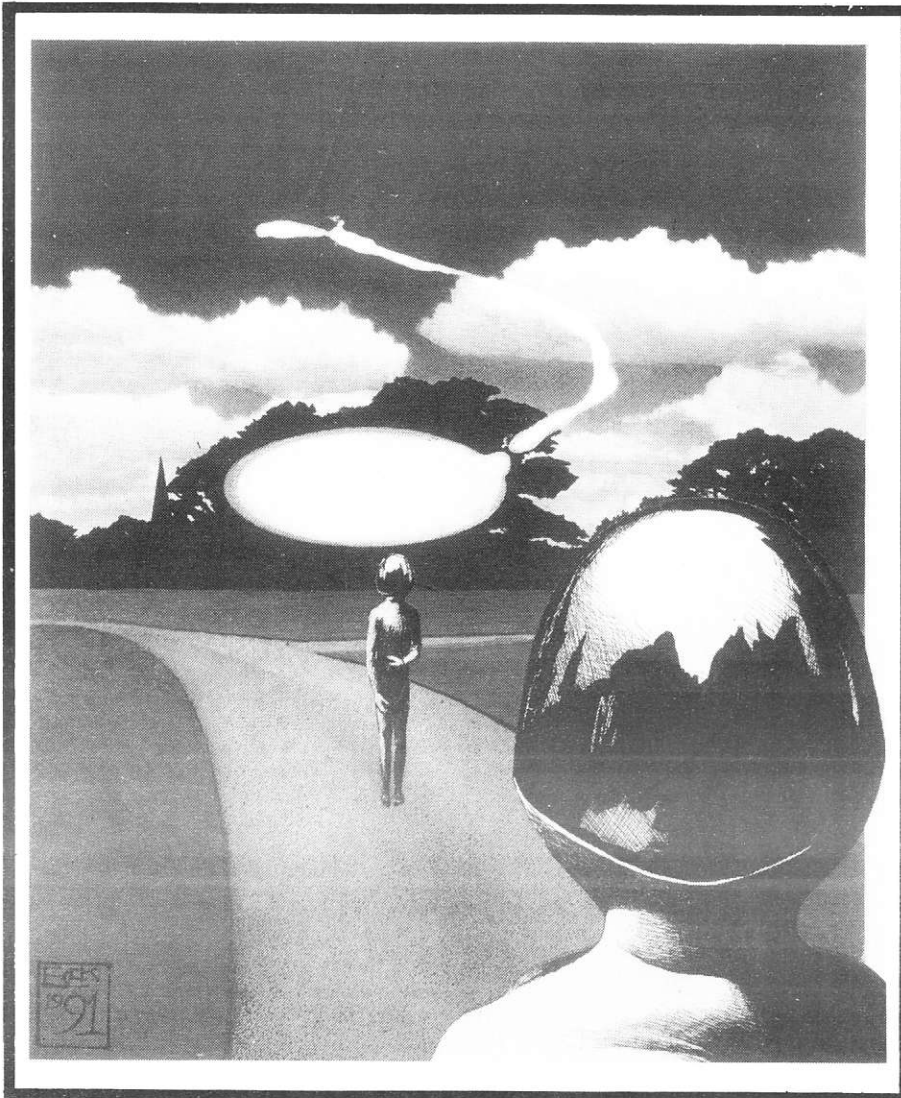

UFO TIMES

Number 16 Winter 1991

ISSN 0958-4846



The Pineal Connection

INSIDE

Are specific brain functions capable of creating psi and UFO phenomena? Dr Serena Roney-Dougal presents part one of a fascinating two-part paper.

The new BUFORA Questionnaire. Ken Phillips exclusively displays the replacement for the old R1 form.

Pat Delaney and Ann Griffin unravel the state of ufology in Eire.

And Stany Box recounts another interesting Belgian case.

Plus.... News, Investigators Diary, Skywatcher, readers letters and more.....

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Number 16 Winter 1991

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Contents

4. **Editorial**
5. **News**
6. **UFOs, States of Mind and the Pineal Connection**
by Serena Roney-Dougal
12. **Investigations Diary**
Edited by Jenny Randles
17. **The Revised R1 Form**
by Ken Phillips
22. **Ufology in Ireland**
by Pat Delaney and Anne Griffin
26. **Reviews**
27. **Observations at Flemalle-Grande**
by Stany Box
28. **Skywatcher**
Edited by Gary Anthony
29. **Readers Write**

Front Cover by Edward Clark

UFO

TIMES

EDITORIAL

Answers

In the midst of the confusion that ufology creates, sit the researchers, looking longingly at the mass of data making sense of some of it, but never the whole. Theories abound in great volume, each a microcosm of enlightenment, yet unable to reach the macrocosmic realms of 'The Full and Final Answer'. This dilemma ultimately leads to a frustration of almost neurotic proportions which paralyses and blurs the vision for a greater understanding of what we are dealing with.

This researcher frustration has produced two distinct camps within ufology. On the one hand, we have those who follow the road of the extraterrestrial hypothesis and on the other those who reduce the subject to simple delusions created in the minds of imbalanced people.

In my view, neither of these answers match up to the facts.

The ETH is riddled with problems. The physical reality of the vast majority of close encounter cases cannot be confirmed: the lack of any third party witnesses who can confirm that an individual was actually abducted is a classic example. As many have pointed out in the past, we only have anecdotal reports of these experiences. Yes, it's true that some percipients do occasionally show physical markings - those intriguing scoop marks and other abrasions that cannot be explained. Yes, we do have the occasional ground trace or a radar track of an anomalous object. But can we safely presume that this all adds up to an alien visitation; I think not. It is closer to the truth that over the years, investigators and

researchers have willed these inexplicable events to be ETs or 'the Greys'.

With a close look at the evidence it is also unsafe and premature to conclude that the vast number of people (usually normal people whose lives are changed by these inexplicable experiences) are not all there or are just fantasy prone. Thomas Bullard, folklorist and ufologist has conceded after much detailed and careful research that the UFO phenomenon (especially abductions) cannot be explained exclusively by the tenets of folklore and cultural tracking. Urban legends, albeit the 'in' explanation at present, holds up when the UFO subject is generalised, but falls to pieces when one takes a more detailed look at individual cases. It is also often found that most if not all of the proponents of a psychological explanation do not have the credentials to make such pronouncements.

In short, ufology is crudely toying with half-cocked explanations.

Tools of the Trade

This is not necessarily the fault of ufologists. It is right and proper to search for reasonable explanations first before plumping for the more exotic and exciting. As we come to a stage of understanding that is more complex than the ETH - ie the working of the human mind - it is clear that researchers are not equipped with the tools to take it further and on to the 'Full and Final Answer'.

If there is a certainty that it is within the functions of the brain, its interactions with external natural forces and anthropological conditioning that is at the heart of the UFO experience, we must prepare ourselves to complete the complex job in hand. Some attempts have been made to enlist the help of specialists to tackle the many questions that remain unanswered with relative success. But, ufology must strive harder in this area if a 'Full and Final Answer' is to be found.

Forty years on and we will still be scratching our heads and wondering what's going on if we don't.

UFO Packs for School Kids

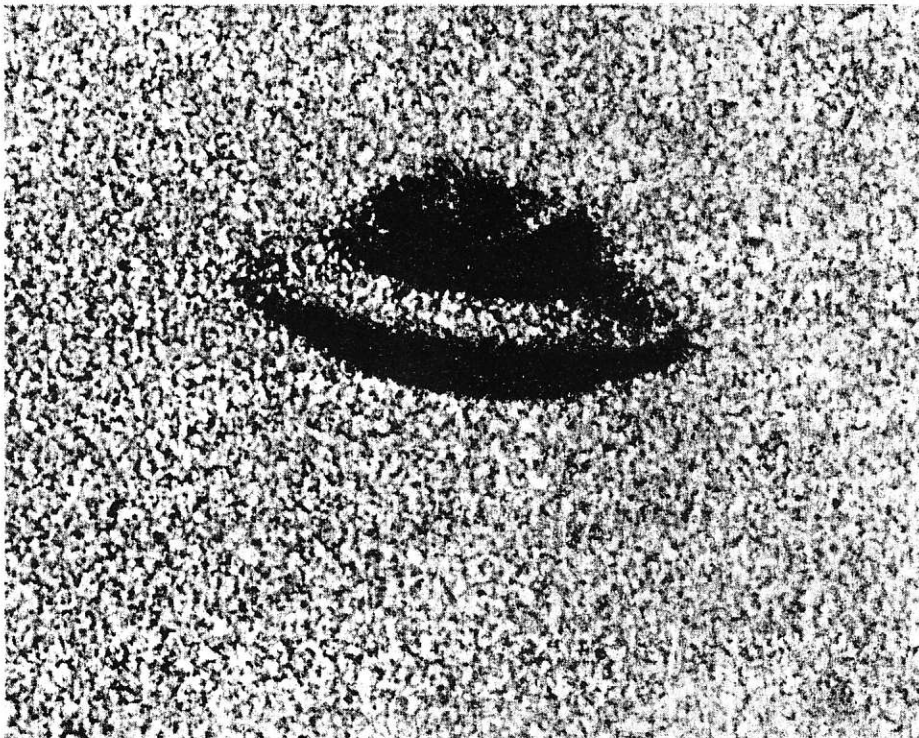
The BUFORA Publications Department is currently preparing a Schools UFO Project Pack to accommodate an increased demand for UFO related information from school children.

