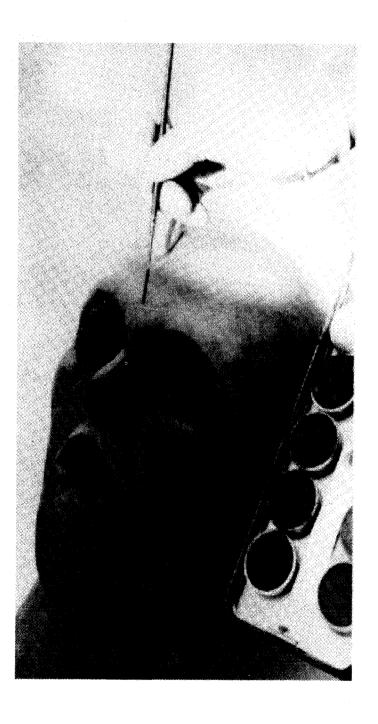
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ROSWELL FOOTAGE

Commentary and research from Roberts, Clarke, Spencer & Wootten

gao

What does it prove? An analysis

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Morgana, the downfall of Merlin?

a BUFORA publication

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BUFORA Ltd 1995

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Editorial

BUFORA has been under increasing criticism of its handling of the infamous Roswell footage 'owned' by Ray Santilli. Much of this criticism is unfounded, based on historical prejudice or a lack of understanding of what we have earnestly tried to achieve.

However, before I can counter the criticism, I have to remark on the chronology of events from BUFORA's point of view and outline where our judgement was flawed. It would be dishonest and unfair if I did not do this first.

Back in March, when Philip Mantle first confirmed to Council that he had viewed what was purported to be an initial examination of a recovered body from the crash site at Corona (the 'tent scene'), John Spencer immediately set up a team of experts. This team included the full co-operation of Kodak UK, creature effects specialists, film effects professionals and historians. This was in place within 24 hours of Mantle's confirmation. A set of criteria was drawn up and sent to Santilli, explaining what was the minimum requirement for a full and conclusive non-destructive analysis to take place. A date was set for the film to be passed to BUFORA. But April 28th passed and went. No film, no analysis. In retrospect, we signed away any possibility of Santilli passing any film to us from day one.

At that time, BUFORA had not planned that the confirmed existence of the film would be passed to the media in any way shape or form. It was too early; no follow-up, no analysis and no evaluation. Unfortunately it did and the world wide media circus began. Reporters from the four corners were frothing at the mouth and banging on the door of Philip Mantle, the phone never stopped ringing. In stark contrast, the rest of Council were relatively untouched by this frenzy.

None of us could believe the coverage this story received, especially when Reg Presley had announced the existence of the film back in January on live television, with little response.

It was agreed at this early stage to show the film at the BUFORA Congress in August. It was felt that this would not be a problem as we had set up the team of specialists to analyse the film and agreements had been made with Santilli for BUFORA to receive a reel of film for the work to begin. In March we were confident that we would be able to work on the background, complete the analysis and have a form of evaluation ready for the Congress. But as the months went by, this goal was slipping away. Tickets were being bought in large numbers and delegates were expecting to see the film. We could not back out even if we wanted to.

New deadlines were set, Santilli broke them, but a promise was ever lingering in the air. Union Pictures agreed with Santilli to record the analysis while it took place at Kodak, for inclusion in their Roswell documentary; Santilli ducked and weaved.

It was not until the June Council meeting that we were allowed to view the autopsy footage for the first time (except for Philip Mantle who had seen both autopsies before this date) when a representative from Merlin Communications showed a video sequence of the 'tent scene' and the first autopsy (the same sequence used at the 5th May press viewing to which BUFORA had not been invited). Once the sequence finished the representative left immediately, taking the video with him.

To this day the only piece of film that BUFORA has received is a short segment of an empty autopsy room, which was passed on to Philip in the beginning of August. This was not worth the celluloid it was exposed on.

Despite BUFORA having the right team, the right approach and the right objectives to analyse this alleged crash of an alien spacecraft, Santilli decided to pass video excerpts on to other specialists of his own choosing. Dr Milroy, a senior lecturer in forensic

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Notice

We have had to hold over a number of letters sent to our Readers Write column because of lack of space in this issue.

Our apologies to those who have written.

News Special

by Mike Wootten



The colossal growth of the Internet across the four corners of the globe with its unique ability to send information around the world in seconds, will eventually touch all our lives.

Ufologists in great numbers have harnessed this information technology revolution, where one day journals and magazines like *UFO Times* will be redundant and out of date before the ink has dried.

The United States has seen the largest increase in Internet usage with growth of over 2000% last year. This growth has seen the launch of an ever increasing number of UFO related World Wide Web sites (electronic magazines), rich in case material, news, photographs and debate available 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year and viewable in virtually every country of the world. Usenet, which houses the newsgroups important alt.alien.visitors or alt.alien.reports, gives you the chance to air your views to a potential audience of millions.

In Britain, the growth of the Internet has also been vibrant, but with a lesser effect on ufology. However, times are changing. UFONet, a London based Bulletin Board System operated by Shane Nolan, has opened the gates for British cyber-ufology, encouraging ufologists of every persuasion to get on-line and active.

A very good example of how the Internet has changed ufology is the incredible amount of information exchange and discussion that has arisen regarding the Roswell Footage - the telephone wires are hot with activity.

Now, BUFORA is taking that one step forward and leaping headlong into cyber-ufology with the launch of the first comprehensive, UFO related, World Wide Web site in the UK.

BUFORA chairman John Spencer said, "Our aim is to present a visual mouthpiece for British ufology, to exchange data with all, without restrictions or boundaries. Although BUFORA will own and run the site, we hope that other UK groups and

researchers will present their reports and theories via BUFORA's web site."

In conjunction with Eclipse Internet Solutions, BUFORA On-Line will present the very best of British ufology with some unique innovations that will enhance research, investigation and the important work of local groups across the UK. BUFORA On-Line will also be the first point of contact to link-out to all the other major web sites around the world.

The Citadel

Eclipse Internet Solutions launched The Citadel on 8th September 1995. A huge interlinked Web site. The Citadel houses areas for business, education and non-profit organisations. *BUFORA On-Line* will be situated within this community of sites called Futura Dome.

The design team at Eclipse have produced visually stunning graphics that breaks the mould of the typical web site and offer an exclusive connection deal to BUFORA members using the highly regarded and quality services of PIPEX Dial along with an exclusive modem offer.

A Web of Excellence

The BUFORA On-Line Web site will consist of four main areas, The Magazine, Research & Investigation, The Main Contacts and Members Only. Each area will be updated regularly. Visitors to BUFORA On-Line will also be able to join on-line instantly via credit card.

The Magazine

With selected articles from UFO Times, latest news and events updates, The Magazine will be an area not to be missed. Regular reports will come

Research & Investigation

Steve Gamble will present information on the status of BUFORA research projects and news on other research from other organisations. Philip Mantle will keep you informed on investigation news along with brief details of cases reported to BUFORA as and when they come in.

A major commitment for *BUFORA On-Line* is the inclusion of BUFORA's Case Report Database - an ever growing index of all BUFORA's 6000 case reports that date back to 1932. It is hoped that *BUFORA On-Line* will initially include 200 case reports which will grow and be completed and fully on-line by early 1996. The index will be available to all, with no restrictions on use. Once this initiative is completed BUFORA will initiate phase 2 of the project: databasing full case histories which will eventually be available on-line.

directly from John Spencer, Jenny Randles and Mike Wootten and a newsflash area will present any hot news as and when it breaks.

The Main Contacts

Detailed listings of companies marketing books, videos and other UFO related merchandise will be included in this area along with a comprehensive 'link-out' listing to other web sites around the world.

The Local Angle

Another primary initiative that will reside in this area is a listing of all the local UFO groups in the UK. Moderated by Phillip Walton, BUFORA's Inter-group Liaison Officer, The Local Angle will also include material submitted by the groups themselves - promoting their activities and research to a potentially huge audience.

Members Only

Eclipse Internet Solutions will also design an exclusive Members Only area that will be accessible by typing your Surname, First Initial and Membership Number*. Within this area there will be a member forum for you to contact other members on-line along with a growing listing of reports, articles and photographs.

* If you do not want this information passed onto Eclipse Internet Solutions please contact Mike Wootten on 01352-732473.

Email

With this major initiative, six BUFORA Council members will be able to receive email directly, speeding up enquiries and information exchange.

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BUFORA On-Line:- http://www.citadel.co.uk/citadel/eclipse/futura/bufora/bufora.htm

You Can Contribute

If you would like to submit material for BUFORA On-Line including UFO news, reviews and case reports along with company advertising, then contact Mike Wootten via his email address or send your copy on disc (DOS, Word 6 or .TXT) formats to Mike Wootten, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 7SW.

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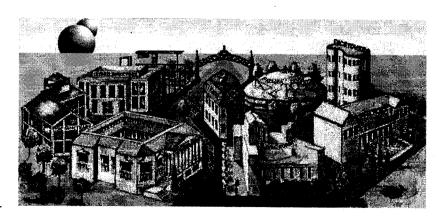
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Won't Get Fooled Again?

Alien autopsies: Ufology and the failure of investigation

by Andy Roberts & Dave Clarke

"Money, money, money, money" Jerry Garcia

Call us old fashioned if you will but I'm afraid that when we hear tales from the ufological nursery concerning film footage of alien cadavers being sliced and diced we vawn and reach for hallucinogens. But it's all ufology, so is the Roswell Autopsy a fake, or is it what the world's been waiting for, incontrovertible proof of extraterrestrials visiting us in this starlit mire, third stone from the sun? Let's go through the round window.....

Dave and myself were kindly invited by BUFORA, as once-active ufologists who've been out of the scene for a couple of years, to give our thoughts on the whole filmic farrago, so here they are. Most of the facts and statements here have appeared elsewhere, either on the Internet or in Paul Fuller's excellent article on the subject in issue 25 of the Crop Watcher. This is just our view and interpretation of the matter and how we see its effects on ufology.

In ufology a useful maxim is that if it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck then you can be damned sure a duck's quite out of the question, so what have we actually got? Despite the fuss and fanfare all there is boils down to a film, a film allegedly backing up claims that aliens were retrieved from the July 1947 Roswell crash. One invalidated artifact attempting to validate one invalidated event. Problems from the word go. But it should be easy to come to some conclusions among world ufologists shouldn't it? Only a film? Forget it. If only. Unfortunately we live in a society, and belong to a subculture of that society, used to trusting implicitly what we see on film. Ufologists get all wet and excited at the thought of film. Bizarrely, most ufologists have long since got used to the idea that any 'good' still photos of a UFO are invariably hoaxes and still photos are used far less than they once were to 'prove' the existence of UFOs, but moving film is taken far more solemnly and

seriously. As a group we're still impressed by the Magic Lantern show and concomitantly by the illusionists who produce these things. We haven't yet learned our lesson with that one yet. Perhaps this case will teach us.

So, we've got a film. How did it get into ufology? Here's where we really start to worry.

Rumour of the film has been around for over two years now. Our ex-colleague in the Independent UFO Network, and now BUFORA's Director of Investigations, Philip Mantle, was first told about it in 1993 and over the ensuing two years became more and more involved with a character, familiar to us all by now, by the name of Ray Santilli. Over two years, yet as we write possibly only Mantle and certainly Santilli hold the answers to this film and their behaviour to date has been very strange indeed.

Consider. It seems that even though Santilli had told Mantle of the film over two years ago it took Santilli almost that long to obtain a copy, although he had seen the footage. Finance was seemingly the problem. Fair enough, but isn't it rather odd that when someone comes into contact with the world, and human history's greatest find, that mere money should be a problem. It is our contention that if this film were genuine any buyer would have had no difficulty in finding a suitable backer to obtain it. We digress during much of this time Philip was cowriting (with journalist Carl Nagatis) his book Without Content and at some point in 1994 a meeting took place between Philip, Santilli and Nagatis to discuss a possible documentary based on the book. This failed to come to fruition. Ray Santilli's interest in ufology during this period led him to attend various London BUFORA meetings. Time passed. Santilli flew to the USA and returned with the footage of dreams, footage which if genuine alters the way we see things -

forever. Santilli allegedly came across the film whilst buying some Elvis Presley film (uh-huh-huh) from an aged cameraman who's had this stuff lying round for 40-odd years and couldn't quite think what to do with it. And the rest, as they say, is mystery.

Except it's not. Not really. Anyone versed in even GCSE ufology would know that the chances of a 'genuine' case or piece of evidence coming neatly to ufology through a media source, is risible. It's axiomatic that if this situation arises someone, somewhere has dollar signs in their eyes and a hoax in their Filofax. Here is the nub of the problem. Obviously it is not suggested that either Mantle or Santilli have hoaxed this film, after all in the TV documentary Santilli clearly states, "We did not hoax the film", (our italics), but how far - and if - Santilli, Mantle and other BUFORA members are involved in this film, the origins of which they may or not be aware, or whether they are just dupes in someone else's plot, remains unclear as yet. Draw your own conclusions from both the film and other evidence available. I know what ours are.

