

1976: La Palma / La Gomera, Canary Islands

June 22, 9:27pm

Source: published on the web on October 27, 2012 by Orbman, J.J. Benitez from OVNIS Documentos Oficiales del Gobierno Español, and many other docs



Sketch of the craft and occupants

One of the most bizarre reports of unusual phenomena occurred in 1976 in the Spanish Canary Islands. Although the case features a most extraordinary description of aliens and their craft, the occurrence is extremely reliable in that it includes multiple witness reports which agreed in all aspects of the case.

The phenomenon began on the night of June 22, 1976, as residents of Tenerife, La Palma, and La Gomera began reporting the sighting of unusual lights in the sky.

These lights and their maneuvers were different from any other thing that residents of the area had ever seen before. The next morning, newspapers wrote that “thousands of people” had witnessed a “spectacular phenomena” which lasted “twenty minutes.” The most sensational aspect was the sighting of the aforementioned “sphere” occupied by strange alien beings.

Three days later, the Commanding General of the Canary Island Air Zone sent an “Investigative Adjutant” to investigate

the events. His report was forwarded by a Spanish Air Force General to the journalist J. J. Benitez in 1976. Benitez's investigation would be the basis of his book, "UFOs: Official Documents of the Spanish Government."

The case would capture attention in 1994, when files of the investigation were released as part of the unveiling of Spanish files, a type of "Freedom of Information act". The 1976 report was massive, containing over one hundred pages of declarations, evaluations, drawings, and more.

The official Air Force report of the incident was supported by statements of fourteen witnesses. It was controlled witness reliability based on their social status. A doctor's report was considered a high priority, whereas a common worker's report was given less importance.

In this particular case, anyway, all involved witnesses completely agreed each other and separately on the facts they saw. The report was very detailed, and presented chronologically.

The initial report of the Canary Island UFO came from the Navy's armed escort ship, the *Atrevida*. The ship was sailing off of the coast of *Fuerteventura* Island. The ship's captain gave a detailed report of what he and his crew observed at 9:27 pm, on June 22.

The entire crew saw an extremely bright yellow-blue light moving from the shore in the direction of the ship, located three and a half miles on the sea. At first, several crewmen thought they were seeing a conventional aircraft with its landing lights on. The lights soon faded, and a type of beam began to rotate, similar to a lighthouse.

Afterwards, an intense halo of yellow and blue could be seen covering the fantastic craft. Amazingly, the crew watched the craft for forty minutes. The craft seemed to be playing tricks with its lights, as they constantly changed property and shape.

Even though the light show was observed for a long period of time, the ship's radar didn't show any target.

Actual transcript-Captain of Atrevida.

“At 21:27 (Z) hrs. on 22 June, we saw an intense yellowish-bluish light moving out from the shore towards our position. At first we thought it was an aircraft with its landing lights on. Then, when the light had attained a certain elevation (15 – 18 degrees), it became stationary.

The original light went out and a luminous beam from it began to rotate. It remained like this for approximately two minutes. Then an intense great halo of yellowish and bluish light developed, and remained in the same position for 40 minutes, even though the original phenomenon was no longer visible.

“Two minutes after the great halo, the light split into two parts, the smaller part being beneath, in the center of the luminous halo, where a blue cloud appeared and the part from which the bluish nucleus had come, vanished. The upper part began to climb in a spiral, rapid and irregular, and finally vanished.

None of these movements affected the initial circular halo in any way, which remained just the same the whole time. Its glow lighted up parts of the land and the ocean, from which we could deduce that the phenomenon was not very far away from us, it was close.”

Only few minutes later, this same object was seen by residents of Canary Island properties. The majority of the sightings were by citizens of three villages; Galdar, Las Rosas, and Agaete. A medical doctor, a schoolteacher, a farmer, a taxi driver, and a housewife, among others, saw the phenomenon.

A thorough search by the Investigator Adjutant determined that there were no reports of “aerial traffic or military exercises at the time” that could possibly be the real cause for the sightings. The Adjutant, for the sake of clarity, divided the investigation into two different categories.

