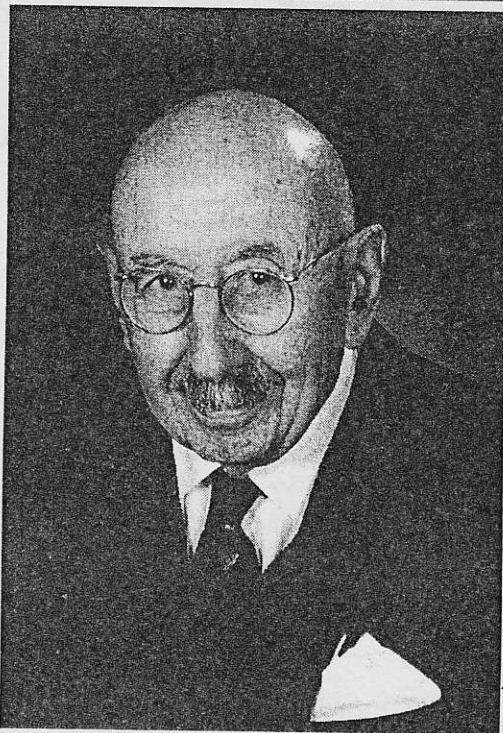


BUFORA BULLETIN

Journal of the British UFO Research Association

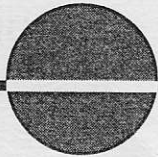


Graham Knewstub
1908 – 1999

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British UFO Research Association



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The BUFORA website can
be accessed at;
www.bufora.org.uk

EDITORIAL

In BUFORA Bulletin number 2 I said that it was somewhat of a surprise to be back in the editorial hot seat. Now I am back in the firing line once more.

The production of the Bulletin can be a very onerous task, especially now that the frequency of the Bulletin is eight issues per year. Robert Moore has stood down as editor, partly because he did not agree with the decision to let Max Burns speak at a BUFORA lecture and partly because he found that the Bulletin was taking all his free time. I would like to express the thanks of BUFORA to Robert for all his efforts on behalf of the Association.

At the AGM in April the Bulletin was one of the topics discussed. A number of people remarked that the Bulletin was more like the kind of magazine a society should be producing, we should not be in competition with glossy high street magazines. People felt it was better having information more frequently and on time.

Whilst I will try to keep the features that people said they like, I also plan to try to introduce some additional features to the Bulletin. One thing I want to do is clearly mark sections from the Research and Investigations teams. I also plan to introduce a feature called "From Here And There" which will be a collection of short items. (This last idea lifted from the BUFORA Journal of the 1970s, edited by Norman Oliver.)

From Here and There

BUFORA Website

Richard Conway and Jay Loring have been working on update of the BUFORA website. They hope over the next few weeks to give the site a new look and have some exciting plans for the future developments.

Thanks are due to Philip Walton who has kept the site running whilst BUFORA looked for somebody to take on the running.

New editor for Strange Daze

Congratulations to Gloria Dixon on becoming the new editor of Strange Daze magazine. Although primarily concerned with UFOs, Strange Daze also covers relevant material from around the edges of UFOlogy.

Now up to issue 17, Strange Daze was started by former BUFORA editor Dave Newton. Although Dave has stood down from the editors seat he still is taking a very active part both as a contributor and consultant to the magazine.

Strange Daze is an A4 magazine published four times per year. Further details from (please enclose SAE) :

Strange Daze
Unit 2A, East Cheap
Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne
NE6 5UA

Disco Satellite

Obviously somebody at NASA must have seen the film Communion with its disco dancing aliens, and didn't want to be outdone!

At the beginning of June the space shuttle Discovery released the Starshine satellite into orbit. Starshine has been described as a 19inch disco ball. The satellite is covered with approximately 900 small mirrors. The satellite slowly rotates as it moves along its orbit with different mirrors catching the light as it goes. It is estimated that the satellite will flash approximately every thirty seconds.

The plan is that over the next few months students in different countries will try to track the object. It is predicted that the satellite will be as bright as a magnitude 3 star.

However, the main mission of Discovery was to work on the International Space Station which is now taking shape in orbit. This can now be seen as a magnitude 2 or brighter object and will presumably get brighter as other modules are added.

Both Starshine and the Space Station cross the sky in three or four minutes. Together with MIR, no doubt these new attractions will generate their fair share of UFO reports.

OBITUARY NOTICE

Graham Knewstub

Graham Fabian Noel Knewstub (shown on the front cover) - a pioneering British ufologist - passed away at his home in Bristol on Sunday 16 May, aged 90. He was born on 30 December 1908. Graham's early interest in space travel was confirmed by his membership of the British Interplanetary Society (founded 1933) prior to 1940. While membership of the BIS is now respectable, Graham as a pre-war member, when the BIS was based in Liverpool, would have been regarded as an eccentric or worse. The BIS was reformed in London in 1945 and Graham was elected a Fellow on 3 April 1954. During WW2 he was a radio instructor in the REME.

He was a Chartered Engineer and a member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. He joined the Bristol Aeroplane Company in 1952, which became BAC, the British Aircraft Corporation. On retirement in 1971, he was Head of its Instrumentation Laboratory. He was a highly qualified electronics research engineer, and he mentioned working on electro-gravitics, although in recent years he said that this never came to anything.

He was amongst the founding members in 1952 of the British Branch (initiated by Denis P. Plunkett) of Albert Bender's International Flying Saucer Bureau of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Bender mysteriously terminated

the IFSB because of "the Three Men in Black." Graham said that at the time, the BFSB took the threat quite seriously after they received a letter from Australia saying that a MIB was coming to London! But added "What has come to light since suggests that Bender's experiences were personal rather than applicable to UFOs..." The British Branch was made of sterner stuff and it became the British Flying Saucer Bureau, in Bristol, in 1953, Graham being elected Chairman. Denis says, "He believed when many did not. His most important contribution to the BFSB apart from his liaison skills and secretarial work, was his 22-page work published in 1955: TECHNICAL REPORT No.1: PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF DATA CONCERNING FLYING SAUCERS." It was of course produced before the age of word-processors and is an exceptional historical document. The BFSB is possibly the oldest live UFO group in the world and in the 1950s had over 1,000 members (see footnote).

