



BUFORA

BULLETIN

bufora



British UFO Research Association

JULY 1985

No. 18

COUNCIL - 1985-86

PRESIDENT:

Post to be filled

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

The Rt.Hon Earl of Clancarty
G.F.N. Knewstub, CEng., MIERE, FBIS

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN:

Arnold West

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Stephen Gamble, FIMLS.,
FRAS., AFBIS

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

John E. Barrett
Lionel E. Beer, FRAS
Hilary Evans
Robin Lindsey
Christopher Pearson (TREASURER)

Kenneth Phillips
Miss Jenny Randles
Miss Diane Rollison
John L. Spencer
Michael R. Wootten

SECRETARY TO COUNCIL

Miss Diane Rollison,
29 Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, Essex.

TREASURER

Christopher Pearson, DMS,
11A Angel Road, Harrow,
Middlesex, HA1 1JZ
(Tel: 01 661 03333)

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Miss Pam Kennedy, MBE.,
30 Vermont Road, London SE19 3SR.

PUBLICATIONS

Director of Publications and Editor

John E. Barrett, 34b Marylebone High Street, London, W1.

ASSOCIATION'S HISTORIAN

Lionel E. Beer, FRAS.

LIBRARIAN

Robin Lindsey, 87 Station Road,
Whittlesey, Peterborough,
PE7 1UE.(Tel:0733 203414)

RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Stephen Gamble, FIMLS., FRAS., AFBIS,
40 Jones Drove, Whittlesey,
Peterborough PE7 2HW.

DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS

Miss Jenny Randles,
Miss Randles is currently
moving house. She can, how-
ever be contacted on
Padgate (0925) 824036.

TRAINING OFFICER

Ken Phillips, BEd., BA(OU)., 13 Falcon Avenue, Springfield,
Milton Keynes, MK6 3HG (Tel: 0908 678870)

ADVERTISING:

DETAILS FROM:

Director of Publications.

BUFORA

BULLETIN

BUFORA EDINBURGH BRANCH

Fraser Gordon,
27 Buckstone Dell, Edinburgh,
SCOTLAND E10 (Tel: 031 445 2705)

MEMBER SOCIETIES: Includes

Britain's oldest UFO Group - BFSB,
15 Gledemoor Drive, Frampton Cott-
erall, Bristol, AVON BS17 2NZ.

THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH

ASSOCIATION BUFORA LTD (by guaran-
tee). FOUNDED 1964. Registered
office: 40 JONES DRIVE, WHITTLESEY,
PETERBOROUGH, PE7 2HW. Registered
in London 1234924.

Incorporating the LONDON UFO
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION founded 1959,
and the BRITISH UFO ASSOCIATION
founded 1962.

AIMS 1. To encourage, promote and
conduct unbiased scientific research
of unidentified flying objects
(UFO) phenomena throughout the
United Kingdom.

2. To collect and disseminate
evidence and data relating to un-
identified flying objects (UFOs).

3. To co-ordinate UFO research
throughout the United Kingdom and
to co-operate with others engaged
in such research throughout the
world.

MEMBERSHIP. Membership is open to
all who support the aims of the
Association and whose application
is approved by the Executive
Committee. Application forms/
information can be obtained from
any Association officer.

BUFORA's entry on the PRESTEL
viewdata system starts at page
"50801" (on EASTEL).

JULY, 1985

No 018

115NN 0265-1947

C O N T E N T S

<u>UFO CASE REPORTS</u>	2
Jenny Randles	
<u>UFO Sightings. PUFOIC</u>	
<u>Investigations</u>	6
Eric Morris	
<u>Italian UFO Scene Updated</u>	11
Edoardo Russo	
<u>A Variety of Cases and Theories.</u>	
<u>Report on the 1984-85 Lecture</u>	
<u>Programme.</u>	14
John Barrett	
<u>Rendlesham Forest. The</u>	
<u>Sceptics Attack</u>	31
Jenny Randles	
<u>Pre-1947 UFO Bulletin</u>	36
Nigel Watson	
<u>Book Review/Letter to the</u>	
<u>Editor</u>	38
<u>1985 Lecture Programme</u>	40

(C) BUFORA LTD.1985 It is permis-
sible for members to use material in
this publication for their own
personal use providing that this is
done on a limited basis. Where
material is used for publication
acknowledgement should be given both
to BUFORA and the appropriate con-
tributor.

ALIENS OVER THE CO-OPCASE 79-275JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1979GLEADLESS TOWN END, SOUTH YORKSHIREINVESTIGATOR:DAVID CLARKE

This is a good old-fashioned UFO encounter, demonstrating that they have not entirely gone out of vogue. It is a close encounter of the third kind that might have come out of a time warp!

Principal reporter is 38 year old Mrs J.F. a ward assistant at a Sheffield hospital. At the time she was married but her husband died the year following the incident. Mrs J.F. reported the encounter by letter to Jenny Randles after reading one of Jenny's books and an investigation was undertaken locally by David Clarke. Jenny notes that in the same week as Mrs J.F.'s letter arrived two others (one from Blackpool and one from Manchester) were received from other witnesses both reporting the otherwise unusual observation of a UFO above a flat-roof building.

There was a second witness with Mrs J.F. at the time of her sighting, but she knew him by sight only as a neighbour called "Ken." Having moved to another part of Sheffield following her husband's death we have not been able to find this crucial second witness despite Mrs J.F.'s help.

She had gone to make a telephone call after a television programme she had been watching had come to an end. This places the time at just after 21.00 on a mild, scattered cloud night. En route she stopped to chat to "Ken" when, over by a chip shop and adjacent Co-op (approximately 300ft away) she spotted an object which she pointed out to her neighbour.

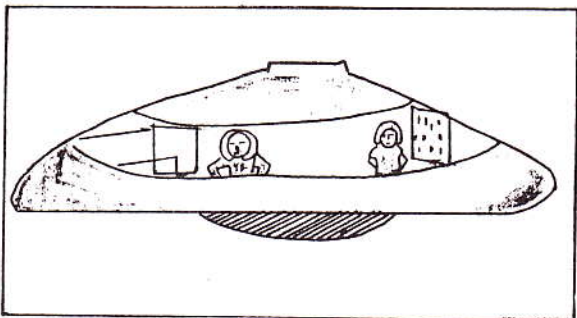
The object was hovering a few feet above the roof and appeared the same size as a tennis ball at arm's length (estimated real size 30ft in diameter). It was a classic inverted saucer, dull grey in colour, evidently metallic in structure. On top was a "turret" and at the bottom a large red light. The colour of the object itself was "turned down" so as not to attract attention to its brilliance. There was a large central "window" spanning the width of the craft and inside this two "people" were visible.

Both looked identical, were human-like, wore ice-blue, one-piece suits and had long blond(e) hair in Cleopatra style. One had its arms behind its back like a soldier standing to attention and was near to some "machinery" (like computers). The other was seemingly staring down at the two witnesses. The inside of the craft was lit by ordinary "room lighting."

Mrs J.F. says that the area seemed unusually quiet (no noise or traffic during the encounter) - the classic OZ factor effect. Some cars were seen shortly after the object left.

Neither witness observed this disappearance (one second it was there and the next it was not). They estimate a two minute observation, but this is likely to be an over-estimate of course. If the Oz factor is genuine the "real" time elapsed may be impossible to judge.

David Clarke found Mrs J.F. very sincere, but obviously knowledgeable about UFOs (having originally read Jenny's book). She also had clear preconceived notions, calling the object a "space-craft" and the figures "space people." Her uncertainty about the



date and the comment that it was "just getting dark" does not gell with her January/February suggestion. If it was just dark at 21.00hrs (9pm) it must have been late in the spring (March/April).

Following the encounter the witness claims that she has developed an interest in religion. "I feel so honoured to have seen such

an unusual sight." She has also had other strange encounters. Her television flashed on and off a few times whilst she was alone in her room. There was no obvious fault. She claims to have seen the ghost of her dead husband during 1984 in her bedroom. No paranormal experiences preceded the UFO encounter.

David Clarke notes that the area is very built-up and it seems hard to equate the alleged objectivity of the UFO (two people seeing it) with the clearly subjective puzzle that nobody else did so.

Obviously the testimony of "Ken" would be invaluable. Without it we are left without corroborative evidence. Mrs J.F. knows about UFOs and this sighting is so identical with "Adamski-style" entity cases from 30 years ago that one is left suspicious.

Indeed the Ranton, Staffordshire sighting by Jessie Roestenberg (in October, 1954) is almost identical. The UFO was similar. It had two entities inside. They wore ice-blue suits and had fair hair in Cleopatra-style. There are differences too (no OZ factor and Mrs Roestenberg and her young children hid under the table in fear). But the case is widely known (it has been written about in several books - including Jenny's - and Mrs Roestenberg has been interviewed on the BBC programme about UFOs "OUT OF THIS WORLD" repeated three times since its original screening in 1976.

So Mrs J.F. could have fabricated her story, basing it on the earlier one.

On the other hand the Roestenberg case is one of the best CE3 cases in British UFO records, widely regarded as bona-fide. If this 1979 sighting is genuine it seems to offer an almost unheard of repeat performance by the same UFO and occupants over a span of a quarter of a century.

Maybe this is one of those cases which supports the time travel hypothesis. A time-travelling UFO from our future is taking a look at 20th century Britain; the package tour including Ranton in 1954, Sheffield in 1979and.....?

Either way this is a fascinating case.

ANAMNESIS RUT TO THE TEST

CASE 8410

AUGUST 2nd, 1984

STONEHENGE, WILTSHIRE.

INVESTIGATION:

DAVID PEARSON and KEN PHILLIPS

Mr and Mrs W (Mr W aged 46 and a salesman, Mrs W, aged 37) and their two children, Martin (11) and Trevor (13) were returning from a West Country holiday to their home at Potton, Bedfordshire. It was 23.00.

They were travelling east on the A303 and were immediately adjacent to Stonehenge when the encounter began. Mrs W. initiated

it by pointing out how the sky had changed colour to become golden in hue. Two orange/gold spheres (with a haze around them) then appeared in the west-north-west (towards Warminster!) Then two more and another two, lining up into a definite formation. At this point the family claim the headlights of their car dimmed but did not go out. After about 1-2 minutes the spheres vanished.

Martin next saw (nobody else did) a light moving across the sky and changing colour from white-green-red. This was almost certainly an aircraft.

Mr W had slowed the car right down now and the excited family were on the look out for UFOs. They by-passed Amesbury and some barracks (not seen in the dark) and around 23.02-23.07 had an encounter with a landed object. This was first seen only by Mr W. (who spotted it briefly through the hedgerow as they drove by). Mr W. was concentrating on his driving and the boys were looking at the sky. However, at the first convenient spot Mr W. turned the car round and drove past the field. All four now observed the object. Again Mr W. turned the car and went back (heading east on the A303 again now). Only a minute or so had passed since the last view of the object, but the field was empty.

The object is described as a grey dome resting on the ground with a row of windows giving out orange/yellow light.

The headlights were working normally now but Mrs W. said there seemed to be "an unnatural quiet ... as though (we) were moving in a somewhat dreamlike way, rather like watching a film." This is the typical OZ factor effect.

From this point on various lights and more of the orange spheres were seen. Mrs W. entered a state of "euphoria". Mr W. was so excited he stopped the car (now on the M3). A police car driver asked him why he had stopped (stopping on a motorway is illegal) but he did not give the real reason.

The family estimate seeing lights up to 01.30 (a sighting duration of 1½ hours they insist - although this is plainly 2½ hours!) Mrs W. says that when she saw the last light she "knew" it was the final one. She claims to have had premonitions of events in the past.

Mrs W. was so excited next day (on arrival home) that whilst in Hitchin at 7pm (now back home in Bedfordshire) they went to the police station and reported their experience. They claim the police were initially sceptical but called the family back later to say that there had been other reports and that they should report the occurrence to the Ministry of Defence (giving them a phone number in order to do so).

The Hitchin police supplied a statement confirming the report and adding that the police officer concerned called the Wiltshire police who checked into the matter and called Hitchin back (the same night) to advise that military manoeuvres were in force on Salisbury Plain as the family drove by. They gave the number of an air-base to call so the family could confirm this.

Mrs W. did call the base. No reply was ever forthcoming following the statement she gave (which they said would be forwarded to the Ministry of Defence). Jenny Randles wrote to the Ministry to enquire about this in February, 1985. The Ministry failed to reply - not an unusual occurrence!

Eventually Mrs W (desperate for somebody to tell) called the local newspaper, and they carried a story "FAMILY SPEAK OF CLOSE ENCOUNTER" on August 15th. From this BUFORA's investigation began. The newspaper noted that the MoD admitted having the family's report but refused to comment on it.

Clearly the military manoeuvres must account for most

details of this case. The orange spheres would be parachute flares, the flashing lights aircraft. The dimming of the headlights could well have been a temporary perceptual illusion caused by having spent some time looking at bright lights in the sky after having been used to dim, night-driving conditions (the eye compensating by reducing the apparent light output for the headlights).

However, this does not seem to explain the landed object (unless it was a barracks hut which had "lights out" - making it seem to disappear).

