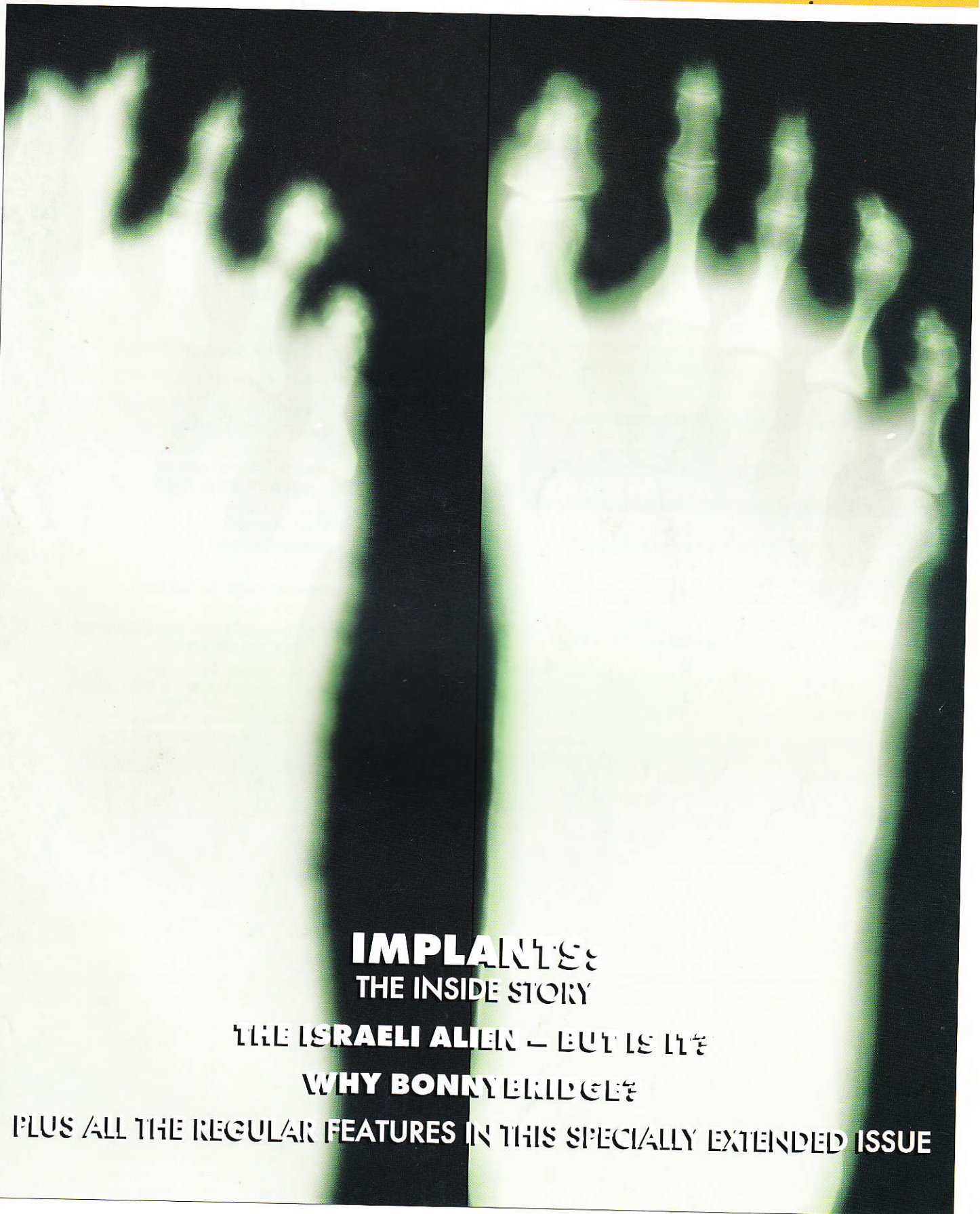


UFO TIMES

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

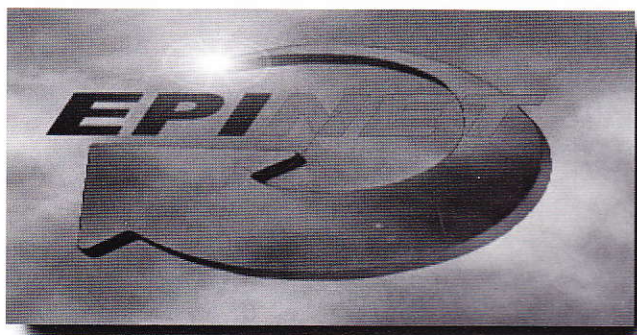


**IMPLANTS &
THE INSIDE STORY**

THE ISRAELI ALIEN – BUT IS IT?

WHY BONNYBRIDGE?

PLUS ALL THE REGULAR FEATURES IN THIS SPECIALLY EXTENDED ISSUE



YOUR PREMIER INTERNET SERVICES COMPANY

We provide National Coverage at a local call rates for all single PSTN and ISDN users

Full PSTN Internet connection £99.00 per year (plus VAT)

This connection provides unlimited connectivity to the Internet using a modem via a single analogue phone line at 33.6k. NB

No connectivity software is included in this price.

SPECIAL OFFER TO BUFORA MEMBERS

Get wired onto the Internet and save £300

Save £300 on an Internet ready Multimedia PC plus free Internet connection for one year via Epinet.

Pentium 133	33.6 Int Modem
PCI bus	14" SVGA monitor
16Mb EDO Ram	Speakers, Mouse and Keyboard
1.2GB HHD	Windows 95
8x CD Rom Drive	1 Year warranty (optional extended warranty)
16 bit Sound Card	

Usual price £1499 + VAT. Exclusive Offer to
BUFORA members £1099+VAT

For further details contact

Epinet Data Networks Ltd
The Meal House, Whittington, Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire GL54 4HA

Tel: (01242) 821000 Fax: (01242) 821122

email: info@epinet.co.uk WWW: http://www.epinet.co.uk

BUFORA

BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL OFFICE DEALS WITH ALL MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES

(no personal visits please).

BM BUFORA, London WC1N 3XX, UK

Tel/Fax: 01352 732473. E.mail: bufora.org.uk

Web: www.bufora.org.uk

COUNCIL 1995/96

President Major Sir Patrick Wall, MC VRD RM (Rtd)

Vice Presidents Lionel Beer, Arnold West

Founder President G.F.N. Knewstubb

Chairman John Spencer, Hon Secretary Arnold West

Treasurer Simon Rose

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Manfred Cassier, Stan Conway, Robert Digby, Gloria Dixon,

Paul Doran, Steve Gamble, Robin Lindsey, Phillip Mantle, Sue Mantle,

Phillip Walton, Mike Wootten

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Mike Wootten (address as Central Office)

01352 732473. e.mail: mwwootten@dial.pipex.com

INTER-GROUP LIAISON

Philip Walton, 22 West Street, Bromley, Kent, BR1 1RJ

0181 313 1556. e.mail: ghost@dial.pipex.com

DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS

Gloria Dixon 14 Longhirst Drive, Wideopen, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
NE13 6JW

Tel 0191 236 8375 Fax 0191 276 4437. e.mail: rbx32@dial.pipex.com

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Steve Gamble (address as Central Office)

e.mail: el82@dial.pipex.com

BUFORA LIBRARIAN

Chris Walton, "Craymere" Main Road, St Pauls Cray, Kent, BR5 3ET

Mobile 0936 361124. e.mail: poltergeist@dial.pipex.com

NEWSCLIPPING ARCHIVE

Michael Hudson (address as Central Office)

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Jim Danby

THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION LTD (BY GUARANTEE)

Founded 1964.

Registered office: 16 Southway, Burgess Hill Sussex, RH15 9ST.

Registered in London 01234924.

Incorporating the London UFO Research Association (founded 1959)
and the British UFO Association (founded 1962).

WITNESS CONFIDENTIALITY

The British UFO Research Association realises the importance of treating cases submitted to the Association by witnesses as confidential. In the light of this, the BUFORA Code of Practice has been devised and employed throughout the Association to guarantee the utmost care is taken when dealing with witness personal details and case report material.

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

AIMS & MEMBERSHIP

1. To encourage, promote and conduct unbiased scientific research of unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena throughout the United Kingdom.
2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to UFOs.
3. To co-ordinate UFO research throughout the United Kingdom and co-operate with others engaged in such research throughout the world.

Membership is open to all who support the aims of the Association and whose application is approved by the executive committee. Member Societies include the UK's oldest group, BFSB, 3 Orchard Road, Coal Pit Heath, Bristol, Avon BS17 2PB. Associate groups include the Northamptonshire UFO Research Centre and Skyscan.

UFO Times is © BUFORA 1997. All rights reserved.

This publication may not be stored or duplicated in any way without the express written consent of the publisher.

INTERVIEW

SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND, SIR?

BY ANDY ROBERTS

The weekend of 1-3 November 1996 was something of a triumph for 'Old Skool' ufology. Ufological skeletons and people who mainstream ufology would possibly like to forget came out of their closets to strut their stuff and show us what they had been up to.

Oddly and wonderfully enough it was the ufological equivalent of halitosis, the Earthlight theory which was most convincing. First up was Michael Aspel's Friday night *Strange But True*. Usually not worth missing Georgia and Bel on *Brookside* for but on November 1st half of the program was given over to the Longdendale Lights mystery - Longdendale being a valley in Derbyshire where unusual aerial lights have been recorded for over fifty years in a relatively small area. Unlike any purported evidence of ET visitation the Longdendale lights have been witnessed, often in the same part of the valley, for many years by numerous people.

The local Mountain Rescue service has call outs due to these lights logged and the local police are rather bored of people reporting unusual lights on a remote area of moorland. *Something* is happening in Longdendale. Largely ignored by mainstream ufologists, folklorist Dave Clarke has been collecting witness accounts of the lights for over ten years and besides the numerous sightings of balls of light he has documented cases involving lights appearing in cars and the whole hillside and valley being illuminated. The phenomenon is well documented and consistent. The main area for sightings in Longdendale is, curiously enough, called Shining Clough! Saturday night was UFO free so I went to a bizarre party where I made my own, by messing with 8" firework mortars and a fellow dressed as Death intoned Robbie Burns' poem, Tam O'Shanter, whilst people went for walks in graveyards and..... well, you get the picture.

Sunday night excelled itself. Firstly C4's *Equinox*, which in sixty minutes, put forward more evidence to support the existence of Earthlights than the believers in extraterrestrial visitation have in the past forty years of contemporary ufology. If you didn't see it - find someone with a copy and watch it.

Here we saw another figure from ufology's fringes Paul Devereux, armed with net and killing jar, go in search of anomalous luminous phenomena (oh, alright, UFOs to you) in a variety of exotic worldwide locations; Min Min in Australia, Marfa in Texas, Hessdalen in Norway, Yakima, Mexico and so on. Lights have been seen in all those locations on many occasions by numerous witnesses over a number of years, and were duly recorded again by Indiana Devereux (mind that big chocolate orange Paul...).

Not only did we see film of lights, which will of course be contested by people whose job it is to contest these things, but we had the back up of sudden increases in the Earth's magnetic activity at the same time. Someone more scientifically inclined than myself would have to comment on the scientific rigor of the program but it looked on the right track to me. At least it attempted to use the scientific method, and got results rather than relying on the "well, that whole family has been plagued by aliens since granpappy was alive, their cattle done got mutilated and, oooh, my implant's playing me up something shocking", approach which is all too common both in televisual UFO reporting and in the current output of much of the UFO community.

continued on p21

BM BUFORA,
London, WC1N 3XX

EDITOR

Mike Wootten
☎ 01352-732473

e.mail
mwootten@dial.pipex.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Andy Roberts
☎ 01484 721993

e.mail
101322.751@compuserve.com

SUB EDITORS

Mark Jones

DESIGNERS

The Design Stage,
Cardiff Bay

☎ 01222 465366

e.mail
john@design-stage.co.uk

ARTISTS

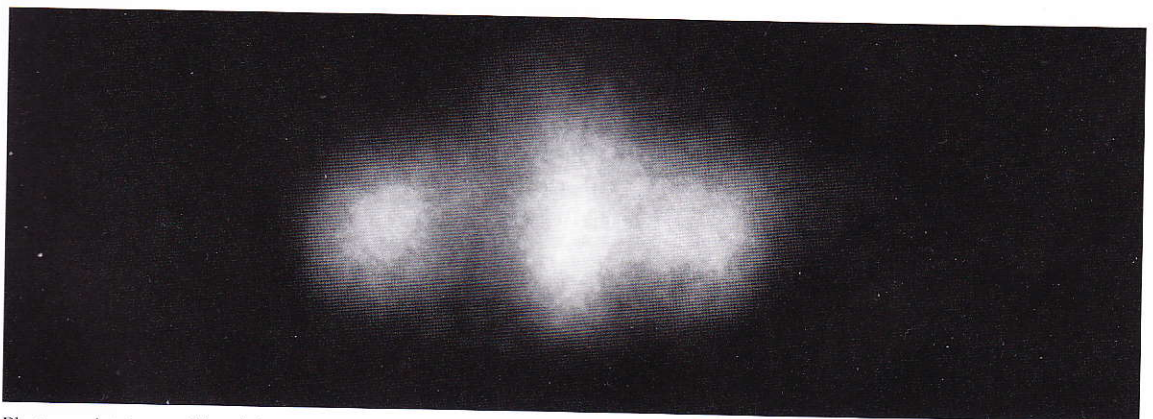
Simon Waller
Mark Spain

EDITORIAL BOARD

Mike Wootten
Andy Roberts
John Spencer
Philip Walton
Stan Conway

Views expressed in any papers presented in *UFO Times* do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board or BUFORA. Where material is used for republication, acknowledgement should be given to BUFORA and the appropriate contributor.

© BUFORA 1997



Photograph taken at Hessdalen - an Earthlight?

IN THIS ISSUE

RAF IN X-FILE ALERT!	5	INVESTIGATIONS DIARY	16
<i>Defence minister is open-minded on alien visits to Earth</i>			
DERROL SIMS ALIEN HUNTER EXTRAORDINAIRE	8	BONNYBRIDGE	22
<i>Over 27 years experience in the recovery of alien implants</i>		<i>What's really going on?</i>	
BUFORA ANALYSES ISRAELI DEAD ALIEN MATERIAL	10	THE SOUTHPORT TRIANGLE CASE	26
<i>By Mike Wootten</i>		<i>By Anthony Eccles</i>	
UFO WORLD	13	PROJECT BOLREC	28
<i>Cases from aroun the world</i>		<i>What is a Bol?</i>	
THE SOUTH AFRICAN UFO VIDEO	14	REVIEWS	34
<i>A Report from our Johannesburg correspondent</i>		CONTACT	38
		<i>Your letters and observations</i>	

UFO NEWS

EDITED BY MIKE WOOTTEN

UFO RETURNS TO DERBYSHIRE

At 5 a.m. on October 12, 1996, Robert M., age 58, of Bracken Close, Hollingsworth, Derbyshire, UK decided to take his dog for a walk. As he passed through Longendale going towards Snake Pass (Highway A57 to Sheffield), "he spotted a brilliant light travelling towards him. Three times it came and mysteriously hovered in the dark sky. And each time it hurtled away at (high) speed."

"I know what I saw, and it wasn't a plane or a helicopter," Bob said. "All I know is, nothing in our world can travel that fast." He described the UFO as "a real ball of light similar to a light bulb."

Longendale was the site of two UFO encounters earlier this year. In July, schoolboys Matthew Greaves and David Percival saw "a flying saucer emitting light as it passed over Mouselow Castle."

In April, a local man, John Gwynne, saw "a blue, V-shaped light travelling at terrific speed" over Dinting Vale, near the Longendale reservoir.

PHILIP MANTLE FOR BUFORA PRESS OFFICER

It was agreed at the February BUFORA Council meeting that Philip Mantle should take over the role as the Associations press officer. Philip takes over the role from his wife and fellow Council member, Sue, who due to personal reasons stepped down some time ago.

With the press and TV media swamped with UFO news stories at present, it was felt that the Association needed to raise the profile of the job and fill the vacant position as soon as possible.

PARANOID OR WHAT?

X Files chief scriptwriter Darin Morgan has quit the series in the bizarre belief that extraterrestrials were out to get him! Morgan got the heebie geebies after he wrote an episode dealing with alien abductions, "I would lie in bed, hear a noise and think they were coming to get me," he said. Originally a sceptic Morgan's involvement with the show has turned his beliefs around completely. What do we say - you can run, but you can't hide Darin.

SOURCE: DAILY STAR

ADDENDUM

In the article published in UT43 entitled 'Witnesses Report That.. They've Got Our Moon', we omitted that the author of this piece was Gordon Millington. Sorry Gordon!

UFO FOOTAGE STIRS SENSATION IN S. KOREA

SEOUL (AP) A local television network showed footage of a shining object floating motionless in the sky early Friday (22/11) morning.

The YTN pictures showed the object suspended in midair for about 10 minutes before it suddenly moved and disappeared.

UFO experts in South Korea said the object could have been a spaceship judging from its movements - motionless in the sky for several minutes, and moving in several different directions before disappearing altogether.

According to South Korean Air Force officials, there were no scheduled flights at that hour.

South Korea has been hit by UFO fever in recent weeks due to alleged sightings by local photographers, which have gained widespread and prominent coverage in newspapers throughout the country.

CREDIT: UFO ROUNDUP

NASA DOES ABOUT-FACE ON IMAGING CYDONIA

Mars-watchers were pinching themselves recently on hearing that NASA had done an apparent 180 degree reversal concerning treatment of the controversial Cydonia landform complex during the upcoming mission of the Mars Global Observer.

Until recently, NASA maintained a posture of disdain toward suggestions that Cydonia might contain evidence of intelligent activity on the Red Planet and thus deserved priority in upcoming photo reconnaissance missions.

Since August 7, however, NASA has energetically defended research suggesting that Mars might indeed have hosted life, at least in the remote past. Whether or not that sentiment extends to a reassessment of Cydonia is unclear. Regardless, according to statements published on October 16, NASA has now pledged not only

BUFORA MEETS WITH CONTACT INTERNATIONAL

To further its aim to encourage full inter-group cooperation, BUFORA directors met up with managing officers of the long standing national group, Contact International UFO Research.

Based in Oxford, Contact have collated UFO related data throughout the UK for many years.

At this fruitful meeting, ways to cross populate data sources and co-operating on future projects were discussed. Indeed it was agreed that Contact would join BUFORA's national skywatch on 21st June 1997 by mounting a locally based skywatch site in Oxford. BUFORA members living in and around Oxford should contact Brian P. James, Chairman of CIUFOR on tel 01235-851319 if they want to get involved.

to re-photograph the famous "face" and "pyramids" of Cydonia, but will also post the images on the Internet as fast as they can be processed.

The Global Surveyor is to be launched November 6 from Cape Canaveral and will go into orbit around Mars on September 11, 1997. From its polar orbit, it will have more than two dozen opportunities to image the Cydonia region during its scheduled 687 mission.

In the words of NASA project scientist Arden Albee: "We think we have done all the things we can possibly do within the framework of this mission to try to address this question of the 'Face on Mars.' So we hope that we'll be able to satisfy the people who have been asking questions about this."

SOURCE: CNI NEWS

HEBRIDEAN UFO CRASH?

On Saturday 26th October 1996 a singular event took place in the skies above the Outer Hebrides. Many papers, including *The Times*, reported the incident which seemed to comprise of a large aerial explosions and flashes. The sort of explosions and flashes concomitant with something crashing to earth in fact.

Some villagers from the village of Cross in northern Lewis said they saw falling wreckage and smoke. One witness, Port of Ness joiner Norman Macdonald, said, "I saw three flashes in total and heard a further two bangs. I rushed into the local shop and took the staff and customers out. They also saw the dense smoke spiral." Whatever it was drew attention from the RAF who scrambled an RAF Nimrod and a

helicopter, aided by a French fishing boat. They searched about 1,000 square miles, drawing a blank. Official explanations were confused.

The coastguard service thought the most likely cause was a meteorite burning up but wouldn't rule out space debris. The RAF said space debris was unlikely as RAF Fylingdales had recorded nothing (would they tell us if they had?). And the reports that an 'object' was seen add to further confusion. Ufological gossip - purportedly from 'genuine' sources has it that the event was a crash and it was one of the Aurora secret test craft which went down. We'll keep you posted.

MAIN CREDIT: THE TIMES

NOTE TO MEMBERS

As you may remember from my personal letter to you that this issue of *UFO Times* would bring us up to speed. Well we're nearly there! I had planned to get his issue out a lot sooner. However, a family crisis prevented me from completing what I had promised to you.

UT45 is well underway and by the time it is completed we will be back on track. Thank you for your patience.

MIKE WOOTTEN

RAF IN X-FILE ALERT!*Defence minister is open-minded on alien visits to Earth*

Aliens from outer space may be visiting Britain, the Government has sensationally admitted.

In an incredible letter obtained by The People, Defence Minister Earl Frederick Howe reveals that ALL RAF station commanders are under orders to report UFO sightings.

And he adds: "So far as the existence of extraterrestrial lifeforms is concerned we remain open-minded." The letter was sent to Don Valley Labour MP Martin Redmond, who is trying to break the MoD's veil of secrecy over flying saucers.

He is concerned about a UFO with a red and green rotating light that appeared over East Anglia last month.

It was tracked by radar at RAF Neatishead and RAF Northwood for several hours as it hovered in the sky before flying 50 miles down the coast.

It was also spotted by the crews of a tanker and civilian plane, while a video – now in the MoD's hands – was taken by police.

"It's incredible no aircraft were scrambled when a target was picked up so close to the coast,"

Mr Redmond told Defence Secretary Michael Portillo. "This raises questions on the way we police the UK Air Defence Region."

Earl Howe replied that the RAF does not respond unless there is evidence UK air space has been compromised". He added: "To date no sighting has provided such evidence."

"We do not investigate further or provide an explanation for what might have been observed."

Mr Redmond is accusing the Government of covering up information on UFOs and says if there is no defence threat, there is no excuse for secrecy either. "The answers I've been given lead me to think there is something more to this," added the MP.

"The only thing I know for sure is this whole issue is shrouded in secrecy."

Last week Defence Minister Nicholas Soames refused to reveal how many UFOs RAF pilots have spotted since 1966. He said the information would cost too much to obtain. But he added: "Unidentified contacts penetrating UK airspace are identified by all available means, including interception."

Nigel Nelson

CREDIT: THE PEOPLE 10/11/96

BUFORA TO MOUNT A NATIONAL SKYWATCH

On 21st June 1997, BUFORA is to mount a UK wide UFO skywatch.

During the 1980's skywatching went out of vogue with many researchers as they were views and valueless. However, it seems that this kind of exercise is becoming increasingly popular. Not only is there a chance to view something

strange, you can also learn a great deal of what can be misidentified in the night sky.

If you would like to take part or set up your own local site on the night contact the Skywatch hotline on 01352 732473 for further details and get active.

RESEARCHERS ORGANISE PETITION OVER ANGLESEY SIGHTINGS

After a spate of UFO reports over the Island of Anglesey including two possible abduction cases, Colin Ridyard Ph.D, a member of the Welsh Federation of Independent Ufologists has organised a petition to be presented to the House of Commons. The Petition states:

"To the House of Commons

The petition of a number of residents of the County of Anglesey and elsewhere declares that there have been a number of sightings of aircraft or unexplained objects in the sky in or around the

said county and elsewhere. The petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons should pass legislation to facilitate the setting up of an independent civilian commission to investigate and establish the full relevance of the unidentified flying object phenomenon in the UK."

This ambitious demand has the full backing of Anglesey M.P. Jeuan Wyn Jones.

For more information contact Colin Ridyard, 26 Hampton Way, Llanfaes, Beumaris, Anglesey, LL58 8LG.

MALCOLM ROBINSON RETURNS TO THE CLAN

Last year in a shock statement, Scottish UFO sleuth, Malcolm Robinson retired from ufology. Malcolm has asked us to print the following:

There appears to be a bit of confusion as to whether I, Malcolm Robinson have retired from active ufology or not. I would, through the writing of this small piece, hope to clarify this matter and make it abundantly clear to readers of this magazine as to exactly what happened.

Due to the terrible tragedy that occurred in Dunblane last year, it made me realise how precious our children really are and for a good number of years I had been putting my ufological and paranormal work before my own three children. I was narrow sighted and narrow minded in matters to my research and at times forgot I had a family at all! The events that unfolded in Dunblane, a small town quite close to me, completely changed all that and it made me realise where my priorities should lie. And so a few days after this terrible tragedy (March 1996), I retired from ufology (not as late as August 1996 as some people think!). Dunblane was the main reason for my retirement, but I would state however that there were other underlying reasons.

Due to the many letters of support, letters not only from this country, but from overseas as well; and, with the backing and complete support of my family, I decided to return to active participation in UFO and paranormal matters from 1st January this year. I think my kids saw how miserable I was without ufology!

Of course I haven't lost sight of the fact that children come first and its a valuable lesson to all ufologists married with children. Indeed the greatest gift that you can give to a child, is your time and I aim to ensure that this policy is implemented throughout my return to active investigations.

Strange Phenomena Investigations are back, and indeed I am in the early stages of writing a book about Scottish ufology. I am looking forward to 1997 the 50th anniversary of Kenneth Arnold's UFO sighting and perhaps this year may hold some surprises for ufology. Maybe even the breakthrough which we have all been looking for, who knows! In any event, Malcolm Robinson has 'returned' to ufology and I am looking forward to the challenges once again.

Would readers please note that I have changed address. I am now currently living at 29 Kent Road, Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, FK10 2JN.

Welcome back Malcolm!

UFO TIMES WRITER COMPETITION**ENTRIES STILL COMING IN**

The UT editors are very pleased with the response we have received to the 50th Anniversary writers competition. Submissions have been to a very high standard. But as the last issue of UFO Times was delayed which made the closing date almost impossible to make, we have decided to extend the final date for entries to 1st May 1997.

Please include your address and telephone number with your entry.

UFO Times Writers Competition,
BMW BUFORA, London, WC1N 3XX

We are looking for original and thought provoking material in the following categories:-

- **UFOS: A RETROSPECTIVE**
- **ALIEN VISITATION: THE ABDUCTION DEBATE**
- **50 YEARS ON: THE FUTURE OF UFOLOGY**

Each submitted article should be cleanly typed (or supplied on disc) and should be between 3000 and 5000 words. A panel of judges selected from the BUFORA membership will make the final decision. Supporting artwork will not be part of the judging process. The competition is open to members and non-members alike.



UFO EXPERT SAYS WELL-MEANING ALIENS ON THE WAY

ZURICH (Reuters) – Eich on Denizen, known for his claims that space aliens visited earth thousands of years ago, said giant UFOs like those in the Hollywood blockbuster movie "Independence Day" would appear in reality in the next decade.

The Swiss author, who argues that ancient monuments were built by outer-space visitors, said the aliens would likely come in peace, unlike their movie counterparts who attack mankind.

"But they could also be aggressive if they are locked in interstellar competition and need our resources," von Daeniken, told the Swiss tabloid Blick. "Humanoid beings will come in the next ten years. They are observing us now," he said.