Faulkner Photo: A Fake?

Controversy is mounting over the authenticity of a photograph that has been a mainstay of the Warminster mystery for over 27 years. New information has been passed to BUFORA that claims that the Gordon Faulkner photograph was part of an elaborate hoax.

Gordon Faulkner took his infamous photograph on the evening of 29th August 1965, from the back door of his Warminster home. He has stridently insisted that it was not a hoax and always refused payment for use of the photograph. However, a friend of Faulkner at the time has recently approached BUFORA with evidence to show that the celebrated photograph is no more than a hoax.

BUFORA researchers are cautiously evaluating these claims at present and will comment on their validity shortly.



The Faulkner photo: a hoax?

The proposed ten page pack will be aimed at 11 to 13 year olds and will present a history of the phenomenon, highlight significant cases and give an overview of current theories. It is also hoped that information relating to IFOs and how investigations are conducted will also be included in the free educational pack.

Weather by Fax

Investigators who would like to get fast weather details will soon be able to dial up maps and information by fax.

The Met Office is running trials of Weatherfaxes, which will enable anyone with a fax machine to call up a range of services. Weatherfaxes will be aimed first at the aviation and marine communities and is likely to be extended to the general public later this year. Its introduction is a sign of the Met Office's drive to expand its commercial activities.

Contact Corner

After we highlighted Kerry Blower's request for members to contact her to organise local meetings, the UT Newsdesk had a telephone call from new member Kevin Welsh who would like to meet other members in his area.

You can contact Kevin at the following address:

42 Shakespeare Road,
Eastleigh, Hampshire,
SO5 4GA

Or telephone him on 0703 618952.

UFOs, States of Mind and the Pineal Connection

part 1

by Dr Serena Roney-Dougal

The Subliminal Mind and Psychic Awareness

Parapsychology is the scientific investigation of our psychic abilities and the psychology of those states of mind most conducive to the practise of the psychic gifts of healing, clairvoyance and divination, etc. In doing such research, parapsychology seems to be uncovering the basic root elements of all religions; the perennial philosophy.

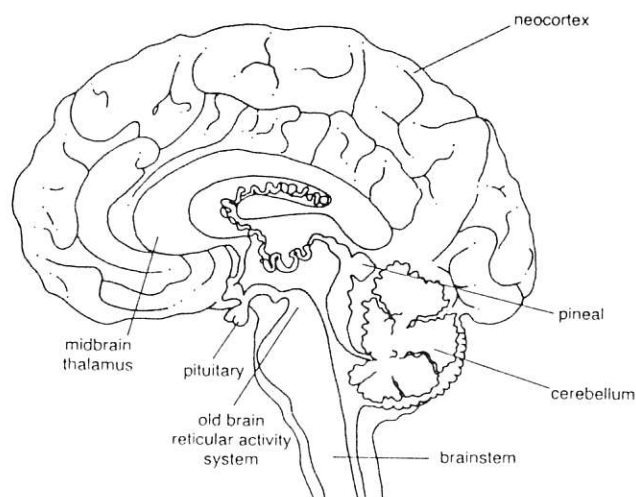
One of the findings of parapsychology is that most psi seems to work through the subliminal mind. We have several layers of mind: the conscious thinking, acting mind is essentially the two cerebral hemispheres: right brain and left brain: the mid-brain, or thalamus, is the emotional, primary process and instinctive, animal level of mind: then there is the old-brain which is the on-off switch for body functions and heartbeat, etc..

The subliminal mind as the mid-brain mind seems to emerge into consciousness most easily through right-hemisphere, dream-type thought but can emerge directly as a feeling, an emotion, a mood, an intuition, a hunch, a wordless knowing, or a body sensation. Most subliminal perceptions and psychic knowing seem to come through this part of our mind. Its language is symbolic, archetypal [as in dreams and the collective unconscious], poetry, myths and legends; throughout the world these are the same. When thinking at this level, we are linking with the world mind; the mind of the planet.

The unconsciousness is thought to retain every experience in its entirety. There are literally billions of nerve connections so that physically we can process billions of bits of information all the time: blood flow, heart beat, glandular secretion and senses. We have filters which protect us from all this or else we would go mad. These are called our defence mechanisms and they protect us from unwanted information so

we see and hear only what is necessary for our survival, for example, to warn us of the big red bus coming down the road at us. Research into subliminal perception has shown that it is the subliminal mind that ultimately governs what we are conscious of. It decides what to let through into consciousness. Our behaviour, our moods, our thoughts, our actions, are all governed by the subliminal mind. The filters and the defence mechanisms are essential but they have tended to become warped in our society so that they now tend to blinker us rather than merely protect us.

These filters are originally laid down by the norms of our society and environment: we see only that which we can conceive of. Incredibly basic stuff is controlled by our belief systems and



norms of our society. The subliminal mind is the level at which we can heal or harm others, as well as ourselves, as is shown by the placebo effect, psychosomatic illness, or the more dramatic instances of people who create the stigmata on their bodies. It has even been shown through a psychological test, called the 'Defence Mechanism Test', that accident proneness is caused by these defences. At a higher level, our belief systems, such as whether or not we live with the psychic, determine whether or not we live with the psychic as part and parcel of our information system on which we base our daily decisions, actions and moods. Thus people make themselves either lucky or unlucky by unconsciously psychically tuning relevant information in - or out.

Through studying the psychic, it has been found that the following psychological aspects are psi-conducive; i.e. are connected with the state most people are in when psi events happen to them:-

1) An attitude is the most important action you can take: if you believe in something, then it can happen in your life: if you disbelieve in it, then even if it does happen you will tend to deny it; this denial occurring a short while after the event happened. Linked with attitude is expectation: if you expect something to happen, it will; create the right atmosphere and the impossible becomes perfectly possible. The trickster or the conjuror is using age-old techniques; the psychic surgeons and shamans create heightened expectation and a charged atmosphere with their rituals and tricks; this allows psi to work better.

2) Relaxation - letting go at every level of your being in order to achieve both physical and mental relaxation.

3) Concentration - the sort that is best exemplified by a child playing - in which the whole of your being is living the task in which you are engaged; a holistic concentration totally engrossed in, and encompassed by, what you are doing.

4) Visualisation or imagination - essential requirement in all magical

traditions and which is now emerging in science through research into biofeedback, healing and parapsychology.

5) Emotion - our emotional energy is possibly the strongest energy of our being.

6) Experimenter effect: whatever we look at we affect. In science, the experimenter is the leader in a complex ritual; a social process deeply embedded within a set of symbols and beliefs shared by the actors in the procedure. Many ingredients are attributed to the successful outcome, including the dynamics of the group and the physical setting in which the ritual takes place. Thus the person's attitude and personality etc. are vital to the outcome.

7) Working in groups serves to reduce the amount of personal psi responsibility any one person has to take; it shifts the burden of psi onto the group or outside forces. There is a strange reluctance to possess psi abilities oneself and disturbance is felt when witnessing them; both of these anxieties are reduced in group work.

There are many techniques for opening up the subliminal mind and bringing one's conscious mind into closer contact with the subliminal and its vast store of information, thus helping us grow in knowledge of ourselves, and even potentially contacting our inner wisdom. These techniques are all based around the use of creative imagination together with taking the body-mind into an altered state of consciousness. The dream state is the one most used in both ancient and modern times. Dream induction for psychic and therapeutic purposes is both the most accessible and the most easily realisable of all the techniques. Other traditional shamanic and magical techniques are hypnosis, [including self-hypnosis], meditation and trance.

Parapsychology has found that altered states, such as hypnosis, meditation and dreaming, not only link our conscious minds with our subconscious but also increase psi ability; all the lores of psi are psychological lores.

The Holographic Principle and Quantum Reality

Through psi, we are potentially omniscient and omnipotent; i.e. divine. The one thing unclear from this see-touch reality of ours is how psi works. Through parapsychology, we are understanding what happens once the information is in the brain so to speak; the psychology of psi. But how does this information get there in the first place? For this, we have to look at the quantum world view that is emerging from modern physics.

In altered states, our brains change. There are billions of connections between the neurons; during waking consciousness there are about one million of them at what is called quantum threshold of sensitivity; during sleep and hypnosis, etc., there are about one thousand million at quantum threshold; i.e. a quantum event can trigger the synapse [our mind linked with our brain], thus, in altered states we are more susceptible to this quantum reality.

