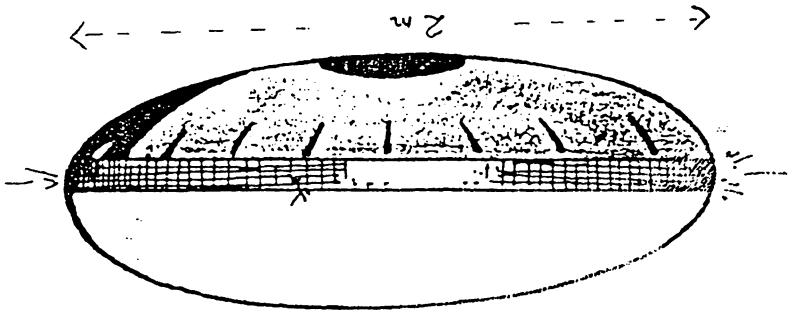
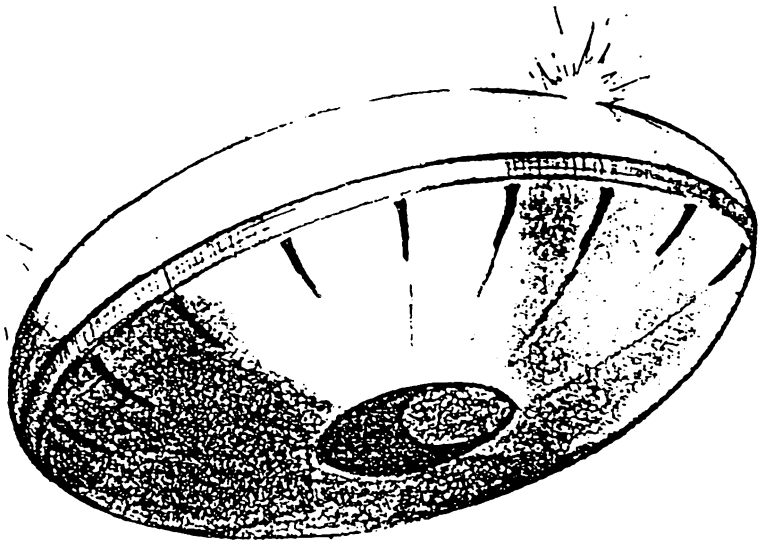
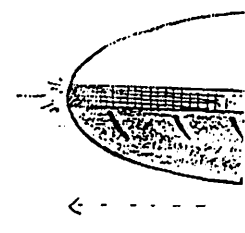
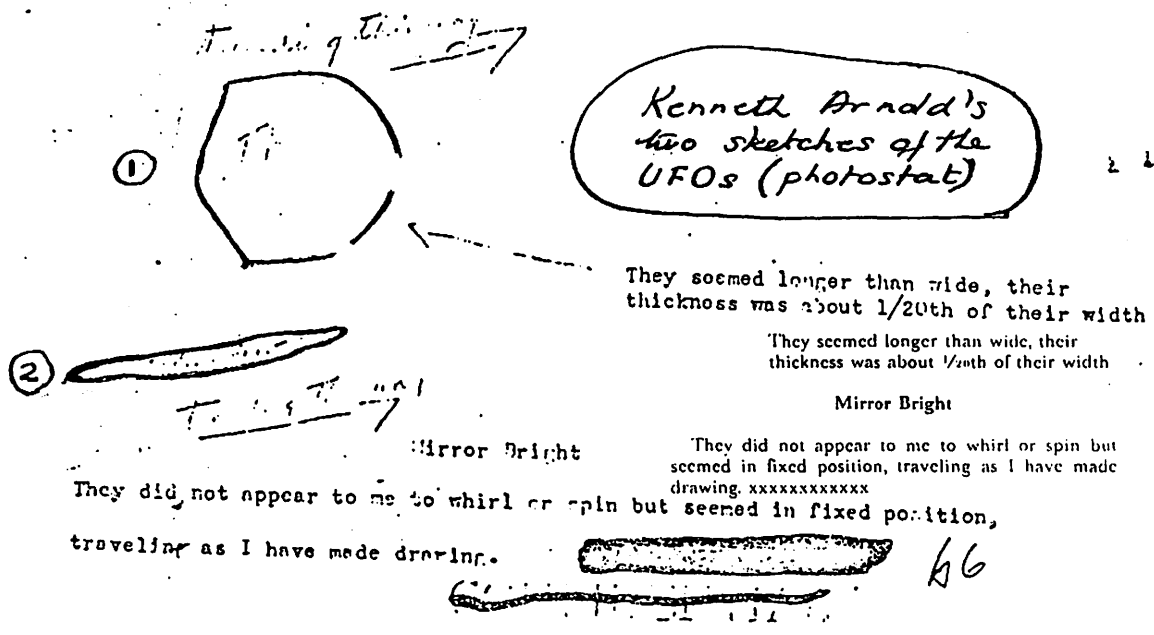