Von Daeniken, said the aliens were assessing the risks they would face from human weapons and diseases and would then contact "state leaders, world religions or the United Nations."

SOURCE: REUTERS

ALIENS, NIGHT FLIGHTS AND THINGS THAT GO BUMP ARE ALL IN THE MIND

More than a million Britons believe that they had been abducted by aliens and taken on rides across space and time, and more than half the population had awoken from sleep to sense a strange presence in the room, a British psychologist claimed yesterday. Sue Blackmore said that these and scores of so-called paranormal experiences including out-of-body sensations and the sighting of ghosts could be explained as unusual electrical activity in key parts of the brain.

"My research shows that these are really common experiences. Those doctors who say that they are a symptom that someone is ill are wrong: they are actually ordinary experiences. People who have them need reassurance, not drugs," said Dr Blackmore, who is based at the University of the West of England.

A survey carried out in Bristol of about 200 adults and 120 children found that many had had strange experiences at least once. Some 33 per cent of children claimed that they had seen a ghost while only 12 per cent of adults said they had seen one.

Out-of-body experiences, in which people believed they were flying over their body and floating across rooms, streets or fields, were cited by a third of those interviewed. Waking up to feel a presence, normally described as an

evil one, in the room had happened to 56 per cent of children and 68 per cent of adults. False awakenings, in which someone believed that they had woken up but was really still dreaming, was an experience reportedly shared by 57 per cent of children and 82 per cent of adults.

About 2 per cent of the population believed that they had been abducted by aliens and Dr Blackmore said she believed that they had been suffering from a phenomenon known as sleep paralysis. When people dreamt, their bodies became temporarily paralysed, preventing them acting out their dreams and endangering themselves. Her research had found that, at least once in their lives, about 45 per cent of people became paralysed before they fell asleep or when they woke up. "Normally you know nothing about sleep paralysis.

However, occasionally something goes wrong with the mechanism, for example if you are very tired, over-worked, excited or worried," Dr Blackmore said. She had gathered more than 100 cases of the phenomenon which confirmed her suspicions that "alien abductions" were linked with this kind of paralysis.

SOURCE: THE TIMES

POLL SAYS CANADIANS BELIEVE IN ALIEN LIFE

(Ottawa)--The truth may be out there, seven out of 10 Canadians recently surveyed believe.

And like the lead character in the popular television series *X-Files*, residents of British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec are most convinced that intelligent alien life is possible.

Of 1501 Canadians surveyed for an Angus Reid poll last month, one in four said they believed there is definitely intelligent life elsewhere in the universe. Another four in 10 thought this was probably true. Most of those questioned also believed that extraterrestrial life is friendly.

More than half responded it is at least somewhat likely that Earth has been visited by life from another planet and many respondents said they expect an alien to visit Earth at some point in their lifetime.

Albertans were the most likely to believe Earth has been or will be visited. Respondents in Manitoba and Saskatchewan were the least likely to say alien life is possible.

The survey was conducted between 27th and 30th August and is considered 95 per cent accurate within 2.5 percentage points.

SOURCE: THE CANADIAN PRESS

MYSTERIOUS FIREBALLS HARASS THAI VILLAGERS

Local Officials says Glowing Apparitions Are Not Hoax

Thai officials expressed bewilderment over claims by hundreds of residents of a village north of Bangkok that they have been followed by "fireballs" of unknown origin.

The phenomenon, reported on the front pages of several of the country's leading newspapers, attracted more than a thousand curious people Monday evening hoping to catch a glimpse of the mysterious glowing objects in Kumslod village in Saena district of Ayuthaya province, 47 miles north of Bangkok.

"At first I did not believe it when villagers came and asked me to investigate these fireballs," said Dumrong Kaewkudun, a Saena district administrative officer.

"I suspected them to be hoaxes played on factory girls by naughty boys," he said in a telephone interview. "But when I went to the village I saw it was true. These things are about the size of a volleyball. They come as many as three at a time, but sometimes only one. If there are many people around they float very high, about 100 meters above the ground. But if there are only one or two people around they come down low, only a few feet above the ground."

Dumrong said he tried to record the reddish coloured spheres with his video camera Sunday night but they were flying too high. He said hundreds of people reported seeing the objects, which moved silently and varied from as bright as a spotlight to as dim as a small lantern. "This has been happening for almost a month now," he said. "Girls from a factory were the first ones to see them, usually about 7 or 8 in the evening. Sometimes they followed the girls, floating down within a few feet of the ground before disappearing."

He said news of the strange objects attracted a large crowd of more than 1,000 people from surrounding areas Monday night but the fireballs failed to appear. "So far no one can figure out what they are," Dumrong said. "They may be spirits or something else, but I can confirm that they are not any kind of fraud or hoax."

SOURCE: UPI NEWS SERVICE

THERE'S MORE TO MEMBERSHIP THAN JUST THE MAGAZINE

In yet another stride to give BUFORA members extra value for money, *Fortean Times* have teamed up with us to give you a very special offer.

With a massive 34% exclusive discount, members can now subscribe to Britain's best 'strange' magazine for just £19.99 for a full year of 12 issues - a £10.00 saving. Also included in the package you will receive the *FT* subscribers only *Fort Flash*.

To make the offer even easier to take advantage of, you can pay by direct debit and even quarterly.

For full details see page 30.

So if you want to get wired see the Epinet advert on page 2.

Along with all the other exclusive discounts on books, videos and other UFO related merchandise (listed on page 31) membership is clearly not just a magazine!

Erratta

Please note that we have been publishing Andy Roberts' Email address incorrectly. His correct Email address is 101322.751@compuserve.com. Send him a message. I think he's feeling ufologically lonely!

NIGEL STEPHENSON - ONE OF UFOLOGY'S FORGOTTEN HEROES

A TRIBUTE BY LIONEL BEER

In fact 1996 saw the passing of several friends and acquaintances. While the death of Ken Phillips was widely reported, it is perhaps the more surprising that Nigel Stephenson's death went unnoticed. If you were asked, who was the grand-father of flying saucers in Britain, would you reply, quick as a flash, Waveney Girvan? Waveney who? He was the man who commissioned the first saucer book in Britain in 1950, *Riddle of the Flying Saucers* by Gerald Heard, and he was the same man who published Desmond Leslie's and George Adamski's *Flying Saucers Have Landed* in 1953, which saw copies reprinted by the million and was translated into no less than 21 languages. These and Ray Palmer were a few of the early heroes who may have inspired people like Nigel.

So who was Nigel Stephenson? He was the driving force behind the formation of the British UFO Research Association in 1962. But before going further, let us remember a few other names who played their part in ufology:

	Died
Charles Elrick	12 October 1995
Nigel Stephenson	30 January 1996
Ken Phillips	19 July 1996
Arthur Shuttlewood	12 September 1996
Mimi Hynck	10 October 1996
Brian French	7 November 1996

On 30 January 1996 Nigel collapsed and died in hospital. It was found he had an enlarged heart. Since moving from Cheam, Surrey in 1974, he lived with his mother in Lenzie, near Glasgow. His elder brother John Stephenson, a paediatric neurologist, lives across the road with his wife, Philippa, a theatrical producer. When I went to collect Nigel's UFO papers last June, Philippa told me that in recent years Nigel's quality of life had been poor as he suffered from chronic schizophrenia. This resulted in him leaving quirky notes on old envelopes "destroy everything in the event of my death" or conversely "keep everything." In fact Nigel never threw anything away so sighting reports were often kept in triplicate. When I visited, the Stephensons were most hospitable, and allowed me to take the bulk of Nigel's papers for BUFORA. When it was time to leave my car was seriously laden with boxes.

Nigel was born on 4th December 1938 and christened George Nigel Primmer Stephenson, Primmer being a distaff family name. His father, Keith Stephenson had been a Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Navy and I was introduced to him at Cheam. His brother said they had had a happy childhood in Scotland. Besides his UFO interest he was happy bird-watching, hill-walking and a founder-member of a local Sci-Fi club.

In the late 1950's he became fascinated by George King's Aetherius Society, founded in 1955. On 26 November 1959, he wrote to its founder, George King, in Chicago. Nigel said that he had stood on the marked rock on Brown Willy, Bodmin Moor and felt nothing. He then rubbed out the triangle of wisdom and chipped off some small crystals with a pair of scissors. ('To deface the Society's sacred rock was a serious misdemeanor.') The letter goes on "your mother, told me a few months ago that the Masters had told her that I am a Martian (as you



are) and I must be trained to spread the teachings of the Masters." To his credit, King replied promptly and at length, adding that he did not believe the claim about his mother. He also terminated Nigel's membership. Nigel wrote back at greater length quoting "Aetherius:" "Test what I say." Nigel attempted to rejoin but received a final letter of rejection from George King, Chairman of the A.S. in May 1960.

The reason I have mentioned this curious episode is that it demonstrated Nigel's persistence, and it so happened that I met him and other LUFORO members at the First British Flying Saucer Convention run by the Aetherius Society at the Russell Hotel, London, in September 1960.

On 4 June 1959 Nigel received a letter from Roy Stemman, a freelance reporter for *Psychic News*, suggesting the formation of a UFO club in London. They had probably met at a meeting of the A.S. So Roy, Nigel, Susanne Stebbing and Paul Teugels agreed to form the London UFO Research Organisation on 11 July 1959. Roy was the first president and in December produced the first LUFORO Bulletin in which he proposed the formation of a National Federation of UFO Societies and an International Federation. Nigel became Director of Research and Susanne became Secretary and Treasurer, with meetings at her home in West Finchley. The annual subscription was five shillings!

In September 1960 Roy retired from LUFORO and Nigel became its Chairman. In 1962 I was living in a posh flat off Baker Street and it was there on 13 January 1962 that Nigel formally proposed that we go ahead and form a "National UFO Research Federation or Association."

The idea being that a report anywhere in the UK could be passed to a local society for prompt investigation. On 23 June 1962 Nigel met leaders of five British societies at Cheam and formulated plans for the British UFO Association. I suggested to him that the inaugural convention should be done with a little style, so he coordinated the speakers and societies, and I coordinated the administration

with help from other committee members including Dr Geoffrey Doel and Lawrence Moore (now a TV film producer and director e.g. *Cyberspace*). Lord Mountbatten declined Nigel's invitation to become first President.

FSR was warmly invited to act as the Association's journal but its directors flatly declined. The British UFO Association was launched at the Kensington Central Library on Saturday 22 September 1962. It was a sell-out and the theatre was packed to the doors. Starturn was Alex Birch of Sheffield and a report in the *Yorkshire Post* of 24.9.62. would make you doubt that he was hoaxing. Leonard Cramp and Dr Doel both gave talks. BUFOA as it then was, was launched enthusiastically - but mainly thanks to Nigel's dogged persistence! There is no under-estimating his work behind the scenes. Nigel was its secretary, and also Chairman of LUFORO, which was technically a member-society. For administrative convenience the two organisations merged in 1964 and became BUFORA. In 1968, some BUFORA executive meetings were heavy going and a special meeting was called on 4.3.68. to discuss differences. Particularly, Nigel objected to John Cleary-Baker using an ecclesiastical Ph.D. Such is human nature that several matters became irreconcilable.

Nigel's lone approach had become out of place and he was compelled to step down from the Association that he had founded. I can say however that a spontaneous vote of thanks was unanimously expressed by the committee for his outstanding services to ufology. Later he was made an honorary life member.

The sad part is that after he was cast aside, he had a nervous breakdown, and one can but speculate that this was an early symptom of his mental problems. At the time I felt that BUFORA had treated him badly, so I published a piece, Tribute to Nigel Stephenson in my magazine, *Spacelink*, July 1968.

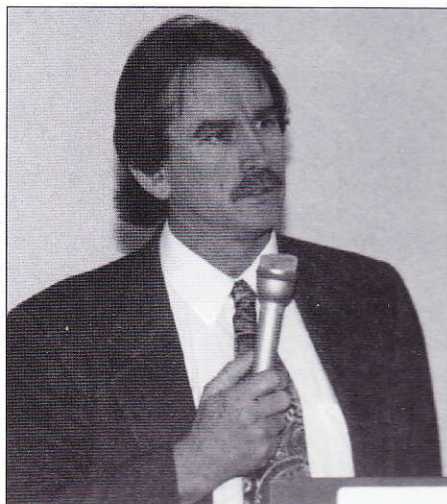
As I have said, Nigel was president, and on 11 July 1969, he published *NUFORO Bulletin* No.1, ten years after founding LUFORO! The National UFO Research Organisation appears to have been a one-man operation which kept Nigel in touch with the UFO scene, and provided a means for exchanging magazines.

I have on loan a recent photo, and apart from the shock of white hair, there is a slight resemblance to the late Ken Phillips! His brother said he had a nice sense of humour and a gentleness. During a bout of mental illness, he thought he had been plagued by local Lenzie children saying horrible things about him. Later, he recalled that this could not have been so, as the voices had English accents - like his own voice. Behind a typewriter he almost became a demon, such was his energy but for the most part he was a very private person. The most satisfying tribute to Nigel is to report that the organisation he founded in 1962 continues to make its mark and runs on well-oiled wheels. It remains to be seen whether a viable International Federation can be formed, but a start was made when BUFORA participated in establishing the International Committee for UFO Research.

DERROL SIMS ALIEN HUNTER EXTRAORDINAIRE

BY DERROL SIMS

Derrol Sims claims over 27 years experience in the recovery of alien implants. Derrol Sims' work is literally at the cutting edge of ufology. Eschewing theory and speculation, Sims seeks to locate and retrieve the mysterious implants said to have planted in human bodies by aliens during abduction episodes. He claims over twenty seven years work in the field and has been involved in the recovery (surgical or otherwise) of twelve alleged alien implants.



Whether or not you agree with Sims' approach or methods he at least is providing information which is testable and making claims which are – or should be – refutable. And that's science, something very rarely seen applied to ufology these days.

The following article is a considerably shortened version of a paper written by Sims and Mary Jo Florey entitled *Evidence for and Implications of Medically Unexplained Implants in Abductees*.

We have found, and in some cases recovered, implants in the bodies of UFO abduction (CEIV) experiencers. These objects are made of metal or what seems to be composite materials with elemental combinations unusual for other characteristics of similar materials used in present medical science.

Many abductees' experiences begin at the age of three or four and have continued to the present. Children of abductees are also often abducted in an on-going sequence. Physical examinations are conducted in most abductions, in some cases needed surgery has been performed, and cancer and chronic disease healed. The nature of documentation in these cases is variable from case to case. The healing and surgery have left the attending physician in a state of disbelief even of his original diagnosis in some instances.

In abduction examinations, as in our medical and research practices, samples of blood, skin, mucous membrane, sperm and ova are commonly taken. Abduction examinations include, for women, gynaecological examination and ova collection, and sperm collection for the men. Often the taking of samples results in scars that heal quickly. Nasal bleeding continuing to the next morning is often experienced. People remember this bleeding, but it leaves no evidence that is recoverable, except possibly the medical record if it has been severe.

Of greatest concern to the women involved are the gynaecological exams and implantation of fertilised ova. The placing of other implants as part of the examination process is also frequently reported. Not enough implants have yet been identified or recovered by all the investigators together to make statistics of value. Time delay in many of the abductees reports and on-going scepticism and denial make recovery of documentable physical evidence difficult, but of sufficient value as study material to pursue. Physical evidence of implants will help confirm to the scientific community the physical actuality of the abductees' experiences in the cases involved. In addition this evidence, when discovered in medical examinations, is a clue to the possibility of the individual's involvement in an abduction episode with no recall of the happening. Implants recovered and examined in larger numbers should serve, to a degree, the need for documentation.

No singular episode or bit of physical evidence in itself will allow us to unravel the seeming mystery with which we are faced. *Even acceptance of abductions as a fact only suggests the depth of shift in paradigm and the corresponding shift in consciousness this creates. The larger purpose of the abductions is, at present, unknown – we know what is being done, but not why it is being done*

It is specifically the more recoverable implants left by abductors, for reasons we are uncertain of at present, that represent obtainable evidence of actual physical intervention with our lives and bodies. These are the implants we will focus on here. Tangible evidence of previously unknown objects in the body is occasionally found in clinically necessary X-rays, MRI scans, or as the result of the investigation by physicians of unexplained nasal bleeding.

Metallic implants have been located by using magnetic induction locators similar to the Bergman locator used in ophthalmology, or by using less sophisticated stud finders. Recovered abductee memories even years later have also resulted in identification of implants, or a description of implants, which had been removed by the abductors at some subsequent period. Scanning the body of a recent abductee with a Woods (UV) light may show symbols or puncture marks in the skin, detected by florescent spots on the skin. Small edematous areas that later become hematomas have been found over larger veins, suggesting infiltration of a solution. Triangular placement of puncture marks has been described by our researchers and by J. Vallee (*Confrontations*, 1990, p.147) and others.

Reports of non-explainable pregnancies that a short time later are no longer present have been greeted with stellar disbelief throughout the medical community. Confirmation of embryo implantation, surrogate pregnancy and its abductor recovery, as well as somatic genetic intervention are needed but not yet obtained. The short time a fetus is left with the surrogate, emotions of women during pregnancy, medical ethics, legal concerns and moral implications make gathering this information difficult.

The following examples are taken from a range of implant types that have been found where more than the abductees statement of, "...being implanted with something that allows them to track, or communicate and monitor me" exist. Even when implants are identified by X-ray or

MRI, surgical removal may not be appropriate and indeed may be medically contraindicated because of the surgical risk factor. In some instances uninformed physicians have removed implants from, particularly, the nasal septum and disposed of them without thinking about the implications or the object or listening to the patients' statement of their origin.

Houston experienced a 'mass abduction' on December 8 1992, that was triggered by prior planning and work with an abductee coded DS92007PH. The affected abductees had been programmed to regain consciousness once the experience stabilised. Reports were recovered from these people, collated and published (Houston UFO Network 1991). On December 10th, the monthly meeting of HUFON took place during which all of the affected abductees were active participants, the next day, December 11, many of the abductees awoke to find they had had nose bleeds during the night. Almost all of them had sinus pains and within a day or two most had head colds and flu-like symptoms.

Individual memory accessing indicated nasal implant removal had occurred in their own bedrooms. One subject awoke on the 11th with irritation in one eye. While rubbing it, a small object (about the size of a mustard seed) fell out (fig 1). Stereo microscopy in a Houston laboratory showed a hollow, flesh-toned object 1-1.5mm with an egg-shaped porous structure, open at one end. Qualitative elemental analysis carried out using an electron microprobe determined that the material was non-conductive and contained the following elements (in no particular order or percentage): Carbon, oxygen, silicon, titanium, barium, beryllium, sulphur, aluminium. It is unusual for titanium and silicon to be present in a carbon rich compound which contains oxygen. It is also not consistent with the textural properties of the specimen.

Also, the presence of beryllium is unusual in that it is normally found in electrically conductive compounds. This substance is most likely a high molecular weight organic

compound and Polymers (plastics) are the most likely compounds to fit the profile. The chemistry of this implant has some similarity to the fibrous wire-like implant reported by John Mack (Abduction, 1994).

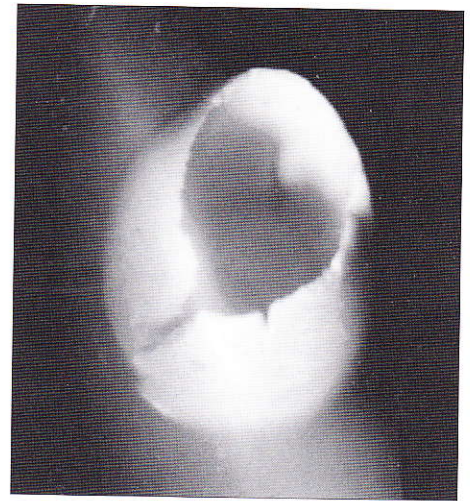
DISCUSSION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPLICATIONS

The submitted information suggests:

- 1) That implants are of necessity made of common chemicals. Implants must be made of biologically acceptable material, or be histologically compatible with our tissue, as rejection and infections are not noticed.
- 2) Implants have not been shown to contain electrically identifiable parts and are not likely to, unless circuitry is etched in a micro or molecular nature. Radio frequency range energies seem not to be in use.
- 3) Recovered nasal implants are of several types, but the round ball with cilia is most often recovered.
- 4) The consistent absence of infection around these implants, even in the nasal passages, is a fact of considerable interest. Obviously the abductors know and are able to use good sterile technique, or in the process of transport body bacteria are in general suppressed.

The well-documented recovery and study of physical evidence supports reports of physical abduction and of individuals being the unwilling subjects of medical examinations or research, in some cases including being the surrogate host to embryo or fetal implants for a few weeks. Judgment of the overall motives and the benefit or detriment to the abductee of CEIV happenings cannot be evaluated at present.

Most abductees, however, are normal, competent individuals. The recording of new abduction related lesions in repeatedly abducted people is another form of physical evidence. Self-inflicted injuries do occur but not in psychologically



normal individuals. Investigators using psychological testing of abductees (Mack, 1994; Jacobs, 1993; Fiore, 1989; Parnell, 1982; Laibow, 1989, 1992) all report a greater emotional stability and maturity in abductees than in the general public, once the present dreams, sleep disruption and basic scenario are recognised. Our psychological testing is in agreement with this finding.

A concern for personal growth and greater depth of spiritual understanding is also seen in abductees compared to the general public. This area of research may give us tools to approach the phenomenon of abduction experiences, so that resources can then be brought to bear on what these scenarios imply for the human race.

Take a fresh look with an open mind. We are standing on the brink of a major breakthrough that needs ways to connect the old with the new and will require re-examination of all we have learned in the past concerning man and his concepts of reality, and our physical and mental abilities. Paranoia, disinformation and general fear has to be worked through to new understandings and greater problem solving, utilising a broad multi-disciplinary approach utilising all fields of knowledge that we have developed as a race, including our spiritual nature and understanding.

Individual memory accessing indicated nasal implant removal had occurred in their own bedrooms. One subject awoke on the 11th with irritation in one eye. While rubbing it, a small object (about the size of a mustard seed) fell out.

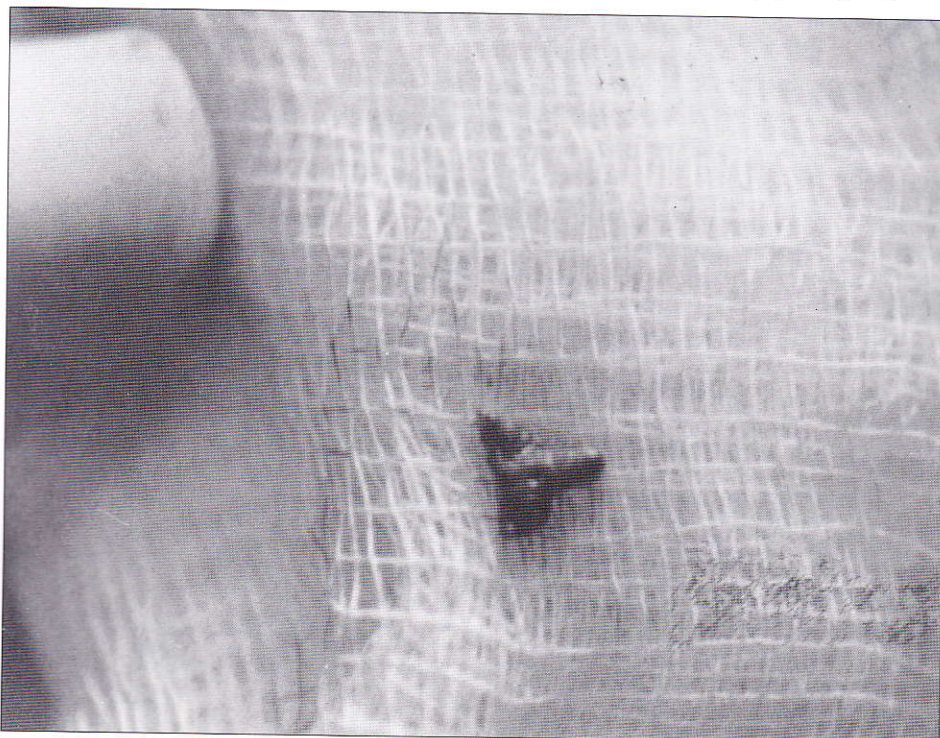
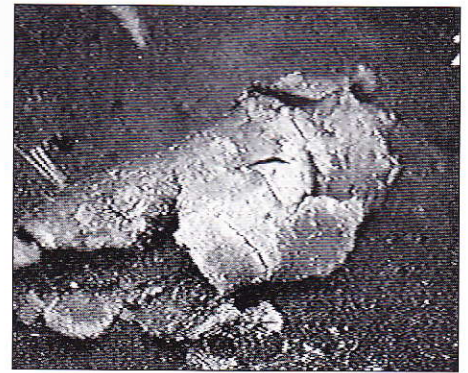


Fig 1: Implants aplenty - The first implant to be surgically removed from an abductee by Sims' team

It's not often that remnants of a close encounter are found and analysed objectively. The search for physical evidence of an ET reality is the Holy Grail of ufology. Witness testimony is ten to a penny, but something, anything concrete, to show that ET is here now in our presence remains somewhat elusive after 50 years of searching.



Police Chief who came out to Damti Farm



Remains of creature

BUFORA ANAI DEAD ALIEN

BY MIKE WOOTTEN

It is only in recent history that we have seen the removal of so called implants from abductees. This latest chapter in the annals of ufology is indeed a major one and we all still await with bated breath for the final outcome. However, an opportunity to investigate tissue samples taken from an alleged dead alien is definitely one not to be missed.

BACKGROUND

In the midst of a UFO wave, Israel (which is usually in the headlines for the human tragedy which is the Middle East), has been an arena for some very strange experiences. Abductions, 'attacks' on fishing boats and a plethora of CEI's. This part of the world has seen it all in a very short space of time.

On the night 21st December 1996, after many reports of UFO sightings in the Galilee farming village of Ahihood, an 'alien' which allegedly took a suicidal leap from a 'craft' was witnessed by a local kibbutz resident, Tziona Damti. Surprisingly the next day, she discovered the creature was still where she originally found it and looking rather dead. The creature was described as being 40cm in length with human features, four limbs, no fingers and surrounded in a slimy material. After its death, the creature shrank in size to a mere 5cm!

Tziona Damti called the police. Two officers arrived to investigate. It was claimed that when one police officer bent down to put the "alien" in a bucket, it jumped on his back. Officer Asher Ben Ezra told the press that the volume of bodily fluids left on the ground by the creature was abnormal and which led him to believe that there was something suspicious about it.

On hearing this news, psychic, Uri Geller, offered the family \$1,000,000 to purchase the creature to add to his vast collection of curiosities.

The Israeli media took great interest in the story and the Damti family, along with local UFO researchers were certain that they had found something of great scientific and

financial value. It was later claimed that the creature had been analysed by Israeli scientists who found that the creature was 'not of this world'. However, these claims have not been substantiated with a report or an author of the comments. Other researchers and Israeli journalists speculated that the find was an aborted salamander foetus and even cow dung!