Philip Mantle's involvement in this case is, to us, highly interesting. Whilst in the IUN it was always Philip's contention that he would do and say anything to get publicity and that he was only in BUFORA for what he could get out of it. At the time, when several of us were in both the IUN and on BUFORA Council we thought this attitude served us well, and it gave us hours of amusement. Had we heeded Graham Birdsall's warnings when Philip left the then YUFOS in 1987 we would have thought differently. In true northern fashion Philip's attitude was "tell 'em owt - but tell 'em nowt", an admirable stance we all cut our cloth from at times, and Philip's recent er, ambiguous -or misquoted (it depends how gullible you are) statements in the press during the run up to the conference and film bear this out. In the end he didn't have to pull the wool over BUFORA's eyes over this case, they managed that by themselves easily enough. Because of our 'special knowledge' of both one of the key players in the game, and indeed the ufological game itself, we have kept our eyes on the marketing - and it is marketing - of this case, as it unravels.

Dave Clarke, in his role as everyday editor of the Rotherham Star newspaper, spent a couple of days being paid to look into the film and the conference, and came away remarkably unconvinced, as did most other sceptical outsiders. Dave's opinion of the conference was that it was nothing but a slick marketing exercise both for the Roswell film video - due to go on general sale a week later - and for BUFORA who had attached themselves to it and were being taken for a white knuckle ride they couldn't control or get off. His opinion of the film, after speaking to the key people in the case is the same as it was when we first heard about the film, a clever hoax.

Let's just look at the conference for a while and the part the film played in it. Played in it? It was its raison d'etre, all other speakers were mere adjuncts to this holy grail of ufology. We know that, you know that and I suspect BUFORA knew it too but saw the film as too good an opportunity to miss. Thus all eyes had been on BUFORA for a long time and it seems the pressures of people taking an active interest in the film was showing. Scared of people heckling the film - why?and Santilli with, er, unnecessary questions BUFORA's Director Of Investigations panicked big style on August 11th, sending a fax to Quest International's Graham Birdsall, alleging one of QIs investigators was planning to disrupt the proceedings. This fax - on BUFORA paper - claimed that "doormen from local clubs" were to be hired, and that no-one from BUFORA could "be responsible for the way such individuals will be handled by our doormen". So BUFORA are hiring thugs now to protect their flimsy investments? It would appear

Prior to the conference Santilli and co. had been ant-busy and issued a press release which said the video (- rather unfortunately sub-titled by them as "the original uncut, rawfootage", yum, yum!-) "apparently shows an autopsy of an alien being". This press release, merely advertised the video and gave nothing away which would be in any way useful to a journalist who wanted to get to the bottom of the affair. But here's yet another - and one far stranger than the film itself. We are told in no uncertain manner that all images from the film are copyright to

Merlin Films. Eh? A camera man, employed by the US Government steals a film and then flogs it to the first visiting Brit, whose copyright it then becomes. We think not. If the film is genuine the copyright holder is the US military. And they're going to let all this happen? I should co-co. Let's not forget that in the myth it was Morgana who led to Merlin's downfall and we're in no less of a myth here. Morgana may well be waiting in the wings for a dramatic entrance at everyone's expense.

Whilst at the conference Dave Clarke also spoke at length with Santilli and his 'agent' sidekick Chris Carey. They were extremely non-committal, arguing defensively from the premise that the film "had not been proven a hoax yet". Aside from the fact that "yet" is itself an interesting qualification in the circumstances their whole approach seems to be and one totally removed from good scientific or journalistic - and therefore ufological - practice and thought, which would firstly assume the film to be a hoax and seek to establish it's provenance and validity. Not good scientific or journalism but excellent film and marketing practice. Of course neither Santilli or Carey are ufologists, they are film people and it is their job to buy and sell film, presumably to make money. Fine, but why was the UK's premier UFO research association so intertwined and compliant with their way of dealing with things? BUFORA at the time were more interested in making investments than investigating it seems. You get the picture? Yes, we're beginning to see.

Besides the film's convenient and scepticfree entry into ufology there is also the huge problem of a massive failure of investigation which quite frankly BUFORA should be ashamed of. BUFORA's Director of Publications, Mike Wootten, has told us this is because they never had any of the film to work on. That's just not good enough. If it has been in Santilli's possession since at least Nov. 94 and BUFORA were planning to use it as the highlight of their conference, then they had an ethical duty to investigate it or not use it in the uncritical way they did.

The fact that most ufologists think ethics is quite near Sussex probably has a lot to do with this failure of investigation. The fact that Philip Mantle held all the power in this situation has even more to do with it. It gets curiouser. It seems that whilst BUFORA were realising all was not even remotely as it seems and that ufology wouldn't just have this film foisted on it Jenny Randles (another ex-director, but still a member, of BUFORA) suggested to BUFORA Council members that a 'panel' discussion on the pros and cons of the autopsy film should be held sometime during the conference.

This perfectly reasonable request, which would have at least partly vindicated BUFORA in the eyes of its critics, was vetoed by Philip Mantle (despite the support for the idea from key BUFORA directors). This is exceptionally strange as Mantle did not possess the power of veto in this instance. But BUFORA capitulated simply because had they pressed the point Mantle had the power to prevent the film being shown at the conference. So much for ethics, the right to free speech and impartiality in UFO investigation eh? Furthermore, in an outspilling of UFO politics which as usual tainted the case and affected its eventual public presentation, part of the reason Mantle objected to the 'panel' was simply because it was Jenny Randles' suggestion. Think about that. Fundamentally BUFORA failed to act as a cohesive organisation and allowed an individual to pursue their personal goals and publicity at ufology's expense. Crass commerce won out over common sense.

Take a question such as who is the cameraman? We have only Santilli's word that he actually exists and was the source of the film. But oh, you chorus, he's real, he 'phoned Philip Mantle didn't he? Well, someone purporting to be the cameraman 'phoned Mantle. But failure of investigation even then. Just when one of the few people who could shed some light on the matter is up for the questioning what do we get? Philip: "At no time during our conversation did I attempt to 'interrogate' him", and his interaction, as detailed in the Conference Proceedings, amounts to little more than sycophancy and appeasement on the off chance of getting to meet him in person. This contact with the key person in the case was pathetically done, a chance to ask such useful and leading questions as what type of camera was used, what type of film,

how could the cameraman demonstrate he was in the military etc. wasted. Little things but ones which in a case of this complexity may have caught a hoaxer out, especially a hoaxer who thought he was dealing with a naive ufologist. Unfortunately he was. And worse, when the alleged cameraman terminated the conversation why didn't BUFORA's Director of Investigations simply dial 1471 and find out where the caller was from? This may not work with a trans-atlantic call but it would have proved that the call was from the USA, or at least out of the UK - or not - which would have at least established one fact in the case and led to further lines of independent enquiry. Independent enquiry it seems was not on the menu. Sloppy investigation prevailed in all areas of this case.

Meanwhile, professionals everywhere were coming out of the woodwork in droves to cast doubt on the film.

Dr. Milroy, head of the University Of Sheffield's Dept. of Forensic Pathology took a look at the film. To Milroy it looked like a duck - but not an alien one and, remembering that we are supposed to be seeing the aftermath of a UFO crash, "The injuries present on the body were less than those expected in an aviation accident". So, was it a genuine autopsy Mr Milroy? Ahem, "Whilst the examination had features of a medically conducted examination, aspects suggested it was not conducted by an experienced autopsy pathologist, but rather by a surgeon". (My italics). So it's real? The US come into possession of proof that we are not alone, and they don't even get a proper autopsy pathologist in? Nah, if this had really happened they would have had the top person for the job there - and employed a cameraman who could keep in focus! On the subject of the actual camera process, it is badly shot, from strange angles, badly lit, lacking in a soundtrack, and the camera does not show the actual moment of the body or skull being opened. Surely quite an important moment and one which would be recorded on film. As a corollary to this interlude it is common knowledge that Dr. Milroy is a believer in the ETH and yet still had doubts as to the film's authenticity.

Other professionals expressed their doubts

too. Paul O'Higgins from University College London was not happy, concluding that "the chance that aliens would look like us by accident are remote" and suggesting that it may have been a real human being suffering from deformations such as hydrocephalia, something others suggested and something we will return to later.

BUFORA's answer - nay, their starting point - to all this should have been their own investigative autopsy using that well known surgical tool, Occam's Razor. Instead they allowed themselves to be used as a blunt marketing instrument for a professional film company. The odour of fish is almost too strong to bear!

First principles of investigation were ignored right left and centre. Who is competent to say whether a film containing supposedly anomalous phenomena represents the genuine article or not? The very people who are capable of faking it, that's who and various special effects companies had their own viewpoint on the matter.

Creature Effects, a well known special effects company examined the film and opined that, "None of us were of the opinion that we watching a real alien autopsy..." and that what they saw was "a good fake body". Evidence? "We did notice evidence of a possible moulding seam line down an arm in one segment of the film." The professionals also "felt that the filming was done in such a way as to obscure details rather than highlight them." We should listen to these people. they know they can do this, the fact that an effects company had produced comparable models for the TV Movie about Roswell should have rung someone's bells. When BUFORA became aware of this and the fact that Santilli's associate, Cary, was connected to a company who provided props to sci-fi film makers, they should have been very, very suspicious. Not because of the possibility of it being attributed to them as a hoax but simply because of its provenance within the film industry. But did anyone take any notice? Everyone but BUFORA, who carried on as though nothing was happening.

Could it, perhaps, have been an out-take from an unreleased or little seen American 1940's or 50s 'B' movie? Was the film

ever shown to a sci-fi film specialist? Nope. Sure it was described to some UK sci-fi buffs at a Southampton SF convention but that don't mean doodly. Consider again: BUFORA council, having agreed to the use of this amazing artifact as the centrepiece of their International Conference did not actually see the film until the end of June by which time it was too late to get off the speeding hypemobile they found themselves strapped to. In the actual event BUFORA Council saw the film in less than sympathetic circumstances. Someone connected with Ray Santilli brought a video cassette of the film to a Council meeting, it was shown once - no questions asked to or to be asked - and then taken away again. Next stop the conference! If either of the authors of this article, or Jenny Randles, or Paul Fuller had still been directors of BUFORA at this time we would have called a halt to it then and there. Any film presented solely on someone else's terms and conditions is just not worth taking a risk with as far as we are concerned.

And the 'wreckage' shots. Wow. Just as badly filmed. Look at the beam they hold up to camera with the hieroglyphics on, suddenly it looks remarkably like 'video TV' doesn't it. To us it couldn't have been more revealing than if it spelt out 'produce of Zeta Reticuli'. Clue? Maybe, but the real clues have been hinted at elsewhere and are apparent to those not lost in the ufological hall of mirrors.

Worse still the alien on film doesn't even approximate the alleged creatures in the descriptions of the Roswell Aliens in other reports. Therefore at least one of these is false by default. We have no time whatsoever for the alien interpretation of the Roswell case but the people who are informed enough to have relevant opinion on the case are people such as Stanton Friedman...and what did he say when he saw the film? "I saw nothing to indicate that this footage came from the Roswell incident, or any other UFO incident for that matter."

Anatomist O'Higgins' (and others) comments about the 'alien' being that of a deformed human raises important issues. If it was a genetically, or otherwise deformed human being, then the film's perpetrators and the people responsible for its promotion and promulgation within

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the subject and further afield are guilty of something approximating peddling obscenity. It's that simple. If it was human in origin then none of us have the right to parade it in this way or we throw ourselves open to justified charges of being ghoulish or worse. If this is the case it is the action of sick minds at work, both on the hoaxers part and of those who have chosen to profit by it.. But if it is so then it is also the consequence of the majority of ufologists' fervent belief in the existence of ETs, a belief they will go to any lengths to attempt to prove. Hoaxers know this and play on it. Ufologists everywhere climb on any bandwagon if fame and/or wealth beckon.

Secrecy and speed have played an all too key part in the exposing of this film to the world wide UFO community and to the general public. Throughout this case the people who have controlled the film (i.e. who saw it, when they saw it, how much they saw, what they were told, how much they paid etc.) in various arenas- Ray Santilli and Philip Mantle - have kept it secret until it served their, and not ufology's purposes. Then they have acted with speed to rush to the next step of the operation. Santilli has been less than consistent with his facts on at least one occasion. During a telephone call two days prior to the conference he told Dave Clarke that the Channel 4 documentary shown on August 28th would prove conclusively that the film was genuine. Dave then immediately spoke to the producer of the documentary who told him that was not the case. In the event we've all seen the documentary and it proved absolutely nothing we didn't know already, setting up as many questions as it attempted to answer. Of course this is of little consequence to the people marketing the film, which is now even in our local Tesco's, selling to the great unwashed who know little of ufology and care even less, but who will take this film to their hearts and psyches for many years to come. Furthermore, whilst Santilli has been helpful with information regarding the film to certain people, others he has ignored altogether. BUFORA director John Spencer, who has apparently done much work on the case behind the scenes, has attempted to contact Santilli on many occasions. Not once has he had his calls returned. We find it odd that someone so connected to and reliant on some people in BUFORA for the film's public exposure

should be so reticent to speak to certain others, especially when in this case it is John Spencer, who would - or should - have known the 'right' questions to ask. The plot thickens.

