

# UFO TIMES

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## *The Multi-stimuli Hypothesis*

### INSIDE

Robert Moore delves into the multiple facets of ufology. Will you like what he's found?

Ufologists often try to psycho-analyse witnesses. But who's psycho-analysing ufologists? Manfred Cassirer dissects the researcher's mindset.

John Spencer asks the pointed question of what does scientific UFO research really mean.

And Ken Phillips presents a close encounter case history.

Plus.... reports from Steve Gamble and Kerry Blower and all the regular features in this bumper double issue.

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It is also the policy of UFO Times not to publish the names or addresses of witnesses who are not in the 'public domain'. The material and personal details of witnesses who have been published in the media will be treated with care and empathy by the editorship.

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1. To encourage, promote and conduct unbiased scientific research of unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena throughout the United Kingdom.
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# UFO TIMES EDITORIAL LIKE WOT HE ROTE ...

As I have been asked to produce an edition of U.T. for November 1992, it means I have had to assemble a number of articles for presentation at rather short notice. On top of this, my word-processor has decided to choose this moment to act up consequently rendering it is very difficult to run a word-check on long documents. Further to this, it must also be borne in mind that some of the case material in this edition was taken from direct tape transcription of personal interviews with witnesses, so, not wishing to censor the witnesses' account, I have left the transcription as it is but at the expense, of course, of syntax quality.

What I am trying to say here is that the spelling, grammar and syntax may not be up to the usual high standard of U.T., therefore, if you do note any errors, then please accept my profound apologies in advance. However, notwithstanding these mistakes, I hope you find the articles of interest and that you let us know whether U.T. should print more case histories.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincerest thanks to Robert

Moore, UT's latest assistant editor, for all his efforts in helping me to produce this edition.

**Ken Phillips**  
Assistant Editor.

## UFO NEWSFILE

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## HEAD PIECE

*Lionel Beer.*

*Scene; Flying Saucer crew are  
watching TV transmission of the  
State Opening of Parliament:*

Flying Saucer Data Officer (FSDO)  
to Abductee:

- FSDO: Who-is-female-in-  
strange-garment?  
Abductee: She is our Queen  
FSDO: What-is-function-of-Queen?  
Abductee: She is our ruler.  
FSDO: She-controls-calibration-  
and-quality?  
Abductee: No - she is our Head of  
State.  
FSDO: She-co-ordinates-  
all-activity?  
Abductee: Well no - Her Ministers do  
that in Parliament.  
FSDO: What-is-unit-on-head?  
Abductee: It is a crown.  
FSDO: Is-crown-a-computer?  
Abductee: No it is a symbol.  
FSDO: Does-Queen-have-weak-  
bone-structure?  
Abductee: No- the crown is a  
status-symbol!

Pause.....

Flying Saucer Controller to FSDO:  
Programme-replicator-to-make-527-  
crowns; completion-landing-  
two-Earth-days.

## Witness Support Group Established

By Janice Georgiou

**The WSG is an independent venture that allows witnesses to express themselves in a way that would not be possible within mainstream ufology.**

Therefore, the witness is able to take the "driving seat" in terms of investigation and information exchange. Furthermore, the witnesses, who for decades have been at the butt-end of ridicule and denouncement, will no longer have to take the passive role in ufology or tolerate having their own experience devalued by those "ufologists" whose thinking remains firmly entrenched in narrow scientific boundaries; i.e. a "clockwork", Newtonian Universe.

To this effect, and as a first step in realising their hopes, the witnesses themselves have decided to launch their own magazine titled THE UFO WITNESS; the first edition of which was published in September 1992. Future issues will be published every two

months; the next should be ready by December '92.

The production of this magazine is independent of any organisation or authority dealing with this subject; thus the funding is based on donations from those who agree that this effort is essential in furthering the understanding of the witnesses' need to be heard and taken seriously.

There is also a need for investigators who are sympathetic to the needs of witnesses and who will treat their reports with a completely open mind; i.e. investigators who have the ability to consider other orders of reality.

Any interested witness or investigator is encouraged to contact the address below for further details:

**WITNESS SUPPORT GROUP, 64, Nightingale Lane, Hornsey, London, N8 7QX.**

*Membership of the Witness Support Group (the WSG) is free upon request.*

## First German Meeting Of The Society For Scientific Exploration.

Manfred Cassirer.

**The 8th August 1992 issue of "DIE WELT" (the leading German newspaper) reported on the first meeting in Germany of the prestigious American-based Society for Scientific Exploration (SSE) at the Munich Polytechnic.**

Among the subjects discussed were dowsing and crop-circles. The former is considered incompatible with science by the reporter, in spite of the fact that it was put on a solid footing by the careful research of eminent scholars like Sir William Barrett and Dr. Theodore Besterman.

By contrast, "open mindedness" was the avowed aim of the Congress attended by some 70 distinguished scholars. Among these was John D. Derr (USA) who lectured on observations of luminescent phenomena preceding earthquakes in California. Michael Green from England talked about recent investigations of crop-circles indicating that the soil is infected by shots of deuterium seeds. Unsurprisingly in view of its complexity, no solution was claimed to the highly controversial problem of extraterrestrial manifestations.

## NUFOC-Belgium Revamps Publications

NUFOC have recently stopped publishing their "NUFOC JOURNAL" in place of two new specialist magazines. The first - "NUFOC-FLASH" - contains NUFOC's opinions on ufological matters, accurate information on major sightings and media coverage of ufological events. The second - "NUFOC SIGHTING NEWS" - will contain in-depth coverage of Belgium UFO activity. NUFOC may be contacted at the following address:

*NUFOC-BELGIUM, c/o Filip Rekoms, Jodenstraat 66/102, B-3800 Sint-Truiden, Belgium.*

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## Colombo Requires Assistance in UFO Probe!

The Canadian writer John Robert Colombo (author of "The Dictionary Of Canadian Quotations", "Mysterious Canada" and "UFOs Over Canada") is preparing a tome entitled "The UFO quote book". This work will take the form of a dictionary of world quotations regarding unidentified flying objects arranged by category (along with sources and a list of contributors).

The "quote book" will consist of important or interesting observations and statements, aphorisms and remarks (spoken or written) from all ufological standpoints. Communications associated with named or unnamed alien intelligences will also be included!

Mr. Colombo would be delighted to receive information on your favourite Ufological quotations (including sources) for possible use in his book.

John Colombo can be reached via the following address: 42, Dell Park Avenue, Toronto M6B 2T6, CANADA.



## BUFORA (Ireland) Branch Seeks New Members

BUFORA (IRELAND) undertakes research and investigation of UFOs at a local level. They are looking for people to join them from both North & South of the border. All enquires will be treated with confidence. For further information on BUFORA (IRELAND) please write to the following address;

**BUFORA (Ireland) Branch, P.O. Box 3070, Whitehall, Dublin 9, Ireland.**

## Seventh European Lyons Congress 10-11-12 April 1993

The Seventh European Lyons Congress dedicated to the scientific and objective study of UFOs is scheduled and will be held, again, in the city of Lyons, during Saturday 10th, Sunday 11th and Monday 12th April 1993. The congress will officially open with lunch on Saturday and close with lunch on Monday, thus leaving time for arrivals the first morning and departures the last afternoon.

### THE CONGRESS

You may have already heard of the Lyons congress organised by the major French UFO research organisation SOS OVNI over the past six years. Although it is a European event, its high standards have brought interested researchers from as far as Canada, the USA, China, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, England and Russia.

As you may know, the congress, although closed to the public, it is widely open to all researchers wishing to exchange their results with each other, so for those active in the field of research and investigations wishing to enrol for this premier event of 1993 please contact:-

**SOS OVNI - P.O. Box 324 13611 Aix-en-Provence CQdex 1 - France**  
**Phone/fax (33)42.27.26.18.**

## BUFORA Special Projects Appeal

*Robert Moore.*

As members of BUFORA will recall, BUFORA has been producing (on a regular basis) a publication called "The UFO World". This important booklet documents global Ufological happenings during a given year. Three issues have been produced to date. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, the production of the next edition has been delayed since 1989. To restart this important initiative, I have been given the task of compiling the next issue. If anyone has any data for inclusion in the next edition (from Britain or abroad) please write to the BUFORA office (marking envelope "UFO WORLD 1992").

Additionally, BUFORA is also attempting to compile data on "ball of light" (or BOL) type UFO events. BOL observations consistently describe a close-proximity, low-altitude luminous phenomena, usually possessing an oval or spherical shape. BUFORA welcome submissions of BOL case-abstracts - all sources will be credited (and gratefully received). BUFORA aims to eventually compile a national catalogue of such "light ball" incidents. Again, please contact BUFORA central office with the relevant details (marking envelope "BOL PROJECT"). An article based on all information collated to date will be published shortly in UFO TIMES.

I would also be interested in hearing from anyone willing to compile (for an indefinite period) source references and case-abstracts on other varieties of UFO sighting-claims (i.e British entity events, or reports of UFO's allegedly endowed with notable mechanical/manufactured features). BUFORA feels that (for obvious reasons) these important classes of UFO phenomena require their own in-depth study programme. Too much uncertainty exists in our understanding of such events; it is hoped that these projects will substantially improve our knowledge of the aforementioned aspects of the UFO problem.

All interested parties should write to:  
**BUFORA SPECIAL PROJECTS. c/o**  
*Suite 1, The Leys, 2c, Leyton Road,*  
*Harpندن, Herts. AL5 2TL. UK*

## OBITUARY

### Edgar Lawrence Plunkett

Edgar Lawrence Plunkett, President of the British Flying Saucer Bureau 1964 died on the 25th July, 1992, at the age of 88.

Born in Bristol into an army family, he decided to go to sea on leaving school, and after training as a Marconi Radio Officer he served in that capacity for 13 years in every part of the world.

On leaving the sea he joined the Bristol Aeroplane Company and enlisted in the Territorial Army. With the outbreak of war in 1939 he saw active service with the Royal Engineers in France (he was at Dunkirk), North Africa and the Middle East where he was commissioned and attained the rank of Captain.

At the end of the war he returned to Bristol and the aircraft industry where he soon became involved in Civil Defence as a full time instructor and eventually Assistant Chief Instructor.

To this wide experience, gained in three quite different fields, he brought a further 40 years as a pioneer of ufology in this country. He will be chiefly remembered as the founding father of the British Flying Saucer Bureau which was formally established in 1953. Prior to that, he had succeeded his son, Dennis Plunkett, as British representative of the International Flying Saucer Bureau founded by Albert K. Bender in the U.S.A.

For eleven years he served the Bureau as a dynamic Honorary Secretary. His first achievement was to unite the Bureau with the Flying Saucer Club of Hove and to edit Flying Saucer News in succession to Richard Hughes. This venture was highly successful, achieving a membership of approximately 1400, out of which sprang the numerous local UFO societies which were to form the nucleus of the British UFO Research Association.

He was elected the second President of the Bureau in 1964 on the death of the founder-President, Dr. R. Irving-Bell. His years as president saw a change of emphasis in the work of the Bureau from field research and journal publication to education. A series of conferences and an exhibition were held in Bristol, speakers were provided for schools and clubs, and for many years he lectured regularly on UFOs at the North Bristol Institute of Adult Education.

Of recent years, however, age and failing health had curtailed his activities, and now that he has passed from us a great era in the history of the British Flying Saucer Bureau has come to a close.

*Graham Knewstub.*

# UFOs: THE MULTI-STIMULI HYPOTHESIS

by Robert Moore

Throughout ufological history, paralogical theories, devoid of supporting evidence - such as the extra-terrestrial hypothesis - have possessed a stranglehold upon the subject's scientific development. Actual progress towards a valid solution will be attained only when an OBJECTIVE datum for enquiry is established. This article outlines the basis for such an approach.

## BASIC FACTS

A theory claiming to address ufological realities must be consistent with the following, generally-accepted attributes of the UFO problem:-

- 1: The level of UFO report strangeness is vast - ranging from very common low- strangeness sightings of aerial lights to the much rarer high-strangeness instances of UFO-related psychic phenomena, or entities.
- 2: The range of effects is very wide - although the vast majority of incidents relate none at all, a few others refer to biological, mechanical and environmental reactions of varying intensities.
- 3: the stimuli described in UFO reports can be placed in three basic categories:-
  - a) point source/point source cluster form
  - b) stimuli with a well-defined, but featureless form
  - c) well-defined shapes with elaborate surface feature(s) and/or structure
- 4: Most reports relate to forms of categories a) and b) - possibly to a factor of 7+ out of 10 incidents [1]. Both IFO & UFO reports occur most often during the hours of darkness - at a rate of around 3 out of every 4 occurrences [2].
- 5: A UFO TRADITION exists within the sub-culture of most westernised societies - suggesting both a form for the 'UFO experience' and an explanation [the 'flying saucer' from 'outer space']. Its strength is such that it has become the sociological basis upon which atmospheric stimuli of uncertain origin are comprehended [3].

## THE IFO CONNECTION

A large number of UFO reports - around 9 out of 10 incidents - have a demonstrable natural origin. For low-strangeness reports, misperception of natural/man-made stimuli account for 80% of all incidents. The number of

mundane stimuli involved are vast - estimated to be in excess of 150 [4]. The remaining 10%+ involve hoaxes and subjective phenomena. Although high-strangeness reports are less likely to be misperceptions, instances of fabrication increase - and become the dominant originating cause for this class of UFO experience. Thus, EVERY report has a POTENTIAL rational solution and the first option to be considered is that the remaining 10% - the 'true UFOs' - do NOT exist as a unique phenomenon.

We could best determine whether a 'UFO' is a reality by objectively comparing attributes of the solved reports with the unsolved. If they were akin, their existence would be doubtful. But if they differed, it would indicate 'true UFO' actuality - the 'nul hypothesis' then becoming a less likely solution. In the absence of WATERTIGHT results from such a study, what can be said of the existence of extra-mundane UFOs? From the many incidents on record, it appears some reports have NO obvious mundane solution - either all possible causes were demonstrably absent, or attributes of those natural stimuli present were unlike the 'UFO' observed.

As we lack complete knowledge - or understanding - of our natural world, we cannot rule out the possibility that either environment or atmosphere could generate 'UFO'- like effects. Indeed, we have some reason to believe that they do!

We should then consider the possibility that a few reports MIGHT be 'special'. Those to hand do not indicate observations of spaceships, or 'paranormal' manifestations, but something much more low-key than this little-understood natural phenomenon. Given the diversity of 'true UFO' reports, it is foolish to believe that only ONE form is responsible for all 'wild-card' instances. What follows is a

review of these potential, quasi-natural causes, and their implications for ufology.

## SUPER-MIRAGES

Mirages are regarded as 'IFOs' - thus little attention is paid to their full ufological potential. However, the work of Steuart Campbell details the special attributes of mirages possessing CURVED thermoclines - the temperature gradient of a weather inversion [5]. This humble attribute permits a mirage-image to attain greater apparent altitude than the normal 0.5 degrees [in relation to an observer's horizon]. Their apparent 'motions' compare well with the mythical 'flying saucer' - the mirage-image seemingly able to execute instant 'stops and starts', sudden 'bursts of rapid speed' and meandering 'motions'. Even wide-arc, back and forth 'trajectories' are possible due to 'light ducting' - a dynamic 'wave' within a concave part of a vertical thermocline [6].

A mirage-image, comprising of one inverted and one non-inverted image, can take any number of shapes, depending on the extent of merger [i.e. point sources, spheres, ellipses, triangles and figure-eights]. The light-rays of an image passing through a curved thermocline, which acts as a crude, natural lens in this instance, would be greatly enhanced in apparent size. An observed increase in apparent size by this means could be perceived as a line-of-sight course of approach towards the witness. Other subjective effects easily give rise to the illusion that the 'UFO' is relatively close to the observer.

As Campbell proposes that the most commonly originating stimuli for such mirages are stars and planets, it is apparent why many 'true UFO' incidents occur at night! However, under rare conditions, astronomical mirages may also be visible under diurnal

conditions. This situation reflects the ufological reality of daylight reports being LESS common than nocturnal ones. In this context, a bright astro-mirage - or any other luminous stimuli seen against a daylight sky - may be perceived as an aeroform possessing a highly- reflective, shiny, metallic surface, an attribute common to 'daylight disc' reports. Likewise, when the image is less luminous, it would be 'washed out' by background brightness - or 'dimmed' by the Clayden effect [7]. Unlike the latter condition, the mirage would appear grey or dark, and likely to be perceived as possessing a dull, metallic surface' [8]. Objects normally visible during the day - such as an aircraft's fuselage - are also susceptible to refraction effects.

## IONISATION PHENOMENA

A number of 'true UFO' reports involve stimuli moving along permanent, wide-arc trajectories - not 'back-tracking' to its point of origin, as a mirage would. What also of alleged UFO-induced biological effects such as dermal tanning, swelling or burning? These factors make it presumptuous to ascribe a mirage-based explanation for ALL reports! Sounds [humming], and odours [ozone] related to in a few reports suggest an electrical origin. Also related are instances of apparent UFO interaction with electrical features [i.e. power-lines], or fault-lines. It has been postulated that these attributes are consistent with PLASMA - a body formed from ionised, luminous air. Theoretical models of ball-lightning relate to emission of microwave radiation - the effects of which on biological entities compare well with those recounted in certain UFO reports [9]. Ionisation phenomena can be placed into three categories:-

**1: ATMOSPHERIC:** Premier of these is the Meaden plasma vortex effect; fast spinning air containing ionised, atmospheric molecules, which may take conical, cigar, spheroid or discoid form [depending on level of spin and ion content]. Meaden proposes that this phenomenon generates strong electromagnetic fields, able to interfere with vehicles [and possibly humans and animals] [10].

**2: ENVIRONMENTAL:** The theories of Persinger & Brady [11] - modified by Devereux [12] - propose that low levels of tectonic stress on fault-lines can induce plasma formation.

Increasing the concept's viability is the presence of fault zones in areas host to long-term UFO activity [13]. EM radiation - supposed by some to be emitted by either a stressed fault, or Earthlight - could induce mechanical and biological effects - the latter perhaps extending to electro-induced hallucinations of 'UFO entities', etc.. However, such EM fields would be an attribute of ALL plasmas, regardless of origin - not just 'Earthlights'.

**3: MANMADE:** Philip Klass once proposed the existence of plasmas formed via discharges of artificially-generated electricity, from sources such as high-voltage powerlines. He also suggested that static-electric accumulation formed from the frequent passage of air-traffic could, under certain conditions, generate plasmas [14].