BUFORA'S INVOLVEMENT

Whilst the controversy raged, BUFORA was surprisingly contacted on 15th January by Israeli UFO researcher, Debby Segal, who along with Uriya Shai, were representing the Damti family. Debby requested that BUFORA analyse three samples taken from the creature that she was bringing over to the UK. BUFORA agreed and commissioned a noted private lab to conduct the analysis.

THE ANALYSIS

The lab took delivery of the samples on 16th January and completed the work on 29th January. BUFORA had asked for an initial study to ascertain whether the samples supplied could be of extraterrestrial origin and whether further work would be justified. It was agreed that the carbon and nitrogen signatures of the samples should be examined to see whether there was a marked difference from the signatures that all terrestrial life would produce. Each sample was analysed three times (enough for the results to be legally admissible in a UK court).

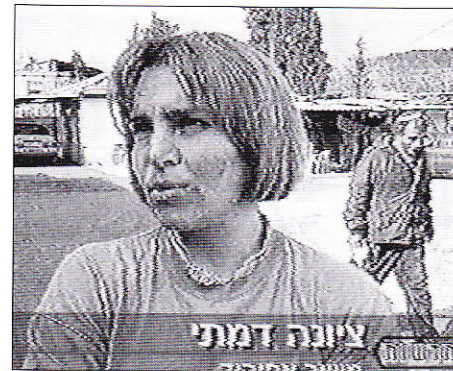
The very latest, British designed, mass spectrometer equipment was used to conduct the analysis



Remains of creature



Location where creature was found



Witness

ANALYSES ISRAELI MATERIAL

THE RESULTS

The nine conducted tests showed that each signature fell well within terrestrial limits. Not included in the report is the assertion by the lab technicians that the signatures come very close to those expected from lizards and frogs.

The lab also commented unofficially that these values fall directly in the middle of expected values for terrestrially derived life-forms and considered that the samples were of terrestrial origin.

This is the first time that a British UFO research group has had the opportunity to examine samples that are alleged to be of an alien origin and it is the first time in nearly 20 years that the study of any UFO related material has been objectively analysed in the UK (Livingston Case).

Geller, who was immediately informed of the results by BUFORA is said to be very disappointed with the Association's findings. So too are the Damti family along with their supporting UFO researchers.

CONCLUSION

BUFORA is not disappointed with the results. We are an objective research organisation who approach the subject with an open mind. We work to ascertain facts and although we have a negative result, we have done what we set out to do and establish facts.

However, to many, this may not be the end of the story. Despite, submitted expert and impartial opinion, there will be those who will argue that what we have presented proves nothing. It may be said that it is

possible that an alien life-form may have the same carbon and nitrogen signatures as us. But the same argument may be posed if we had discovered that the samples had similar cell structures or indeed DNA. Indeed if we follow the popularist theory that we are all born from an alien origin then we would never be able to prove or disprove anything in this case irrespective of what analysis or expert opinion we sort. This is a circular argument that pervades the subject time and again.

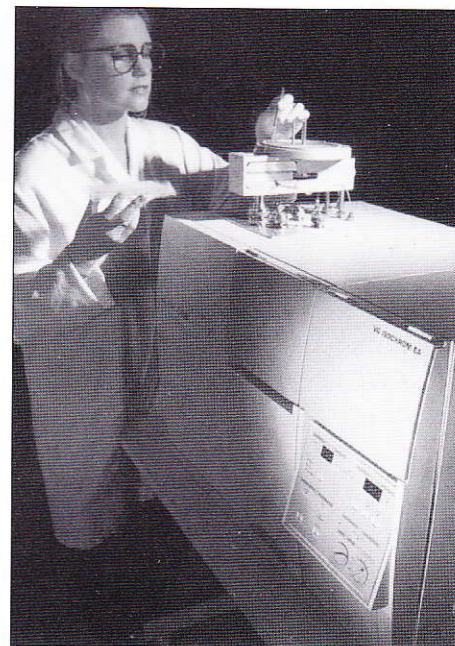
It has to be said that Debby Segal has already stated that she believes that BUFORA and the lab have conspired to whitewash the results. Considering BUFORA has invested nearly £1000 on the analysis and continued trans-continental discussions with her colleagues in Israel, it proves the point that dogged belief time and again outshines the rigours of science.

In the cold light of day, BUFORA is satisfied that this careful and precise analysis shows that what was discovered in Israel last December does have a terrestrial rather than extraterrestrial heritage. However, we understand that further work is being carried out in Israel and we have been promised the results of this further examination.

PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATORS
GLORIA DIXON AND MIKE WOOTTEN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS GO TO MILES
JOHNSTON, DAVID KELLY, PAUL CABBY AND IAN DIXON FOR THEIR HELP AND SUPPORT.

ABOVE PHOTOGRAPHS © THE DANTI FAMILY



The Micromass EA Isotope ratio mass spectrometer

BUFORA ANALYSES ISRAELI 'DEAD ALIEN' MATERIAL

ANALYSIS

LC2 Ltd. (Analytical Laboratories)
Millbrook Business Centre, Unit A, Floats Road,
Manchester M23 9YJ

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Certificate Number : LC97-006l
Project Description: Analysis of Biological
samples for Delta C13 values
and N15 values by Isotope
Ratio Mass Spectrometry
Submitted: By Debbie Segal
Date received: 16th January 1996

Your Reference: Analysis and report
commissioned by BUFORA Ltd. on behalf of
Debbie Segal

Our Reference: LC97-006

Date of report: 30th January 1997

PROJECT SUMMARY

Three samples were received into the laboratory for analysis. The samples were placed into a liquid Nitrogen container for storage purposes and to minimise any possibility of cross contamination of sample integrity. Each sample was carefully removed from the liquid Nitrogen container and a small portion of each was removed for Isotope analysis and placed into a sterile pre-cleaned vial of EPA quality. Each sample was then subjected to Isotope analysis using a Micromass EA Isotope ratio mass spectrometer with both Carbon and Nitrogen measurement capability. Each sample was run in triplicate to establish good statistics for both the Carbon and Nitrogen components of the samples.

PROJECT RESULTS

Sample ID	Delta C13 value	Nitrogen Value
LC23741 (Brown Container)	-24.25	4.2
LC23742 (White Container)	-24.12	4.3
LC23743 (Black Container)	-24.35	4.2
Typical Values for Terrestrial	-15 to -30	0 to 14

Samples (depending upon diet)

For the attention of: Debbie Segal, Simat Ben Shabat, Shmuel No. 56b, Neve Yosef, Haifa, Israel

Signed on behalf of LC2 Analytical Laboratories:

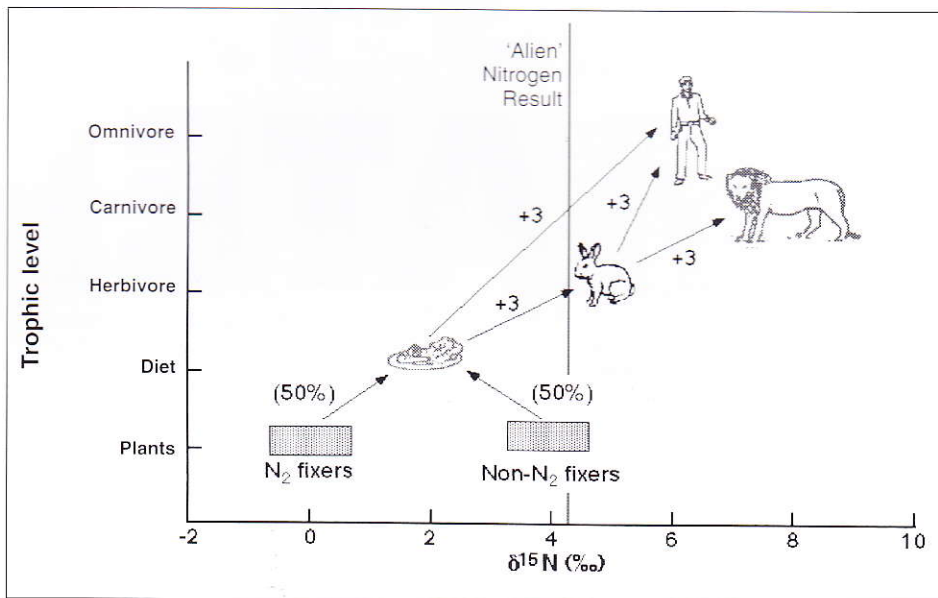
Keith Hall Director

THE SAMPLE RESULTS, COULDN'T IT BE ALIEN?

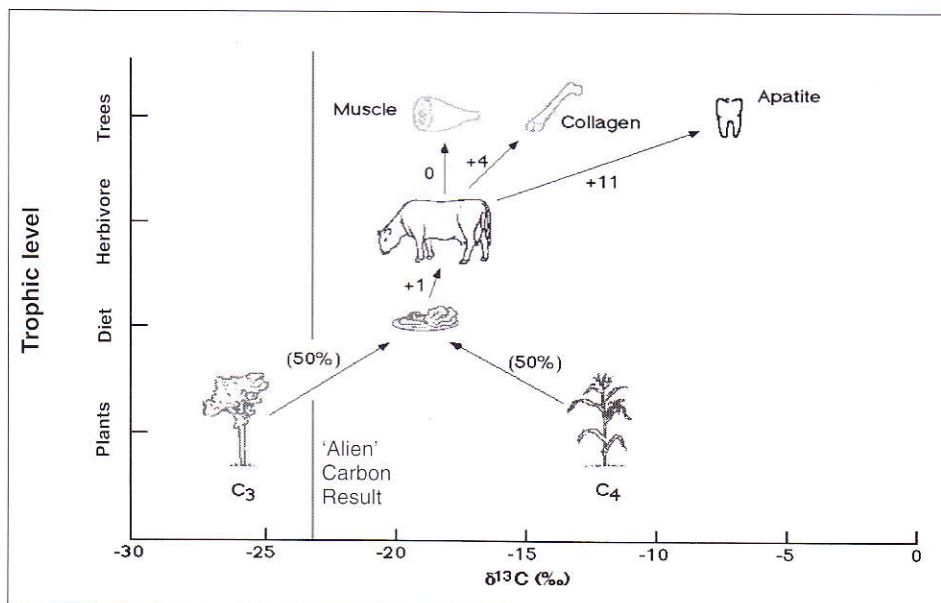
The analysis commissioned by BUFORA is not fully comprehensive. Indeed, we did not ask for a full analysis, but an indication as to whether further work was warranted. Ascertaining the carbon and nitrogen make-up of the sample provided would give a clear indication whether a full biological examination was necessary.

The results only state that the samples show nitrogen and carbon signatures indicative of a terrestrial origin. The following two graphs illustrate this conclusively.

Further discussion of mass spectrometry of this type can be found on the Stable Isotope Laboratory Homepage <http://iceage.umeq.s.maine.edu/geology/sil/Methodology.htm>



Model of nitrogen isotope variation in plants and the fractionation of nitrogen isotopes between different trophic levels, including herbivores, carnivores and omnivores (from Koch et al., 1994)



Model of carbon isotope variation in diet and the fractionation of carbon between diet and different tissues in mammalian herbivores (from Koch et al., 1994)

UFO WORLD

CASES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

COMPILED BY ANDY LUNN

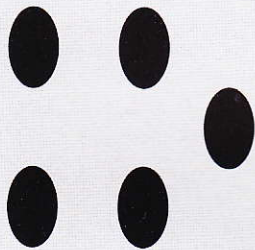
Andy is a new member of BUFORA and a new correspondent for UFO Times.

FIVE UFOS OVER GULF COAST

On Wednesday, February 5, 1997, at 11:30pm, motorists driving north on Texas Highway 36 from Brazoria (population 3,025) spotted a formation of five circular red lights in the sky. One of the motorists was the husband of Nancy Marcum, South Texas regional director of Skywatch, International. Mrs. Marcum has provided a detailed summary of her husband's sighting.

"He said from this distance they looked about tree (top) level as he was coming closer to West Columbia (population 4,109)." The UFOs passed directly over the Marcum vehicle, and he estimated, "...that they were about a thousand feet up. I told him I didn't know how high a thousand would be, so he said about three radio towers high."

Mrs. Marcum provided a schematic of the UFO formation. This is what it looked like.



"If you were to number each 0 as a (red) light, the one to the far right, he said, was the tail end of the formation. The red lights all came on (blinking) in random order - no two would be on at the same time. Say, the flashes were a second apart."

Mr. Marcum reported that, heading north out of Brazoria, the formation approached from the left hand side of the road, over to the right hand side of the road (west to east) and on (southward) to Bailey's Prairie or Angelton or maybe the Lake Jackson area. He said the lights were all at the same level, and they were spread apart more than a football-field length would be.

"I asked him if he could make out the shape of the objects," Mrs. Marcum said, "and he said all he could see were the lights. At one point, he described them (the lights) as coming out of a cone-shaped area. He was all wound up because he thinks this UFO stuff is a bunch of hooey. But now he's wondering just what it was he saw. The guy in the car behind him ran off the road. He doesn't know if it was because he slowed down to stare at the objects, or if the guy beside him also saw the objects." (Many thanks to Nancy Marcum for this story.)

MYSTERY BOOM IN OREGON

On Tuesday, February 4, 1997, at 6:15pm, a mysterious "skyquake" or booming sound rocked homes and farms in southern Oregon. The sound was also heard as far north as Port Townsend, Washington, on Puget Sound.

At 6:15 p.m., observers in Cave Junction, Oregon (population 600) spotted 'a bright object or meteor' shooting across the sky. The object first appeared south of Pearsoll Peak (elevation 5091 feet) and flew in a north-easterly direction, across the Illinois River toward Kerby Butte (elevation 5555 feet).

The boom and resulting shock wave then rattled homes in Cave Junction, Kerby, Selma and the city of Grants Pass (population 15,000). The Josephine County Sheriff's Department received hundreds of phone calls from area residents immediately after the 'explosion'. The sheriff's dispatcher phoned Federal Aviation Administration offices in Portland and was reportedly told that the Oregon Air National Guard had "a high-performance aircraft" operating in the area.

Witness John E. Mingo reported, "The sonic boom was before 7pm. I have heard sonic booms before but this one rocked everything. The boom shook windows from one end of the city (Grants Pass) to the other. Local radio reported that it was a routine military flight up the coast. They say the boom was felt from southern Oregon all the way to Seattle." That is, a distance of about 500 miles (800 kilometres).

Another witness, who asked to remain anonymous, said he heard "two aircraft go supersonic" right after the object passed over Josephine County. "The direction of these aircraft is unknown because they were not showing their running lights. I know the sound of supersonic flight from previous military experience."

Mark S. of Whidbey Island, Washington disputed the news reports that the boom was caused by an SR-71 reconnaissance plane, pointing out that only three are still in service and none are known to be in the Pacific Northwest. Mark said he believes the 'supersonics' to be F/A-18 interceptors from Bremerton, Washington. (Unsolicited Email)

Grants Pass and adjacent Josephine County towns were the site of a still-unexplained UFO flap on May 27, 1949. It's listed as Case #404 in Project Blue Book.

UFOS SEEN IN WEST INDIES

On Thursday night, January 30, 1997, at 10:33pm, Joseph Michaels was walking a beach on the north shore of Antigua, an island in the West Indies, when he suddenly spotted "a strange streak" in the sky.

"The object came from the north-east as a short streak of white light," Michaels reported. "I thought it was a shooting star. About five to ten seconds later, it entered a very good, very controlled stationary flash which lasted about 0.25 ms (milliseconds) per flash."

Michaels counted six distinct flashes "in random order and with a definite break in between each one." While looking up, expecting to see number seven, instead he saw a second "streak" flying in a west-south-westerly direction. The second UFO was also flashing, "...at 0.25 ms, and travelling at that speed produced a streak (or contrail) 10 to 12 miles long." He estimated that the flashing objects were at "flight level 600," i.e. 60,000 feet (18,182 meters).

(Many thanks to the Lost Tribe for this story.)

Just to satisfy my curiosity, I plotted the flight paths of both the West Columbia and the Antigua UFOs on a map of the Caribbean. The two lines intersected at about latitude 13 North, longitude 81 West, or an island called Isla da Providencia, owned by Colombia. Let's wait and see if there are any more sightings from that area.

BRAZIL'S UFO CROP CIRCLES

Brazilian ufologists are investigating two crop circles that appeared in 1996, according to the magazine [i]Revista UFO[i] for November 1996.

The first one appeared the night of April 17, 1996, behind a small church in Bairro Guama near Belem. Eyewitnesses told the Policia Civil that they saw a strange light behind the church at first. Then, as they entered the churchyard, "um estranho objeto sobrevoando o ceu da cidade" (a strange object flew over them into the city sky.) According to an eyewitness, Alfredo de Oliveira Montes, 27, of Bairro Guama, the UFO left behind a

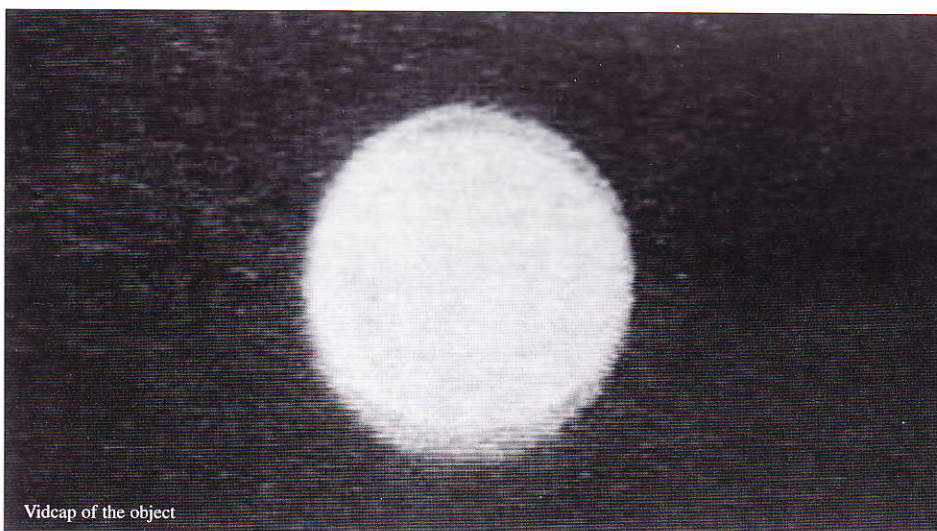
scorched circle measuring 10 meters (33 feet) in diameter.

Two months later, on June 16, 1996, Senhor Francischini, supervisor of the Fazenda (farm) Areia Branca, located in Ipigua, near the city of Sao Jose do Rio Preto in Sao Paulo state, while planting oranges spotted a bright yellow light above the grove. Upon investigation, Francischini and his farmworkers discovered a crop circle measuring 10 meters (33 feet). The case is now being investigated by CEPEX.

(Many thanks to Ademar J. Gevaerd for sending me that copy of [i]Revista UFO[i].)

THE SOUTH AFRICAN UFO VIDEO

**A REPORT FROM OUR JOHANNESBURG
CORRESPONDENT MARIUS LUBBE**



Vidcap of the object

On the evening 28th August 1996, the South African news media reported that video material was shot of an alien craft very early this morning over Pretoria (about 60 kilometres North of Johannesburg). The footage taken by a police officer on duty, Sgt. Nico Bekker was shows a disk shaped object which seems to be lightly pulsating. The photographer who had some witnesses with him said that they are certain that this is something unusual, as there were some lights flashing on the disk. He also mentioned that the disk looked like a saucer.

THE PRESS REPORTS

One of the first newspaper reports translated verbatim from the Afrikaans newspaper Die Burger based in Cape Town

Unusual Light Above Pretoria Has Everybody Guessing!

Johannesburg office reports.

The unusual light seen over Pretoria the day before yesterday by many police officials still has people guessing.

No solution has been found for the unusual light that was chased by hordes of police vehicles in the early morning hours. A police helicopter took part in the two hour long chase.

Captain Dave Harrington, PRO of the police in Pretoria, has confirmed that the helicopter chase cost approximately R4000,00 (600 Pounds) (\$900.00). He said that the cost of the many vehicles and officers involved, has not been determined.

The Police confirmed that the matter will not be investigated further as no crime has been committed.

Lt.Col. Laverne Machiné, spokesperson for the South African Air Force said that although the air force has keeps a file on UFOs this particular incident is not being investigated to her knowledge.

She said that the government has to give the air force an order in order for them to launch an investigation. She also said that they do not have any physical proof that can be investigated.

Col. Machiné said that the help of the air force was not called in during the incident and that it is just speculation that a mirage fighter was scrambled and she would not confirm nor deny it.

A farmer from Bronkhorstspuit, Mr. Dick Sherwood, said that it looked just like a light he saw in the area about two years ago and he now firmly believes in UFOs.

A spokesperson for the company distributing the film Independence Day, Which starts in South African theatres today, said that they knew nothing of this, and that they had nothing to do with it.

In a different part of the city, another witness was interviewed and he said that the object travelled silently and in a undulating fashion. When asked by the reporter whether he thought that it might be a hoax this witness, Mr. Johan Becker said that he could not conceive of someone spending the huge amount of money it would take to construct a craft like that, just to perpetrate a hoax.

Police helicopter pilot, Superintendent Fred Viljoen, with 4 passengers on board, chased after the object at full speed. He stated to reporters that the craft outran him with ease and what was very unusual to him, was the undulating movements of the craft.

Newspaper reports the next day stated that the UFO was sighted over large parts of Pretoria and even further north in the early morning on 28 August 96 just before 4 am.

100 Police officers and a police helicopter took part in the chase that ensued.

An unusual light was seen shortly before 4 am by sergeant Johan Becker (stationed at the "Adriaan Vlok" police station in the suburb of Centurion Pretoria). The light was floating in the air and when they went nearer to investigate, they realised that it was something from another world.

They immediately contacted the police radio control centre and reported the incident. They were laughed at, but eventually managed to convince the control room to send some backup.

While they waited, they noticed the light was disk shaped and lightly pulsating. They reported that they saw what looked like bright green tentacles, flashing out of the disk. They also noticed what looked like red triangular light on the disk.

When the backup cars arrived, the light rapidly moved in a north-easterly direction and they were having trouble keeping up with it in their cars.

In the meantime, because so many more police officers on the scene corroborated the first report, it was taken seriously and the flying squad, dog units, and vehicles from police stations all over the city started moving in on the light. It was once again described by other officers as pulsating and getting bigger and smaller.

After following the disk for one and a half hours, a police helicopter was able to take to the air at 5.30am with 5 people on board. The object then started moving northwards toward farming country at high speed.

Superintendent Fred Viljoen of the police air division, said that he did not believe in flying saucers, but "It is the first time in my life that I have seen anything like this. At first I thought that it was a joke when I was called out, but soon came to realise that this was something I have never experienced before." After the helicopter chased the object for a while, it suddenly took off. They climbed to height of 3000 m and eventually gave up the chase.

My own investigations to obtain official reports from the South African Air Force have drawn a blank. I was directed to speak to a certain Lt. Col and received a hostile response from her. She said that the air force keeps a file, but does

not investigate or release any of their details to the public.

The following report was published in *Rapport* our largest Afrikaans Sunday newspaper on 1st September. It is translated verbatim from the Afrikaans text:

Was it a Hoax or was it Little Green Men?

Was it a marketing ploy for a movie or the return of ET?

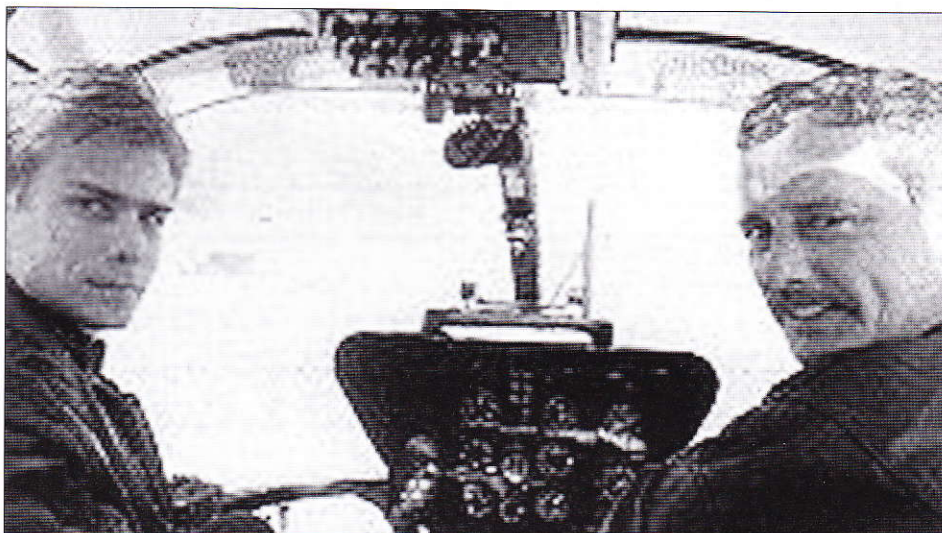
Nobody has up to now come forward to claim responsibility for the bright light seen in a burst of colours in the airspace over Pretoria this week.

The object drifted along in the early morning over the Erasmuskloof suburb until police appeared on the scene. It then shot off at an "unearthly" speed over Pretoria until it disappeared over the horizon at Cullinan.

This is what witnesses says and also what can be seen on the video shot of the object that morning.

In the meantime earthlings in South Africa are looking for an explanation in movie theatres where Independence Day started showing on Friday. Vonda Morgenrood, PRO for Sterland movie distributors says that they had nothing to do with it and one can hear that she is becoming agitated by this rumour.

Superintendent (Colonel) Fred Viljoen is also not to happy to have to tell his story once again. He is a veteran of many dangerous chases involving dangerous criminals and was one of the pilots involved in the heroic rescue of people from the roof of a burning office



building, the SALU building, last year, and a serious man that studies historical Boer - war campaigns as a hobby.

He stands by his statement of what he saw after his helicopter was scrambled at 05.25am with 4 passengers on board.

He stands by his statement that the disk was easily observable even in broad daylight.

Supt. Viljoen says that he did not ask the air force to scramble a Mirage fighter, but had contact with the control tower at Waterkloof air force base. They told him that their radar showed "clutter" in the area in which the disk was flying.

Supt. Viljoen says that it is the first time in his life that he had seen something like this and

also say that he has always been skeptical about UFOs and visitors from other planets.

Sgt. Nico Stander, one of the policemen who was on patrol when the object appeared, showed us the video he took of the events.

One can see the steering wheel of the police car, then you see the bouncing ball of light through the front windscreen while hearing the police radio chirping in the background. Its pulsating like a little hart says one of the voices. The Sgt.'s voice says it could be a balloon, the morning star or an eclipse of the sun and moon.

Whatever it was the Sgt. says it was the highlight of a boring night patrol. On Tuesday nights, very little goes on in the streets of Pretoria.

"It was a full moon night with a slight breeze blowing. The conditions was very clear that morning. We were in the right place at the right time and just got lucky I suppose."

Sgt. Stander has an interest in the unusual, and showed us a stack of the American magazine "Encounters." UFOs is an interest of his and he says that he believes in this sort of thing.