Many, many other problems have been highlighted about the case and much good work has been done by Quest International, Paul Fuller and Jenny Randles in determining who and what lies behind the scam. The case is also the first 'biggie' which has largely been fought on the Internet. Ten years ago it would have been far more slow in revealing itself. This has acted against the hoaxers as facts - such as they have been-could be checked, and refuted, as they were claimed.

The case is interesting in itself whether hoax or not, and in the end the who, how and why are largely immaterial to all but students of UFO history and politics, but the case has implications and profound effects on ufology which we will be reeling from for years. It is, it seems, passé these days to study the history of ufology but anyone with even the slimmest overview of the subject knows we've seen it all before and the denouement is boringly predictable.

Ufology is a curious subject which moves in slow, overlapping cycles. It goes like this: Most of the time ufology is fairly stable, various camps entrenched in their, often thinly veiled, belief systems with a few sceptics thrown in for good measure, all going happily about their business. Suddenly a huge case hits the subject and these get more dramatic as the years pass. Remember how a radar-visual case was once such a big deal? Not now children, it's got to be a biggy; Rendlesham, the Linda Cortile Case, Gulf Breeze etc. These. cases descend on the subject and explode it in all directions, bringing a new influx of people into the subject and heightened media interest. This should work for ufology. Unfortunately and without exception, all these 'biggies' are either hoaxes or not at all what they seem, but they are newsworthy, make good reading and invariably make money for someone. The general public and newcomers to the subject who are drawn in by the glamour and promise are the great mass of untouched believers, the ones who suddenly appeared when crop circles

became modish, when the X Files is on TV, when the News Of the World prints stories about the Moon landings being false. Hell, they are the same suckers who fell for Alternative 3. They are drawn like moths to a flame, a flame they firmly - and often desperately-believe will illuminate them with some certain truth about life. They believe that they are on the brink and by default of their interest part of some earth shattering, science re-ordering discovery. Then the bubble bursts or as usually happens slowly deflates, hopes are dashed on the sharp rocks of reality and it's back to business as usual, with the latest lurid story echoing forward through the subject until the ripples have died down, and yet another layer of obfuscation laid on to an already opaque subject.

Maybe that sequence is all ufology is, but that's another line of enquiry altogether. In our model we are now at a crucial point in this cycle, just before the bubble bursts. But burst it will and the predictive cycle will start all over again. Ufology: delicious hot, disgusting cold. You love it, don't you?

If it hasn't already come to light by the time this article is in print there are only three stark possible outcomes of this current scenario.

- 1) The case is a proven to be a hoax
- 2) The case remains unproven but riddled with doubt
- 3) It is proven to be genuine

So, what are the consequences of these three possibilities?

Firstly if it is proven beyond a shadow of a doubt to be a hoax everyone has a good laugh, it makes newspaper back pages and the subject of UFOs becomes a laughing stock again. All you poor suckers who believed it to be true have two choices. Either you can take it like a human being and admit you have strange belief systems and grasp at the slightest straw which appears to back them up - in which case people think you are a hopeless sap who has lost the plot completely. Or worse, you refuse to believe that it is a hoax and you and your ilk continue to muddy the waters of ufology with its echoes for the next twenty years or so until the next cycle comes round.

Secondly, if time progresses and it cannot be proven a hoax, but it still looks suspect, and is not demonstrated to be genuine. Well in that case, the powers that be who run world ufology - people who head UFO societies, editors, authors etc.- are quids in. The myth continues with a vengeance. Conspiracy theories spring up all over the place and the film is used to back up every theory going. People make money hand over fist on the back of it and the story embeds itself in ufological mythology like a Loki virus and spreads its tendrils for years to come.

The only possible third option is that it is proved genuine. Not as easy as it seems. Proof that the film is genuine 1947 stock, was shot in that year, that the cameraman is genuine and not a barking fruitcake or in someone's pocket - none of these prove the film depicts genuine alien stiffs or the sad wreckage of the starcar they arrived in. What can be accepted as proof in this case is something far more dramatic altogether. The cameraman appearing on the David Letterman show or as a guest star or Roseanne just won't do - it has to be something along the lines of an official announcement from the US Government, and specifically Bill Clinton for it to have any real validity whatsoever. Furthermore wreckage or bits of alien would have to be independently validated as not of earthly origin by a team of world scientists. That, and only that, is anything near acceptable proof.

And that, pilgrims, just won't happen. Why? Because it's a hoax, silly. And there we begin the whole ufological chorus of "There's a hole in my bucket....." all over again.

Won't get fooled again? Not 'til next time!

Note for the hard of reading:

To further clarify our position on this matter, we would like to clearly state that the previous article is not, in any way, meant to state or imply that either Philip Mantle or Ray Santilli hoaxed the Roswell autopsy film. Put simply, we are saying that the film is a hoax, that the hoaxers are as yet unknown - and may or may not be known to Mantle or Santilli, that the case was not handled correctly by BUFORA and that the film is of dubious provenance and has been marketed at ufology's expense.

The Other Roswell Footage Question

by John Spencer

In the plethora of words UFO researchers and others have been throwing at each other over the socalled Roswell Footage, a fairly major issue seems to have been passed over. So much attention has been directed at minute aspects of the autopsy; the curly telephone wires, the flows of blood, and so on, that part of the bigger picture seems to have been lost. If the footage is bogus - a reasonably cautious hypothesis to start with until proven otherwise, given the significance should it turn out to be genuine then this other clue offers alarming pointers.

The clue is not in the autopsy footage at all, but in the so-called 'Tent Footage'. There exists a film of what is alleged to be the field examination of the alien bodies. Indeed it was the first of the 'autopsy' films released by Ray Santilli to Philip Mantle, and which was shown by Philip to the BUFORA council once Santilli had given permission for a showing. We might assume that it is the first film Santilli was able to process, though curiously he has confirmed to me recently that he is not using that footage because it could not be authenticated.

The film differs greatly from the nowfamous, and much scrutinised, 'wounded leg alien' autopsy film. The camera filming the Tent Footage is fixed in one position, never moving, and perhaps after having been set up is not manned throughout the filming. The scene takes place not in a brightly lit hospital-like room, but in some sort of darkened, apparently hut or tent-like enclosure. A figure lies stretched out on a platform bed of some sort, covered by a sheet for the most part. Two white coated doctors spend a deal of time concentrating on the figure's left hand. They seem to be watched, perhaps supervised, by a dark coated figure that could be a military man. The scene is dimly lit by a single lamp. The characteristics of the figure on the platform can only be guessed at from under the white sheet and given the dim light. The head, feet and hands emerge from the sheet. The head just could be that of a

classical 'gray'; bald, domed and with very large black eyes. The figure is evidently very slim, and flat-bellied.

What is this film showing? The implication would seem to be that it is the 'emergency' examination of a recovered alien body. Perhaps a crash retrieval team located a crashed saucer and dead aliens and decided to examine the bodies as quickly as possible to avoid losing any data. If we follow the Roswell story, then possibly the bodies had been out in the desert being damaged by extremes of daytime sun and cold nights, and ravaged by predators. We might assume that arrangements were being made in the meantime to have them shipped to a hospital or other more controlled location where they could be properly autopsied.

Does this fit with the Roswell story? In fact, it fits with it with astonishing accuracy. A good deal more accuracy in fact than the more famous autopsy film offers; many witnesses do not think the alien with the damaged leg looks much like the creatures described by witnesses of the time. In Stanton Freidman's book 'Crash at Corona' he describes a dimly-lit tent set up at the site of the retrieval to contain the bodies.

So we have Tent Footage and we have the Autopsy Footages. From, it would seem, the same source since Santilli originally had them all and has not mentioned any other suppliers of this kind of film. So do they represent the same incident? There is no indication of otherwise; the cameraman has referred (according to Santilli) only to having been called out to one such incident which he was told was a Soviet air crash and which he knew immediately was not. But now we have one source, one incident, and two different types of aliens. No witnesses have indicted that one single 'batch' of aliens in any description of Roswell were different from each other. So do the two different aliens come from two different crashes. In fact Freidman indicates that there were two crashes in the incident. Two crashes stretches the imagination enough; Oscar

Wilde would no doubt have pointed out that to lose one flying saucer was unfortunate, but to lose two could be called careless. This is not the time to debate the illogic problems of two crashes in a short space of time in a confined locality; perhaps the flying saucers off the production line on that mission were 'Friday models'. But surely they came from the same place, with the same type aliens aboard. Surely we are not asked to believe that two different species of aliens crashed in the same locality within a short space of time. That is surely one bridge too far, even for the uncritical.

Explanations

No. We must look for a different explanation. And three present themselves:

 Firstly, that the Tent Footage, which seems to match the previously known witness accounts, is genuine.

 Secondly, that the tent footage is genuine 1947 film of an emergency field examination, but does not represent anything alien.

Thirdly, that the film is a hoax. And if the film is a hoax, and has arisen from the same source as the other footages, then it is highly probable that the other footages that arrived with it are hoaxes also.

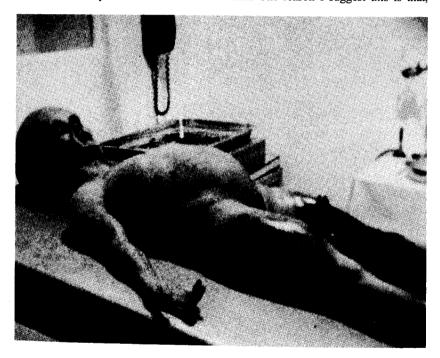
Let's look at those propositions more closely and see what can be gleaned from this.

First proposition, that the footage is genuine. If it is then the more famous footages are not, since they are not consistent when they ought to be, given the points above. But why make the hoax footages when you have the real thing? The real thing could presumably have been authenticated without difficulty and it would have been worth a fortune. Santilli has said in interview that 'millions of dollars' have been thrown at authenticating the footages, yet he also says that the tent footage has not been authenticated. Why not? In any case, the tent footage is not longer being 'promoted'. Lets make a provisional assessment that given all the problems noted, that the film is not likely to be genuine.

Secondly, the footage is genuinely 1947 film of a field examination, but not alien. Perhaps it is the autopsy of a crashed airman, or an experimental subject in one of the government's research projects of

the time in that area. Although the figure looks like it has the head of a 'gray', there is enough ambiguity to allow for this. But if so, then the cameraman knows that it is nothing to do with Roswell - the 'Soviet air crash' that he knew immediately was nothing of the sort. He didn't film it at the same time. Why was it being distributed then? Where in fact, in that situation, does it fit into the picture at all? One possibility, if we consider that the Roswell autopsy footage is a fraud, is that genuine 1947 film might have been useful in gaining an 'authentication' 'certification' which could be boasted of to the world, implying untruthfully that the authentication applies to the other, faked, film. But Bob Shell has authenticated the piece of film he examined as containing an image of an empty autopsy room commensurate with that on the famous footages. I have also confirmed directly with Santilli that Shell

made to Philip Mantle by Ray Santilli. Santilli approached Philip two years ago and told him that he had been offered Roswell film of an autopsy. Santilli did not apparently know what that meant, and was grateful to Philip for educating him as to the possible significance of the footage. But it took Santilli two years to get the footage. Perhaps the hoaxer used that time to do a little research into Roswell, and more importantly into the UFO community to see what evidence would be credible, acceptable and controversial by the UFO researchers. Controversial because that would be the key to Big Bucks. Perhaps Santilli was that hoaxer, alone or with others. Perhaps Santilli was discussing what he was learning with the hoaxer and unwittingly feeding the hoaxer with a description of what to create. Either way, Philip probably innocently had a part in feeding into the data. The reason I suggest this is that,



was examining the 'famous' film, and not the tent footage. Any use that genuine, non-alien, film might have in any fraud seems not to have been used, and therefore we might assume that that is not the explanation for the film.

The third alternative offers the richest grounds for possibilities. And implications of some concern. That the tent footage and the autopsy footage are both deliberately constructed fakes. Is there a logical explanation that supports that? In fact, yes. And it involves the first approach

firstly, Philip was approached early, and secondly, the tent footage is an accurate representation of the stories about Roswell, and for that reason might be based on information from the UFO community. More importantly, the whole footage release plays to the psychology of the UFO community very well, and I believe that information must have been fished for to meet expectations so accurately. Presumably anyone other than Philip could have been used in that way; there but for the grace of God go any of us.

But what went wrong?

Biting the Cherry

Something surely did because we don't just have the tent footage; we have the famous autopsy footage of the pot-bellied, six-digited alien like nothing ever described at Roswell. Why? I suggest the following scenario.