Karl Pribram, in his work on memory, considers that the brain works by building up neural nets that utilize the holographic principle of info-storage. Our minds work in this way: each part contains info. about the whole. The form and structure of the entire body-mind may be said to be enfolded within each region of the brain. It is at the synapses that the processing of the incoming sensory info. is accomplished. Not only memory and sensory experiences have been incorporated into this holographic model of the brain, but also imaging and visualisation. Visualisation and imaging are part of the psi process. "This holographic principle is characteristic not only of brain processing but of physical reality as well... what is organism is no longer sharply distinguished from what lies outside the boundaries of the skin. In the holographic domain, each organism represents in some manner the universe, and each portion of the universe represents in some manner the organisms within it."

This is the old magical principle: as above, so below. Humans are the

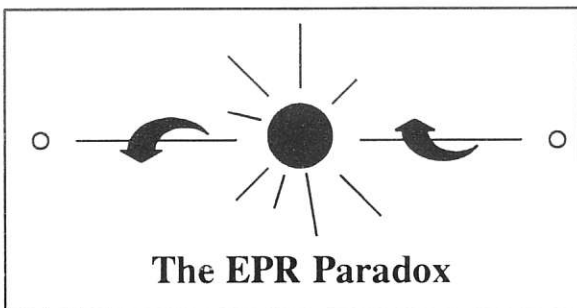
microcosm of the macrocosm; everything in the universe is part of everything else. I pick a flower here and this is linked to the trembling of a star. There is no here and there; space and time become irrelevant; hence psi. There are intriguing implications in a paradigm that says the brain employs a holographic process to abstract from a holographic domain. One needs no energy of transmission for psi since this info. emerges from a reality transcending time and space: we are linked to everything that ever was, is or will be. Psychic phenomena are by-products of the simultaneous-everywhere matrix. Individual brains are bits of the greater hologram. They have access under certain circumstances to all the info. in the total system.

Since the work of the great physicists, such as Schrodinger, Heisenberg and Einstein, we now have a new world-view in which energy equals matter times the speed of light squared and time stops at the speed of light; hence immortals live at the speed of light! Matter and energy are two sides of the same coin; we can look at one side or at the other, but cannot completely know both at once. Reality at its most primary level consists not of fixed actualities that we can know but rather of all the probabilities that we might know. An electron can manifest as a particle or as an energy wave; the same applies to a photon; anything can happen. This is a probabilistic universe in which the individual can never be wholly known of itself; hence free will and fate. Fate is the probability of the whole, but the individual is totally random. You and I are probabilities with infinite possibility for change. In choosing whether to manifest as particle or wave, matter or energy, so we define the reality in which we wish to live: that of matter or that of energy, which in human terms can be conceived to be some form of spirit.

Consciousness plays an active role in whether the electron or photon [light] manifests as a particle or wave. This is called collapsing the wave function: it seems as if it is will and consciousness that define this world. Eddington and others see the world more as a great mind than as a great machine. Mind is

the primary reality: psychological laws are primary and physical matter laws only secondary. In the mind, time and space are irrelevant, hence psi and the holographic universe. When any physical process starts, it sends out feelers in all directions: feelers in which time and space may be reversed: in which normal rules are violated and anything may happen. This process called the virtual state: if you can't decide whether to stay at home or go to the seaside you'll be mentally in both places at once: a most uncomfortable position until you have "made up your mind" and collapse your wave function into one reality.

In the EPR paradox, or Bell's Theorem, once two photons have been together, then anything that subsequently happens to one will affect the other however far apart they are in space and time; thus we live in an interconnected world. As the present origin of our universe is thought to be the Big Bang, in which everything manifested out of one, this means that the whole of our universe is interconnected and anything that happens anywhere affects everything else so as to maintain the balance; always harmony is maintained. Our physical world is not a structure built out of independent entities, but rather a web of relationships between elements whose meanings arise wholly from their relationships to the whole. ALL living beings are projections of a single totality, so my thoughts are connected with those of others; all are intimately connected, which leads us back to psi.



In David Bohm's theory of an Implicate Order, these ideas of interconnectedness are taken further to suggest that this see-touch reality we live in is a second reality which arises out of the primary reality Bohm calls the Implicate Order and in which everything is interconnected in the way I have just described. The Implicate Order has many

characteristics in common with the old, magical, spiritual, world-view. Bohm uses an example of an ink droplet in a jar of glycerine. If this drop is stirred it becomes slowly spread throughout the whole jar until you cannot see it. If, however, you then stir an equal number of times in the opposite direction, the ink droplet comes back together again to form a drop as it was at the beginning before you started stirring. "Ordinarily, we think of each point of space and time as distinct and separate, and that all relationships are between contiguous points in space and time. In the enfolded order, we see, first of all, that when the droplet is enfolded, it's the WHOLE thing, and every part of the whole thing contributes to the droplet. When two droplets are present, they are in different positions in the explicit state, but when they are enfolded, they are distributed through the whole and are interspersed and interpenetrated with each other. In the enfolded order, every element has direct connections with each other; even with distant elements."

The implications of Bohm's ideas are that the easily accessible contents of consciousness are included within a much greater implicit background of the personal subconscious, which is contained within the world-mind or collective unconscious. Telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition and the various forms of mind over matter arise from this conception of consciousness as the explicit modes of action and perception of this implicate higher dimensional ground of being. That is why psi has no known forms of energy transmission, because it arises from a realm that is everywhere at all times.

So the primary reality is mental. Remember the brain works at a quantum threshold of sensitivity which increases in likelihood when we are in an altered state.

The Pineal Gland - Our Third Eye: The Link between Psi and the Earth

Religion and magic are based in animism i.e. the belief in a spiritual aspect to all living beings and even, in some cases, to inanimate objects. Psi is

scientific magic. Mana is the anthropological equivalent of psi in which spirit is incorporated in the reality. Both shamanism and magic offer techniques of approaching the visionary sources of our culture. Both systems of thought structure the universe in ways that are deeply and symbolically meaningful and which fully accommodate enlarged horizons of human consciousness.

Anthropologists report that Amazonian peoples use a vine called ayahuasca to take them into a state of consciousness in which they directly link with their spirit guides for the purpose of healing, clairvoyance, out-of-body experiences and precognition. Chemists report ayahuasca contains harmaline, a chemical which was first isolated from Syrian Rue [Peganum Harmala], and which was used in Morocco as a protection against sorcery. Harmaline is chemically similar to a beta-carboline found in the pineal gland. The pineal gland is considered by Swami Satyananda to be the Ajna Chakra, the psychic centre, and by Descartes to be the seat of the soul and it makes an hallucinogen that takes us into an altered state, the dream state, which is considered by Amazonian peoples to be the psychic state in which we are at one with archetypal reality, with the world-mind, collective unconscious, quantum reality, the implicate order, or holographic universe. [Whew! All these different ways of describing the same thing!].

The pineal gland is connected with two chemicals called serotonin and melatonin. Serotonin is a neurotransmitter that affects those synapses in the brain I have already mentioned with regard to quantum threshold of sensitivity. Serotonin is known to be connected with mental states such as those connected with imagination, creativity, hallucination, psychosis and psychedelics. Melatonin is connected with drowsiness and going to sleep. Both of these are possible precursors for beta-carbolines, the pineal hallucinogen. Beta-carboline also acts as an MAO inhibitor, which means it prevents the normal breakdown process of serotonin; so serotonin tends to get converted to highly potent hallucinogens such as DMT. Interestingly, the

Amazonian peoples always mix herbs containing DMT in their harmaline brew.

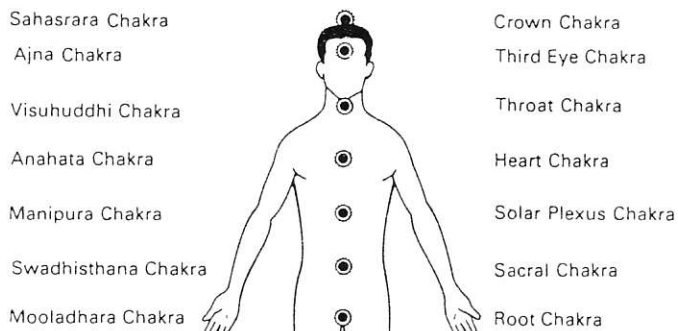
Melatonin is affected by light-dark cycles and is made during times of dark so that it helps to regulate our biological clock. Hence it is a night hormone, with maximum production being reached six hours after dusk. Could this be the origin of midnight being the magic or witching hour when Cinderella has to go home? Most religions consider night to be a specially powerful spiritual time and even specify 3 am to be the time to get up and chant matins, or Tibetan tantras, or Buddhist scriptures. Is this the power of the night and the dark that we have a natural night time psi-conducive hallucinogen?

Melatonin is also implicated in seasonal cycles so we tend to need to hibernate and dream in winter, and if we don't, we get depressed. There's a lot of folk lore about the deep, inner, intuitive states of winter; the very opposite to the sun season of summer, which, with all its light tending to give us so much external energy yields very little folk lore about solar magic.