However - unlike mirages - all three types of ionisation phenomena have only a theoretical basis and have yet to be validated on a more practical level. All that glitters is not gold, all that which looks like a plasma may, in actuality, have an alternative explanation. The PETER DAY movie, once regarded as prime 'UAP' evidence, has been demoted to IFO status [15]. A German UFO group - CENAP - discovered that a spate of suspected 'plasma' reports were caused by lighted toy balloons! [16]. With 'Earthlights', we know that faults CAN produce luminous emissions during intense seismic activity. Whether this occurs during periods of lesser tectonic stress is another matter. Although attempts to generate plasma vortexes - and Earthlights - in the laboratory have met with some success, their existence in the natural world has still to be firmly demonstrated. However, allowing for the existence of both plasma vortex and Earthlight, it is clear that instances of ionisation phenomena would occur in ANY region - not only fault lines.

## X-DEVICES

The above term covers the whole spectrum of 'black technology': remotely piloted vehicles [RPVs], classified aircraft and other man-made devices under development. It is likely that some 'true UFO' reports are based on such devices [17]. Incidents which have such a solution probability relate to model to fighter-aircraft-sized Delta, cross, crescent, missile and 'manta ray' forms. The unmanned models could simulate the lesser feats of the 'true UFO': long-duration hovering and

tight turns, etc. Its small size would induce the illusion of a very large, but distant object, subjectively appearing to move more rapidly than its actual speed. One would expect reports to be more common around proving grounds, exercise zones and military establishments. However, remotely controlled devices probably drift from their site of origin on occasions [18]. A malfunction of a 'need-to-know' device could quite easily form the core of a 'crashed saucer' allegation.

## SUBJECTIVE PHENOMENA

It is an interesting ufological fact that the average number of witnesses DECREASES as the 'strangeness factor' of a report INCREASES [19]. This suggests a subjective origin for these occurrences. Other aspects of the UFO problem also indicate subjective causations.

Take the genesis of the expression 'flying saucer'. This term was, as we know, derived from the described motion of Kenneth Arnold's objects - NOT their shape [which was more akin to medieval 'heater' shields! [20]]. What do we make of reports of discoidal UFOs? Why do forms like those actually reported by Arnold appear in only a few UFO incidents? But to be fair to UFO observers down the decades, Meaden's and Campbell's theories DO involve the creation of discoidal forms - but what if the actual shape of Arnold's UFOs was prominent instead? Would they be attempting to account for objects of THAT shape?

More damaging is the origin - and evolution - of the 'domed disc'. The first UFO of this type - at least to general public consciousness - was purportedly seen by contactee, George Adamski [21]. If, as evidence strongly implies, he was a hoaxer [22], what becomes of independent reports describing Adamski-like 'scout-ships' [figure 2]. Where does this leave reports of 'objects' which possess the basic form and surface features of his 'UFO'? Spheroidal protusions are, even today, allegedly seen on some UFO undersides - a feature originating with Adamski! [see fig. 3].

It is also interesting that as the bodywork of everyday objects - such as cars - have become streamlined, so have the 'physical' UFOs! This can be seen by comparing Adamski's UFO with those reported decades later. Can these 'highly advanced' aliens be SO



backward as to follow OUR primitive design-logic?

The lack of physical and photographic evidence for the structured UFO must also be noted. Not ONE photograph of a 'nuts-and-bolts-type' UFO exists that conclusively proves their objective existence. It is one of the facts of ufology that pictures of of craft-like stimuli have the lowest survival rate of any other type of photographed UFO - the verdict either inconclusive, or hoax. UFO-entity photographs fare no better. Those standing the test of time depict luminous blobs of light - and probably depict natural phenomena [little known or otherwise]. The absence of definitive PHYSICAL evidence for alien spacecraft - and the little green/grey guys - need not be stressed!

The 'pilots' of the physical UFO fare little better than their vessels. In the 1950s, nearly all claimed to originate from Mars & Venus. When the findings of Man's early interplanetary probes became known, their point of origin shifted to distant star systems, or very generalised galactic locations! This shift in 'ET' behaviour seems irrational for real alien explorers. Their appearance has also changed through time, from blonde-haired, blue, ski-suited 'Nordics', to bulbous-headed, stunted 'greys' - although there has always been a great variety of entity-shapes. In Britain, the change-over has not been total - the 'Nordics' are still here, but now wearing anti-flash hoods and skin-tight catsuits! They have also learned - from the 'greys'? - the art of memory-suppression! [31] Did these shifts occur because one alien archetype supplanted another? It is clear that a marked 'public' shift - in the USA at least - occurred with the Betty & Barney Hill encounter [32]. With this case, the aliens changed from pretty-boy preachers to thief-in-the-night space monsters. Where once contactees were shown around a spacecraft and given a free trip to Mars, they are now coldly shunned and given a compulsory, rough-handed 'medical'!

All this leads to the conclusion that the high-strangeness aspects of the UFO phenomenon are subjective - but what is their actual origin? Hoaxes seem an obvious solution. We have seen how these increase with report strangeness. Those detected are laced with obvious motivations: money and publicity, etc.. But what of tales told by pathological liars, or hoaxers who eventually believe their own fairy-

tales? Or those who have much to lose by admitting the fabrication an 'experience' which has taken on a motivation all of its own!

To be fair to witnesses of high-strangeness incidents, various mental phenomena are able to evoke a close encounter.

Repeater witnesses - those reporting a constant stream of UFO experiences apparently focussed on that person - can be divided into two types. There are those who report low-strangeness, easily-explained incidents, and others alleging sightings of entities and 'spaceships' at close quarters. The latter may be FANTASY-PRONE PERSONALITIES [FPPs], individuals inclined to vivid 'waking dreams' [33]. Case histories of FPPs clearly show not only how 'solid' the perceived reality of such experiences are, but that the entities encountered within them seem to act independently of the perceiver. Although most FPPs eventually become aware that their experiences are lucid fantasies, others may have a subconscious need to believe what they perceive. Those who 'see' aliens and spacecraft [and who otherwise live normal, fantasy-free lives] may NEED this aspect of themselves to create belief-systems important to them, using the ability to visionise for cathartic purposes.

The one-off 'close encounter' may involve the 'release' of a stored UFO archetype onto the witness' perception of the external world. Quite a number of 'close encounters' occur in dark, low-noise/activity environments; an ideal environment for sensory deprivation - and hallucinations - to arise! A person on the verge of an environmentally-induced hallucination could see a stimulus that 'prods' the observer into thinking of 'UFOs' 'releasing' a subconscious 'UFO' model onto his/her perceptual environment. This mirrors how the brain interprets visual stimuli under NORMAL conditions - receiving reflected light from an object, via the eyeball, and attempting to match it with its memory-store of forms. The media-propagated image of the 'flying saucer' is one that few people can avoid, and would thus be a common mental image of a UFO. As a result, the witness would report observing a distant light which, within a short time, resolved into a disc with portholes and other surface features.

Instances of 'missing time' probably involve traumatic amnesia. The brain is capable of subconsciously 'editing out'

- especially under stress - a person's activities for a given time period. This can be induced either by an urge to forget unpleasant events, or sensory deprivation [boredom!]. Throughout the 'fruge' [sic] state an individual functions normally and he carries on driving, walking or whatever - only the ability to recall actions is inhibited [34]. Would 'time-lapse' CEIII exist if no one believed in memory-erasing aliens, and attempted to retrieve the details via hypnosis? It is well-proven that hypnosis is a highly fantasy-prone, mental state. The Boxham 'past-life' tapes, and their subsequent investigation by Melvin Harris [35], are good, non-ufological examples of this, as are Lawson's and McCall's ufological [36].

## THE MULTI-STIMULI HYPOTHESIS

From our thumbnail sketch examination of 'true UFO' candidates, it would appear that EACH concept has something to offer. Although a number of these have only, strictly speaking, a theoretical basis, certain 'true UFO' reports echo the supposed attributes of a given hypothetical causation to such an extent that it must, at least, be considered.

Therefore, the following is proposed:-

### THE UFO PHENOMENON CAN BE EXPLAINED BY THE IMPLIED INTERACTION OF RARE & DIVERSE MUNDANE STIMULI.

If this view is accepted, it is clear why NO clear patterns in UFO behaviour have emerged. The cases being compared were of diverging stimuli! If we rule that a sighting of a riveted domed-disc has a subjective cause, and a sighting of a bobbing, weaving light is initiated by a plasma vortex, it becomes all too clear why our search for links between them was futile. Of course, there is a link, a subjective one - the UFO tradition. It has acted as seamstress, cotton, needle and thread upon the fabric of the UFO phenomenon. It dictates that UFOs exist as a distinct phenomenon, gives them a common origin, rules that all poorly-understood airborne stimuli are linked, as is their mode of appearance and behaviour. The 'UFO mythology' is the powerhouse behind the phenomenon. Without it, we would have erratic and intermittent reports lacking any appar-



ent connection - as in the days of Charles Fort [37].

Our primary concern is the extent to which UNDETECTED misperception distorts the number of apparent 'true UFOs'. It will be assumed that the BASE number of unknowns are HALVED as a result - 10% becomes 5%, 5% becomes 2½% - prior to reaching the stage detailed below. The true figure is likely to be greater, and unlikely to be smaller.

Moving onto the 'genuine' population, a randomly selected sample of 'true UFO' reports with an atypical strangeness population [i.e. 75% basic visual observations and 25% 'close encounters'] would perhaps be composed as follows:-

- 2% of the LOW strangeness reports are UNDETECTED HOAXES.
- 8% of the HIGH strangeness reports are UNDETECTED HOAXES.
- 45% of all LOW strangeness reports [2% being HIGH strangeness reports] are SUPER-MIRAGES.
- 35% of LOW strangeness reports [10% being HIGH strangeness reports] are IONISATION PHENOMENA.
- 2% of reports [probably LOW strangeness incidents] are 'X-DEVICES'.
- 8% of HIGH strangeness reports [3% being LOW strangeness sightings] are caused by SUBJECTIVE PHENOMENA.

These figures are approximate ONLY. Atmospheric/environmental factors [movements in the Earth's crust & freak atmospheric conditions, etc.], may alter the percentage rating for IONISATION PHENOMENA or SUPER-MIRAGES. Where the conditions are unfavourable, their numerical ratings would DECREASE, but those not dependant on special conditions - HOAXES, X-DEVICES & SUBJECTIVE PHENOMENA - cause the SAME number of reports. Likewise, their number remains static when environmental factors cause the remainder to INCREASE. When reports only multiply due to media appeals for sightings, the percentage ratio remains the same - only the number represented by a given percentage increases - 35 out of 100, 70 out of 200 and 175 out of 500 are ALL 35% of a given total!

Some may be surprised at the dominance of SUPER-MIRAGES over other stimuli. It is logical that mirages WOULD predominate as the conditions which form them occur more

often than Earth-tremors or the [supposed] favourable conditions for plasma vortex formation. Also, most true UFO reports are of distant, erratically-moving lights - cases most likely attributable to refraction phenomena. However, IONISATION PHENOMENA would cause a larger number of higher-strangeness reports than MIRAGES; their believed energy content is such that their chances of inducing biological/mechanical effects are high. No attempt has been made to determine the dominance of the various alleged types of IONISATION PHENOMENA! Only further work can determine how common plasma vortexes are in comparison with 'Earthlights' - should either exist. The rate for HOAXES in high-strangeness reports is based on a 31.2% occurrence in one study [38] - the same number again are, according to this model, NEVER unmasked. Low-strangeness hoaxes are mainly of 'craft'-type UFOs; as with the figure given for subjective effects, it is based on past studies... and intuition!

Reports based on the stimuli above would be subject to the same errors as STANDARD IFO reports. A plasma vortex could be observed at the same time as a motor-cyclist dressed in a silver crashsuit wandering close by; thus is a CEIII born. Klass remarked that 'cool spots' in a plasma might give rise to spurious features on a UFO's surface - 'portholes', etc. [39].

## CONCLUSIONS

- 1: 'TRUE UFO' reports are probably based on observations of uncommon natural stimuli.
- 2: More than one phenomenon is involved.
- 3: Intelligent deductions can be made regarding the origin of the stimuli concerned.

It is possible that future work will paint a different picture of the UFO problem than that presented in this paper. We may even have to keep an open mind about an extraterrestrial/paranormal origin for some reports. Only future work will be able to dismiss, or validate, the multi-stimuli hypothesis.

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# UFOLOGISTS: WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE?

by Manfred Cassirer

There are, according to Hynek, no UFOs - only reports of UFOs. These are invariably filtered through the intermediary agency of people drawing on the raw material supplied [directly or indirectly] by the observer or 'experient'. Ufology is an emotive subject, and its professors have been known to be swayed by religious beliefs or wishful thinking as in related subjects. The concept of 'Space Brothers' of superior morals and intelligence has appealed to many. It is therefore desirable to gain information about the investigator at whatever level: what is his psychological background, his philosophy and his aptitude for impartial research; what are his skills?

Let it be realised that it is not only the experient who must be put under the microscope and be subjected to a process of ANAMNESIS. Unfortunately such information is not always forthcoming, with writers on the subject shying away from coming clean.

It is possible to distinguish five discreet groups according to the data supplied in Boyd's **International Directory** which contains 284 entries. The main contenders may be classified as follows:-

- a) 'Nuts and bolts' buffs, who think it likely, or actually above doubt, that there are visitors from outer space [ETIs: (90)].
- b) 'Don't knows', who are not at present prepared to commit themselves to any theory (79)
- c) Proponents of 'natural' or psychological explanations (42)
- d) People who espouse a variety of esoteric confabulations involving other 'dimensions' (16)
- e) Champions of parapsychological connections and other anomalies (15)

## DISCUSSIONS & COMMENTS

a) The Directory, published in America, abounds in names of obscure quantities to the omission of Europeans of some standing, a bias pertinent to assessment in view of the fact that non-American scholars have largely abandoned the ETH, which still flourishes in the USA and among Spanish-speaking people. Its adherents typically accept ET origins in an unspecified way without pinpointing the precise supposed place of origin of UFOs. UFOs used to be located within our own solar system,

but have now receded to more remote parts of the Universe.

ETH is not scientifically established, and cannot be falsified, and falls down in ignoring the generally agreed finding that it could at best be applicable to the 10% of 'genuine' [non-IFO] sightings. This objection has to be stressed, though it does not of course exclude the possibility that UFOs [or some of them] may after all be ET - a theory that would have to be questioned on other, independent grounds.

b) Our analysis shows that a great number of people find the data 'insufficient' to form an opinion of the phenomenon, even though the majority of listed ufologists accept its reality, with some veering in the direction of (a) and (d), to the tacit exclusion of the one well-established fact that only a relatively minute percentage of reports is significant in as far as it does not simply reflect mistaken identification.

c) In the serious study of any supposed anomaly [and UFOs are the anomaly par excellence], the first step is to rule out 'natural' causation. In the field of ufology numerous stimuli of the apparently inexplicable have been successfully traced. It remains to explore the psychological process by which a prosaic stimulus becomes a mind-boggling prodigy, as when for instance a star or plane is converted into a manned space-ship sporting bizarre features. This aspect of the syndrome has not altogether escaped everyone's attention, but some are satisfied that everything can be accounted for by mundane causes like geophysical and atmospheric factors hitherto unknown, at least in instances where simple error is inapplicable as the stimulus.

## SUSTAINING THE UFOLOGICAL MYTH

Psychological considerations are in the forefront; indeed, they may be accepted as basic on any hypothesis and level of investigation, with a substantial sub-section devoted to 'psycho-sociological' aspects (7). Findings of the behavioural and natural sciences must also count. Aside from natural phenomena and artifacts, there are hoaxes, more particularly the hot-air balloons unjustifiably popular with prank-prone German teenagers with more money than sense. It is assumed that the 'paraphysical' parameter may exist side by side with the straightforward 'physical'. Human consciousness is also held responsible where the phenomenon is not just 'mundane' [e.g., astronomical]. Who finally knows what governments and the military are capable of these days by way of secret research, perhaps including 'anti-gravity research'? 'Earthlights' have attracted a lot of attention of late. In fact, any combination of possibilities [however remote] has its adherents and devotees in a field where one may have to look at natural events, psychological quirks, the paranormal, as well as illusions and deliberate mystification; all likely to create and sustain the 'UFO myth'. Quite prosaic if unusual and little-understood facts, can be formative factors. Is there, again, an invasion of our consciousness by what may turn out to be simultaneously and conjointly 'physical and psychological'? 'Underground' and 'subaquatic' sources of the UFO have been searched for. Some dismiss the whole subject as a 'new religion', or myth, full of delusions and 'lies', though this is very much a minority opinion.

Meanwhile everyone should be aware of the fact that the majority of sightings are 'misidentifications', though it may well be that whatever 'imagery' impinges on one's perception arises from an 'objective source'. Even if we may postulate a 'control system', the prevailing multitude of nocturnal lights are suspect as being natural, and there are those who insist that **all** is 'physical' to the exclusion of 'psi' and even 'cultural' factors.

It is possible to concede that one is dealing with 'important phenomena' without wanting to commit oneself further. One can also be fairly obscure in intent in depicting 'psychic intelligence' in conjunction with 'exotic physical intelligence'. A Jungian approach suggests UFOs are from within the realm of the 'collective unconscious'. The unique suggestion of a 'reality interface' would seem to require further elucidation, while few would question a 'multi-causal' supposition, assuming that all is not mere 'illusion' based on natural phenomena creating a 'complex myth'.

d) A section geared to the concept of additional 'dimensions' is difficult to conceptualise on account of its inherent vagueness, especially when reduced to catch-phrases with adjectives like 'inter-dimensional' and 'extra-dimensional', etc. The same criticism as listed above applies.

e) 'Psychological' goes down like a treat as 'scientific', but the same cannot be said of 'parapsychological'. This parameter is mentioned most commonly in passing only, and/or in conjunction with other aspects, such as 'anomalies' in general. There are some qualified statements to the effect that 'some' UFOs are 'psychic'. On the other hand, 'anomalous' phenomena are linked with 'mundane', 'natural' and 'secret technology'. Not surprisingly one correspondent regards UFOs as a 'puzzling anomaly', another as 'anomaly-related' mysteries. Those who have looked for psi-elements in connection with them include exponents of the ETH. Exceptionally they are characterised as resembling 'faerie stories'. 'Physical and paranormal aspects' have been insisted on.

All said and done, the psychic parameter has not as yet received universal attention, presumably because parapsychology lies outside the terms of reference of most ufologists; conversely, parapsychologists are only marginally involved in the evaluation of UFO reports.

One listed person concedes that UFOs are an 'important phenomenon', but does not wish to commit himself further.

But what of the 'psychic intelligences' that apparently go hand in hand with an 'exotic physical intelligence'? It is more obvious, at any rate, that a Jungian approach to the enigma suggests something from within the realm of the 'collective unconscious'. More obscure again is a proposed 'reality interface', while few would seriously question a 'multi-causal' hypothesis - unless, that is, mere 'illusion', possibly on the basis of natural phenomena resulting in the creation of a 'complex myth'.

Having run through the list of proposed 'explanations' and theories, it remains to deal more specifically with some of the points of view expressed in the pages of the Directory in rather summary fashion with what is sometimes fairly obscure terminology.