The tent footage fake, true to the descriptions of Roswell, was made and shown to a test audience of friends to see what they thought of it. Would it make the splash it was intended to? And the answer was almost certainly no. It isn't clear enough to be thought-provoking. It isn't dramatic enough to cause controversy. It's boring, and nothing happens except the doctors hold hands with the alien. Consternation amongst the hoaxers; we've wasted time and money and produced rubbish! What to do now?

Now the hoaxer decides new contacts are needed; forget the UFO community. Lets get a different type of expert in. He (or they) call in special effects experts from the film industry. They make a much better film of an alien autopsy; dramatic, just a little stomach churning, and certainly controversial. However, with only a skeletal guiding brief and their own confidence and experience to work with, they create an alien that is not quite what Roswell is all about. Their main brief would be to create an impact, not a historical reconstruction. I have had a problem like that myself when working with artists to reconstruct images of famous UFO cases; they were constantly telling me that artistic licence could overrule accuracy. But for these hoaxers there would be plenty of cut-outs to cover that. They could say that witnesses could not be accurate about what they saw fifty years ago. They could say that the descriptions now held second-hand by the sons and daughters of original witnesses match near enough the alien they had created; and that it was the impression gained by the sons and daughters from their fathers that was not accurate. And the hoaxers could anyway rely on the differences to fuel the controversy that would ensure bigger profits.

Now it is time to release it to the world through the UFO community. If my speculation is accurate then the tent footage was released for a number of reasons. Firstly, it was a safer bet as it was historically more accurate. If that really caused a sensation the other footage might not have to be used. More likely, even if the tent footage made a sensation the other footages could be released a year or so later when the general idea of recovered autopsy film was accepted - meaning that the second batch of footage would be less critically examined. The hoaxers might have hoped to get two bites of the cherry.

The tent footage also served another purpose; very shortly after its limited low-key (test?) release it was made clear that this was a first only. As a first 'teaser' to the UFO community there was also the promise of more if we were good boys and girls and kept in line. This approach guaranteed that UFO researchers, eager to see the whole footage, would not be too overly critical of the first release. (Philip Mantle has taken a lot of criticism about that response on his part and while not entirely inappropriate I am not in the slightest bit convinced his main critics would have acted differently had the shoe been on the other foot.) As a result the footage got released with less immediate critical analysis than it might have received if that was all there was to come. (Even now, with the famous film released, there are promises that there is more to come in, I presume, a belated and now hopeless attempt to 'control' the UFO community.)

For whatever reason, perhaps even just the fact that the footage had been made and paid for, the hoaxers then released the rest of the more extraordinary footage. In fact I suspect it was probably because it became immediately apparent that the tent footage would not alone be the earner the hoaxer(s) wanted.

This sequence at least offers an explanation for an otherwise bizarre inconsistency in the footages, given that they arose from the same source and the same basic story. It also offers an explanation of why the tent footage arose at all.

News*bites*

The UFO Wave of 1947

Jan L. Aldrich has launched a major two and halfyear project to research the magnitude of the 1947 UFO wave. Grant aided by the Fund for UFO Research, the project is aiming to catalogue any newspaper reports or other sources at the time relating to UFO sightings world wide.

As well as an extensive listing of North American reports, Aldrich has uncovered reports in South America, mainly Chile and Argentina, and China. However Europe has yet to be completely researched.

Jan writes, "As one would expect, the London newspapers had a lot of fun with the 1947 wave. However there are a number of interesting reports from the British Isles and Europe.... There seemed to be very little activity in Africa, India and Australia."

If you have any information that might assist Jan in this very important project please write to: Jan L. Aldrich, PO Box 391 Canterbury, CT 06331, USA.



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Editorial

Continued from page 3

pathology at Sheffield University was invited to view the autopsy sequence and present his findings. His 2nd June report neither refuted nor supported the evidence.

The use of the word "humanoid" in the text served Santilli well and has caused great controversy. Another significant controversy started to boil, that of the film codings that showed the possibility that the film stock was of 1947 vintage.

These two significant testimonies along with the involvement of a shadowy company called International Exploitation Management, with Santilli as a director and the emergence of Chris Carey, Santilli's PR manager, who apparently manages a film props company, sent the controversy meter into the red permanently. This diverted the attention of the UFO community and BUFORA from the real issue: analysis of the film itself.

BUFORA's involvement was going sour by the minute. By the time of the Congress, it was all too apparent that we were being used as a marketing tool.

Looking back at this chronology, it can be seen that we were sold down the river.

However, BUFORA has not sat back and accomplished nothing. John Spencer has worked quietly and effectively in the background from day one, following his own leads and compiling a massive dossier of evidence. Some of the leads he is following cannot be revealed as yet. I am sure any police officer will tell you that you do not inform your prime suspect of your weekly whereabouts or work schedule.

This has been a major mistake that many have made over the last five months. Few have shown the patience to keep their findings quiet, but have preferred to shout them from the rooftops for the notoriety. By doing so, they have also tipped off anyone with a vested interest to conceal evidence or perpetuate a myth.

Quite honestly much of the 'research' that has been publicised has been magazine fodder - gleaned from the tabloids. Who owns what and who knows who is an important backdrop of investigation. But that is all it is, backdrop. No one at this stage of the game has entered the main arena and worked on the footage itself until now with the release of the video material. Any statements made prior to the 28th August regarding the film itself has been pure speculation.

Ufological politics has also been a major ally to the marketing of the film and the controversy surrounding it. Those editors who have taken the moral high ground by condemning the film and those involved with it, including BUFORA, have seen the commercial benefits of such a stand. Make no mistake, this stance has not been for the sake of ufological integrity.

BUFORA has been severely criticised for showing the film at the Congress for pure commercial gain. I for one have no apology to make for showing the film to the public. We all castigate governments for keeping UFO related information secret and away from proper public scrutiny. So do we, as ufologists, really want to follow the same line and keep evidence away from public scrutiny? I think not.

It amazes me that ufologists shy away from, or criticise commercial ventures, where ufology will gain from the proceeds. British ufology is bereft of strong financial support, mainly because any commercial benefit is sucked away from the subject by private concerns. This includes authors and publishing companies that are there to make a profit for their shareholders, but not for the subject.

Without exception, every penny of profit made at the BUFORA Congress will be set aside for research and investigation. The proceeds will be used and utilised for ufology and ufology alone. This is surely a positive, rather than a retrograde step?

In this specially extended issue of UFO Times, I wanted to present a wide and objective opinion of the Santilli saga. I am pleased to introduce, after a long break from the subject, Andy Roberts and Dave Clarke. Both, in my opinion, have been pioneers in ufological thought and almost unique in their approach to the subject.

However, their article is critical. Some of the opinions they express are damning, especially for the Association and those individuals directly involved. Several of these points I do not agree with. Nevertheless, BUFORA is an open organisation and the pages of *UFO Times*, unlike 'tabloid' news-stand UFO magazines, are open and will always be open to all ufological opinion regardless of UFO politics.

Mike Wootten

Please note my new email address: mwootten@dial.pipex.com

Newsbites

Area 51: A New Band for Alien Clubbers

by Richard Dent

Area 51 is the name of a new ambient/ techno group who are trying to open the public mind to the world of UFO's. Our show includes UFO footage and we give out flyers explaining our aims. We are not signed to any record label, although we are currently seeking a publisher.

We would like to start a network of young people interested or involved with UFOs. We are looking for:-

- a. People to join our group producing ambient/techno music and then perform it live around the UK. Beginners welcome. b. Researchers to provide us with the latest information from the UFO world to compile flyers to be given out at gigs.
- c. Contacts and supporters around Britain and the world to help promote the band. d. A hard-core group to actually investigate the UFO phenomena.

we are not only musicians, we also want to know more about the current rumours of government cover-ups, Roswell, alien abduction and 'blondes' and ancient technologies. we hope to find people like us who would be willing to travel to find out more about these mysteries.

We also hope to organise skywatches and other gatherings to bring young people together to discuss the above topics.

If you feel you can help in any way or would like to discuss the project further then please write or telephone anytime:-

Richard Dent, 2a Argyle Street, Cambridge, CB1 3LR, UK. Tel: 01223 243760.

Investigations Diary

Edited by Gloria Dixon

I have been assisting Philip Mantle with the sighting reports received by BUFORA since the latter part of June, due to his extra workload with the overwhelming response to BUFORA's 8th International Congress. This was of course due to the Roswell Footage being premiered by Ray Santilli at the conference.

During this time BUFORA has received sixty-five sighting reports, including four video recordings from Scotland, Wiltshire, Northampton and Ibiza. The two photgraphs are from Majorca and Newbury. Details of some of these will be documented below together with some of the more significant reports being looked at by BUFORA's investigators.

The magnificent summer we have had this year with clear blue skies has generated many sightings reports by members of the public. This is bringing to light a small residual of objects that we are not able to identify at present. I would like to comment on some of the astronomical data throughout these summer months which may have instigated some of these sighting reports.

The 'star' of the summer sky this year has been the planet Jupiter, and at a magnitude of -2.4 it has been more brilliant than any star and very visible in the southern sky during July and August. Venus was at a magnitude of -3.9 during July and was visible just before sunrise in early July, but as it became closer to the sun throughout the month, it became less visible and was not visible at all in August. Bright and low in the north eastern sky during July and August is the bright star Capella. This will reach its highest and most brilliant position during late Autumn.

There were several meteor showers during July and August, the two most visible showers being the Perseids and the Southern Delta Aquarids. The Delta Aquarid shower lasts a long time from 8th July to 19th August and peaked on 29th July. The meteors seen from this shower are slower moving than meteors from other showers moving at around twenty five miles per second. There was also a very bright fireball that shot overthe country on the night of 27/28th July. There were

reports from Scotland, Newcastle and Sunderland and as far south as Lincoln. The fireball lit up the sky like lightning and a rumbling/roaring sound was reported as it passed overhead. Data is still being collated on the path of this bright fireball.

Video and Photographs

Date: 7 July 1995, Hackpenhill, Wiltshire:

Inv: David Pye

Mr & Mrs. S had driven to Hackpenhill, as they were interested in cropcircles. They had parked the car, and at II.30pm noticed some unusual lights in the sky, which they recorded on their JVC GR-AX200 camcorder. They describe these as fifteen lights which appear simultaneously and one by one went out. More appeared after which the number decreased and five more appeared. Mr. S. noticed smoke trails on two of the lights but Mrs S did not notice these. They video-recorded these lights over a period of a few minutes, and having viewed the video they do look like flares of some kind, but apparently there is no military activity in this area. However, there are street lights in the vicinity, and also farmers working with the sodium lamps in the fields. David is still looking into this sighting.

Date: 1995, several sightings: Kingsthorpe, Northampton Inv: Raymond Reed.

Jenny W. reported and video-recorded unusual lights which appeared to be emanating from the area around Hallestone Firs, a wooded area nearby. She reports these lights as being balls of light, silver and red in colour approximately the size of an orange. She also reports observation of a large flying object which was disc shaped and appeared to have two large headlights and three lights around it. In addition to this she claims to have observed a red box shape in the sky which seemed to change into a mushroom shape. Apparently these sightings have been witnessed by her next door neighbour.

After some excellent investigative work relating to the balls of lights being observed by Jenny W., Ray Reed is convinced that she is actually observing reflections of car

headlights from a road beyond these woods. However the other objects being are observed are still being investigated by Ray.

Date: 30 July 1995: Time 6.20pm onwards, Cala Llonga, Ibiza Inv: Gary Burman

Mr. & Mrs. T. contacted BUFORA, after video recording an extremely bright ball of light in the sky on the last day of their holiday in Ibiza, which was witnessed by approximately one hundred people in Cala Llonga neluding the staff of the nearby hotels and cafes. The observation time was about three hours. It appeared to have a blue dome-shaped top and seemed to remain stationary gradually becoming smaller over the three hours' period. Mr. & Mrs. T. described the object as changing shape after about one hour as though it had tilted backwards and they now observed two bright white lights that receded into the distance when the object turned yellow and then a vivid red.



Computer enhanced image of object, Obtained by taking photograph with video picture paused.

Gary Burman video taped a recording from their television screen and mailed this to me. The footage looks rather unusual, but there is a possibility that this object is a balloon of some kind. However this video has been sent to Jeff Sainio in the US for analysis, and there will be an up-date on this when his evaluation is received.

A map of the area is published on page 15.

The photographs from Newbury and Majorca are under investigation at the moment and will be documented in the next issue of UFO Times.

Date: 10-28 August 1995, Glastonbury, Somerset,

Inv: Sue Hembury-Kellow: SUFORIN/BUFORA

There has been a wave of sightings of triangular objects totalling twenty, around

the Glastonbury area within a two and half weeks time span, involving some significant reports with several witnesses involved. The objects have been described as huge, dark and silent with a bank of red lights or red lights on each tip, and sometimes described as being extremely low in the sky. One of these cases involved a family of four, two adults and two children, on 17th August. They were driving back to Glastonbury from a family outing when they became aware of some lights emanating from an enormous object, which they described as being larger than a Hercules, appearing to be just above the tree level. They describe it as being triangular in shape with a blunt tip on one point and, three to four red lights. There was no sound at all and they wound down the windows in order to see it more clearly. The children were crying and both husband and wife felt unnerved by what they were observing. They all observed this object for approximately two to three minutes, before continuing their journey.