Melatonin production is also connected with moon cycles. It has been found out that if you stay in constant darkness the body runs on a 25 hour cycle. Since melatonin is the body's timekeeper, the production thereof runs on a 25 hour cycle when there is no stimulus from the sun. The moon circles the Earth once every 25 hours, as anyone who has lived by the sea knows, because high tide is one hour later each day. The pineal gland is sensitive to the moon because of the moon's effect on the Earth's magnetic field. The pineal is exquisitely sensitive to minute changes in the Earth's magnetic field and this is what causes it to switch to a 25 hour rhythm. So we all naturally have a constant sun-moon tension within our bodies as the old magical lores state.

Melatonin also effects all the endocrine glands in the body. Swami Satyananda states that Ajna chakra is the common chakra, and one must first learn to control Ajna chakra before working with the others. Well, in researching about the pineal gland, I found that melatonin is the controlling

hormone that switches off production of the hormones in the body through a direct feedback system. Thus it works in synchrony with the pituitary gland; the pituitary is the on-switch, whereas the pineal is the off-switch.



In yogic lore, the Vishuddhi chakra is found in the throat. In the throat are located the thyroid glands which produce thyroxine, the regulator of our metabolic level. Too much thyroxine causes us to be too speedy and to burn up our body fat, so becoming stressed and over-nervous. A Chinese immortal is remarkably fat and happy. The pineal gland is involved in turning off the thyroxine supply. This link with stress also links with recent work with allergy sufferers and our sensitivity to electromagnetic fields. As the pineal is so exquisitely sensitive to the Earth's magnetic field, it is highly likely that artificial fields could affect the pineal as well. Recent work on humans as electromagnetic beings corroborates the stress-inducing properties of our electric world, possibly through affecting the pineal so that it does not switch off the hormones as it should; thus, we become more highly strung, overwrought and die of strokes and heart attacks.

Manipura chakra is the yogic chakra which I link with the adrenals. These are found just above the kidneys, at about navel level. The adrenals are the stress hormones per se - the fight or flight hormone of adrenalin - as is the other substance there, corticosterone. In yogic lore they cause old age, decay and emaciation by burning up the nectar of immortality; an accurate analogy.

Other chakra points are at the heart

and the sexual centres. These are places of strong emotion which I mentioned before as being strongly linked with psychic experiences. Thus the pineal gland is connected both with our second sight and also our emotional centres.

To me, this earthing of spiritual knowledge actually helps me to understand it better, and research into the pineal has helped me to better understand our psychic connection with sacred places.

Part 2 of this fascinating exploration will appear in the next issue of UFO Times.

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For more information send a large sae to:

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BA6 8HN.**

Investigations DIARY

The Regular UFO report update of cases investigated by the NIC and local groups from around the British Isles

Edited by Jenny Randles

1991 has been a busy year for the investigation team and a steady stream of new cases have poured in.

1992 promises to be even more exciting. It represents the 30th anniversary of BUFORA and there will be a special conference in September. To coincide the NIC plans to produce a book of 'The Best Of' our case files and all NICs past and present are invited to submit ideas as soon as possible. If you have investigated a good case at any point in those 30 years and are willing to write a paper that presents the details and your investigation then don't delay, write it today - and submit to me. Owing to production times this has to be before March 1992. Anything up to 5000 words will be acceptable. If you can supply it on Amstrad PCW 8256 type disks that would be a big help, but paper copies are acceptable.

Training

Another thing we hope to launch from Spring 1992 is a postal course for new investigators. All members will be invited to take part and it will run over 4 - 5 months offering basic guidance in all aspects of UFO investigation. It will not be a substitute for actually doing the job and will be supplemented by Ken Phillip's training programme of one-day special events. But the postal course should be ideal for newcomers and for those who find it hard to get to NIC meetings or the training days in London. A certificate will probably be awarded and BUFORA plans to open up this service later to other groups - making it a first (we think). Final approval is expected at the February 1992 council meeting, so more news next issue, but cost will be kept at a minimum and is not expected to be more than £4 or £5. Meantime, if any reader would like to put their name down for the first enrolment (probably in April or May) let me know now.

Broadcast News

The BUFORA congress in August received more publicity than any previous event that I can recall. A lot of it was terrific too - shown by the steadily rising BUFORA membership at a time of world recession.

Aside from numerous TV and radio appearances to promote the event, the conference itself was visited by film crews from Germany and Austria, BBC Childrens TV ('News Round') and a documentary crew from Radio 3. I was baffled by one German interview about crop circles where question after question was fired at me in mystifying style like, 'Why are you going around the country faking circles? My reply is best not given here, or 'Why does everybody hate you?'

Enough of that! The press coverage was highly powered. I mean we made the editorial leader in the Times (yes - THE Times!) Admittedly it was not 100% serious (playing on the decision to ban investigative journalists from the Sport from attending the conference - if investigative journalists and the Sport are not mutually exclusive terms). Still, no publicity is bad publicity, they say.

I was very impressed by the Independent on Sunday (on the last day of the conference). They gave us no less than TWO articles, both very soberly presented. One discussed the crop circle revelations exclusively debuted at the event and the other was a very good resume of the differences of approach between investigators and believers on display in the foyer.

Sobering

The most important TV programme of the year was probably the EQUINOX documentary on Channel 4 in late October. It spent an hour discussing

crop circles in very logical fashion and benefited considerably from BUFORA input (that is - although Paul Fuller was filmed but not included in the screening - the team that made the programme had had several long discussions with him and with myself, receiving plenty of BUFORAs written material also, which they certainly appear to have taken note of).

The documentary is most notorious for its hoax circle stunt involving the Wessex Sceptics which tricked both Terence Meaden and Busty Taylor (albeit with mitigating circumstances as Dr Meaden has explained). But it did not try to use this to destroy the entire subject and concluded with a reasonable open mind that whilst a lot of tomfoolery and hoaxing is afoot there are still a few things to be explained.

During October Radio 2 had a four week series on the paranormal hosted by Derek Jameson (and if you didn't know about it you should have tuned into UFO Call - because this was the only way we could bring you the news of this last minute arrangement). I opened and closed the series talking about circles and UFOs respectively.

Whale of a Time

However, my favourite appearance of the year was on the James Whale TV show in October. Aired live from downtown Leeds at 1 am (not a pretty sight - but

then have you ever seen uptown Leeds at 1 am?) it is series well known by all discerning viewers who love cultured, penetrating and mild mannered debate (well known because they have to switch channels when it comes on if that's what they are looking for).

The subject of this intense discussion (which regularly features intellectual megastars and this edition had editor of Fortean Times, Paul Sievking, and Garry Glitter) was 'urban folklore'. After an in-depth consideration of crop circles and spontaneous combustion (best not repeated in a family magazine) the spotlight briefly switched to UFOs when I was invited to comment on James Whale's remark that aliens might turn up on TV soon. 'I thought they already had,' I said - to which he countered - 'Eh?' - leaving me to report that they had because I had seen his show before.

Anyone vaguely familiar with James Whale's cult presentation will know exactly what I mean. Mind you I have already had one complaint from a UFOlogist viewer that by saying this I ridiculed the extra-terrestrial hypothesis. I think that may be going a bit far. I think life in space is very possible - indeed it may be very desirable for one or two of the guests who appear on the James Whale show.

Jenny Randles 37 Heathbank Road
Cheadle Heath Stockport Cheshire SK3
OUP

CASEFILECASEFILECASEFILECASEFILE

Case 3401 Investigation by Margaret Fry

An extraordinary story of a woman in South Wales who has had numerous encounters with an alien named 'Khan' throughout her life. These began when an entire family were kidnapped in front of her eyes in 1934 and never returned. Her brother was almost killed as a child when pursuing a UFO towards a cliff edge and she has since been abducted in a standard way along with her husband. Hopefully, Margaret will offer a report for UFO Times.

Case 74-164 Investigation by Ken Phillips

In October 1974 at North Crawley in Bedfordshire a reddish light was seen shining on clouds for some minutes and brightening considerably before it disappeared.

Case 87-028 Investigation by John Copsey

Two teenage girls shared dreams one night in January 1987 at Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire. Both dreamed of a bone shaped UFO which landed and of them standing beside the craft. One girl did not cooperate with the investigation, which could therefore not be taken further.

Case 88-031 Investigation by Pat Delaney and Anne Griffin

A man at Ranelagh, Dublin, Eire had a series of strange experiences which began in July/August 1988. These involved a strange jet like noise which filled his bedroom and muscle paralysis which overtook his body in the early hours. These effects have recurred several times since.

Case 90-024 Investigation by Michael Lewis

On 25 July 1990 at Woodford Green, Essex, at 01.30 a witness saw a 'muslin' sheet in the sky out of which emerged numerous cross-like points of light. The scene resembled an image out of 'Star Trek', witness said.

Case 90-025 Investigation by Gordon Perkins and Clive Potter

On 8 August 1990 at Eye Kettleby near Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire a complex crop circle formation appeared. The farmer caught several youths in the act of faking the patterns.

Case 90-026 Investigation by Michael Lewis

A hiker crossing the North Yorkshire fells near Cray at 16.00 on 26 August 1990 observed for a few seconds an object like a rectangular 'post' sticking out of the ground at an angle. When he looked away it vanished.

