

# The Statesman

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## "THE FLYING SAUCER MAN" LEAVES DELHI Swiss Claims He Has Visited Three Planets

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Is the "flying saucer" a myth? Far from it, according to Mr Edward Albert, a 28-year-old Swiss national, who left Delhi for Pakistan en route to Switzerland on Monday. "I have not only seen the objects from outer space, but have taken photographs and even travelled in them thrice", he says.

He has about 80 photographs of the space objects—all taken with an old folding camera. The objects in the photographs vary in size and shape. One is a globular object with a round disc in the centre; another is funnel-shaped; a third is like a neon lamp; a fourth is a big, bright cross and others bright zigzag lines. Some of these have been taken on the ground and some flying in the sky. The sizes (one has to take Mr Albert's word for it) vary from two centimetres ("space scouts", he calls them) to 1,500 yards. Some of the photographs were taken in the day and some at night.

The photographs—taken in Greece, Jordan and India—are neatly kept in an album. Mr Albert politely declines a request for a copy of the photographs with the remark: "I can't spare them" He says he had



MR EDWARD ALBERT

taken about 400 photographs of the space objects but most of them have been stolen—some in Jordan, some in India.

Sitting bare-bodied in one of the cave-like monuments in Mehrauli in Delhi near the Buddha Vihara—where he had been staying since his arrival in India about five months ago—Mr Albert sounds rather weird. But then he clearly is not eager to talk about his experiences which, to say the least, are remarkable. Indeed, the little that he has to say has to be pried out of him. He doesn't want publicity, he doesn't care if anyone believes him or not. To the unbeliever he simply refuses to talk.

### VISIT TO 3 PLANETS

The first "flying saucer" he saw, according to him, was in Switzerland in 1958. Since then he has been seeing and often photographing them. They come almost once a month, he says. In the last five years he claims to have met and spoken to men from outer space ("they come from different planets"). "I have travelled on three occasions with the space men and have visited three planets—Satar, Kapar and Paranos, he says. In one, there was habitation ("all the objects were white", the other was shaped like a church and too hot to stay on and the third "was like a shimmering diamond" with no people. He says he was not allowed to stay in any planet for more than 10 to 15 minutes. Mr Albert nonchalantly says that he has collected some stones from the planets which he has kept at home (in Switzerland). "I won't be able to single out the planets now," he adds.

As for the space men, Mr Albert says that they look like human beings—"only they are much taller, have a certain glow about them and are spiritually much more advanced than human beings". They don't utter any words but understand any language and express themselves through telepathy, he says.

### A MISSION

"I have a mission to fulfil," says Mr Albert, but refuses to explain what it is. "I will disclose it when the time comes—positively before a year."

Besides his none too impressive clothes, his space album, camera and a couple of bags, Mr Albert has a pet monkey which he has named "Emperor". Soon after he landed at Mehrauli his money—\$350—was stolen. Since then he had been trying to get work or money but in vain. A few days ago he met a German youth, a hitch-hiker on his way back to Europe. The German (also with a pet monkey, "Empress") was glad to help the Swiss out. The Swiss, the German and the monkeys left on Monday evening by train for Lahore; from there they plan to hitch-hike their way to Europe—each to his native country.

The story of Mr Albert is as incredible as it is startling. He proposes to relate to German scientists his experiences, show his photographs and the objects that he says he has collected from the planets he visited. Has Mr Albert created history or is he a mystic who has let his imagination run wild? Time alone will tell.

It has been determined that the staff reporter who interviewed Meier and wrote the article was S. Venkatesh (see Kinder, Gary, *Light Years* (1987), p. 47).