"When I saw this object, I just knew I had to get it on video. I went to my dad and borrowed his camera.

When asked what he would have done if the disk landed and little green men appeared, he said that he would have tried to communicate with them and be friendly towards them.

"A bright light was above Mamelodi, a township near Pretoria, at 70 degrees above the horizon. I followed the white disk, with the unusual flight pattern, in the direction of Cullinan. It moved at a high speed. We could not keep up with it and eventually had to give up when lack of fuel became a problem."

Helicopter pilot Supt. (Colonel) Fred Viljoen and co-pilot Sgt. Pieter Strampe.

INVESTIGATIONS DIARY

The intensity of UFO sightings and experiences are still at an all time high due to the relentless coverage by the media on the mysterious universe in which we live! Therefore the BUFORA investigations network has been busy investigating the many and varied sighting reports coming in, and BUFORA RICs, have been keeping up to date with events in their areas, as well as administering the PTC (Postal Training Course).

These changes involving RICs are certainly creating some definition and structure to the BUFORA NIC, and I have no doubt that things will only get better. We now have over 300 investigators, but many have not enrolled on the postal training course, and therefore remain only as potential investigators until they have enrolled upon this course. With this in mind I would like to take this opportunity to say that any enquiries pertaining to the PTC should be directed to its coordinator **David Pointon, 5 Chapel Street, Mount Pleasant, Mow Cop, Stoke, Staffordshire ST74NP**

SCOTLAND

Scotland has certainly been the centre of activity since September, with video footage captured at dawn on September 27th by Margaret Ross in Central Scotland. The Aberdeen Press & Journal report that she looked out of her bedroom window at 6am when she observed the object which was stationary in the sky, but the footage shows a snowball-like pulsating object in the morning sky. Venus of course has been brilliant in the morning sky and it would be interesting to know what Mrs. Ross observed with her naked eye. The hand held Camcorder lens will zoom in and go out of focus, giving various shapes and movements to bright planets.

There was also a mysterious blast off the coast of Western Scotland to the north of Lewis, when people reported a flash with flames and smoke. Some people thought they had observed a mid air collision but after investigation by RAF Nimrods and the Coastguard, around an area of the North Atlantic, nothing was found. One theory has been that this could have been caused by falling space debris.

Further video footage has been captured by a couple on 16th October travelling from Hallglen, Falkirk, when they observed an unusual object which they photographed with their camcorder. They describe the object as white and stationary. It then appeared to change shape and became an orange colour, before turning white and vanishing from the sky. This footage has been shown on GMTV and Sky News and is now undergoing analysis. Hopefully we shall learn more about the results of this analysis at a later date.

To conclude on some of the occurrences in Scotland, I would like to include a brief synopsis of a strange incident in Dundee. Billie Devlin BUFORA's RIC for Central Scotland and Malcolm Robinson have kindly let me have some details of this, after conducting an interview with the people concerned.

This incident occurred in Fife, when on 25th September 1996, a lady, her friend, and son were travelling in a car and observed a triangular shaped object hovering and banking towards them. They drove home to tell friends about this sighting and went back to the same spot where they observed lights emanating from the nearby forest. Through binoculars they claim to have watched three different types of 'beings', who appeared to be collecting something in 'boxes'. They describe them as having large heads, dark eyes and appearing fragile. Others they describe as appearing half as tall as the trees. When these creatures became aware they were being watched they began walking towards the people. The lady involved has been traumatised by these events and also has some kind of physical injuries on her neck and elsewhere. She had been to see a doctor about this. There are several other aspects to this report, but at the moment an investigation is underway.

GRAND CANARIA

Source: Telephone call to BUFORA

Chris M. has reported some very strange light phenomena emanating from the Puerto Rico area during the month of October 1996. Chris had been working in Grand Canaria for two months, when on 19th October at about 3.20am to 4.40am there was a power failure.

From the window both he and a friend observed a pulsating gold/orange globe of light which was hovering. It then moved across the valley and disappeared behind the hills. Following this Chris says he observed a particular area where the sky seemed to be illuminated with stars, yet it was dark in all other areas of the sky. Although the temperature had been very warm prior to this, it became extremely cold in the area they were in. They then noticed a triangular object above the house with red/white/green revolving lights. This then headed toward the sea. There have been many other observations of lights in a diamond shape and strange movements of these lights in the valley.

According to Chris M. many of the locals have seen these unusual light forms, with one local man has observed these lights going into and coming out of the sea. Unfortunately Chris did not have a camera to hand to film any of this. He is adamant that these were not navigation lights nor were they meteors, both of which are familiar to him and he is used to observing. Chris is sending drawings and documenting these observations for BUFORA. I would be most interested to hear from anyone, who has observed these lights in the Canary Islands, or who may have an explanation for them.

HIGH

Before documenting several other unusual sightings and events from around the UK, I would like to take this opportunity to address the curious enigma that is being reported with increasing regularity, referred to as the abduction phenomenon. I prefer to call this *the close encounter experience*. I believe, to define these experiences with the use of the word 'abduction' is problematic, as it appears from the majority of documented cases, the abduction scenario emerges only from the use of regressive hypnosis. Hypnosis is full of problems and using this as a tool to elicit further memories of these inexplicable events only adds to the difficulties in our understanding of this complex phenomenon.

Hypnosis, as many researchers are already aware can be fantasy prone and totally unreliable, as well as dangerous, which worries me even more, particularly with the cases of the *false memory syndrome* that are now occurring in the United States. BUFORA investigators have placed a moratorium on the use of regressive hypnosis, and I hope very much that this stays in place for a long time to come. The human mind is far more powerful than we could possibly imagine and by very nature of the subject matter the witness will be in a highly suggestible state with many memories to hand relating to the UFO experience drawn from the extensive media coverage of this subject over the past year or so. Therefore, using this method to recover *the truth* about the event, where only fragmented conscious memories remain, cannot at any time give us an objective truth of what the experience actually was. Surely it would be better to work with small pieces of the puzzle if only because they are remembered consciously.

Because of the powerful imagery now being digested by many people, it appears that some are linking inexplicable events from their lives with a UFO/alien encounter. This may not be what is happening at all. There have always been inexplicable and mysterious events experienced by humankind and I have no doubt there always will be. These intriguing events are now being interpreted for the age in which we now live and with the technology available we are able to access a near infinite amount of information, which in many ways has dramatically altered our image of the world and indeed of ourselves.

I believe that in trying to understand what these experiences mean we must ponder about the questions we should be asking, which possibly are radically different from the questions that *are* being asked. I also believe that there is a possibility we are looking at 'inner space' rather than 'outer space'. This does not mean that these reports, coming from people from all walks of life, should be dismissed or trivialised in any way at all, rather that we may be looking at something far more compelling than being abducted by aliens. I feel at the core of all close encounter experiences and indeed many paranormal events, which are possibly inextricably linked, lies the human consciousness and ultimately the nature of reality itself. Are there indeed invisible worlds?

STRANGENESS

I am very much reminded of Professor Paul Davis' words from his book *Other Worlds* where he writes:

The most profound puzzle of all is the fact that, whatever we may experience mentally, time does not pass, nor does there exist a past, present, or future. In its place is an existence of many universes, overlapping at their 'edges' where 'time' as we understand it is an irrelevance.

If *time* as we understand it is perceived in a different way then maybe this could be relevant to these strange experiences. It is extremely interesting to note that in many cases of the close encounter experience and other paranormal events, people remark on the fact that *all familiar sounds ceased* or *things seemed to be in slow motion*, or possibly more profoundly *time seemed to stand still*. These remarks are extremely revealing, as they are telling us something vitally important about the people undergoing these extraordinary events. It appears almost as though they enter another 'time zone' or other worlds? Surreal?... I know, but surely we must think about all possibilities. Maybe the answers are indeed stranger than the X files!

The anamnesis study, which Ken Phillips initiated and dedicated many years of research, should have a pivotal role when investigating these inexplicable events, as it appears that these experiences may be prevalent in a certain type of person, often people, who have a life history of inexplicable or paranormal type events. We possibly need to begin at the beginning (good place to start!) which is to look principally at the people themselves, *then* at the incidents they report. We must also remember that an investigation of the close encounter experience can be in very muddled waters, and we are all amateurs where these unusual events are concerned. What we must never forget is that these events are about people and not just about the incidents reported.

Close encounter experiences have been inexorably linked with the UFO phenomenon, but are they? A million dollar question for which there is much controversy and major disagreement. One thing is for sure, there appears to be no one feasible theory that ever fits all the cases that are now being reported to many paranormal and UFO organisations. There are indeed many facets to this phenomenon. There is no doubt that the close encounter reports have increased dramatically over the past two years. However, I do not feel that this is because these inexplicable events have increased, people have always experienced mysterious events, but they are now being highlighted with extensive coverage by the media, many more UFO Conferences and many new UFO/paranormal magazines on the news stands. I feel that because of this people feel more comfortable in reporting these events, and also are aware of the organisations to which they can report them. However, even with the increase of these reports I feel certain that we are still only looking at the tip of the iceberg and meltdown is not far away!

To illustrate this peculiarity with 'time' and 'strange atmospheres', I would like to document below some extraordinary events experienced by a

family from West Yorkshire but who were living in Somerset at the time. It happened in the late summer of 1977.

Kate Walker (pseudonym) her husband and two young sons, aged seven and six years old were returning home to Chard from visiting relatives in Yeovil. They were approaching Windwhistle Hill, which is two miles outside of Chard and rather an isolated area. As they came to the top of the hill Kate and her family all observed a huge orange light diffused by cloud, to their left hand side and at the far end of Windwhistle Hill. It seemed to be right beside the road, not very high up, although this hill is very high. It was partially obscured by cloud, but they did not feel alarmed as there was a power station and pylons further along.

However, as they drove nearer to the light, it was easier to observe and Kate states it was massive and totally static and very low and bright. She describes it as being cigar shaped and vast in size, maybe 200-300 feet, and she estimates the light to be approximately 800-1000 feet above them. As they got closer she noticed that the pub on the right hand side of the road, **The Windwhistle Inn**, was almost in total darkness, except for a light in a small upstairs window.

Kate looked at her watch to check the time as she felt it was strange the pub should be closed so early. The time was 10.10pm, and Kate looked up again at the light, which was almost on top of them by now right beside the road. She felt very uneasy and told her husband to 'put his foot down'. The next thing she was clearly aware of was seeing what she thought was a cyclist's headlamp coming the other way which seemed to appear from nowhere, and then disappear. They did not actually see a bicycle. Upon arriving home Kate discovered, curiously, that it was now 10.50pm.

Their journey from Windwhistle Hill should have taken them only ten minutes. They were extremely puzzled, but decided not report it for fear of being thought of as cranks. A few days after this strange incident, Kate and her family were once again making the journey back to Chard, and as they were coming over the brow of the same hill, and about 200-300 yards from the first spot, they saw in front of them on the left hand verge, two people, one who appeared to be lying down, and the other standing.

Their initial thoughts were that someone had been injured and went to slow down, when to their astonishment, the person standing took one step out in front of them... *One foot remained on the grass verge at the roadside and other foot was right over the centre of the road!* Kate describes the figure as being 'abnormally tall with legs that were horrendously long and thin' Her husband swerved to the far side of the road, and around the figure, and they kept on driving and did not look back. They all agreed that there was no one who could possibly have legs that long. Kate fully expected to hear something about this in the local paper, maybe someone being injured or taken ill on Windwhistle Hill, but she never heard anything about an incident there at all. Kate has commented to me that it seems very odd in retrospect that they all took these events so calmly and just got on with their lives, and never discussed it amongst themselves at all.

This important report becomes more mysterious eighteen years later, when Kate, remarried and now living in the North, and her sons now aged 26 and 25 years, were intriguingly, finally discussing these events. Her eldest son, Jeff's recollections refute the fact that they had driven under the object. He can recall Kate telling his father to 'put his foot down', but says that as he did so 'the engine died, and the headlights went out'. His father started to panic and tried to restart the car, but nothing happened. He goes on to say that at this point *things became very strange and everything was in slow motion*. His father lunged across the front of the car to the passenger seat and at the same time there was a very deep, humming vibration, slow and rhythmic.

He could not remember his mother (Kate) sitting in the passenger seat. He then remembers his father punching the dashboard repeatedly, but everything was still in slow motion with no sound. He felt frightened, and his younger brother, Tony, was looking out of the side window and seemed excited, but Jeff didn't know why, and his father was pointing and obviously shouting, but Jeff could not hear any sound and *somehow things were different*. He then realised his father was looking past him out of the back window and was terrified. Tony was kneeling on the back seat looking out of the rear window and pointing at something saying 'Look Jeff, look Jeff' and although Jeff could now hear him speak his lips and movements were again in slow motion. Jeff then realised that there was something behind the car and felt almost paralysed by terror. He put his head down and covered his face and then for some reason said he had no memory of Tony either in the same way as he had no memory of his mother, Kate.

He felt there was only himself and his father in the car. He could then see a white light through his fingers so he looked up and the light was everywhere, inside and outside of the car. It was a very bright white light and he describes it as *like being inside lightning, but it didn't hurt his eyes*. His last memory is of seeing a dark shape outside the car, beside the window. He describes it as being very tall and bending toward the window looking in, and having the impression that the shape was mostly human, although he knew it wasn't, which was the reason he was so afraid. Jeff's next memory is of looking back at the orange light and seeing the 'headlamp' coming towards them only a few yards away. He then looked back and the orange light had gone. He explains that initially he only remembered seeing the orange light, the cigar shape, and hearing and feeling the hum and vibration. Through the years fragmented memories of that night have returned, but as no one talked about it he felt he shouldn't mention it.

I would like to conclude this with Kate's comments in her letter to me where she writes, *"I find it incredible thinking about it now, all these years later that we could have dismissed it so casually at the time. We just never discussed it and life went on as usual. It has been a great relief to tell someone"*.

INVESTIGATIO

Robert Moore has been conducting research into this particular area in order to establish whether similar cases have been documented here. Interestingly, there were observations of unusual lights and an entity over a ten year period at Cricket Malherbie which is within 3km north west of Windwhistle Hill. I would like to thank Robert for his excellent research into this area during the time in question. The mid 1970s has some interesting cases recording these inexplicable events, including the classic Aveley case from October 1974, which involved a family travelling back from visiting relatives in Essex. This case involves a time loss and fragmented memories, although hypnosis was used in this case, whereby an abduction scenario emerged which involved a whole host of complex and bizarre events.

CASE FILE

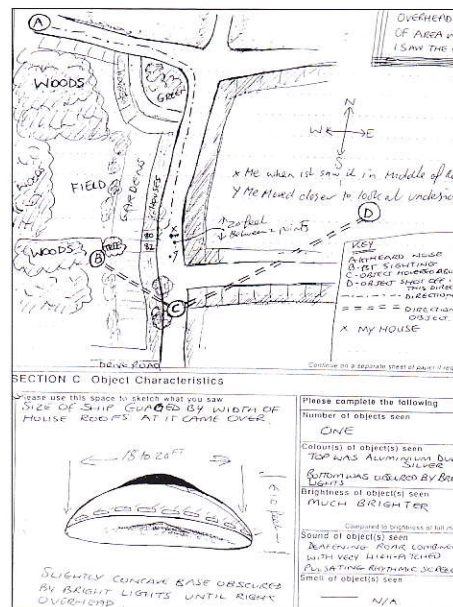
- Location: Coulsdon, Surrey
- Date: April 1995
- RIC: George Hicks

KA had been on night duty, and just before 4am was returning home. He lived at the top of a hill, and as he drove up the road to his home he became aware of what he describes as a deafening turbine like drone accompanied by an ear piercing high pitched whine. He wound down the window of the car and felt the noise seemed to be heading south, and was emanating from the woods on his right hand side. When he reached the brow of the hill to turn right into the road where he lived, he turned off the engine to coast into his drive in order not to awaken his wife and children, but as he parked his car he could still hear the noise deafeningly loud.

He got out of his car and followed the noise which seemed to be coming from his neighbour's garden. He described the noise as like the equivalent of a Concorde in full reverse thrust and thought it must be a helicopter crash in the woods behind their houses. The houses here had fences at the end of their gardens which then spread out into some woods known as Farthing Downs.

As KA looked over his neighbour's fence and beyond the fence lining the woods, he nearly fell off the building blocks he was standing on because behind his neighbour's hedge and to the left of his oak tree about 85 feet away he could see a brilliant ball of light glowing behind his hedge. He felt petrified and stared at this glow with the noise piercing his ears and could not understand why his dogs were not barking and why all the neighbours were not running out of their homes. He wanted to run indoors but could not pull himself away from this strange scene.

Within two minutes, the noise ceased and up popped an aluminium looking saucer shaped object, to about 15 feet above the ground and to the left of the oak tree. He describes it now as silent and hovering in the air. It was emitting a light around it centre and he could not decide whether the light was spinning or flashing on and off in a circular motion. After a couple of minutes, the object moved off diagonally towards the south east gaining height and went over the rooftops of the houses. He followed it out of his drive into the middle of his road and froze when he saw it again, motionless and hovering in the centre of the road at the junction.



He describes it as being about 20 feet higher than the houses and gauged the width of the object, by the rooftops, as being between 18 and 20 feet wide and roughly 10 feet deep. It was about 120 feet away and KA walked nearer to it because he felt 'fascinated'. He could then see under the object which he described as slightly concave with bright lights on the underside. A couple of minutes later it sped off at an unbelievable speed towards Croydon without making a sound. He then ran into his house and woke every one in his entire family plus their dogs and upon looking out of the window could see a brilliant ball of light in the crystal clear night sky over Croydon (north easterly). It was now 4.26am so he had witnessed this scene for 20 minutes although to him it only seemed like a couple of minutes.

KA comments that he felt as though he was *in a dream* during his sighting of this object. The only other person KA spoke with about this incident was his brother as he felt apprehensive about reporting this to anyone else and didn't want to feel like a fool. A few months prior to contacting BUFORA he could not stop thinking about this sighting and felt that for a long time after the incident he was hoping to hear about someone else who may have witnessed this object.

I have documented the above two incidents to emphasise the significant comments these witnesses made when trying to express their impressions of how *time seems to change*.

ONS CASEFILES

CASE FILE

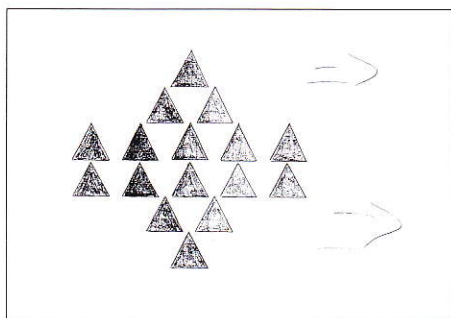
- Location: Swindon, Wiltshire
- Date: 25th July 1995
- RIC: David Pye

At 2.00am on Thursday 25th July HC awoke and was looking out of the skylight window of their loft conversion, when she noticed a diamond formation of between 12-16 symmetrical triangular objects flying past her window. She watched them go by not believing what she could see. She describes them flying in front of her not above. She then jumped out of bed and opened the window fully so that she could be sure that she was not observing some kind of reflections. She then called to her husband and as she watched the triangles they changed flying formation.

She describes them as flying very close together and the formation was perfect. She says they were 'silver-grey' in colour and there were no lights. It was a clear night without cloud coverage. There was no sound at all. She describes them as flying at a constant steady speed and felt they were only slightly higher than a new single storey warehouse unit, which she used as a frame of reference. The flying formation changed four times, but unfortunately by the time her husband joined her at the window, they were in the distance, and he was unable to focus on them.

Obviously this area is close to Wroughton air base and also RAF Lyneham and Fairford are in the vicinity. Their home is on the Hercules flight path, so she is used to observing different aircraft flying over day and night. She stresses she has never seen anything like this before. (See drawing)

David Pye will be following up this sighting, and hopefully we will have an update for a future UT issue.



Swindon, Wiltshire sighting

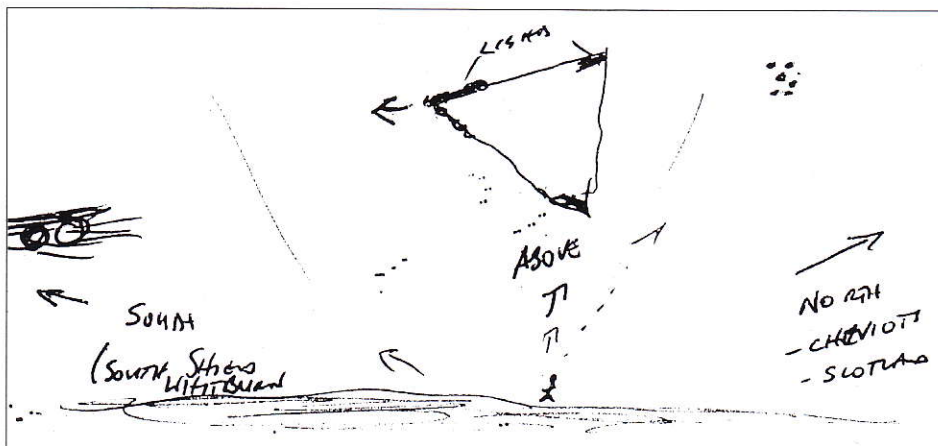
CASE FILE

- Location: A12, near Billericay, Essex
- Date: 7th September 1996
- RIC: Colin Elstob

LP and girlfriend were travelling home on the A12 at about 1.30am when they observed a series of lights over the A12 above their car. They describe the lights as rotating in a clockwise motion through the clouds and stopped to watch them for five minutes. The people were convinced that they were observing something out of the ordinary, and wrote to MOD to report their sighting.

There were many reports of 'UFO sightings' around this time, and Colin feels that the lights they observed were laser lights emanating from the Zeus nightclub in the Chelmsford area. I agree totally, and there is no doubt that the weather conditions were perfect for people to observe these lights over a considerable distance spinning and rotating with in the low cloud coverage.

I would like to comment here about the amount of sighting reports that are coming into BUFORA, the source of which so often turns out to be laser light displays from nightclubs. As I am writing this in December three weeks prior to Christmas, we are receiving many reports of strange circles of lights within and above clouds in our skies. These of course are nearly always indicative of laser light displays, which can be seen under the right atmospheric conditions sometimes up to sixty miles away from where the source is located. These laser light displays probably generate the most sighting reports next to aircraft., so keep it in mind on these dark nights with lots of cloud coverage!



Whitley Bay sighting

CASE FILE

- Location: Whitley Bay, Northumberland
- Date: 18th November 96
- Inv: G. Dixon

CW was out walking his dog at 5.50pm, when he observed an aircraft travelling east but then saw what he described as an almost stationary grouping of lights due North. At first he thought it was a helicopter, but this group of lights moved very slowly and almost silently and he felt them to be very unusual. He describes that as they appeared directly overhead, the lights became a distinctive 'V' shape which appeared to be at the front of a massive black triangular object with lights at the tops.

His estimation of the size of this object was 'enormous, the size of many football pitches' and he estimates the height to be about five miles high and speed to be only 30/50 km. The object continued south and CW noticed what appeared to be massive underbelly engine thrusters. George Neidzweidz, RIC for the Borders contacted me on 4th December to inform me of another sighting of a huge triangular object observed by someone driving on the A1 towards Newcastle Upon Tyne and also another sighting of something similar witnessed by someone from Haddington in Scotland.

As far as I am able to determine at the moment from a contact at Newcastle Upon Tyne Airport, there had been a military exercise around this time and the primary witness may have been observing a midair refuelling exercise with a tanker and military jets. This could look very unusual to the observer and as they would all bank at the same time this would make it appear as though they were observing a very large object. However, the primary sighting date does not fit as far as I know, and I am awaiting further information.

INVESTIGATIONS CASEFILES

CASE FILE

- Location: Plelo, Nr. St. Breve, France
- Date: 4th June 1995
- RIC Andy Raynor

AT 00.35 on Sunday 4th June 96 an English couple and three teenage children left a restaurant outside the French village of Plelo to return to the holiday farmhouse they had rented which was 12 Km away at the other side of the village.

After driving 6km they all realised that they were all focusing on the same circle of green lights which was quite apparent in the top centre of the windscreen. At this point they realised that the lights were not in front of the car, but they were in fact looking at a reflection in the windscreen. As the husband lent forward to see above the car he observed a huge solid object above. He parked the car and then found the object appeared to be about 40 metres away to the rear of the car. He describes the green lights on the underside as spinning, with other lights on the upper part of the object. They felt the size of the object to be that of a large detached house hovering 20 metres above the road.

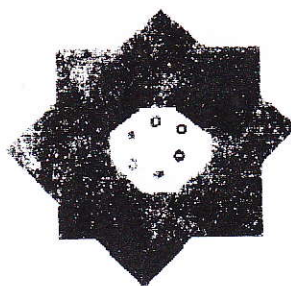
Another car came towards them and it had to slow down to pass them on the single lane road. The family then observed the object becoming almost transparent, and then became solid again. It appeared that the people in the other car did not observe anything. The observation lasted about six minutes at which point the object shot away. The family were upset and puzzled by this time and drove back to the village to find the other car driver.

Although the village was still busy they spoke with no one, and after several minutes set off again to their holiday home. Upon leaving the village the object appeared again behind the car and then moved into a field to the right of them where it hovered about 10/15 metres above the ground. They stopped the car and husband and wife walked through a shallow ditch and into the field towards the object. One of their children, who was still in the car was quite hysterical and the others stood by the car shouting for their parents to come back.

The husband described the object as being about 60 metres away and when he looked up he realised that what he had seen was only the main body of the object and there appeared to be a leading edge which was right above their head. This seemed to bring the husband 'back to reality' and he felt afraid and pulled his wife back to the car. This fear and need to escape followed feelings of euphoria. They jumped back into their car and set off at high speed toward home. The object proceeded to follow the car back to their farmhouse and they all sat in the car too afraid to get out. When they finally did so the object had gone.

Under normal conditions this journey should have taken only 15minutes from the time they left the restaurant at 12.30am. Upon entering the

craft from above when banking away.



front view, circles of green lights around main body and on underside. (please representation of original drawings.)



Reconstruction of sighting from Plelo, France

farmhouse they found the time was 2.30am. They took into account all the time they had stopped and their time in the village, but find that even with this in mind they cannot account for an hour of time.

Andy is following up this report, and would like to ascertain whether there were any further sightings from this area of France. Please write to UFO Times if anyone else is aware of any other incidents at that time.

I would like to remind all RICs that your case files can be documented for inclusion in UFO Times. Please send these to Mike Wootten clearly typed or supplied on 3.5" floppy disc (MS-DOS) or 3" Amstrad format.

I am planning two further NIC meetings this year in order to accommodate as many RICs and investigators as possible. The first one will be in

July 97 in London University, of Westminster and another one in October 1997 in Cambridge. Details of these will be included in a future issue of UT.

Should you have any points that you would like raised at any of these meetings please forward me details and I shall ensure they are included on the Agenda.

In order for RICs to keep their investigators up to date, I would suggest it is always an excellent idea to hold your own local BUFORA meetings with investigators in your area. This would certainly allow various points to be raised and discussion of on going case investigation

I would like to extend my thanks for the dedicated work you carry out for BUFORA particularly with the great increase in sighting reports that we now have to follow up.