Graham was President of the London UFO Research Organisation in 1960 and became the founding-President of the British UFO Association in 1962. He helped arrange and speak at conferences run by the BFSB in Bristol in July 1968 and at Shirehampton in 1970. In the late 1960s he became a consultant to SPACELINK magazine and spoke at its major symposium in Kensington Library on "defining ufology." He said "a more rigorous definition could restrict the term UFO to

unidentified flying objects whose observed characteristics contain at least one feature which is incompatible with any known conventional object or natural phenomenon." "Ufology was the systematic comparison of 'observer data' using relevant (named) scientific disciplines."

The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, September 1979, ran a feature, "The UFO Watchers" by Des Wilson. Names and photographs included Ruth Rees, Lord Clancarty, Lionel Beer, Norman Oliver, Graham Knewstubb, Charles Bowen and Bernard Delair. Graham, then 70, reported having seen a cigar-shaped object drifting over Avonmouth in 1960. Being in the aircraft industry, he said it was unlike any aircraft that the world had produced. The same year, while driving in rain near Bristol, he saw an object in the sky surrounded by red, green and amber lights, which were rotating around the vehicle.

At the 30th Anniversary Conference of BUFORA held in London on 19 September 1992, Graham was given a framed Citation warmly noting his long-service to UFO research. His daughter Robina, who kept an eye on him after his wife died, recalled the pleasure this total surprise gave him, saying, it was a memory of great happiness. Graham was one of the opening speakers at UFO CASEBOOK, an international conference held at the University of Bristol on 24 July 1993.

My personal memory of him is that of a good friend, a scientist and a gentleman who wore a traditional three-piece suit when he went out. He leaves three daughters and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Lionel Beer - June 1999

Notes: The Flying Saucer Club of Hove was founded in 1952 by Richard Hughes. The Bristol and Hove Clubs amalgamated in 1954, and their magazine, FLYING SAUCER NEWS, edited by Richard was a great success. In 1956, the magazine was incorporated into FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. The Bureau continues to operate and hold meetings. Contact: Denis Plunkett, Chairman, BFSB, 10 Branksome Drive, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS17 1LY Tel: 01454 778 649

Spacelink Hits Cyberspace

Our friends at Spacelink Books have recently gained a website :

Ds.dial.pipex.com/town/square/
E182/spacelink.shtml



The BUFORA website can
be accessed at;
www.bufora.org.uk

Wilf Grunau

Unfortunately BUFORA has only recently heard of the death of Wilf Grunau in December.

Wilf had been a member of BUFORA for over twenty years and was the treasurer in the late 1970s. On a number of occasions in his period of office Wilf said he was sure the money could be found for something or other that the Council thought couldn't be afforded. And shortly after, as if by magic, Wilf would tell us that we had received an anonymous donation of just the amount needed!

He was a very quite man but was widely read on the subject. In the 1979 lecture season he presented his thoughts on the extraterrestrial hypothesis. At a time when the ETH was going out of fashion, he made a simple request – don't throw away a hypothesis just because it is old, especially if you don't have anything better to put in its place.

Professionally, Wilf ran a small company making interior wood fittings for luxury cars. At a time when many people of his age would be starting to think about winding down and retiring Wilf was asked by one of his major customers if he would consider moving his operation to the United States.

So it was as we entered the 1980s BUFORA lost the active involvement of Wilf as he set off for new shores. However he always remained a BU-

FORA member and on his visits to the UK, a couple of times each year, he got in contact or would attend the monthly lecture.

When he did retire he spent several years living in a religious community in the United States. Whilst here Wilf took up writing and had at least one book published.

A couple of years ago Wilf moved back to the UK. As far as we understand it was here that he died at the end of December.

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AN INTERVIEW WITH DON ECKER 30TH JULY 1998

JOHN SPENCER

Don Ecker is the Director of Research for the California-based 'UFO Magazine'. He was the presenter of 'UFOs Tonite', a radio show that was broadcast on the Cable Radio Network, CRN, for 5 years until July of 1996. Don is currently working to bring back the show in a new format, with the working title 'Strange Days Radio'. The new show would encompass a broader spectrum of modern mysteries than just UFOs.

Don has travelled around the United States and abroad in pursuit of his interest, has spoken at conferences across the USA, in Britain and in Vienna. I have the pleasure of not just calling Don, and his wife Vickie, valued colleagues, but true friends.

J: Don, of all the sorts of explanations offered for UFOs, total fabrication, alien invasion, paranormal interface, all this kind of stuff, where do you stand? And what do you believe is at the core of UFOs? Do you believe that there is for example an alien invasion here, do you believe it's a government thing, or whatever?

D: Well, the first thing we've got to do is, we've got to define what UFO means. Unfortunately today when



John Spencer

somebody mentions the acronym UFO people have been conditioned to reiterate from magazine articles, from movies, they immediately think alien spaceship. Now, if we here at UFO Magazine or whenever I am speaking, lecturing, whatever, says UFO, I mean it in exactly the way that the term was originally coined which was unidentified flying object. Now, we have to examine that, unidentified flying object. What does that mean? Well, in the truest sense of the term unidentified of course means that we cannot explain what it is initially that we are looking at. The flying of course is self-explanatory, it's up in the air, it's apparently moving under some type of power and control, usually intelligent control although there have been cases where that's not true. An object seems to denote that it, the UFO, was manufactured by somebody. Now the question also that I'm often asked is, do you believe in UFOs? And it's not a question of belief. If we look up in the

sky and we see something that we cannot identify, then by the very nature of the acronym it's an unidentified object. However, the question should be and it's often not, it should be, however, are any UFOs, do you believe that any UFOs may in fact be of an extraterrestrial intelligence. Now, coming from a background of law enforcement and from being a criminal investigator I certainly could never go into court, raise my hand, swear to tell the truth and state unequivocally that UFOs are alien or some are alien. If I were asked, do I believe or do I speculate that some in the past in fact may have been someone else's technology, then I would have to say that there are a number of cases where I think that presents the best possible explanation.

J: Could you give me your best case that you think supports the idea that at least one UFO some time in the past or whenever was from an extraterrestrial intelligence. Your best case.

D: I would actually have to give you several that I think are best. And I limit it to three. Although there are a couple of others that I think should be in there. But I limit it to three. The three cases that I think are the best examples of what appear to be evidence of a technologically advanced visit would be the Washington DC overfly in July 1952. Now I have done a lot of examination of that case, a lot of investigation into that case and there are a number of reasons that would seem to be capable of being presented as proof from witness testimony and

technology that the American military at that time employed and also by the way that the Pentagon acted after this case was over. Now most people think that the DC case happened on two weekends. It in effect happened on three separate weekends. And during this period of time, and as a matter of fact one of the leading American sceptics, Philip Klass, who was a senior editor at Aviation Week and Space Technology, I had appear on a couple of occasions on my radio show. The very last time he appeared on my show this was one of the subjects that we covered. And when I pointed out several inconsistencies in Klass's explanation he blew up, cursing on my radio show on the air and hung up on me in mid-show.