1982: over
Portugal
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CI in air.







base. Around the edge met, he thought he could see a tubercle or irregular light brightly, and, as a matter of its diameter. Lt. J.M.G. reported — "a ball of mercury in the vicinity picked up by mutual badinage, with a balloon, or even a bottle". To which pretty remarkable "I shoot up from 100 m and then fly rings. And that silenced the

The UFO was not estimated by him to be 60 metres and to be 60 m the area between J.M.G. himself was flatter of about 1,500 m and at a speed of 17 of the UFO at over

At no time did he see any lights or upon him.

The other two engines A.G., arrived in a trainer, at about 1100 object agrees largely it seemed metallic raised convex area. This "grid", they "flashes", which the inasmuch as the "one side and green resembled rather electric

They duly reported the object in view. The object was about ten minutes between the two aircraft. It came in front of them and was able to arrive at a distance of about two metres. long and 10.46 m.

CLOSE SIGHTING BY PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE PILOTS (NOVEMBER 1982)

José Sottomayor and António Rodrigues
(C.N.I.F.O. UFO Investigation Group, Lisbon)

(Précis Translation from Portuguese)

We are much indebted to our esteemed Portuguese Consultant, Sr. Joaquim Fernandes, of the Portuguese UFO Investigation Group C.N.I.F.O. for sending us this lengthy and painstaking report on a recent event in his country. Owing to our lack of space we regret that we can only give the salient details of it. He and other senior members of C.N.I.F.O. were able to discuss the case subsequently, in a private interview, with General Brochado Miranda, Chief of Staff of the Portuguese Air Force, a fact clearly emphasising the entirely serious view which that Air Force takes of this very typical UFO sighting. — EDITOR

This episode occurred in fine bright daylight, between 1050 and 1150 hrs on the morning of November 2, 1982 in the region between Torres Vedras and the Serra de Montejunto (mountain range). That is to say, in an area just to the north-west of Lisbon, and over the Province of Estremadura.

The sky was clear, with unlimited visibility and little wind. In terms of *index of strangeness* it is graded as 2, and in terms of *index of credibility* as 3.

As indicated, the total sighting time was about 25 minutes, and two Portuguese Air Force training planes were involved, with pilots aboard them. These men, Pilot Lt. J.M.G., Ensign C.G., and Ensign A.G., were flying in Canadian-built *Chipmunk* DHC-1 primary training craft and came from OTA Air Base No. 2.

Lt. J.M.G., flying at an altitude of around 1500-1600 m. over Maxial, saw a shining object below, seemingly very close to the ground (maybe at 50 or 100m, he thought) moving on a N-S course. Just as he had decided that it would be a good thing to continue to watch it, it suddenly changed behaviour, as though realizing his presence, and in ten seconds it shot up to the same height as himself, which would mean that it had risen at about 504 km.p.h.

