

CASE No. 6-

December 7, 1954 - ISLA DEL FRANCES; RIO SANTA LUCIA
(On the border of Conelones and San Jose Provinces.
Statement by one of the witnesses (Mr. Sarandi
D'Alvora) taken from "LA TRIBUNA POPULAR" of January
8, 1955.)

CE1

Conelones
URUGUAY

"On December 7 I had gone with three friends to ISLA del Frances, where we have a bungalow. We planned to spend the night and the whole of the next day on the island, fishing, swimming, etc.

"At about 9:30 p.m. my friend prepared dinner with the equipment in the bungalow. Suddenly, over the trees in the direction of the

river, I saw a luminous object travelling at tremendous speed in an ascending trajectory. One of my friends also saw it. I went to them and briefly recounted the episode, although I did not give all the details. We were talking about it when the object appeared again, at great speed and this time in a descending trajectory, from North to South as though it intended to land or dive into the water at the extreme ~~south~~ southern end of the island. Because of the trees we could not see how close to the earth it had come. We decided to go see it; already the strangeness and anxiety were enormous.

"We got into a boat and started to row (having resolved not to use the motor) towards the south end of the island to the mouth of the Rio Santa Lucia, known as "Paso del Bote". We had gone some 300 meters ~~towards the water~~ and were about 25 meters from the shore, when we saw a large object on the ground. It was elliptical with a diameter of some 10 meters; it was 1 4/5 meters high at the central point. It seemed steel grey, at times bluish with yellowish tones.

"On the outside edge it seemed to have an uninterrupted line of escape hatches or some such thing, from which, when it flew, shot out a luminous blue haze, which made it easy to see when in flight.

"We were familiar with such craft from press reports, etc., on these strange objects, which generally state that the top part is semi-spherical like a cupola. The craft we saw did not have this characteristic, although it did have a cone which was not cut off at the top.

"When we were 60 meters from the apparatus, one of my friends, eager to get there quickly, made the mistake of starting the motor. Nor did we think of the consequences of getting near the craft.

"We had not advanced 10 meters with the motor on when the 'flying saucer', after a tiny movement (almost imperceptible) took off at fantastic speed on an oblique trajectory passing only a few meters over our heads. We were still so amazed, surprised and fearful of what we had seen that we decided to go to the spot where the craft had landed. There we noticed something curious: the water was hot (although not scalding).

"As a consequence of this 'visit' there were no fish the next day. Also we saw many dead doves (between 200 and 300)."

Mr. D'Alvora stated that they all decided to spend the day on the island because there was no point in telling their story since they would have great difficulty making anyone believe what they had seen (note that it was a month before they went to the press).

7
Answers
QUESTIONS

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]