Crucial is the OZ factor "reality tilt", most strongly reported by Mrs W. Dr. Alex Keul reports on the Anamnesis and Rorschach (ink blot) tests carried out on both adults. These demonstrated that Mr W. has a slight tendency to see things in science fiction contexts and that Mrs W. has a slight degree of phobia. She is the dominant one in the partnership and imaginative. Dr. Keul stresses that both are intelligent and neither are in any sense psychotic. But can the psychological patterns defined combine with the "unusual" IFO stimulus of the military exercise to produce the "close encounter"? And why are the MoD apparently so reluctant just to say, positively, it was a military exercise

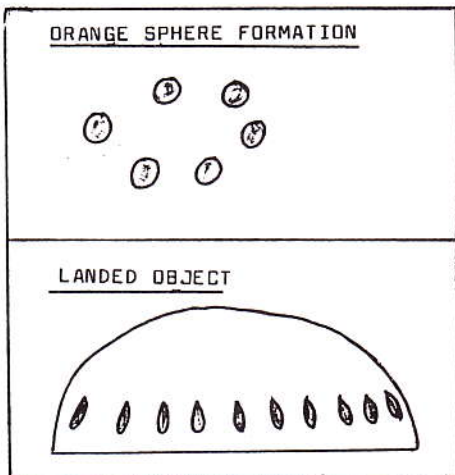
using flares? The case has many similarities with the infamous "Stonehenge" movie film taken by the Flattley family from Crewe in October, 1977. The site is almost exactly the same. The orange formation of spheres and long duration (captured on film) is identical. The excess claims of the witnesses based on this (including OZ factor and burn marks on the man's skin and EM effects on electrical equipment in use) all mirror the W family case remarkably.

Presumably the high level of military activity on Salisbury Plain, the Warminster mystique, and the added spice of an imaginative set of witnesses is all we need to explain such events

.....

Unless the Ministry of Defence

is testing something else rather interesting over the area!



UFO BOOKS - also books on all matter of unusual phenomena and legends. Send for catalogue. EXCALIBUR BOOKS, 15 Rockport Road, Craigavad, Co. Down, BT18 0DD, Northern Ireland.

TWO UFO SIGHTINGS

- Plymouth UFO Investigation Centre (PUFOIC)

ERIC MORRIS

PLACE: BIGGIN HILL, ERNESETTLE, PLYMOUTH, DEVON
DAY: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 1983
TIME: 8.34pm (GMT)

Ernesettle is a district of Plymouth, lying on the northern outer edge of the south-west of the city. It is situated on the northern flank of Plymouth surrounded by other districts such as Southway, Honicknowle, and Tamerton Poliot. Three and a half miles (5.63km) to the east lies Roborough airport, Plymouth's only airport. Further to the north-east lies the well-known Dartmoor.

Although the eastern flank of Ernesettle is heavily populated, the northern part is adjacent to an inlet of the River Tamar, which is crossed by the Brunel railway bridge and divides Devon from neighbouring Cornwall. The inlet is surrounded by playing fields, a rather densely wooded area on the northern side and a sharp drop of the land height down to the water level of the inlet. The level also varies with each individual tide. Rather predictably this area is barren and sparsely populated. Following the inlet inland leads one to Budshead Creek which lies north-east of Ernesettle. The creek tapers out to a small wood, predictably called Budshead Wood!

These areas, particularly the creek and the wood are significant in the following report.

Mr and Mrs Alan Northcott, a couple in their thirties, live with their son, who is unfortunately deaf, in Biggin Hill, Ernesettle. They occupy a council house whose rear garden overlooks Budshead Wood. A leftward glance gives a semi-view of Budshead creek.

During the time in question the Northcotts were busy redecorating their kitchen and were devoting some of their evening hours to this in order to finish it as quickly as possible.

On Friday, October 28th, 1983, they were still engaged on the task having, earlier in the evening, put their son to bed. There had been difficulties with this for their son, who usually went quietly to bed, was "playing up." Calculations by PUFOIC staff showed that it had taken some 80 minutes (1½ hours) to "settle" him.

At 8.34pm Mrs Northcott was holding some wallpaper for her husband when her attention was attracted by a "light" which she saw through the kitchen window. She glanced away, diverting her attention back to her husband but, as she told PUFOIC investigators: "I felt uneasy and my heartbeat quickened." A few minutes later she said: "I had to look again to satisfy my curiosity."

The light was still there and she pointed it out to her husband since she was now frightened. She explained to him that she had seen it a few moments before. They stopped what they were doing to watch it, and Alan agreed with his wife that the light was a very strange one and of great intensity. They went into their rear garden to see it more clearly, although Linda Northcott had reservations about this course of action since she thought the light "creepy". They were now able to see the light much more closely. It was egg shaped and had three lights set out like the points of an equilateral triangle. The two "front-lights" were constant, and

were not as bright as the overall brightness of the object itself.

The object was at first "suspended" over Budshead Wood but gradually came closer to the couple. Its flight path from its first being glimpsed was that of descent and then a straight path over the wood, its closest distance to the couple being 80 yards (73.15m) and its estimated height 60ft (18.29m).

When the object was at its closest to the couple its two front lights "focussed" onto them, although there was no visible beam. Alan told me that the two front lights "turned to look at us", rather as human eyes do when focussing on an object.

Approximately one minute later the object "reversed" along the path it had come and disappeared behind some trees in the wood. The witnesses stated that the object did not "turn around" when it moved away from them but "reversed" as does a car. The object took some 45 seconds to fade from view, which leads one to think that it perhaps came closer to the ground behind the wood.

By this time Mrs Northcott was very cold, shivering and clearly shocked. Her husband took her into the living-room and made her a cup of tea.

Both were mystified by their experience and after Linda recovered they both went back into the rear kitchen, tidied up their decorating equipment and called it a day. Natural curiosity made them look out of the kitchen window again to see if the light had returned - much to their relief it had not.

Weather conditions that night were:

1. A clear, cloudless sky
2. Very cold temperature
3. Windless
4. Dry on the ground but with the beginnings of an early evening frost
5. Many stars, all clearly visible.

Together the couple had observed the object for some 5-6 minutes, although Mrs Northcott had seen it for about one minute longer (i.e. 6-7 minutes). Neither heard any noise from the object only the background noises from conventional machinery around about.

Neither witness suffered any chronic physical side-effects apart from Linda who had a rapid heartbeat when she first observed the object - she also developed "goose-pimples" on her arms when outside. The latter could have been attributed to the low temperature outside, since both witnesses were wearing only normal indoor clothing.

One other factor in the case is the son's odd behaviour before going to bed. This was very unusual for the boy was not ill and gave no sign of being ill.

We raise the question: "Could the boy, who is deaf, have been aware of the UFO's impending approach?"

There is one other point of interest in reference to the locality of the sighting. There is, running close to the Northcott's house, a 132Kv Grid Line that leads to another district of Plymouth, Whiteleigh, the scene of the second case report in this article.

It took PUFOIC over six months to complete its investigation - communication with some official bodies being slow and tedious! The local airport - Roborough - had no aircraft in the vicinity at the relevant time. The next flight arrival was due at 9pm (22.00hrs). The previous departure had been 6pm (18.00hrs). The flight path is, however, approximately two miles away from Biggin Hill.

Exeter airport reported no air traffic in the area at the time.

The county police helicopter was not airborne at the time.

Local defence establishments had nothing airborne either, although we did not receive any reply to our letter to the Royal Navy.

Prolonged night-time observation in the area by PUFOIC did not reveal any likely explanation for the sighting. It bore no similarity to passing car headlights.

There were no discos (and laser lighting) operating in the area.

The only artificial lighting was that from street lamps.

A thorough inspection of Budshead Wood and Budshead Creek revealed no physical traces or damage to the ground, grass or, given the low altitude of the object, tree-tops.

There had been no fluctuation in the local power supply at around the time of the sighting.

Mr and Mrs Northcott are very ordinary people and their son, although disabled, is intelligent for his age. The couple were not trying to get publicity of any sort, nor attempt any financial gain.

Because of an industrial injury which occurred in the local naval dockyard, Alan is unable to work in his chosen trade - that of a fitter.

PUFOIC interviewed the couple for nearly three hours and were convinced that they had not fabricated the story. The Northcotts have no interest in UFOs and have never read any literature on the subject. Neither of them are psychic and they have no interest in any other form of anomalous phenomenon.

Mrs Northcott was the one who suffered most from this incident, although in no permanent physical way. She was obviously frightened because she felt: "Whatever the light was, came so close and my instinct told me that it was observing us."

PUFOIC have failed to identify this sighting and it has been placed in its "UNIDENTIFIED" file until further data comes to light.

There are two questions to which answers are needed (although not yet forthcoming):

1. Could the Northcott's rear kitchen light (and the opening of their rear door) have attracted the phenomenon?

When PUFOIC visited the couple and conducted "night-time" observations in the area the Northcotts' kitchen light was the only one on for a long duration of time. Of the very few houses that turned their lights on the average period of illumination was only four minutes.

Could the Northcotts have unknowingly and unintentionally attracted the phenomenon?

2. Could the Northcott's 18 month old son have been effected by the object's impending approach?

Alan and Linda said that he had been very difficult - twitchy and agitated - which was most unusual.

Could it be that although deaf, he sensed sound waves considerably lower/higher than a person with normal auditory senses? The boy finally settled down at 11pm (23.00hrs) and slept perfectly well and was fine the next day.

Previous records of sightings involving witnesses who are deaf would be of interest to PUFODIC investigators.

PLACE: BERWICK AVENUE, WHITLEIGH, PLYMOUTH, DEVON
DATE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13th, 1983
TIME: 01.30am (GMT)

This case occurred six months before the Northcott sighting.

Approximately 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles (2.815km) from Ernesettle lies Whitleigh, another district of Plymouth, a populated area with a high percentage of council houses.

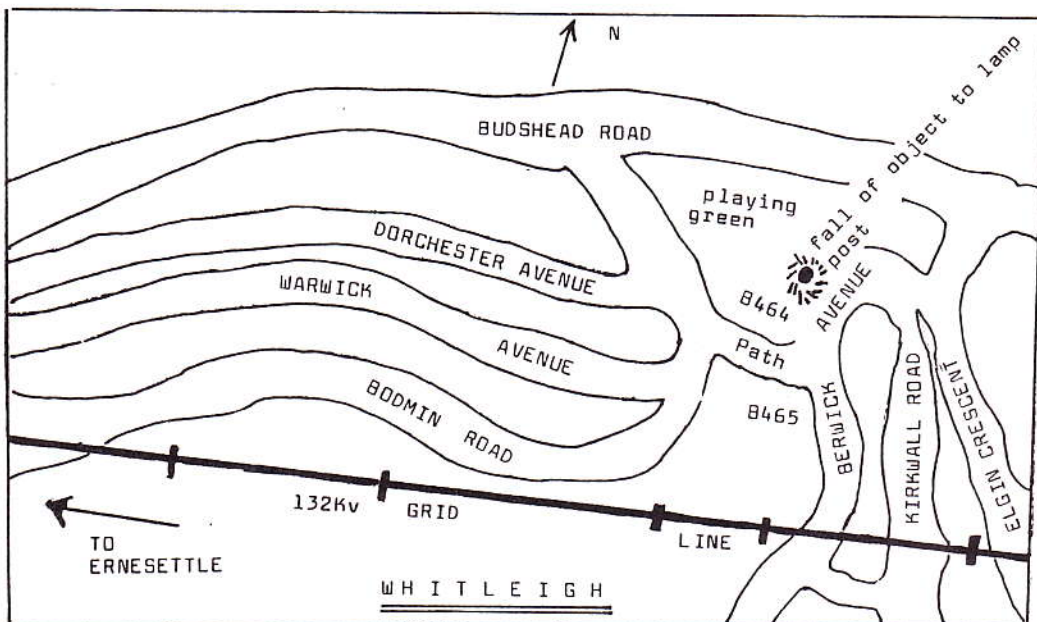
In February, 1983 a strange incident occurred to a married couple who, early in the morning, were returning home from a party.

On Sunday, February 13th, at approximately 1.30 am Mr and Mrs Smith were walking along Dorchester Avenue heading towards their home in Bodmin Road. At the end of Dorchester Avenue they came to an oval-shaped playing green which meets the terminus of three separate streets.

Suddenly Mr Smith observed, approximately 25 yards (22.8m) ahead a "red fiery circular object" dropping rapidly out of the sky. He quickly alerted his wife to it, but she had already seen it. They both stood still and watched the object fall further until it dropped to the base of a nearby lamp-post, it then "hovered" around one side only of the base of the post for approximately 30 seconds. Then, quite suddenly, it shot up into the sky and vanished. The whole incident took approximately 45 seconds.

No noise was heard and the couple did not suffer any physiological or psychological effects. The couple's only other comment was that there was a funny smell after the object vanished. They then continued their journey home.

Two days after the event the Smiths contacted PUFODIC who interviewed them that evening. Prior to giving the interview they said that they did not want to complete any forms or wish for any identification. The reasons for this limitation was that Mr Smith worked in the local naval dockyard. PUFODIC were convinced that their account was true, and had not been fabricated. After completing the interview Mr Smith took us to the scene of the sighting.



Mr Smith told us that the object did not appear to "land" but "hovered" around one particular side of the lamp-post. He estimated that its height from the ground was approximately six inches (15.24cm). PUFDIC investigators did not expect to see any evidence of the object's earlier presence, but our policy of visiting the scene of every sighting really paid dividends. Mr and Mrs Smith told us earlier that they had smelled a "peculiar" odour after the sighting, and when we arrived at the scene we discovered the probably cause of this.

There was an area of burnt, scorched grass at the side of the lamp-post where the Smiths said the object had hovered. The burnt grass was easily identifiable and occupied a circumference (706.9 in²) at the base. The grass was dead, and pale straw in colour.

An unusual feature of the burnt area was that it was not irregular, but formed a straight line and a nearly complete semi-circle. Part of the pattern also showed a "D" the wrong way round. Examination of sections of the burnt area was very difficult because of its friability. Radio-activity readings with a geiger-counter showed normal background readings.