Now, in effect here is what happened. During a period of time the area Air Force bases that were in and around Washington, several of them were undergoing repairs on the runways. When these objects came in, whatever they were, and they invaded the air-space they were observed on numerous radar sets around the Metropolitan District of Columbia area. They were witnessed by commercial airline pilots in the air, they were witnessed by some of the radar operators that literally left their scopes and went outside and looked physically into the sky. They were also witnessed by military pilots who had been called for assistance to come in and check these objects out. We've got to remember 1952 was literally one of the high points of the Cold War between the United

States, the West, Great Britain versus the Soviet Union and its satellite countries. There was a major war going on in the Korean peninsula, there were God knows how many wars going on in the back alleys of major cities throughout the West with Soviet agents and there was a genuine very real fear of Communist incursion, especially in this country. Things like the investigation into un-American activities was going on. People like Senator Joseph McCarthy who was creating a tremendous chaotic time in the corridors of power. Richard Nixon was one of the Congressmen that was involved in all this.

So there were a lot of things that were happening and there were people literally looking for a red under every bed. So when this particular situation happened, and it didn't just happen once, it happened towards the end of July around the 19th, 20th, then the following weekend which I believed was the 28th. As a matter of fact let me look here, because I have a calendar in my little pocket computer here, it happened around 19th and 20th and around the 26th and 27th. Then the following week around the 2nd, 3rd of August. After the second weekend of these sightings newspapers literally from one end of the United States to the other were carrying this in headlines. It forced the Pentagon to hold the largest press briefing since the end of the Second World War. It was attended by news reporters from every conceivable media outlet. The Air Force's explanation at the time were

that these radar operators, both civilian and military, had misinterpreted weather temperature inversions for actual physical objects. Now, there are a couple of things to suggest that may not be all that the explanation could be. No 1. Especially the CAA was a forerunner of FAA. The CAA radar operators were skilled personnel. They were responsible literally for bringing in and having go out tens of thousands of air travellers every day. The military radar experts of course we were depending upon to keep our skies safe from enemy intrusions. And these guys had beyond any shadow of a doubt dealt with things like temperature inversions, which in fact is a real phenomena, but what suggests that this explanation is spurious is the fact that these objects were not only seen on radar scopes but it's one of the classic cases where while somebody was looking at an object on the radar screen somebody else was outside looking up in the sky seeing the objects. When the interceptors came in these objects left. Since the interceptors had to fly in from airbases in Delaware and you are talking about 1952, you are talking about jet aircraft that were very fast for the time, they didn't have huge distances, they weren't able to stand the air for huge distances. They could only loiter about in the area for a few minutes and they had to go back because they were out of fuel. Well, the bottom line is, as soon as the jets left the objects came back. So that is the first case that I think is very significant.

Now, according to Ruppelt [nb: Project Blue Book investigator], this was genuinely one of the highlights, because regardless of what General Sammons had to say about it, and I might add General Roger Ramey was also there. Now of course Ramey is infamous for being part of the Roswell crash situation. But Ramey and Sammons were both involved in this press briefing and it seemed later to Ruppelt and to Keyhoe especially that they were going to great extremes and lengths to get this swept under the rug as soon as possible. Now, you've got to put yourself in their shoes for just a moment. Sammons of course was Air Intelligence and Ramey had been the Chief of the 8th Air Force and I forget what his job was at that particular point in time. But they were tasked with keeping the skies above the United States, especially the nation's capital, free of any possible incursion by possible hostile forces. And nobody knew whether, number 1: If UFOs were real, what was their intent? And what was it that they ultimately meant to do? We still don't know all these years later. But it had to be much more frightening in those days because the Communist threat, the Korean war, people like Joseph McCarthy, military careers were being destroyed and political careers. One word from the wrong person and they were finished. So there had to be tremendous amounts of discontent about this. So this was, I think, a pivotal point.

And this was from the research that I

conducted the reason that five months later the Central Intelligence Agency convened to Robertson Panel. And what was the Robertson Panel's final conclusion? That was that we have to demythisise this. In the public's mind we've got to make this subject ludicrous and we think we can go as far as bringing in nationally acclaimed celebrities like Walt Disney, Arthur Godfrey. And it's funny to know that not long after this there were a number of Disney cartoons and later Warner Brothers cartoons that did a very tongue-in-cheek fun poke at the UFO situation. Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Bugs Bunny and Marvin the Martian, the bunny little Martian. All these came out after this. Now, the discipline is very subtle, manipulation is possible. So at any rate, that's the one case.

The second case that I think is extraordinarily important took place during the time period of October and November 1975. And these were incursions made by unidentified objects into a number of SAC bases that included bases that handled nuclear weaponry. Now, this was uncovered and was written up thoroughly by Barry Greenwood and Larry Fawcett in their very excellent book 'Clear Intent'. I think this if in fact one or more atomic nuclear tipped missiles were affected by the incursion of a UFO to the point where the entire missile had to be replaced and Greenwood and Fawcett's investigation shown that and much of this information was gotten through Freedom of Information Act

request, then that would be another tremendous example of how UFOs could pose a national security threat. And it all boils down to what is a national security threat. If UFOs are not as the government maintained then I see no reason why all these years of ultra top secrecy would have been maintained. It's obvious, of course they do. If something can fly through your skies whether it's natural or artificial and you can do nothing to affect it, OK, that would be of major importance to any government interested in maintaining their powerbase.

D: The third example that I find of extreme importance as an example of the possibility of somebody else's technology is the STS 48 case.

