refused to take a shovel or bulldozer to it. Like the *skeog* of Ballymagroartyscotch, the airport *sidhe* became the focal point of a controversy before the builders finally gave in and bypassed it.

At least one man has died on a *sidhe*. His name was Robert Kirk, and he was the minister of the church at Aberfoyle, Ireland, back in the seventeenth century. After a lifetime of scholarly research, he decided that fairies were invisible creatures composed of "congealed air." His body was found on a fairy mound and gave rise to the legend that the little people had carried off his soul.

The brothers Grimm, Jacob and Wilhelm, not only wrote scores of charming fairy stories, but they also studied the occult and wrote books about it. Some of their children's tales were based on the lore they collected. You undoubtedly remember the various stories about how secretive fairies are about their names. In Spence's *The Fairy Tradition in Britain* we are told, "To mention the fairy name either individually or collectively was not permissible. This restriction is associated with the belief that to know the name of a being presupposes a certain measure of power over him."*

In Scotland, the *na fir chlis* were "nimble men" who inhabited the sky. In Ireland and Wales, fairies with red-hued skins were called *fir darrig*, and the legendary ancestors of the men who built Stonehenge were known as *fir bolg*, the "men with bags," who lingered in swamps and bogs.

Angels, elementals, and ufonauts all play amusing games with their names, favoring minor variations on ancient languages. The late George Adamski, one of the first UFO contactees to receive publicity in the early 1950's, claimed that he had met an illustrious space person named Fir Kon, a name that was probably derivative from the ancient Gaelic, a language completely unknown to Mr. Adamski.

A forty-six-year-old TV repairman and ham-radio operator named Sidney Padrick was strolling along Manresa Beach near Monterey, California, early on the

*In most religions it is regarded as a grave offense to take the accepted name of God in vain, as in the Ten Commandments. Earlier cultures also demanded that the names of the gods be spoken aloud only with the greatest respect. This fear may have been based upon a certain awareness that invoking the name of a god could produce sudden supernatural manifestations.

morning of January 30, 1965, when he reportedly encountered a grounded UFO and was invited aboard by a mysterious voice. He is supposed to have met a 5-foot, 10-inch-tall man with short-cropped auburn hair, very pale skin, a very sharp nose and chin, and unusually long fingers. This ufonaut identified himself by a name which Mr. Padrick later spelled phonetically as Zeeno. Although Padrick had no knowledge of Greek, *xeno* (pronounced *zee-no*) is the word for stranger in that language.

In England, a glass phial filled with silver sand was found at an alleged UFO landing site in April, 1965. It was wrapped in a piece of parchment containing Greek lettering which spelled out "*Adelphos Adelpho*," meaning brother to brother. This was just one of the many curious finds in that Devon field where a gardener named Arthur Bryant reportedly chatted with two ufonauts on April 24, 1965. One of the ufonauts identified himself as Yamski. It was weeks before British ufologists learned that contactee George Adamski had died suddenly in Washington, D.C., on April 23, 1965, only a few hours before the Bryant contact. Mr. Bryant, himself, died of a brain tumor on June 24, 1967—on the anniversary of Kenneth Arnold's "first" flying saucer sighting twenty years earlier. Coincidentally, journalist Frank Edwards, author of two popular UFO books and a longtime researcher, passed away a few hours before Bryant in his home in Indiana. There have been other seemingly coincidental deaths in the UFO field on June 24. Frank Scully, author of *Behind the Flying Saucers*, died on June 24, 1964. Richard Church, a well-known British ufologist and contactee, died on June 24, 1967. And Willy Ley, the pioneer rocket and space authority, suffered a fatal heart attack on June 24, 1969. Perceptive readers will note that many of the events, both modern and historic, outlined in this book occurred on the twenty-fourth of the month.

Another Englishman, Arthur Shuttlewood, the editor of *Warminster Journal*, became involved in UFO investigations when Warminster experienced a spectacular flying saucer flap beginning in December, 1964. He was soon introduced into the twilight world of the elementals. First he received a long series of phone calls purportedly from the space people. Later the tall, pale, long-fingered gentlemen in coveralls came knocking on his door to engage him in long chats about cosmic matters. They announced that they were from the *camel* (their word for