It then commenced to fly around him in great sweeps, and he was obliged to perform a series of tight curves accordingly, so as to keep track of it. It was now near enough for him to see that it was round and "resembled a ball of mercury". It consisted of two hemispheres (the lower one being reddish), metallic, shining, and with a circular dark area at the centre of its

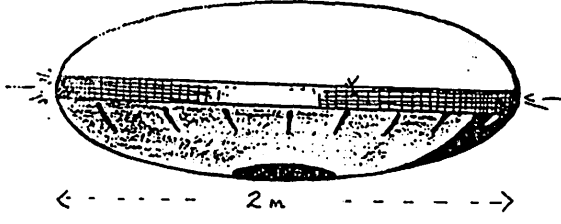
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base. Around the edge, where the two "hemispheres" met, he thought he could distinguish some sort of protuberance or irregularity. The object reflected the sunlight brightly, and, as will be seen later, the final estimate of its diameter set it at around two metres.

Lt. J.M.G. reported to his Base what he was seeing, — "a ball of mercury". Various other pilots in the vicinity picked up his message and there was some mutual badinage, with suggestions that he was seeing a balloon, or even a football, or that he had "been at the bottle". To which he retorted that it would be a pretty remarkable "balloon" or "football" that could shoot up from 100 metres to 1500 metres in seconds and then fly rings around him at a fantastic speed. And that silenced the chatter...

The UFO was now flying vast circles around him, estimated by him to have a perimeter of 21,000 metres and to be 6,000 to 8,000 m. in diameter, over the area between Torres Vedras and Montejunto. J.M.G. himself was flying in tight rings with a perimeter of about 1,500 metres, and diameter of 450 metres, and at a speed of 170 km.p.h. He estimated the speed of the UFO at over 2,500 km.p.h.

At no time did he observe any effects on his instruments or upon himself.

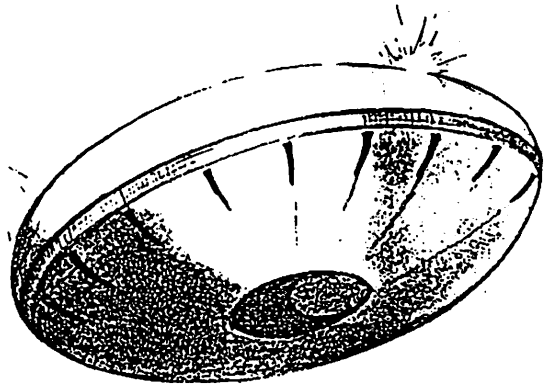
The other two eyewitnesses, Ensign C.G. and Ensign A.G., arrived on the scene, also in a *Chipmunk* trainer, at about 11.05 a.m. Their description of the object agrees largely with that of J.M.G., namely that it seemed metallic, of a rounded shape, with two raised convex areas and a "grid" around the centre. This "grid", they thought, emitted very intense "flashes", which they did not feel were due to sunlight, inasmuch as the "flashes" seemed to be reddish on one side and green on the other side, and thus resembled rather *electrical discharges*.

They duly reported to Base that they too had the object in view. The object continued to fly around for about ten minutes or so. At one moment it passed between the two aircraft, and C.G. was able to observe as it came in front of J.M.G.'s plane, and he was thus able to arrive at an estimate of its width — namely about two metres. (The "*Chipmunk*" trainer is 7.75 m. long and 10.46 m. wide).

Then finally, the UFO made a sweep, passing very near to J.M.G., and dashed off towards the slopes of the Serra de Cintra Range, lying to the south-west, and vanished from sight.

Back at Base, the three witnesses agreed that the object could not possibly have been a "balloon", and was clearly intelligently controlled.

As mentioned above, their general accounts agree, though not all of the three pilots had quite the same clear view of the central "grid" around the object, or of its lower dark circular centre. While two of them mentioned a system of "ribs" on the lower half of the object, the third did not, and A.G.'s account and sketch of it showed it rather as "cylindrical", with rounded ends, like a capsule, although he admits that



this may have been due to perspective. But A.G. was piloting, and was therefore obviously unable to view it as well as his companion, C.G. did.

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