NIC MEETINGS

This year in order to accommodate as many RICs and investigators as possible. The first one will be in July 97 in London University, of Westminster and another one in October 1997 in Cambridge. Details of these will be included in a future issue of UT.

SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND, SIR?

BY ANDY ROBERTS

continued from p3

Historical perspective came in the form of a re-examination of the 1905 Egryn lights in Wales. Often thought to have been just the muddled interpretation of a religious revival, Devereux plotted the sightings and lo and behold they followed, closely, the Mochras fault line. Proof? You tell me. Finally on Sunday night we had the four hour extravaganza on the Discovery channel, *UFO: An Investigation into a Phenomenon* This is being repeated several times and may get a UK TV showing, so you should get to see it eventually. Satellite TV is not unusually noted for its perspicacity in matters ufological but this was a gem amongst, well, amongst things that aren't gems. X Filers tuning in to have their gee whizzed about the latest abduction with matching implant accessory would have been sorely disappointed.

In its four hours the documentary was far ranging, incisive and timely. Roswell was laid to waste as myth accreted around something terrestrial, albeit secret, abductions as an alien based phenomenon looked decidedly shaky and the alien autopsy film was ravaged dizzy. It was significant that Santilli had refused to give them a frame of the film to work on and that he did not appear. The earthlights theory came out of the whole shining as bright as those little lights on that hillside over there. What a weekend! At the height of ufology's current folly who would have expected a frequently derided and overlooked theory to have risen above all other interpretations (whether right or wrong) to point the way forward for further research? And all the work, to ufology's eternal shame, done by people from outside the subject.

There are drawbacks with the earthlights interpretation. Obviously, I don't for a minute believe that it explains more than a *proportion* of UFO cases, and it weakens its case when this is claimed or inferred. It appears to refer to a certain type of light, highly localised, often seen over a number of years. Nor does Earthlights offer the ultimate solution to the ufological myth, which is far more bound in culture and psyche than it is in the rocks below us, although earthlights *might* be able to help that myth manifest itself. What Earthlights *does* show is that by diligent work, using science and rational thinking as servant rather than master, and by actually *getting out* and tracking the little buggers down, observations can be made, results can be quantified and valid hypothesis constructed and tested. It's not glamorous, it offers no salvation from above or elsewhere and in short it involves work. Which is why it has never caught on with ufologists!

Neither must 'earthlights' become a catch all for those lights which we as ufologists can't be bothered to investigate to conclusion, or which just sound as they though they *ought* to be earthlights because of location, circumstance or investigator bias. This type of pigeonholing is becoming all too common, with the latest catch phrase being 'test craft'. All sightings are ultimately reducible to their initial stimulus without recourse to naming them what we would *like* them to be. Whether or not we are good enough investigators and researchers is as much of a problem as the ultimate source of what we focus on.

The earthlights debate, marginalised in ufology by idiots with a desire to keep the 1950s alive, has now publically demonstrated both its longevity and its validity. I sincerely hope that Devereux has an up to the minute book on the Earthlight phenomenon in the pipeline and that he now contributes some of his findings to the UFO press.

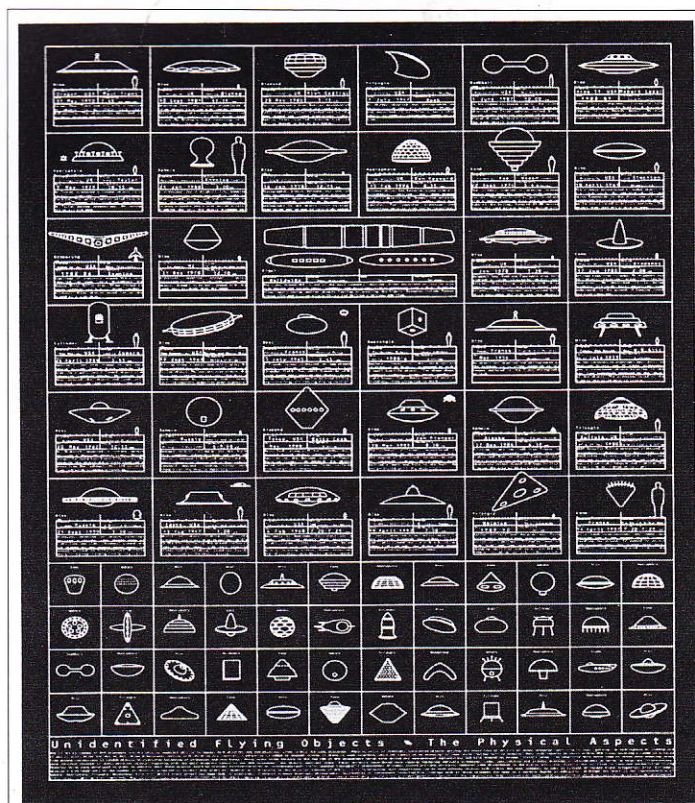
The weekend's three programmes also highlighted one other thing - that good TV *can* be made on the UFO subject. Having met the producer of the Equinox show, and being involved in aspects of the Discovery documentary, with Dave Clarke having input into *Strange But True*, we had some insight into the thinking behind the shows before they were even made. And, in the case of the Discovery and Aspel programmes, whilst they were being made. The research was thorough, the budgets high and most of all the programmes were made by production teams with an interest in and a scepticism of the whole UFO myth - not by

simply wanting to cash in on the subjects sudden popularity. All three documentaries, it has to be said, were made by UK production teams.

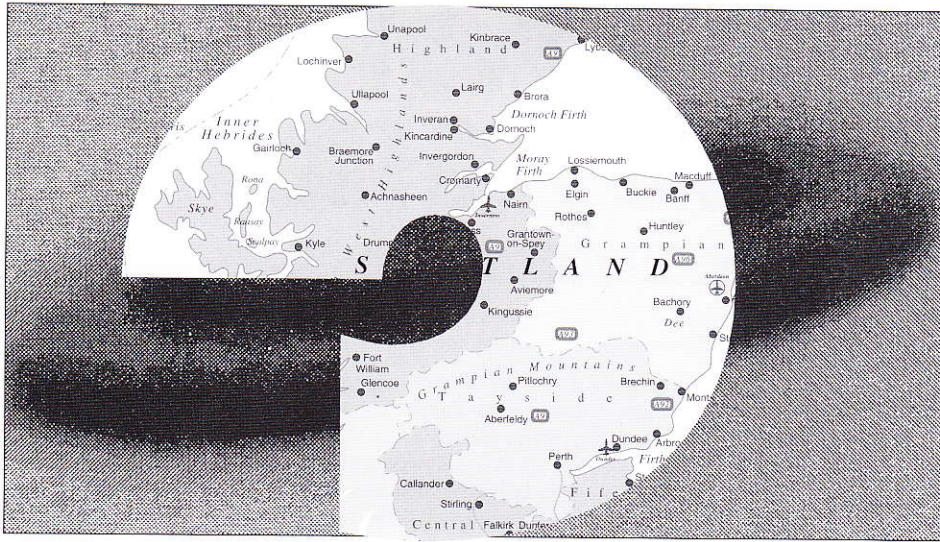
Where does it all lead to? Well, the answer is simple. Britain needs its own permanent or semi- permanent site to try to record Earthlights on film and other instrumentation. A site where these phenomena have been seen repeatedly needs to be 'staked out' for at least two or three periods of eight hours darkness each week armed with video and still cameras etc. It would be boring and tedious. It even sounds like that most scorned of ufological activities 'skywatch'. It might not even get any results. But all the theorising in the world, whether it be from committed ufologists of the upholstery loving variety or the earnest suit wearing briefcase carrying Mulder wannabes comes to nothing if you have no proof. My suggestion would be for such a project to be set up in Longdendale. If anyone is interested in taking part or with offers of help please contact me direct. Maybe something will happen. Who knows, maybe BUFORA would even fund it.

Andy Roberts

The UFO Anarchist



New from Flights of Fancy
UFO's, The Physical Aspects
 This giant, A1 poster brings together some of the world's most remarkable UFO reports. With summaries of witness testimonies as well as scale drawings of what the witnesses encountered, this informative chart provides a unique visual shape index for anyone interested in the UFO phenomena.
 Priced at only **£4-99** including p&p
 All cheques/postal orders payable to 'Mark Spain' 30 Essex Gardens Low Fell Gateshead Newcastle NE9 5BB (UK).



Councillor Billy Buchanan



Bonnybridge town centre

BONNY

WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON?

BY MALCOLM ROBINSON

We Scots are well known the world over for our warm hospitality and our charm to foreign visitors. We have many visitors each year who travel from afar to visit our scenic castles, museums and landscapes. Of course one thing Scotland also shares with the rest of the world, is that our country too has been touched by the presence of other 'visitors' strange aerial devices which have been flitting across the Scottish skies for some years now. I could write extensively on my UFO investigation- of such cases, suffice it to say that I may come back to those cases in a future article.

I felt that as I was the main principle Investigator who was there at the time when the whole Bonnybridge UFO wave began, I should make it known to the reader of this publication, exactly what occurred (and indeed is still occurring !) above this particular Scottish town.

Bonnybridge lies in Central Scotland and is roughly 18 miles from the City of Glasgow and around 19 miles from the City of Edinburgh, and, as a matter of point, is only around 10 miles from where I currently live, the town of Alloa in Clackmannanshire. My position as Regional Investigator coordinator for BUFORA (The British UFO Research Association) and also my Investigative work for my own society, Strange Phenomena- Investigations (SPI) saw me attend numerous UFO Incidents throughout the years most of which were mundane lights in the sky, apart that is, than the truly remarkable 'Livingston Incident' of 1979 in which a forestry worker claimed to have seen a landed UFO in a clearing in some woods near the town of Livingston. That was one of the biggest cases

that I had worked on and even to this day, is still etched firmly in my mind as one of the best UFO Incidents ever to have occurred in Scotland.

However life is never that simple, and ufology has a habit of throwing up incidents which take we Investigators into an arena of the most incredible UFO reports and which demand the utmost of scrutiny and attention, all this was to happen to me in the winter of 1992 when I found myself at the forefront of escalating events which would rise to immense proportions.

It all started for me, when I heard a news report (November 4th 1992) on Central F.M. a local radio station based in the town of Stirling quite close to me. The station was informing it's listeners about a spate of UFO sightings above the town of Bonnybridge (near Falkirk), I immediately got in touch with the radio station and offered my assistance as the local UFO researcher and someone who would treat these sightings seriously as the light hearted tone of

this broadcast was fairly typical of how the UFO subject gets treated. Central F.M. gave me the telephone number of one Billy Buchanan, a local Bonnybridge councillor and someone who was collecting all these early UFO reports, Billy was later to become something of a celebrity, probably for all the wrong reasons, but it was plain to see that Billy clearly was very puzzled by the tales of his constituents as they came to him with their UFO sightings, and, as I've said many times before, was Billy to turn his back on these people just because it wasn't strictly council business! Of course not. Billy was elected to serve these people, and if they were coming to him with strange tales of aerial objects in the sky, it was his duty to listen to them.

I arranged a meeting with Billy and I found him to be a good source of information, he explained that the situation was developing fast and it soon became apparent to me, that this was beginning to have all the hallmarks of what's known as a "UFO Wave." It was decided by both councillor- Buchanan and myself, that a good first step would be to contact the local Falkirk Herald Newspaper to seek out any possible further witnesses. Our article was published in the Herald, this brought a flood of phone calls to my home with people relating their own UFO experiences Councillor Buchanan also had articles featured in the Scottish Sunday Mail and the Falkirk Advertiser.

Obviously as a researcher, one must look for the most rational explanation - to account for any given UFO sighting. This I did, as I made enquiries with Glasgow, Edinburgh, and nearby Cumbernauld Airports in an effort to see if there were any aircraft in the vicinity of a specified UFO sighting. It's fair to point out, that Bonnybridge is directly below flight routes to all the major Scottish Airports, but what's also

fair to point out, is that the witnesses that I've personally spoken to, assured me that they are well aware of these flight routes, and of seeing planes in the sky, but what 'they' were seeing were clearly not aircraft. I also checked with the local police to see if they had been contacted by members of the public in regards to UFO sightings, this I found, had been the case. Other lines of enquiry were directed to some Meteorological stations for the release of weather balloons etc. and also astronomical societies and even the Ministry of Defence. During all these lines of enquiry, the UFO sightings were escalating and it became clear to me, that "something" was going on.

SOME UFO REPORTS MADE TO SPI

The witness to this case, James Thomson (pseudonym) resides in Bonnybridge and

like a "door opening" then a "howl" At this stage the Sloggett family took immense fright and ran for their lives.

GENUINE PHENOMENON OR HYPED UP NONSENSE!

During the course of the continuing UFO sightings above Bonnybridge certain individuals claimed that all this was the result of hype and over active imaginations. These armchair sceptics were not privy to the growing amount of cases that I was, and although there were a small percent of misidentifications of normal mundane objects, the skies above Central Scotland, was clearly playing host to something strange that defied description and to all accounts did not resemble conventional aircraft or helicopters- But what we really have to consider in all of this, is the fact that quite a lot of these UFO reports were of low level close

display of lights hovering low above the road. They were, in his estimation, approximately the width of the road with pavements combined. This display of lights was most spectacular, and he couldn't understand for the life of him why no one else was not stopping their cars for a better look. However, although the other motorists were not stopping, he did observe that these other motorists were twisting their necks up and looking through their car windscreens in an effort to obtain a better look at this thing. The incident that I have just described here, was the very first UFO report to have come to the attention of Councillor Billy Buchanan, for such was the spectacle of this sighting, that the witness raced to Councillor Dilly Buchanan's door and almost broke it down in an effort to tell him all about it.

Continuing with our low level UFO accounts

BRIDGGE

observed the following on Wednesday, November 11th 1992. James observed two huge bright white lights moving slow towards him, (from the Greenhill area of Bonnybridge) estimated at roughly 200ft up in the sky. The witness then heard a 'humming noise' he likened it to a washing machine on its final spin. The object then started to move from side to side as it moved above a field. There were small lights on the top of this object and a power surge of noise was also to be heard. The witness is sure as he can ever be, that this was not an aircraft.

THE SLOGGETT CASE

The following case generated the most interest during this UFO wave. It concerned the observations of two objects witnessed by a mother, daughter and son. It was in March 1992, (8 months before this UFO wave was brought to my attention) that the Sloggett family were walking down the back road from Hallglen to Bonnybridge. During the course of this walk, the time of which was 7.00pm, Steven Sloggett witnessed in the sky, a large circle of light which he pointed out to the rest of his family. The light then 'landed' nearby and amazingly they thought nothing about this and kept on walking (!) They looked again, and all saw a big blue light 'sitting' on the road. The witnesses described this as a very strong blue light roughly the size of a basketball? Seconds later, all witnesses heard whilst observing this object, a distinct rattling or striking of a nearby wire fence bordering a field. They felt that the rattling of this fence, was in some way connected to this intense bright blue ball. SPI visited the scene of this incident, and although it was 8 months since this account, we could not detect any "differing" in the road's surface. The Sloggett family also claim to have heard the following in connection with this sighting. Firstly, a "whirring sound", then what sounded

proximity sightings, sightings of which were so close, that you could have thrown a stone at them. Consider the following examples.

It was on the 20th of September 1992 that 22 year old Steven Wilson was driving home from Whitecross to Maddiston (near Bonnybridge) he was accompanied by a friend. During the course of this journey, they both noticed a peculiar object hovering low above a field near a housing estate. The object was oval in shape, red in colour, and was sharply defined. They estimated that they observed this strange object for around one and a half minutes during which no sound could be heard seconds later the object rose into the sky and was gone in seconds. Checks done by SPI, indicated that no aircraft were in the vicinity on the night in question or indeed helicopters.

STRANGE ARRAY OF LIGHTS

Witness Jim Walker was driving in his car from Dennyloanhead to Denny, (near Bonnybridge) during the month of January 1992. (research by SPI indicated that these sightings did not essentially start up in November 1992, but had been a feature of the locality for many years scuppering the thoughts for those who said that this was just a publicity hyped up gimmick). About halfway into his journey, he approached a junction called 'Droves Loan' of which he observed a "bright cluster of lights" hovering "above" the road. He initially thought that this was a helicopter. The witness then drove directly underneath this object and mentioned to me in an interview, that he was very impressed by this array of lights.

The witness at this point desired to stop, but was unable to do so owing to the build up of cars behind him. He did however have this opportunity to stop further down the road and alighted from his car and observed a triangular

we also have the strange tale of a motorist's car being "buzzed" by a low flying UFO. Mark Wilson (25) and his girlfriend Jane McDonald (23) were driving in the early hours of December 26th 1994 along the M.9 motorway in the direction of Grangemouth (near Bonnybridge). Jane was first to notice a large bright glowing light of which she didn't at first pay much attention to. They both claim that this light source appeared to be hovering over or near Bonnybridge. However, seconds later this light source began to move in the direction of their car. Mark, who was driving, took the car up to speeds of 90 miles per hour but amazingly this object kept up the same speed and appeared to be following their car. When Mark slowed the car down, the object slowed down as well, both witnesses were very scared at this time, more so when the object suddenly shot over to the left hand side of their car whereupon it then shot over to the right hand side of their car. The object then shot straight up into the sky and was gone in seconds. From the drawing supplied by the witnesses, the object appears black and is shaped like the roof of a house.

These are but two of the many low level close proximity UFO sightings that have been presented to our research group. During this wave of UFO sightings, SPI members frequently had skywatches in the area, indeed I was a frequent visitor to the area myself doing a number of personal skywatches, sadly I never saw a thing. By now the media had taken Bonnybridge under its wing and many reports of the strange activity was regularly featured in the press and on radio. Indeed, SPI were filmed by Scottish Television conducting a skywatch in the Bonnybridge area which drew a large amount of local people. This brought forth some individuals with their own tales to tell and proved an interesting exercise.

BONNYBRIDGE: WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON?

WHY BONNYBRIDGE?

One of the most frequently asked questions that I've had is, "why Bonnybridge, what's so special about it"? That of course is the million dollar question, and one quite honestly I cannot answer. For Bonnybridge whose population is around 9,000, is just like any other similar sized Scottish town. There is nothing geographically of importance in the area, (lest you consider ancient pictish forts and Roman encampments). One could also say, "why Gulf Breeze", "why the Pennines" these are other UFO "Hot Spots" what makes them all so special? If only we knew? Of course we at SPI have not ruled out the possibility that some of the UFOs seen over parts of Central Scotland may well be Military in origin. Perhaps even the Stealth bomber or Aurora aircraft, and I'm quite sure that the Military machine would be more than happy for the watching ground based observers to think that what they were viewing was a UFO, this would take the sting out of what it actually was. This of course is all pure speculation but one has to consider the possibility. Was the Military machine overflying central Scotland in these aircraft? The American airbase at Machrinanish was said to house the Stealth bomber at one stage, (this base is now officially closed)

The UFO sightings above Bonnybridge would appear to be on the decline now, or are people more reluctant to come forward in the light of the silly press stories that have circulated about the town over the years. No one likes to be made a fool of, and I can understand the reluctance of people not wanting to come forward. UFOs are still seen in the Bonnybridge area, they haven't completely died away but its annoying to think of the good cases that we've lost owing to the reluctance of the watching witness to come forward.

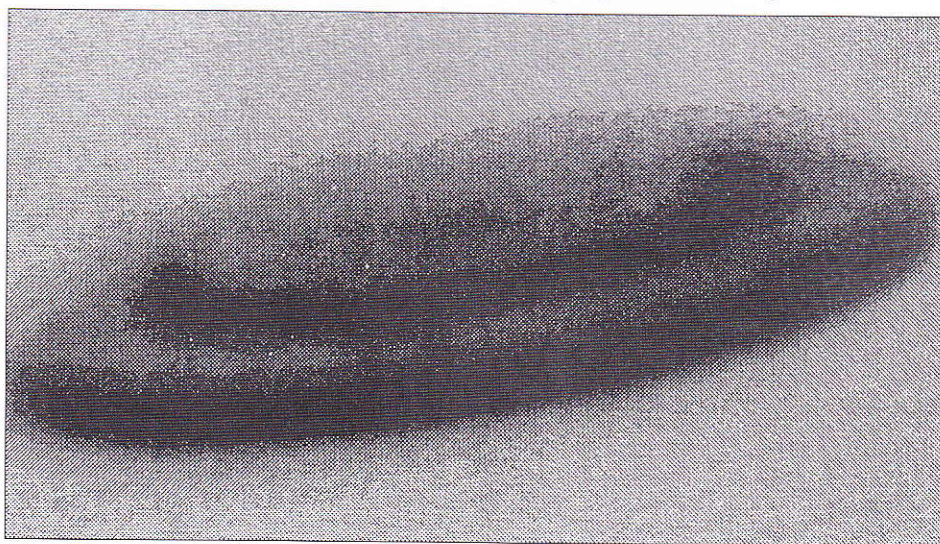
Not only do we have good reliable testimony coming from people from all age groups, but we also have various pieces of video footage and some photographs which claim to show these strange objects in the sky. The Malcolm family from Larbert a small town near Bonnybridge, have not one, but several pieces of video footage which claim to show these UFOs. I've observed several pieces of video and essentially what they have captured on film are bright white light sources, some of which are flying slowly across the sky. The family are well aware that they live below a flight path for commercial airliners, but they tell me that they know them for what they are, and what they are filming is totally different. Various TV networks have screened some of their film, and even today they are not letting up their quest for the truth. Photographic evidence has also come to the attention of SPI, and one of the more interesting ones concerned a photograph taken by Peter Muir (pseudonym). Peter was walking with a friend near Polmont Reservoir (again near Bonnybridge) on the 12th of

November 1991. Peter had been taking photographs of the B.P. Chemical Plant at nearby Grangemouth, this plant is truly a magnificent spectacle when it is all lit up at night with various gas emissions and bright lights (it's just like a small city).

Anyway, their attention was soon drawn to an object which was slowly coming in their direction. The object then stopped and began to hover for five minutes, no sound could be heard coming from this object. The object then turned around and faced their direction in which it was roughly 2000ft above the ground. Then it dipped, and increased dramatically in speed to a distance of around 200 to 300ft above them. It was then that they both heard a light pulsing "hum" At this point both witnesses were quite frightened but afterwards Peter told me, they both had an overwhelming sense of excitement. Peter had to actually bend over backwards to take his photograph luckily he managed to capture something and the image seen on the photograph appears to show a round circular object which is emitting strong white light which creates a halo effect around it in the sky.

true figure lies between 250 to 300 sightings. The press always seem to add an extra zero onto figures when the story appears in print and I would like to clear up this badly misrepresented fact. So what type of shapes have we had in regards to these UFO sightings. Talking to witnesses, has shown that we have three common UFO shapes that have been viewed over Bonnybridge and surrounding district. Firstly we have coloured balls of light, red, yellow, white, performing strange aerial maneuvers in the sky, some of these balls of light have been reported to have come quite close to the watching witness. Then we have the Toblerone shape, this consists of witnesses claiming to have seen a large drawn out triangular shape (something like the box that holds the chocolate Toblerone bar) move slowly and effortlessly across the night sky.

We then have the most common UFO shape, that of like two soup plates joined rim to rim. Some triangular objects, reminiscent I suppose to what was described flying over Belgium in the early 1990's and indeed recently over parts of England, have also been observed. There are so many interesting cases to have come out of Bonnybridge and surrounding areas, that it



Research on this photograph, has so far come up with no solutions as to what it might be. Other photographs of UFOs over Central Scotland have been taken, but apart from the Polmont Reservoir photograph and also quite a dramatic photograph of a 'daylight disc' taken at Craighuskar Reservoir near Dunfermline, none have shown anything quite as interesting.

2,000 UFO REPORTS! NOT ON YOUR NELLY

There are many many witnesses to what's going on in the skies above Bonnybridge, but I'm afraid nowhere near as much as the oft quoted (by media sources) 2,000 UFO sightings. I totally dispute this 'jumped up figure' and would say that in my research, the

would take a book to document them all, (but watch out that will come!)

So what do I, as a researcher think of what's been going on in the skies above Central Scotland? Well I've been associated with Ufology for well over 17 years and have heard many strange and interesting tales. I would say that some UFO reports from Central Scotland, are indeed misperceptions of ordinary mundane aerial objects, from aircraft birds in flight, wind debris etc. Some sightings like I speculated earlier, may be down to Military activity, but a good percent of what's being sighted in the skies above Central Scotland including Bonnybridge, could well be, dare I say it! Extraterrestrial or Inter-dimensional machines

which are penetrating our air space for reasons, best known to themselves.

The UFO abduction of two Edinburgh men on a lonely stretch of road back in August 1992 (around 17 miles away from Bonnybridge as the crow flies), was the case that took me off the proverbial sceptical fence, and landed me firmly into the 'believers' camp. We can only speculate if there are other such potential abduction cases 'out there' in Central Scotland, but the fact that both Carry Wood and his friend Colin Wright were catapulted into the most amazing UFO abduction only miles away from Bonnybridge, does make one think as to how many other cases are there of similar reports, but the people are too frightened to come forward with them.

Billy Buchanan the local Bonnybridge Councillor and I, have come in for much criticism regarding what's happening in Bonnybridge, if it were all but hype as some have suggested, then why did we enlist the help of M.P., Dennis Canavan in which we tried to get a Government enquiry into these UFO sightings above Bonnybridge? Both Billy and I fared Prime Minister John Major, with numerous UFO documents to let him see what was going on, sadly as we were later told, that as these objects did not pose a threat to the defence of the United Kingdom, the British Government would not seek to undertake any kind of investigation. (How many times have we heard that eh!)

I've often said, that perhaps the rise in figures in regards to these UFO reports, is purely down to the local people now recognising that they have a genuine phenomenon occurring in their area, and, rather than sit in their comfortable little houses, they are now getting themselves out into their back gardens and looking skywards, something which they previously would never have done. And by doing this, they are of course putting themselves straight into the position of being able to view these objects, because, like I say, there "is" a genuine phenomenon occurring here.

SUMMARY

In summing up the Bonnybridge mystery I would say this, the biggest sceptics of them all are the buggers who sit back in their armchair and rubbish these accounts. If they had talked to the witnesses like I have, viewed the data, saw the photographs and generally done the skywatching, then I'm sure that it would become abundantly clear to them that "we do" have something strange going on here. Scotland is playing host to different visitors than those that I began this article with, but these visitors origins are, for the meantime unknown. It is my hope that continued monitoring of the skies above Bonnybridge, may throw up information which is crystal clear in its presentation, and is a piece of the ufological jigsaw that has so far been neglected and may give us a better understanding of perhaps not only ourselves, but of those who are casting their inquisitive eyes over our affairs.

© Malcolm Robinson, Strange Phenomena Investigations, 29 Kent Road, Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, U.K. FK10 2JN. Tel 01259 210714.

RENDLESHAM FOREST: WHAT DO YOU THINK?

BY JENNY RANDES

In December 1980, probably the strangest and most significant close encounter took place in the British Isles. It was one of the first cases I got involved with when I took over as BUFORA's Director of Investigations in 1981 and during the next few years it turned from a bunch of uncorroborated rumours into a legend. Few ufologists can be unaware of what is reported to have happened.