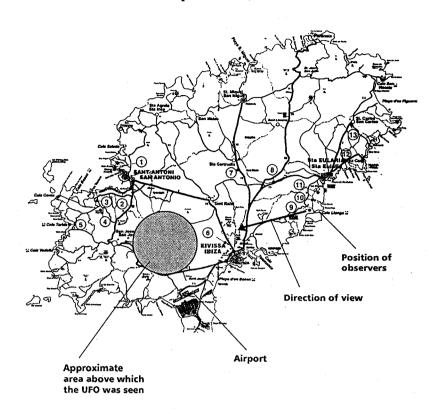
These sightings are being investigated by SUFORIN and will be up-dated as and when evaluation is forthcoming.

Date: 27 March 1995, Grimsby, South Humberside

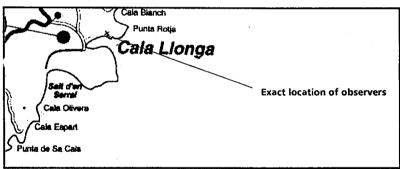
Inv: David Melkevik

Jacqueline H. and a friend were driving near Grimsby Leisure centre, when they observed a bright glow very low in the sky. The object appeared to be triangular shaped with white lights on each point and blue lights emanating from those. They also noticed red lights. This object appeared to be about one hundred feet in front of them. They were very curious and parked the car and walked across the road to try and get a better view. the object moved away very slowly. They returned to their car and did a U-turn in order to follow it. They describe it as being very low, and heading west very slowly. They pulled into a car park and saw six other people who were obviously observing the same object and trying to follow it talking animatedly about their sighting. It disappeared out of view. Jacqueline is contacting their local paper hoping they will publish an item on their sighting with a view to locating other witnesses. The investigator is hoping to obtain some more information which hopefully will help in an assessment of this sighting.

Map of Ibiza



Enlargement of the observation point



Date: 11 August 1995, Hurstierpoint, West Sussex.

Inv: Mark Armley

TB was sitting in the garden of her home, which is rather isolated, at 11.30pm enjoyed the warm night air, and reading by the light of three lanterns she had placed on the table. There was a full moon, but otherwise it was extremely dark. TB suddenly became aware of a low humming sound and said that the horses in a nearby field became very restless and excited, which was unusual. She then noticed in the sky flickering red and white flashing lights, which she claimed were not the navigation lights of an aircraft and that they were moving in a very odd way e.g. a movement that appeared to be very fast, then slow, then very fast, then slow. They moved in this way across the sky and disappeared behind the house. She felt her observation time was approximately 3-5 minutes, and the lights were moving from south to north. After they disappeared she had a second sighting of them moving from north to south, and she felt the object was either going to land or crash as they went out of sight behind a hill. She then had a third sighting of them returning again, became very frightened and went inside. The Mid Sussex Times documented two sightings of a similar object in the Clayton area, which is in close proximity to her house. These sightings took place on 25 August.

TB is away on business for two weeks and the investigation will be carried out upon her return. Date: 7 June 1995, Scropton, South Derbyshire

Inv: Chris Wilson

Ruth A. described being awoken at 2.20am by areally loud engine noise. Upon looking through her window she observed a blaze of lights about a quarter of a mile away. After about a minute the object moved off in the direction of Burton-on-Trent. She said it was covered in lights and looked very similar to an old 3d piece. She was told by her neighbours that a police helicopter was in the vicinity at the time and indeed this was confirmed upon investigation of the sighting.

Date: 14 July 1995, Norris Green, Liverpool.

Inv: Mike Buckley

David L. was standing at the back door of his home when he noticed a silver grey object shooting across the sky, travelling horizontally toward ground level at a phenomenal speed. His observation time was 1/2 seconds and he describes it as being lit at one edge.

Evaluation: Meteor

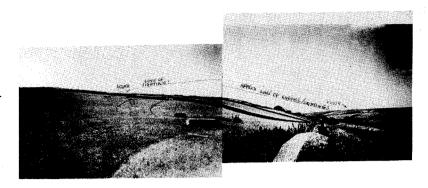
Date: 30 July 1995, Low Bradfield Village, Nr. Sheffield Inv: Dominic Beglin

WB. and four witnesses had driven to Low Bradfield Village at around midnight, parked their car in a small area along the valley road, and walked to a nearby field, sitting down to view the night sky. At approximately 12.15 am, all five witnesses observed a triangular object, which they describe as being much larger than a commericial airliner, and flying flat side forward, with a red light at each point. It appeared to be high up, and there was a loud roaring noise, which they felt was extremely loud for an aircraft at such a height. The red lights were not flashing, but remained steady, and they thought it was black in colour. Ten minutes after this observation the witnesses noticed an orange ball of light, extremely bright and travelling very fast. When it reached the horizon, it appeared to stop and hover for three to four minutes, after this emitting a small ball of red light which moved upwards very fast and out of sight.

A third sighting of an orange ball of light was then seen, this time heading south to

north very fast. This sighting was followed by observation of two aircraft.

north. As it got nearer they all saw an object, which they described as a saucer



Low Bradfield Village

Investigation of these sightings has included checking with military airbases in the area, as well as Manchester and Leeds Airports in order to ascertain whether anything had been recorded on radar. There had been an unidentified trace logged at RAF Finningley, but this was at 1.am. Dominic is awaiting further information from various sources and this will be updated in a future issue. However, I do feel quite strongly that the third sighting may well have been an observation of the meteor activity through July/August.

Date: 21 August 95, Rudds Hill, Ferry Hill, County Durham Inv: Peter Raw.

Steven P, his brother Ian and two friends, were camping in a field near Streetly quarry very close to their parents home. It was approximately 9.55pm when their friend Tony observed an object, which he described as a bright light coming from the

with lights around it and a dome on the top with two large beams of light emanating from the front. They give an estimated observation time of eight to ten seconds, although this varies slightly, as being longer than ten seconds. Three of the boys are aged fifteen and the other eleven years old. They rushed home to inform their parents, and fortunately Mrs. P. asked them all to sketch the object they had seen. The drawings are very similar. They reported this to the Northern Echo, who did an item on it within a couple of days. This sighting is still being investigated and an up-date will be given when further information and details have been checked.

Many thanks on behalf of BUFORA to David A. Newton for the astronomical data which he kindly supplied as well some initial photographic analysis on video and photographs at present here in Newcastle.



Object first seen just above the trees and to the left of the 'x'

The GAO Report

What does it Prove?

By Mike Wootten

After nearly two years, the United States General Accounting Office has finally released its findings.

In an important press release issued on 28th July 1995, Congressman Steve Schiff, representing New Mexico, praised the work conducted by the GAO, but was concerned with their findings.

The report outlines the discovery of only two documents relating to the Roswell incident but neither confirmed the existence of a crashed disc. However, the damning revelation that there was evidence that documents had been destroyed without using proper procedures will undoubtedly open the floodgates of speculation and conspiracy theory.

Although the findings of the GAO are important, especially when the USAF tried to circumvent the release of the report by issuing their own statement, 'coming clean' that the crash was of a secret balloon used to monitor Soviet nuclear tests under the name of Project Mogul, we are no nearer the truth.

The report underlined the fact that at the time, balloon crashes were not classified under air accident procedures - so it is possible that any report filed at the time were not considered important. Therefore they were destroyed. But many will concluded that the documents were destroyed without proper procedure to hide the real truth.

Combined History for July 1947

RESTRICTED

The other three briefings were those which were given to the VIP and a simulated briefing to a large group of Air Scouts representing all of the troops in New Mexico which was given on 15 July 1947.

Several small projects were completed during the month including signs on all the office doors, a building directory, and a world situation map which is maintained on a day-to-day basis.

The Historical Section of S-2 has been seriously handicapped by the removal of the regular

Immediate Release

July 28th, 1995

Schiff Receives, Releases Roswell Report (missing documents leave unanswered questions)

Washington: Congressman Steve Schiff today released the General Accounting Office (GAO) report detailing results of a records audit related to events surrounding a crash in 1947, near Roswell, New Mexico, and the military response.

The 20 page report is the result of constituent information requests to Congressman Schiff and the difficulty he had getting answers from the Department of Defense in the now 48-year-old controversy.

Schiff said important documents, which may have shed more light on what happened at Roswell, are missing. "The GAO report states that the outgoing messages from Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF) for this period of time were destroyed without proper authority. Schiff pointed out that these messages would have shown how military officials in Roswell were explaining to their superiors exactly what happened.

"It is my understanding that these outgoing messages were permanent records, which should never have been destroyed. The GAO could not identify who destroyed the messages, or why." But Schiff pointed out that the GAO estimates that the messages were destroyed over 40 years ago, making further inquiry about their destruction impractical.

Documents revealed by the report include an FBI teletype and reference in a newsletter style internal forum at RAAF that refer to a "radar tracking device" - a reference to a weather balloon. Even though the weather balloon story has since been discredited by the US Air Force, Schiff suggested that the authors of those communications may have been repeating what they were told, rather than consciously adding to what some believe is a "cover up."

"At least this effort caused the Air Force to acknowledge that the crashed vehicle was no weather balloon," Schiff said. "That explanation never fit the fact of high military security used at the time." The Air Force in September, 1994 claimed that the crashed vehicle was a then-classified device to detect evidence of possible Soviet nuclear testing.

Schiff also praised the efforts of the GAO, describing their work as "professional, conscientious and thorough."

A two page letter discussing a related investigation into "Majestic 12" was also delivered.

stenographer with the reduction in force.

Due to the fact that the quality of the department reports has in general been so inadequate, lectures are being prepared to be given early in August to properly train the liaison representatives of each department.

The Office of Public Information was kept quite busy during the month answering inquiries on the "flying disc", which was reported to be in the possession of the 509th Bomb Group. The object turned out to be a radar tracking balloon.

The main project of the month was making all

arrangements for a successful Air Force Day. Lt. Colonel Oliver LaFarge, Air Reserve Corps, at Santa Fe, made arrangements for Colonel Blanchard to visit the Governor of New Mexico and ask him to declare Air Force Day in New Mexico on 7 August.

Thanks go to John Kirby, Portland Oregon

Randle and Schmitt Roswell Investigation Team e-mail: JKirbyPDX@aol.com for supplying the material.

The actual hard copy of this report can be ordered by calling the GAO publications ordering desk at (202) 512-6000.

FBI TELETYPE MESSAGE DATED JULY 8, 1947

[Note %%%% indicates area blacked out by marker; spelling is reproduced as is in the original.]

TELETYPE

FBI DALLAS

7-8-47

6-17 PM %%%%%%

DIRECTOR AND SAC, CINCINNATI URGENT FLYING DISC, INFORMATION CONCERNING %%%%%% HEADOUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS OFFICE THAT AN OBJECT PURPORTING TO BE A FLYING DISC WAS RE COVERED NEAR ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO, THIS DATE. THE DISC IS HEXAGONAL IN SHAPE AND WAS SUSPENDED FROM A BALLON BY CABLE, WHICH BALLON WAS APPROXIMATELY TWENTY FEET IN DIAMETER. ADVISED THAT THE OBJECT FOUND RESEMBLES A HIGH ALTITUDE WEATHER BALLON WITH A RADAR REFLECTOR, BUT THAT TELEPHONIC CONVERSATION BETWEEN THEIR OFFICE AND WRICHT FIELD HAD NOT %%%%%%%% BORNE OUT THIS BELIEF. DISC AND BALLOON BEING TRANSPORTED TO WRIGHT FIELD BY SPECIAL PLANE FOR EXAMINAT INFORMATION PROVIDED THIS OFFICE BECAUSE OF NATIONAL INTEREST IN CASE. XXXX AND FACT THAT NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, ASSOCIATED PRESS, AND OTHERS ATTEMPTING TO BREAK STORY OF

LOCATION OF DISC TODAY. %%%% %%%% ADVISED WOULD REQUEST

WRIGHT FIELD TO ADVISE CINCINNATI OFFICE RESULTS OF EXAMINATION,

NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED.

WYLY

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END

CXXXX ACK IN ORDER

UA 92 FBI CI MJW

BPI H8

8-38 PM O

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OK FBI CI

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Newshites

Headline: Admiral in UFO Cover-up Claim

Daily Star (4th September, 1995)

One of Britain's highest ranking military officers backs claims that the government is suppressing evidence of a 1,000 mph UFO. Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton says the craft must have been seen by British radar nearing the South Coast.

Author Derek Sheffield insists four NATO radar stations (three in Belgium and one in Germany) tracked a fast-moving triangular craft across Western Europe. It came within six minutes of entering UK air space, manoeuvering and changing course 12 times in 22 seconds.