Even on the most superficial reading it will be obvious that there is much over-lapping, indicative of the puzzle-moment due to so intractable a subject with which few, if any, are qualified to deal satisfactorily. So we find that the protagonists of the [globally] popular ETH may after all tend to be hesitant champions. Lack of precise definition leads to contamination with seemingly unrelated speculations extending into the sphere of the extra-dimensional or the psychic. Indecision is camouflaged as virtuous 'open-mindedness', and some manage to convey an absolute minimum of information - if any at all (11). It is a sad reflection that after more than 40 years of intensive study of the subject, running into hundreds of thousands of pages of print, the data are still deemed 'insufficient' to arrive at even a provisional conclusion (7). An even more agnostic position is to declare oneself to be confronted by the 'unknownable' (4). Some confess to the merest inkling as to the nature of the beast: 'physical' or 'real', albeit 'indeterminate' or 'psychological': an 'anomaly' to be sure, or going beyond that, 'the greatest mystery'. One correspondent specifies an 'aircraft-like' structure - probably under the influence of ETH - another, in a similar vein, one 'intelligently controlled'.

On the other side of the spectrum are the outright sceptics, of whom not many are listed (5). More admit the importance of the subject as such, insisting that it requires 'further study' at the highest level, an alibi for wavering

latched on to by the uncertain, embracing the 'sympathetic sceptic' and the student of what may be 'beyond comprehension', as also of the few who don't care to 'speculate' (3).

## NON-COMMITMENT

A variety of reasons can thus be postulated for the general expression of non-commitment. Apart from the alleged paucity of positive data and the indeterminate nature of anomalies such as UFOs, 'many positions' are an option with 'physical' and/or 'psychological' connotations. As to the phenomenon as such, however 'real' and 'existing' it may prove, its nature yet escapes our probing minds, aside from perhaps not being any one thing, but rather 'multitudinous'. And there are those for whom it is just 'too complex', embracing in its wide range and spectrum obscure 'natural phenomena' of one kind and another. Its affinity to other anomalies has often been commented on, and includes 'cryptozoology' and the 'occult'. Clearly then there exists within its wide range of interest an important puzzle deserving of serious consideration and well 'worth studying'. There are in all likelihood 'different sources' that constitute the elements making up the syndrome, but the mechanism and the precise functions of the stimuli are 'very difficult' to resolve since there may be 'no simple answer', but merely 'many possibilities', and any simplistic solution to the UFO enigma can be safely ruled out. Among the 'don't knows' meanwhile only a handful exclude ETH as insupportable (3). On the other hand, the subject in its organised form is kept going by belief in the latter, but whereas many proclaim it from the rooftops [or with reservations], a small minority only can tell us 'whence'. Speculation regarding origin ranges from inter- and extra-dimensional location to 'ultra-terrestrial' realms, faith in 'ancient astronauts' and vague attributions to 'alien intervention' from 'out there'. One contributor accepts bases on the Moon or Mars, but 'other solar systems' are by no means unimaginable and are indeed generally preferred nowadays; i.e. they are 'unearthly' and from 'other planets'. And while there is a supposed link in 'ancient civilisations' [imaginary or otherwise], not to recall the 'astronauts', religion alone offers all the answers by a wholesale attribution to 'God's missionaries' and their 'associates'.



The idea of UFOs from **this** galaxy is no longer in vogue among supporters of ETH. [It may be remembered how Betty Hill was shown a star map by her captors and how an unsatisfactory attempt was subsequently made to reconstruct it].

One thing is certain: ETH will not go away, however much on this side of the Atlantic it may be considered outmoded. It remains unsurprisingly popular in California and among the backwoodsmen of the USA, with only

a single ufologist listed in New York City. The 'inter-dimensional hypothesis' is not always considered incompatible with ETH (7). It features as 'extra-dimensional', or 'forth dimensional', in addition to 'other space/time dimensions'. 'Parallel space-time' might be utilised by ETIs, who may inhabit a 'parallel universe'. Such extra dimensions may be truly 'unknown', or mystify us as 'reality interface phenomena'.

So is an 'abnormal intelligence' at work? A hitherto unthought-of 'new dimension'? Has Earth for long been visited by 'time-travellers'? Perhaps we shall never know the whole truth of the matter. Meanwhile, undaunted by the magnitude of the task and its pitfalls, there are those among us who speculate and theorise to their hearts' content, even if at times with scant regard to the realities of the state of the art.

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# Investigations DIARY

## AI's AND THEIR WORK

The National Investigations Committee is in a very healthy position with 50 investigators in the team - the highest number for many years. 50% of these are full AIs and the rest are provisionals who are learning the ropes. A couple of these are up for 'promotion' to full AI status at the next NIC meeting.

In addition the postal training course began as planned on 1 September with an unexpectedly large number of participants pioneering this exciting project - many of whom are not yet on the provisional AI lists. The six month course has taken a great deal of time during the summer in design and production and the implementation is proving pretty time consuming as well. However, I hope those taking part will gain from it and come next March will all pass the exam and receive the first ever certificates UFOlogy has awarded from such a course. There is already demand for a second run which we are gearing up to launch next Spring - watch UFO Times for details. Council will soon vote whether to open up the scheme to UFOlogists outside the realms of BUFORA. If we do BUFORA members will certainly get priority and take the course at a discount from any non members (the present cost works out at £7.50 per person). For this to operate to maximum efficiency in 1993 a couple more tutors need to be recruited from the ranks of the well experienced fully accredited AIs (any offers?!?) I am hopeful that this initiative will become a demonstration of BUFORAs forward thinking policy and reflect our keen interest in improving standards of investigation.

Our other project - the IFO sensitivity index - has not been forgotten and Roy Rowlands has taken over the work to steer this to fruition in 1993. The scheme will produce a 'kit' of lasting value to investigators everywhere.

Finally, AI Gary Anthony is developing a new tool for which we hope to have secured council funding by the time you read this. Extending on from available astronomical software for home computers which allow you to

print a sky map for any sighting date, time and place, thus aiding in IFO detection, Gary is broadening the scope into a much more comprehensive diagnostic program which should be a boon to investigators all over the world.

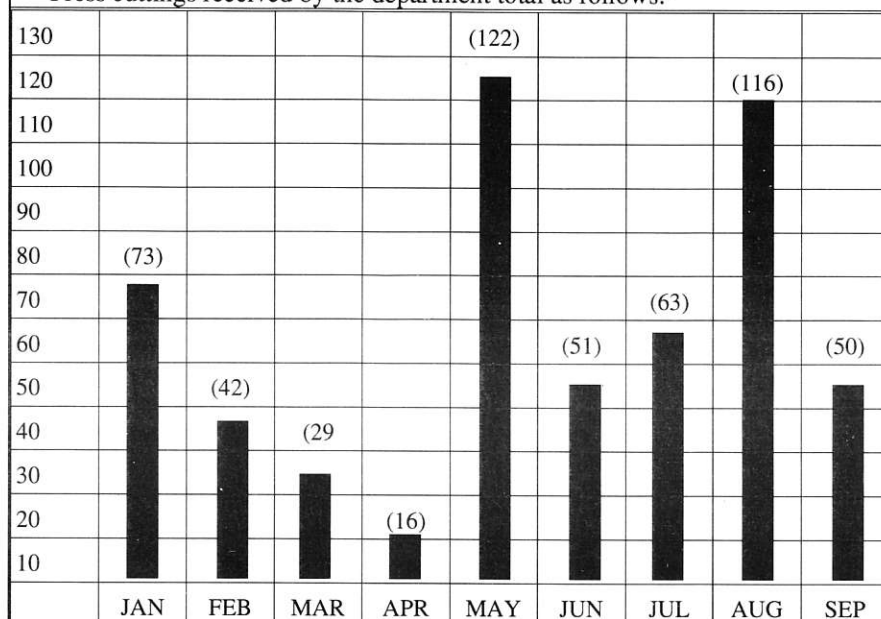
## PUBLICATIONS

Two investigator based publications are in process. AI Robert Moore has taken over the reigns of the 'UFO World' series (the original yearly report on global UFO activity which BUFORA launched a while before a well known UFO author and publisher independently developed a similar concept as an annual book). Our volume has been suspended for a couple of years, partly so as not to try to compete with the aforementioned volume, but there has been demand for BUFORA to continue its series. Robert was eager to take on the task. Hopefully the new edition will see light of day this coming winter.

Our mammoth project is the 'Best of British' casebook that will be a reflection of BUFORAs work in the 30 years since our inception. The original plan was to launch this to coincide with the September conference but several factors have delayed it. Firstly, it took effort to persuade investigators to stop investigating and start writing - then when they did most did not submit reports on Amstrad disks so all their work is having to be retyped! In addition, some of the key BUFORA cases vanished into the system for a time (until we discovered a researcher who had used them for his research for - well a while). Obviously, we could not do a 'best of' book without these. Furthermore, the research needed to delve into the archives and fish out material about olde worlde BUFORA cases proved extensive. Then, by the time we sorted all this out the training course was in full preparation taking up far more time than had been anticipated due to the pleasantly high demand. It was decided that the book should be done well - rather than hastily - so the decision was taken to let it dictate its own speed. All being well it will appear around the turn of the year and, hopefully, will be well worth the wait.

## Press Points

Press cuttings received by the department total as follows:-



Clippings for the year to date total 562 - which is well down on the past 2 years, mostly due to the almost complete disinterest shown by national media in crop circles this summer (in 1991, for example, we received 571 cuttings in July, August and September alone and about 90% were crop circle related). The good news is that BUFORA will save a lot of money in bills to the press cuttings agency.

# CASEFILECASEFILECASEFILECASEFILE

## **82-004 17 April 1982 Guildford/Dorking Road, Surrey**

An update on an Omar Fowler investigation submitted by Gordon Millington. He has reinterviewed the young couple (now married) ten years on. The UFO was like a cigar with square windows and two 'jet burners' coming from its underside, as it hovered by the road. They drove back, then returned, only to discover it had vanished. The Oz factor 'silence' has just been reported by the witnesses who did not mention it in 1982. This was one of a spate of very similar roadside encounters around this time - an almost identical case occurring by a motorway bridge at Bidston Hill on the Wirral.

## **64-501 Summer 1964 Wentloog, Near Cardiff, South Wales**

Kerry Blower submits a report from a man woken by his wife at 1 am. She thought she had heard a plane crashing. He left the caravan in a field where they were staying and saw an object approaching across the sky. It was a blue oval with an orange patch in the base. The man watched the object for 30 minutes then it accelerated away and upwards 'like a shooting star'. When he returned inside the time was 4 am - three hours had in fact passed. The witnesses do not seem keen for further follow up.

## **70-505 Winter 1970 Drumchapel, Glasgow, Scotland**

Fergus Storrier - a police officer and the new coordinator for Scotland - submits a report on this sighting at 8 pm. The man involved saw a copper coloured dumb-bell shape move across the sky and across the moon. The area is near Glasgow Airport but the witness insists it was not an aircraft.

## **77-626 Summer 1977 Cwmbran, South Wales**

Another Kerry Blower case involves a white cucumber shape seen at 2. 25 am one night. It rushed across the sky extremely fast and has all the hallmarks of a bright bolide or fireball meteor.

## **77-627 October 1977 Chester-le-Street, Co Durham**

In this Paul Allison case a teacher looking from her house at about 8. 30 pm observed a white oval of light tilted at an angle with a dark centre to the base. She called her husband in another room but before he arrived it grew brighter and vanished as if it had 'imploded'. It is possible that this might have been a ball lightning/plasma event.

## **79-285 August 1979 Swansea, South Wales**

Kerry Blower again, this time with the tale of a group of friends and neighbours outside around 10 pm watching white lights move about the sky for about 2 hours. They were star like and steady moving and sound like either high flying aircraft or satellites on an unusually clear night. One witness himself felt the latter and Kerry agrees with this suggestion.

## **85-023 November 1985 Great Snoring, Norfolk**

The witness is a civilian at a USAF base and lives now at a place called Fakenham. Nonetheless, investigator John Copsey does not think this constitutes a reason to doubt the sighting (!) A bright white light 'like jupiter' was seen at 10 pm and moved steadily across the sky. But as it did so a series of lights detached from it, lined up and went out one by one.

## **90-005 8 August 1990 Collumpton, Devon**

Doug Cooper has produced two detailed sequel reports to his investigation of a crop circle formation found on this date. These are interesting in the light of post Doug & Dave cereology. The formation comprises two circles and a triangle lined up in a triangular pattern. In 1991 the barley crop failed in just these three locations leaving barren earth. Soil analysis was carried out showing a decrease of about a third in nitrates, phosphates and sulphur. Yet there was an excess of some odd metals (eg cobalt, molybdenum, zinc and - even more unusually - radioactive substances such as plutonium).

After this disaster rye grass was sown in autumn 1991 but this failed again only in the three effected areas. More soil analysis is underway and Dr Terence Meaden (allegedly out of circles research according to some sources has - in fact - been assisting in the further investigation of this riddle)

## **90-028 June 1990 Malahide Beach, Co Dublin, Ireland**

Anne Griffin and Pat Delaney submit a photograph taken on the beach on a warm day which when enlarged showed a black conical UFO behind the heads of two men. Nothing was seen. Initial appraisal suggests this is almost certainly an artefact of the photographic or developing process but a proper evaluation will take place.

## **91-014 22 November 1991 Walton, Liverpool**

This came to the attention of charge nurse Mark Glover when one of his colleagues saw him reading a UFO book in the hospital. She reported a dream of a UFO that she had just had that day and they discussed the subject. A few weeks later she saw a UFO! A woman on route to the local fish and chip shop at 5. 20 pm observed a crescent shaped set of white lights with red lights

**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.**

# CASEFILECASEFILECASEFILECASEFILE

at either end that moved silently from south to north where it stopped and then all the lights went out. These then came back on again in a sequence and the object moved off in the same direction as before. Visually the object resembles an airship frequenting the area in February 1992 but no evidence has been found that it was present in November 1991.

## **91-015 September 1991 Hay Mills, Birmingham, Warwickshire**

A woman observed a red light jumping about the sky above a rooftop. An aircraft passed over and then the UFO descended slowly out of sight behind the house. Investigator Raymond Bates discovered that the West Midlands police helicopter is based nearby and theorised that this was reflecting the then setting sun (time was 7. 30 pm) and it had waited until the aircraft passed before descending to land.

## **91-016 1 December 1991 Mullingar, Co Westmeath, Ireland**

Another report from Anne and Pat of the Irish Branch of BUFORA but unfortunately the witnesses failed to cooperate fully. At 5. 40 pm a boomerang shape with three red lights set at each end and in the middle was seen to pass across the sky. There was another light that moved along the length of the object, went out and then started again on the same path. The object stopped dead in the sky and flipped through a right angle to take on a new orientation before it rapidly moved away.

## **92-004 8 February 1992 Central London**

Ken Phillips investigated a wave of reports which made national headlines. A drifting light was observed above the capital which all sources (from the MoD to the Daily Star!) confirmed was the Daily Star airship on a promotional mission. Some witnesses still dispute this seemingly inevitable conclusion. The airship (plus another belonging to Renolds) moved north after this and in late February created many sightings in north-west England - including one over a football match in Manchester which provoked ridiculous media headlines in the USA about terrified crowds! In fact as the local media had featured Bernard Manning alongside the blimp as a good story most people recognised it; although some UFO reports did reach us.

## **92-005 22 February 1992 Eggardon Hill, Bridport, Dorset**

This case has involved the investigation talents of Doug Cooper, Alan Woodward, Robert Moore and Paul Fuller but we still don't know what went on!

Two men were using their CB radios on a hill at 9. 30 am when they saw two dark oval masses that they thought at first were hang gliders. They took a photograph and had it immediately developed and these depicted THREE dark objects. They had simply 'vanished' after the picture was taken. They reported the story to the local press and then in May told the paper that they had each received a series of anonymous calls warning them to stop seeking an answer. BUFORA were by now already well into investigation (although the negative has not been made available and photo analysis is as yet incomplete). Checks have revealed no obvious sources for the sighting (eg military activity). However, the witnesses have clammed up and have so far failed to provide any details of the media reported threatening calls.

## **92-006 9 April 1992 A 303, Near Salisbury, Wiltshire**

Ken Phillips has investigated this report of a woman driving on the road at 9. 20 pm who saw a dark 'airship' like mass drifting slowly in the distance. With the help of the MoD a reasonable solution as an army blimp or barrage balloon has been provided.

## **92-007 26 June 1992 Glastonbury, Somerset**

Michael Lewis offers a sighting made at 10. 50 by man and daughter of a big saucer like mass with red and green lights and white searchlight beam emerging. Investigation reveals that it was almost certainly a helicopter used by police to patrol the ongoing Glastonbury summer festival.

## **92-008 4 July 1992 Patney, Wiltshire**

Another case from Michael Lewis. At 23. 30 a family of five observed a rotating series of flat ellipses that revolved around the sky for more than an hour. Apparently they occurred amidst many reports of UFOs in the area made by crop field watchers and at a time when Colin Andrews and Dr Greer were using lasers to try to attract circle making UFOs with reputedly interesting results. However, we know that some observers mistook the lasers for UFOs and visually this description is exactly like the computer controlled laser lights that have created many UFO sightings lately.

## **92-009 17 July 1992 Selhurst, London**

A woman saw a steel like egg shaped object pass her window very quickly at 8. 55 pm. Investigation incomplete but the sighting does have some resemblance to the silvered fairground balloons which in summer months have created some UFO activity.

### **INVESTIGATORS!**

Send your case histories for publication in UFO Times now!

Mike Wootten, Suite 1, The Leys, 2c Leyton Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2TL



# SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, YES – BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

by John Spencer

**What is UFO research? What exactly do UFO researchers think they are doing? The answers to these questions may seem obvious at first; we are investigating UFOs. But to what purpose?**

Let's take the situation where a sceptical investigator is invited by a witness to examine phenomena reported by that witness of which the witness is convinced is of a paranormal origin. For the sake of argument we'll assume that the UFO researcher does not feel that this is the case and indeed at the outset of an investigation it is perhaps wiser if the researcher does maintain that level of healthy scepticism - BUT - at the same time maintaining an open mind.

Supposing that the sceptical researcher investigates the phenomena and accepts that it does indeed have a paranormal origin and constitutes proof of the existence of UFOs (whatever we take that phrase to mean). What have we then got? In fact what we have then got is one more person who believes in an extraordinary origin of UFOs. With a world population of 3,000 million and with many new people born even in the time it has taken you to read this, that is a pretty slow way of convincing the world of the truth of UFOs. We might therefore conclude that what we are searching for is evidence that can be successfully presented to others.

For the sake of simplicity, let's make life easy for ourselves and consider UFOs to be spaceships from other worlds. I am not saying this is right, or that I necessarily believe or disbelieve that, but I need an easy way of describing an 'extraordinary' origin for UFOs and that will suit the purpose. The point I am making will hold true for any explanation of UFOs other than 'they are all in the mind', which I don't in any case believe.