PUFDIC checked with the local South West Electricity Board to determine if they could offer an explanation - they were unable to do so. Devon County Council, were also approached but could offer no explanation as to the cause of the object itself. Local airports and military bases were unhelpful. The local meteorological situation was: clear sky, cold, no wind, dry.

Some 15 months after the incident the grass had virtually re-grown, although some "dead" patches were still visible.

There is one other similarity between this case and the Ernesettle incident since the same 132Kv grid line runs close to the location of both events.

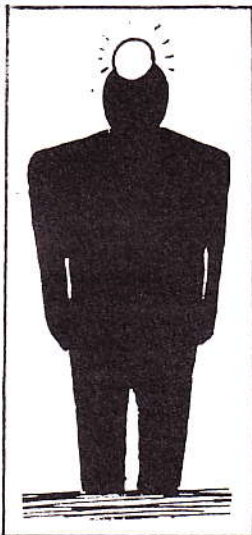
The Whitleigh sighting, to date, has still not been resolved.

1984 was not such a quiet year for Italian ufology. Reports of UFO sightings were not great, but media coverage and research activities showed a consistent increase.

UFO/IFO REPORTS

Eighty-five sightings were filed by Centro Ufologico Nazionale as of January, 1985. There were 269 in 1980, 80 in 1981, 24 in 1982 and 212 in 1983. Most of the 1984 reports were NL types. The only cases of real interest were two CE2 and 3 cases which took place a few hours from each other on October 9th, 1984.

At 3.30am a housekeeper in Polcanto, near Florence was awakened by a light coming from his window and, looking out, saw for an instance, a dark human shape upon a nearby hill, from whose forehead a torch-like beam was coming.



Investigator's sketch of the Polcanto entity.

It disappeared and a dark horizontal line remained visible under which three flames descended towards ground. After some minutes it disappeared also, very rapidly, and a blinding white light began approaching, illuminating the area as brightly as daylight. A red sphere then appeared, giving off an intermittent light. For some days afterwards the witness complained that his eyes were red and irritated.

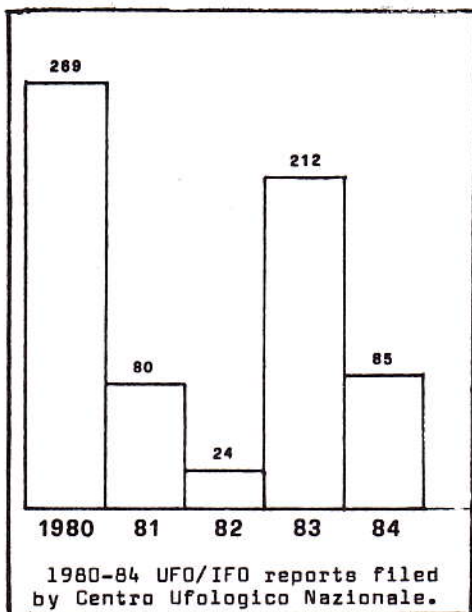
Three circular holes, 10cms in diameter, 3cms in depth in a 2m irregular triangle were found in the area. The grass had been flattened. No radioactivity was recorded. A dog, sleeping outside, did not bark but for some days afterwards it refused all food and

kept to its kennel, refusing even to bark at strangers.

The investigation report on this case was carried out by PIER LUIGI SANI.

At 7.30am on the same day, a peasant in Prata Principato, near Avellino, watched a 1.30m tall man in a brown "space suit" and wearing a helmet connected to a rucksack by two pipes, holding a forked stick in his hand, which gave off blue sparks, to a "space craft", and hovering above the ground. The craft took off at once. Six conical holes in a rectangle, plus two large traces and some footprints, were found on the site by CUN investigator UMBERTO TELARICO. Traces remained hotter than the surrounding area for two days. The case was also investigated by the Italian police.

Local "flaps" were recorded in the north-eastern provinces of Veneto, Friuli and Trentino in February, 1984. Hovering lights and a "humming" were reported by many inhabitants. These same



areas and north-western Italy (Piedmont and Liguria) were repeatedly overflowed by glowing lights with long trails in early December, 1984.

On December 5th, at 11.30am in full daylight, hundreds of people in the provinces of Cuneo, Imperia, Savona and Genova noticed a very bright oblong shape crossing from France and followed by a luminous trail. It exploded with such a violent noise and flash that people ran into the streets. A loud series of "booms" were heard by tens of thousands of people all over the region, and were even recorded seismographically. A dark cloud remained in the skies for more than half an hour.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Three projects which produced results in 1984 were:

1. Regional catalogues of reports compiled by local investigators. This is a complete filing (and publication of a catalogue) of Italian UFO sightings 1980-1984 in an open data bank operated by GIAN PAOLO GRASSINO in Turin.

2. "PROJECT ITALY 3". A complete list of all Italian CE3s - reports and sources - compiled by PAOLO FIORINO

3. "TRACAT" MAURIZIO VERGA's reference list of Italian trace landing cases was largely updated in 1984 and now contains summaries of 153 reports.

Two new research projects were launched by CUN in 1984:

1. "PROJECT ORIGINS" a full-scale survey from newspaper library cuttings of the early years of ufology - 1947-1950 - in order to collect all relevant data on the birth of the UFO saga in Italy. A much greater press coverage than expected was found.
2. "PROJECT 64" a micro-computer network (mainly using Commodore 64 and Apple II) with the aim of completing a full indexing of all Italian case reports by the end of 1985. More than 4,000 entries have already been input.

PUBLICATIONS

UFO journals have had their share of troubles. Only one issue was published of each of the following: NOTIZIARIO UFO (CUN bi-monthly), UFOLOGIA (a special issue on new French ufological theories), DOCUMENTI UFO MONOGRAFIE (an issue on hypnosis and ufology).

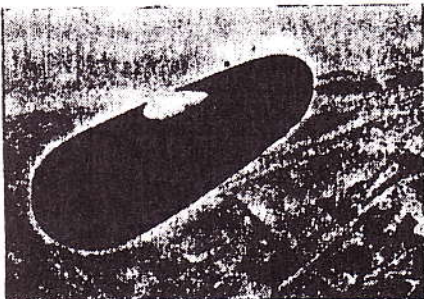
In December, 1984 the long-awaited CUN Field Investigators' Manual was published.

Two UFO books were also published: the Italian translation of Jacques Vallee's MESSENGERS OF DECEPTION and the case history of the series of abductions of nightwatchman F. Zanfretta. This has been written by journalist Rino Di Stefano and is entitled LIGHTS IN THE NIGHT.

THE MEDIA

In 1984 CUN collected 450 newsclippings about UFOs from Italian newspapers; there was a marked increase over the 1981-83 average. Some events particularly evoked press interest and coverage. These were the CUN Congress in Palermo in January, 1984 and in Genoa in May, 1984, and the official questions asked by four congressmen to the government, under the guidance of CUN, that the Ministry of Defence open its files to private researchers.

The Minister replied that UFO files are actually unclassified and contain no actual unidentified report. CUN Vice-President and Italy's foremost field investigator, ANTONIO CHIUMIENTO asked the Ministry for details about a UFO/pilot encounter with photographic evidence in 1979 and was told that "it" was just a balloon made of black plastic bags. None of the 80 photographs taken have been released.



Artist's impression of one among the 80 photographs taken by an Air Force pilot during a 1979 UFO encounter



A cartoonist's view of the Italian Minister of Defence Giovanni Spadolini, who claimed that the UFO sighting was that of a balloon.

Newspapers, radio and television devoted ample space to the debate during the second half of 1984.

EDDARDO RUSSO is editor of the CENTRO UFOLOGICO NAZIONALE (CUN) journal NOTIZIARIO UFO.

The 1984-85 lecture programme began on September 1st, 1984 with a talk by Manchester solicitor HARRY HARRIS on hypnotic regression and the 1980 Alan Godfrey abduction case. Unfortunately Alan himself was unable to be present.

Harry stated his case unequivocally, he believed that real space craft existed and that their occupants abducted people.

Regarding the Godfrey case Harry said that there was evidence to back up Alan's claim, three police colleagues had also seen the lights of an unidentified object some 20 minutes before his own encounter. Tapes of Alan Godfrey under regression were shown as was one of three Shropshire women who had undergone an experience similar to his. Unfortunately the sound and pictures were not always of the best quality.

Perhaps Godfrey's most interesting statement was that he would have another encounter 10 years (i.e. 1990) after the first one.

Regressive hypnosis was not infallible (what is?) people could lie and hallucinate under it, but pulse, blood pressure and heart-beat could all be checked as indicators of whether the abductee was lying. Other bodily activity could also be monitored to see if the subject was actually reliving a real experience. Harry thought that the Alvin Lawson equation of abduction linking with the birth trauma had little to recommend it. The "nuts and bolts" craft was, he felt, the only likely explanation, and the civilisation which used them was of an exceptional intelligence and we could not be expected to understand why they did what they did.

Harry introduced an abductee, Linda, who, with her mother, was driving from Southport to Manchester along the East Lancashire road on an evening in January, 1981. It seemed a perfectly normal drive except that the usually busy road was strangely quiet and traffic-free for 7 o'clock in the evening. Linda said that she and her mother saw a huge light hovering at tree-top level to their right and travelling in the same direction as their car. She began to feel frightened, but could not make the car travel any faster. It then began to malfunction and "bounced" along the road, slowing from 40-50mph down to 4-5mph. She noticed an old-fashioned (circa 1930s) car in front of her, too close in fact for her to make out its registration number. Its driver totally ignored the dangerously close proximity of Linda's car and the light.

She glanced out of her car window. The light had gone. Instead a large metal-structured object was hovering above them. She screamed and the car in front of her just disappeared. It was, she said, a perfectly straight road, and there was no way the vehicle could have turned off to the left or the right. It simply vanished. In terror she drove to a nearby Chevron filling station; looking back she could still see the light, it approached her car again, tilted and shot up into the sky. A man had been at the filling station and Linda drew his attention to the light. A later appeal for him to come forward met with no response.

Two things occurred when Linda arrived home. She discovered that her coat was missing from the car, and she was violently sick.

There had been a time lapse of about two hours, but Linda, even under hypnosis, had been unable to recall any of the details. This she attributed to fear.

What she did recall was a post-event dream, a recollection which had come about as a result of the hypnosis session.

It was in vivid colour. She was in a round, white room, there was a pool and standing by it a tall, blond man with blue eyes and dressed in a white suit. He did not speak but beckoned Linda to come to him. They both touched a dolphin lying in the pool. Linda "felt" that the creature was ill. It revived and she was told that she could go. This distressed her since she had found the experience a reassuring one. The dream, she alleged, was so real an experience that the dolphin's head was wet beneath her hand.

Research by ufologist Bud Hopkins has shown that a "cover story" motif, often involving the comforting presence of an animal, was common in such events. The story often served to hide that which was unacceptable.

Since 1981 Linda had had several other psychic experiences, including a second time lapse from 11pm, when she sat down to write a letter, until 3am. Harry pointed out that there were many recurring factors in abduction stories, and if they were true then the mental control the aliens possessed was very frightening, since they could manipulate time, consciousness, people and vehicles with ease.

Discussion turned to the direction in which ufology might be going given that cases such as Linda's and Alan Godfrey's were now almost commonplace. Harry said that at the moment, anyway, no clear direction could be seen. They had collected a great deal of data, but the frustration lay in not knowing precisely what to do with it, or how to evaluate it into something which might throw light on the phenomenon as a whole.

I was in Greece when Jenny Randles gave her lecture in October, so am unable to report on what she had to say about Rendlesham Forest. There was, however, a chance to catch up on this during the rest of the session, since Rendlesham has heavily occupied BUFORA's collective thoughts over the last year.

CYNTHIA HIND

The much-travelled CYNTHIA HIND, MUFON's African representative, and based in Zimbabwe, was in London in November and spoke at the evening lecture on the 3rd. She concentrated mainly on sightings and events of a ufological nature which involved people of a very different cultural background to those concerned with the Godfrey abduction and Rendlesham Forest. Southern African contained instances of UFOs and aliens being sighted by simple, primitive people living in rural areas and who had no previous knowledge of the phenomenon and regarded strange lights, crafts and aliens as evil spirits or the ghosts of ancestors. What they reported, however, was basically similar to those reports with which we in the west were now all too familiar.

At Fort Beaufort, Cape Province, South Africa one morning in June, 1972, a farm worker, Boer de Klerk, had seen a round, brilliant red light (76cm across) hovering above some trees. He called the farm owner, Benny Smit, who, believing it to be dangerous, it was emitting flames, shot at it and then called the police. The object, whilst under observation, vanished and reappeared and even changed colour on one occasion into a metallic grey. It also appeared to move in response to the human voice. Some 15 shots were fired at it before it eventually disappeared into the thick undergrowth with a loud crashing noise. Nine unidentified imprints (7cms in diameter) were later discovered in the area where the object had last been heard.

No one even mentioned the possibility of its being something

from outer space, said Cynthia. It was a ghost, insisted Boer de Klerk, "and how can you shoot a ghost?"

There were other sightings around the same time and date, and Smit's reservoir 8m in diameter was mysteriously shattered on July 8th. The case had never been resolved. Mrs Hind wondered if the object had been a very strange, and rather sinister, satellite.