Now, there are several reasons why I feel that. Not to belabour a point, I broke this story on national television on CNN. I debated with James Oberg from NASA. NASA at that time maintained that what we were actually observing was frozen urine from a wastewater dump. It's obvious on the tape, which I have whole tape, that the wastewater dump had not yet happened. It happened a few minutes after the sequence which was number 2 and the second sequence on the tape when an object arose from the earth, travelled in a straight line across the screen and I might add too that in a zero gravity environment that this was, it was in outer space in near Earth orbit. If it would have been a free floating object the object would have tumbled, it would have tossed. It would

have displayed erratic motion. This object displayed none of that. There was a blossoming light effect on the screen which came from the lower left part of the screen. You couldn't see what it was that caused it but the split second that happened this object made a drastic right angle turn. Once again not tumbling, not moving in an erratic manner but flying in a very lateral level movement. It shot out in the space a split second before something flashed up where it would have been just a moment previously. I have no way to prove this but I have always suspected that it was weapons firing at this object. Star Wars, very likely something along the line of a rail gun shooting a hyper-velocity mass of projectiles, using magnetic force that would be used to knock down incoming missiles. Now, there are number of reasons why NASA would have wanted to keep something like that quiet.

Number 1, over the years, NASA has continually had their budget slashed by Congress. So where did they get the money to continue with their missions and operations? They have increasingly gone to the Department of Defence. If you look at the list of NASA programmes the last ten years you are going to find out that increasingly more and more are DoD, Department of Defence projects, taking out ultra top secret satellites, God knows what all. And for me it's no great leap and logic to realise that in the early 80s after President Regan took over and he initiated the Star Wars initia-

tive that uncounted millions and perhaps billions of dollars were spent on Star Wars. Uncounted millions and perhaps billions of dollars were spent on STI, so it's not beyond the pale to suggest that what we were actually seeing on the screen was some type of weapons firing. Whether it was a test with a dummy craft or whether it was a test with something of unknown origin we don't know because of course it's been totally denied ever since. However, if in fact it was a drone that they were shooting at, I don't think it was but if it was, this would suggest that we have technology capable for space travel that is far above anything that we have suspected. Now, why do I say that? Well, to even maintain orbits an object has to be travelling a minimum of around 17,000 - 18,000 miles an hour. I don't have the exact figure but it's right in that. This object at least quadrupled its speed in an instant and shot out into deep space. This object also apparently had its own luminescence because you can follow the thing the whole way out there and circling back around. You can see it clearly on the tape. Now, when I broke this story on CNN the very next day, the day after the story ran which was June 27th or, somewhere the 27th, 28th or 29th of 1992, the following day that live feed channel that NASA originally had beamed everything down on its NASA selected channel, was encrypted. Anything that you see today is either in time delay or it's footage that they release. You will see nothing live from space like you used to. And I can only imagine it was

a result of my appearance breaking the story on television.

J: OK. Now, a couple of things there. Firstly, let's pick up on the NASA bit. Is that not against the law effectively for NASA? Because of the funding isn't the NASA material public domain by law? Can they do that? Is anyone challenging their right to encrypt and decode that?

D: Well, as you British say that becomes somewhat of a sticky wicket. NASA by law is and always was considered the most open of any the federal agencies or bureaucracies. However, with its increasingly short budget, with its Department of Defence connections and the current administrator of NASA, Daniel Golden, who comes from a long, long history in TRW which is a corporation over here that was involved in constructing and building top secret defence satellite technology. Golden came from basically a black budget civilian contract or background. Now, that's something that NASA never likes to discuss and I never get tired of mentioning it. Because not enough people are aware of it. They've got to look at what happened with the former administrator of NASA.

Now, NASA has always been considered, we Americans have an expression, the fellow that wears the white hat. The good guy. NASA has always been considered, especially from the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo moon days, the moon shot days, the shuttle mis-

sions, they've always been the fellows that everybody has always had the utmost confidence in. But their last administrator was Admiral Richard Truly. Now, Admiral Truly was fired from NASA after he got into a bit of a controversy with former President George Bush and Vice-President Dan Quayle. In essence here is what happened. There had been a project that NASA had been working on concerning very small, very portable nuclear reactors for space to power satellites, spacecraft and so forth. There had been some problems with this programme and a number of people had been filing and submitting FOIA [nb: Freedom of Information Act] request. News organisations and that type of thing to find out what was really happening.

And someone sent a memorandum to Representative Howard Wolpe who was a US Congressman who was concerned with NASA and this memorandum had been written by NASA management people and what the memorandum was concerned with was a way for NASA employees to circumvent following the strict letter of the law which Freedom of Information Act requests. They suggested things like mixing documents up, mis-numbering documents. When this story broke through Representative Wolpe, Admiral Truly who was then Director of NASA and a very outstanding man with great integrity came forward and said on the record that he would not allow anybody within his agency to conduct this type of activity, he would

fire and get rid of them, etc. And it was a very short time after that he got into a great confrontation with Quayle and he was fired. Now, many people within the United States and the research community looked at that as very questionable. Then he was fired shortly after this situation happened which suggested that if Truly knew information that was secret perhaps which shouldn't have been or was aware of long term projects that were, shall we say, questionable, that he might have gone public with them. And as a result the next administrator that was brought in under the Bush administration was Dan Golden and he surprisingly is the only person left over after six years as at this stage from the Bush administration that is still currently in Government under the second term of the Clinton administration.

J: And is there any significance to the fact that it was Quayle rather than Bush that had the row? Is it a case of if the row had gone the other way you can kind of sacrifice a vice-president, you can't risk your president? Was that a political act under way there then?

D: I could always speculate whether that was political or not. Quayle was heading up the programme. The elected official in charge of the space programme, was Dan.

J: If the STS 48 wasn't shooting at a drone put up deliberately to test its own effectiveness, are you suggesting we were shooting at somebody else's

technology?

D: It's the only thing that's ever made any sense. And conceivably, maybe it wasn't us shooting. Maybe it was the Soviets, or the former Soviets. The Russians.

J: Can we not tell where on earth the origin point of that light was?

D: Oh, we know where they were when the incident happened but the only thing that made any sense to me was, it never made sense that the shot, if that's what it was, came from a planet. It never made sense. It only made sense if it came from orbit. And if in fact they were above Australia and New Zealand, OK. But certainly not over the United States. It's not over Europe, it's not over the Soviet Union, that's in a very isolated place on the planet. And if it were something that was not planned, let's say a target of opportunity, it was very problematical that they would have suspected that anyone would have ever even seen this. Much less get it to television the way that ultimately this situation went to television. It's been played many, many times round the world. I personally took it to CNN and played there. It played on NBC. As a matter of fact I even saw this footage play on a Spanish speaking station here in Southern California from Mexico. And I know that it's been seen in Europe. I know that it's been seen in Japan and around the world. So this achieved quite a bit of notoriety.

J: I've got to put you in a slight corner here because I'm getting a little confused and I think you are hedging your bets. You listed this as one of your top three evidences that might support the idea of alien intervention.