To summarise very briefly, an object fell from the sky in the early hours of 26 December 1980. It was tracked on radar in East Anglia and witnessed by a number of civilians on the ground. Military personnel from the twin NATO air bases of Bentwaters and Woodbridge observed it crash land into nearby Rendlesham Forest and went out to investigate. Here, a security team encountered a landed object about the size of a small car. The close encounter that resulted profoundly affected the lives of the USAF airmen - one of whom stayed in the woods, with both time distortion and Oz factor effects hinting at a possible abduction. Radio communication with the base was lost for some minutes.

The next night the object returned - as predicted by a 'psychic feeling' experienced by the stunned airman referred to above. A number of local people in this rural part of Suffolk saw the lights dancing above the woods. A farmer lost cattle as they panicked and fled onto a road in front of a taxi. When traced years later he had relocated to another part of the country and refused to say much, except that the USAF would not pay him any compensation until he mentioned UFOs. Then they offered him a large amount! Military witnesses saw the UFO activity on this second night and the deputy base commander, Colonel Charles Halt, was called out of a Christmas party and sent out with a team of men to 'disprove' the UFO stories. Between late on 27 December and early into 28 December further close encounters ensued, many of which were tape recorded live by Halt and his investigating USAF officers. These included a UFO that stopped jeep engines and huge arc lights from working and a ball of light 'fired' at them like a missile, which passed straight through a truck and a tree trunk as if it did not exist.

Most of the events on the second night centred on the 'landing site' from the first encounter, where trace evidence had been discovered. This included triangular indentations and a huge hole in the top of the pine tree canopy. Radiation was also scattered across this area that was several times greater than any left in the UK in the wake of the 1986 explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor.

The British MoD were utterly silent on this letter in its immediate aftermath. There is some suspicion that D notices were issued against local press preventing them from carrying the rumours

that surfaced among the villagers and which ufologists soon picked up on for themselves. A letter sent asking for the official MoD position in early 1981 received a reply which completely ignored the question. This tactic by the ministry usually means they have something to hide!

In the USA the story was also kept secret until February 1983, when several things happened at once. In the immediate wake of speculation by ufologists that something other than a UFO encounter might have been involved - e.g. an air crash in which a live nuclear weapon was dropped - a USAF military officer came forward. He has never been associated with the case before or since but gave a one off exclusive interview to *OMNI* magazine saying that a few lights were seen and they were UFOs. The British base commander broke years of silence to concur. Within weeks the MoD had written to me out of the blue to admit that a few lights had been seen and these were unexplained and the USAF had released a summary report on the case via their Freedom of Information Act, again supporting the UFO angle.

The speculation that it might have been a case of 'disinformation' to hide some sinister incident began because ufologists were suspicious as to how the story was first leaked to them within days of its occurrence in peculiar circumstances. The radar officers, for example, need not have been told a thing about why the intelligence services had to see their radar films. But they were told that a spaceship had crashed, aliens had got out and had a chat with the base commander. Then they were put under no pressure not to tell anybody this fantastic tale. ufologists understandably wondered whether this meant that the UFO story was a cover for something else. Aside from the dropped nuclear weapon theory various other ideas have been mooted - e.g. the testing of a secret aircraft, a crash involving a prototype helicopter, the attempted recovery of a nuclear motor from a Soviet satellite and the testing of a weapon that triggered frightening hallucinations by stimulating the brainwaves of military troops. No doubt you can think of an even better possibility! Or, of course, it might well have been a real UFO encounter, either with some exotic natural phenomenon or aliens in the more traditional sense.

Obviously, this is very much a summary of a vastly complex case. More detail has been written up in the UFO literature (e.g. the 1984 book *Sky Crash* - Spearman, updated in paperback in 1986 from Grafton, or my 1993 US paperback *Out of the Blue* from Berkley).

What I am doing now is to make a survey of ufological opinion about this case. I want to know how strongly you value it as evidence for UFO reality and what, if anything, is your guess as to the explanation for what might have taken place. Write to:-

Rendlesham Forest survey: 1 Hallsteads Close, Dove Holes, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 8BS

I'll publish the findings in a future *UFO Times*. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

THE SOUTHPORT TRIANGLE CASE

BY ANTHONY ECCLES



The event that is written here took place in the Banks area of Southport, Merseyside on Saturday, 24th February 1996. The time of the witnessed event was between 03:00 and 03:15 in the morning. Up until this time the same object had been observed by a number of people in the Southport area on the Friday evening of the 23rd of February 1996 and the Sunday evening of the 3rd March 1996 at various times. But the object observed and reported to the Southport Visitor had very much resembled the object described in this report.

As it happened, both Jenny Randles and Peter Hough had independently informed me about these sightings. Jenny kindly gave me a contact number for the journalist of the *Southport Visitor* and the name of one of the witnesses. My investigations into the appearance of the Southport Triangle had begun.

I telephoned Noel Sullivan of the *Southport Visitor*. He told me that he had received a number of phone calls from the public who had all seen the same object in the sky on the nights mentioned above. He had a few names and addresses of those who had seen the object and that he would pass them onto me. A couple of days later I received a copy of the *Southport Visitor* which consisted of a couple of articles about the sightings, and also the names of the witnesses. It was a very kind gesture and one that helped me in the investigation

THE EVENT

Helping me with the investigations was Penny Hoyte, an enthusiastic provisional investigator. I had contacted the first witness, James Mower (name changed) and arranged to meet him at Southport station. From there we drove to his home to speak to both himself and his mother Paula, the second witness. The witnesses were initially unsure about discussing the incident, but after showing them our identification and assuring them of our code of conduct, they were both able to tell us about a strange event that they were both a witness to.

Their semi-detached house is situated in Fleetwood Crescent in a quiet part of the Banks area. Imagine, if you can, a family fast asleep in their beds. The night is quiet, undisturbed by late night aircraft flights, passing traffic and fine weather. And then, in the midst of the early hours of the morning Paula Mower awakens from her sleep to hear a deep rumbling emanating initially from the vent. She glanced up and looked at the bedside clock, it was three o'clock. It was her belief that a heavy goods vehicle was passing close by their house, but the noise did not fade. Paula had in fact got out of bed and peered out of the window, only to see that there was no lorry outside the house at all.

The rumbling persisted, gently vibrating on the walls and window of the bedroom. It could have been a police helicopter hovering directly above them. However, Paula was unable to see one from her window, so she decided to awake her husband, she was beginning to feel concerned. He did not wake up.

Paula then decided to go to her son's room, which was situated on the southern half of the house. As she walked down the hall she could hear that the rumbling was getting louder, more so from the direction of her son's bedroom. She slowly opened his door and walked inside knowing now, that whatever was making the noise was outside the house situated somewhere to the south. She rushed past the closed blinds and shook her son, he awoke and sat up straight. He too became aware of the noise. James couldn't believe how intense the noise was and how slightly worried his mother had looked. James opened wide the blinds to his window and stared through it. Immediately Paula and James could see the cause of the deep rumbling.

It was huge, and its shape was defined in the darkened sky by the brightness of the lights that glared of its shape. Three large white lights shone at each of the three recognised corners of

the object, they were bright, so bright the area around it was lit up as if by full moonlight. James noticed that within the centre of the darkened underside were two alternating flashing lights. First it flashed a bright green and then it flashed to a red, and continued with this pattern. What struck their minds was that it hovered still in the air and remained there for a good while! For some unknown reason, Paula continued thinking about a helicopter and was tempted to return to bed, despite the fact that she recalls that the object in no way resembled one. Thought transmission perhaps. Psychotronic experimentation?

By now, her husband was up and out of bed wondering what the noise was. He followed Paula downstairs. Paula unlocked the back door so that they could get a clearer view of what was causing such a powerful sound. And yet to their surprise, none of the other neighbours appeared to be up! For a length of time the family watched the object hover from two different parts of the house.

During the investigation, both Paula and James had showed us where they had seen the object from their viewpoints. To the south east and south of the house there is a wide expanse of fields and wasteland. To the south west was where the object was observed, hovering very low over the rooftops of another residential area!

Between an estimated time of five to twenty minutes the object remained still and then began to move very slowly to the west, only to dramatically increase its speed and shoot off into the west.

The stillness of the night returned, and there was silence again.

FOLLOW-UP

Two weeks had passed and both Paula and James were having a morning discussion about what they had seen. It was Paula that made the remark that if they really had seen something strange then it would have appeared in the local paper as other people must have seen it, especially heard it. The *Southport Visitor* was heard being pushed through the letterbox, James got up and picked it up. He, nor his mother, could not believe what they had seen on the front cover of the paper. A small article on the cover stated that a number of residents had witnessed a triangular object over Southport in recent days. Adjacent to it was a rather

My phone call to Liverpool airport was not welcome as they were unable to help and they had received many telephone calls from people enquiring about the sightings. Manchester airport had informed me that they had no records of any aircraft flying over the area for the morning of the 24th February. RAF Woodvale had said that they had no flights at that time. The police had also confirmed that they did not have a helicopter over that area either.

Astronomical details revealed that for the Friday night and Saturday morning of the 24th, Venus was in the south west sky at an approximate 26 degrees with a magnitude of -4.1, so it was very easy to see in the sky as a bright yellow object. Saturn was also in that part of the sky at an approximate 18 degrees and a magnitude of 0.4 so it can be seen, but it was not as bright as Venus. Both planets had set just after 20:30 GMT. The moon was also in the south west sky and at it last quarter, which rose at 02:30 and set at 11:26 GMT. As for meteor showers the Alpha Aurigids could still be seen throughout the first half of February adjacent to the constellation of the Auriga and at the time of the sighting positioned in the western part of the sky, out of view from James's bedroom.

It is peculiar but worth noting that Paula did not observe any astronomical bodies. James did note that he had seen the stars and the moon as it was a clear night with no cloud cover. It was also cold, dry and there was no wind. This is also confirmed by his mother, father and Bidston observatory who further stated that there was possible frost and a mainly northern light to moderate wind. The temperature ranged from 4 degrees centigrade in the morning to 6 degrees for Saturday day.

The Ministry of Defence had informed me that for all dates of the 23rd and 24th February and 3rd of March they had received no reports of any sightings from the Southport area. They made the added suggestion that it may be more productive for me to contact the British Aerospace facility at Warton to enquire into whether they may be testing a new aircraft as had been suggested.

BRITISH SECRET TECHNOLOGY - AN ANSWER?

But what about the idea that the British Aerospace facility at Freckleton, Warton could be responsible for the sightings as they are working on the British equivalent of Stealth?

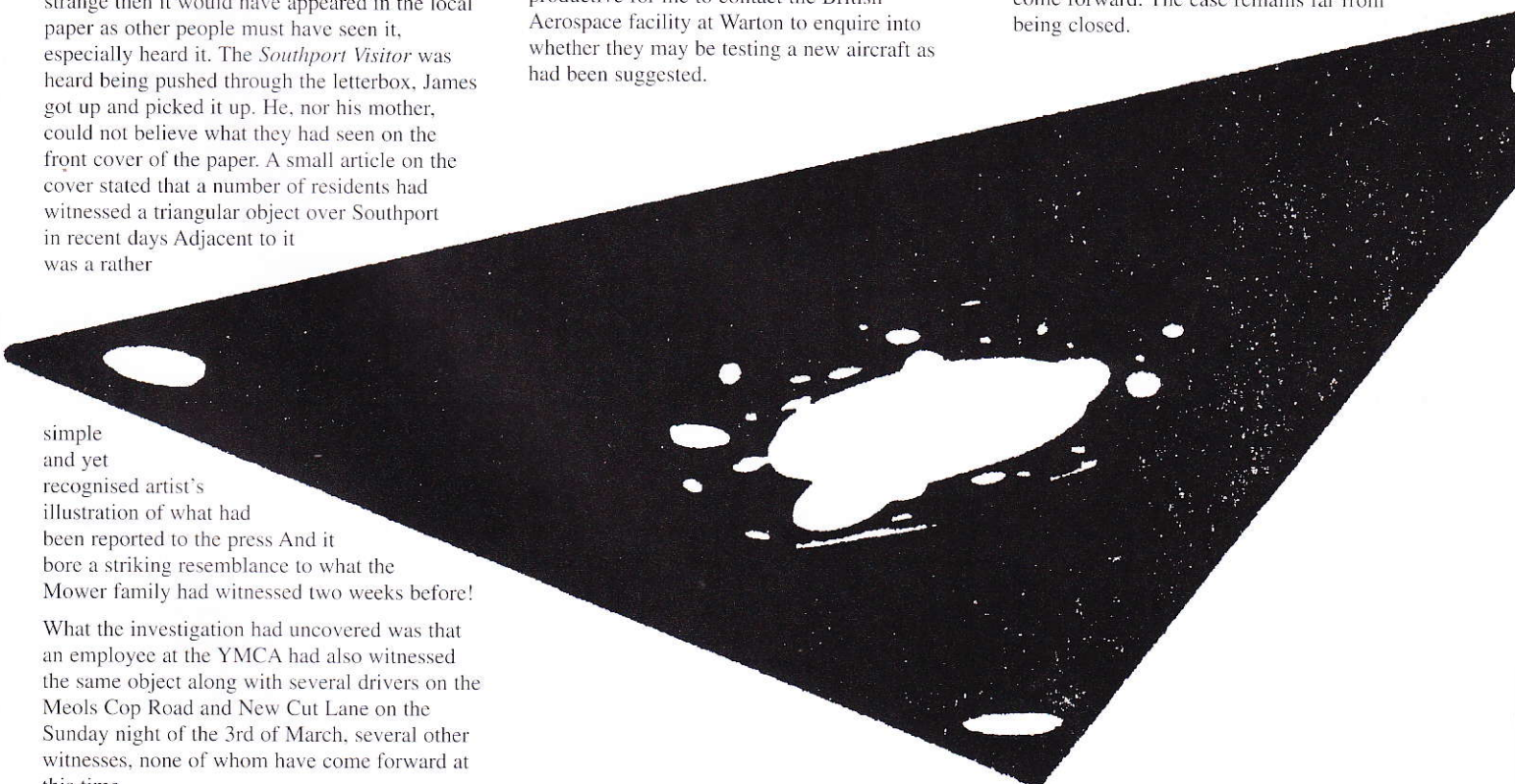
I spoke to an officer at Warton (the day I received the basic details of the sighting from Jenny Randles) who could confirm that they knew of no flights over the Banks area from the facility at the stated time and date. Could they be experimenting on a new type of Stealth? A craft that not only had a specific superior aerodynamic shape (more refined than the American project) but also possess the ability to hover? Especially over a residential area! I have no objections in accepting such an idea, but the technology involved would be fantastic. The object was described as huge, possibly the length of several houses, but the descriptions of the tremendous noise that came from it does seem to suggest a typical generator type engine noise (common to a large body of UFO reports). And from today's aircraft technology am I wrong in saying that to cause a craft that large to hover would require gigantic engines and a large requirement of fuel? And why would a craft that large need to hover? Unless it was to possess a function of hovering whilst invisible to radar and deliver a large amount of troops and equipment to areas behind enemy lines. Is this idea plausible?

The object has been seen by many people, not only in Southport but in Morecambe, Scarisbrick and Greater Manchester. For the first few months of 1996, this object was observed over the greater part of the North West, it is understandable why the British Aerospace facility becomes the focus for attention.

A report is presently being sent for BUFORA's files, but I'm waiting for more witnesses to come forward. The case remains far from being closed.

simple and yet recognised artist's illustration of what had been reported to the press. And it bore a striking resemblance to what the Mower family had witnessed two weeks before!

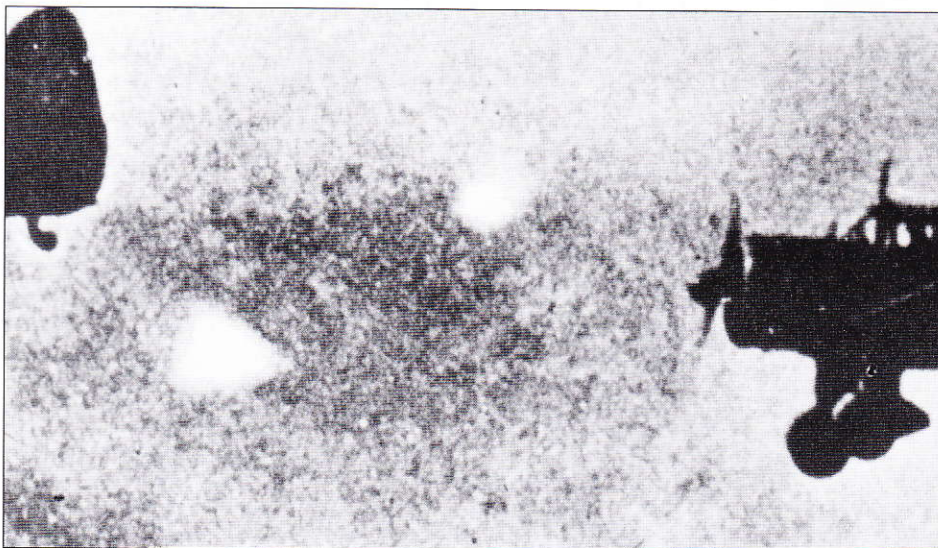
What the investigation had uncovered was that an employee at the YMCA had also witnessed the same object along with several drivers on the Meols Cop Road and New Cut Lane on the Sunday night of the 3rd of March, several other witnesses, none of whom have come forward at this time.



THE BALL OF LIGHT UFO PROJECT

INTRODUCTION BY STEVE GAMBLE, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

UFO reports contain a wide variety of unidentified objects ranging from strange distant lights, through reports of what appear to be complex structured craft to the abduction cases where people report they are taken forcibly aboard strange craft. The more spectacular of these cases, the abduction reports, constitute only a couple of percent of all the UFO reports, yet seem to attract something like 90% of the publicity. However, the vast bulk of reports should not be ignored.



Photograph of 'Foo Fighters' taken during WWII

PROJECT

BY ROBERT MOORE

The BUFORA Research Team has a number of projects underway. One project we have been working on for some time is the Ball Of Light UFO project. This is headed by Robert Moore, Research Projects Officer who has put a vast amount of effort into reorganising and cataloguing the data. The project was initiated by Hilary Evans, who subsequently invited BUFORA to take on the project. This is an ongoing and living project as evidenced by Robert's request in the closing paragraph of his report for people to send him information about any BOL reports they discover. Robert Moore's report (below) on this project is just the preliminary to a much fuller account which the BUFORA Research team hope to produce in the coming months.

WHAT IS A BOL?

Anomalous aerial luminance's are among the oldest recorded forms of "UFO" phenomena. Ufologists have given such incidents many names; the currently-prevalent term (which Project BOLREC utilises) is B.O.L (or "Ball Of Light"). The "Foo Fighters" of WW2 were the first such events to come to wide public attention; but many other B.O.L cases have been recorded throughout history, in a hundred different contexts. In ufology, reports of B.O.Ls are much more prevalent than observations of the "craftlike" exotics, with approximately 80-90% of events involving this class of UFO stimuli. The majority of BOL incidents allude to observations of a luminous 10-20 cm diameter oval, round or spherical form (often yellow, orange, red, blue or silver in hue), and often appear to be a mere few metres away from their participant. However, the term "BOL" can be misleading; although the majority have forms based on a circular/spherical configuration, other rudimentary (seemingly non-material) shapes have also been reported in some instances.

BOL manifestations can also be associated with notable secondary effects. These include radio disturbance, stalling (and damaging) of powered vehicles, and biological effects ranging from "pins and needles" to supposed instances of dermal "tanning" and "klieg conjunctivitis" (a reddish puffy swelling around the eyes). It is known that some BOLs occur repeatedly within a given region (the same areas, interestingly, also being host to other types of UFO experiences such as sightings of craftlike "exotics" and entity encounters).

Unfortunately, deficiencies within some UFO classification systems currently in use can (to a minor degree) hinder BOL research. For example (in the Hynek system) if a BOL is seen at a distance it is labelled a "Nocturnal Light", but one viewed at close proximity "becomes" a "CE I" or "CE II" (depending on it's effects on the environment), and are therefore lost in a welter of "metallic" discs, cigars, etc. This could be a problem if they are not related phenomena!

The questions that BOL manifestations raise are (for ufologists at least) profound;

1. Are BOLs mundane in nature, or do they have a more exotic explanation?
2. Do reports of BOLs involve a single phenomena, or several?
3. Are they related to the more (seemingly) "material" UFO forms? The true answers to these questions will (obviously) very markedly effect our approach and perspective towards both BOLs and other UFO-related phenomena. BUFORA has long recognised this, and as a consequence, established the BOLREC project, for which I am responsible.



BOLREC

BEGINNINGS OF BOLREC

BOLREC has its roots in BOLIDE: the Ball Of Light International Data Exchange. This project was initiated in 1986 by anomalies researcher Hilary Evans. BOLIDE comprised of a circle of contributors interested in (as its name suggests) exchanging information on a wide variety of Ball Of Light (BOL) events; from "scientifically" based happenings such as ball lightning and earthquake lights to "folkloric" types such as corpse candles and will-o'-the-wisps. BOLIDE, sadly, wound down in 1992, with some 116 separate items of information having been dispatched to subscribers during that time.

Shortly afterwards, a copy of the full BOLIDE records was passed onto BUFORA, who decided that they should be reorganised into a more "researcher-friendly" format. Following this, BUFORA would then re-activate BOLIDE as a "living" repository for any future (or newly discovered past) articles pertaining to BOL phenomenon. Initially, computerisation of these records was the main thrust of the BOLREC initiative. Information pertaining to these items were entered into a specially-composed database "shell" (based initially on MASTERFILE 8000, latter an IBM-compatible system called "ZEPHYR"; a "shareware" program using the FOXPRO data-processing "engine").

THE DATABASE

The BOLREC computer listings (currently running at 163 separate items) are organised in ascending chronological and "genus" order. Various topics relevant to BOLs were assigned a basic two-letter category coding. Listed topics include data on Biological Glows (i.e. bioluminescence), Ball Lightning, Corpse Candles, Earthquake Lights & "Earthlights", Localised BOL manifestations, BOLs seen in association with other Paranormal Phenomena, Will-o'-the-Wisp's, etc.

Each item also has a unique reference code, based on the original BOLIDE number-system. Items are also allocated a further code to show both its "source-type" (i.e. witness statement, theoretical study, etc.) and "source-origin" (i.e. newspaper, scientific journal, etc.).

Items are (in the instance of BOL events) listed by geographical location, and summarised by a key-word field which briefly outlines the item's contents.

The main aim of BOLREC's computer-listing is to organise source data on BOLs in a more "researcher-friendly" form. It appears to be succeeding. Unfortunately (as it stands), BOLREC is far from being a comprehensive source of articles pertaining to Ball Of Light phenomena. Many important articles are listed in the database, but many more are not. It is obvious that BOLREC's information-base must be both widened and constantly updated, in order to fully consolidate its usefulness. With the system fully established, BUFORA is now free to concentrate on improving BOLREC's 'data-pool! Furthermore, it is recognised that a

listing of articles on BOLs is, in itself, incapable of explaining such events on its own. The main purpose of this system is to collate and list articles of interest to BOL researchers, which, in turn will indirectly aid enquiries into such events.

BOL incidents clearly require a report-dedicated database capable of processing their attributes in a research-amenable format. This could (given a suitable information-base) allow them to be examined and (hopefully) comprehended to a much greater degree that they are today. Hopefully, BUFORA's UFO sighting database can be utilised to this end (using its case number "field" to permit cross-referencing of information in both systems).

Obviously, any help the membership can render in regards to the above would be greatly appreciated.

Robert can be contacted at:
Bolrec
BM Bufora, London
WC1N 3XX

A GENTLE CAVEAT TO INVESTIGATORS

BY JUDITH JAFFAR

Based in London, Judith is one of BUFORA's more experienced investigators and has over the years, dedicated her time to working with close encounter witnesses. She shall be leading the new BUFORA Witness Support Group in the spring of this year and will help to coordinate between other such groups around the UK.

I have been an investigator for BUFORA for some four years now, a relatively short span compared with many of my colleagues, but quite long enough to see the trends, and to be worried, very worried. Although I have only been actively involved in ufology for such a short time, my researches into the field of the paranormal go back a long, long way, to my childhood in fact.

The last twenty years of my life have been spent on a quest for knowledge, a quest that has run the gamut of practically every discipline which could possibly be connected with the subject of non-human intelligence, and our all-too-human interactions with it. The culmination of all these endeavours is ufology. Quite without premeditation, I have been led into this subject, and for my sins, here I seem to be firmly stuck. The pieces of the jigsaw are gradually falling into place, in a kind of a way, and a larger picture is emerging. In moments of pessimism and doubt, however, I despair of us ever seeing the full, clear picture.

My great worry is that we are seeing a new breed of ufologist evolve, coming to the subject with certain well-defined preconceptions. The "old guard" of researchers with impressive academic credentials is gradually being replaced by a new cadre of young, energetic, enthusiastic investigators who have been raised on a diet of Hollywood movies and TV, shows which treat the subject of UFOs as a discrete phenomenon within itself, and who are living in a climate where the objective reality of "alien" abductions goes largely unchallenged.

This is bad news, very bad news. I have always regarded ufology as just a part of a much larger scenario, one which by rights, should more properly be addressed by parapsychologists and paranormal researchers. I know a lot of people will disagree with me in this respect, but I'm standing my ground. UFOs do not exist within a vacuum.

Well they might do, but that's the stuff of a different article!

They come trailing a veritable magician's box of paranormal tricks behind them, and indeed sometimes pushing it before them. If an investigator is unaware of this, and not sufficiently knowledgeable to be able to deal with it, then we are only getting half the picture in submitted reports. This obviously does not apply so much to sightings of distant lights and objects, as to the increasingly frequent cases of

"contact" and "abduction". We have so many thousands of reports worldwide now of anomalous aerial phenomena, that I don't quite know what new information can be extracted from them, unless of course we are dealing with secret terrestrial technology, which again is the stuff of another article.

On the more personal "contact" level, the phenomenon has moved up a notch, to a decidedly profound, psychic plane, and we as investigators must make sure that we are equipped to deal with this change in focus. In fact, it has never been demonstrated to my satisfaction that sightings of "nuts and bolts" craft and abduction-type experiences are definitely linked. We are possibly dealing with different phenomena here, and investigators must be able to deal with all aspects of what is loosely termed "ufology".

My special field of interest is in the psychology of paranormal percipients, what makes them tick, what, if anything, about them makes them different from other people. Are ESP and paranormal perceptions self-generated, a product of the human condition, or could an external stimulus be involved. Or could the answer be a combination of both these factors? This brings me on to the vexed question of how to deal with witnesses, the main thrust of this article. And you cannot deal effectively and constructively with witnesses, or anybody for that matter, if you don't know what you're talking about! Undoubtedly you must bring a sympathetic ear and a lot of human understanding to a witness interview, but the greatest asset you can bring is an inside-out and upside-down knowledge of your subject. There are an awful lot of bad investigators out there, at best doing shoddy work and at worst traumatising already vulnerable people.