The Ministry of Defence denies it. Two Belgian Air Force F-16 fighters were scrambled to intercept but could not keep up. Lord Hill-Norton says: "The facts have been documented and confirmed by the Belgian authorities."

Mr Sheffield, of Rolvenden, Kent, is to publish official Belgian documents from the sighting March 30, 1990 - including control tower transcripts.

From: Terry.Colvin@interport.net

New Consultant for BUFORA

Dave Newton, B.Sc. (Hons) a Physics teacher for north Tyneside has agreed to be a Consultant for BUFORA. Chairman of the Sunderland Astronomical Society, Dave will assist in case evaluation.

UFOS: Examining THE EVIDENCE "The biggest and best UFO conference of '95"

The Proceedings of the 8th BUFORA International UFO Congress

Compiled and edited by Mike Wootten, The Proceedings of the 8th BUFORA International UFO Congress includes the presented papers from 11 congress speakers, a profile of Jeff Wayne and an exclusive interview with Ray Santilli.

This fully illustrated 56 page document is an important permanent record of probably the biggest UFO conference ever organised in the UK.

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Edited by Neil Doyle

Yet again the prominent topic on Usenet has been the Santilli "Roswell" footage over the past couple of months. The volume of comments and theorieshave ballooned since the first screening of the film on Channel Four in August and at Bufora's Sheffield conference.

The situation has lead some to denounce the UFO groups as boring as a result and ask wether there is anything else to talk about. My personal favourite was a firm assertion that both the "creatures" seen in the film are actually shaved monkeys!

The opinion of an unnamed specials effects company, cross-posted from CompuServe's Encounters forum, suggested that the two things in the autopsy sequence were constructed of latex and described a technique used from making the cutting of latex appear like cutting skin:

"Whilst foam latex can look identical to skin, it does not cut like skin, it tends to pucker and pull unconvincingly. However cuts have often been simulated on foam latex (and human skin) using a well known and rather outdated trick; the cutting knife would have a tube fixed to its blind side, fake blood would then be pumped down the tube, appearing to flow out of the line of the cut, creating an effect identical to the cuts portrayed on the autopsy footage."

The latex dummy theory was also aired by a special effects man (it could be the same one) in the Channel Four documentary. Few voices are now heard on the Internet believing the film to be real. To my mind it looked like video transferred to film, and it is interesting that Santilli has still to submit samples of the film for chemical analysis.

BUFORA has also come in for a battering in the aftermath of August's events. The most serious allegation being that two men connected to BUFORA have threatened some one who is apparently leading an independent investigation into

the footage, a certain Kevin O'Crean and his wife.

The post said: "The following questions need to be asked by BUFORA members, its executive board, and the law enforcement community of the United Kingdom. Is it true that BUFORA sent out two yobs to phone up Kevin O'Crean, warning him off attending the Santilli/ BU-LL-FORA August conference to prevent him from raising some fundamental questions about Santilli's *Roswell* footage authenticity? Is it also true that these two men went so far as tracking the O'Creans to their home, "visiting" Kevin's wife and threatening to kill the family pets and Mrs. O'Crean if Kevin doesn't lay off the investigation of Santilli and BUFORA? Is it also true that the two men have been identified as being from BUFORA MEMBERS, currently residing at Sheffield University. If these incidents have occurred then this is a direct contravention of the BUFORA code of membership and demands IMMEDIATE POLICE INVESTIGATION."

On the 18 August O'Crean posted a criticism of BUFORA's Philip Walton in an interview on CNN World News, during which Walton apparently stated that he does not believe the Santilli "aliens" are real, or that ETs have crashed or landed on Earth, and that crop circles are hoaxes.

Said O'Crean: "BUFORA has at last come off the fence and stated categorically on World TV that they consider it a hoax. This statement must be a big disappointment to Philip Mantle the pro-Santilli member of BUFORA. BUFORA have heard the call and have taken to the lifeboats! God Save the Queen!" [note 1]

Away from Roswell, a number of intriguing reports of sighting were posted, although down in numbers due to the holiday season, I guess. Here's one posted on 19 August.

"Time: 02:56 a.m. BST. (01:56 GMT). Location: Whitefield. North Manchester. Near June. 17 M62. Conditions: Virtually no wind. Clear with 'Surface Haze'. Brighter Magnitude stars visible and moon in approx ESE location." "Description of Object. 2 distinctly bright 'lights' apparently joined or moving in

unison. Altitude unknown. Lighting characteristics unlike the usual aircraft in this vicinity, (Manchester International Airport). Absolutely no sound. (No sonic characteristics that one would associate with an aircraft travelling at a similar speed, in the same conditions)." "Direction of Travel: First noticed in the South East, travelling North West. Approximation of course: Following a 'straight course' from the direction of Failsworth, (South Oldham), towards Bolton, Winter Hill. Speed of travel appeared constant. Object(s) faded in the distance, (smaller angle of vision through surface haze). Duration of sighting; approx 90 secs to 2 mins."

The suburbs of Los Angeles seen to have been witness to a few occurrences over the past few months, like this report, headed: "Blue glow over Pasadena", posted by someone known as Dolphin 217. "On the night of August 2nd at approximately 10:00 P.M. my father spotted ablue glow which crossed the sky from north to south at a speed similar to that of a helicopter. He described the glow as reddish which turned blue as it travelled across the sky. The glow did not leave any trail of any sort, and it disappeared in about 5-7 seconds. He described the glow as "appearing out of nowhere" and then "disappearing into thin air." If anyone else knows of this phenomena which was described as something he had never seen before in his life please make it public. "

ISCNI*Flash is the twice-monthly electronic newsletter of ISCNI, for something called The Institute for the Study of Contact with Non-human Intelligence. It can be subscribed to free by e-mail and usually contains good quality stuff, including this report from Argentina.

"Aflight crew for Aerolineas Argentinas, and aviation officials on the ground, observed a luminous object that approached the aircraft as it was about to land at Bariloche airport, about 870 miles from Buenos Aires. Control tower personnel reported all of their instruments started behaving strangely at about the same time. Ground observers said the UFO appeared to have shining lights on its belly."

"ISCNI*Flash has learned from a

European source these further details. The commercial jet, type not known, was on approach to the airport at Bariloche at approximately midnight on August 1. An estimated 103 people were aboard. A brightly lit object approached the jet, flashing and changing colors as it came. The jet pilot, fearing a collision, took evasive manoeuvres. The bright object then flew in formation with the jet, approximately 100 meters away. Most of the passengers and the flight crew of the jet saw the object. Later, many described it as a "space ship" and as big as the jetliner, with multi-colored flashing lights. Observers in the airport control tower and military officials on the ground also observed the object."

"As the plane and UFO approached the airport, all electrical power at the airport and in much of the nearby town failed, causing a blackout. With the runway lights out, the pilot of the jet aborted his landing approach and brought the plane around for a second attempt. He succeeded in landing the plane on the secondtry, though ISCNI*Flash has not learned if the electrical power had been restored by that time. Meanwhile, witnesses observed the UFO to climb straight up and out of sight at high speed."

That's it for this issue, just a few sample scrapings from the tip of the iceberg that is the Internet. Don't forget that BUFORA's official e-mail address is bufora@stairway.co.uk.

Adios! :> Neil Doyle, neil@station1.demon.co.uk

Note 1 It should be noted that 'Kevin O'Crean' is possibly a pseudonym for a group of students who have posted wild accusations regarding the Roswell film. At one point internet postings from this group were intercepted that detailed the organisation of a demonstration to disrupt the BUFORA Congress. Unversity security and the Police were informed along with Santilli's own security people. At no time did BUFORA people threaten this group in any way, we prefer to ignore them. [Ed]

Research Review

by Steve Gamble

Recent years have seen a massive increase in the number of people with home computers. More recently there has been an expansion in the number of people communicating from their computers using Bulletin Boards.

People telephone the Bulletin Board to either collect messages or to leave messages. The Bulletin Board is usually divided into different subject areas so that callers need only read messages on the topics in which they are interested. A particular message may be addressed to one individual caller or it can be addressed to all callers. Usually the Bulletin Board belongs to one or more networks. The network is just a number of different Bulletin Boards which have the ability to exchange messages on similar topics between them. This means, for example, I could leave a message on a Bulletin Board in London for my friend John in Aberdeen. If John calls a Bulletin Board in Aberdeen that is a member of the same network he will be able to read the message I have left him.

When you telephone a bulletin board for the first time, you are usually asked to fill in an on-screen questionnaire about who you are and what your interests are. This allows you to be a 'registered user', but some bulletin boards will ask you to pay a subscription before you are allowed use of all the facilities or beyond a certain time limit. Other bulletin boards allow users free access to a wide range of services. Many bulletin boards allow people on their first call access to a very limited range of facilities. It is considered polite to leave a message on your first call to a bulletin board telling the system operator a little about yourself. Most bulletin board system operators will upgrade the access you are allowed to a wider range of facilities within a couple of days of receiving your introductory message. As the bulletin boards are all run by independent operators, arrangements will vary from bulletin board to bulletin board. Most boards would handle modems with the following parameters: 2400 baud, 1 stop bit, no parity (2400,1,N). Usually bulletin boards can accept a much wider range of modem parameters, but that varies between bulletin boards.

In the USA there are several networks which carry information about UFOs, for example MUFONet and Paranet. A few months back, Shane Nolan who runs a

Bulletin Board called "Stairway to Heaven" started a UFO and paranormal oriented network in the UK. This is called UFOnet, and I am pleased to be able to inform readers that Shane has kindly provided a message area specifically for BUFORA. This can be used for members to communicate between each other and for the publication of late breaking news, for example reminders about lectures or changes in speakers. The message area is moderated by myself and Michael Hudson. This means that if a user misbehaves, for example bad language and personal attacks are not allowed, we tell them off and in extreme cases can ask for people to be suspended or completely banned from using the network.

The number of Bulletin Boards carrying UFOnet seems to increase daily with Boards throughout the UK and now boards from other parts of the world are beginning to join. So far there is only one Board in the USA which is a member of UFOnet, but I understand Shane is negotiating with other Bulletin Boards in the USA, Australia and South Africa. Shane would be able to update people on which Bulletin Boards local to them carry UFOnet. A message can left for Shane on "Stairway to Heaven" (Phone number: 0181 769 1740 Modem speeds to 28.8k, 8bit, no parity, one stop bit). Please note that not all Bulletin Boards in UFOnet carry all message areas, if your local Bulletin Board does not carry the BUFORA area ask the system operator who may be willing to receive these message areas. Similarly Bulletin Boards might invite you to pay a subscription which helps towards the running costs of the Bulletin Board. If a subscription is charged, the amount and the arrangements for payment are all a matter for the operator of the local Bulletin Board. BUFORA has no input to these. Some Bulletin Boards which carry UFOnet at the time of writing are listed opposite.

There has been much talk in the media about the Information Super Highway in the media. This is primarily based on a system called Internet which links together many universities and companies throughout the world, and increasingly Bulletin Boards. The Internet carries a number of mail, news and information services. BUFORA now has its own

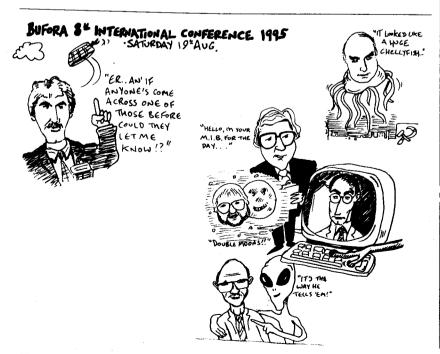
NUMBER

NAME	LOCATION	MODEM PHONE I
Stairway to Heaven Pandora's Box Shades Mithril Hall Emerald Syberspace Scotch Mist	London Potters Bar Tyneside Manchester Plymouth Dundee	0181 769 1740 0170 766 4778 0167 078 7672 0161 681 3396 0170 258 4337 0175 222 6834
Grays Anatomy	Florida, USA	0138 264 4820 (619) 778 1866

Internet mailbox (courtesy of Shane Nolan and Stairway to Heaven). BUFORA's Internet mail address is "bufora@stairway.co.uk". Currently the mail messages are collected by me twice each week, usually on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Internet carries Network News, which is something similar to its own Bulletin Board system. Network News carries a number of message areas related to UFOs and paranormal topics. One of the main UFO areas is called "alt.alien.visitors". Many of these message areas have what is called the Frequently Asked Questions (or FAQ) file. This is in effect a small book, somewhat like an encyclopedia, which is regularly updated. I am pleased to be able to tell you that BUFORA is promoted in the "alt.alien.vistors" FAQ which is mailed to close to 1 million sites worldwide, each with many readers, at approximately monthly intervals. As I am the current editor of the FAQ, I also upload the updated files to the "Stairway to Heaven" Bulletin Board, so it may also be available on other UFOnet Boards. However, with the advent of BUFORA's initiative to launch a World Wide Web site, information dissemination from British ufology will be enhanced even greater.