In August, 1981, Mrs Hind investigated a case, now well-known, at Mutari (156km from Harare). Here 20 labourers at the tourist resort of La Rochelle, were confronted by a large ball of light which rolled across the lawns. It seemed to be observing them, they said, before it "walked" up the side of a three storey, glass-topped observation tower and burst into flames. The ball of flame then gathered itself together, moved down the tower wall and repeated the performance at another building "The Fantasy." It was then that the labourers claimed to have seen three figures standing in front of the building. The workman who told the story, Clifford Muchene, at first believed one of them to be the gamewarden, Andrew Connolley, until he realised that the figures were dressed in overalls, were covered in light and moved almost in slow motion. Although some nine feet away from them Muchene was pushed to the ground by the "force" which they emanated.

"Shining" was suggested to him as a description of how they looked.

"No" he said, "silver, like this." He pulled from his pocket a 20 cent piece.

"What were they?" he was asked.

"My ancestors, come back to remonstrate."

"But wouldn't your ancestors have worn skins and furs?"

"Yes, but times change."

No Lack Of Activity

The native women and children at La Rochelle had fled into the bush as the light approached and refused to return for 24 hours. All were convinced that what they had seen were ancestral spirits.

Intensive research was undertaken. There was no damage to either of the towers and the University of Zimbabwe did not believe that the phenomena was attributable to ball lightning or methane gas from rotting vegetation. The labourers themselves, said Mrs Hind, were illiterate and not even aware of the moon landing in 1969! As far as she could tell, via her interpreters, Muchene and his friends were telling the truth. But, as in so many cases such as this, why should they lie in the first place?

Certainly her lecture demonstrated that there is no lack of UFO activity in Southern Africa; the Chinotti caves sightings of 1983-84, the partial destruction of the tennis court at Rosemead, and the sighting by Solomon Kativu, his brother and two friends in June, 1983 were all discussed. In the latter case witnesses claimed that a disc hovered at tree-top level, a door opened and two men inside floated down to earth. Ancestral spirits were again believed to be involved by the men who fled in terror. Mrs Hind had tried to follow up this case but had met with little success.

The Chinotti case had been investigated for possible piezo-electrical links, but it was thought unlikely that this was the cause.

She went on to mention two other extraordinary cases, neither yet substantiated. One was that a UFO had allegedly not only landed in an Ethiopian village in November, 1983, but had remained there for 13 days. In the second, in a remote Nigerian village, a light had been reported as having come down into a lake some

years ago. It reappeared annually. It was reported that the farming techniques used in the village were superior to those of its neighbours and the village children were all fitter and more intelligent.

All cases, said Cynthia, should be investigated, however bizarre they sounded. BUFORA was sometimes guilty of ignoring cases which she thought had real potential.

She greatly regretted that her work in Zimbabwe often had to be done in isolation, although that made her check her facts that much more thoroughly since she had no back-up support.

In reply to a question she said that some interest had been shown by the South African government in the UFO phenomenon. One Progressive MP contacted her from time to time, and questions had been raised in Parliament. She got the impression, however, when researching a case that the authorities had often got there before she had!

JENNY RANGLES

There were two lectures in December, the first of which, on December 1st, following the AGM, was given by JENNY RANGLES who looked at the question of government cover-up.

She said that until recently she had not been an advocate of the conspiracy theory - but her work on the Rendlesham Forest case had now convinced her otherwise. Even as far back as the USA's PROJECT BLUE BOOK in the 1950s there had been a smudging of issues - with authority not exactly telling lies, but not exactly telling the truth either. Ruppelt the BLUE BOOK director, had himself come to regard his work for the Project as dishonest, since many of the best cases had gone direct to the military authorities and never reached the Project at all. In his REPORT ON UFOs he had gone on to record his real feelings about the matter. His book specifically mentioned jet/UFO chases and radar loggings, something BLUE BOOK had omitted. His early death had been a real tragedy for ufologists.

The International Approach

Of late governments seemed to have relaxed their attitude on UFOs, mainly in Australia, France and the UK. However a closer look at what had been released showed a completely different story.

In Australia, under the Freedom of Information Act, Bill Chalker, one of the country's leading researchers, had been given access to RAAF files, but these had failed to show anything remotely of interest or value - and that was unbelievable.

France had always adopted a more liberal approach to the subject, and under the auspices of GEPAN valuable material had been released. A GEPAN representative had even gone so far as to state, at the 1981 BUFORA Congress, that UFOs were of an alien origin. Its work was still continuing despite rumours to the contrary, but research was now under the direction of an aerospace engineer and it no longer disseminated information to the general public.

The Spanish government had also released files on UFO data; many jet chase cases and near misses with airliners had come to light over the past 10 years. Jenny found it hard to believe that similar cases, of which, at present, we knew nothing, did not exist on UK files.

It was known that by the mid-1960s there were 15,000 UFO case files deposited in the Kremlin and work was still going on

in the USSR on the phenomenon - a new government research group under Pavel Pavelovitch having been set up in 1984. In 1983 a UFO, tracked on radar, was known to have invaded Russian air space. It, unlike the unfortunate Korean airliner later that year, had not been blasted out of the skies as a result!

In the UK, cases came under the auspices of DSB of the Ministry of Defence. It had limited staff, no money and no investigation or research facilities. It did absolutely nothing in the way of informing the public about UFOs, yet it had, since 1980, collected reports on no fewer than 1600 cases - 400 a year! These were invariably passed off to genuine inquirers as LITS. BUFORA, in the same four year period, had collected only 200 cases, but these included a number of CE2-3-4 incidents. Miss Randles found it very hard to believe that the Ministry's files had nothing as interesting (or more interesting!) with eight times as many cases!

Redirection Of Effort

Michael Heseltine's denial of any cover-up over Rendlesham Forest was, she thought, a lie. Could it really be true that the events there were of no interest to anyone at the MoD, for that in fact was their story? Were no security or military risks involved? It seemed unlikely.

The Ministry had, in March, 1984, released 16 UFO reports, none of which in any way reflected the true nature of the phenomenon. There had been nothing further since that date.

Since the Ministry's files, and those of the CIA and the FBI, would be so much more comprehensive than those of UFO groups in the information that they contained, government agencies could well afford to sit back and ignore UFO groups. What was needed was a redirection of effort to get those files out into the open.

JENNY RANGLES and DOT STREET

A special lecture was called on December 15th when it was hoped that "Art Wallace" one of the key witnesses at Rendlesham Forest would be present. Unfortunately, and at the very last moment, he was unable to make the trip from the USA, so JENNY RANGLES and DOT STREET deputised and went over the case again. Ian Ridpath, science journalist, was also present, but listening rather than actively participating.

The media's treatment of the case was again discussed.

The incident had either been totally ignored, or "rubbished" apart from reports in the East Anglian papers which had been fair and responsible. Jenny thought that the media's attitude was odd in view of the implications of the incident.

Whether it had defence connotations: (a) a missile out of control or (b) a real UFO, something had certainly happened in the forest, yet the newspapers seemed much more concerned with the totally fictitious goings-on in "Dallas" and "Dynasty" than a serious threat to our defence network.

A number of tapes (again not always very clear or of the best quality) were played of the investigations around the camp on the night(s) in question. These certainly indicated a scene of chaos (even panic) but it was not easy for the audience to pick up clearly identifiable voices or conversation. The word "pod" occurred occasionally in the tape transcripts and Jenny thought this significant since it was US military jargon for a weapon-carrying object! She also speculated on whether the second landing could have been a stage-managed event in order to test the reactions of junior military personnel to so bizarre an event. In

this particular instance, if her supposition was correct, the beam from Orford Ness lighthouse might well have played a part.

SKYCRASH, the book on the incident, was not widely stocked throughout the country and a specialised bookclub had even refused to take it. There had been more interest from booksellers overseas. The case had also produced an unusual crop of strange, even threatening, telephone calls to the investigators, some of which had been taped, and these were played back. Jenny and Dot had their own ideas on who had made the calls!

Dot said that she had undertaken a number of interviews with "Art Wallace" and she was convinced of the truth of his story.

Since the October meeting several new witnesses to the incident had been found in the Woodbridge area, all of whom, quite independently, pointed to frantic military activity on the base and in the forest at the times in question. Dot played a tape of telephone calls she had made to Andrew Mathewson of the Ministry of Defence in which, on his part, there was more diplomatic prevarication than hard information. Jenny again outlined the change in the Ministry's attitude to the incident, from denial to grudging admission. What had made it change its mind?

A Quagmire

Ian Ridpath thought that Jenny was "sinking into a quagmire of supposition" and stuck firmly to his theory that the real UFO was the beam from the Orford Ness lighthouse - a supposition which is clearly nonsense if one looks at the evidence.

Why should a lighthouse beam, well-known to everyone on the base as a lighthouse beam, suddenly turn itself into a UFO? Not just a UFO streaking past in the night sky either, but a UFO coming in over the tree-tops to land and bringing out scores of military personnel to investigate it. Clearly it played no role at all in the first incident; its role on the second evening is open to speculation.

A Mystery Film

The second half of the evening was devoted to the showing of a brief, 25 second, super 8MM film sent anonymously to Jenny in May, 1983, and showing a strange, glowing object moving rapidly across the sky. The film had been posted from Luton, but contained no clue as to the identity of the sender, the location in which the film had been shot, the time (although it was believed to be mid-1982) or even what it purported to show - UFO or IFO. The film had later been magnified 4600 times but the light showed no structure behind it; it was, in fact, simply our old friend the unidentified orange blob.

Some members of the audience felt that the location, the film showed a wafer-thin ridge of houses/buildings along the opposite and far distant shoreline, could have been the Isle of Wight, the Hythe/Dymchurch area of Kent, or Portsmouth. If it was the latter people felt that the "blob" might have been a military weapon being used in naval tests. It was not felt to be either a conventional aircraft or an aircraft after-burner.

Another UFO mystery! If anyone out there knows anything about this intriguing film snippet - perhaps even sent it to Jenny - please let BUFORA know. Your anonymity will be

respected. Meanwhile we are all dying of curiosity!

Jenny made a plea at the meeting's conclusion for the audience to write to their respective MPs and demand to know the real facts about Rendlesham. She and the other investigators had hours and hours of taped material which they would happily make available, and which would certainly persuade even the most sceptical MP that something needed official investigation.

JOHN RIMMER

JOHN RIMMER, editor of MAGONIA, in his lecture on January 5th 1985 looked at alien abductions.

This was a very interesting lecture and John, an amusing witty speaker, dealt with one of the central questions of ufology - were abductions real physical events, like stepping onto a number 30 bus in Baker Street, or entirely imaginary (albeit completely real to the participant(s)) events? He said that the abduction syndrome went back in history way past modern stories (the Hills, Travis Walton, Betty Andreasson) to the realm of folk-lore and fairy stories, all of which had close parallels with the UFO abduction experience.

Modern reports also contained recurring features, the solitary motorist, the deserted country road and the bright, flaring light in the sky drifting earthwards which at first was thought to be a crashing aircraft.

John did not believe abductions were of an extraterrestrial nature; the similar patterns in almost every case suggested to him a phenomena that linked with people driving along boring country roads. The whole incident could be attributed to induced sensory deprivation caused simply by the act of driving. One of the problems was that the phenomenon had been coupled to the UFO enigma - whereas it was, he believed, totally unrelated.

Muddled Messages

There was, unlike sightings, no physical evidence of abduction, rarely was there more than one witness, there were certainly no photographs, and the stories themselves suggested dream like states rather than actual events. Invariably the "abductee" was driving a car. Were there any cases of a pedestrian being abducted?

Messages also played a major role in abduction cases but these were of a singularly uninspired and muddled nature, generally concerning the dangers of nuclear warfare, of which most "abductees" were only too well aware anyway! The two abductees in the 1971 Dapplegrey Lane (USA) event were told telepathically by giant brains that atomic bombs explosions were really earthquakes! Barney Hill was given no message worth the repeating although he, as a civil rights campaigner and public speaker was in an ideal position to disseminate it.

The star map shown to Betty Hill was one of the better messages, but it had, eventually, given rise to more speculation than understanding. Majorie Fish's configurations on the star map had excluded double stars although it had been discovered in 1980 that Zeta Reticuli 1 and 2, where Fish maintained the Hills' abductors had come from, were in fact double stars!

Even regressive hypnosis did not always produce the truth, and it was erroneous to say that contactees did not lie under its influence. Tests at the University of Kentucky

had shown conclusively that hypnotic subjects were susceptible to information made available to them prior to the hypnosis session and that they repeated it whilst "under."

John felt that because man had always had a fear of abduction (slavery, press gangs) and the idea of abduction by the unknown was rooted deep in his psyche, many of the "events" might be psychological in origin. Alternatively, the phenomenon might be something as simple as fear of the pace of modern technology. He felt that the important thing was not what the abductors said, but what they were; they were, in fact, the message.

The humanoids (silver-suited spacemen, robots) could be the rational part of man's mind, the hideous aliens (apes, dwarves and giants) the darker side.

Manipulative Process

There was a lively debate on so controversial a subject, particularly between John and Albert Budden who felt that abduction was an internal not an external experience: it did not arise naturally but was part of a manipulative process.

Hilary Evans looked at the psychological aspects of the events. In the 16th-17th centuries witches, tied down on their beds and watched over by their finders-general, swore that they had left their beds and had flown off to their Sabbaths. Were they, perhaps, like those claiming to have been abducted, compensating for some form of deprivation?

Hilary believed that there was a real UFO event which was altered into a pseudo UFO event in order to confuse the abductee.

ALBERT BUDDEN

ALBERT BUDDEN, one of BUFORA's AIs and a member of the NIC spoke in February on aspects of high strangeness, a subject on which he is currently writing a book.

Many of the points which he put forward were raised in the article by him TELEPATHY IN UFO RELATED EVENTS (URE) published in the December 1984-January, 1985 issue of the BULLETIN, and readers are referred to this.

