

CONNECTICUT CIGAR

1979

CASE NO.: 5-1-3

TYPE: DD

DATE: 11-27-79

TIME: 4:25 PM

DURATION: 8 min.

WITNESSES: 7

PLACE: Norwich, Connecticut



This case, investigated by Lawrence Fawcett for IUR, received some press attention in the area. Yvette Godfrey, 26, the assistant manager of the Slimtique Figure Spa in Norwich's Barker Shopping Plaza spotted the cigar-shaped form depicted below out her window to the SW. Other women at the spa were called over to see it as it hovered directly over the Norwich Sheraton Motor Inn, 1/4-mile away. It appeared to be positioned about 30 feet above the "SHERATON" sign atop the six-story structure, tilted at a 45° angle. All agreed that the cigar seemed to be as long as the space between the "H" and the "O" in the sign (inclusive). Fawcett learned that the sign was 57 feet long, so if the UFO was truly above the sign, it would have been 42 feet long and (roughly) 15 feet wide. At any rate, the angular size at that dis-

your pyjamas?), that they were supposed to go to the market, and that the car was stolen. N'Diaye explained to him that they had been searching for him for days. The two went to Prevost's home, where Fontaine was subsequently rejoined with his mother and his fiancée (some papers say "friend") Marina, 21.

Fontaine told the gendarmes at 7 AM all he could remember. He was moving along in his car, stopped, and noticed on his right a luminous ball that grew larger and larger until it enveloped the entire car. The last thing the young Frenchman remembered was strong irritation in his eyes. Then his conscious memory became a blank.

Interestingly enough, the three young men were presented to the court at Pontoise and risk being charged with criminal mischief ("outrage to the forces of order"). Yet police note that all three tell the same story under repeated grilling and seem quite sincere. "This is just too fantastic," said Police Chief Roger Courcous following their testimony. Yet he found himself hard-pressed to conclude that the the three were making up a story just to obtain some attention. "That could only bring them grief," he told the French press,



tance was appreciable: about 1/2" at arm's length. The pinkish-white, fuzzily-outlined cigar (some said "football") then moved a little further to the south - still tipped over at an angle - and stopped for a minute. Witnesses outside could hear no noise from it. Then it turned west and headed off into the clouds.

No insights were gained into the sighting one way or the other when Fawcett and John Beach checked with Tweed-New Haven Airport, local ad plane companies, the Good-year blimp staff, Otis Air Force Base, the National Guard and the U.S. Weather Service. The Sheraton staff seemed to be unaware of the event until the story appeared in the newspaper; no power outages were noted. It wasn't the moon.

SIX DAYS LATER IN CONNECTICUT

CASE NO.: 5-I-4
TYPE: CE 1
DATE: 12-4-79
TIME: 5 PM
DURATION: 5 min.
WITNESSES: 2
PLACE: West Willington, Connecticut

CE1



Driving north on Rt. 32 through a fairly rural area, a 25-year old store owner and a 17-year old female passenger spotted what looked like an illuminated football-shaped "cloud" hovering low over the trees to the north, banking and turning slowly. Proceeding past the intersection at Rt. 44, he pulled off the

TYPE: CE III (?)

DATE: 11-26-79

TIME: 4:30 AM

DURATION: several minutes

WITNESSES: 3

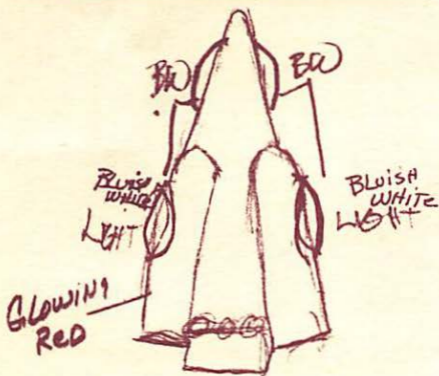
PLACE: Cergy-Pontoise, France

SOURCE: several domestic and foreign newspaper accounts

The abduction case arising from this small town northwest of Paris has attained worldwide attention, yet most of the details are characteristically lost to the conscious memory of the abductee. Frank Fontaine, 19, was loading a station wagon with clothes to take to an open-market in Gisors in the company of two friends, Jean-Pierre Prevost, 25, and Salomon N'Diaye, 25 (the spelling of these names varies slightly among the different sources). All three noticed a long, opaque trail composed of white lights like stars descending at an angle in the sky over the "centrale electrique". The three young men watched the event for 3 or 4 minutes before Fontaine stated,



Frank Fontaine, France's newest abduction claimant



road a tenth-mile ahead, parallel to the object which was now on his left side. The shape could now be resolved as sketched via the lights on its surface: 3 white ones on top, two white lights on the sides, and a red and a green light on the bottom. The rear of this bicylindrical form revealed 2 round red glowing holes. It was seen to hover over the Connecticut Light and Power poles which are 300 feet from the road; the object appeared to be "3 pole lengths" (180') above the 60' pole. In angular size, the "massive" UFO was 6 times longer than the full moon, for an estimated size of 60' by 40'. While hovering, an intense blue light could be seen from front to back. When it banked right and left, a red glow could be seen $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way along its cylindrical sides. Finally, it moved south slowly and silently and was seen against a 450' mountain located a mile away. The witnesses spun around in their car and tried to follow it but lost it.

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der and its current director,

moves through Gendarmerie channels differently, coming to the attention of GEPAN sometimes weeks later. In all cases, however, early or late, a fourth group, the "expertise" group, is involved. They analyze, code and classify the 100-200 reports transmitted to GEPAN's Toulouse headquarters each month. Naturally, most of them will be IFOs; GEPAN uses a four-level classification scheme based on the level of confidence and information at hand:

- Type A - definitely IFO
- Type B - probably IFO
- Type C - probably UFO
- Type D - definitely UFO.

GEPAN has been using my familiar six-category system on a temporary basis for the type "D" reports on a temporary basis until they can adopt a more comprehensive classification based on actual characteristics rather than the circumstances of the observation. This was the subject of considerable discussion at the August 1970