Finally, I must close on a sad note. Over recent weeks I had been in contact with Vladimir Godic of UFORA in Australia discussing how our two organisations might cooperate on research projects. The pilots project was one area where Vladimir had suggested UFORA and BUFORA might be able to exchange information. I was shocked and saddened to hear of Vladimir's sudden death on 29th January 1995. Although Vladimir was not widely known in the UK, he was one of Australia's leading UFOlogists and devoted many years of hard work to the study of UFO phenomena. BUFORA sends its regrets to Vladimir's family and colleagues.



Stop Press

Roswell Autopsy: Reflections Spark Further Investigation

Fresh debate, centred around reflections seen in the glass screen of the of the autopsy room, may result in fresh clues in the drive to present conclusive evidence that the film is a hoax.

A US viewer of the Fox documentary noticed, after close examination, a reflection that seems to show the cameraman behind the left shoulder of one of the surgeons. Viewer Jim Tippins, states that he is convinced that the cameraman is wearing a shirt adorned with a similar logo as 'Hard Rock Cafe' shirts.

Jim writes:- Just after a shot of someone writing on the paper, the scene changes to the autopsy table. The observation window is ahead at a slight angle to the left. One surgeon is on the left and one is on the right. The cameraman perspective is looking from the right bottom side of the table, towards the window.

The reflection of the left surgeon is on the window. As the cameraman changes perspective, you can see another slight image in the right side of the window. It is obscured by the right surgeons head from time to time. From the angle noted, it cannot be the surgeon on the right.

It appears to be a cameraman leaning over to his left to get the picture. He appears to NOT be wearing any contamination suit, rather, he appears to be wearing a dark shirt. My impression is that it is a dark shirt with some kind of emblem in the centre(like a hard rock cafe shirt). He appears to have something around his waist like a belt. I though at first that the belt was at an angle, but he is actually leaning to his left to try to get the shot without being seen in the window. His left forearm is visible holding up the camera which must be on his right shoulder. You can't see his face or below his belt because the right surgeon's head is in the way.

This scene happens very fast. You have to be prepared to see it.

Mike Wootten has examined the segment and said, "I have watched this segment several times and although you can see a reflection it has little detail." He added, "The reporter was viewing a video recorded in NTSC, which has far less definition than the PAL standard used in the UK. I feel that it is a matter of the mind making images out of the grain."

However, BUFORA has passed this information onto video enhancement specialists to conduct further analysis.

Jim Tippins can be emailed on jim_t@digital.net
Thanks go to Kent Jeffery for briefing BUFORA of the situation.

The Morgana Pictures

by John Spencer

If the Roswell Footage arguments weren't murky enough the whole controversy recently took a weird swerve when three photographs - obviously contemporary - were received by ourselves, Fortean Times and Union Pictures (who did the Channel 4 documentary). These show what looks like the alien head being airbrushed and painted. The pictures were accompanied by a compliments slip from 'Morgana Productions UK 95'. But no message and no explanation. Searching for Morgana through company records and the entertainments industry catalogues turned up noth-

These images offered three questions: Were they showing that the film was a fake and that someone was going to prove it? Was someone pressuring the originator of the fake to perhaps give them more money or they would release even more damning photographs?

Were they the product of simple mischief; not exactly a rare commodity in this field? If so, costly mischief it would seem.

Or was a special effects house trying to show that they could re-create the alien from the stills shown in the newspapers over the months (whether or not that alien is genuine or fake itself)? All quite possible and a good advert for a budding special effects house.

I knew immediately I had a major advantage over most of our UFO colleagues. Through my business I had contacts in most of the major special effects companies and I was certain that I would quickly be able to identify who had generated the images. If I couldn't I was certain that I knew someone who could.

We set in process CADCAM tests on

the pictures to precisely identify the spatial relationships between the facial features and then match them to the new photographs. This would have shown that the two heads were not exactly the same. There were two other aspects to the photographs which were, I was sure, going to 'give the game away'. Following a promise to those who have now come forward and admitted producing the photographs I am not going to specify those tests.

In the end it was, as it often is, pure luck that one of my contacts happened to be in the right place at the right time, said precisely the wrong thing and unravelled the whole mystery. I gather that it was by indicating the tests that we planned to carry out that made them come clean. I should stress that these are not ufologists, they are a team of special effects people for the film industry. The statement that they have sent me for release is reproduced here without editing or censorship and explains their motivations.

Readers will be interested to know that the photographs were also widely circulated to the national news media prior to the BUFORA conference in the hopes that the media would pressure BUFORA into taking a critical line which 'Morgana' thought we had not done. Ironically this part of the plan did not work as the media were unable to use the pictures because they could not prove the copyright position. On the other hand I am not aware that any of the media gave anyone in the UFO field 'the tip-off' which suggests either extreme caution or a certain enjoyment with the mystery on their part as well!

I must stress that because of the calibre of the contacts through which I located these people and my longterm relationship with my contacts I am totally satisfied that this is the true answer to this mystery. The people involved are somewhat embarrassed and even more irritated by the amount of attention they have generated and they have made clear that they would now like to be left in peace having done, as they see it, a service for ufology. I hope that we shall respect that.

One of their mistakes as regards generating publicity was probably to use the word Morgana. There are many players in the UFO business who seem to treat the whole thing like a game of Dungeons and Dragons and bringing in a character from mythology was like a red rag to a bull. However, I am sure that it was appreciated by most people that Morgana was chosen as she was the Nemesis of Merlin.

One of the latest rumours is that Quest have received a letter from people from the film industry saying they know who the hoaxers are, but the Morgana people feel this is unlikely. Although these are well known people in their trade they apparently kept everything under wraps about this particular project. (If Quest would like to work with us on this we will happily help them track down the source of this mischief as it appears to be unnecessarily muddying now-clear waters).

There are still some interesting questions left over. I have had passed to me messages allegedly from Ray Santilli (I have not had a reply from him confirming this) that he knew who the creators of the Morgana pictures were. The first suggestion was RTL TV in Germany (we followed this up and discovered it was not) and then John Lundberg (who readers will know from recent articles in the UFO press) but the Morgana people assure me they do not even know who he is. If Ray Santilli is putting these suggestions out what exactly is it he is worried about? Is he considering that the film he purchased might have been similarly created and that the artists responsible are about to stand up and be counted?



Morgana Productions UK

Now that the furore surrounding the Roswell Archive footage has subsided, Morgana Productions UK feel the time is right to talk about The Morgana Project.

Morgana's principal aim was to open the eyes of the mass media to the ease with which the alleged Roswell fontage could be duplicated. This was as a direct response to the vast amount of irresponsible journalism surrounding the case, and the apparent ease with which many within the media had been seduced and manipulated.

Similarly the release of photos depicting the manufacture of an alien to the UFO press was aimed at alerting ufologists that they might be unwittingly undermining the great advances in UFO research during the last decade, by blindly accepting the possibility that the archive footage might be genuine without first seeking, or receiving any verification of the fact.

Morgana's belief has always been that the archive film is a carefully orchestrated hoax. A secondary aim of the project was to rattle some cages in the hope that new evidence of the films origin and the motives of those behind it might come to light.

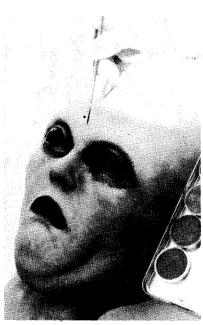
Morgana were aware of the possibility that their efforts might deflect research away from the true nature of the alleged archive film, and so were careful to ensure that there were significant differences between the aliens shown in the autopsy footage and that, depicted in the Morgana photos. It was hoped that any serious researcher would be able to see that although this was not the same alien it had plainly originated on the same planet.

In the event Morgana's concern that both Ufologists and the general public were being grossly exploited proved misplaced. The general concensus after the worldwide showing of segments of the archive film on 28/08/95 was in line with what *Morgana* had believed all along - that the film was a fake. The story died instantly.

Morgana hopes that Ufology will lick its wounds and learn to look with better eyes in the future. If the Morgana Project has been responsible in any way for that happening then it has not been in vain.

Morgana Productions UK 95





News*bites*

The Earl of Clancarty

William Francis Brinsley Le Poer Trench, died on 18 May, aged 83. The fifth son of the The Fifth Earl became the second editor of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (following Derek Dempster) in 1956 and edited 20 issues.

Brinsley helped to set up The INTERNATIONAL FLYING SAUCER OBSERVER CORPS in the fifties but this seems to have declined by the time LUFORO was formed in 1959. Circa 1964, Brinsley was feted by the Japanese COSMIC BROTHERHOOD ASSOCIATION as they were tickled by his title 'The Honourable', and he attended the opening of their shrine with arch and flying saucer model in a park in Hokkaido, under blue skies, on International Flying Saucer Sighting Day, 24 June.

Perhaps as a result of this he went on to become the Founder-President of the International Sky Scouts, which following objections from the Baden-Powell organisation, became CONTACT INTERNATIONAL, still based in the Oxford area, and publishing the magazine, AWARENESS. In 1975 he became the 8th Earl and founded The House of Lords UFO Study Group. His high point came in January 1979 when he initiated that historic three hour UFO debate in the Lords. Their Lordships were astonished to see the Upper Chamber packed to the galleries!

Prior to this Brinsley had been the advertising manager of a gardening magazine. It was said that when not gazing at space, he made his living by selling it. As Brinsley Le Poer Trench, he had seven books published:

THE SKY PEOPLE (1960)
MEN AMONG MANKIND (1962)
FORGOTTEN HERITAGE (1964)
THE FLYING SAUCER STORY (1966)
OPERATION EARTH (1969)
THE ETERNAL SUBJECT (1973)
SECRET OF THE AGES (1974)

Some of the material in these books, show that he was a very strong advocate of the "Ancient Astronaut" theory, predating Erich von Daniken and Zecharia Sitchin. Clearly, he believed that the "Sky People" had benevolent intentions towards the human race.

In 1979, I asked Brinsley to open Bufora's First International UFO Congress, in London, that I was co-ordinating, (sponsored by Grand Metropolitan Hotels), but not to mention *THE HOLLOW EARTH*. After mulling this over for a couple of hours, he rang me back to tell me (to paraphrase) that he would not be censored. Besides his "Holes in the



Poles," he embarrassed Gordon Creighton, by publicising "Tibetan Lama" (pen-name) Lobsang Rama's exploits in FSR. His eccentric ideas often masked some highly original thinking. Despite that, seven pages of tribute in AWARENESS show that Brinsley was a well-liked and respected pioneering ufologist. He was a Vice-President of BUFORA. He died in a Sussex nursing home and was survived by his fourth wife, May. The title passes to his nephew, Nicholas Le Poer Trench.

Lionel Beer.

Investigator Correspondance Course

Please note that the BUFORA investigator training course has been suspended until further notice. PM

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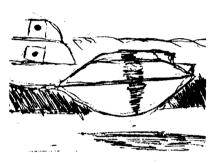
Sighting in Colorado

Report by Shari Adamiak

Date/Time: 27 April 1995 - 7:15am

Location: 1 mile south of Fairplay, Colorado (39° 15-106°0)

The male witness was driving to Denver to join a band at a recording session. He looked over a pile of tailings and saw that the rising sun over the mountains was reflecting off a high polished surface.



He saw a spinning disc, "...Hamburger shaped with a small cupola on top". He stopped the car and got out to observe it. He was no more than 150ft away from it. The object was 3ft off the ground and was 3-4ft in diameter. It was smooth and silver and had two block-like areas on it.

He estimates it was spinning at 200 rpm. He couldn'ttell that it was actually spinning until it stopped and the blocks became visible. In the centre of each block was a black solid circle. The disc then began spinning the opposite direction and instantly vanished. The sighting lasted between one and a half to two minutes.

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UFOS! Examining THE EVIDENCE

"The biggest and best UFO conference of '95"

Conference Review

by Philip Mantle.

In honour of Walter Andrus and sponsored by Colombia Records/Sony Music and Jeff Waynes War of the Worlds.

After many months of planning the conference went ahead as planned at Hallam University in Sheffield over the weekend of August 19 & 20. Two full theatres saw 1300 delegates assemble for what was BUFORA's largest conference to date. People had traveled from Australia, Russia, USA, Israel, France, Belgium, Holland, China, Rumania and a whole host of other countries simply to attend the conference. The media were also there in abundance, not just from the UK but TV crews from France, Germany. Chile, Israel, Brazil, USA and our own kept our stewards and speakers alike extremely busy.

Day 1: 19th August

Our guest of honour Walter Andrus, the International Director of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). opened the conference with a brief history of BUFORA and his connection with the association. His opening address was illustrated with a number of slides one of which was a highly amusing one of BUFORA's Chairman John Spencer.

The first speaker proper to take the podium was Malcolm Robinson from Scotland. Malcolm is BUFORA's coordinator for Scotland along with being the founder member of the Strange Phenomena Investigations (SPI) and editor of Enigmas magazine. Malcolm gave a sometimes passionate account of Scottish ufology which was superbly illustrated. This was Malcolm's first presentation at a BUFORA conference but on this performance I'm sure it will not be his last.