His belief that UFO events are purposely staged events, in which the individual is consciously manipulated, again produced a lively discussion as indeed one would expect from so original a concept.

MARY CORR, LIONEL BEER and HILARY EVANS

The lecture organiser's nightmare became manifest in late February when, with only a few days notice, Paul Devereaux, who had agreed to give the talk in March on Earthlights, had to go into hospital. His talk will now be given during the coming lecture session.

The lecture, arranged at fairly short notice was a very enjoyable one nevertheless, and was even more informal than usual since there were a number of speakers and a variety of topics.

MARY CORR, a long-standing member of BUFORA, and now in charge of its mailing department, gave a short talk on ecology and how "aliens" might be keeping a watchful eye on the way in which we use (or misuse) this planet's resources.

Slide Show

She was followed by LIONEL BEER, the Association's historian, who presented a lecture which covered much of the background of ufology and that of BUFORA itself, with slides of the Association's 21st birthday lecture in 1983. Lionel has collected together a most interesting portfolio of illustrations of flight and ufological subjects which take in everything from Ezekiel's wheel to the Kaikora lights.

Hessdalen Lights

HILARY EVANS spoke on "Lessons of Logic" and criticised a well-known researcher who, in a recent letter of MAGONIA, claimed that there was no such thing as a UFO. A remark which Hilary took to mean that there was nothing in the skies which was not instantly identifiable. That simply could not be true!

He quoted a report in PHYSICS TODAY of two bright lights seen in a cloudless sky and visible for 20 minutes. Two lights descended from the sky and remained fixed for about two minutes. Dark rings were seen around the lights which moved in zig-zag fashion before diminishing in size and disappearing. Their brightness remained constant. No one had yet been able to ascertain what they had been - they were UFOs.

He then went on to discuss the present controversy between NIVFO and UFO NORGE regarding the Hessdalen Valley lights. UFO NORGE were still carrying out research into this phenomenon which they had not yet satisfactorily resolved. NIVFO believed all the sightings could be dismissed as reflections from car and military vehicle headlights, planes and meteors.

Hilary had recently visited Norway and had done some sky-watching with UFO NORGE members; as a result he found NIVFO's claims quite untenable. The majority of lights had been seen in areas which were barren and totally inhospitable, no cars or other man-made artefacts were in evidence. The nature of the terrain, the lack of cash and manpower all posed problems for UFO NORGE. Hessdalen itself was some 30km from the next nearest village.

He showed a number of slides of lights which, he said, told very little other than the fact that they were strange lights, but many of the Norwegian observers had seen structured objects behind the lights.

Not Scientific

The phenomenon could be linked to the piezo-electrical theory since the area was very rich geologically speaking, although it was also a known stable region, with few, if any, earth tremors. But the explanation could not be dismissed out of hand because of that. The sightings still continued and many hundreds of photographs and movie film footage were in existence.

NIVFO's approach was certainly not a scientific one, and people should not speak in the name of science (as NIVFO had done) about things which were not yet proven. Perhaps the lights were not those of space craft, but, equally, they were certainly not vehicle headlights either! Logic must be applied in order to find the solution.

"Can we be sure" asked Hilary, "that some of the sceptics were not being as illogical in their reasoning as were, unfortunately, some ufologists?"

Odds and Ends

The evening ended with a talk by MIKE WOOTTEN on the NIC computer project and the Fulham sighting on June 21st, 1984, and the resulting photographs. This was currently under investigation by BUFORA, initial reactions from the film processing service indicated that the spectacular ring of lights seen were, in fact, those of a low flying aircraft.

DOT STREET gave an update on Rendlesham and said that 16 new witnesses had been traced in the USA. It was also believed that a film of the incident had been made and was currently in Germany.

RALPH NOYES

RALPH NOYES, a former Ministry of Defence official (he retired in 1977 at Under Secretary of State grade) regularly attends BUFORA lectures. On April 13th he was to be found on the other side of the platform, posing the Fortean question: "Are We Property or Possession?"

His book, a UFO novel, A SECRET PROPHECY was published last month.

What he had to say, he emphasised, was not in breach of Section Two of the Official Secrets Act, and whilst he was still covered by the strictures of the Act, he had not asked for official permission to give the lecture.

He outlined his life-long interest in science-fiction and things aeronautical, his job as air-crew from 1940-46 (not a foo fighter in sight!) and his work, afterwards at the Ministry. He had entered the Civil Service in 1949 with the then Air Ministry and served between 1951-52 under the Vice Chief of the Air Staff, Sir Ralph Cochrane.

There had, he said, certainly been a major rumpus at the Air Ministry in July, 1952, at the time of the sightings over Washington DC. It was his impression that PROJECT GRUDGE had been designed simply in order to take the heat out of public interest in UFOs - thousands of sightings had been reported between 1947 and 1952.

Mr Noyes had moved from the Ministry in 1952 and his recollection of this important ufological period - the early 1950s - was that there had been considerable interest in UFOs, but that no systematic investigation had been undertaken. The Lakenheath incident, although much later (1956) had worried the Air Ministry, and in its wake a low level case study arrangement had been set up - but nothing at a higher level.

The 1960s saw a dramatic rearrangement in the way the defence departments were organised. In 1964 some departments were merged into the Ministry of Defence, and in 1969 S6, which with S4 had previously reported to the public on UFO sightings, became DS8 and was then centrally placed in the Ministry, no longer being part of the Air Force's responsibility. For four years, from 1972, Mr Noyes headed a division of the Ministry which bought him into contact with the UFO problem and reports.

From his work there it was his belief that official consensus did not regard UFOs as posing a national security threat or having any defence significance. He was certainly not aware, as he would have been in this particular job, that any special investigation committee had been formed to look at the phenomenon. The fact that it had not suggested

to him that there was no official cover-up. A deception such as that would have involved far too many individuals for it to have remained covered up for a period, now, of nearly 40 years.

On the question of Rendlesham Forest he believed that the Ministry was interested in the case and was stalling over the details. His own enquiries had gone some way to confirm this.

Totally Unpredictable

The difficulty for people at the Ministry in responding to UFOs lay in the nature of the phenomenon itself. It was almost impossible to get to grips with it, however hard one tried. The phenomenon was transient and anomalous. It left poor, or no, traces, it was non-repeating in detail and location, it was anecdotal (depending on the truthfulness and memory of witnesses) and it was totally unpredictable. Given those complexities there was no way it could be pinned down or reported upon.

He drew the analogy of another strange phenomenon, that of spontaneous human combustion, of which a new case had been reported only a few months before. Like UFOs it was an interesting anomaly, and it certainly did happen, but it was not "investigated" because it was an anomaly (and a rare one at that) not because it was being covered up by governments, or by the doctors and nurses who perhaps came into contact with its dreadful results. Poltergeists also existed, and did damage, but the local environmental health officer did not investigate them, simply because they, like UFOs, were transient, unpredictable and incapable of being captured.

It was possible that governments were as bemused by UFOs as were the rest of us.

He tended towards the belief that what people saw was a natural phenomenon, as strange to us as a rainbow, the Aurora Borealis or lightning had been to primitive man, but which we now understood, could explain and no longer found baffling or frightening.

There were very many electro-magnetic wavelengths of which we were aware but which we could not see or harness. An example was something as simple as the force around a magnet. One was completely unaware of it until one saw it attract a handful of iron filings. Was the UFO phenomenon something as simple as that?

Natural phenomena needed to be studied closely. They might not prove to be the answer, but the possibility should not be over-looked or dismissed. Time could be wasted if ufologists continued to pursue the idea of a cover-up to the exclusion of all other possibilities.

TIMOTHY GOOD and OMAR FOWLER

The second abductee of the session - Albert Burtoo - was present at the lecture given by TIMOTHY GOOD and OMAR FOWLER on May 4th.

Because this case is such a fascinating one it will be reported at length since some Association members might not be aware of it. Mr Good was quite right, in beginning the lecture, by asking his audience to suspend or forget all their preconceived ideas of abduction stories.

Mr Burtoo is now aged 79, slightly below average height, very active for his age and possessed of a sharp sense of humour. For 13 years he had served in the Queen's Royal Regiment and had also spent a further 21 years in Northern Canada where he had trapped and shot bears and wolves. He had, he emphasised, never been scared of anything "...not even my mother-in-law!" His actions at the time of the abduction seem, in retrospect, very strange indeed, but they were governed by one rule, he said, "Well, what have I got to lose by going with them? I'm nearly 78 years old, after all." And so, without a moment's hesitation, he went.

At 1.15am, on August 12th, 1983, he was on the bank of the Basingstoke Canal - fishing. It was something he had done countless times before. He stood up to pour himself a cup of tea from his flask and light a cigarette when he noticed a bright, vivid light coming towards him from the south at a level of about 300ft.

Minutes later, by the light of a quarter moon, he saw two small figures walking towards him. Children from the nearby village he thought. Closer contact showed the figures to be wearing leaf-green, contour moulded cover-alls, no buttons or seams were visible, and black visors. No hands could be seen and the black visors masked their features. They beckoned Mr Burtoo to follow them.

They walked back along the towpath, Indian file, with Mr Burtoo between them. When they came to some railings the "aliens" were small enough to squeeze themselves through the gaps, Mr Burtoo climbed over. There was no sound of the "aliens'" footsteps on the pathway, only of his own rubber waders.

An Octagonal Room

Ahead of him, he said, there was an object 40-45ft across, smooth and burnished, straddling the towpath; 10-15ft of the object extended out over the water, another 10-15ft was over the bank. There were external lights. Two runners beneath the craft held it steady. Its reflection could be seen in the waters beneath.

The two aliens walked up the steps which extended downwards and slightly to the side of the craft. Mr Burtoo followed.

The room which he entered was rounded and octagonal (not, he said, unlike the lecture theatre in which he was sitting). One of the aliens went across the room and Mr Burtoo was vaguely aware of a door (or panel) sliding open. The other stood between Mr Burtoo and the door through which they had entered. The walls, floor and ceiling were black and a smooth surfaced column, approximately 4ft in diameter, rose from floor to ceiling. Half-way up the column he noticed a Z-shaped handle. Two further aliens stood on either side of the column. The four aliens all appeared to be male.

The floor was covered in a soft material, and he saw no dials or control panels. The temperature inside, at about 65°C, was slightly warmer than that outside. The craft was permeated by a smell which Mr Burtoo defined as vaguely like that of decaying meat - he was immediately aware of it.

A voice said "Come and stand under the amber light." He did so.

The light, the only illumination visible in the room, was suspended from the low ceiling, the room, in fact, was rather dimly lit.

"What is your age?"

"Seventy-eight next birthday."

"Turn around. You are too old and infirm for our purpose."

When Mr Burtoo left the craft he noticed that the handrail at the side of the steps had two joints, it was in fact telescopic.

When some 250-300ft along the towpath he noticed that the dome on the object was revolving in an anti-clockwise direction. There were vibrations as the UFO moved up, the dome revolved but the rim

of the object did not. There were windows between the dome and the rim. As it took off the lights came on gradually, but got brighter as it gained height. At about 300ft it shot off at a terrific speed and disappeared within 4-5 seconds. The object, just an intense white light, disappeared over the local cemetery, the town of Aylesbury and, eventually, the Hog's Back. The light had been bright enough to illuminate vivid structural detail on the bridge across the Aldershot/Woking/Waterloo railway line, and even the fishing float bobbing in the water.

Carry On Fishing

It was about two o'clock in the morning. Mr Burtoo walked back to his fishing tackle where his dog, which had growled at the aliens' approach but had shown no other sign of fear, still awaited him. Mr Burtoo went on fishing. His CE3 had lasted about 30 minutes. He remained fishing until noon on the morning of August 13th when he encountered two mounted policemen riding along the canal bank, and to whom he partly told his story.

"Yes" replied one of them, in what sounds like a tongue in cheek reply, "I expect they were checking on our military installations."

On the following Sunday Mr Burtoo returned to the landing site. Some foliage appeared to have been damaged, but there was little else to be seen. He was puzzled. Someone other than he must have noticed the light, despite the lateness of the hour. There was a nearby military guard house belonging to Clayton Barracks, there was also a gas proving station and a residential bungalow (this later proved to be unoccupied at the time). There are, of course, other installations in this very military sensitive area; at least two army camps, and complexes at Aldershot and Farnborough. Mr Burtoo freely admitted that there are frequent army manoeuvres late at night.

The Investigation Begins.

Baffled by what had happened, and at a loss to understand it, Mr Burtoo wrote to the ALDERSHOT AND CAMBERLEY NEWS over two months later, on October 14th, 1983. The newspaper, in turn, contacted SIGAP investigator Omar Fowler who made the first enquiries into the case. His initial reaction, he told his audience, was one of the scepticism - the story was incredible. But Mr Burtoo's details tallied so closely with others in the genre, stories which Mr Burtoo had not read, that eventually Mr Fowler was convinced of its truthfulness. Mr Burtoo had no interest in UFOs - he simply did not believe in them. As he was at pains to point out: "I only believe in things I've seen."

The April/May, 1984 issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW covered the story. Tim Good interviewed Mr Burtoo and also carried out a limited site investigation - needless to say the passing of time had removed all physical traces - had there been any to start with. In July, 1984, the NATIONAL ENQUIRER carried a detailed consideration of the Burtoo case which, by that time, Mr Good was convinced was a genuine one.

Throughout the lecture Mr Burtoo maintained that he was curious about what was happening to him - but not afraid. He was not afraid of anything. He felt that the "aliens" were friendly, but then, as he said: "I wasn't being hostile."

They spoke English in sing-song voices, with something approaching a Chinese/Russian intonation.