The NIC and the UFO Times editorial board invite any investigator or group to submit material for inclusion in **Investigations Diary**. Full acknowledgement will be given to contributors. All submissions should be sent to the Diary's editor, Jenny Randles, 37 Heathbank Close, Stockport, Cheshire, SK3 0UP.

National Investigation Committee Investigation Team

Please support your local investigators by letting them know of any UFO cases that you hear about in your area.

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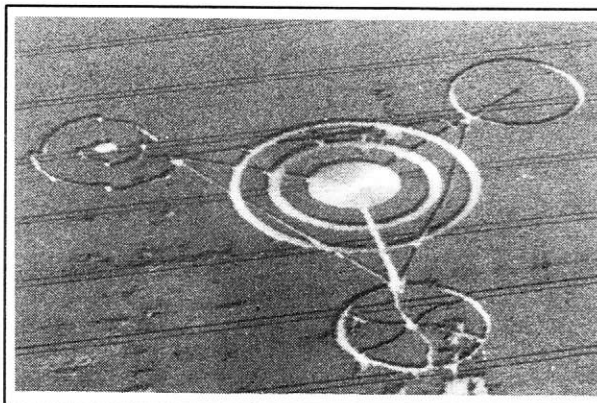
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Please allow 30 days for delivery

The New BUFORA Sighting Questionnaire

Designed by Ken Phillips & Alex Keul

Graphic Design by Mike Wootten

This preamble is directed mainly at investigators and report evaluators for their comment and, ultimately, their approval of this first draft of a carefully constructed questionnaire. However, comments are welcome from all readers.

The reason for this current revision of the R1 concerns the general feeling by those in the forefront of BUFORA research and investigations that the R1 currently in use has become out of date in the light of certain developments in our field of endeavour. To this end, BUFORA's NIC has deemed it necessary that a new R1 be designed which fully reflects the developments and advancements which have taken place over the past ten years or so.

To begin with, we [NIC] have decided to include the extra demographic detail of date of birth, thus making it easier to determine the precise age of the witness at the time of the event. Next, and from a physical consideration, the questions have been modified to include the mode of appearance/disappearance of the object seen. Then, in the object description section, there are further prompts on such things as olfactory sensations and what is meant exactly by clarity; a comparison scale referring to brightness has also been included for ease of estimation. On the meteorological side, we have developed an easier to use comparison scale for such prompts as wind-strength, cloud cover and temperature, etc., thus, in the absence of qualitative data, the witness should be able to give a good qualitative feel for the weather.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY					
GROUP	BUFORA REF	YEAR	NUMBER	INVESTIGATOR	EVALUATOR
INVESTIGATOR'S NAME					DATE
THE DATE FURNISHED					TIME
					LOCATION
					EXACTLY
					WINDLESS
					CLOSED

UFO SIGHTING ACCOUNT FORM

SECTION A

Please write an account of your sighting, make a drawing of what you saw, and answer the questions in Section B, wherever as fully as possible. Write in BLOCK CAPITALS using a ball point pen.

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Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

DRAWING*

Your full name (Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms/Ms) Age

Address

Telephone No. (STD)

Occupation during last two years

Any professional, technical or academic qualifications or special interests

Do you object to the publication of your name?
 * Yes/No. *Delete as applicable.

Today's Date

Signature

* If preferred, use a separate sheet of paper.

Published by the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA LTD) for the use of investigators throughout Great Britain. Further copies may be obtained from BUFORA Research Headquarters, Nonchapel Observatory, Newchapel, Strake-on-Tread, Suffolk, England. Form 111

The old R1 form

Finally, and probably more controversially is a section dealing with some life and 'inner world' experiences of the witness. This might not make any sense to some of you who are more concerned with the physical properties of the UFO phenomenon, but take it as read from the NIC that life issues are taking on a greater significance as time goes by and to ask these question reveals much about the witness' background than a thousand questions about his/her demographic whereabouts.

Do read this document carefully and make any constructive criticism you wish by setting these out in written form and sending to the NIC at the following address:

Form, BUFORA, Suite 1, The Leys, 2c Leyton Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2TL.

SIGHTING QUESTIONNAIRE

Standard

Case Title

Case summary to be completed by investigator only

BUFORA reference

Investigator reference

Investigation complete

YES

NO

ON-GOING

circle

Investigator(s)

Classification
State system used

Observational date(s)

Location(s)

using OS Grid Reference if possible

Observational time

[GMT/BST/LOCAL] using 24 hour system

Evaluator

Evaluation

SECTION A Biographical Summary

To be completed by the witness

Full name *Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms*

Date of birth

Address

Telephone number

Postcode

Even if you have already publicised your name, anonymity regarding this report is automatically guaranteed by BUFORA Ltd.

Recent occupation

Professional, technical or academic qualifications
(if any)

Special interests/hobbies

Witness' signature

Date

The British UFO Research Association is dedicated to the scientific study of the UFO phenomenon. All BUFORA investigators are bound by a strict Code of Practice which requires them to conduct all investigations in a professional manner and to respect the anonymity of witnesses.

A copy of the Code of Practice can be obtained on request from the following address:

BUFORA Ltd, Suite 1, The Leys, 2c Leyton Rd, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2TL

BUFORA Ltd is also registered under the Data Protection Act

Registration Number F0779204

SECTION B Written Account

Please write an account of what happened to you

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Please continue on a separate sheet of paper if required

SECTION C Object Characteristics

1) Please complete the following

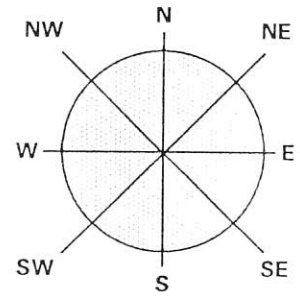
Number of object(s) seen	
Colour(s) of object(s) seen	
Sound of object(s) seen	
Smell of object(s) seen	
Shape (§) of object(s) seen	
Clarity (&) of object(s) seen	
Brightness (+) of object(s) seen	

§ If other than a point source of light
& sharpness of the object's outline
+ (If any) compared to: star, moon, torch, arc lamp or sun etc.

SECTION C Object Characteristics (continued)

Please use this space to make a sketch of your observation

Position of object



Imagine yourself in the middle of this compass dial. Write an 'A' on the dial where you first saw the object and a 'B' where the object was last seen.

SECTION D The Physical Characteristics of the Observation

2) Time when the object(s) was first seen.

AM	PM
----	----

circle one option.

3) Duration of observation.

estimate if unsure.

Duration more than _____ Mins./Secs.

But less than _____ Mins./Secs.

4) Where were you at the time of the incident?

Nearest street, district and main town.

5) What first brought your attention to the object(s) seen and where was it/they located?

6) How did the object(s) disappear from view?

7) If estimates are given in questions 2, 3 and 5 above, how did you gauge the time?

(watch, clock tower or radio etc).

8) By holding one of these familiar items at arm's length, which one, in your estimation, would just cover the object(s) you saw.

Pin head	Pea	1p Piece	2p Piece	Golf-ball	Tennis-ball	Other _____
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Circle one option.

9) Was the object(s) photographed, filmed or video recorded?

If yes, give details.

10) Were there any other witnesses to the object(s) you saw?

If yes, give names, addresses and telephone numbers where possible.

SECTION E Other Characteristics Relating to the Observation

11) Did you, or the surrounding environment, suffer any physical effects which you consider to be attributable to the object(s) seen?
If yes, give details

12) Did you experience any lack of awareness of the passage of time around the time of the observation?
If yes, describe.

13) If you have had any other 'unusual' experiences in your life please describe them
You may feel unable to describe such events here; if so please indicate that there are matters you wish to discuss in a meeting with the investigator.

14) Did anything 'odd' or 'out of place' occur around the time of the observation?
If yes, describe.

15) Did any other witnesses experience anything in relation to questions 10, 11, 12 and 13?
If yes, describe.

Section F Prevailing Weather During Observation

i) Clarity of Atmosphere	Clear	Hazy	Foggy			
ii) Cloud Cover	None	Quarter	Three Quarter	Total		
iii) Atmospheric Temperature	Freezing	Cold	Cool	Mild	Warm	
iv) Precipitation	Dry	Rain	Snow	Lightning	Other	
v) Wind Strength	Still	Breeze	Strong Wind	Gale-force		
v) Visible Astronomical Objects	Stars	Moon	Sun	Aurora Borealis	Shooting stars	

Circle all appropriate responses

*Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Now please return it to your local investigator.
If you require guidance in answering any of the questions contained in this questionnaire please contact your investigator.*

Ufology in Eire

A Status Report by
Pat Delaney and Anne Griffin

In this first article, we will underline the current state of ufology in Ireland and explain why we set up the first BUFORA Branch outside of the UK mainland.

In July of 1989, Pat and I became members of BUFORA. This came about one day as we were having a discussion on UFOs and the possibility of life on other planets. For the past fifteen or more years we have both shared one common interest; i.e. UFOs. We wanted to increase our knowledge on this fascinating subject and suddenly we got the urge to probe deeper. Somewhere out in the vast regions of space was a place, an organisation, waiting for us to discover them.

