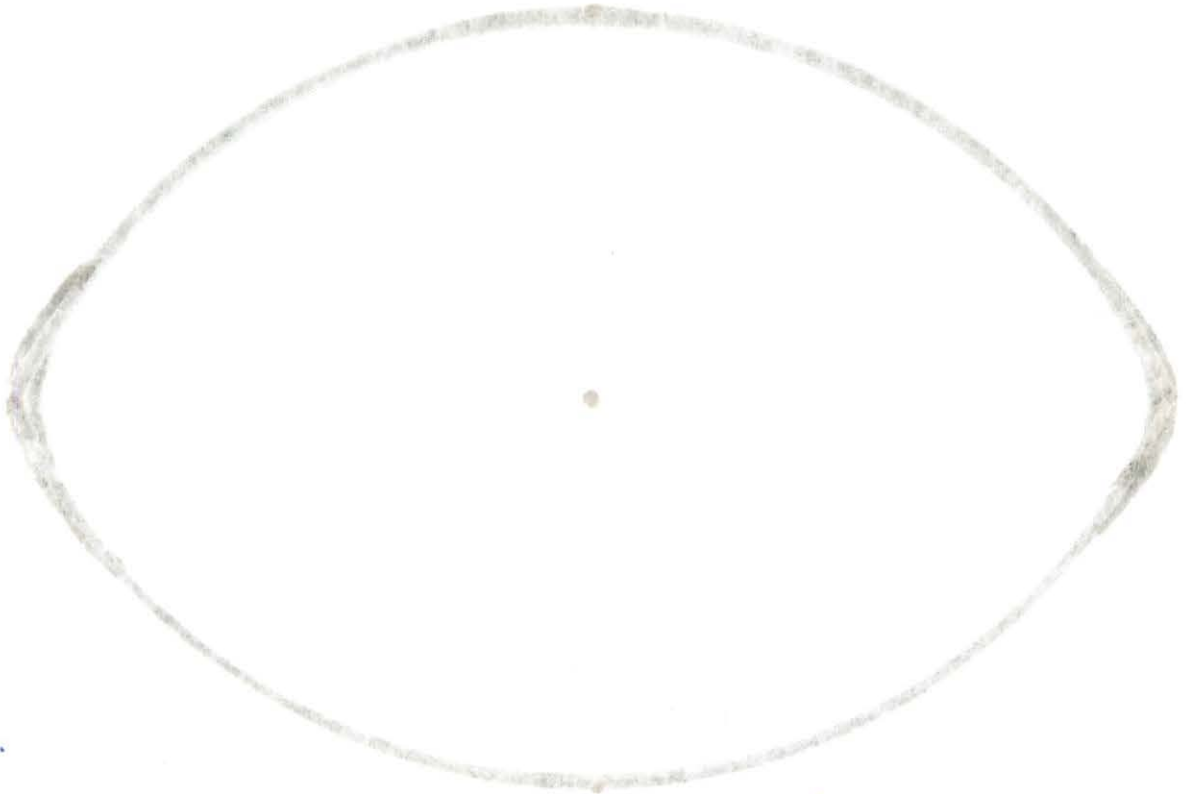
Color would be "dumbed-down" to more  
grayish (firefly green or even less).



Looking at object as it would seem  
from the bottom. (Color would  
be "dark")  
Object was featureless.



convex to the object and to produce  
 (parallel rays)  
 color would be "normal" as blue rays  
 (are more refracted than red)



convex to the object and to produce  
 (blue rays) . parallel rays  
 . object was featureless