There had been no lasting, harmful effects from the encounter; but he "felt" different. Immediately afterwards, and for a brief period of time, he had lost some weight and sleep and his appetite had decreased. At the time of the incident he had been taking two kinds of drug - neither of them likely to produce hallucinations - one for blood pressure and the other for bronchitis.

"Until I had this experience with the UFO" he explained, "I always thought of them as science fiction. Now I know that they are a fact. They are not hostile." He regretted that no one else had witnessed, or shared, the event.

"It was" he reiterated, "the greatest experience of my life?"

Robots?

The questions came thick and fast. Mr Burtoo had not asked the aliens any questions in case they took offence. The words they had spoken were heard by him rather than received telepathically.

He did think, on first seeing the aliens that they might be non-human - they were so thin. In reply to a question he too had wondered later if they were robots since they were stiff-legged. The fact that they were so small made him wonder if they had been specifically selected for that particular vehicle.

Why had they rejected him?

Mr Burtoo did not know, and felt vaguely insulted that they had. His legs did, however, contain plastic veins - he had had an operation for arteriosclerosis and these might, he thought, have been picked out by the amber scanner.

He was not frightened by the experience - it was a theme to which he returned over and over again. He would willingly go through it all again.

Time had seemed to pass quite naturally after the encounter. He had not been wearing a watch but had registered the passing hours by the striking gong at Buller Barracks.

He had not been under any emotional stress prior to, or at the time of, the encounter. He did not suffer from migraine or headaches. He wore glasses only for reading.

As an enthusiastic and frequent night-time fisherman he was well-acquainted with phases of the moon and the nocturnal aircraft flights which could always be seen and heard and identified as such.

What did he do when he fished?

He just sat and looked at the reflections in the water and listened to the sounds of the countryside at night.

An Interruption

During the lecture a medium in the audience went into a semi-trance and confirmed that Mr Burtoo was telling the truth. The beings, she said, had been attracted to him because he too was small.

Mr Burtoo said that he did not believe that his abductors were from outer space. They were, he was sure, Russians.

Nothing, he said, would ever convince him that what he had experienced on that summer's evening was not a real event. He had not imagined it. It had not been a dream.

He had had one strange dream since his encounter when a voice had told him "Shut up, don't say no (sic) more about it." He had also had a psychic experience very many years ago following the death of his 18 year old brother.

A questioner mentioned that on August 7th, 1983 - five days prior to Mr Burtoo's experience - there had been a parallel abduction in Argentine, with an abductee being rejected.

Difficult To Refute.

A strange case indeed. It would be very difficult, given Mr Burtoo's patently sincere, honest, almost deferential approach, to refute his story outright, however odd it sounds, or to accuse him of lying or of trying to hoax two such experienced investigators as Tim Good and Omar Fowler. I am sure that he was telling the truth. Something did happen to him.

Visitors from outer space? Russians surveying Aylesbury? A UK military experiment? A loss of sensory perception. The Burtoo case is a classic of its kind, deserving to be much better known than it is.

Mr Burtoo, an expert fisherman does, no doubt, like so many of his kind, throw back the tiddlers. Were "they" - if "they" were a "they", "fishing" and did "they" too throw back the little one?

ANDY COLLINS

ANDY COLLINS, a former UFO investigator, gave the last lecture of the session on June 1st, and spoke on psychic quests. He began by outlining the work he had done in the late 1970s with Graham Phillips on the greenstone affair. The use of psychic forces had led to the discovery of a casket containing a green jewel reputed to have once belonged to Mary, Queen of Scots, and a sword buried in the brickwork of an old Worcestershire bridge. The quest had formed the basis of his book THE SWORD AND THE STONE, which had attracted a fair measure of critical misrepresentation, being likened to something more akin to the fiction of Tolkien than serious investigation!

He was now actively involved in other quests which used psychically derived information to investigate ancient sites, and to retrieve artefacts - spears, horns, talismen, chalices and even semi precious objects.

Historical Background

Norse and Celtic legend was filled with tales of mythological heroes undergoing trials in order to retrieve objects of material or spiritual value, and the medieval period had been particularly rich in such exploits. These had been closely linked to the rediscovery of the Arthurian legends, the search for the Holy Grail, Vigils and the rise of chivalry. Crusades had often been embarked upon as the result of a visitation by a saint and he quoted the well-documented (although disputed) case of the hermit Peter Bartholomew who, had, at the time of the Siege of Antioch 11thC. claimed to have been visited by St. Andrew. The saint had claimed that beneath a stone in a certain chapel in Antioch lay the spear which had pierced Christ's side at the time of His crucifixion. This had in fact been found.

The work of Elizabeth I's court astrologer, John Dee and his medium Edward Kelly, was also mentioned. They had undertaken psychic investigations, mainly in and around the zodiac-pattern area of Glastonbury.

After a long period of disfavour psychic questioning had returned in the late 19th century with the work of Madame Blavatsky and her Theosophical Society and in the 20th century with that of Wellesey Tudor Pole and Frederick Bligh Bond.

Pole's researches - again in Glastonbury, at St. Bride's Well - led to the discovery of a sapphire blue bowl believed to have been of first century, Middle Eastern origin, and possessed of psychic vibrations. This had been taken on a form of pilgrimage to spiritual centres such as the Isle of Iona and various British sites dedicated to St. Michael. The present whereabouts of the bowl were not now known, only a replica survived. Bligh Bond had used the automatic writing of the long since dead monks of Glastonbury Abbey to locate the exact position of old ecclesiastical sites such as that of the Edgar Chapel.

The researches of Harry Price, particularly into the paranormal happenings of the much-haunted Borley Rectory, were mentioned. Here events - a psychic contact and then a fire - led to the discovery of the possible remains of the 17th century nun Mary Laird, reputed to have been murdered by a member of the Waldegrave family in 1685 and her body hidden in an hitherto inaccessible underground shaft. Price was not a questor, but his books on the paranormal were landmarks in psychical research.

Psychic Detector

More up to date still Andy discussed the work of Margot Williams who not only had an unusual rapport with ghosts but was able to "tune in" to the artefacts themselves, of which she had an enormous collection dating from 1700 onwards. A particularly bad experience with an artefact which predated this period had convinced her not to go back to a time earlier than the 18th century.

It was, said Andy, as if she were a "psychic metal detector" and the objects themselves psychic micro-chips containing the essence of a location or an event which she could then release.

Andy's own work began in 1981 when he founded Earth Quest. His work with psychic Bernard Gowing had resulted in a book THE KNIGHTS OF DANBURY which recounted the history both of the village of Danbury and its knights of St. Clere, and the discoveries made about both.

He and Gowing had also worked in the zodiac area of Glastonbury and had encountered a site "guardian" who had led Gowing, by psychic means, to the discovery beneath a tree, of an 18th century French monastic crucifix.

UFO Links

There was a lively question and answer session which began with a discussion on the validity of the claims of Mrs Williams and Bligh Bond. Andy said that from what he knew of her work he believed her to be completely genuine. Every major psychic had been discredited at some time, but often only to the satisfaction of the detractor.

He agreed with Bertil Kuhlemann that earth questing had strong ufological links. All the psychics he had worked with had had UFO experiences (sightings, encounters, abductions) and they were, perhaps as a result, able to "open up" to the psychic experience much more easily. Bertil mentioned the case of a Swedish abductee who had returned with increased psychic awareness.

Dowsing was only one form of questing, and perhaps the best known and most commonly accepted, but the practice did not necessarily relate to water only. An individual attuning to a given aim, could unearth coins, jewellery and other items.

Site guardians, like the one encountered at Glastonbury, had to be approached in a certain way. Desecrators of ancient sites invariably had bad luck as a result, and the "influences" could even affect archaeologists and surveyors if the correct approach was ignored. Psychics could distinguish good and bad sites and a good psychic would see the site guardian as clearly, said Andy, as he saw his audience.

Stone Memory

Stone, rocks, even wood and plastic, although inanimate, did, he believed, possess a "memory" of an event, or events, whether devotional or diabolical, which perhaps lay dormant until released by someone undergoing a similar emotion. The "memory" then played back, like a tape recorder, creating the mood of a site or building giving it its reputation for good or evil.

People in the long distant past had knowledge of the "memory" contained in stone, and this they used on their sites both to ward off those whom they did not wish to possess their secrets but to encourage those they trusted by setting them trials and tests.

COUNCIL'S THANKS

BUFORA's Council is most grateful to all those lecturers who gave up their valuable time to inform, and often entertain, Association members and their guests.

It also thanks those who chaired the lectures and the members and guests themselves who, more often than not, presented the speakers with some very pertinent (and not always easily answered!) questions. They have made the lectures as thought-provoking as they have been.

Council would like to say a special thank you to ROBIN LINDSEY, the Association's librarian who, despite a long period of ill-health and a major operation, has attended most of the evening lectures, travelling down from Peterborough in order to record them on tape. Council and members join in wishing him a quick and complete recovery.

KEN PHILLIPS, BUFORA's Training Officer, is now planning the 1985-86 Lecture Programme. What subjects would you like covered? Which speakers, or subjects, would you like to hear from, or about, again?

Please let the Editor have your views NOW and Council will see what arrangements can be made for the coming session.

BUFORA members will be familiar with the alleged incidents in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk in late December, 1980. This has been investigated for BUFORA by local investigator Dot Street and myself, along with independent researcher Brenda Butler. Dot has reported in this journal, I have written pieces elsewhere in the UFO literature (FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER etc) and the three of us have recently written a book SKYCRASH (Neville Spearman, 1984). This takes work up until spring, 1984, and was written chiefly to put into context the rather sketchy and over-the-top publicity granted the case by the NEWS OF THE WORLD in October, 1983; publicity which occurred because of discussion of case at the BUFORA Congress at High Wycombe in August, 1983.

The case is by no means concluded. We are still actively investigating it. Since publication of the book, or in many cases before publication but since completing the manuscript, a number of dramatic new breakthroughs have occurred. It is impossible to summarise them here because each brings to bear many new questions, I will briefly cite some of the main points.

DOWN IN THE FOREST

1. The tape recording made by Colonel Charles Halt in the forest on the second night of the events (December 29th-30th, 1980) has now been made available, or rather a version of it has. It appears to record Halt and several other officers at the site of the physical traces, recording radiation and damage and taking soil samples and photographs. Then a "UFO" returns, although there are strong grounds for believing that this part of the tape is a put-up job. Halt seems to be acting a part. Various clues are seeded. It is evident the lighthouse at Orford Ness is being watched. The facts imply that this second sighting was deliberately engineered so that this UFO sequel could be released if things got out of hand and the landing of December 27th became public knowledge.

2. Two prime Air Force witnesses, Sergeant Adrian Bustinza and then airman (now Sergeant) John Burroughs have been found and interviewed. Their importance was always grasped, and we refer to them in the book. They came to light whilst the book was at the printers and their stories corroborate much of what we already knew and add useful new data. Some of the things they have to say strongly supports the belief I mention above about the true nature of the Halt tape recordings. According to Bustinza the British civilian police are far more actively involved in this case than we had realised.

3. Some new civilian witnesses have been traced, including a man who was on the back road near the East Gate of Woodbridge when the base went on to full alert. Another eye-witness to the UFO has also been discovered.

These threads of investigation, plus several others, must be explored in our continuing search for the truth. We are determined that one day soon we will have an answer to this case. It may not be that a UFO was present. Other options remain, e.g. that an experimental device went wrong. But it is the job of ufology to seek out the truth, and it remains one of the more likely hypotheses that UFO landing did occur at this NATO air base.

NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY

SKYCRASH has generated almost nil publicity. Indeed there lies a story behind the public presentation of the true facts about Rendlesham Forest. Even so three negative references to the case have occurred since publication, each cleverly avoiding any mention of the book itself, the investigators or BUFORA! These three references might each have been cloned from one another, although they have different writers. That they each reflect what we might call the "highbrow" British press, or that read by MPs, government sources and others in influential positions, seems interesting. It is almost as if somebody somewhere felt it prudent to make sure that none of them took Rendlesham seriously if, by accident, they stumbled upon a copy of SKYCRASH in one of the few shops stocking it.

One of the writers was science journalist Adrian Berry in the DAILY TELEGRAPH. Berry claims he was being objective, and the DAILY TELEGRAPH editor refused to print my letter, to answer it or to let me take an hour of his time to present documents, taped interviews and (in simple words) the facts. Berry had said that the case was positively explained as the beam from the Orford Ness lighthouse and that the UFO buffs had been carried away on a flight of ufological fancy.

NOT FICTION

Another reference comes in several page of text on the case written by a SUNDAY TIMES journalist in a book entitled LIES! DAMNED LIES! (again no mention was made of the investigators, the book or BUFORA). The title of the journalist's book clearly indicates what he thinks of the case. He too trots out the lighthouse theory and blatantly calls the incident "fiction." We have had the article legally vetted and have been assured that it is definitely libellous. We can prove beyond question that (whatever else may lie behind the Rendlesham case) our documents, letters from the Ministry of Defence and USAF, and hours of taped interview with countless witnesses, proves it was not a fiction.

Sadly there is little we can do about it. The editor of the NEWS OF THE WORLD, who championed us in 1983, Derek Jameson, got the sack a couple of weeks later (we are not suggesting any connection!) He now hosts television game shows and has a series on the BBC. His replacement has issued instructions to "cool it" on the Rendlesham case, and although the journalist involved (Keith Beabey) was as angry as us at the LIES! DAMNED LIES! book, he cannot get the financial backing for a lawsuit. Much as we would like to make legal history by fighting the first court case in Britain to prove UFO reality (with, we are advised, almost guaranteed success) a libel action in the UK would run into many thousands of pounds, and the case has almost bankrupted Brenda, Dot and me.