Consider then, a second scenario where our witness invites us to a predestined encounter where we will see the spaceships and meet with the aliens.

As a result of it, we come away with 16 hours of continuous video tape of the encounter, visually and audio recorded conversation between the

witness, the investigator and the aliens, information from the aliens which can be verified in archive records in museums all over the world perhaps - something a touch Daniken in style, or Biblical in origin. We might also have still photographs of the aliens and the spaceship, and video footage of the aliens doing something distinctly and unambiguously non-human. We can accompany this with magnetometer readings showing massive increases in magnetic field disturbances at the times when the flying saucer appears, positive (or if you prefer negative) returns on a portable radar, appropriate film of thermometer fluctuations and just for good measure a few working parts cannibalised from the alien's spaceship's drive mechanism.

## WHAT THEN?

It sounds like the sort of evidence that any UFO researcher, or any investigator into the paranormal, would give his third eye for and as he was collecting it he could probably envisage a lifetime of praise from his colleagues and the scientific community for finally solving one of the world's great mysteries. He may even be envisaging the lecture shows, the books, the films, and - if he was of a pessimistic nature - the endless round of chat-shows.

But what actually will happen when he presents this evidence to the world?

Firstly he will come up against the jealousy of his colleagues and the political in-fighting which endlessly goes on amongst all the researchers whether in the conventional sciences or the para-sciences; his methods will be questioned and his honesty brought into doubt.

Even if he is part of a ten-man team, all of whom are in total agreement with the evidence, it's not likely to change matters very much. In fact in all

likelihood the first bickering will take place amongst those ten.

Even outside of his team, those who are genuinely committed researchers, by which I mean actually go out and do the work, will feel a grudging admiration but will probably still challenge the work on less than reasonable grounds, if past experience to go by.

And once the material is presented to the world at large what the UFO researcher can actually look forward to is spending literally the rest of his life defending himself against allegations of fraud mainly from the scientific community whose institutions have a massive interest in not accepting challenges to science and partly from the media, many of whom have a natural tendency to say 'black' the minute anybody says 'white'.

Then there are of course those who call themselves researchers but for whom it would actually take a surgical operation to remove them from their armchairs, or from in front of the desk-top publishers with which they churn out their magazines that add nothing to the subject. Because they have a vested interest in not even trying to solve the questions raised by the subject they will take every opportunity to pick apart the wealth of evidence on the basis of some very minor aspect of it. (You know the sort of thing: "Because the witness had cornflakes for breakfast that day and they contain 0.00001 part in a million of a compound sometimes found in hallucinogenic drugs can we really take this man seriously?") Would any court of law taking testimony from a witness to a car crash raise some of the bizarre doubts that get raised against the para-sciences?

I am not suggesting that every researcher must be prepared to travel to any part of the country or other parts of the world as part of the research but even a few genuine investigations



would provide these people with a vision that would undoubtedly change many of their opinions. Most of these individuals spend their time telling real researchers where they 'did it wrong' or what they ought to do. But there is a whole world of difference between academic theory and spending the night in the company of a man or woman who perceives themselves to have been raped or bizarrely used by aliens from another planet. And a whole world of difference between sitting in an armchair or spending the night alone in the cold and dark in some snowbound Scandinavian wasteland seeking to understand what a witness went through in terms of isolation and sensory deprivation.

So whatever we may think we are doing when we are undertaking UFO investigation it is not solely the collection of evidence, since that will not convince others.

One thing we certainly are doing - or perhaps it would be fairer to say should be doing - is attending to the needs of the witness.

In the case of those afflicted by repeater abductions - and we don't have to believe or not believe their claims, we only have to believe that it is real to their fears - and for who their main worry is to be protected from the excesses of the abductions then it is the UFO researcher's job in these circumstances to either find that help or facilitate it by bringing in those other professionals that are necessary. However, real abductions are, whether they are extraterrestrial, or the action of an earthbound force, intelligent or otherwise, even if you believe them to be nothing more than the wanderings of fantasy-prone minds, still no serious researcher should ever lose sight of the importance of attending to the needs of the witness in as professional a way as possible.

But important - paramount even - though the witnesses are there are also other considerations that researchers have a duty to. This is the so-called Big Picture. Taking the bigger picture, presumably all UFO researchers not only want to be sure in their own mind as to exactly what UFOs are but they want to share that with a degree of unanimity with others. Most witnesses have the same driving need so there doesn't have to be a conflict in this.

Total unanimity will never be possible; many people will believe what they want to even in the face of any evidence but there are people who

are open to evidence if it is of an acceptable nature. So the UFO researcher is presumably looking for evidence of an acceptable nature.

We can be fairly sure - from decades of bitter experience - that recorded data of an event does not constitute this acceptable nature. There have been many videos, photos, many sightings, but the collected evidence has not really dented scepticism of the subject to any measureable degree.

We have to consider for a moment the question: What is Science? Let us consider that science is really no more than a way of measuring things, and a set of 'filters' set up to prevent mistakes and confirm reality. Consider a jar with lots of different size grains of rock and sand in it. At the bottom is a filter that allows some through and some not. Science discovers that - to use an analogy - grains bigger than 1 millimetre are false but those smaller are true. It sets a filter at 1 millimetre and lets the truth through and prevents the frauds and mistakes. Most of the experiments we do at school in physics and chemistry are no more than versions of that.

The problem is that science has determined that the proper filter size for UFOs is totally closed; no truths. It has set its filter. In the early and perhaps naive days of Ufology, UFO researchers set the filter totally open; everything was real. Warminster in the 1960's, for example, was a sort of hippy-skippy, happy-clappy UFO believers club. On the hills around the town the people would see starships and scoutships and all the rest of it. We know now that not all at Warminster was as honest as it seemed. Our filter was too open and it left us vulnerable to ridicule that frankly has been science and the media's response for the past thirty years. I agree that a filter has to be set, that we must weed out fraud and mistake. But we need to work with witnesses on a much closer and open basis to find out the proper size of the filter.

And the only way to find out what is true and what is not is to give witnesses a chance to prove what they claim on their own terms. This is the basis of 'witness driven investigation'. That, for the record, is a term I coined in my book 'Perspectives' and arose from my work partly inspired by Ken Phillips. I think it's fair to say that since then Ken has picked up on my stuff and run with it and that today the two of us are probably working pretty close to common goals perhaps in slightly different ways.

Witnesses must also give us something, however. If we UFO-researchers can find a way - in partnership with them - to give them a chance at a home run, then they owe us the right to challenge their findings in order to determine what is true and what is a mistake, or even a fraud. They must allow us that without accusing us of being unfair.

This is different to the approach of science. Science says 'I will set up barriers and if you get through them then I'll believe you'. But there is evidence - even scientifically accepted - that if investigators and witnesses work in positively reinforced atmospheres that paranormal events can be enhanced. John Hasted, professor of physics at Birkbeck in London, showed this with PK experiments.

I can write with a pen on paper; science would agree with that because it could test me. But what if one of the tests I had to 'beat' was my hand being clamped to the table. Would that prove that I could not write, or would it prove that science had set the test wrong? Clamping my hand to the table to test if I can write is analogous to the mistake of science today in its approach to UFOs. It has failed to find out what are the reasonable tests before setting them. It has used what it thinks is right without first finding out if it is in fact right. Clamping a prisoner's hand to a wall might be an adequate test of escapology but not writing; insisting on repeatability might be appropriate for Boyle's law, but perhaps not for Ufology.

Science demands, for it to be convinced of the reality of a phenomenon, that it can be predicted and can be reproduced in experimental form. Because that is not the situation with spontaneous paranormal phenomena, including UFOs, science rejects them. This is a blinkered approach on the part of science; it is failing to recognise that there are many aspects of the world around us which once could not be understood within these terms but which now can be. In the end there probably is no such thing as spontaneous phenomena; but there are phenomena whose causes are unknown as yet. That is the paranormal; the normal we haven't got to grips with yet.

Science has found the appropriate measuring instruments today for what was once paranormal, and from that has gone on to predict and create the necessary conditions for proof. In rejecting today's paranormal and

refusing to look for that measuring instrument, or those measuring instruments, science is denying itself vital information. What it should be doing is acknowledging that spontaneous phenomena - and UFOs qualify in this description - are likely to be real because they are attested to by an enormous amount of people and they should be assisting researchers into the paranormal to find the measuring instruments that they presently do not have.

On this basis we might be getting a little closer to the UFO researcher's duty. We should be collecting the evidence not only of what happened but the conditions under which they happened, and that may include allowing the witnesses to - in effect - manifest some of the phenomena if that is a part of the way this UFO phenomenon works.

Then we should be correlating it with as much other evidence of similar events as possible. In addition we should be drawing from the researches of other researchers into other paranormal activity where, firstly, there may be actual interaction and, secondly, there may be lessons to learn.

Let us create a third scenario. Let us suppose that a witness is one of those known as a 'repeater' who sees many UFOs over extended periods of time. Let us, for the sake of argument only, suggest that the UFO in this case is appearing because the atmospheric humidity is  $z$ , the degree of copper and zinc in the surrounding rocks is  $y$ , the temperature is  $x$ , there are geological stresses underground corresponding to a strain of  $w$ , each of the witnesses has just undergone the tragedy of bereavement with whatever consequences they may be at the chemical level in the brain and the emotional level in the mind, and a host of many other factors. We don't even have to reject the extraterrestrial hypothesis for this; maybe it takes a set of strict conditions to allow 'them' to interact with us. In these circumstances it would be hardly surprising that the exact combination of factors would not come together except on rare occasions. Nonetheless there would be occasions when it would. The UFO researcher should therefore be accumulating as much even trivial data about each UFO appearance as possible in order that some facet is recognised that gives the clue to the 'trigger'.

On the assumption that the researcher could correctly pinpoint all of

the necessary factors then it would either be possible to predict with a reasonable degree of accuracy when those factors could come together and an appropriate watch maintained or it might be possible to recreate them experimentally. In either event it would then be possible to 'manifest' the UFO in a way that would satisfy sceptical laboratory conditions. Then we would begin to see an acceptability of this paranormal phenomena by conventional science (and even then against a great deal of struggling!) It is obvious that UFO researchers could not do as I suggest without the full and open trust and co-operation of witnesses prepared to work in partnership with us in order to find those factors. What they bring to us is a source of data, what we bring to them is a willingness and a structure to share that data world-wide in order to put the Big Picture together.

Conventional science, however, may also have to make some compromises with its rigid standards. One of the 'laws' of science is that any experiment, if it is truly dependent only on the experimental factors, should be capable of being replicated by anybody with the same equipment under the same conditions. Studies of the paranormal seem to indicate that the state of mind of the researcher and the witness is a genuine factor in manifesting certain spontaneous phenomena; that may be a red herring and science may be right to condemn that claim. BUT, on the other hand it may be correct and science has a duty to put that to the test. Therefore, if as has been suggested by such people as Professor of Physics John Hasted that the results of certain phenomena - in this case PK - are heightened by the witness being positively reinforced by the investigator and believing him to be in a true partnership with the investigator, then science has a duty to accept that as part of the test conditions. Until we know what all of the factors involved in creating certain phenomena are we must be very open minded.

The question of partnership between investigators and witnesses is vital; consider the analogy of a train crash disaster.

Someone involved in a train crash does not necessarily make a good train crash investigator. A good train crash investigator's strength lies in his seeing the reports of, and hopefully first hand experience of the aftermath of, a number of crashes. Of course he must interview witnesses, but many of them

are traumatised, and often don't even remember the moment of the crash. This is not so far off the situation we have with UFOs. Many closer encounter witnesses are either traumatised, or they have memory blocks for one reason or another, and so on. Investigators generally don't have these problems to deal with and they have the willingness and resources to go around and talk to many other witnesses. The witness on the other hand, quite reasonably, will tend to focus on their own experience, not the Bigger Picture. Furthermore, frankly, witnesses don't make very good investigators because they see and hear all other cases as a comparison to their own which is not a very sound basis for dispassionate research. That is why a partnership is needed; there is no question that answers will come more easily from putting together research teams not just of well read, experienced researchers, but by including witnesses.

BUFORA is laying down plans for investigator training; Ken Phillips is dealing with this. As Ken himself has made plain, such training must involve the witnesses. Training in the past has concentrated on teaching people to measure angles and estimate sizes of objects and a host of mechanical skills of that nature. All good and important stuff, but still the O level when we need MA quality investigators. Witnesses come to investigators and they are often not happy with the investigations they get. By joining in the training, witnesses can ensure a higher quality of understanding, and a closer partnership, for future witnesses.

As in every area of research there are going to be different standards of research and researchers.

However - and this is where I get into a lot of trouble with UFO researchers both here in England, indeed in BUFORA itself, and certainly abroad - I am not going to pretend I could set that standard until we all know more.

When we know what the subject is truly all about then we can begin to set out the criteria that constitutes a good or a bad researcher. Our conventional thinking suggests that a good researcher is a well-balanced individual, educated and intelligent, fair and methodical, and so on. But maybe the ideal researcher is a hopeless drunk with the IQ of a garden umbrella and for whom sound judgement is picking the right dog at White City .... but who has that 'whatever-it-takes' to see what others

do not, or even manifest what others cannot.

I am happy to work with researchers of varying standards, by whatever definition, (and make no particular claims for my own standards) if in fact something they have recorded is the clue that is eventually needed, and can be the basis of more controlled research later. I am happy to work with researchers who have weird and wonderful ideas of what the UFO phenomenon is all about because just perhaps there is the mind that can manifest this stuff - whether it is causing nature to produce a light effect or whether it is some ability to call down the aliens. I don't say I believe it will happen, but I sincerely believe in giving it a real chance. I don't mind working with witnesses and researchers who one overly-sceptical Scandinavian research group have tried to dismiss as mentally disturbed because even if they are maybe that's what it takes. (And they have never produced evidence of research, even by their own definition, to support that contention; typical of the 'hands - flapping - in - front - of - me - make - it - go - away - I - don't - feel - comfortable - with - this' style of 'research' too prominent of late.)

It is a fine line between recklessness and radical thinking; but I would rather tread it and get criticised than shirk away and play safe - getting nowhere. If you try new ideas you might fail; but I don't believe in the concept of failure anyway - it's all just learning. The only people I ever met who never failed, are those who never succeeded either. I want UFO research to get somewhere. Certainly a lot farther than it's got in the last forty-five years.

But we have a practical problem.

BUFORA, and individual researchers, are under the scrutiny of the media. And some research - balls of light, some corn-circle research and so on - is conducted within the confines of conventional science and with the assistance of conventional scientists. The nature of those branches of UFOlogy is that they can do so. It is not the same with closer encounter cases. But if BUFORA does as I am suggesting; throws caution to the wind, and allows total openness of work with witnesses, it will be criticised by the media, by the UFO press, and by second rate scientific minds limited to the 'Boyle's law' level of research. I must admit that none of those bother me personally

much though I have several colleagues less reckless than me.

But BUFORA will also receive rejection from scientists who might agree with us in principle but who would worry about peer-prejudice and grant withdrawals for those I do have concern. They have placed a trust in us not to put them in awkward positions; we owe them consideration.

We would also receive criticism from other UFO groups, as I am getting already - and BUFORA might find it difficult to work on the world stage in those conditions. In that case we would be ineffective even for those witnesses we seek to work with.

Those are the dilemmas we face, that is the tightrope we have to walk between what I believe we should do and what damage we might do to ourselves and others. I don't have an answer for that; and I should be grateful for others to offer their ideas to BUFORA, perhaps through the pages of UFO Times.

*How do we meet the needs of witnesses, serve the wider interests of Ufology, and maintain the respectability we have built up to date, all at the same time?*

## AIRSHIP FLAP IN THE SOUTH EAST

by Steve Gamble, Director of Research

**During late January and through February there were a number of UFO reports from London and surrounding parts of the south east which described things like strange slow moving aircraft, and cigar and saucer shaped objects. My interest was first aroused when I saw a report from a witness from the Hemel Hempstead area.**

At 6:30pm on Wednesday 22nd January 1992 the witness was driving south on the M1 motorway heading towards London. He describes seeing a peculiar aircraft crossing the motorway 'five or six miles outside London'. At a guess this puts him in the Watford area, this will become significant as explained later.

### PULSING

The sky was extremely clear with good visibility of early evening stars.

He noticed a strangely lit aircraft crossing the motorway at a height of around 200ft, and it showed two lights, about 30 to 40ft apart, one at each end of the craft. One was red, and the other white, then every couple of seconds, both would flash brighter, and change, so the red and white were reversed. The witness states that the lights on this object were quite different to the more familiar light configuration on a helicopter or a light aircraft. They seemed about the same intensity as other aircraft lights when they were not 'pulsing'

before a colour change. The aircraft flew quite slowly over the road, in an easterly direction. The witness could not make out the shape behind the two lights. There was never any question in the witnesses mind that it was anything other than an aircraft with a strange light pattern. The case came to my notice in the first week of February when the witness asked for information about this strange light pattern on a computer bulletin board.

A few days later (I believe Sunday 16th February) I was speaking to



Arnold West on the phone when he told me about a couple of reports that had been made to him the previous week. One was by a gentleman from east London who had seen a cigar shaped object over the City of London. Arnold felt from the description that this was an airship. The witness told him that he studied air craft and was certain that this was not an airship.

The second report was from a lady in Brentford. The same evening she had also seen a large object in the direction of Wembley, heading north. It was Arnold's opinion this too sounded like the sighting of an airship. He had passed both reports to Ken Phillips for investigation, who also felt that an airship was the most probable explanation.

I told Arnold that when airship tours over London had been run about two years previously they had operated from a field near Letchworth Heath. This is just to the east of Watford in south Hertfordshire. Also when they had operated these tours the air ship passed my office window in Harrow, although I had not seen any recently. Arnold's reports reminded me of the report of the aircraft with the strange light pattern.

The next afternoon I was discussing these reports with a colleague when at approximately 3pm, as if to order, an airship appeared heading south towards the centre of London. He told me that he had seen it one afternoon the previous week at about the same time, but could not remember which afternoon. The airship we saw was painted white with an advert for "mita" in red on the side. I would estimate the length of the airship as being around 50 feet.

As I left work at 6:45 that evening I saw two bright lights close together in the distance. They did not appear to be moving either to the side or coming towards me as a normal aircraft would be expected. Having seen the airship go south previously I was pretty sure that's what it was, however having seen it I can now see how people might report it as something strange. Instead of going to get my train heading north I decided to go to the nearby Metropolitan line station to get a train heading south towards the object.

As the train headed south I came closer to the object. When we reached Wembley, about two and a half miles south of the original observation point I could still see the 'object' but now it was more a 'cigar' shape and it had windows!! As we passed through Willesden Green station another two and

half miles south we passed directly under the 'object', which was heading north. The white envelope of the object was completely illuminated and the "mita" appeared dark against the lighter background. The airship had a small red light at each end, but these were swamped by the brightness of the main craft.