This was no easy task as we both knew that Ireland had no officially recognized UFO organisation to look after our needs. At this time, I was engrossed in a book called, 'UFOs - THE FIRST FORTY YEARS', which was written by the world-renowned, and very distinguished ufologist, Jenny Randles. Jenny was later to have a great effect on our becoming UFO investigators. At the back of this book was BUFORA's address, and we both knew at once that this was for us, so we wrote off for application forms and joined immediately.

First Case

For a couple of months there was nothing doing. We were still receiving our UFO TIMES regularly, but that was all, until one day, the Director of Investigations beckoned us by letter. In this letter, Jenny asked us if we would be interested in becoming provisional BUFORA Accredited Investigators for Ireland. She presented us with our first case of a UFO sighting which took place in Dublin a year before we joined. As this was our first-ever case, we are

glad to say that it was investigated thoroughly and satisfactorily: we had passed the test and made it to full Accredited Investigator status, proudly awaiting the arrival of our A.I. cards from Jenny.

Over the past two years, we have investigated three cases of UFO sightings for BUFORA in Ireland. The types of individual who make reports come from all walks of life. For us, the most interesting and most fascinating one we worked follows after this article.

At the time of the sighting - November 1990 - we were, for various reasons, unable to interview in person, the girls in question, so we sent them an R1 form along with our own set of questions, but to which we did not receive a reply until January 1991. This is what we call an "open" case. We thrive on cases like these because there is "a lot left to be told".

In this case, as in many others, we found the witnesses to be sincere and honest. Generally speaking, the people who contact us have indicated that they are afraid to talk about their sightings to unsympathetic persons, because in the past, when they approached someone whom they thought would be sympathetic to their story, it turned out they were ridiculed and laughed at. One couple actually told us that they were happy to know that we were part of a responsible UFO group and they felt very much at ease talking to us. They heard about us on another radio show and consequently phoned Pat afterwards and told him they were anxious to talk to us.

Of course, scepticism abounds in Ireland, as it does elsewhere when it comes to UFOs. The very mention of the word UFO and the sceptics are branding the witnesses as 'crazy', 'imbeciles' or 'fools', etc., and intimidate them into believing that is what they are (note 1). It is no wonder that witnesses are scared and frightened to report UFO sightings and it is up to investigators to have a responsible attitude to witnesses regardless of whether or not they're telling the truth. Even if the witnesses are lying about a sighting - and most A.Is. would be able to tell if they were - we have no right to brand them as crazy. Every art must have its critics, but these critics/sceptics do ufology more harm than good: some of the criticism can be very damaging to BUFORA, to the witnesses, to investigators and to the subject of ufology.

Getting Started

Once we had become A.Is. for Ireland, we began to wonder how we could let people know we exist and how to put ourselves on the UFO research map.

We thought that the best way to get started was to form a branch of BUFORA here in Ireland and call it BUFORA IRELAND. For the time being, it would consist of two branch officers, Pat and myself and build from that.

We decided to affiliate ourselves to BUFORA as we are in constant contact with them and also because of the encouragement and help we have received from them, especially Jenny when we were starting up.

After this, we thought the best way to publicise ourselves was to advertise, but in this day and age nothing comes free, especially in advertising; or so we thought. It so happened that the Cable TV Company which supplied cable TV to Dublin and the surrounding areas had a service called 'Cablelink Community Noticeboard', which puts out free advertisements for customers wishing to advertise a service in their area. So I put my thinking cap on, and with a little help from Pat, wrote an ad. to announce ourselves on cable TV. About a week later, our ad. appeared on the small screen, and, at long last, we were

famous for a while.

At the height of our fame, we decided to hire a post office box number for a year - which we have now had since March '91 - in order to deal with resulting queries, and from the number of letters we received through it, a lot of people have some sort of interest in UFOs. Most of the letters which we receive are mainly queries about UFOs, although we are also asked about crop-circles and the Bermuda Triangle since these are also popular topics. Some of the letters have actually been reports of UFO sightings from Dublin and a few other places in the country.

The reports of the sightings which we received have been investigated fully by us and the case files are now catalogued in BUFORA's computer database, where they will remain until time immemorial.

People who have written to us have said that they saw our ad. on TV, so this goes to prove that there is a long-awaited need for a UFO information network in Ireland; people like to be kept informed of what's happening in UFO circles in Ireland and around the world.

In April this year, a wonderful opportunity came about for us to really advertise BUFORA IRELAND: we were approached by the National Radio Service, Radio 2 FM, to do a three minute slot on one of their nighttime discussion shows and talk about UFOs and people's reaction to them, especially in Ireland. The DJ, whose show we appeared on, was so impressed with us that he gave us a 20 minute slot instead of the original 3 minutes. After we had left the radio studios, we both felt very happy with the way the interview went. We had achieved in making BUFORA IRELAND known throughout the length and breadth of Ireland and we were proud of ourselves, BUFORA and all those associated with it. It was an experience that neither of us will ever forget and will certainly remember if ever we are abducted by aliens!

Irish Attitudes

So what is the general attitude to ufology in Ireland at the present time? Well, in the three years we have been

UFOs over Dublin



* A FORMER Argentinian athletics champion of Polish extraction living in Cabra has photographed UFO's over Pearse Street!

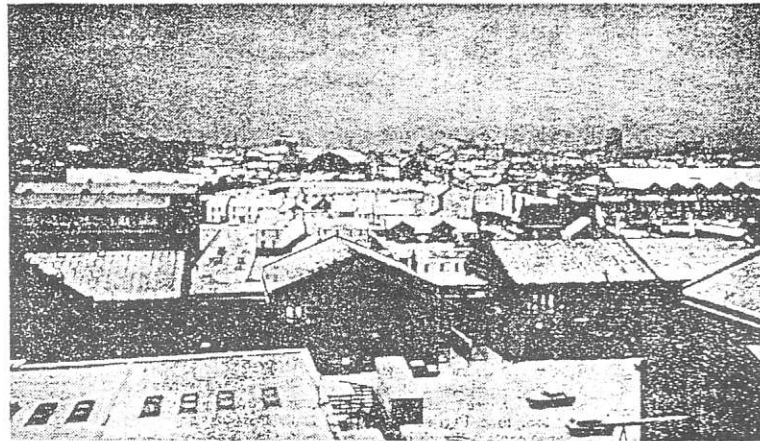
Jorge Alberto Zulkowski, who could run 11 seconds dead for 100 metres in his younger days, went to the top of the IDA building in Dublin to get a picture of the snow-covered rooftops to send home to his family in the town of La Plata.

That was in February, 1987, and Jorge has frustratingly shown his snap to a string of disbelievers since. A UFO enthusiast since the age of 8, he says that the symmetrically perfect formation in the sky is a typical UFO pattern.

Jorge, who represented his country in the 100m, and 200m, and 4x400m, relay in the Pan-American Games, was at a conference concerning Unidentified Flying Objects in Majorca in 1980 when he encountered his Dublin wife and moved here.

A former employee of the Department of Security in the Argentine Government, Jorge has a bulging file which details UFO sightings around the world- and in his native land where they are more commonplace.

Jorge believes that there is a spiritual significance to such visitations. "Many people have had similar experiences to my own but are shy about coming forward. I would be delighted to hear from Irish people interested in UFO's" says the Dublin restaurant manager.



● UFOs over the Dublin skyline : spot the dots.

the name and address of the man in the article as we were very anxious to talk to him. This was now October, and five months on, we have received no communication from the newspaper concerned. A photographer friend of ours, who happened to work for the same newspaper, was sympathetic to us when he heard our story. His reply to us was: "In all honesty, they won't give you any information because they're too busy printing rubbish".

We are inclined to agree with him. This is a 'dead' case simply because we have been prevented from interviewing this man and because of a total lack of courtesy and a lack of cooperation by the media. One wonders why they printed the story in the first place if they weren't prepared to give the information to those who wish to take a deeper look at the case, i.e. BUFORA IRELAND.

As you can see, our faith in the media is practically zilch and we try to avoid them in our investigations wherever possible.

Finally, just to let all you ufologists out there know that we will try anything once: we have just completed our first ever paranormal experience case, of which we will let you know the outcome in a future report.

members of BUFORA, the subject was not, we regret to say, taken very seriously by the government, and certainly not, in our own personal view, by the media.

In the past, there have been stories in the local newspapers pertaining to UFO sightings in Ireland. Only recently, in June of this year, one such story appeared under the heading of, 'UFOs Over Dublin'. Briefly, it was about a Polish immigrant - who currently runs a restaurant in Dublin - who claims to have seen UFOs over Dublin from a rooftop in 1986. A copy of this newspaper story is in our files, but naturally we decided that we would follow up this case. At the close of the article, the man was shown to possess newspaper cuttings of UFO sightings from all over the world and he said he would be willing to talk to anyone in Ireland who was interested in the topic.