This is where it pays dividends to have done your homework, although it may take years. A good investigator working directly with "contact" or "close encounter" witnesses needs to have at least a passing knowledge of subjects such as religion, theology, demonology, the occult, psychology (especially abnormal psychology), psychopathology and neuropathology, mythology and folklore, ghosts and poltergeists, apparitions (particularly religious ones), earth sciences and the list goes on. A more recent addition to this list, dare I say it, would be, for want of a better term, covert government activity. Don't dismiss anything out of hand. Possibilities and probabilities are all we have to deal with in this field. There are no certainties, no easy answers.

Over the years, I have come across researchers, some very well-known, who think they have answers, even THE answer. They approach witnesses rather in the way a vivisectionist would approach a guinea-pig. To paraphrase a lot of conversations, "You realise, of course, that the witness only THINKS they saw what they said they saw. People misperceive and misunderstand things so easily. But I'm the expert in this field, and I put them right! It was only Venus, of course"

Aggh! The consummate arrogance of the reductionist.

Okay, sometimes it is Venus, but a lot less often than you would like to think. And whoever came up with this oft-touted statistic that 95% of UFO cases are explicable in mundane terms? How can you possibly understand someone else's anomalous experience when you are not prepared to listen, really listen, to what they have to say? Hynek once said that we should always remember that we are not studying UFOs, but reports of UFOs. If I could presume to take that a little bit further, and say that we are studying *the people* who make the reports of UFOs. I think this is a subtle but vital distinction.

In the course of my work, I have been able to study these people at close quarters. I find that generally speaking, they can be divided into three broad categories, the first being those that have had a genuine paranormal experience (often many), which has puzzled, frightened, traumatized or even elated them, depending on how they can integrate the event into their world view. Most are looking for answers and reassurance, some are looking to evangelise others.

The second group, possibly the largest one, comprises those who may have had an odd experience, like most of the rest of us, but who, for various reasons, need to feel special, important, "chosen". They should be approached sympathetically, but with some degree of discretion and firmness. You don't do them any favours in the long run by encouraging fantasy and exaggeration.

The third group, and by far the least common, includes those who are mentally ill. Interacting with such individuals is disconcerting and dangerous. They must at all costs be encouraged to seek medical help. Some will already be undergoing treatment, but unfortunately health professionals will not entertain the enquiries of UFO investigators. This is where the researcher has to make an important value judgement, and it's not easy. As far as I know, and please correct me if I'm wrong, not one of us in BUFORA Research and Investigations is medically qualified to make this kind of judgement.

We just have to do our best.

That is why I suggested earlier that investigators should acquaint themselves with basic psychopathology. But I have found in practice that you very quickly develop an intuitive sense about this kind of situation. Something tells you that all is not well, even though the witness may be perfectly intelligent and articulate, sometimes greatly so. In fact the role of instinct and intuition plays a huge, if unrecognised part in the whole of the field of paranormal research.

Some researchers are lucky to have it, some not. It's not something you can learn, and this is where women investigators score over men. Sorry guys! A wild generalisation in an ideal world, I would always have investigators work in pairs, male and female, each bringing his and her own "feel" to the job.

The impetus for firing off this article to *UFO Times* was something that I learned at a recent NIC meeting. BUFORA has a list of over three hundred investigators and provisional



investigators, less than thirty of whom are accredited.

To gain accreditation, an investigator has to successfully complete the postal training course and submit at least two case reports for peer review. Granted, the PTC does not teach you how to establish a rapport with witnesses, nor how to cope with the high strangeness cases that are becoming increasingly common. But it does teach you how to differentiate between IFOs and genuine unidentifieds, how to deal with officialdom and the media and how to do background research on a case. For many investigators this will comprise the bulk of their work, and for that reason it is a must.

Sample cases must be reviewed in order to establish that the prospective investigator is sensible, articulate and confident enough to make an evaluation, if only tentative. It is important that we attempt some kind of self-regulation in this matter, for how can we expect the public and the media, not to mention the halls of academe, to take BUFORA seriously, if we cannot even meet our own self-imposed standards?

I was in the fortunate position to have had probably the best teacher and mentor around, Ken Phillips. He took me under his wing as a rookie investigator and showed me the ropes, but refrained from pushing any theory or ideology. He was quite simply the most

sensitive, empathetic and honourable ufologist I've ever met.

The members of the Witness Support Group and myself will sorely miss him. He was so widely read and so knowledgeable in this subject, and many others, that it was truly staggering. But his was a knowledge tempered with wisdom, a wisdom badly needed in this very human "alien" field. There are a lot of researchers out there who have knowledge without a jot of understanding, and knowledge without wisdom is a truly dangerous thing. I learned from Ken to understand that at least some of these percipients were embarking on a voyage, akin to what folklorists and anthropologists would call a shamanic journey, a vision quest.

We, as close encounter researchers, must accompany them on this journey offering whatever advice we can, helping them to integrate sometimes terrifying ordeals into their lives. My "nuts-and-bolts" colleagues are probably having fits by this time. So be it! We all have our parts to play, for surely we researchers are as much a part of the phenomenon as the experiencers. This is something I wish to address more fully in the future, and it's a veritable minefield. What reputable scientific researcher wants to even countenance the possibility that he, or she, has been "touched by the supernatural"?

When I have the time and the opportunity, I would like to apply Ken's Anamnesis criteria to

the investigators instead of the witnesses. I have a feeling that the results will be rather illuminating, to say the least, but only if the participants can bear to be honest with themselves.

Some researchers cannot bring themselves to look into the bizarre cases. They get rationalised, shoved to the bottom of the pile, or dumped onto somebody else. If you feel you cannot cope with these kind of cases, perhaps you should reconsider your involvement in this field. If you are complacent in your world-view, then best leave it that way.

Never, ever forget that you may be required to take on a huge responsibility, a responsibility that may encompass the physical and mental health of your witnesses. This leads me onto another rather vexed topic, that of regression hypnosis BUFORA put an embargo on this activity some years ago, with very good reason, but some researchers, I've recently heard, are still amenable to its use. And at what cost?

Hypnosis is a valuable and powerful therapeutic tool in the hands of an experienced practitioner, but as an instrument of investigation it is totally unreliable and downright dangerous. Everything that we need to know about hypnosis and trance states was researched last century by pioneer doctors and psychologists. Read the literature. Janet, Charcot and others determined without doubt that hypnotised subjects were highly suggestible, imaginative and, believe it or not, telepathic. I don't think I need elaborate any further. The subjective or objective reality of memories retrieved under hypnosis becomes largely irrelevant. If the witness believes them, then they become real his or her life will never be the same again after "remembering" an abduction by "aliens". Do you as an investigator wish to shoulder that responsibility? Think long and hard, for the repercussions can be enormous, perhaps even leading to litigation and compensation, as has happened with hypnosis-retrieved sexual abuse memories. And if you should come across a case of what appears to be entity possession, retreat, and hand it over to the properly qualified authorities, be they lay, religious or medical.

The bottom line is, if you want to do well in ufology, get yourself some common sense, bucketsful of it, and don't listen to the rumour-mongers. They will distract you from important work and encourage you to waste your valuable time chasing phantoms.

So, all you would-be Mulders and Scullys, take heed. Get reading, get learning and get serious! This is not fun, this is not an exciting game. In fact if you are to pursue the subject properly, it's downright tedious and exacting at times. But don't get too serious. Retain your sense of humour and learn to laugh at yourself, for without a doubt, that's what everyone else is doing at your expense. And as Ken would have said, "Don't let those bastards at BUFORA get to you!" (*I don't know what you mean Judith! - Ed*)

A quick book recommendation, essential reading for serious investigators *Daimonic Reality* by Patrick Harpur, Penguin Arkana 1995 ISBN 0-14-019485-1 This book deserves to become a classic in its field.

forteantimes

the journal of strange phenomena

(PAY JUST £4.99 PER QUARTER)

SUBSCRIBE TO FORTEAN TIMES AND SAVE A PHENOMENAL 34%.

BUFORA AND FORTEAN TIMES have teamed up to bring you a very special offer. Subscribe to *Fortean Times* now and you will save a **MASSIVE 34%** on the regular price - that means you pay just £1.66 per copy instead of the £2.50 newsstand price.

ENTER THE WORLD OF THE BIZARRE AND THE BEWILDERING.

From UFOs, Bigfoot and visions of the Virgin Mary to weird tales and human oddities, *Fortean*

Times is a respected chronicler of strange

phenomena with 24 years' experience of reporting from wild frontiers. Informed, open-minded, sceptical, and above all extremely funny, FT has the low-down on what's out there.

PAY JUST £4.99 PER QUARTER - choose to pay by Direct Debit and spread the cost of your subscription over easy-to-pay quarterly instalments.

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO GUARANTEE:

- * A 34% saving on the regular price
- * You'll never miss a copy
- * Delivery direct to your door
- * Free copies of Fortflash,

the subscriber only newsletter offering discounts on bizarre buys



subscribe

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO SUBSCRIBE TO FORTEAN TIMES AT THE SPECIAL UK RATE OF £19.99.

Name

Address

Postcode Telephone

CHOOSE ONE OF TWO WAYS TO PAY:

1 By Direct Debit in quarterly instalments.

Please complete the Direct Debit form below. (We regret that the instalment payment option is only available to readers with a UK bank account).

forteantimes



Fortean Times Subscriptions
Bradley Pavilions, Bradley Stoke North Bristol BS12 0BQ

Your instruction to the bank or building society and signature:

Name and address of your bank/building society

Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank sort code - -

Account no:

Please pay John Brown Publishing Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee.

Signature Date
Banks/Building Societies may refuse to accept instructions from some types of accounts. Reference: Fortean mag.

2 By Cheque or Credit/Debit Card

- at the UK rate of £19.99
- at the EC rate of £25.00
- at the Rest of world rate of £30/\$60

I would like to pay by cheque/International money order made payable to John Brown Publishing Limited.

- Please debit my (tick one)
- Visa/Access Mastercard Diners Club American Express
- Switch (issue no. /)

Card No. (please fill in boxes below)

Expiry date /

Signature Date

Please tick if you prefer not to receive occasional mailings from selected companies

Return to: **FORTEAN TIMES, FREEPOST (SW6096), BRISTOL, BS12 0BR.**
You won't need a stamp if posting in the UK.
Or phone our credit card hotline on (44) 01454 202515.

THE UFO DISCOUNT LIST

EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS TO MEMBERS

A growing selection of stockists of UFO related material who offer BUFORA members exclusive discounts

Please remember to quote your membership number in all correspondence with the stockists below

UFO DETECTORS BY MB LUCAS

Pocket Electronic Units

UFO Alarm Detector £49-UK/US \$75-World.

UFO RADAR Detector £54-UK/US \$82-

World, sensing static & magnetic fields.

Earth's Whistler Radio £52-UK/US

\$79-World

For more information send £1-UK/US

\$2-World

BUFORA member discount = £11-UK/US

\$17-World off list prices.

PO Box 694, St. Helier, Jersey, JE4 9PZ

NOTTINGHAM GHOST TOURS

Specialists in tours, workshops and events on ghosts, the paranormal and personal development. Our 'Ghost Weekends' include psychic demonstrations and a past life regression, in an atmospheric, haunted hotel!

BUFORA member discount = 7%

48 Dovecote Road, Eastwood, Nottingham, NG16 3EZ

Tel: 01773-719490 Fax: 01773-530207

STEBBINGS BOOKS

Books, videos, magazines, UFOs, conspiracies. New, secondhand imports, Nazi UFO technology, Face on Mars, Nexus Magazine. Information pack £1.00 refundable.

BUFORA member Discount = 15%

41 Terminus Drive, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 6PR

GODDARD MULTIMEDIA

Video and audio tapes. Contact us for further details.

Jim Goddard, 25, Albert Road, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15. 2PX.

TORTURED SOULS

Sculptures of the very bizarre nature. Clocks, mirrors, candleholders, ornaments etc. Also a growing selection of alien sculptures. Send a large sae for a full brochure.

BUFORA member discount =

7% (excluding p&p)

749 New Hey Road, Outlane Huddersfield, HD3 3YL, UK

Tel 01422 370315 Mobile 0850 780073

XVISIONS UK

Step into the Light

Quality alienwear - T's, Sweats, Stickers.

Free catalogue with sae.

BUFORA member discount =

5% (excluding p&p)

14 Woodfield Avenue, Flint, Flintshire, CH6 5JG

Tel: 01352 732473

Email ej77@dial.pipex.com

LABYRINTH VIDEO

The latest UFO video collection. Full details on request.

BUFORA member discount = 10%

Labyrinth Media Ltd, PO Box 50, Harlow, Essex CM17 0DZ

Tel: 01279 635348

WATKINS DIRECT

UFO books by mail order from one of Britain's longest trading booksellers. Contact us for a free catalogue.

BUFORA member Discount =

10% (excluding p&p)

19 Cecil Court, London, WC2N 4EZ

Tel: 0171 836 2182 Fax: 0171 836 6700

Email: watkins@globalnet.co.uk

ALIEN ENCOUNTER PRODUCTIONS

An extensive range of quality videos covering all aspects of the UFO Phenomenon. Full catalogue on request.

BUFORA member discount = 10%

(on orders over £20.00 excluding p&p)

PO Box 872, Marlow,

Buckinghamshire, SL7 1SN

SPACELINK BOOKS

Guaranteed fast delivery on current book and video stock list. Latest titles on both UFOs and the paranormal. Free list on request.

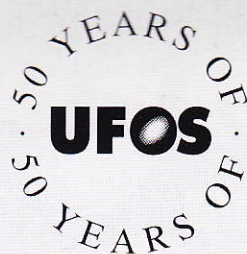
BUFORA member discount = 5%

(on orders over £20.00 excluding p&p)

115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex,

TW12 2QY

Tel: 0181-979 3148



9TH BUFORA INTERNATIONAL AT UFO CONGRESS

THE BIGGEST UFO CONFERENCE OF '97

16th & 17th
August 1997

SHEFFIELD HALLAM
UNIVERSITY

Confirmed speakers include:-

Budd Hopkins, *

Debbie Jordon,

Nick Redfern,

Paul Devereux, *

Don & Vicki Ecker

Derek Sheffield

Alan Alford

Michael Lindermann

Odd Gunnar Røed

and Cinthia Hind

Many more world renowned
speakers will be attending.

Ticket prices £15.00 Saturday
or Sunday, £25.00 for both days

For further information write to
Congress '97, BM BUFORA,
London WC1N 3XX or contact
our booking hotline

01484 721993

ANDY ROBERTS REVIEWS

*Is that an
implant in your
pocket – or are
you just pleased
to see me?*

UFOLOGY

It's one am in a hotel bar in deepest Lytham St Annes at a post UFO conference 'do'. A heated discussion about the veracity of the 'alien autopsy' film has just finished and M.O.D. UFO sleuth turned author Nick Pope is grooving on the dancefloor to the Grease Medley. I've just had my first conversation with Philip Mantle in several years (he doesn't have horns, nor was he munching on fresh baby) and there is generally a mellow vibe about the proceedings. Ruminating on the place of violence in ufology, I concluded that...

...but let's go back to the beginning.

UFO conferences are really quite amazing events. If you've never been to one I suggest you start going immediately. At a conference you get to hear some fantastic speakers, catch up with the latest theories on important cases and generally check out what's happening. You get to meet interesting people, touch the garments of the ufological stars, see the latest fashions in books and merchandising and have lots of fun.

You also get to see the ufological wildlife at a waterhole during its annual migration round the country. Who is actually at a conference, who speaks, what they are allowed to speak about, who organises, who speaks to who, who is talked about, is a fascinating insight into ufological politics in this country. And make no mistake about it UFO politics, the personalities of the researchers and their petty likes and dislikes are what forms the public perception of the subject whether any of us like it or not. Conferences, we love 'em.

Having been an avid conference goer and organiser over the years I was intrigued as to what the Lancashire group LAPIS' conference would be like. So I went. Entitled the CIA conference (Conspiracies, Implants, Abductions) it took place on the 16/17 November at in Lytham. Congratulations to LAPIS for putting on such a varied line-up in such an excellent venue. The conference was well organised and worthwhile, having much of the feel of the old IUN Sheffield conferences about it.

MARCUS ALLEN

First up on the Saturday was **Marcus Allen**, editor of *Nexus* magazine. Marcus has a good line in conspiracies and, of course, a magazine to sell. Marcus sensed we were in need of amusement on that rainy Saturday morning and duly obliged, by treating us to that hoary old chestnut known as 'The Americans Probably Didn't Really Go To The Moon'. Yup, they filmed it all in a desert or on a stage set somewhere.

Why? Either because their cameras didn't work on the real mission and they just *had* to have holiday snaps so as not to look stupid. Or was it for far more sinister reasons not really clarified? Probably.

That's the thing with conspiracies, you can believe what you like and no one will gainsay you. Marcus' reasoning was backed up with official moon photos which, he said, showed that both the lighting and camera angles were

somehow 'wrong', implying that the whole deal had been staged. Nothing was said about how NASA had probably light flooded the photographs during the development process to make them more viewer-friendly. In fact, what Marcus was *actually* saying (I believe you young folk call it a 'sub-text') was the entire American intelligence community is more stupid than us because it can't even hoax some photographs properly.

The same conspiratorial reasoning applied to the alleged UFO cover-up works the other way round because of course they are clever enough pulled the wool over our eyes for years, hiding the TRUTH about aliens. Make your mind up please. If I'm wrong and someone out there knows about this theory write us an article or send a letter. I thought Marcus was talking complete gonads but the audience lapped it up.

A vote taken at the end revealed that 80% of those present actually believed what Marcus was saying!

MICHAEL LINDEMANN

Michael Lindemann is a name probably not too familiar to ufologists in the UK but he's a biggy on the US circuit and one of the most eloquent and informed speakers I have seen. It was a joy to hear him talk. Michael hauled out another old favourite out of the ufological jewel box and polished it up for us to wonder at. This one has many names. Born as the Education Programme it also likes to pass itself off as The Truth Is Comin' Soon. It was a popular number in the 1950s when Donald Keyhoe invented it (and much of ufology if the truth be told) and what goes around comes around, and here it was again. Better dressed but still the same.

Religious analogues aside (and sadly ignored by Lindemann I'm afraid) we were asked to consider that the increase in UFO imagery in advertising, the latest slew of UFO films and in popular culture generally was part of a subtle build up to a revelation about the alien presence on Earth. This revelation was going to be revealed very, very soon. Or maybe, Michael said, we would suddenly find ourselves accepting that it had happened without really being certain of who told us and when. Aliens would just sort of be here, shopping in Tesco's, and we wouldn't question what was going on. Our paradigm would have been subtly shifted with our complete acceptance and compliance.

Lindemann's argument was persuasive, but ignores key aspects of the development of ufology and its imagery in society. It's been a long slow process starting well before the 1947 Arnold sighting, speeding up through the 50s, 60s and 70s and, as the subject of ufology has become exponentially popular the images have multiplied too and are as common in advertising as, say, the use of blues music is in advertising jeans or crap American beer. But not because it's in advance of the landing Michael, surely. But then why, asked Lindemann, do people easily accept the finer nuances of the UFO subject when it's displayed in advertising etc, if it's not because we all want to believe they're here, to

LIVE IN LYTHAM

weekly accept this propaganda which is effectively socially engineering a whole nation into accepting an alien invasion, or at the very least accepting the *idea* of an alien invasion. Yes, that's what he was saying. Would we, have we, been so stupid as to fall for that one? (excuse me there's a tentacle at the window).

It has always been the case that the sceptical European researchers interpreted what Lindemann was talking about in terms of the alien/UFO image being a potent image of our time, mythic in nature, whose manifestations through the experiences of abductees reflects the times we live in. Put simply, in a post nuclear, desecrated, #####-ed up, crazy world we are desperately seeking intervention from outside. And that's what the central argument in modern ufology is all about. Is it true, or merely false? Or both of these things? A symptom of the looming millennium if you like. Call me a raving psycho-social theorist if you will but that's what I still see. No time schedule was put on this approaching event, so like all these scenarios there is plenty of room for widening the goalposts. If there was a dearth of alien imagery in culture no doubt the reasoning would be that it is being covered up to prevent us knowing that the invasion is coming. You can't have it both ways.

Fundamentally Lindemann is a literalist and like all literalists he was certain with a capital C. His pronouncements about the ensuing invasion were punctuated with a very definite, "All we can say for sure is it, sure is coming."

Sure?

Sure...

But credit where it's due and Lindemann has done far more in-the-trenches ufology that you or I will ever do, so what makes him believe these things so fervently? I really want to know. Read his books, watch his videos, Michael Lindemann is very much a man to watch in American ufology.

At the end of his talk he asked for questions from the audience. A little voice spoke up, "My name is Harry Harris..."

Don't worry grapple fans, he returns in the second act...

JENNY RANGLES

Jenny Rangles next, giving us a look at how themes in ufology have shifted and changed. An interesting and thoughtful talk raising some key issues about *how* we look at the evidence presented to us. She raised the sometimes even more baffling than usual elements of some cases, like the alleged MIB visit in the Templeton photo case. And she stressed how our answers to the UFO mystery most probably will be plural rather than with an ETH singularity.

But you only get that if your questions are plural in the first place. Jenny's material was perhaps a little too restrained for the majority of the audience who were naturally wanting something more tangible, but Jenny is always pertinent and worth listening to. Jenny's way of looking at ufology showed clearly the huge difference

between European and American ufological world views.

DERROL SIMS

Derrol Sims, according to the conference blurb, is "...arguably the most important ufologist in the world today". OK, let's argue. He's into the myth of fingerprints and that's what front end UFO research is about these days in the colonies. Bugger all this airy fairy nonsense about documents and intelligence leaks – no substance to them. And crashed saucers are OK, but the ufological unwashed have realised they are never going to get their grubby mitts on them and so the hard physical evidence they so crave and believe in, has to come from somewhere else.

Witness the rise of the implant in ufology. Here is the body's very own piece of alien artefacture, its very own crashed saucer. The government can't get to it first and should you be lucky(?) enough to find you have one there's no messing about with autopsy tents and low-loaders in the desert. Nope, it's straight round to your Uncle Derrol and his chums who will arrange to have it surgically removed (in some cases under hypnosis..."you are getting sleepy" - "no I'm bloody well not!"). And he's got the videos to prove it.

I toyed with the idea of buying one during the break but was glad I didn't. Derrol let us have a looksee for free in his talk and it was like an episode of Jimmy's, man with knife opens body, removes small metal blob, all wonder in awe.

Much was made of the fact that even though many of these objects are clearly identified by scans to be in a very definite area of flesh, it took the surgeons ages to actually find them. Meaning what exactly? God knows. But this approach pays off and things were found, oh yes. Things that no one knew what they were, things which didn't look like anything in particular. Analysis was inconclusive, though Derrol hinted at 'off world isotopes' quite a bit. But that's the nature of 'evidence'. Remember Joe Simonton's pancakes? Recall the 'jewels' brought back from fairyland. Ordinary stuff borne of extraordinary experiences. What's the betting that *not one single implant* discovered by Derrol will ever be found to be extraterrestrial in origin?

One case mentioned involved a young girl who had sneezed out several small gold balls from her nose. Kids put stuff up their noses all the time. Could it be a bit of a toy perhaps? But I'm sceptical not only of implants but of the methods used to retrieve them. Is it really a good thing to encourage people in the belief that they have subcutaneous matter which may well have been placed there by aliens who will -make no mistake about it – return to you again and again? This stuff freaks people out. Believing it is actually a symptom of schizophrenia (did anyone notice really early on in the Eastenders plot which charted Joe Wickes painful descent into hell, he was sat on a sofa reading a copy of *UFO Magazine*? Is part of the 'Education Programme' telling us that reading UFO 'zines

will send us mad?). I'm unconvinced and not a little worried by these methods.

One slide showed by Derrol was taken from *Nature* (vol. 323, 1986), showing an anomalous object in a chromosome sample. Derrol's theory seems to run that if it is anomalous and in the body then it may well be an implant. Fair reasoning you might think. Fair if you believe in implants that is. But Derrol hadn't realised that the 'explanation' to this was in a subsequent issue of that learned journal, and was identified as a Diatom skeleton. I'm going to make this information available to Derrol and we'll let you know what he makes of this 'explanation'. He and his wife gave a workshop later that evening going into his techniques in more depth which I didn't attend but reports spoke of a panoply of methods now available to US abduction researchers to ensnare their quarry.

If the aliens are so clever as to.... then why do they... aww no I'm not going through all that again. Write in and let us know what you feel about implant research. Better still, write in and let us know if you've got an implant. Promise we won't tell Derrol!

NICK POPE

Nick Pope spoke last on the Saturday. His tenure of the UFO desk at the MOD resulted in the book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, possibly one of the worst ever UFO books. In person he gives an excellent lecture but it is still bland and rather pointless. If Johnny – or Jenny – Ufologist stood on stage and said what Nick did people would fall asleep. But because Nick is seen to represent 'the government', the audience is rapt and seats are dampened. But no information is imparted. If I didn't believe in them I'd suspect a disinformation plot! Why do alleged government secrets exert such a pull on people? A Freudian analyst would have a field day with it I'm sure. It's clear that Nick is a keen adherent of the extraterrestrial hypothesis and that's his business, but I would have liked just a tad more proof of how he came to that conclusion, based on things he learned whilst in office at the MOD.

His explanation of why he could reveal things from an official point of view without hindrance – a point which had always bothered me – was convincingly explained. It was because the second Andy MacNab SAS 'kill and tell' book had driven a coach and horses through the MOD publications policy in such a way that it was pointless trying to stop it. I later met Nick at the LAPIS 'do' and he forgave me for my review of his book in *U.T.* and actually agreed with many of the points I made. Apparently his next book will reflect his days at the MOD dealing with ufological matters via a 'diary' approach, giving some insight into day to day government UFO dealings, and will not be ghost written. I look forward to it.

UFOLOGY - LIVE IN LYTHAM

SIMON LEWIS

Sunday's entertainment opened with **Simon Lewis** from the North Lancashire UFO Investigation Group. Simon gave us a guided tour round the development of triangular craft both historically and in respect of the current upsurge in sightings of triangular UFOs. The belief that they represent some form of 'test' craft under development is a seductively wonderful one. It gives us the chance to blame these sightings on 'them' and strengthens the conspiracy lobby within the subject. We should be careful of easy, slick explanations. Unfortunately, and apropos of nothing, Simon brought the Moon into play late in the game.

Strange structures seem to exist on some photos of the moon. Yeah? The photos he showed weren't impressive. Another one showed a small version of the 'Face On Mars', and lo and behold if you squinted and tilted your head, it did! But so what? The 'face' on Mars is interesting only because it vaguely looks like a face. The term for the natural replication of images is simulacra – and no one has ever been able to explain why the 'face' on Mars isn't cosmic simulacra.

Maybe they don't want to because it would spoil playtime. Remember when Esther Rantzen used to have those 'amusing' potatoes on her TV show which resembled people/faces/insert name of favourite organ here. Well, that's Mars that is. To be obsessed with or be affected by the pull of the moon is sheer lunacy and I thought this detour into mooninland marred an otherwise excellent talk.