But what about the windows?! Look carefully at the word "mita", I have deliberately typed it all in lower case just as it is in the company's logo and how it appears on the airship. There are three vertical bars in the 'm', very close to this is another vertical bar in an 'i', followed closely by a 't' then two vertical bars in the 'a'. At small angular sizes (i.e. when the 'object' is distant) it is not possible to read these as letters, but the predominance of verticals gives the impression of windows.

On my return home, I phoned Ken Phillips to tell him about what I had seen both that evening and earlier in the day and how I believed that this airship might be involved in both the reports Arnold West had passed to him. He told me that earlier that evening the witness from east London had telephoned to tell Ken that he had seen the object again that evening and was now convinced that it was the airship.

I was able to reinforce my suspicions when a couple of days later the airship was seen hovering over Wembley Stadium during an evening football match. Apparently there are a couple of these airships in the UK, which apart from mita have also been used to advertise the Daily Star newspaper. Rumour has it that they are the forerunners of a fleet of a couple of dozen advertising 'blimps' an agency proposes using. Fortunately the existing fleet seemed to have headed north for Cheshire the following week. Jenny Randles has reported on these events in Northern UFO News ("The Revenge of the Daily Star", Number 153, page 14).

Coming back to the original case of the aircraft with the strange lights, after having seen it myself I exchanged mail with the witness concerned and told him that I suspected he had seen the airship which I had seen. We both agreed that this was the most likely explanation.

But I also mentioned that this first report may have other significance. UFO TIMES readers may remember a report of an object seen over the M1 which was investigated by Ken Phillips ("Something Wonderful Over the M1", Ken Phillips, UFO TIMES, Number 2

(July 1989), pp 9-11). This was of strange objects seen over south west Hertfordshire on 4th March 1988, a similar area to the M1 report discussed here. Descriptions of the object ranged from strange lights to 'barrage balloons'. A number of witnesses made reports of the March 1988 object and an attempt was made to film the object using video cameras mounted above junction 6 of the M1 motorway for traffic control purposes.

It is not clear if the video camera captured the same object which was the stimulus for the visual reports, the suggestion being that it captured only normal aircraft lights. What is interesting are the visual reports including 'barrage balloon' objects and two strange lights following each other close together from the same area where we now have reports of barrage balloon objects with strange lights which turn out to be airships. Whilst more research would need to be done to prove or otherwise that the earlier reports also concerned airships it is an area worthy of investigation.

Having seen this 'object' myself, I recommend that anybody contemplating investigating UFO reports should spend some time just observing the normal sky, especially at night, just to find out what the normal sky activity is.

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## UFO TIMES

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**British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association**  
**CASE REPORT**

## **VISITORS AT THE CONVENT OF JESUS AND MARY**

### **CASE SUMMARY:-**

Case number: PHILCASE.027

Investigator(s): Ken Phillips [KP] & Roy Rowlands [RR]

Sighting area: Milton Keynes, Bucks.

Type of sighting: CE2-403 [Vallee]

### **CASE INTRODUCTION**

This case first became known to the investigators in the late 1980s when the witness divulged her UFO experiences when she was a schoolgirl border at a convent school in Milton Keynes, Bucks.

According to the witness, Elena [E] (pseudonym), she awoke in her dormitory one night and looked out of the window which overlooks the convent tennis courts. To her amazement, she saw a large, circular object with attendant lights resting within the area of one of the courts. Later, the object took off, leaving a circular trace on the tennis court where the object had been previously resting.

Following her sighting, the witness experienced a number of paranormal events and reality tilts, culminating in a visit to the convent of men-in-black.

### **TRANSCRIPT OF TAPED WITNESS' ACCOUNT**

E: Well it all started... well I went to the convent in 1978.

KP: Which convent?

E: The convent of Jesus and Mary in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, which is in the middle of nowhere; just a great, big building surrounded by farms and lakes and whatever. I was there for four years. I arrived there in 1978 and all this [the encounters] happened in 1980. I didn't have good sleep at first because naturally, being away from home - because my parents were living in London - naturally I was having to stay as a boarder.

I had restless nights and didn't sleep at all and didn't eat properly, and then

by 1980... I was just going... well, I was just going to sleep. It was about 12 - 1 o'clock [am] and was falling asleep. I looked out of the window because I just couldn't sleep and it was a clear sky because you could see... sort of stars and things. I looked out of the them quickly, and after that I didn't see it.

So I just went back to sleep again - I had to wake up about 2 or 3 hours later and... I didn't get up, but everybody naturally got me up eventually.

KP: Were you sleeping in a dormitory?

E: Yes, I was in a dormitory with other people altogether.

KP: None of the other girls saw or heard anything unusual?

E: No, they only woke up when I was sort of... sitting up and one of them couldn't sleep which was a girl whom I know quite well. She said to me, 'Why can't you sleep?' And I said, 'I don't know', and I didn't want to tell her because I never told anybody any of my business because nobody ever listened to me in my life, so I took it as a 'pinch of salt' until about a few months later - I think it was about 3 or 4 months later - I got two strange visitors. I was [at the time] at my class on my maths lesson, and one of the sisters [nuns], Sister Jennifer, came up to call me and said, 'can I interrupt the class, I'm here to take Miss Farmer (surname pseudonym for E)', and I thought, 'Oh dear!' I was thinking all bad things. I thought I'd got to go to the phone or my father has had an accident, or my mother is in the hospital; all these things went through my mind. I said [to Sister Jennifer] to her, 'What's the matter?' She said, 'You've got a visitor.' I said, 'Oh, my mother's arrived!' So I was all jolly and everything. She said, 'no, no, there's two men', and that got me scared, because I didn't know and I wasn't informed about two men. So they [the nuns] took me to this great, big, like a dining room place.

Well... there's a big table, dining chairs and comfortable chairs and

everything else. There was... it was quite warm when I went in there because they had the heating on, because they always had the fire on whenever they got visitors arriving and... when I went in there I saw them, and I thought to myself, 'I've never seen these men before', and I said to them - because Sister Jennifer had left me then - She said, 'will you be alright?', and I said, 'I think so, but could you wait outside just in case I need you'. So she waited outside, and it was at least half an hour she had to wait for me. They [the two men said... I asked them who they were and they actually told me they were to do with Dr. White (pseudonym), and she's my psychiatrist whom I used to see quite often, but whom I don't see now. I said [to them], 'What... you're working for her are you?' And they said, 'Yes'. And... the reason why they looked different is because normal men... well, men seen around, just wear casual suits and nothing too fancy, but they looked more different, because first of all they were grown up, middle-aged men, old enough to have a shave and they didn't shave; they didn't have a shaving mark [shadow].

KP: They had no stubble on the chin?

E: No, it just looked like a wax face, except a creamy colour. No, there were no signs of a beard. It was all completely clean as if it was completely waxed. And the hair... they weren't... they were both identical. They looked the same - there was no difference about them - they both had black hair, short, quite short, black hair, and it looked as though it had just had a wash because their hair was so shiny and they had it... they must have used some spray because... I've never seen shiny hair like that, and naturally I never touched it. It was all brushed completely back; both of them the same with no difference. Their eyes... I couldn't look at them. They were... sort of straining me because they were not like ordinary brown or blue eyes, they were sort of

a... mixture of brown and greyish colour. I'm not sure what the colour is, but it's in between brown and grey. And as I was looking at them, it strained my eyes. I just couldn't... I could see through them. It wasn't like as if they were as strong as a light bulb, but... they scared the wits out of me, so I stopped looking at them, and he said to me, "Don't you want to look at me?" And I said, "I'd rather not because I've got bad eyesight"; because I was wearing glasses even then. And their suits were completely black and... from the looks of it, they looked as if they had just come from one of these tailors to have it specially made for them. The length was correct for the whole arm - the leg and everything - because normally for some men it [the length] overlaps, or it's too short, but in this case it was exactly the correct level for the whole thing, and it was a complete... suit - just a two-piece suit with trousers and a jacket, a white shirt and a black tie; a black tie which goes with a... the suit. The trousers... when they bent... they were so... they were so... a really straight line as if they had just been ironed or something; really crisp and sharp as a razor blade. Naturally, I just assumed that's probably what they were dressed like, and the jacket was just the usual button-in and fold-over [double-breasted] with two buttons here. They had the usual buttons across there [in the double-breasted style], but ... they had black socks, also matching with the suit, and I've never seen anything match like that before. I can imagine a black suit with navy blue socks or something, but everything was totally matching with the suit.

So... the reason why they came... because... they asked me several questions like: how I was getting on at school, or just the usual conversation, but what I never ever had to answer, to which I didn't give them an answer was... "if anything strange happened when I was there". That was their question, and I said to them, "What do you mean by that?" And they said, "Well, anything strange at all?" And it clicked to me at that point that they were talking about what I saw, but I didn't want to mention it, because I thought if I told these people - if he is genuine from Dr. White - he might have gone to Dr. White, told her, and then my parents would get to know it and they would put me into one of these mental schools for mentally [handicapped] children, so I decided not to say anything and kept it quiet. I said, "No". I said, "I've got a

friend here", and... I said, "but nothing strange happened". And he said, "Are you sure?" I said, "Yes". And he could see I wasn't telling the truth because he was determined to get the answer out.

And suddenly the [school] bell went, which is the bell for... lunch time, because it was time for lunch. And he said to me, "What's that?" I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "That bell" I said, "Oh don't worry, that's just the bell that they call the students in for lunch". And he said, "Oh dear, you had better go for lunch, is that it?" And I said, "That's right". And then he said, "Well, we must be off, so could..." He didn't look at his watch, which was very unusual because most men do wear watches. He didn't look at his watch as he walked out... He specifically asked me what time it was. He didn't have a watch and he looked very business-like, but he didn't have any briefcase: nothing. He just sat there opposite me, because I didn't want him to sit next to me, because I was completely nervous. But when... the bell went, Sister Jennifer knocked and came in even... Oh yes, we also had a cup of coffee while we were in the middle of this chat and... they did drink it, you know... that's why I probably thought they were all right and... they drank the coffee, but what I couldn't understand was, when I shook their hands to say goodbye, after drinking hot coffee you would expect their hand to be warm: it was as frozen as an icicle: I was literally touching ice. And I said to him, "Are you cold or something?" And he didn't want to say anything, so I thought, "well, I'd better not say anything else just in case I'd be out of the way", but... He asked Sister Jennifer if I could show them the way out, and I thought, "Well, I don't see why... I don't think there's any worries about that", so I did.

I was a teenager... when I was at the convent, so I went to the doorway, and they were both walking in exact step [with one another] as if they didn't have a mind of their own. They were walking in the exact steps, and if they were moving their arms they would do it [together]; if they were standing still they would do it [together]; they would copy each other exactly. They never crossed legs when they sat with me - they sort of sat like... with their legs together on the ground.

Well, I took them to the doorway and opened the door. To my shock, there was a black car and I thought, "Well, it's a windy day", because it was quite windy even though it was a hot day, but

their hair didn't blow and I couldn't understand, so I thought it must have been a spray that they used for their hair. So I just watch them go into the car and... just driving off, and Sister Jennifer was waiting for me, and as they drove off I looked through the window, because I shut the door after that, and looked through the window which was still there, but the number plate I couldn't understand why it was black background with white letters on it. I couldn't see what the letters were because I was stunned by everything being black. And they had a black driver - not a black man - [in a] black suit and... I don't remember him having a top [chauffeur's] hat, the driver, because normally they have chauffeurs wearing black hats, but none of them wore black hats to my knowledge. You couldn't see in, but they could see you out [of the windows]. It was one of those type of windows.

KP: Like a smoked window?

E: Well, I'm not sure what kind of window it is. It's the kind of window... it's like when you look at it, it's a mirror, but to them, they can see you outside.

KP: Like mirror sunglasses?

E: That's right. It's exactly like that. You can only... you can see the mirror as if you're looking at yourself, but... they saw me all the whole time. They drove off and I saw the driver of them signalling and all that, then and I thought to myself, "I wonder who they were?" I couldn't picture it... anybody like that before, and I... Dr. White never warned me, because she always told me visitors would come at the weekend and not during the week [convent ruling], but I... stayed in that front room, you know, the doorway for about five minutes. I was frozen for five minutes: I couldn't move. And... I could tell that Sister Jennifer was calling me because I could hear her, but I couldn't acknowledge her; I could only hear her. So eventually she came up towards me and she said, "Elena, are you alright?". And eventually, when the car was completely out of my mind, I snapped out of it, and she said, "Are you alright?" And I said, "Er, I think so, I've got a slight headache", and naturally she gave me something for my headache - some tablet or something - and I couldn't... understand who they were, it was puzzling me and I couldn't tell anybody. Even Sister Jennifer asked me, "who were they?" And I said, "Oh... they seemed to be a part of Dr. White. You know Dr. White?" She said, "Oh yes,

she's the psychiatrist you see" and I said, "Yes". I said, "they say they're from there", so she said, "How come they came during the week and not the weekend? Did you know they were coming?" I said, "No. I had no letter, no phone call. they just appeared on the doorstep". But... after that...

KP: When they opened the car door, were you able to peep inside?

E: I tried to have a look inside, but... all I could see was total blackness; totally dark. You couldn't see. You couldn't see through it. It was as if it was... as if it was completely hollow. You just couldn't see through the car, even if they had the windows open, you couldn't see through it; it was completely black. I don't know what kind of car that was, but it was... it looked like one of these very posh limousines, you know... where the seat goes really back... deep into the car, because he literally fell... sort of back..

KP: Back into a reclining seat?

E: Yes, that's why I couldn't see him, he was really back in the car; I couldn't see him at all. That just gave me a fright, but I took it out of my mind after a while. I didn't know what to think, because...

KP: Could you see a tax disc or anything like that?

E: No, I couldn't actually see the front because I wasn't at the front of the car. I was actually at the back of the car and I could only see the side. So when I saw the side and the back I automatically assumed that it... if the back... the back and the side windows are like that, then the rest of the car must be like that. That's what I assumed. I might be wrong, but I assumed that.

KP: Going back to the first sighting, was there any residue at the site of the landing?

E: Yes, because by the following morning I had tennis, and I had to go up there. As we were playing tennis I was all right, but then we changed again to basketball, which we played a lot of, and as somebody passed me the ball I ran for it, slipped, but I couldn't understand how I tripped as if I fell in a hole. When I got up, it was as if the whole tennis court was burnt, you know, as if it were burnt to a crisp. It [the burn mark] was so big - it was a very big circle and I couldn't understand - but I couldn't measure it because, naturally, I didn't have any measuring [tapes] or anything, but to make it easier, if you put about... you could put ten people in the middle of that square [circle?] if

you put them length-wise, then that's how big it was.

KP: If you were to put the people end-to-end? Yes... sort of in the middle of the circle. You could put...ten... group of girls in the middle of that circle, that was how...

KP: So we could be looking at 40 to 50ft?

E: Could be. I'm not very good at those type... and naturally when I fell in, I... cut myself rather badly because the... it was at least that deep [shows about 2½in finger span]. Well, 2 – 3½in something... roughly that much, because I... actually slipped, because normally the whole tennis court is flat, and you can't fall over, but I actually slipped into this.

RR: What sort of surface did the tennis court have?

E: Oh, I don't know what tennis courts are made of.

KP: Was it a hard surface or softer such as red clay?

E: It wasn't a red one, it was a grey. Well, it was all grey [grey bitumen]. It looked grey... and where this object was that turned black when it... it wasn't there, it was all black, but it was a grey... really dark grey tennis court.

KP: The impression left by the object was actually inside the court then?

E: That's right, yes.

KP: The shape of the impression was?

E: It was round, totally round.

KP: And about 45ft in diameter?

E: Yes. Of course, when... after that we couldn't go on the tennis court because the police were all dealing with it: I don't know why...

KP: The police were on it?

E: Yes, the police were there.

KP: When did the police arrive on the scene?

E: Well, they arrived on the second day after the... after I went and played tennis, because they had to investigate why I fell in, but they never asked me any questions.

KP: They didn't respond to a call about an object seen?

E: No, well as far as I know they didn't respond to that sort of call. All I know is, because the police were always surrounding that building that there... was at least half-dozen police there, and they were all, somehow or another, in this tennis court checking something out, and I thought, "I wonder if that's to do with something I've

seen", but I didn't tell anybody... because I didn't want to literally get chucked out the convent. That's why I was petrified of telling anyone.

RR: Was this two days after your initial sighting or three?

E: No, the night... the sighting came first, then the tennis... when I went up to play was the second day... was about... the day after... two days... no the day after the sighting - the day after and then the day after that was when the police were there, so it was about... so it was me seeing it where it was... yes it was just two days.

RR: How did you know the police were there?

E: Because I looked... I was playing on... on the grass... as the grass was so big you can run around as you like - it's got a little fountain there - and naturally we all looked up and the police. Some girls were curious, but the ones who tried to get up there got detention because they were out of bounds; because that was treated out of bounds if you hadn't got a teacher with you.

KP: Going back to the two men-in-black in the room: did you notice any temperature difference in the room at the time?

E: I sort of went cold because the fire was on; the fire was literally on because they [the nuns] always put it on when we had guests and it... somehow or another, it just went totally cold, and I had to put my red jacket on.

RR: Could that have been because you were nervous?

E: Well, I was nervous a bit as well, but I don't get as nervous as that as to get myself as cold as an ice cube. It was literally as freezing, as if I was in a fridge, and I had to literally put my jacket back on. I had a... I had... I was wearing a shirt, a tie, jumper and a cardigan. I had the blazer with me, and I took it off because I knew it was hot in that room, because I was beginning to hotness. Then, while I was talking to these people, I was feeling so cold that I had to put the jacket back on and... I felt a bit warmer then because he asked me whether I was feeling the cold. I just tried to say no, I'm alright.

KP: Did Sister Jennifer speak to these men at all?

E: She asked who they were, but... somehow or another, they wouldn't speak. They said, "We've come to see Elena". That's the only thing she could get out of them.



KP: They didn't identify themselves apart from saying they were from Dr. White?

E: No.

KP: Did Dr. White later confirm that she sent these men?

E: No... when I had my half term that particular year I went to Dr. White, since I already had an appointment to see her, and I... she tested me out on a few things like what she normally did before on how quick I could do a puzzle or how quick I could draw things and what things to put boxes in. She tested me out on all that, and by the time we were about to say goodbye, I said to Dr. White, "can I have a chat with you a second - nothing to do with what I've just done?" She said, "Oh, what is it?" I said, "I don't know if it's true or false, or whether you think I'm making something up here, or there's nothing to it at all and generally nothing to worry about..." She said, "What is it?" I said, "I had two visitors at the convent", and I told her at what time, what month, and what date, but I can't remember it now, and she said to me, "You had two visitors?" So I said yes. I explained who they were, what they looked like and she said to me, "Are you sure - are you sure you're not imagining it?" I said, "No, they came to the convent, and as I was in my second class, which is my maths class, and they [the nuns] called me out. But she [White] said, "But you're not allowed any visitors until the weekend!" I said, "Well, I know that, but I don't know how these came to be there. They claimed they were to do with you because they mentioned your name", and she said, "Did they? Are you sure you didn't tell them?" I said, "No, I asked who they were and they said they were working for Dr. White". So she tried to investigate and she still hasn't got a clue who they were. She says she hasn't sent anybody. She wouldn't send them unless she wrote to me or phoned me up.