On the Saturday when the story appeared, I quickly typed a letter off to the newspaper in question explaining who we were and would they forward us

*From the Case Files of
BUFORA Ireland*
**A Message from
God!**

Three teenagers were walking along the streets, chatting convivially, when, at about 20.10 on 10th November 1990, they saw something strange in the Mulhuddart district of Dublin, Eire.

One girl brought their attention to a pink mass in the sky - not unlike a small cloud [about the size of the moon] - and very distinctive in hue. It hovered for a while and was fuzzy in outline; the witnesses then began to descend out of sight behind some houses, the phenomenon fading away gradually.

The girls gave chase and entered a darkened field. A----, who was in the lead, says she saw a black mass near the ground - as if landing - but they could see nothing further and decided not to venture onward as the ground was too marshy. One of the girls said it was "a message from God".

Flares

However, investigation has revealed what seems to be an explanation for this case. It appears that they were in the vicinity, and looking in the general direction of, Dublin Airport. The airport often use parachute flares here as part of emergency exercises. These flares are red in colour but can look pink - especially from a distance through atmospheric haze. We have had a number of reports in the NUFON records of this type [e.g. one a few years back in Bolton] The flare drops down on a parachute so that it can remain in the air longer than a normal flare [which would just go straight up and back down again under the effect of gravity]. Once the flare has expunged, it continues to drift to the ground on the chute, which may have been the dark mass that A---- reported seeing.

The investigators found the witnesses sincere. They were not caught out by any questions, but they had been returning

from a party at the time. It seems that Dublin Airport WERE using flares on the night in question... end of story?

If any members in Eire would like to support the stirring efforts of Pat and Anne you can contact them on the following address:

**P.O. Box 3070,
Whitehall, Dublin 9.**

Note 1 This is a sign of the times as modern Ireland progresses further along the road of industrialization, because, before the turn of the 20th century, those people living in rural Ireland were utterly convinced of the reality of alien intelligence [The Sith]. Sadly though, with the advent of industrialization, this vital component of Irish culture has declined to a state of 'nothingness' such that those persons, who, even nowadays, experience 'alien' encounters, are regarded as simpletons - a fatal error in the view of the assistant editor, K.P..

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Published bi-monthly

REVIEWS

Cropcircle Communicue, a video produced and directed by John Mc Nish, VHS format. Available from Circlevision, PO BOX 36, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 3ZZ at £14.99 (£13.99 to BUFORA members).

Over the years, the crop circle enigma has never been less than controversial. Claim and counter-claim have been loquaciously spoken from the lips of 'the experts' leaving the area of crop circle study to become a minefield of pseudo-scientific thought.

The idea of producing a viewable video which encompassed clearly the views of the different camps of theory would have been unthinkable.

But one such video does exist.

Cropcircle Communicue is a 75 minute documentary that succinctly presents many of the theories and views that have become part of the world of crop circles. Plasma Vortex, unknown intelligence, the New Age and hoaxing are all included in this very professionally produced VHS format video by John Mc Nish under his company name of Circlevision.

Communicue contributors include a glittering star cast with such 'household' names as Colin Andrews, Terrence Meaden, Richard Andrews, Pat Delgado, Michael Green, Busty Taylor, Leonie Starr, Jurgen Kronig and even those naughty hoaxers, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley.

Is it a balanced documentary? On the one side, Communicue does not openly champion any particular theory and allows the contributors to say their piece, but on the other side, Colin Andrews and Pat Delgado are given more time to air their own ideas. But in my view, this just gave them more time to talk more rubbish. Terrence Meaden was

given adequate time to share his own theories and came over as the most sensible of them all. Michael Green's contribution was a revelation. Amongst other things, he thought that the circles looked a bit like some ancient painted pebbles (keep doing those Rorschach tests, Michael). and Leonie Starr brought in that old gambit - astrology, and apparently its all to do with the age of Aquarius.

Visual Beauty

One cannot shy away from the fact that Communicue presents many spectacular aerial sequences of crop circles. It is immaterial whether the circles origin are due to Alien intelligence, Plasma Vortex or even hoaxes, One cannot deny their visual beauty. Cropcircle Communicue undeniably captures this beauty and uses it to great effect.

Overall, if you have a video recorder and are interested in crop circles then **Cropcircle Communicue** is a definite must, as it is indicative of crop circle study as it stands today.

Review by Mike Wootten.

BUFORA is currently preparing a 30th Anniversary book which will highlight some of the best British cases over the past 30 years.

If any Accredited Investigator or researcher would like to contribute a paper please contact Jenny Randles.



Observation at Flemalle-Grande

by Stany Box

On the 8th. February, 1990, at around 20.30, I was in the kitchen which is situated on the first floor. Our house is located in a city on the Flemalle-Grande hills in a way that our view extends over the Meuse Valley in the direction of Liege and Seraing. All of a sudden I noticed to the right of the moon, which was full at the time, a very luminous point-source which seemed static.

I called my daughter, aged 12, in order to get her to observe this strange phenomenon and we realised that the point-source had moved to the left. The next moment I rushed for my video camera which was located in the dining room and, therefore, I was able to film a 30 second sequence. On this sequence, one can distinguish very clearly the object in motion with respect to the moon; the camera being fixed.

Second Sighting

Our second observation was made on the 15th February, 1990 at 20.30. My wife was at the kitchen window when she noticed a white-orange light-source coming in our direction. In order to observe the light better I went up to the second floor, but by the way and the rate at which the object approached we realised that it was not a single light-source but three, of which the two at the sides were pulsating regularly every second. At the moment it passed above the roof of our house we noticed a bay window divided into three sections which protruded in front as far as the underneath part of it. We also noticed a ring formed from small, white lights on the underneath of the machine. I estimate that the white lights were coming from the interior and seemed opaque. The general shape of this object was triangular with rounded corners and

it emitted no sound; it appeared to hover in the air.

I directly phoned Bierset in order to ascertain if a plane was surveying the region at low altitude and Bierset answered that there were no AWACS in our region.

Third Sighting

Five days after that evening, at about 18.50, we were again looking up out of the window on the first floor when we saw coming towards us the same, suspicious luminous light source which we had observed some days earlier. Therefore, I took hold of my camera and, for the second time, positioned myself on the second floor to await the arrival of this unidentified machine; this time asking my wife to phone our neighbours in order to have other witness apart from ourselves.

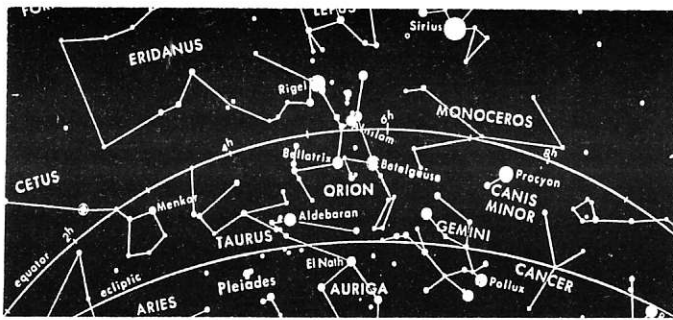
As the phenomenon approached us I descended down to the street accompanied by my wife and some neighbours but, when the object arrived above us, we noticed it was not a plane but a UFO.

Always armed with my camera I decided to pursue this machine [in my car]. The object did not seem to be moving very quickly but, when I arrived at the Flemalle Hills, it should have been behind our field of view but, due to peculiar way the route turned, was now situated in front of us over HORIZON HOZEMONT and above a cloud about 3Km from the end of the Bierset path.

I rested the camera on the roof of my car and continued to observe the phenomenon. A few moments later the object moved and started to ascend aloft, passed slowly behind the cloud then, when it reappeared, remained visible for some seconds more before extinguishing itself like a lamp.

During this observation we were able to make out to the right of the object a similar light-source of smaller apparent size than the first, but manifesting in the same way; then we saw AWACs take off as well as two F16s.

Each sequence [referred to above] is perfectly visible on the video tape.



Skywatcher

Edited by Gary Anthony

Introduction

In this edition of Skywatcher, we have all the usual features plus news of Europe's biggest satellite. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

The Planets

VENUS - November. Reaches greatest western elongation of 47° on the 2nd. At a fading magnitude of -4.2 the planet rises approximately 4 hours before the sun. Venus is to the north of bright star Spica, in Virgo on the 29th. Moon nearby on the 2nd and 3rd.

December. Still a bright morning object, magnitude -4.1 . In the west, the moon is nearby on the 2nd.

MARS - November. Is in conjunction with the sun on the 8th and therefore unobservable this month.

December. - Will be a very difficult morning object to observe, low down in strong twilight. Unobservable to the untrained eye.

JUPITER - November. At magnitude -2.0 , the planet will be in the constellation of Leo, rising before midnight by the end of the month. Moon nearby on the 1st and on the 29th.

December - East of the Leo star Regulus, Jupiter reaches a stationary point on the 31st at magnitude -2.2 . Moon nearby on the 26th/27th.

SATURN - November. The planet is low in the south-west, at magnitude 0.7 and sets by 20 hrs at the end of the month. Moon to the north on the 12th.