D: That doesn't put me in a corner. I have never said emphatically that aliens are coming here, that extraterrestrials are coming here. As a matter of fact my bottom line has truly always been that this is a subject that has never been taken seriously by the mainstream scientific community. And what we've been trying to do, especially in the pages of UFO Magazine, on my former radio show and on the television that I have done over the years, we have tried to present this subject in such a manner that people recognise and realise that there is a genuine phenomenon here, regardless of whether it's alien or some technology or natural phenomenon that we don't understand. However, if I had to guess which cases that I would speculate may have an alien connection it would have been the three cases that I mentioned. But I can't say that with certainty. But what I am saying is, if I had to speculate that in my opinion, Don Ecker's opinion, that these cases might show the best chance or possibility of being somehow connected with extraterrestrial technology, these three cases would be it. Washington 1952, the Dakota airbases 1975 and the STS 48 mission in 1991.

J: You are saying there is a possibility a terrestrial nation was actually

shooting at an alien craft? A possibility?

D: Yes, that's what I'm saying.

J: So I guess that leads me on to probably the last question. What do you think they are doing? And why do they seem to be taking so much time about it if they are alien?

D: What they are doing no one can truly say. I don't know certainly, I have no idea. If you were to ask me what my speculation may be, and there is no way that I can give you the short cut and dried answer because this literally could take hours if not days of my reasoning why.

But I truly suspect that the human race, Homo Sapiens, our species, your species, my species, was at some time in the past a genetically engineered race. I think that the human species was engineered from an early proto human here on planet Earth and mixing DNA from another species very similar, but a different species that came here to planet Earth. There is a lot of reasoning why and we don't have the time now to go into it but just looking at it from the Christian Bible, the first chapter of the Old Testament, Genesis, looking at it from the Hebrew Torah which of course the first five chapters of the Christian Bible are taken from, and looking at it from the records that have been left over by ancient civilisations like Summaria, I think that all these records indicate that those early humans that had the ability and the capability of writing all

wrote about the oral traditions that had been handed down to them from what can only be described as superior beings that interacted with them. And according to the ancient humans these advanced superior beings came from the sky. And almost without fail every ancient tradition has in its beginnings talking about superior beings coming down from the sky.

As a matter of fact, John, in 1970 or 71, just a couple of years after the closure of Project Blue Book because of the Condon Committee Report, it came to light in the American Press that the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs were teaching in their science and physics textbook to their officer cadets a chapter that was devoted to unidentified flying objects. I was to my best knowledge the first researcher that transcribed that entire chapter with all the references and the authors of the chapter and so forth and made it available on the Internet. And we have it on our web site too, by the way.

Now, in this Air Force physics textbook, and it was quite embarrassing for the Air Force at the time when this came to light, they talk about the oral traditions of ancient peoples going back, now think about some of these figures that the Air Force was using. 50,000 years that people have been reporting these objects in the sky with advanced beings, and they mention in the textbook specifically four different types of "E.T.s". They talk about these advanced beings engaging in warfare,

and the traditions come from the Greek tradition, from the Indian traditions, ancient Irish traditions, the Celtic traditions, the Norse traditions all talk about the gods warring. Gods meaning superior beings. And in a number of these traditions there can only be references as we know technology and physics today to atomic weapons. being used, being deployed and used. And even today people like Zecharia Sitchin who at times catches a lot of flak because of his interpretation of his Sumarian writings that he has worked with for many, many years, describe areas on Earth that clearly appear to have been devastated by nuclear blasts as seen from space, OK? One of these areas being in Lebanon, another area being in India. And as a matter of fact when the British were in India, when India was still part of the British Empire, and now I'm going on memory, I would have to go back and check my records. There was an area where an ancient city had been discovered where bricks were being taken from these ancient buildings or remains of buildings to be used as ballast to construct a railroad line there. And many people were becoming very ill. Later it was determined that there was excessive amounts of radiation in this area which there was no logical explanation where this came from.

Well, we can make a leap of logic and say, Well, you know, the ancient tradition talked about atomic weapons. This was an area where according to ancient traditions such and such a city

stood that was destroyed in the wars of the Gods, and we've got increased radiation there." But we of the magazine, especially my wife and I are really concerned with are getting these inexplicable situations out to the public following them as far as we personally can take them to our own investigations and journalistic effort. And to make this situation as logical and as palatable as we can for the public to show the public that the bottom line is that our governments have never been truthful about this for whatever reason, whether it's secret military experiments, or whether it's truly extraterrestrials, but they lie to us. And the lies are what really make me angry. I don't like being lied to. I get furious when I'm lied to. And when they lie to me and say that, for example, 'Well, what this guy saw was Venus out there'. And we know for a fact, and this has happened, that Venus was on the other side of the damned planet, then we know that doesn't make sense.

And these guys like the Air Force, the CIA, the DIA, the NSA aren't supposed to make mistakes.

Eighteenth century aliens?

Kate Taylor

In the course of my job as an Early Printed Book Cataloguer at Oxford University I recently had the good fortune, (while searching the catalogue for something completely different!), to stumble upon an eighteenth century account of what could perhaps be a visitor experience.

Entitled "Extraordinary appearance of the moon!", the eight page pamphlet by a certain Susannah Goodall, a self-styled prophetess, is bound together with about eighty other eighteenth century pamphlets. Most of these record the last words of criminals before they are hanged for such crimes as stealing handkerchiefs! Goodall's account, however, is the only pamphlet with any kind of possible paranormal associations. In the late eighteenth century the printed word was beginning to acquire some prevalence in society. It had, however, reached nothing like the saturation point of today or even of the nineteenth century. So, for a pamphlet to be printed on something it would have to be of great newsworthiness.

The pamphlet begins by saying that the recent strange appearance of the moon (described as being red and in

motion, and then surrounded by heavenly armies) is a sign of God's displeasure at a "land of abominations" and particularly at London, whose "streets run down with iniquity". Goodall adds that, "He has shown his displeasure by his fiery meteors of old, and he now signifies the same by that glorious orb the moon!"

It is interesting to see from Goodall's account that skeptics were present even in those god-fearing times, with some denying that the strange appearance of the moon had any connections with either the paranormal or the Deity, "Some deny the fact, notwithstanding [sic] the number of witnesses who can testify it; others again pretend to account for it from natural causes; but all serious people are led to acknowledge the hand of God."