KP: Was the engine of the car outside running or did they have to start it?

E: For some reason it... to me it didn't sound like it... they had even switched the engine off, and it didn't sound as though the engine was on; it was very, very quiet. Even when they shot off...you hear a sound or see some petrol [fumes]... nothing. It was just running as though it was running on air. You couldn't hear the engine; you couldn't hear anything. You couldn't even hear them starting the engine, because that car must have been sitting out there... for several hours [?] until

we came out, even though our chat lasted for about half an hour, but they had to wait there for him. It just didn't... I didn't hear any engine.

KP: Did you actually see the car drive away into the distance?

E: I saw it drive out. It just drove out and... but I couldn't see it going up the hill. I saw it turn, because normally when you turn you can actually still see the cars going past on the road; but I couldn't see it. As soon as it went out the gate, that was it.

KP: You didn't see it anymore?

E: No, but they said they would visit me again: who knows when?

KP: They said they would come back?

E: Yes, he said, "We'll be back to see you again", and I thought, "Oh my God! When?" They can't contact me there [convent] anymore because I've left, so I don't know when they're going to see me.

KP: That was back in 1981?

E: Yes, in 1981, but I've had strange things happen to me.

RR: Did anything strange happen to you immediately after this encounter with the MIBs?

E: Yes, what happened was, when I went for my lunch... I met my friend and we just went in as usual... and I got myself a cup of coffee. I couldn't eat my meal for some reason; I just couldn't eat it as my system just wasn't in the mood for eating. So I thought I'll take one of these tablets which my mum gave me - I used to carry them around, because she told me that each one of those is... well, one is for meat, one is for vegetables... medical stuff; I took medicine as though they were sweets. I didn't like the idea, but I did and... eventually I started... I put my spoon... it's a pure metal spoon - just an ordinary teaspoon - into my coffee and stirred it - it was boiling hot coffee, and as I took it out and just about to drink it, my friend Karen, who was with me at the time, said to me, "What's happened to your spoon?" I said, "What do you mean?" She said, "Well, look at it!" So I picked it up, and the spoon was bent into [the shape] of a letter 'P'.

KP: The spoon was bent round so that it was touching itself?

E: Yes, like a letter 'P', and she said, "How did you manage that?" And I said, "I didn't!" She said, "Oh come on, you're trying to do a trick with me aren't you?" I said, "I don't know how to do any tricks!" And they tried to

bend the spoon back and it was so solid they just couldn't bend it because it wasn't a flexible one made out of plastic; it was...

KP: Stainless steel?

E: That's right, a stainless steel one. And they tried it on their knee, the side of the tables, on the chairs - and the chairs were metallic - and they still couldn't do it, you know. Karen, even asked me who those people were. She said, "Oh yes... was it your mum and dad you went to see that day?" And I said, "Oh that morning you're talking about?" She said, "No, they were somebody from Dr. White", and she said, "Oh, I see". She asked further, "Are you all right?" I said, "Oh yes, it's OK, I'm just miles away", and somehow my brain just couldn't function with what was going on, because I couldn't tell what was going to be the next lesson - I totally forgot what lesson I was in and I had to look in my briefcase because I said to myself, "I wonder what lesson I'm in?" So I said to Karen, "Could you tell me what lesson I'm in because I haven't got a clue?" She said, "Of course you know what lesson you're in. You're now going to do P.E. and swimming next". So I said, "Oh am I?" She said, "Oh you definitely need a 'Disprin': your head has gone berserk!" So we both went swimming, and... the water - naturally as it was quite a windy time and it was really quite cold... it was literally ice because there was no way the heat could go in because the water of the swimming pool was actually the water of the river. It just comes in and sort of floods up the thing. And for some reason I just... I don't know how I did it. Everybody got out within five minutes: I was still underneath the water: nobody saw me. And after a while I looked at my watch and I thought, "Oh dear, it's quite time I got out of the water because I've got to get my... ready for my dinner sort of thing... I got out of the water, and to be surprised, I expected everybody to be there, and when I walked out there was nobody there; I was totally scared. I thought, "Oh my God, now I'm really in trouble", but somebody caught me and they said, "You had better quickly get changed before Sister Genevieve sees you; she'll kill you if she finds you on your own". So I quickly had a shower and got dressed, but my head was feeling like an ice cube, as you can imagine. How long I was underneath there - for five minutes solid - and my head was really frozen.

RR: Why did you stay under so long?

E: I don't know. Something... I have a feeling that it was... because it was like, somehow or another, I felt this warmth underneath this water because above this water I was freezing to death, but as soon as I was completely under I felt so comfortable I could just sit there all day.

RR: Were you gasping to breathe?

E: No. No. Because for some reason. No I just didn't feel like I needed any breathing because I felt like I was breathing the whole time; it didn't feel like I was in the water.

RR: Were you shivering when you came out?

E: Yes... because... underneath there I wasn't freezing, but as soon as I got out of it I was getting a bit of a chill because of the wind, and that was making me feel a bit cold. I've been acting strange ever since that happened because even... I was very good at art, even though I... I think I still am when I get back into doing it again, but... I did an art course for which I passed my exam. I've got several drawings which I did which I didn't think I could ever do. When I did this particular painting; well it's not actually a painting, it's a picture done by ink - a special form of ink - you get a special pen with special ink put inside and you can have it in several different colours, and I don't know how I did it but... I can even sort of see it now. The picture is black and white with red lips on it, and it had like... you couldn't see the complete face because I didn't draw the complete face. All I did was draw the eyes and mouth and tears if I remember it correctly, or was it the eyes and the tears; something like that. And I saw this... and I drew the whole tree, which I was amazed at, because I didn't think I had the courage because the trees I was doing as twigs as though it was the middle of the time when there's no leaves on the trees. I was amazed how I did that, but they all said it was very good and I passed my exam with it.

KP: any other enhancement of abilities since the encounter?

E: Well, I've... I've been told even what I see I can... even though I'm a quick learner - I can do things extremely quickly, and I can... I've had strange things happen with me with lights; that's the most powerful thing... I've even felt that I've been in a flying saucer. I've never actually now physically walked into one. It looked when I

was in my dream, because my dream was as real as I see you, and I dreamt I was walking along this corridor, and then suddenly I was climbing. And the stairs were not... well it wasn't actually stairs, it was actually a slope which I was climbing up, and when I looked it was all round, and I thought, "that's a funny looking room", because I've never been in a room like that. And it was all round and it had all lights round it, sort of... like... electronic lights; all different coloured lights flickering around. There was nobody in sight and I just thought to myself, "I'm not in the right place: I'm definitely not at home. I'm somewhere, but God only knows where I am". So I stayed there for about, I think, several... I think it was half an hour I stayed in there because... it felt as if, in my dream, I pinched myself, and I was... I could feel it, you know, as if I was physically there.

RR: Was this before your sighting or after?

E: Oh, this was all after my sighting.

RR: You never had dreams like that before your sighting?

E: No.

KP: Any dreams after the visit of the MIBs?

E: Yes, I had several dreams of me bumping into them again, even though I didn't physically do that. I had a dream about them... bumping into me in the street and they said to me the same question again, and I was more petrified because they wouldn't leave me alone. I said, "This is a dream, I'm not really seeing you", and he said, "Yes you are" and I said, "No I'm not". So I ran so fast because I didn't even know who they were, even though they were still the same men; I didn't know who they were. I just ran away because I had always been informed not to talk to strangers in the street. So I didn't talk to them, I just ran so fast, and every time I ran, I kept bumping into them, even though they never moved, I kept bumping into them. ... I had dreams of being able to fly up into the sky... I just flew around everybody, and I sort of came down like a plane and pretending I was a plane and flying all over the place. And everybody was trying to catch hold of me, you know, because as I had long hair, they were trying to get hold of my hair, so... they didn't catch me. By the following morning, Karen and a group of girls said to me, "Do you mind telling us what you were doing outside?" I said, "What do you mean?" so [they said], "Do you always like to

fly out in the middle of the night?" And to me it [the dream] was broad daylight and they all knew I was doing this. I didn't know myself what I was doing. All I thought it was a dream, but they said it... happened in reality.

KP: They consciously recall your flying manoeuvres?

E: Yes, they recalled me... flying up there because they said, "Come down will you!?" and I couldn't get down; I was just stuck up there. I didn't know... being held up by a string. I just, somehow or another, couldn't come down.

RR: Your classmates actually saw you flying?

E: Yes, they claimed the following morning they saw me flying, because... I was feeling tired the following morning, like falling asleep everywhere, and they said, "You've been a busy owl", and I said, "No, I just... didn't sleep properly last night" They said, "we're not surprised after you've been flying about like that".

RR: Was that Karen Hughes who said that?

E: Yes, You can ask her, but she probably won't remember; she's got a strange brain that one.

RR: I can confirm some of the electric light phenomena which has taken place around her in recent years].

## ANIMAL MUTILATION

E: One other thing that struck me - I don't know if it's a UFO experience but - this was in the middle of winter, just before I left the convent - it was all snow - and being in the middle of nowhere, sort of fields and things, you see a lot of reindeers about. Well, one particular reindeer - it was dead - but I was curious about this because even though it was dead you expect to see probably blood or bits all over the place as if an animal had attacked it, but to my... knowledge.. the way I saw it... it [the wound] was completely round as if somebody came along with a knife and cut a completely clean cut. And it was this completely clean cut that to me... that looked as if something went to it, but there was no blood anywhere; there was not one sign of blood. It was all a clean cut and there was no way an animal had attacked it.

KP: Any sign of a struggle in the snow?

E: Well, it was... it was... inside the animal that sort of... I suppose it was the part where the organ, which the

animal has, [was located]... it was sort of that part...

KP: The abdomen?

E: Yes, the lower part of the animal. It was a great big hole, as if you could see through it and you could actually see the bones - all clean bone - as if something had just chewed it - but I couldn't understand why it was all clean [devoid of blood]. It was a totally clean cut, because normally animals don't leave a clean cut - they just attack and that's it - they take what they want, but this was an animal with a completely clean cut. I don't know if that's a part of it [the UFO phenomenon], but that happened in the middle of winter, and it gave me a shock when I saw that, but I took no notice of that.

RR: But it's natural to find an animal dead from natural causes without signs of blood.

E: Yes, that's right. I know, but you don't see an animal with a clean cut as if somebody had been there and cut it with a knife; as if it was surgery.

KP: Were there any footprints near the carcass?

E: None. No footprints around it. There were only my footprints, but no other footprints anywhere near it. It was all... perfectly... as if it just landed there and something just came and took whatever it was.

KP: Any further close encounters?

E: Yes, when I was in Harrow-on-the-Hill [Middx.] - that was in 1986 if I remember correctly - it was 1986 and... I was there for about two years in Harrow, just doing... working for the first time as a computer operator when [on one occasion] the other girls looked out of the window and they saw this object, and then they called me quickly, because they didn't believe me at first, because I'd told them about that I used... that I'd been going to BUFORA and... naturally I looked out of the window and to my amazement it [a UFO] just... covered literally the whole window - the whole of the window as if it was two great big windows [in length] attached together - it was such a large object you couldn't even... you could see through it because it was all completely clean. It was clear windows round it [on the object]; completely clean windows. You could see through it and... I couldn't tell whether I could see anybody in it, but all I could see was through the other side: I could actually see the trees on the other side [of it].

KP: So you could see through both the nearer windows - those right up

against your office windows - through the object and out through the windows on the object which were situated on its opposite side?

E: That's right. And I couldn't tell whether it was hollow or anything, but you could see that it was... it was definitely solid because there were shadows [cast by it] on the floor. So as it went across you could actually see the shadows.

KP: How far away was the object from the office window?

E: It looked as though it was touching the window: it was that close. It was as if... well, with this window [in the interview room]... where you see this curtain, it was as close as that curtain is to the window.

KP: About 3 - 4in away?

E: Yes, so I could actually see very, very clearly... There were no markings on it [the object] - there were no markings of American [logos] or anything like that; it was just completely silver, round object.

KP: Could you determine the overall shape of the object or could you only detect the part which you could see through your window?

E: On no, you could actually see the whole thing when you got close to it, but it was round.. it was completely round. It... the only parts which wasn't round, it was... the bottom part as if it had something to land on, you know, like a flat base... that part was flat The rest of it was completely round, so I realised that must have been... it must be where they land on, but you couldn't see any legs or anything.

RR: Was the object tilted on its axis at all?

E: No, it was totally straight [horizontal] and it was going that kind of... well, sort of a slowish speed or...

KP: Past the window?

E: Yes, at quite a slow speed. And it was a silvery, shiny object. It was... it looked to me like [it] was metallic, but... it could have been metallic or it could have been plastic. There was no way you could tell without touching it [to see] what it was. To me it looked metallic, silver and when it shot off, it sort of went right over a 'hole', [gap between buildings] because it was surrounded by buildings where we were on top of the hill and it went right over all these buildings at such a tremendous speed that I knew definitely that the object was definitely not a helicopter or a plane because a plane couldn't... be there because its wings would have

been broken by then. With a helicopter you can't get those great, big propellers there because they would have been smashed to pieces.

RR: Did the other girls see this?

E: Yes, they were the ones who spotted it first then I looked.

KP: How did they react to this?

E: They froze! They were stunned, they said to me, "Is that what you investigate?" And I said, "Well, I'm not investigating, but that is... that is what a UFO is", and they said, "Eh!!" And they were all like this, staring, and they all turned 'pink' and 'blue'. They didn't know what to do; they were totally stunned. And then they told me what experiences they've had, because eventually [evidently?] they had had several experiences before I had told them this, and they said to me that they had seen things like that. I said, "Are you telling me the truth or are you trying to bluff me just because you saw this?" And I'm just wondering whether they saw that because of me or whether they saw that because I was there.

I've had very, very, clear visions of... being in a spaceship, being inside it and wondered to myself if I've ever been abducted without even realising it. I never... because I've actually been above... when I used to go to bed at the convent and at home, I used to just lie there, and somehow or another, I've felt my body lift, lift out and as I lifted up, I.. just felt like a feather, you know, just lifting up, and I couldn't understand what was going on until I woke up and looked down and I could see my body on the bed. I couldn't understand why I managed to see myself down there and me up here... I couldn't tell which was real. So I pinched... I always pinch myself every time I do something to see if it's real, and to me it felt real; literally felt real.

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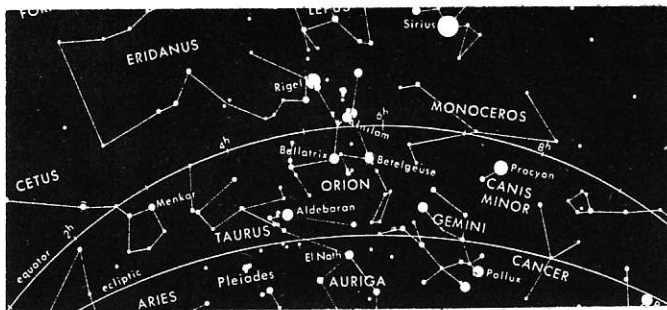
## CONTACT CORNER

Want to meet BUFORA members in your area? Then Contact Corner is for you!

Write to:

**Contact Corner, UFO Times,  
Suite 1, The Leys, 2c Leyton  
Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire  
AL5 2TL.**





# SkyWATCHER

Edited by Gary Anthony

## July–August–September–October 1992.

This month the Giotto cometary probe strikes back after encountering Halley's cometary nucleus in 1986, ESA's first deep space probe is now set to encounter another comet, Grigg-Skjellerup on the 10th July. The annual Perseid meteors are active again in August so if the skies are clear and you've never seen a meteor shower before don't miss this opportunity of viewing one of the best. We also give details of the Orionid meteor shower, active during October. Space News reports both on the first World Astronomy Day (WAD) and the launch of Europe's biggest satellite "Eureca."

### The Planets.

**Venus;** July - An evening object setting less than an hour after the Sun; though at magnitude -3.9 the planet will not be too conspicuous.

August - The planet remains very low in the west setting under an hour after sunset. Crescent Moon to the South on the 29th.

**Mars;** July - Moving eastwards through Aries into Taurus rising before midnight by the end of the month. Moon near on the 24th/25th.

August - The first magnitude planet to the north of the star Aldebaran in Taurus on the 11th, rises before 23h late in the month. Moon close on the 22nd.

**Jupiter;** July - At magnitude -1.8 in Leo sets by 21h late in July, Moon near on the 4th.

August - Planet now low in the western sky, setting minutes after the Sun by the 31st. Crescent Moon to the south on the 1st.

### Saturn;

July - Can be readily observed through most of the night at magnitude -0.3. Moon is to the north on the 16th.

August - Planet at opposition on the 7th and the Moon is near on the 12th/13th.

### Lunar Occultation:

There will be a lunar occultation of the star Tau Tauri on the morning of the 26th July, when the rising Moon passes in front of the fourth magnitude star. The star will reappear from behind the dark limb of the Moon at approximately 0124 UT (N.B - allow for BST).

**Venus;** September - The planet is at magnitude -3.9 in the western evening sky setting an hour after the Sun by the end of the month

October - Venus moves away from the Sun, setting one and a half hours after the Sun by the 31st. Moon is in the area on the 28th.

**Mars;** September - Planet is at magnitude 0.3, rising by 23 hour from mid-month onwards. Moon is near on the 20th.

October - Mars has brightened to magnitude -0.2 and is located in the constellation of Gemini. Moon is near on the 18th.

**Jupiter;** September - Unobservable this month and at conjunction on the 17th.

October - Planet is now a morning object rising some three hours before the Sun by the end of the month. Moon is near on the 24th.

**Saturn;** September - Sets by 01 hour by the 30th. Moon in the area on the 8th/9th.

October - Body sets by 23 hour by the 31st; is stationary on the 16th at magnitude 0.5. Moon near on the 5th/6th.

The Earth Autumn Equinox is on the 22 day of September at 19 hour.

## SPACE NEWS

On March 13th 1986 just before midnight you may remember our television screens were alight with the first ever colour pictures of a cometary nucleus; when ESA's space-probe Giotto approached to within 600 KM's of Halley's Comet. Snapping pictures every four seconds of the exotic surface features of the famous comet's nucleus, the Halley Multicolour Camera [ HMC ] on board Giotto delighted many British astronomers and cometologists, who had not previously had a good opportunity to observe Comet Halley because of unfavourable viewing conditions of the 1986 transit.