TOWARDS THE LIGHTHOUSE

The final utterance comes in the form of an article penned by lighthouse expert extraordinaire Ian Ridpath, in THE GUARDIAN on January 5th, 1985. This is based upon a reading of SKYCRASH, his attendance at the BUFORA lecture on December 15th, 1984 when his lighthouse argument was again debated, and his own "investigation". But it might as well have been written in a time-warp, as, again, Ridpath conveniently forgot to mention the investigators, the

book (other than in passing derisory terms "...UFO researchers in Britain could scarcely believe their luck, this was The Big One, final proof that we are not alone A book was recently published about the case."), BUFORA, or any of the arguments against his lighthouse hypothesis.

NAUGHTY GAMES

Amid very naughty games with the facts, like using phrases such as "much to the dismay of UFO spotters" and "UFO hunters will continue to believe that an alien spacecraft landed in Rendlesham Forest that night. But I know....." Ridpath churns out his theory. If you switch the date given by all the witnesses and Halt's official report to the Ministry of Defence, from the stated 27th to the 26th, then a meteor was seen that night that might have alerted the airmen on duty that something was up and lead them into the forest. Here, they see a lighthouse beam they have never seen before and presume it is not five miles away but flying around the forest. End of story if one adds total confabulation (or a "product of human imagination" as our intrepid journalist Ridpath puts it). This turns the light into a triangular craft, adds the discovery of some rabbit holes and assumes that the USAF do not know what radiation is.

I might add "God help us" if the USAF ever find themselves fighting a nuclear war, since they, presumably, would not know if the invading aircraft were lighthouse beams or MIGs, would not realise they had been irradiated since they cannot tell the difference between that and the normal background count, and would waste hours filling in bomb craters made by the secret agent rabbits which the Russians had cleverly trained! The man who, according to Ridpath, condoned all of this, Charles Halt, was subsequently, not disciplined or made to feel sorry for his actions. He was supported by high-ranking officers all around him, including Brigadier-General Gordon Williams in Washington and the British Squadron Leader base commander. Later Halt was promoted to full colonel and made Base Commander of the very NATO base at which he had, allegedly, made such lunatic errors! What is more, both the men who were the two commanders before Halt (between 1980 and 1984) insist that the UFO event was real and unexplained. According to Ian Ridpath these two colonels (Sam Morgan and Jack Cochran) do not know much about rabbits, lighthouses or radiation, and would have allowed the same errors.

If there is any truth in what Ridpath and THE GUARDIAN claims then our British defences are in one hell of a mess. Strange that THE GUARDIAN did not draw attention to that, isn't it?

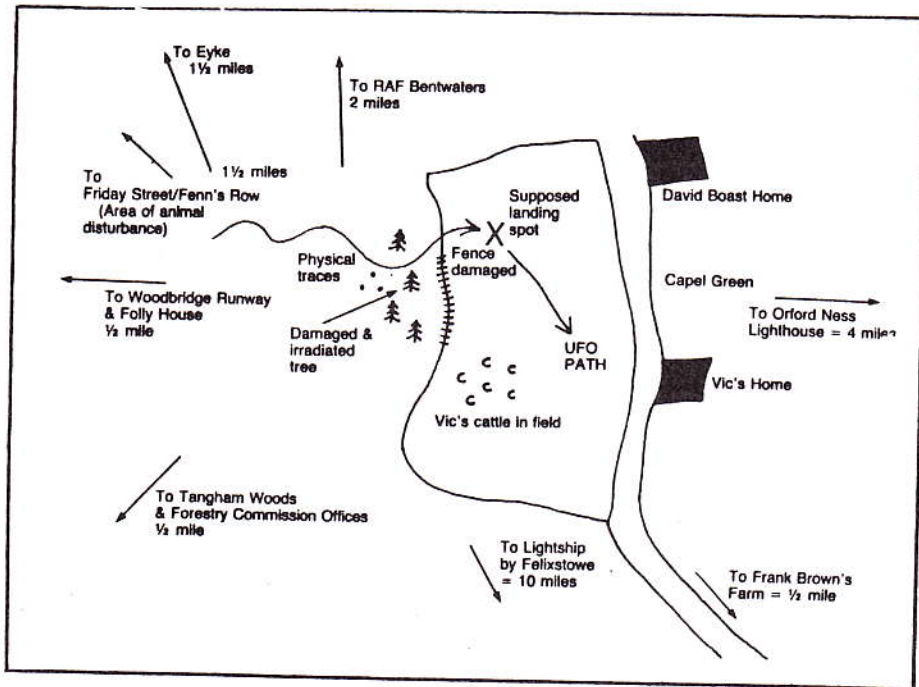
BRILLIANT FLASHING LIGHTS

I have since pointed out to Ian Ridpath that some of our objections to the lighthouse theory (apart from those mentioned above). They are as follows:

- (1) Civilian witnesses were at points on the Woodbridge-Orford road from where the lighthouse is invisible. Yet they and the several airmen (approaching the forest from at least two different directions) all saw the object inside the trees. Even the simplest application of trigonometry demonstrates that this remarkable lighthouse has defied

- the laws of mathematics in order to move from its position on the coast and fly around the woods.
- (2) The airmen on the East Gate could see the lighthouse beam, so they knew it was there. It is obvious indeed, from this position. They were not caught unawares. Also several of them had been on the base for a long time, years in at least two cases. To imagine they were unfamiliar with the lighthouse in all that time demonstrates the lack of faith Ridpath seems to have in these men. He argues in his GUARDIAN piece that "the airmen should have reported seeing two brilliant flashing lights", if they had seen the lighthouse as well as the UFO. Of course he has not asked them. He has not spoken to any witness to the UFO event. We have asked them. They told us that they did not refer to the lighthouse because it did not occur to them to do so. We could not quarrel with that. Readers of the pre-1983 articles by Dot Street or myself will note that we do not refer to the lighthouse either, not because we did not realise it was there, but simply because we did not regard it as of any potential importance. It is such a regular feature of the landscape, it is like asking a Parisian UFO investigator why he did not consider the Eiffel Tower to be the origin for a UFO report.
- (3) The men went out into the forest night after night for at least two weeks hoping for a return of the UFO. Surely somebody would have figured out the real explanation if half the USAF were being fooled by this lighthouse! Yet on January, 13th, 1981, Halt sent his report to the British Ministry of Defence, a foolish move if he, investigating sources on base, and investigating sources from the Ministry of Defence and the USAF, had not still been convinced that it was a strange event. If it is hard to imagine the degree of gullibility required for the lighthouse misidentification in the first place, to accept this level of subsequent incompetence is almost unthinkable.
- (4) The UFO shape, as described by the witnesses in the forest bears no relation to the lighthouse beam itself. Besides which all witnesses claim that it was on the ground and that they watched it for a long while. Such behaviour would be literally incredible unless the guards and officers involved were crazy or drugged at the time; the consequences of both suggestions being very serious indeed to the British public.

Ian Ridpath knew all of these facts before he wrote his GUARDIAN article, and I asked him why he had failed to mention or reply to them, and why he failed to give credit where credit was due but left readers to assume that the NEWS OF THE WORLD had discovered and investigated the story, something he certainly knew to be untrue? In his reply, which he told me I could quote, he said: "You know there is nothing in the Guardian article I did not tell you and the rest of BUFORA, a year before your book appeared...." "....there is no obligation upon me of the Guardian to mention (you or your book or BUFORA) by name"



Close up details of landing site.

(Drawing by Ian Mrzyglod)

(Illustration reproduced by kind permission of the authors of SKY CRASH)

In other words he admits that he deliberately decided not to refer to the various objections to his hypothesis and chose to ignore the serious questions posed to him at both BUFORA meetings he attended in December, 1983 and December, 1984. His view remains as it was in October, 1983 and our investigations and BUFORA can go to hell.

Ridpath asks me: "What do you have to fear from a 1500 squib in the GUARDIAN?" (squib:- "short piece of satire" (Collins Dictionary) Satire:- composition in which vice, or folly or foolish person is held up to ridicule." I fear nothing, because the truth has a habit of coming out eventually. But it does concern me that he can present such a one-sided myth to the influential readers of this newspaper, when he did so in full knowledge that there were reasonable counter-arguments. It strikes me that if anyone is displaying fear it is Ian Ridpath.

Fear of the truth!

For anyone interested in historical UFO research the newsletter of the Swedish group Archives for UFO Research (AFU) is very informative and helpful. For instance, in issue number 24, Hakan Blomqvist reviews Kevin and Sue McClure's STARS AND RUMOURS OF STARS which is about the apparitions which surrounded Mary Jones in Wales between 1904 and 1905. Blomqvist compares what he calls these religious wish-fulfillments with an experience of his own. When a girlfriend of his was ill, unbeknown to her he tried using mental visualisation to heal her from a distance. The next day, much to his surprise, she related how she saw a floating shining sphere fly over her bed and enter her body. What is more she was cured of her illness.

In the same edition of AFU NEWSLETTER are two articles by Anders Liljegren which deal with mystery airships and ghost fliers. The first is a review of THE GREAT AIRSHIPS MYSTERY by Daniel Cohen (Dodd, Mead, USA 1981) in which he compares the 1896-97 USA wave of airship sightings with the Scandinavian 1933-37 ghost flier wave. He notes that in both waves the sightings received a great deal of coverage and debate in the press, and that the right-wing newspapers tended to give credence to the reports whilst the left-wing newspapers tended to dismiss them. This can also be seen in the British press reactions to the British 1909 and 1913 phantom airship waves. Similarly, all these sightings mainly concern the observation of nocturnal lights, although the 1933-37 waves seem to have included more close encounters than the others. Finally, Liljegren pointed out that the USA and Scandinavian waves both began in the west and spread eastwards - the opposite to what happened in the British waves (particularly the 1909 one). However, the British waves did tend to culminate "in widely separated simultaneous sightings which, if taken at face value, could only mean there were several aeroplanes/airships operating." This could be explained by the fact that such waves tended to generate so much publicity in concentrated bursts that many people would be on the look-out for strange aerial sights and would consequently interpret such things as Venus, or bright stars, according to what they wanted to believe. But as Liljegren states, there is an "explanation gap when secret inventors of marvellous flying machines are suggested as an explanation for the stranger close encounter cases. The secret inventor theory just does not hold weight when the amount of sightings and the state of aeronautical developments are taken into consideration. It would make things a lot easier if a secret inventor could be discovered in order to brand him or her as the culprit of the close encounter cases, and as the catalyst for the waves which were sustained by public and media panic. However, this is not the case, indeed such an inventor or group of inventors would have had to have been particularly energetic for them to have generated phantom airship panics in the USA between 1896 and 1897, in the British Isles, New Zealand and USA in 1909, and South Africa in 1914, along with other sightings which we have yet to discover in the newspaper files, and not forgetting (which I nearly did) the British 1913 wave.

Of even more importance are Liljegren's plans for sorting out all the data he has obtained about the Scandinavian ghost flier sightings. At present our main source for this wave are John Keel's articles in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW "MYSTERY AEROPLANES OF THE 1930s" parts 1 to 4 in Vol.16, no 3 and 4, and vol.17 no. 4 and 5, and in his book OPERATION TROJAN HORSE (Souvenir, London, 1971) based on

the research by Ake Franzen. In his status report, Liljegren notes that in the War Archive in Stockholm he has been given access to four boxes of documents on the ghost flier. Fortunately for our purposes, "Every significant sighting was to be reported and investigated on-the-spot, either by the police (most often) or by the military. These interrogation records form the basic - say 75 per cent - part of the file. Investigations were sometimes meticulous" he wrote. Eventually he hopes to translate much of this material into English, which is certainly worth looking forward to.

If you can help him in his task he can be contacted at PO Box 11027, S-600 II, Norrköping, Sweden.

My address is Westfield Cottage, Crowle Bank Road, Althorpe, South Humberside, DN17 3HZ.

And here is just such a report sent to Stephen Gamble, BUFORA's Director of Research, by Mr J.T. Croft of Mid-Glamorgan Wales.

The report is taken from the CAMBRIA DAILY LEADER (a Swansea newspaper) dated Thursday, January 30th, 1913.

WHAT IS IT?

More Reports About The Light In The Sky
Contradictions.

Is it an airship? If so the mystery of the elusive aircraft grows more mysterious. It has been seen again flying by night as usual and this time on the coast of Mid Wales. It was seen by country people a few miles south of Aberystwyth at 8.25 on Saturday night. At first it headed out over Cardigan Bay but its searchlights which swept the hills evidently revealed the nearness of the ocean for it turned south and left in the direction of Carmarthenshire.

This is at least the fifth time this month that the mystery airship has been seen flying by night and yet no one has seen it rise or descend (sic) and no one knows whence it comes or whither (sic) it goes.

On Tuesday it was reported that five persons declared they had seen it going over Liverpool between 7 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on Saturday night, yet at 8.30 p.m. it was seen near Aberystwyth! At Liverpool as in Wales it carried a light or lights.

We have already recorded the statements of persons at Cardiff, Merthyr and Swansea and other places who claim to have seen "the strange light" in the sky.

BOOKS

A SECRET PROPHECY.
Ralph Noyes. Quartet
Books Ltd. £7.95.

I awaited ex-Ministry of Defence official Ralph Noyes' book on the UFO phenomenon with great interest. Although surprised by its contents I was not disappointed.

The book's freewheeling style works better in psychological drama or "emotional" writing than it does in science fiction, but Ralph Noyes does use it in lots of the book to very good effect and it makes for lively reading.