The pamphlet then proceeds to tell more of the strange events of February 1794 with an extract from an advertisement placed in the 15th March edition of the Daily Advertiser (I have kept the spelling and inconsistencies exactly as they are in the original):

A Lady passing over London Bridge, on Monday the 3rd of February was accosted by a boy under seeming agitation of spirits, who, pulling her by the gown, earnestly requested her to look at the moon, which he was inclined to believe (from its alarming appearance) was not the moon, the lady looked up, and to her great surprise, perceived the moon rock for a considerable space, and when it

ceased, she saw the appearance of GREAT ARMIES of SOLDIERS BOTH HORSE AND FOOT, pass over that orb; this the lady, as well as the boy, both saw repeated three times, between eight and nine o'clock in the evening. [...]

Goodall reports that the advert then went on to request the boy to come forward to be spoken to, and that if he did so he would get a reward. As Goodall herself notes, these events must have made a great impression on the mind of the lady for her to place such an advertisement.

Goodall proceeds to add further detail to the events described in the advert:

At the same instant of time a boy of the same description was seen on Blackfriars & Westminster Bridges as well as London Bridge, and accosted ladies in the same manner. There was something peculiar and striking in the boy's appearance; his hair was white as snow, and emitted rays similar to those of the moon, his distress at what he saw was very great, he trembled exceedingly, and spoke but little, his eyes being constantly & earnestly fixed on the planet [sic]; he seemed to be about 14 years old & very beautiful; indeed he had rather the face of a girl than of a boy. But what was most remarkable was, that when the ladies left him, he cried out with tears in his eyes, REMEMBER! which made so great an impression on them as to have created great uneasiness. One Lady in particular went back to the

boy when he uttered that word; but he eluded her search and could not be found; nor with all the enquiry she can possibly make, has been able to discover or hear anything concerning him since.

Are we to assume that the woman making such desperate enquiries is the same one that placed the advert? From Goodall's account this would seem likely.

Though I have endeavoured to find a copy of the Daily Advertiser from 15th March, 1794, it appears from extensive searching of catalogues that it exists nowhere in the country. I have, however, been able to locate a copy of *The Star* from 18th March, 1794, which reproduces in full the original advertisement from the *Daily Advertiser* because they "consider it a curiosity worth communicating to our readers." (The advertisement continues thus: ... *If the boy, or anyone to whom he may have mentioned the circumstance, should see this advertisement, and will call at Mr. Clarkson's, chinaman, Market-street, St. James's Market, or send a line to A.B. to be left there, mentioning when and where he may be spoken to, he will be handsomely rewarded*).

Undeniably, this pamphlet was put out to serve a dual purpose, namely to promote self-styled seer Goodall, while cashing in on the recent bizarre appearance of the moon by attempting its explanation. Goodall states that al-

though she correctly predicted the odd appearance of the moon in her last publication (of which I have been unfortunately to find a copy – these pamphlets were, rather like today’s newspapers, not intended to be kept), she did not foresee the appearance of the boy: “I acknowledge I am still at a loss, having omitted the necessary calculations, whether his appearance was natural or praeternatural ...”

Goodall goes on to say that she will now prognosticate on the meaning of the astronomical phenomenon (which she feels she is perfectly qualified to do given her record of predictions (!)), and foretells war.

What really happened on 3rd February 1794 is a genuine enigma, which appears to have foxed even Ms Goodall, and for which I, at this current time, am unable to offer any explanation. While the odd appearance of the moon (as described in the verses from the end of the pamphlet which are given below) can perhaps be explained in astronomical terms, the strange appearance(s) of the even stranger boy cannot.

*Now young and old pray give attention,
And listen to these moving lines,
The fact is true that I now mention,
O let us all be warn'd in time;
Not long ago a Lady passing
O'er London Bridge, one moonlight
night
A youth o'ertook her, so distressing*

Was his looks they did affright.

*The Lady being much surpris'd,
Was by his words induc'd to stay,
By what she saw pray be advis'd,
For to forsake your evil way;
The angry moon was all in motion,
As red as blood it did appear,
And by a violent convulsion,
It started from its proper sphere.*

*The next that struck her admiration
Was a most tremendous sight,
Vast armies in an hostile station,
With bloody banners did affright;
Now all ye christians be prepar'd
For some great and awful view,
Put trust in God, he has declar'd
He will protect his faithful few.*

(Kate Taylor holds a Masters degree in Classics from Oxford and is currently employed as a member of Oxford University’s Early Printed Books Project.)

POSTAL TRAINING COURSE

The Postal Training Course (PTC) is compulsory for members requesting to become an investigator for BUFORA.

All enquiries pertaining to the Postal Training Course should be addressed to:

David Pointon.
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ST7 4NP
(No personal visits),

Phone (01782)-522620.
Email: spibufora@aol.com.uk

Light Work

Steve Gamble

In Bulletin 11 I wrote a short article about researching Ball of Light phenomena [1] which was an introduction to the rerun of Norman Oliver's work on the Harston sightings [2]. Thanks to the several people who have commented on this.

The first incident mentioned in Norman's article concerned strange lights seen over a recently harvested field near the village of Newton in Cambridgeshire. The main witness, Michael Bradford described a small white ball of light appearing almost from under his feet then moving across the field with a zig-zag motion. Over the period of a few minutes about ten more of these BOLs were seen. Brian James, a member of the BUFORA Research team, recently pointed out to me the similarity of these lights to the small BOLs frequently reported near crop circles. Mr Bradford also states that the lights were moving about six feet above the ground. That too seems to be consistent with the lights seen associated with crop circles.

It is not clear at this stage if the lights are associated in some way with crop circles or not. Given that many, if not most (some would say all) crop circles

are hoaxes, maybe the lights are just a phenomenon that has always existed and we only see them now associated with things like crop circles because these are the only places we are looking. I remember several different close encounter witnesses telling me that following their 'main' UFO experience they frequently watched the skies and had seen small globes of light on a number of occasions. Brian James also mentions that strange lights are frequently reported around Rendlesham Forest in Suffolk.

I am also indebted to Brian James for making me aware of the article by Michael Green and Jim Lyons [3]. This is primarily concerned with repeated appearance of crop circles in field adjacent to Sibson airfield near Peterborough. However it contains a very interesting section on strange lights also seen repeatedly in the area. Green and Lyons also look at the geology of the area and note that the area is adjacent to the River Nene. The other area I mentioned in my Bulletin 11 article was the area around Little and Great Houghton on the outskirts of Northampton. This area is also part of the Nene valley. One priority now is to examine the geology of the Little/Great Houghton area to compare it to the Sibson area. Interestingly, Newton (mentioned above) is also on a river, a tributary of the River Cam.