DERROL'S WIFE DORIS

Derrol's wife **Doris** took the stage next to expound the basics of handwriting analysis (graphology) and how they can be applied to abduction cases. In theory this could give insight into when an abductee is lying, remembering, recalling emotionally charged material or whatever. It could. But it failed to take account of the fact that if someone has had a 'UFO' or 'abduction' experience there is no need to assume that it was a literal, physically real one. The *experience* still takes place though, is real to the witness, and the memories will be recalled in the same way as 'real' memories and will therefore show up under graphological analysis therefore proving that graphology has a place to play in abduction research – and back to the beginning again.

As a new weapon in the armoury of the modern day abductee hunter I thought it was misleading, unimpressive and dangerous. It's bad enough when employers use graphology to determine whether or not a potential employee is worth appointing or not (hey, it happens). Using these techniques in an attempt to identify abductees is a tricky business, wide open to criticism and interpretation. When, oh when, will people realise that the only way to ascertain if someone has been consorting with space aliens is to see if they've got a cat called Beelzebub and a supernumerary nipple. If there is still any doubt then toss 'em in the village pond and see if they float! It was that useless.

Following Doris' instructions during her talk we were invited to compare a sample of our own handwriting with her findings. I did. I was sensitive, not attentive to detail, had fluctuating reality and ambiguity. Yeah? Now what's that strange lump in my nose? I rest my case.

Michael Lindemann returned to the stage to talk about abductions from a futurist perspective. Good stuff again with Lindemann going into the reasons for alien visitation. The gist seemed to be that they are unhappy about our plight and what we are doing to the planet. This is why so many abductees are fed images of a world destroyed and sent back with a 'mission'. In his words "The alien abduction phenomenon may represent some sort of corrective initiative".

But again, although what he is saying about the reasons for the visitor's presence could be true, it is equally self evident to our subconscious minds (and if you believe in such a thing, to our collective unconscious) and it would be natural for myth and vision to reflect those concerns. One interesting case he outlined though was the Allegash abduction, little known about in the UK.

In this event four men out wilderness camping were out fishing on a lake using a campfire as a marker when they had an experience with an anomalous light. Returning to the campfire after what they thought was a short time they found that the fire was burnt out long since. Subsequently all four have recalled an abduction experience, drawing similar aliens. A case worth getting to know more about (there is a Raymond Fowler book about it) manily because it's this sort of thing that makes an eminently sensible man like Lindemann say that there will soon be "widespread open contact between humans and an alien intelligence". Phew!

If he's right in *any* of what he says then DON'T PANIC!!!!!!!!!!!!

If he's wrong then he's still an excellent speaker.

The Alien Autopsy film has made certain people a lot of money. It's also made other people famous and it has raised the profile of ufology (for the worse in my opinion) higher than ever before. Philip Mantle has been at the centre of this firestorm and the brunt of much criticism. Only a professional Yorkshireman like Philip could withstand it for this long without cracking up (with laughter), but I think it's water off the proverbial duck's back to him. Personally I think he has been an unwitting dupe of a very clever hoax. But out of it he's got a great story to tell round the campfire. A story of its time and one which will keep him in free dinners and invites to UFO conferences for a long time yet. It's a dirty job but someone's got to do it apparently.

Philip told the story clearly and with some humour. The 'tent' footage was shown, this being the film which has not been widely seen (but it's my bet that it appears on video soon) and is considerably different to the commercial video. In this segment two white coated bods are seen rooting around with entrails and such like. But something's not quite right here.

Their body language suggests boredom, a certain element of relaxation and not the professional military alertness you would expect from people who were first witnesses to a realisation that would change the universe for mankind for ever. No, they had a distinctly louche attitude about them. Could it just have been my imagination or did I see tufts of hair coming out from under their surgical hats. Would military personnel of 1947 have hair which showed or would they have had brutal military crewcuts? Would hoaxers be so stupid as to let this show? If you get the chance to see this film do so and bear these points in mind.

The film also seemed to have a different 'quality' to it too, the movement seemed 'looser' and there was altogether a different feel to the film we are familiar with. Perhaps I'm clutching at straws, refusing to accept the inevitable. If I was then I wasn't alone. A show of hands at the end showed that only about fifteen people in the audience believed the film was genuine. Apparently this is a success for Philip as he said only four people believed it at the Fortean Times UnConvention. Perhaps a cult is starting! Philip acquitted himself well, dealing with his only heckler with ease. An up and coming Midlands investigator who seemed to have a bee in her bonnet about Mr Mantle's activities was silenced early in her heckle with a quick "Perhaps you'd be good enough to be quiet madam,... whoever you are". She was.

I had to miss Derrol Sim's closing talk owing to an urgent Roy Harper gig (who?!) in Liverpool. But there was drama in the break as I left. Harry Harris, abductee researcher and solicitor was ushered onto the stage for an impromptu ten minute spot. UFO politics alert! There had obviously been some double dealing in the LAPIS camp. Whilst some LAPIS members were opposed to even having to breath the same air as Harry, certain other members obviously had other ideas. Cue impending disaster.

In what I thought was a bold and commendable move LAPIS founder member and *New Ufologist* editor Joe Dormer stormed towards the stage, fists raging, to confront Harris shouting, "Harris, you are a #####-##### on the ##### of ufology". Well, I can't tell you can I? It may not be suitable to repeat in a public forum if Harry's listening. But it was very funny and totally apposite.

Ask any switched on ufologist and they'll know, maybe they'll even tell you! Proceedings were halted before fisticuffs could ensue and Harris got his two minutes of fame which seemed to consist of information about why Dr Sue Blackmore couldn't possibly be right. Whether this was because Harry just didn't agree with her or whether there was any salient evidence on offer was unclear and the audience drifted off in dribs and drabs for tea.

So that was it for me. Implants, abductions, arguments, intrigue, excellent cappuccino, dancing MOD men, silenced hecklers, the ongoing implementation of the Great Conspiracy. It was all at Lytham. It's all at every UFO conference, no matter who is running them. You know you need to get out more – go to a UFO conference.

MORE REVIEWS

THE UNEXPLAINED Mysteries - Karl Shuker (Carlton 1996 £16.99)

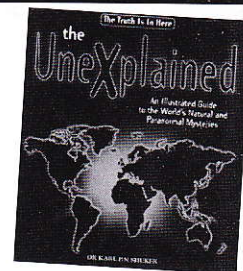
With all things 'X' being popular these days bookshop shelves groan under the weight of nonsensical 'illustrated guides' to all aspects of weirdness. It has to be said that Shuker's book is one of the better ones by far. Excellent production values by Carlton make the book a treat to look at, with photos, maps and illustrations on every page. Not only that but the illos. are both pertinent to the text and in many cases rarely seen. The subject matter ranges far

and wide geographically and contextually. Obviously Shuker's interests as a cryptozoologist shine through but ufology gets a look in too along with more arcane mysteries such as the Indian Rope Trick (which has always fascinated me).

Perhaps it's *because* Shuker is a cryptozoologist the book is so wide ranging, but if you are thinking of buying someone a present or want a

good read and an invaluable reference book for your shelf *The Unexplained* is the one to go for.

**REVIEW BY
ALAN STAITHES**



WEIRD CD-ROM £29.95 Win.3.1/Win 95/Mac Version (Twopointzero 1996)

CD-Roms dealing with strange phenomena are still in their infancy. *Weird* is the first one to get out of the pram and start walking. Just *how* these things are put together is more of a mystery to me than what lies behind the abduction phenomenon. But does it justify what seems to be a high price for information you could, presumably, get out a book? Well, yes, it does. But you have to use a bit of nouse to get

at the info, wander round a bit, click on everything and see what happens. With it's spooky music it's a bit like Doom without the fear of a sudden and gory end. All of forteana is here; monsters of all hues, man-beasts, ghosts and polts, UFOs, mysterious places, interviews and much, much more. Compared to others of its ilk *Weird* is *highly* interactive and the occasional puzzle only adds to the air of

mystery as you wander the corridors, taking in the sights and sounds. The information given is solid, revealing and most of all up to date. Buy it, get the recreationals out, and spend an evening or twenty of high quality fortean entertainment.

REVIEW BY ANDY ROBERTS

UFO: THE GOVERNMENT FILES Peter Brooksmith Blandford 1996 - £14.99

Peter Brooksmith is a bit of an anomaly among UFO authors. Firstly he's sceptical of the overriding ETH myth and not afraid to say so. Secondly he's a bright bunny, intelligently pointing out flaws in the ufological can't of the last fifty years. Never one to go looking for a mystery where none lies, *The Government Files* ploughs through the (mainly US) government's involvement with UFOs. All the major cases and documents are dealt with, some perfunctorily, some more detailed, but all with wit and understanding.

Does he reveal a Cosmic Watergate? A comic Watergate more like. Confusion, misunderstanding and belief seem to lie at the heart of any governments UFO dealings and Brooksmith chronicles this well. He also throws in some golden nuggets such as the influence Donald Keyhoe had on the developing UFO mythos in the 50s.

The problem is that officialdom is damned if they do, damned if they don't when it comes to releasing information, facts or figures. Whatever is or is not said will be interpreted in the light of prevailing ufological thought. But in lieu of an TV announcement by Bill Clinton that 'they' have landed, these marked and blurred documents are all we have to go on.

Actually *looking* at what documents say is a useful exercise. Take, for instance Dr Stone, of O/SI (Office of Scientific Intelligence) and his view of the CIA UFO files up until March 1949. "The 'flying disks' will turn out to be another sea-serpent. However, since there is even a remote possibility that they may be interplanetary or foreign aircraft, it is necessary to investigate each sighting." That succinct and admirably practical statement seems to have been at the heart of every government's involvement since. This doesn't *deny* or *accept* any explanation, just makes the situation clear. Of course cover-up enthusiasts will just say the real 'truth' has been hidden deeper. You can't win. We could argue this back and forwards all day and be non the wiser. With one slight qualification. UFOs *still* have the status of sea-serpents.

Other documents demonstrate mystification, puzzlement, interest and the usual array of human reactions to mystery. Let's not forget that government official are human too and will behave in a similar way to you or I when presented with anomalies. Some will accept mystery, some will deny mystery, some will simply believe. The dangers come when ufologists decide what the documents *really* mean. Brooksmith's approach, whilst finding the loopholes in many cases, neatly avoids this, allowing many to remain unexplained and tantalising. That's the mark of a true sceptic as opposed to a debunker. Suffice to say that

Brooksmith's work is factual and detailed enough to warrant you parting with your hard earned cash. It's also broad and deep enough to put the whole thorny cover-up issue in the context it needs to be seen in.

BUFORA stalwart Lionel Beer, in reviewing this book for *Fortean Times*, said it was "...a disappointing potboiler." Presumably because it didn't validate Lionel's beliefs. And that is the whole point Brooksmith is making. There are observations, there are facts and what shapes them into the UFO cover-up is largely belief.

He knows ufology is a wonderful mystery, but he also knows it's a mystery of and about its time. Secrets, we've got 'em. But what secrets? His closing paragraph: "The secrets that are revealed by the government files are not those of extra-terrestrials, their craft, their technology or their inscrutable purposes, but those of the human soul and its predicament. But that, Virginia, is another story."

UFOs: *The Government Files* is very well illustrated and indexed and Blandford are to be commended for daring to publish a book which clearly flies in the face of current ufological 'wisdom'. Buy it.

REVIEW BY ANDY ROBERTS

PSYCHIC WARRIOR David Moorehouse (Michael Joseph 1996 £16.99)

If the CIA really do have a paranormal 'remote viewing' set up then good luck to them. All's fair in love and war. Moorhouse claims to be one such remote viewer and this book chronicles, at length, his exploits, his training and the CIA's attempts to silence him when he wanted to expose what he felt to be abuse of his rights as a human being. UFOs are strangely not mentioned which tends to make me believe at

least some of it as anyone making this stuff up would throw ufology in as a sure fire way of getting sales. I don't have a problem with the *concept* of remote viewing, surely just an expansion and focusing of consciousness. But when you consider that one famous remote viewer in the USA has said that there is a huge UFO hiding in the trail of the Hale-Bopp comet, containing 'reptoids' on their way to give us a

right seeing to, well, then I wonder. If you are into 'black' budgets and the fringes of espionage I would recommend *Psychic Warrior* as either a rip-roaring yarn or a glimpse of what just might be.

GEOFF FULSTON

COMMENTARY

THE MEXICO WAVE

Dear Sir, I would like to respond to an article in UFO Times 41 by Hector Escobar concerning the UFO eclipse video footage taken over Mexico on the 11th July 1991.

Firstly, although many independent witnesses over several districts of the country have provided video footage of a bright hovering object; Mr Escobar reaches the conclusion that what was filmed was nothing more than the planet Venus. His findings are based on detailing the astronomical position of the planet on the day in question and then making superficial assumptions.

My main objection to Mr Escobar's investigation is that it is incomplete. Any video footage should also be subjected to digital analysis, enlargement and enhancement by an expert to determine whether or not a preliminary finding is supported.

In the case of the footage taken by Mr Arreguin on the 11/7/91 over Mexico city; this segment contained in the video documentary *Masters of the Stars*, was subjected to computer analysis which showed that the object was illuminated on one half and dark on the other. This is suggestive of a stationary object reflecting sunlight and casting a shadow; not Venus which should display uniform coloration, not light and dark areas.

If, however the computer enlargement process itself is responsible for the shadow effect in the analysis, then yes I do think that Venus would be the best explanation in this segment.

However there can be no doubt whatsoever that a planetary body does not explain the video footage taken by Mr. Gonzalez over the city of Puebla on the 11th July 1991 at 1.30pm. A bright hovering object is visible but cloud formations are seen to pass behind the object and not in front as you would expect with a star or planet. Furthermore this can not be a balloon as the clouds are moving whilst the unknown is stationary.

I think it is clear that Mr Escobar could not possibly have viewed this footage – yet he insists that *all film* taken on the 11th July 1991 shows nothing more than the planet Venus.

LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING

Dear Sir, Earth from space seems totally uninhabited – it is only the Great Wall of China that creates the impression that an intelligent species may be living there. Now can we in our arrogance say that no other planet in the universe is inhabited or that no other civilisation could reach here just because we haven't the ability to get out of our own backyard? It's like a child saying just because it can't get out of its playpen or see reality as it is, that its parents cannot exist logically (who feeds me – its a miracle!).

The Collective Unconscious as a theory for describing UFOs, is just as ludicrous. If Flying Saucers come from out of the deep recesses of our minds why don't we recognise them and why do they shock us? (The self shouldn't frighten us because it is us but the other is always an invasive intruder into our own personal world because it is not predictable, not known and therefore can't be controlled). This is not an extrusion of our own thoughts but an intrusion by a foreign body much as a disease is or would you say its really an extension of us re-uniting with us! (philosophically possible but it still states its separate from us now with an independent lifestyle as much as other people are separate selves from our single self). If we are going to go into psyche-analytic theory wouldn't it be more

At the very least before making general conclusions, one should first review all the evidence and available data. Any hypothesis should be tested against the facts to determine whether it can be confirmed or rejected. The Venus explanation fails this test in the Gonzalez footage.

As a final point on the ongoing UFO flap over Mexico, a lot of video footage has been obtained culminating in the release of several documentaries. Having already viewed a lot of film, I think that conventional explanations certainly explain many segments but not all.

There is yet no satisfactory explanation for the following airline encounters:-

1. 28th July 1994 – An Aeromex DC9 making an approach to Mexico City International. Airport collided with an unknown object and had to make an emergency landing. Its shock absorbers were torn off.
2. 4th August 1994 – Flight 409 over Mexico City had to take evasive action when a UFO crossed its flight path.
3. 8th August 1994 – Flight 304 also over Mexico City had to take evasive action to avoid a collision with a UFO.

Incidents such as these can not be dismissed lightly as the witnesses are highly trained credible observers. There is also video footage which shows unknown objects and airliners in the same frame. Some objects have also been tracked on radar so I find it incredible that Mr Escobar feels that there is no mystery to the events taking place over Mexico yet a full analysis of the facts tell a very different story.

Best Wishes,

ANTHONY LEA, MERSEYSIDE

Editor's comment: Thank you for your informative comments. In any case there is always controversy and counter argument. The Mexican 'wave' certainly typifies this. However, despite some very interesting material, it seems clear that there is a sizable amount of 'me too' IFO reports that cloud the issue. If some form of UFO reporting fever gripped Mexico based on a sighting of Venus during an eclipse then to me that's just as fascinating as a visit from ET.

true to compare the situation with sex and the attraction/interaction between opposing opposites as Ralph Noyes (ASPR) has done with psychic phenomena altogether? Likewise if it is the collective unconscious of Mankind why doesn't he remember UFOs instead of imagine them? If they are from the collective unconscious – maybe its the universes and not mans? (Intrusions from the future seems more likely than extrusion from the past). It's as arrogant to limit such a thought totally to Humankind as it is to say The Sun orbits The Earth, we are Gods chosen people or that Man has the right to dominate other animal species because God supposedly put us here to do just that. Arrogance and ignorance go hand-in-hand. How would our poor little egos react to discovering that we are not the only inhabited planet in the universe and that other civilisations are far advanced than ours, so much so that they could and have run rings around us for centuries?

We have to be humble enough to step forward with the above realisation – the alternative is suicide to ensure we keep our illusions alive, even if we're dead.

Yours sincerely,

TONY SANDY, CROMARTY, SCOTLAND

Please address your correspondence to:
The Editor, *UFO Times*,
BM BUFORA, London,
WC1N 3XX
You can e.mail us at
mwootten@dial.pipex.com

SKEPTICS CORNER?

May I say how disappointed I was with the July/August copy. It sounded more like a copy of *The Skeptic*. Most of the articles had a very negative inclination. 'Intelligence Officer not that Intelligent?' – I've never heard of what you term 'Marcel's claims' before and who is this Todd? You end by saying, 'If Todd's research stands up....' You mean you didn't check it before publishing this article? Why not? 'The Autopsy Cameraman Finally Talks... Not!', a quote from ISCNI News. You honestly trust ISCNI? Have you checked that quote? If not, why not and why publish the article?

And why publish at all the article 'It could only Happen in the USA. All your readers know there are UFO nuts out there. That isn't what we pay good money for. As for 'Shuttle Sighting', wouldn't it have been more sensible to wait for proof of this incident before publishing? What, other than create doubt about the whole UFO phenomenon, did you intend with this article?

And that's only the first two pages of this edition of *UFO Times*. Read on.

The next article is about abductees and hypnosis. It comes to the decision (correct me if I'm wrong but this is the strong impression I am left with) that the whole abductee business is an utter fake and that David Jacobs et al are complete charlatans.

And Andy Roberts' review of Nick Pope's book is obviously designed to choke off any beginner checking the magazine for the first time. The whole point of *Open Skies, Closed Minds* is that it attracts and informs people with little knowledge of the subject. It's quite obviously not meant for people well versed in ufology. And I would certainly argue with the reviewer's comments: as far as I am aware, The Gulf Breeze photographs and incidents have not been, disproved and are quite possibly 'for real'; I am unaware that It has been disproved that 'thousands of US citizens are being taken by aliens'; how does he know that crop circles are 'known to be faked': anyone can say 'oh yes. I did that one' without, it seems having to show any proof.

Were you determined to make this the 'Debunker's Edition' of *UFO Times*? If so, you've done a good job. If I were coming to the magazine for the first time, knowing little of ufology, I would conclude that since even a magazine devoted to the subject obviously thinks there's little or nothing in it, there would be no point in continued investigation on my part. When I first thought of joining BUFORA, a friend with many years experience in, the UFO field told me not to bother: it was just a Government disinformation organisation. However I went ahead only to find that the first copy of *UFO Times* contained a discussion about photographs and reports of sightings which had 'gone missing' in BUFORA's files. Then BUFORA screens the Alien, Autopsy footage which it now says is a fake, creating general disillusionment about the reality of UFOs. now this completely negative edition of *UFO Times*...

Was my friend right?

Regretfully,

SONYA PORTER, WOKING

Editor's comment: I could write reams in reply! But I'll keep it short. UFO Times is not 'Noddy's Guide to Popular UFO Belief'. It is a forum for all to debate all the issues – UFO cases and the actions of ufology as a whole. I really hope we do shock new readers. Maybe they will see that there is more to the subject than the 'X-Files' and the debate is much wider reaching than the popularist newstand UFO magazines promote. So I'm afraid that I make no apology for negative material appearing UT.

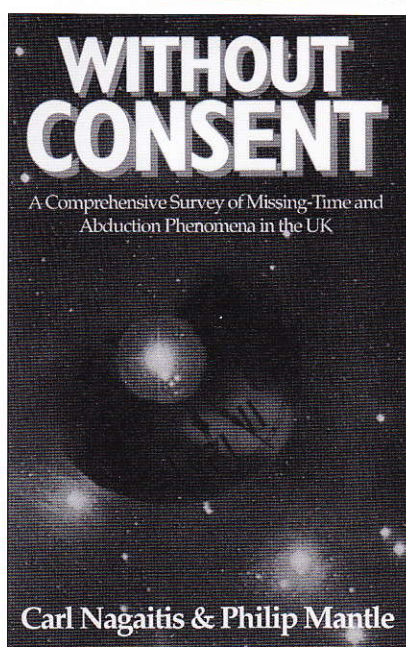
As for BUFORA being a 'Government disinformation organisation' well what utter rubbish! You obviously didn't check your sources as thoroughly as you expect us to. But of course I would deny it anyway!

Soon to be released in various overseas countries Without Consent is no longer available in bookshops in the UK. Exclusive to members of BUFORA this book is now available via mail order with a large reduction in price.

Original priced at £16.99 this hardback book is now available at just @12.50 including postage and packing. To order your copy please send a cheque or postal order to:

Susan Mantle, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 7SW.

Please allow upto 28 days for delivery and overseas and trade enquiries are welcome.

**SATISFIED CUSTOMER**

Dear Mike, I have just finished reading issue 42 of *UFO Times* – my first copy as a new member of BUFORA and I feel compelled to let you know how impressed I am.

I am a one time member of Quest International who failed to renew their subscription after seeing Tony Dodd speak about how he communicated with Aliens using a flash light. I have since had contact with Tony Dodd and some of his researchers and they appear to be barking (up the wrong tree that is!). There is a stunning contrast between Quest and BUFORA. There is no comparison. *UFO Times* (issue 42) was a credit to the reader's intelligence. It was challenging and refreshing.

I was very sad to read about Ken Phillips – he sounded a great adversary! Regrettably, I was never aware of his work until now but as a third and final year B.Sc. Psychology student (at the University of Lincolnshire and Humberside), I believe that his Anamnesis work should continue (or begin). I am sure it would provide many important insights. Please keep me posted on any developments.

UT was full of well written regular features and I especially enjoyed Andy Roberts' review of *Open Skies*... – I look forward to reading more of his reviews!

I have taken a note of your web address as you offer so many resources which can be accessed by computer I think it's about time I got to grips with it all. BUFORA in general offers so much I really am stunned. I intend to take full advantage of membership – starting with the letters page.

As I am in my final year at university, I am preparing dissertation which will assess the accuracy of eyewitness reports of re-entering satellites/rockets (inspired by Randles 1983). I would be very grateful if anyone who has any useful information, witness reports or assistance in this regard could contact me at the following:-

Jayne Stamp,
17 Granville Street,
Anlaby Road, Hull. HU3 6BB

or

School of Psychology,
University of Humberside,
Inglemire Lane,
Beverly Road, Hull

In conclusion I would like to say how impressed I have been with your approach and how happy and proud I am at being a member. Keep up the good work.

JAYNE STAMP, HULL

Editor's comment: Thank you Jayne for those kind words. It's comments like this that make the work worthwhile! Good luck with your dissertation.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If your address has changed please write to Jim Danby including your membership number at the following address

BM BUFORA, London, WC1N 3XX

BUFORA NATIONAL UFO LECTURES

LONDON

University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London, NW1.
Admission: £1.50 members £3.50 non-members. Meetings start at
6.30 pm, nearest tube Baker Street. Telephone 01444 236738 for
further details.

5th April

BUFORA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
followed by

**VIDEO EVENING COMPILED
BY MILES JOHNSON**

MILES PRESENTS MORE UNIQUE UFO
Material captured on video

3rd May

REGRESSION HYPNOSIS - MEL GRANT

The use of hypnotic regression with close encounter
witnesses is questioned by many researchers. Mel
Grant, a professional hypnotist will enter the
controversy with his own viewpoint and present
some new cases.

7th June

BUFORA QUESTION TIME

Once again a panel of learned speakers on ufology
will be answering questions from the floor. This is
the last BUFORA London lecture until September.

LIVERPOOL CONFERENCE

Haigh Conference Centre, Maryland Street, Liverpool. Admission:
members £1.50, non-members £2.50 (concession £2.00) 10 minute
walk from principle train stations with parking nearby. Contact
Anthony Eccles on 0151-486 6087 for further information.

17th May

Speakers: Mark Rosney who will be discussing
cases from the Widnes and Runcorn area. Veteran
UFO investigator, Margaret Fry will be opening up
her massive personal archive. Stan Conway will be
debunking 'UFO Physics' presented by numerous
authors.

OTHER EVENTS

16th March

**THE UFO COVER-UP PRESENTED BY THE
LANCASHIRE UFO SOCIETY**

Venue: Scarisbrick Hotel, Lord Street, Southport.

Speakers: Tony Dodd, Tim Mathews,
Mathew Williams and John Locker.

Tickets £5.00 and £6.00 concession. Contact LUFOS,
PO Box 73, Lancaster, LA1 1GZ, Tel 01995 600186

28th-31st March

**CONNXIONS '97: PARANORMAL/
UNEXPLAINED/UFO CONVENTION**

Venue: The Hilton National, Coventry

Speakers include Philip Mantle and Charles Adland
(X-Files comic artist)

Ticket details: Connxions, 14 Middleton Grange,
Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2HP, Tel 0976
382368, Email: connxions@journey.demon.co.uk

17th May

**A DAY OF STRANGE PHENOMENA
PRESENTED BY LAPIS**

Venue: The Comfort Friendly Hotel, Burnley

Speakers: Eric Morris, George Wingfield,
Barry King, Turan Rifat, Albert Budden and
Dr Rauni-Leenaluk Kilde

Tickets £10.00. For further details contact Paulette
on Tel 01253 391704

Advertise your event here for Free. Contact Mike Wootten on
01352-732473

Keep in touch
with all the
latest UFO news
stories from the
UK and abroad.

UFO

NEWSFILE

THE PREMIER BRITISH UFO NEWSCLIPPING MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY, £7.00 BUFORA MEMBERS,
£8.00 NON-MEMBERS FOR SIX ISSUES.

ALL BACK COPIES AVAILABLE.
SEND YOUR CHEQUES, POSTAL ORDERS OR INTERNATIONAL MONEY
ORDERS PAYABLE TO BUFORA LTD

UFO NEWSFILE, BM BUFORA, LONDON, WC1N 3XX, UK

in the dark
about the latest
in ufology?

don't be.

UFOCALL

0891 121886

Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times