In a dramatic encounter Giotto and it's instruments survived intense bombardment of dust particles from the comet which travelled 50 times the speed of a bullet, revealing a potato-shaped nucleus 16 km long and topology which was mountainous, hilly, cratered and replete with active geysers that spewed dust and gaseous emissions far above the surface of Halley's nucleus. The encounter confirmed the analogy of cometologist Fred Whipple. Halley was indeed a "dirty snowball", comprising of dust and ice (80% being water-ice). Unlike the meteoric craters on the Moon Halley's craters are probably caused by a 20% active surface - and are features of the comet itself.

For the past seven years Giotto has travelled great distances through space enduring several ordeals; the hostile environment of a comet, two inactive hibernation periods and the first ever Earth-propelled gravity assist manoeuvre, which has sent ESA's probe soaring towards a new target - Comet Grigg-Skjellerup.

On the 10th July Giotto will approach within 1,000 kms of the less

active and smaller Comet Grigg-Skjellerup in what the ESA has called the GEM (the Giotto Extended Mission). Although the HMC was damaged during the Halley encounter many of Giotto's other instruments are operational and, though we won't get any photographs, the scientific value of the GEM is still very important. It will be the first time that a space-probe has scrutinised the nature of two cometary nuclei and the comparison study of Comet Halley and Grigg-Skjellerup is a great advance for cometology. Comets are thought to consist of material from the pre-solar nebula when all the planets were formed over 4.5 billion years ago; analysing their proto-planetary material could provide many of the answers regarding planetary formation and there may yet be new discoveries in store at Comet Grigg-Skjellerup.

During this International Space Year a number of exciting projects in astronomy and spaceflight have been established to celebrate our achievements in these fields. One of these is the World Astronomy Days or WAD; six days planned to scrutinise the heavens with a collective effort of instruments. WAD is planned for this last part of 1992 and the beginning of 1993; the first was held on the 29th June 1992. Five space observatories and seven ground-based instruments trained their telescopes on galaxy NGC 3783 (thought to contain a black hole hiding within it's nucleus).

The WAD project has already produced a wealth of data for the NGC 3783 galaxy through these simultaneous observations, which should help us to uncover the enormously violent processes that take place in such highly luminous galaxies, and the study of quasars are not being left out. Among some of the participants in this project is GRO (the Gamma Ray Observatory), Voyager; the International Ultraviolet Explorer (IVE) and the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) to mention just a few

No doubt, looking at various complicated galactic objects with a number of instruments simultaneously is a step in the right direction and many scientists are looking forward to the results and discoveries of WAD. Watch this space...

The European Retrievable Carrier (EURECA), the biggest satellite developed by the ESA, was successfully placed in orbit on the 6th August 1992 at 10.27h UT. On this first mission the

Phases of the Moon						
JULY		1992	AUGUST			
7th 03 h		First Quarter	5th 11 h			
14th 19 h		Full Moon	13th 10 h			
22nd 22 h		Last Quarter	21st 10 h			
29th 20 h		New Moon	28th 03 h			
Planetary Quadrants						
RA		Dec		RA	Dec	
—WESTERN—			Venus	—WESTERN—		
2h to 4h		−10° to +10°	Mars	2h to 4h		−10° to +10°
10h to 12h		0° to +20°	Jupiter	10h to 12h		0° to +20°
20h to 22h		−10° to −20°	Saturn	20h to 22h		−10° to −20°
Meteor Showers						
Name	Begins	Maximum	Ends	Max ZHR	Radiant	Coordinates
Perseids	July 25	Aug 11/12	August 17	60+	46° RA	+58° Dec
Unfortunately, a bright near full-Moon will interfere with this shower on the peak of August 11/12th but many of the brighter meteors may be observed.						

Phases of the Moon						
SEPTEMBER		1992		OCTOBER		
3rd 23 h		First Quarter		3rd 14 h		
12th 02 h		Full Moon		11th 18 h		
19th 20 h		Last Quarter		19th 04 h		
26th 11 h		New Moon		25th 21 h		
Planetary Quadrants						
RA		Dec				
—WESTERN—		Venus		—WESTERN—		
5h to 8h		0° to +30°		Mars		
—UNOBSERVABLE—		Jupiter		—EASTERN—		
20h to 22h		−10° to −20°		Saturn		
				20h to 22h		
				−10° to −20°		
Meteor Showers						
Name	Begins	Maximum	Ends	Max ZHR	Radiant	Coord- inates
Orionids	October 18	October 21	October 26	+20	95° RA	+15° Dec
Unfortunately, a bright near full-Moon will interfere with this shower on the peak of August 11/12th but many of the brighter meteors may be observed.						

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

carrier is flying a 1000 kg payload packed with life and materials science experiments to be conducted in a microgravity environment. The satellite is a marvel able to fly a payload of 1 tonne and is expected to be of great service to science with its re-usable platform and experimentation facilities, which can be upgraded at each mission. Eureka is expected to have at least a ten year operating life-span encompassing five or so missions.

In material sciences Eureka is equipped with the following:- A low-temperature vapour crystal growth

facility. A protein crystallisation facility. A solution growth facility. An automatic mirror furnace and a multi-furnace assembly. In life sciences there is an exobiology and radiation assembly along with a botany facility. The satellite is set to achieve experimentation at a high level and could make some discoveries in a number of different fields.

All information courtesy of the ESA and NASA.

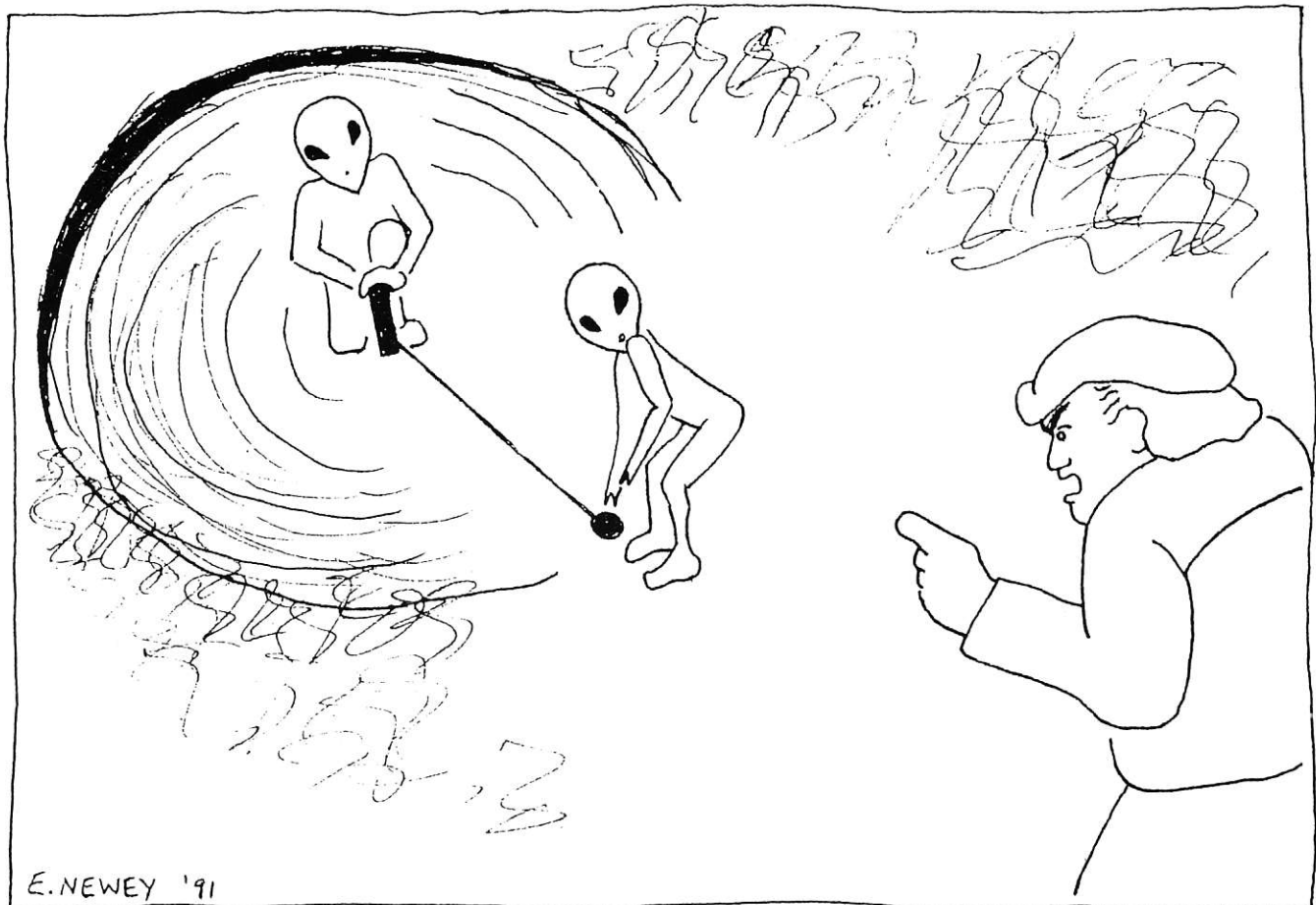
If any investigator requires astronomical information to assist in the evaluation of case reports, please contact;

Gary Anthony, BUFORA ARP, 119 Askew Avenue, Hull, North Humberside, HU4 6TL. (please enclose an SAE).

**All information courtesy of ESA.**

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Humberside, HU4 6LT  
(please enclose an sae)**



HOY THERE! JUST WHAT DO YOU KIDS  
THINK YOU'RE UP TO?!



# BUFORA's 30th Anniversary Conference

London Business School, London - Saturday 19th September, 1992.

The first London UFO Research Organization (LUFORO) Newsletter dated December 1959 proposed an International Federation of UFO Researchers. LUFORO (founded in July 1959) further proposed that all Ufologists and organizations unite to form a single representative body (whilst retaining their individual views and group- identities). The British UFO Association - a coalition of 8 U.K UFO groups - was formed in September 1962 as a direct consequence of the aims of LUFORO and it's chairman Nigel Stephenson (who now lives in the Glasgow area).

Roy Stemman (founder president of LUFORO) left the organization after about a year. Today, he runs a media consultancy and publishing company. He is chairman of Psychic Press (publishers of PSYCHIC NEWS) and owns the "Atlantis" bookshop. Roy (although unable to attend the anniversary conference) was delighted to hear that the Association was still running after 30 years! Another founder of LUFORO was Susanne Stebbing, now living in the Herne Bay area (from where she runs a specialist mail-order book business).

On January 1964 the British UFO Research Association was consolidated with the merger of the BUFOA and LUFORO. The 30th Anniversary Conference commemorated the inaugural BUFOA moot of '62. BUFORA vice-president and founder-member Lionel Beer opened the proceedings by reading from a OBSERVER newsitem headed "Silver Suits, Flying Saucers & E.T", which reported on BUFORA's 21st Anniversary meeting. Lionel introduced BUFOA/BUFORA's founding-president Graham Knewstub, who gave some historical insights both on the group's history and the current work of the Bristol-based BFSB (BRITISH FLYING SAUCER BUREAU); England's oldest surviving UFO group. After his talk, Lionel presented Graham with a black-framed citation, commemorating his long service to ufology.

It is of interest that among those attending was a lady named Patty Fryer, who - as an eight-year-old - used to sit in on BFSB meetings during the 'fifties (gaining ingress by slipping through a fence!) She was told it would be all right; providing she sat quietly on the floor!

Lionel Beer then gave a 45-minute slide show; summarising the early years of Ufology, the birth of the Association and the important landmarks in BUFORA's history. Lionel also touched on the birth of the BFSB. It's parent body in the United States - THE INTERNATIONAL FLYING SAUCER BUREAU

- was suddenly closed down in 1953 when three strange men dressed in black suits supposedly visited it's founder-president (Albert K. Bender) and revealed the chilling truth about flying saucers! Despite this, the British branch (which eventually evolved into the BFSB) carried on regardless, and still exists to this day! Lionel mentioned that it was his mother (Phoebe Beer) who first drew his attention to the claimed UFO events at Scoriton (later pursued by Norman Oliver and Eileen Buckle).

Lionel was followed by Norman Oliver, former editor of the BUFORA JOURNAL. His presentation dealt mainly with the infamous April 1965 CE III incident at Scoriton, Devon. This involved the contact-claim of a Mr. Arthur Bryant, who allegedly encountered (and boarded) a landed UFO piloted by fair-haired Venusians. One of these said he was called "Yamski", and mentioned a "Des" or "Les" who "would better understand" the situation. Some felt this entity was a reborn George Adamski (who had died just 1 day before Bryant's "experience"!). Adamski had once said to Desmond Leslie, (his "Flying Saucers Have Landed" co-author) that he would like to be reincarnated as a young man. "Yamski" further stated that he would "bring proof of Mantell". A piece of metal (and a glass viral containing a piece of paper with "Adelphos adelpho" written upon it) was discovered two months later near Bryant's home, following a "UFO" observation the previous night. The metal fragment was hailed by some as being from a P-51 Mustang; the aircraft-type flown by Charles Mantell in his fatal 1948 "UFO" encounter.

Sadly, Norman gradually revealed this case to be an elaborate hoax. The so-called "P-51" fragment was actually part of an old computer. The "Adelphos adelpho" message is now believed to have been inspired by a plant-name! The witness was revealed as a UFO buff with a reputation for telling tall tales. The investigation was markedly hampered

both by the activities of Dr. Silas Newton and a spurious psychometrical reading!

Norman concluded his lecture by some comments on Warminster; particularly the recent debunking of the Faulkner photograph. He remarked that although it had been exposed as a hoax, this did NOT mean that other claims of UFO activity around Warminster were also discredited.

After a tea-break Philip Mantle gave a sober and well-presented talk detailing his involvement in Ufology. He outlined recent UFO events in Yorkshire, and covered in detail the 1985 North Wales CE III featured in the May-June 1992 issue of UFO TIMES.

He was followed Steuart Campbell, who discussed the famous Nov 1986 "J.A.L 1628" incident. He presented evidence which suggests the "UFO" was a superior mirage of an airport's runway lights. He also stated the reasons why he believes his astronomical-mirage hypothesis accounts for the majority of "unexplainable" UFO reports. When the opportunity for audience cross-examination arose, Steuart was subject to considerable questioning by critics of his superior mirage hypothesis.

Steve Gamble then gave a general talk on BUFORA, the UFO phenomena and the association's various computer database projects.

The final speaker was Paul Fuller, who's talk covered recent developments in the crop circle controversy. He showed that a large percentage of circles are the result of hoaxing. Paul also detailed BUFORA's involvement with this phenomena. Despite the large element of fraud, he still feels that a few circles are created by Plasma vortexes; giving some convincing evidence for this in his presentation.

The conference was concluded by the cutting of an anniversary cake by Graham Knewstub in the main bar of the London Business School.

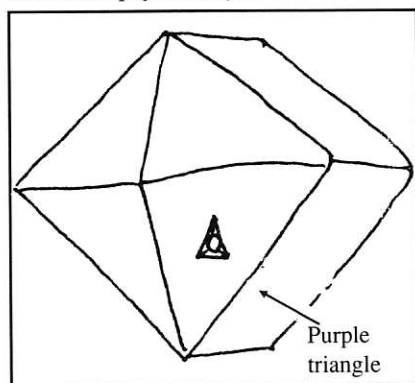
*Lionel Beer & Robert Moore.*

# THE CASE OF THE CURIOUS CRYSTALS

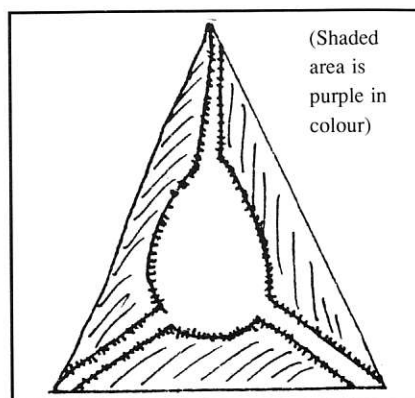
by Kerry Blower

In March 1992 Kerry Blower (BUFORA A.I for South Wales) received a telephone call from a Cardiff woman, who wished to discuss some recent experiences of a perplexing nature. Mrs. Blower visited this lady on the 10th March 1992 whereby the following account came to light:-

On the evening of 24th February 1992, the lady concerned went to bed and (as usual) placed a Florite crystal under her pillow. Upon awakening next morning she removed the crystal - and was astonished to discover that, overnight, a roughly quarter of an inch-long triangle had appeared within the crystal. It had a white circle in the centre and white lines going to each angle. She had bought the crystal three weeks earlier at a psychic fayre. She contacted



Florite crystal - approximate size.  
Triangle approx 1/4 inch long

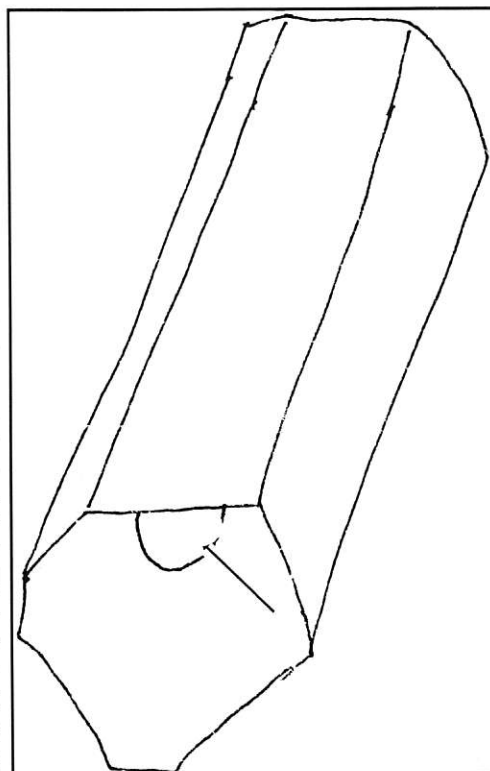


Detailed observation of triangle.  
Circle in centre increased in size.  
Perfectly triangular but appeared to be made up of hundreds of tiny little lines.

the person from whom she had purchased it; who stated that he had never heard of such a thing.

Additionally her eyes felt very sore when she awoke that morning. Later on, some of her friends asked where she had been on holiday to, for she had suddenly acquired a red sun-tan (which faded four days later). For two weeks she contemplated this series of events (which she intuitively connected it with UFO's, but had no idea why).