December. In Capricorn, sets by 18 hrs at the end of December. Moon nearby on the 10th.

SPACE NEWS

EURECA Awaits Launch

The European Space Agency's largest satellite, EURECA (EUropean REtrievable CARRIER) is now in the USA awaiting preparation for launch on the shuttle Atlantis.

skydata

NOVEMBER

6th 11 h
14th 14 h
21st 23 h
28th 15 h

RA Dec
-----West-----
-----Unobservable-----
09h > 11h 00° > +30°
20h > 22h -10° > -30°

1991

New Moon
First Quarter
Full Moon
Last Quarter

Venus
Mars
Jupiter
Saturn

DECEMBER

6th 04 h
14th 10 h
21st 10 h
28th 02 h

RA Dec
-----West-----
-----Unobservable-----
09h > 11h 00° > +30°
20h > 22h -10° > -30°

Meteor Showers

Name	Begins	Maximum	Ends	Max ZHR	Radiant Coordinates
Leonids	Nov 14	Nov 17	Nov 20	varies	152° RA +22° Dec
Geminids	Dec 7	Dec 13	Dec 24	50+	113° RA +32° Dec

Note: All co-ordinates refer to the 'equatorial system'.

According to the schedule, on 2nd July 1992, Atlantis will fly EURECA in its cargo bay and an ESA astronaut - Claude Nicollier of Switzerland and will deploy the platform satellite using its robot arm.

After release at a 426km altitude, the satellite will travel to a circular orbit of 515km and maintain this orbit for approximately 10 months. On this first mission the platform will fly a 1000kg payload selected by ESA.

The payload will mainly comprise of life and material science experiments to be conducted in a micro-gravity environment. Unlike the inhabited shuttle and similar in-orbit stations, EURECA will not be disturbed by crew activities - providing optimum conditions for experimentation.

The unique features of the EURECA platform are that it is retrievable, reusable and entirely automatic. It is equipped with multi-mission instruments for long durations in micro gravity.

Refurbishment

Sometime in early 1993, EURECA will descend to an altitude of about 315km to be retrieved by Atlantis and brought back to Earth, with the view of refurbishment for a second mission the following year.

All information courtesy of ESA and NASA.

If any investigator requires astronomical information to help with the evaluation of case investigations please write (enclosing an sae) to:

Gary Anthony, BUFORA ARP, 119 Askew Avenue, Hull, North Humberside, HU4 6LT

INVESTIGATORS

**Don't forget the NIC meeting
7th March 1992 starts 2.00pm
At the London Business School
Sussex Place, London, NW1**

Readers

Write

Express your views by sending your correspondence to:

**The Editor, UFO Times,
Suite 1, The Leys,
2c Leyton Road,
Harpden, Herts,
AL5 2TL**

Witnessing a Circle Forming?

Dear Editor,

I was interested to see in issue 14 of UFO Times, that Paul Fuller cites as evidential the Tomlinsons' claim to have witnessed the formation of a corn circle at Hambledon, not in August as he states, but on 17th May 1990.

Late summer, when this circle was first publicised, I attended two of the regular weekly coffee mornings there, organised by a former colleague well known and respected in the village, and spoke to as many people as I could regarding the previous year's corn circle. I found it surprising that no one had any knowledge of it, or on which farm it might have occurred, Nor indeed was anyone there acquainted with the Tomlinsons or had even heard of them, either before or since the alleged happening.

It makes an interesting comparison with another circle which may also have been a hoax, though I did step inside it just one hour ahead of the combine and can attest its occurrence at Vernham Dean in Hampshire last August, where it created quite a stir in the village. The farmer on whose ground it lay made a video recording of it, the children from the village school were taken to see it and it was a lively topic of conversation in the village pub.

I wouldn't have thought that Surrey villagers were so different from those in Hampshire, so that the distinctive

behaviour patterns described are puzzling, to say the least. You will be relieved, dear Editor, to learn that I do not attribute this behavioural anomaly to the intervention of any alien intelligence, unless of course we give to the word 'alien' here a more parochial gloss than is customary.

Gordon Millington,
Guildford, Surrey.

Editor's Comment: It does seem rather odd that such an occurrence was not known to a close knit community. I am sure Paul will come back with a reply.

UFOIN Files - Take Two

Dear Editor,

I have been following the correspondence concerning publication by the IUN of Andy Collins' reports to UFOIN in the late 70s and early 80s with interest. Jenny Randles' letter in UT15 certainly covers the ground quite comprehensively and I would not disagree with her comments.

With your permission, however, I should like to add one or two of my own, since during much of this period I was BUFORA's Journal Editor and at that time all reports were channelled from the NIC to Research via myself, so that accounts could be published as soon as possible after the event.

Andy Collins was one of the investigators who both provided reports for UFOIN whilst continuing in a similar investigational capacity for BUFORA. Indeed, on occasion he provided me with personal copies as well. The BUFORA copies were then forwarded on by me to Research at that time and consequently BUFORA should have a reasonable complete set as well as the IUN.

I have considerable sympathy with Andy as quite a number of his reports were individually almost the length of small books. For example, 'The Paul Grant Affair' in 1978 amounted to 98 pages: 'The Complex Experiences of Helen W,' came to over 40 and there were many others. Most were too long to publish in the BUFORA Journal, though occasionally

one, such as the alleged rape case at Wellington (BJ. Vol.8 Nos.2 & 3) was made into a 'two-parter' whilst several were condensed, and I must admit to being a little surprised that many of his other investigations have not, in one way or another seen the light of day before now.

The question of copyright, often used to be well to the fore - not between Andy Collins and BUFORA, or indeed UFOIN and BUFORA - but between BUFORA and that excellent editor of FSR, the late Charles Bowen. Charles, who received identical copies of Andy's reports to those I published in the Journal, would not only dispute BUFORA's right to publish, but on occasion question Andy's own copyright also. (see BJ. Vol.8 No.3 p.22). Have always held to the view myself that whilst no-one can copyright an actual case or the facts of a case, individual accounts that may well include the writer's own opinions and experiences with the claimants CAN be copyrighted. This was the case with many of Andy's, which, in some instances were almost encyclopedic: accordingly, anything he indicated his copyright was so marked in the Journal.

I would recognise, therefore, most of the accounts currently in question as Andy's full copyright, but, provided that was acknowledged, I would also consider that - with his agreement - it would be far better they should be published in full rather than summarised or encapsulated.

Norman Oliver,
Lincoln.

Editor's Comment: Copyright status has always been an contentious issue within ufology. I hope your comments will be noted by all.

Dear Editor,

Regarding the letter from Jenny Randles in UFO Times 15. I think it is important that these files remain somewhere accessible to current UFO investigators and researchers. In the early days of UFOIN we all put a lot of hard work and time into this effort. Indeed here in East Anglia Peter

Johnson, myself and others formed a similar network called the Norfolk UFO Investigators Network (NUFOIN) and exchanged a lot of UFO cases with UFOIN. I hope that the IUN will put these valuable files somewhere where everyone involved in ufology can make use of them.

John Copsey
 BUFORA AI East Anglia

Editor's comment: I am sure Andy Roberts et al will clarify this point.

Skeptics Corner

Dear Editor

Sceptics (sic), in the context of UFO reports, are people who are not inclined to believe (or do not believe) the reports or interpretation of them as reports of alien spacecraft or paranormal phenomena. They are wielders of Occum's Razor, preferring simple explanations to complicated ones. They do not believe that it can be used to explain all human experiences.

Of course there are things that have not yet been explained, although that is far from saying that there are things that cannot be explained be explained. The fact that physicist are "having difficulty in dealing with the subatomic universe" (I was not aware of any particular difficulty) tells us nothing more than that the frontiers of

knowledge always presents puzzles. However, UFO reports are not at the frontiers; they are merely curiosities, moreover ones that do not interest serious scientists.

There is no such thing as "the Newtonian/Einstein world of physical time-space reality" and it has not been put "into question". There are various models of the universe, including Newton's and Einstein's, the concept of spacetime continuum belonging to the latter. Of course scientists question these models from time to time and it is certain that none of them model the whole universe as it really is. No reputable scientists would consider that psi effects are involved in quantum physics.

You echo Story's idea that there are limits to science. But it is unscientific to put a boundary to knowledge. It is also the mark of the mystic to believe that anomalies can only be explained by the paranormal.

You do not appear to have understood that the "success" achieved by a map dowser on Randi's programme was no more than could have been achieved by chance. The dowser did not achieve "100% accuracy".

Steuart Campbell
 Edinburgh

Editor's comments: Careful how you use Occum's Razor, Steuart, you might cut yourself!

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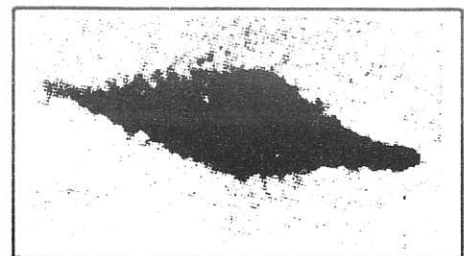
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