The book can be very political in the sense of expressing the author's persuasions rather bluntly. I think he is too blatant in this respect to be totally effective. References to a female British Prime Minister - totally bald beneath her sculptured coiffure and extreme references to an American President - more Reagan than Reagan could ever be, cooled the reactions of this reader when, presumably, the object was to inflame. And they are only the sub-plots!

The main story, that the alien visitations are from a race that somehow did not quite make it in history and perhaps got left behind when the mammals overtook the dinosaurs is an intriguing theory; not least that they (the aliens) exist somewhere over the edge of reality. Shades of "The Twilight Zone" and "Dr Who" I think!

The most disappoint aspect of the book is its total failure to be believable in the area of "behind closed Whitehall doors" which ought to be the main claim to fame as Mr Noyes is an ex-MoD employee and as the blurb says "in touch with the UFO problem." Indeed the book never seems to take this aspect of the story with any seriousness. In these post-Ponting days, with the Official Secrets Act in tatters in courts throughout the land, Ralph Noyes could hardly have been afraid of revealing anything he shouldn't. Perhaps the truth is just too unreadably dull! But certainly for me the least believable characters in the book are

those inhabiting Whitehall's many rooms and corridors.

The book scores mostly in its originality. Not from source material cribbed from recent and well-publicised UFO cases (Rendlesham and Livingston) and not from style - a combination of James Joyce and John Osborne ("my University was white tile more than red brick!") but of a blending of the two. Science fiction hasn't seen a contemporary UFO book in this style before and it is a pleasant change.

When I spoke to the author recently (about a lecture he was giving) he said he didn't mind if people were driven to fury about what he had to say so long as they were driven to something. This book is like that, love it or hate it you won't put it down without something to say about it.

JOHN SPENCER.

Letter to the Editor

From: Jenny Randles,
Director of Investigations,
BUFORA.

Sir -

UFOs - A WASTE OF TIME?

I have become increasingly concerned by the various letters (the latest being in the May, 1985 BULLETIN) from Steuart Campbell, RIC for Scotland (the country!) These began when he challenged my book THE PENNINE UFO MYSTERY asserting that it served no purpose.

Naturally, Steuart is entitled to (and usually has) his own opinion. I have never claimed, either in my book or in the article I wrote (BUFORA BULLETIN June, 1984) that there was anything particularly special about the Pennine area - although its incidence of UFO close encounters is undeniably high. Anybody who cares to study the records would note this. Whether that is an inherent factor, has sociological bases, or is a function

of the environment in some way, remains open to debate. But to dismiss the facts without contrary evidence strikes me as a strangely dogmatic approach to adopt.

But then Stuart cannot be said to lack firm views. In his latest letter he claims that in 12 years as an active investigator he has never found a single case that could not be explained. His one possible exception is Livingston, which I personally (and I realise against the tide of opinion) have always been less than sure about. He then asserts that all his cases have been either misperceptions or hoaxes, and goes on to extrapolate for the rest of the world! Ergo, as he puts it: "Ufologists are wasting their time."

One might be tempted to ask what Stuart is doing wasting his time then, if we are to take his suggestion seriously! Fortunately (or unfortunately depending which side of the fence you sit) we cannot do that. Extrapolating anything from the basis of Stuart's investigations is unwise.

Let me say immediately that I have always respected him for his work, his scepticism and tenacity. As Director of Investigations I have seen several of his case reports and I must say that I have not read them the same way that he evidently has. Whilst one or two of them have been explained to my satisfaction as well as his, others have been left up in the air with a comment like "insufficient data" (which I tend to regard as an admission of failure on the part of the investigator - although we are all forced into it on occasions).

There most certainly have been Scottish cases I could not explain which seem to me very unlikely candidates for UFO status (without a gross stretching of the evidence) and on which I (again personally) would have liked to see more follow-up. But there is always a danger with any investigator (and I do not exclude myself) that personal attitudes will cloud objectivity. It is not difficult for a field investigator to unconsciously shy away from cases because they do not fit into his purview of what "UFO phenomenon" is. The witness claims "psychic experiences" after a sighting and you do not "believe" in such things, ergo the witness is "imaginative" and the UFO sighting probably

an "hallucination." Or you feel all genuine UFOs must be natural phenomena - so if a witness reports a structured craft with portholes, windows and creatures in it these were "constructs" grafted onto the initial blob of light. They were not there in any "real" sense. From this you may well conclude that the case is quite explicable as "ball-lightning" - even if this is practically a cop out, because ball lightning boundary definitions are hazy and overlap into some kinds of UAP.

What I am really saying is that the UFO report is as dependent upon the mind of the investigator as almost anything else. One man's hallucination is another man's significant contact. Who is to say which of them is right at this stage of the game? Not you, nor I. Not any of us. We simply do not have enough data to decide.

Whilst I am sure that Stuart realises this as clearly as I do, his self-confidence worries me. Time travel is not possible, he states! I am glad he is so positive, because most physicists and philosophers do not share his remarkable perception. In no sense am I suggesting UFOs are time-ships. But there really is no way you can throw the concept out of the window on the present basis of man's knowledge. The same reasoning applies to the ETH (of which I remain doubtful) or any form of alien component to the UFO mystery (of which I have yet to be convinced). Being as objective as I can be I do not see how any of us could possibly state, as Stuart does, that "they do not exist." Our science merely argues that there are no firm grounds for believing in them at present. It does not say that they are impossible.

In my view Allen Hynek

makes one of the most profound statements on the UFO subject when he says that we must remember - there will be a science of the 21st and 22nd centuries, and the one thing we know about it is that it will be different. Progress is like that. What we know now is not wrong. But what we know tomorrow, based upon it, will be closer to the truth.

We refine our understanding as we pass through history, honing down our concepts towards the perfect finish. Current space-time concepts are new and far from polished. They may in the end result prove as vague and generalised as the belief a few centuries back that the stars were pinpricks in a shield around the earth. Then we only had one step correct - the stars were outside the earth. Eventually, as we understood more and more we evolved the theory of star formation. We do not know at what point on the highway of progress we now stand. But it is most improbable that it is near the final destination. To assume that it is is being naive and somewhat unblinker.

There are things about UFOs which we might not be able to understand in the 20th century. One day they may slot into place, as many scientific mysteries have done in the past. A new conceptual leap forward suddenly provides the explanation for an age old puzzle. "What are those swathes of light around the masts of our sailing ships?" asked a mariner a few centuries ago. Ghost lights, demonic presences? Memoes from God - they are the answers he was offered. Then along comes science and the discovery of electronic charge and how it gathers around point sources - lighting conductors, or masts of sailing ships. The truth is suddenly all too obviousnow.

My Pennine book served to keep a record of what went on over a period of time in that part of England. On a larger scale that is what we are all doing, even Stuart. I added my thoughts and suggestions and ideas about possibilities - always with diffidence, because that is the only way it can be done.

Other ufologists have done this (and will continue to) throughout the duration of the UFO mystery. Eventually we will figure it all out - although maybe in the end by accident, or thanks to break-throughs made elsewhere by someone not in the least interested in UFOs.

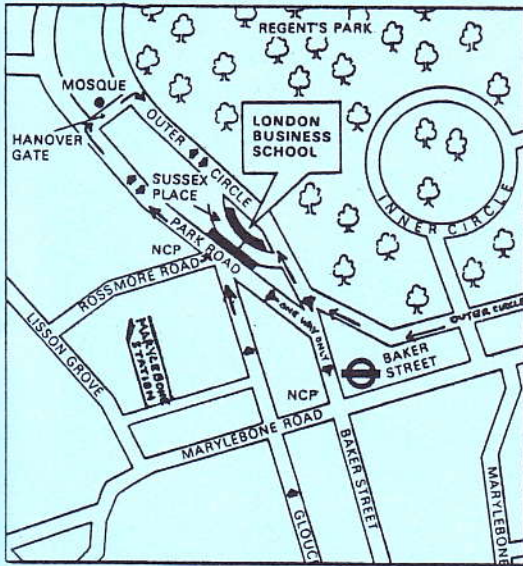
In my opinion what we do has value. Our data will one day prove useful to somebody, somewhere. I have no idea who, or when, or what area (or areas) to science (even if it will be science) to which this will apply. But I am sure that this statement is valid. Otherwise, as Stuart says, we would be wasting our time, and that would not appeal to me one bit.

The world is filled with fascinating things. There are mysteries a-plenty to be unravelled. There is no need for anyone to waste time on UFOs. I research because I am positive Stuart is wrong.

Perhaps I might be accused of bias - I would say that, wouldn't I? Only you can make up your own mind. If you agree with Stuart you may as well forget UFOs and take up astrology instead - only joking Stuart - well, half joking, astrology does have its own baffling questions

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

must be notified to the Membership Secretary and the Chairman immediately they take place, otherwise continuity of publication cannot be guaranteed and it is not always possible to replace publications which have not been received.



LECTURES, unless otherwise stated will be held at LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, SUSSEX PLACE, LONDON, NW1 on the first Saturday of each month (unless otherwise stated). Lectures begin at 6.30pm and will end at around 9.30pm. Council hopes that as many members as possible will attend in order to make the meetings as successful and lively as possible. Entrance fee is £1 for BUFORA members, £2.50 for non-members.

The programme for the remainder of 1985 is as follows:

September 7th, 1985:

UFDs: WHENCE AND WHITHER? by Bertil Kuhlemann.

October 5th, 1985:

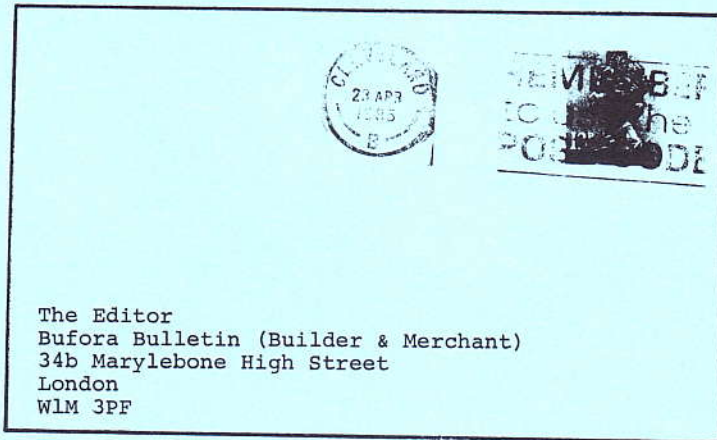
THE ENGLISH WITNESS PROJECT by Ken Phillips.

November 2nd, 1985:

TITLE AND SPEAKER TO BE ADVISED. (see September issue of JTAP).

December 7th, 1985

Lecture by Hugh Pincott. TITLE TO BE ADVISED.



I've heard of the 'nuts and bolts' theory, but this is ridiculous!

BUFORA PUBLICATIONS
- SPECIAL OFFER

The following publications are offered at a special rate to members. Applications to Arnold West, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, together with your cheque/PO for the appropriate amount. THESE ARE REAL BARGAINS.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER AT LIVINGSTON.
64pp. Large format. £1.50 (plus 50p p&p) (Previous £3.00)

UFO INVESTIGATOR. Standard Field Investigators Handbook. (£1.50. (plus 75p p&p).

CONGRESS'79. 32pp Large format. Papers by Eduardo/Knewstubb/Hill/Anderson. 75p (plus p&p).

VEHICLE INTERFERENCE PROJECT
Geoffrey Falla. 102pp Case reports. £1.50 (plus 50p p&p). (Previously £4).

21st ANNIVERSARY MEMORABILIA

Lionel Beer also has some copies left of the four page leaflet produced to mark BUFORA's 21st anniversary in 1983. These outline the Association's history. He also has some of the special red badges, overprinted with the Association's logo and which are now something of a collector's item. Send two 13p stamps (10p for each extra badge ordered) to LIONEL BEER, 15 Freshwater Court, Crawford Street, London W1. For the leaflet send two 10p stamps, for the badge and leaflet send 30p in stamps.

FOUR assorted BUFORA BULLETIN/JOURNALS
£1 incl p&p.

NEW PUBLICATION

SCIENCE AND THE UFOs by Jenny Randles and Peter Warrington will be published later this summer by Basil Blackwell, priced £12.50.

The book provides the first survey of how science has tackled the UFO phenomenon and offers a challenge to scientists and UFO investigators.

The authors suggests ways in which scientific standards may be applied and what fruits such an inquiry may yield. They also illustrate ways in which the layman may make a serious contribution.

Both authors are critical of science and of UFO experts and are not afraid, however, to recognise that there is any underlying UFO reality, although this may not be what the popular media would have us believe.

FURTHER DETAILS FROM: Ludo Craddock, Basil Blackwell, 108 Cowley Road, Oxford, OX4 1JF, OXFORDSHIRE.

£240,000 OFFER
FOR PROOF OF
PARANORMAL

By Our Science Correspondent

A group of scientists yesterday offered prizes totalling £240,000 to anyone who could demonstrate proof of extrasensory perception or other paranormal phenomena. The condition is that experiments must be performed under "controlled conditions".

"I am confident we shall keep our money," said Mr Phillip J. Klass, an American whose hobby is debunking UFO claims. The offer is made by members of the Committee for the Investigation of the para-normal, which has branches in Britain and America.

ANY TAKERS?

"Daily Telegraph"
Saturday, June 29th, 1985.

THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION does not hold or express corporate views on UFO phenomena. Contributions reflect only the views of the editor or the authors.

Copy for publication must be sent directly to the Editor and not to any other officer. Original material is copyright both to the contributor and BUFORA. Where contributions involve other copyright holders, they should be so marked.