One was the larger craft observed by ship crewmen and others, and the second the smaller globe with the aliens aboard. By his own admission, of course according to human nature, the Adjutant had no problem believing the reports of the larger craft, but had many reserves accepting the orb with occupants, since the situation was humanly inconsistent for him.

The Investigator's last word on the subject was: "The fact that a very strange and peculiar aerial phenomena occurred on the night of 22 June is a true and proven fact, as incredible as its behavior and conditions may seem."

The incredible account of the sphere was submitted by Doctor Francisco Padron Leon, who lived in the city of Guia. His report is the most voluminous of the entire investigation. His background was thoroughly investigated, and he was found to be an upstanding, sane professional, whose word was considered truthful.

Padron had been summoned to make a house call, and commissioned a cab to take him to the location; the town of Las Rosas. As they rode along, the doctor and cab driver were engaged in conversation. Suddenly, the car lights pointed out a slightly luminous sphere shaped object.

The object was either landed, or hovering just above the ground. The object was made of a totally transparent and crystalline-like material. The doctor and driver both observed stars through the sphere. The object was bluish in color, with a diameter of about 200 feet. The lower part of the orb contained a platform of aluminum-like material with three consoles. At each side of the center there were two huge figures from eight to ten feet tall. They were dressed in red, and always faced each other.

The beings were humanoid in shape, with large heads covered with a type of helmet. The doctor, hardly believing his own eyes, asked for confirmation from his cab driver.

"Are you seeing what I am?" he asked.

The driver exclaimed, "My God! What is that?"

The cab was only a short distance from the patient's house, and upon arrival, the doctor observed a type of bluish smoke coming from a tube rising through the center of the object.

The doctor stated:

"We were talking about hunting... as we entered the last part of the road, the car lights pointed at a slightly luminous sphere that was stationary and very close to the ground, although I can't say for sure if it was landed.

It was made of a totally transparent and crystalline-like material, since I was able to see through it the stars in the sky. It had a tenuous electric blue color, without dazzling. It had a diameter of about 60 meters [200 ft.], and in the lower third of the sphere you could see a platform of aluminum-like color as if made of metal, and three large consoles.

At each side of the center there were two huge figures of 2.50 to 3 meters [8.5 to 10 ft.] tall, but not taller than 3 meters [10 ft.], dressed entirely in red and facing each other in such a way that I could always see their profile."

"Then I observed some kind of bluish smoke was coming out from a semi-transparent central tube in the sphere, covering the periphery of the sphere's interior without leaking outside at any moment.

Then the sphere began to grow and grow until it became huge like a 20-story house, but the platform and the crew remained the same size; it rose slowly and majestically and it seems I heard a very tenuous whistling."

The sphere grew to an enormous size as it began to ascend into the sky. The doctor ran home, and told the family about what he had seen. Running outside, they observed the sphere, which was now extremely high in the sky. It reached an enormous speed, accelerating toward Tenerife.

Finally it dissolved into a smaller size, and disappeared. Another witness, a lady who was a relative of the patient, was

watching television when suddenly the screen went blank, and her dogs began to bark outside. Running to a window, she saw the doctor's cab, and the blue sphere above it. She also noted that the sphere was transparent, with two beings inside. Shocked, she closed the windows and doors, and began to pray. There were several other sightings of similar nature throughout the year 1976 on the Island. The final and definitive report was ambiguous, though.

The sighting of the craft was accepted as genuine by investigators, although no earthly explanation was offered for its unique look and behavior.

On the other hand, although the witnesses of the smaller sphere with aliens were classified as totally reliable, the actual presence of the beings was questioned. In other words, the witnesses were telling the truth, but what they saw was unbelievable.

No other explanation was forthcoming on an official level, and the Canary Island phenomenon remains today as an authentic, well documented sighting of an unidentified flying craft with occupants.

Reliability evaluation:

high

something was really sighted, maybe a balloon;

possible confusion; giant figures somehow

sound like a projection from the ground;

details not completely investigated