Following Malcolm Robinson was the first of our two Russian speakers Dr Sergey Chernouss. Struggling with the language barrier and a few technical

difficulties with the slide projector Dr Chernouss detailed his research into the 'Petrozavodsk Phenomenon'. Coming to the conclusion that the events in question were the results of natural phenomenon a lot of which had been recorded on an All Sky Camera.

After lunch on the first day Saw Per Andersen from Denmark take the podium. Double Moons and other recent events over Denmark was the title of Per's presentation. Again excellently illustrated Per gave an in-depth overview of these recent fascinating series of events one of which was also witnessed by his own wife.



Maurizio Verga

Per Andersen was followed by Maurizio Verga from Italy. Maurizio has presented papers at previous BUFORA events. Probably one of the best illustrated of all the presentations Maurizio detailed the management of UFO data using computers with examples of how today's computer technology should be used for the exchange and management of UFO data around the world.

After a short break we saw the first of our colleagues from the USA. Dr Leo Sprinkle gave a fascinating and sometimes highly amusing insight into the psychical aspects of contactee and abductee experiences. Using no visual aids whatsoever Dr Sprinkle's presentation at times had everyone in fits of laughter but at other times gave everyone food for thought.

The last presentation on the first day was that of Ray Santilli. Amid tight security the conference saw the first public screening of the alleged alien autopsy film. Mr Santilli, not accustomed to speaking in public, briefly outlined how he obtained the film before showing one of the autopsy segments in full plus a few minutes of film allegedly depicting debris from the crashed vehicle. Like everyone else he then took a few questions from the floor. During the showing of the film the audience sat in complete silence and both theatres were packed to capacity. Whether the film was authentic or not was most certainly the debate of the day that continued long after the days events had drawn to a close.

Day 2. 20th August

Day two began with a long standing friend of BUFORA's taking the floor. Cynthia Hind from Zimbabwe had presented papers at a number of previous BUFORA events and once her presentation was underway it was easy to see why she had been invited back again. Detailing first some recent sightings in Africa Cynthia went on to discuss a truly fascinating events witnessed by a large group of school children in Ruwa in Zimbabwe. Cynthia detailed this 1994 event in some detail before showing video-taped interviews with some of the children in question. The research into this event is still ongoing but Cynthia is convinced that it is one of the most significant UFO events of 1994 anywhere in the world and on this presentation I would not disagree with her.

Cynthia Hind's presentation was a hard act to follow but Dr Yulii Platov from Russia, the second of our Russian speakers and the third Ph.D. did his best. This was Dr Platov's first presentation at a UFO conference and the nerves certainly showed. Like his colleague before him Dr Platov detailed his research into UFO reports received by the Academy of Sciences in Moscow. Again natural phenomenon and Russian rockets launches were responsible for the sightings in questions. Struggling with the language barrier Dr Platov ended his presentation with the words "Don't shoot the piano player, I did my best" which brought a huge round of applause.

Following Dr Platov after lunch was Dr Helmut Lammer from Austria, the forth Ph.D. of the conference. Detailing in great depth Dr Lammer showed how the so-called 'face on Mars' is not a product of Martians, certainly not Martian's that were indigenous to the planet. According to Dr Lammer the planet Mars for a variety of reasons could not have housed Martian humanoid creatures. The best it could have managed if life did at one time exist were fish but he did not rule out the possibility that Mars could have been populated by humanoids from another planet. A highly scientific and technical presentation that certainly contradicted some of the current ideas on Mars and its mysteries.



Peter Robbins

After this highly technical presentation the second of our American speakers came to the podium. Peter Robbins gave the audience an insight into his research into the RAF Woodbridge events in Suffolk in 1980. Peter was accompanied by Larry Warren one of the US military witnesses to the events in question. Peter's presentation was not just informative and well documented, but also highly amusing at times also. Joined by Larry Warren both highlighted what is probably one of if not the most significant UFO events to take place anywhere in the UK. It was Peter and Larry's first appearance at a BUFORA event and judging by the tremendous reaction they received from the audience it will not be their last.

After the break there should have been a short presentation by our sponsor Jeff Wayne in conjunction with Colombia Records/Sony Music. However, Mr

Wayne had been taken ill and was unable to attend the conference. However, an already planned but additional presentation by BUFORA's Chairman John Spencer discussed one particular aspect of the War of the World's story, that being the radio broadcast in 1938 by Orson Welles, John, accompanied by the new War of the Worlds CD released by Jeff Wayne, detailed his research into the Welles broadcast particularly concentrating on the 'panic in the streets' aspect of it. John and his wife Anne had contacted a number of agencies in the USA and could find no evidence to support the claims of such panic.

With the art of the Worlds music dying away Michael Hesemann from Germany was the next speaker. Michael had been following the alleged Roswell film footage closely and had been in contact with Ray Santilli on a number of occasions. Acting on all the information available Michael had attempted to research the various claims. As far as he was concerned the Santilli film could possibly be genuine. He had found no evidence that it was a hoax but instead had found a number of things that could possibly be in its favour. Again a superbly illustrated presentation which added further debate to this already controversial film.

Our last speaker of the two days was Vicente-Juan Ballester-Olmos from Spain. I had practiced long and hard to make sure that I pronounced this name correctly and I think I just about managed it. Making a few UK researchers somewhat envious Vicente detailed his access and research into the Spanish Air Force files on UFO's. A fitting end to the two days events it made me wonder was lies in the files of our own and other air forces around the world.

To round off the event our guest of honour Walter Andrus again took the floor to conduct the closing ceremony.

The conference saw three presentations, two of which were planned, the other of which came as quite a surprise. All three were made on Sunday 20th of August during the conference.

The first presentation was made on behalf of BUFORA to our guest of honour Mr



Walter Andrus. BUFORA's Chairman John Spencer presented Mr Andrus and engraved plaque for his services to ufology over the years.

The second presentation again by BUFORA was presented by John Spencer to Gloria Dixon. Gloria had been voted BUFORA's investigator of the year for 1994/95 and she accepted on behalf of all of BUFORA's investigators network.

The third and final and totally unexpected presentation was made by Mr Odd-Gunnar Roed of UFO Norway to yours truly. Totally out of the blue and totally unknown to me UFO NORWAY presented me with with three signed pieces of Norwegian artwork for my help in promoting their Project Hessdalen around the world. John Spencer remarked that this was the first time he had seen me stuck for words. He was right, I was.

Like all conferences we encounter the usual difficulties. A few technical problems, the time-table running late, and so on. However, I think it is fair to say that our 8th International UFO Congress was a success in many ways bearing in mind we has the first Russian scientists speaking on the subject in the UK for the first time. They were two of four Ph.D's on the speakers list. Along with this we had speakers from the USA, Zimbabwe, Italy, Denmark, Austria, Spain, Germany and the UK. The biggest audience we have ever had, and probably the most controversial presentation we have ever had with the Santilli film.

When one keeps all of this in mind and remembering the theme of the conference was 'UFOs: EXAMINING THE EVIDENCE' I think I can say it was a great success no matter which way you look at it.

Such a conference is not easy to organise and as the oraniser I would like to thank all of those involved for their assistance. There are two many to name in person but our stewards did a marvelous job over the two days. The staff at the University along with everyone concerned have my thanks for making the 8th International UFO Congress and event to remember.

Conference Notes:

The BUFORA office had quite a mixed mail bag after the conference and here are just a few of the comments received.

"The Congress seemed to be a great success-everyone seemed to enjoy being there-there was a good mix of speakers plus all the excitement over the Santilli film. I would argue that the best speaker was the Italian, content wise. A coordinated data bank of UFO information, electronically available, would be of great value". D.N. Newcastle Upon Tyne.

"I've already booked a coachload of guests for the next visit, this includes 36 screaming weans, 4 old age pensioners, 4 rabid dogs, and old parrot with a heart complaint. I hope this won't put you out".

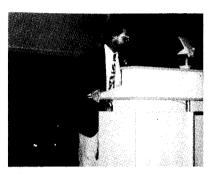
M.R. Scotland.

"A note to say a big "thank-you" for your tremendous hard work last weekend in Sheffield at the BUFORA conference. It was brilliantly organised, ran like clock-work and the speakers and subjects covered were absolutely riveting. Thank you too for all your help in arranging for the delegates to be interviewed by us for our series for the BBC World Service. It was a delight to know with confidence, that whoever we asked to interviewmagically arrived on time, willing and eager to participate-whether exhausted from giving their talk or not. It was thanks to you that the organisation of it all went so well and as a result we managed to record some excellent interviews which will, I know help to make the series a fascinating listen ".

A.H. Producer BBC World Service.

"I should also like to reiterate the point I made to you at the congress about the difficulty of understanding some of the speakers.....Do you think in future if

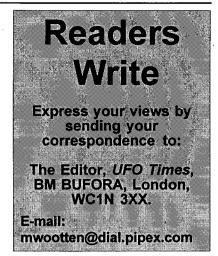
there is a doubt as to whether a speaker would be understood, his/her speech could be read for him/her?...But on the whole I thoroughly enjoyed the Congress (apart from the film Helmut Lammer and his talk about Mars was my favourite but Cynthia Hind and Malcolm Robinson were fascinating speakers too) and I'm looking forward to the next one". S.P. Surrey.



Larry Warren addresses the Conference

"First and foremost as a BUFORA member I would like to express my thanks and congratulations on a well organised and interesting seminar in Sheffield Last week-end. I thought the proceedings went off very well and look forward to attending future conferences". D.L. Birmingham.

"We feel we must write to you and express our disappointment at the event. The room was uncomfortable and no air conditioning, as you will remember it was a really hot day. The sound quality on the video and TV screens was poor and had to be turned up three times. What can I say about the various speakers, boring dull and monotonous. The only two speakers who brought some life and interest to the day were the Scottish speaker Malcolm Robinson and Per Anderson from Denmark. Maybe my idea of the day was different than other peoples. Perhaps my expectations were too high. I wanted to be surprised, baffled, astounded and amazed by the speakers and information you were going to present to us. I wanted to come back home and think I believe in aliens and flying spaceships. You were supposed to inspire me. I am left with the feeling that if aliens land on earth they certainly won't find anything to keep them here". L/S. and B.J. Sheffield.



THE ABDUCTED: My hard earned cash

Dear Editor,

THE ABDUCTORS: Greys disguised as advertisers in the UFO TIMES.

THE FACTS:

I sent £6 for various files to "The New Ufologist" on 9/7/95 the still no reply.

I sent £2 for "Roswell Internet Debate" disk to "Information Management" on 14/8/95, advert stated, "For just £2 you will be **rushed** a .720Mb disk"...still no reply.

I sent an SAE to Jenny Randles for details on the BUFORA investigators postal training course on the 15/5/95, so that I could advance from a (PA I) to an (AI), also sent a further SAE and fax...still no reply

I sent £33 for Roswell, "The Footage" video on the 25/7/95, advert stated, "World wide shipping date August 26th"...still no reply.

THE WARNING:-

Watch out you Greys, I know were your UFOs are based and I give you 7 Earth days to get your fingers out, or the launch of one of my "GREY SEEKING PERSONAL VISIT" missiles is imminent, failure to respond will only give me cause to think I have been the victim of a "Close Encounter of the Fraud Kind".

Yours sincerely John Watson, Hull.

Editorial Comment: This is not on! Although the requests and orders you have made in good faith should be dealt with quickly I know that Information Management are waiting for the leftover stock to come back from BUFORA, Jenny has a huge backlog of mail to deal with since her move to Blackpool and the recent sad death of her father, Merlin Communications who are marketing the 'Roswell Footage' are way behind on order fulfillment, but will be sending you a copy along with you cheque back in due course.

Diary

BUFORA London Lectures

University of Westminster, Marylabone Road, London NW1. Nearest tube Baker Street.

4th Nov

The Witness Bites Back

Do witnesses get a raw deal for the ufologists?

Ken Phillips

2nd Dec

Flight before Wright

An illustrated look at manned flight with UFO connection before the Wrights.

Lionel Beer

6th Jan 1996

The Comic Message and Other Topics

The Atherius Society

BUFORA Newcastle Lecture

Sutherland Building, University of Northumbria, Northumberland Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 10 minute walk from Newcastle Central Station and main bus station. Further details from Gloria Dixon 0191-236 8375.

28th Oct

The New Welsh Window Area

Eric Morris

BUFORA Liverpool Lecture

Haigh Conference Centre, Maryland Street, Liverpool. 10 minute walk from principle train stations with parking nearby. Further details from Anthony Eccles 0151-486 6087.

Other Events

26th Oct

UFOs: Earths Cosmic Watergate

Stanton Friedman

Brixton Academy, 211 Stockwell Road, London, SW9. Further information from the Box Office

0171-924 9999.

18th Nov

One Day UFO Conference

Bournmouth University - Speakers include Lionel Beer, David Kingston, Peter Hough, Lynn Picknett and Clive Prince. Tickets £10. Contact Marcus Walker (Skywatch UK) on 01202-430956 for further information.

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