In the Little/Great Houghton area there are two particularly interesting sightings where the witness describes small Balls of Light seen near the

ground [4]. In the first incident, a young man was travelling from Northampton to Bedford at about 2am, on rounding a bend he saw a bright white light coming towards his car. In the second incident, the witness was riding his motorbike and sidecar along a lane near Great Houghton. The engine of the bike cut out and the lights failed. He noticed a small globe of light hovering about three feet above the ground in a field next to the road. After the light disappeared he was able to restart his motorcycle and continue on his way.

As Dr Hynek said on a number of occasions 'there seem to be no patterns in the UFO data, where there are patterns science can enter'. Perhaps in the Ball of Light phenomena we are starting to see patterns. Robert Bull has pointed out that within Cambridgeshire, an area where he has carried out many investigations, there seem to be places where there are multiple reports over a period of time.

In the period 1979/80 many reports of strange lights were collected from around Harston because Michael Bradford was a BUFORA member in the area who actively sought out UFO reports. But one of the main incidents he was involved concerned an object seen near Barley on the Cambridgeshire/Hertfordshire border. One of the cases that Robert investigated more recently (October 1997) [5] also concerned multiple lights seen in the Barley area. Also mentioned in the Summer Newsletter is a report from 12

July 1998 where a motorist saw eight to ten strange lights hovering over a field near the junction of the A10 and A505 roads. This is two or three miles from Barley and about five miles south of Harston.

We seem to be building up very rapidly a catalogue of areas where there are reports of repeat phenomena. However, as I stated above perhaps these hotspots for the BOL phenomena are now becoming recognised because these are the areas in which we look. If we study other areas, would we also find reports of the BOL phenomena? The programme of sky-watches organised by Philip Walton goes some way to helping to resolve this question. By putting groups of observers out across the country at specified times gives the chance of picking up accurately recorded observations.

However, it has to be admitted that the chances of seeing an object at any location on a specific night are very slim. Another way members can help with this project is to watch out for reports in their local paper or on radio and TV which they can send in to BUFORA. Many local newspapers maintain an archive of past issues. If any members have the time to visit their local newspapers to look through the back issues, that would be extremely helpful.

REFERENCES

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7th Northampton UFO Conference

"Into the unknown - Or is it?"

The 7th Annual Northampton UFO Conference will be held on Saturday 14th August 1999 at The Friends Meeting House, Wellington Street, Northampton, starting at 10:00am and lasting until approximately 5:30pm. The cost will be £5. Light refreshments and a range of publications will be available for purchase during the day. (Wellington Street is just off the main shopping street which has several places where lunch may be purchased.)

The theme for the conference this year will be a wide ranging review of many aspects of the last 50 years of UFO research covering both historical and up-to-date material. The provisional list of speakers includes Elsie Oakensen, Gavin Dingley, Gary H., Kate Taylor and Richard Conway. A full list will be issued as soon as possible.

Further details can be obtained from :

NUFORC, 38 Portland Road, Rushden, Northamptonshire, NN10 0DJ

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<http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/e182/nuforc.htm>

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3. Green, M. and Lyons, J. (1999) "The Geophysics Associated with the Sibson Crop Circles Phenomenon : A Causative Model", CCCS
4. Gamble, S. (1990) "Research Update" UFO Times, No 9, pp 13-16.

I am interested in purchasing old UFO books and magazines. Any reasonable offer considered.

Replies to: Mr. Mike Hudson
C/o: PO Box 471
Canterbury
Kent CT3 1GU.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Hollow Earth Enigma.

AUTHOR: Alec Maclellan.

PUBLISHER: Souvenir Press
Ltd 43 Great Russell Street,
London, England WC1B 3PA,
Tel: 0171 580 9307.

PRICE: £9.99.

ISBN: 0285634984.

I remember reviewing this author's last book, "*The Lost World Of Agharti*" which I found most illuminating, this work, is the author's 'follow on' study in regards to the concept that this planet of ours holds a hidden secret, and that secret is the fact that the Earth is not 'solid' as some would have us believe, but it is in fact 'hollow'. This of course, is a big claim, and for big claims must come big evidence, but can that evidence be found here? is the author to be believed in his assumptions and research findings? Well I have to say that he certainly has painted an interesting picture of fact throughout this book. We first of all look into the 'subsurface world' and the research of Fortean guru Charles Fort. We learn of Fort's Investigation into the hollow Earth's claims, which on the surface (please excuse the pun) look decidedly 'shaky'. Fort however, was the first to admit that some (not all) of his research should not be taken at face value, that it was always difficult to ensure the alleged reliable facts of the

'passed on' tales, none the less, Fort was one of the first main researchers to inform the public that there could be 'another world' below the surface of our own.

Controversial researcher Erich Von Daniken was yet another researcher who pursued these claims (amongst many others). The author then looks into the many pre-recorded tales from different countries, each having their own beliefs and accounts. Such was the seriousness of these remarkable tales, that even Adolf Hitler pursued these claims and sent individuals to see if there were any truth in them, and what did he find? (well you'll have to buy the book to find out). We then learn of that famous explorer Admiral Byrd and his expedition to uncover the truth regarding the matter, but it wasn't until January and November of 1967 (and 1968) that the subject of the 'hollow Earth' really took off, with the release to the public of a number of photographs taken of the Earth by orbiting satellites which clearly showed (or appeared to show!) an entrance at the North Pole! This is an intriguing and perhaps controversial book but the author has presented his facts and leaves it to the reader to decide if indeed this planet of ours has a hollow interior, to make that judgment, I recommend that you buy this book and find out for yourselves.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson.

On The Day In UFO History,
(2nd Edition).

AUTHOR: Phaedra Enterprises.

PUBLISHER: Phaedra Enterprises, P.O. Box 1241, San Bruno, California 94066, United States Of America.

PRICE: \$18:00 (inc P&P).
[All payments in U.S. funds only].

Have you ever wondered what UFO sighting/s there may have been on your birthday or for that matter any day of the year ? This book does just that. From January the 1st through to December 31st, we are treated to case after case of UFO incidents that occurred on a daily basis.