During those two weeks she had looked at two big crystals which she kept on a shelf in the living room, and was perplexed to find both had a big chunk missing. Mrs. Blower saw these crystals, and states they looked as if someone had removed these pieces as easy as taking a chunk out of butter. Both parts were removed from the facets of the crystals. The lady told Mrs. Blower that they had now become useless as she had just started taking up healing with them. Mrs. Blower further reports she saw the triangle within the crystal increase and decrease in size. The investigator discovered that the lady had collected pyramid and triangle



Approximate size of quartz crystal.  
The part removed on the facet is arrowed.

shaped- ornaments since she was a child.#

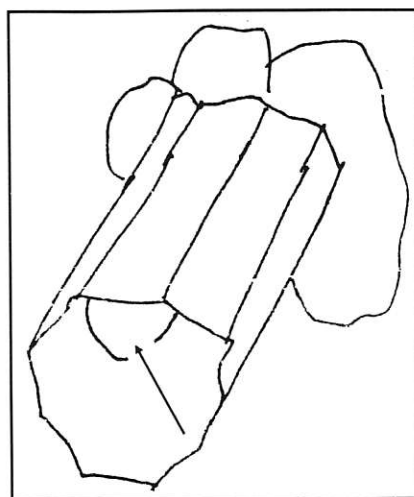
The lady feels quite strongly that something happened that evening and is willing to undergo hypnosis. Has anyone in BUFORA ever encountered crystals displaying effects similar to those mentioned above? Mrs. Blower would like to hear from anyone who has, as well as any general comments regarding this phenomena.

Kerry Blower may be contacted via the following address:

10, Glaslyn Court, Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran, Gwent, WALES. NP44 2JE.

## # Ed's comment

*Find out a little more about the life history of this person and see if any thing out of the ordinary turns up. The healing aspect is particularly interesting and may tell us much about the creative [psychic?] nature of the witness.*



Approximate size of smoky quartz.  
The parts removed on each facet are almost identical in size. Parts missing are 1/2 inch in diameter and 1/4 inch deep

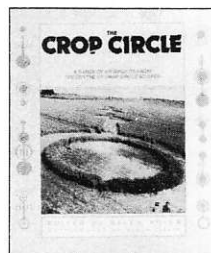
# CLOSE ENCOUNTER, DHEKHELIA BARRACKS, CYPRUS

My wolfhound, Abdul, woke me. He had been a good, brave soldier; but now, terrified, deaf to commands, he cringed with hackles raised. At first that night I feared EOKA bombs. Then from outside we heard a piercing whine. Beneath my bed, his paws across his ears, Abdul cowered whimpering; but I blundered out: and what I saw will haunt me till I die. A humanoid was floating up the stairs, In a blue phosphorescent suit; its face glowed orange, with round, staring eyes, a shock of rust-red hair stood up electrified. Through an impossible angle, the thing's head swivelled towards me. Fear tugged at my heart. Time's engine stalled. Then, as it kicked again, I plunged back to my room, and locked the door. The underwater speargun by my bed once killed a shark. Loading it fathoms down, thrusting it against a rock, took all my strength; now Herculean, I loaded it on land. The whine increased. With it a shuffling sound:

the humanoid was pushing at the door! I crouched in terror, the gun primed to kill - but held my fire through an abyss of time; Until the shuffling ceased; and the whine ceased; and the next thing I knew, the guard had knocked at four-fifteen to wake me. The primed gun, tremblingly pointed, nearly scythed him down. I blurted my strange tale. The guard had seen nothing, heard nothing. Yet beneath my bed he found poor Abdul. I sat stark with fear. He took the lethal speargun from my hands. With aching joints and muscles I felt ill for several days. Sometimes that nightmare head, swivelling towards me, scared me out of sleep, a shark that swims the ocean still unspeared. But Abdul changed completely. Since that night he's been a coward, submitting on his back, paws up, at the latest challenge. He's retired - Abdul, who brought down gunmen, sniffed out bombs.  
*Martin Lyon,  
South Woodford, London.*

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# REVIEWS ...

## ROSWELL PART II (VIDEO TAPE).

(by the FUND FOR UFO

RESEARCH; P.O Box 277, Mt.  
Rainier, MD 20712 U.S.A; write  
for further details).

In 1991 THE FUND OF UFO RESEARCH put together a video tape consisting of interviews with a dozen or so of the best witnesses to the famous Roswell crashed saucer event, in an effort to bring the matter to the attention of both the general public and U.S Congress.

However on seeing the video the Senate Government Affairs Committee was not motivated to take up the matter. FUFOR - having already supplied some \$50,000.00 for research into Roswell - has decided to assemble an improved second version called "ROSWELL: PART II". This 90-minute video is narrated and produced by Fred Whiting, PR consultant for FUFOR. Several interviewers (all pro-ETHers) also take part in the documentary.

Certainly, this is a well-produced documentary, though how it will be regarded by congress and by any influential scientific community is another matter.

With one exception, none of the 28 "witnesses" referred to in the video has seen the alleged ET bodies, and only a handful have seen or handled the UFO fragments. By far the greatest part of the testimony is from second or third-hand witnesses who had some involvement, however remote, in the case. It is this, apart from the absence of any "hardware" or bodies, that makes the Roswell crashed saucer case so weak. The witnesses speak openly & freely, with only a few questions from the interviewers, and seem to convey genuine recollections of events which may have been associated with the Roswell "crash". The difficulty is that there is no documentation from 1947 (the time of the crash) which would support their memories, and in places there are indications that these people, sincere though they may be, have merely recalled events that occurred some years after Roswell and transposed them back in time to 1947.

One example is Frank Joyce, a radio announcer, who recalls the rancher Mac Brazel changing his original story soon after the crash and saying "The little green men weren't green". There was no concept of "little green men" (or any coloured ETs) in 1947. This only came a few years later with the Scully book concerning an entirely different crashed saucer story. Joyce is simply recalling a remark told to him long after Roswell and backdating it.

The story of Lydia Sleppy, the teletype operator whose original account first appeared as long ago as 1974, has "improved" over the years. I have now seen at least four versions, all different, of the interrupt she allegedly got on her machine. In this latest one she mentions the FBI. None of the previous three mention the FBI, so why has the FBI suddenly appeared? Is this an extra puff inserted by later ufologists to try and further emphasise official intervention in, and suppression of, the Roswell story?

With so many USAF flights constantly taking place in and out of Roswell (which was then a storage depot for the early atomic bombs and was thus under continuous high security) how can the surviving - and aging - military personnel who saw boxes of classified material being loaded possibly remember which actual flights they took part in at this later stage? In some cases these men are not even alive; their stories being told secondhand by a widow or daughter, with absolutely no certainty that the events had any connection with, or even occurred during, the approximate 3-day span of the Roswell event. For instance, it is known that there were a large number, literally many hundreds, of UFO sightings in nearby areas of New Mexico over the years 1947-1952, as well as odd reports of "crashes" and other strange "landings". How do we know that these witnesses, so many years later, are not simply combining and confusing these reports with the original Roswell story, thereby coming up with a superficially convincing narrative?

Another problem is contamination from being constantly re-interviewed, reading UFO books, seeing TV documentaries on the case, undergoing

hypnotic regression (as some have), and perhaps being prompted by credulous crashed flying saucer believers to pad out their stories.

The video paints the picture of two separate crashes, at locations 175 miles apart, one even leaving behind a LIVE E.T (whose subsequent fate is unknown). The one and only firsthand witness to this second crash is a certain Gerald Anderson who once lived in the area and who was only 5 years old at the time. Anderson first surfaced as a witness in early 1990 after seeing a T.V documentary featuring Roswell. His narrative, lasting some 40 minutes, is so detailed with every conceivable description of the machine, the bodies, military people, their names, ranks etc. that even some ardent crashed saucer believers are now sceptical of him. He comes across as either someone with the most astonishing 40-year memory ever known (in which case he should get into the GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS) or else as a jolly good teller of tall tales. However, he is said to have passed a polygraph test, which may well indicate what value we should place on such tests. For Anderson's, and FUFOR's own sake I recommend that if the UFO community genuinely wants Roswell to gain scientific acceptance then in no circumstances should Mr. Anderson ever dare testify before congress!

Several witnesses allege that the USAF made death threats against their families if they "talked"; one, a local mortician called Glenn Dennis, even claiming that military police threatened him that if he didn't keep his mouth shut he would "make good food". Yet talk they eventually did, and no mysterious deaths have resulted. In fact, some witnesses even "talked" straightaway in 1947, and even they apparently survived into a comfortable old age; these death-threat allegations sound more likely to be the result of hearing and reading too much UFO "spy fiction" than anything else. It is pertinent to ask what powers the US authorities had to stop anyone, civilian or military, telling about an extraterrestrial visit if it really occurred; but nobody thought to consider such trivia in the documentary. Meanwhile, countless abductees continue telling of their

encounters with ETs without anyone in authority making death threats against THEM. Why the difference?

So we must now sit and wait for the Congressional Committee, if they can find time between other more important matters, to have a second look at the Roswell "story". I predict there will be some bitterly disappointed faces among the US UFO community, but at least they cannot be said to have failed for lack of trying.

*Christopher D. Allan.*

### VISIONS OF CE IV.

For those who attended the 6th International UFO Congress in Sheffield in 1991, you may well remember the stage performance of the Scottish rock band CE IV. For those of you that didn't attend then here is another chance to perhaps listen to CE IV's unique brand of music.

"VISIONS OF CE IV" is their latest release. This 46-minute long cassette contains 10 songs. Melodies such as

"New Gods", the haunting "Visions", "Warminster Nights" and "Down on the Outside" present the band's views on ufology. Personally my favourite out of the 10 tracks is "MIB Man".

CE IV were formed in Glasgow in 1984, born out of the members' interest in both music and the UFO phenomenon. All of the band members are quite heavily involved with Ufology with strong links to UFO organisations at both home and abroad. All of their material is original and is based on UFO events, sightings, experiences, etc. CE IV have two other tapes available: "ABDUCTION" and "SHADOW OF MAN". All tapes cost just £7.00 including p&p. All monies should be made payable to "CE IV" and forwarded to: "CE IV" 102 Ferness Oval, Glasgow, Scotland. G21 3SE. If you like rock music and UFO's, then CE IV should be right up your street.

*Philip Mantle*

### BLAISE

UFO BRIGANTIA illustrator and professional artist Kevin Flannery is in his own band called "BLAISE". This band is slightly different from CE IV as they mix both UFO's and Arthurian-type mythology into their lyrics. "High Ground" is their first cassette which includes narration and music combined. Songs such as "Arrival", "Excalibur", and "Hibernation" quite easily describe the band's unique treatment of their chosen subject matter.

With a slightly 1970's sound to their music "Excalibur" was easily my favourite track. BLAISE also provide a 9-page program with their tapes which includes all of the lyrics and is complete with the usual high standard of Kevin's illustrations. At the moment we have no price for this tape, but interested parties should write for more information to: Kevin Flannery; 116 Repton Road, Harsthorpe, Burton-Upon-Trent, Staffs. DE11 7AE.

*Philip Mantle.*

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## Readers Write

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Express your views by sending your  
correspondence to:

**The editor, UFO Times,  
Suite 1, The Leys,  
2c Leyton Road,  
Harpenden, Herts,  
AL5 2TL**

---

#### Dear Editor,

Joseph Dormer claims that what Andrew Billing reported (from Blackpool in July 1989) is "so crazy that it could not possibly have happened", without a shred of evidence that Billing's was lying.

Such a report seems absurd only if you cannot think of a rational explanation. So it is up to the investigator to use his imagination.

Dormer would have made more progress if he had asked what astronomical objects lay on the horizon out over the sea to the west.

At 2210Z on 1989 Jul 05, two bright planets lay just below the horizon. VENUS (at magnitude -3.7) lay on an azimuth of 307° (NW), while MARS (at magnitude 1.8) lay close by on an azimuth of 303°. Also a new moon was just setting on an azimuth of 298°. The Moon (which Billing's did not mention) was about 0.5° above the horizon and Venus was about 0.75° below it. Mars was only 0.18° below the horizon assuming normal refraction, after setting at 11:08 pm. Since Mars is red, I assume that what Billing's saw was a mirage (magnified image) of Mars due to abnormal refraction.

A mirage implies the existence of a temperature inversion. Such an inversion was possible because the U.K lay under an extensive anticyclone with clear skies and high temperatures. The hot, humid air moving NW could have cooled over the sea, so forming an inversion. Billing's report that the object was first seen in the south-west indicates that the mirage was displaced initially a considerable distance laterally (southwards) from the true position of Mars in the north-west. the mirage would have moved northwards as a result of changes in the inversion layer. The disappearance in the north-west shows that the object must have been Mars.

The report of an aircraft flying at only 400-500ft over Blackpool is another matter. It should not have been flying at night, nor so low. How could Billing's have seen such an aircraft if none were flying at the time? Perhaps what he saw was some after-image or effect of the mirage.

At the time, the sun was 9° below the horizon. Consequently, it was after civil twilight but not after nautical twilight (this explains his confusion over "dusk").

**Steuart Campbell. Edinburgh,  
Scotland:**

**Dear Editor,**

Having just received UFO TIMES no. 17 in which a letter of mine was published, I feel that your editor's comment was a trifle harsh and inaccurate. In view of this, I think it only fair to publish this "footnote" in answer to your comment

Firstly, I did not say that there were no pre-1980 circles. I merely said that there were no patterns in crops during the summer of 1944 in Wiltshire or it's surrounding counties (or they would have been noticed by the many flyers from Yatesbury R.A.F station). Also, when I said "why should circles have manifested themselves in the last ten years", perhaps I should have used the term "Pictogram".

Next, I have frequently seen wind damaged crops but none have come anywhere near to being perfect circles with neatly swirled stems. On the contrary, they have been wild and ragged patches.

Since my letter I have also learned that molecular changes have been found in crops within genuine circles. Obviously, these could not have been caused by hoaxers or wind.

As regards voicing my theories not "assertions" about leys etc, these are only personal theories to which I am sticking. We are all entitled to theorise, even you Mr. Editor! But, when you declare my theories "have no foundation", then just PROVE otherwise!

Lastly, Stonehenge. I merely made the suggestion that perhaps it had been closed to the public for reasons other than the prevention of damage, possibly even for scientific research to be carried out. We ufologists are used to reasons given by officialdom, often they are the biggest leg-pull of all!

**John L. Clarke. Hove, East Sussex.**

**Dear Editor,**

On behalf of everyone with this year's conference "ET OR NOT ET, IS THAT THE QUESTION?", I would like to thank the following people for their kind assistance with the conference:

First and foremost must be Mike Wootten, for his sterling efforts in organising and providing us with all of the audio-visual equipment, Clive Potter and Gordon Perkins for sitting it out up in the rafters as our lighting engineers, all of the staff at both Sheffield library Theatre and the NOVOTEL for looking after us so well, each and everyone of the speakers, some of whom had

travelled quite a distance to be with us, and everyone else who helped out before, during and after the conference, their continued assistance is greatly appreciated by all.

**Philip Mantle. Batley, West Yorkshire,**

**Dear Sir,**

The article and editorial about the events in the late '60s in Warminster were very interesting.

I was indeed one of the "hippies" at this time in Warminster. Indeed at the time, at the end of my studies, I wore my hair the correct length! Now in a more conventional state it is interesting to reminisce about those days.

I visited Warminster probably about 5-6 times at the very end of the decade (probably '69 or even '70) when the events were dying down.

Although I never saw anything myself I did talk to several people who claimed to have seen unexplainable events. One incident sticks in my mind:- A group of people were "sky watching" on Cradle hill. An effect was seen about 100 yards away which was described as a "burning bush" effect. The person I spoke to was the only one who had been brave enough to walk across the field towards this effect. When he got close to it, the effect extinguished itself and at exactly the same moment two red lights appeared in the sky above and in the same direction as the "burning bush". Although the "burning bush" effect could have relatively easily been hoaxed I was told that no evidence was found after the event. The lights in the sky could of been flares (there is a military training ground nearby) although they did not move as would be expected from flares. What was interesting was that the two phenomenon, seemingly unconnected, happened at the same moment (thus making a hoax unlikely).

This and other similar reports from serious people who joined the group were the serious and interesting side of my visits to Warminster. However there were events which were more amusing:-

Mr. Shuttlewood was also out watching on one of the evenings I was there. Having nothing better to do a friend and myself tagged along with his group. We soon were a little bored of Mr. Shuttlewood jumping up and down every time the lights of a 'plane could be seen and announcing the "Thing" had arrived so my friend and myself

went for a walk in a nearby wood and returned through a corn field (along the tractor tracks). We used a torch during our walk for some brief periods so as not to trip over.

We were surprised to discover on our return to the group that occupants from the "Thing" had been seen by our group. We were further surprised to find out that these "occupants" had been seen in the same wood as we had just returned from and that the "occupants" had been using "strange" lights and that one of them at least was very small.

Well, my friend is of fairly small stature and maybe he is a little strange but he assures me he is not an alien. After listening to this story from Shuttlewood's group we left in disgust without further comment (nobody was listening anyway) with the result that at least my friend was immortalized in Shuttlewood's second book. At least, so I am told as I have never bothered to read it. All in all having visited the area and talked to witnesses at the time I feel that something did occur at the end of the '60s in Warminster but that the events were vastly exaggerated by a certain Mr. Shuttlewood. It would be very interesting to know how many other current BUFORA members also visited Warminster during this period.

I do agree with John Spencer's comment about Warminster being a microcosm of ufology. Real events and hoaxes mixed together do after all seem to be one of the golden rules of ufology.

**David I. Norman, Switzerland.**

## DIARY

### NORTHAMPTON REGIONAL LECTURE

Northampton Friends' Meeting House, Wellington St.

(Near Greyfriars Bus Station)

16th January '93

Subject and speaker to be announced.

### UFO CLOSE-ENCOUNTER WITNESSES, CONTACTEES AND ABDUCTEES

The next meeting of THE WITNESS SUPPORT GROUP is scheduled for Saturday, 5th December '92, 2 p.m. at THE LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL.

All those witnesses who are perplexed about their experiences may speak freely without fear of ridicule to



others who have suffered the same/similar effects - no obligations.

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31.00

# DIARY

#### LECTURES:

- 7th November '92: 'COGNATING THE UFO: A BONFIRE OF OLD  
THEORIES - Alan Mayne, M.A.  
[Alan Mayne is a statistician and author]
- 5th December '92: UFOs IN ART (illustrated) - Michael Buhler  
[Michael Buhler is a distinguished art lecturer]
- 9th January '93 'A MEETING WITH MIBs (illustrated) - Maria Korn  
[Maria Korn is a contactee with unusual  
personal experiences]

*BUFORA London lectures are held every first Saturday of the month at the new lecture theatre complex, London Business School, Sussex Place, Outer Circle, Regents Park, London, NW1. The LBS is only a five minute walk from Baker Street tube. Lectures start at 6.30pm. Entrance £1.50 members, £3.00 non-members. The new theatre has wheelchair access and facilities for the disabled. All are welcome. Full lecture programmes are available from BUFORA (LP), Suite 1, The Leys, 2c Leyton Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2TL.*

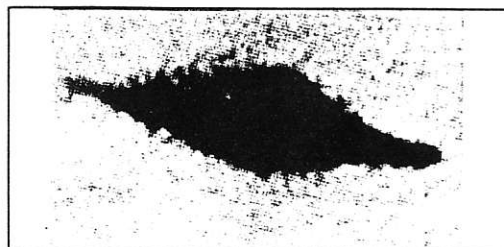
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