The author has tried to put what he feels is the major UFO incident for that day so don't expect a particular case that is known to you ! I looked for Scotland's most famous UFO case, that which occurred on November the 9th 1979 (The Livingston Case), it wasn't there. However, that's no big deal one cannot expect 'all' UFO cases for any particular day to be given, as it is, this is still a welcomed approach to UFOlogy and serves as a useful reference tool for any UFOlogist. But let us not forget, that the cases given here, might not refer to what some might expect as an Extraterrestrial craft, they may well be rational explanations to account for them, because basically all we are

given is the briefest of facts, (in some cases), we are not told how thorough the Investigation was in regards to that case, for instance on July 15th 1952, 2 witnesses in Boukanefis (Algeria) witnessed a plate shaped UFO which emitted greenish smoke and which lit up the whole sky as it flew towards the south, (this could have been anything), and I'm sure that there must be many more interesting UFO cases that others could refer to for that particular day.

The fact of the matter is, that the author has done a remarkable job in bringing together a whole range of interesting UFO events from various parts of the world, but the author doesn't stop there, for the latter part of the book contains many of the world's top UFO organisations (including, I'm pleased to say, SPI England). We have their addresses, (including E-mail addresses) their fax and telephone numbers. This publication is a very useful tool for all UFOlogists to assist them in their quest for knowledge and on who to contact for further information. I strongly recommend this book for students and seasoned researchers of the UFO enigma, buy it, you won't be disappointed.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson

(As well as being a member of the BUFORA Council, Malcolm heads SPI England).

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Amazing Book Bargains - MAY 1999

It is no doubt a sign of the times that I was recently offered some new books which were at very reasonable prices. As usual prices include the cost of postage. - Lionel Beer

Paperbacks:

List: MayBB/99

- UFO ABDUCTIONS in Gulf Breeze** by Ed and Frances Walters. 1987 was not the first contact for Ed. Hypnosis revelations. 16 plates. 300 pages. £2.50
- The UFO ENCYCLOPEDIA** compiled by John Spencer. 1993-USA. Interesting and useful source book. Larger paperback. 8 col.plates.32 b/w. plates. 350 pages. £2.95
- WITNESSED** by Budd Hopkins. 1997. Lynda Cortile. 8 plates.408 pages. **£3.00**
- DEMON DEATHS** by Brad Steiger. 1991. Bedtime reading! 202 pgs. **£2.40**
- The INCREDIBLE DISCOVERY OF NOAH'S ARK** by Charles Sellier and David Balsiger. 1995. Well-explored;actual locations. 8 plates. Index. 360 pages. **£2.75**
- The SECRET PROPHECIES OF NOSTRADAMUS** ed.by Cynthia Sternau & Martin Greenberg. 1995. 12 visionary tales of the next millennium. 312 pages. **£2.50**

Softcovers or larger paperbacks

- ARKTOS-The Polar Myth**-Joscelyn Godwin. 1993. Illus.Index. 260 pages. **£4.75**
- FACES of the VISITORS**-Kevin Randle. 1997. Illus.Refs.Index. 314 pages. **£4.50**
- FORBIDDEN SCIENCE**-Jacques Vallee. 1996. Wow! 8 plates. Index. 475pg. **£5.00**
- MIND MONSTERS** by Jenny Randles. 1990. Shop-soiled. Index. 224 pages. **£5.00**
- MYSTERIES of the MERSEY VALLEY** - Jenny Randles.1993.168 pgs. **£6.75**
- UFO RETRIEVALS** by Jenny Randles. 1995. Crashes. Illus.Index. 192 pages. **£4.75**

Hardbacks

- ALIEN AGENDA** by Jim Marrs. 1997. **Story of E-Ts among us.** Their intentions? 8 plates. Index. 460 pages. (cover price: £16.99) Bargain price: £7.50
- FIRE IN THE SKY** by Travis Walton. 1996. (Name of the film) Walton's abduction of 5.5.75. in Arizona. 8 col.plates+16 b/w.plts. 374 pages. (was \$25)(post £2.55) £7.00
- STONEHENGE DECODED** by Gerald Hawkins. 1993 edn. 1965 classic at dawn of interest in *earth mysteries*. History of the site. Illus. Index. 220 pages. £5.95
- STAR CHILDREN** Jenny Randles. 1994. Aliens among us? Index. 220 pages. **£7.75**
- TIME TRAVEL** by Jenny Randles. 1994. Wide speculation. 16 plates. Index. **£7.50**
- WITNESSED** by Budd Hopkins. UK edition of Linda Cortile, Brooklyn Bridge abduction case. 16 plates. 408 pages. (slightly shopsoiled) (cover price £16.99) £7.50

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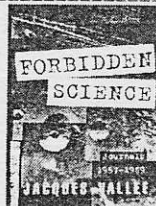
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901094 FIRE IN THE SKY: The Walton Experience, by Travis Walton. (New Age) b/w & color illus. 370 pp. (1996) hb (Marlowe & Company) ISBN: 1-56924-640-0 List \$24.95



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BUFORA LECTURES

Meetings are held at the University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5LS starting at 2pm and lasting until approximately 5pm. Admission £2-50 (members); £4-50 (non-members)

Saturday 4th September, 1999.

Lynn Picknett & Clive Prince. **"THE STARGATE CONSPIRACY".**

Author Lynn Picknett and fellow researcher Clive Prince will present a lecture entitled, "THE STARGATE CONSPIRACY". This talk will be based on Lynn's forthcoming book (of the same name). Lynn and Clive will be asking, "What really lies behind the major cults that claim to channel extraterrestrial?" Is there another more "terrestrial", but equally disturbing explanation for such apparent contacts??.

Saturday 2nd October 1999.

Jon Downes. **"THE RISING OF THE MOON".**

Author and TV documentary star Jonathan Downes will be presenting his talk entitled "THE RISING OF THE MOON; the Devonshire UFO Triangle". Jon will be detailing cases from his forthcoming book (of the same name) which concerns - amongst other things - supposed. animal mutilations", sightings of big cats, ghost and poltergeist effects, and a number of other peculiar events that have occurred in East Devon.

Please note : There are no London Lectures during July and August. The new lecture season will start on Saturday 4th September. In addition to the London lectures it is hoped to arrange a number of regional events either with help from local members or jointly with local groups. Whilst it is not anticipated that meetings will have to be changed or cancelled without prior notice, the Association reserves the right to do so. The views expressed by lecturers are their own views, unless otherwise stated they do not reflect the views of BUFORA, its Council or officers.

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