

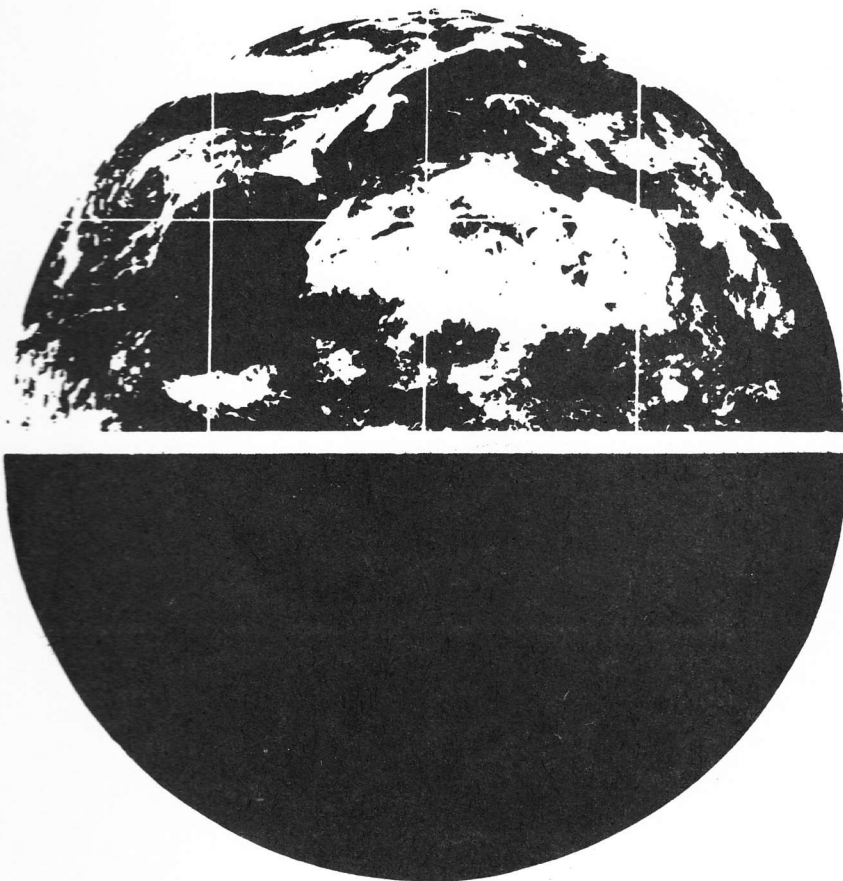
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Editor-in-Chief: S.J. Gamble, MSc, FIMLS, MIST, FBIS, FRAS

Editorial Board: R.S. Digby, R.J. Lindsey, , A. West

Consultants: Richard Beet, MAIE(Dip), FRAS, FBIS
J.G. Shaw, LBIPP

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EDITORIAL

FORTY YEARS ON

S.J.Gamble, Director of Research.

I start to write this editorial just a few days after the Fourth London International UFO Congress. This was a gathering of researchers and investigators from all around the world. This years Congress was significant on two counts. Firstly, although the Congress was organised by a completely seperate organisation, it marked twenty five years of BUFORA, and secondly, and perhaps more importantly, it marks forty years since the famous report of Kenneth Arnold. Apart from finding friends in far off countries with a similar interest, have we learnt anything in those forty years ?

Kenneth Arnold's 'sighting' took place on Tuesday 24th June 1947. For those unfamiliar with it, a detailed discussion of this report appears in the book recently published by BUFORA to mark forty years of modern UFOlogy (1). Are we any nearer finding out what it was Arnold saw all those years ago, and what it is that has been reported by many people since ?

In the early days of modern UFOlogy, when it was a new interest to people there were very few reports on which to base explanations and those reports that did exist were poorly investigated by the new breed of enthusiasts. Despite the lack of evidence it was soon widely believed that the saucer shaped objects (so called 'Flying Saucers') reported by Arnold and others were extraterrestrial spacecraft.

Since those days we have learnt somethings. Firstly we have learnt that not all UFO's are saucer shaped. Secondly, we have learnt that there is no straight forward simple explanation like all UFO's are extraterrestrial spacecraft. There are, of course, still

the supporters of the ETH, but I would submit, after forty years they still are searching for the definate proof.

In the forty years we have learnt how to investigate reports more fully and to consider other theories. One speaker at the Congress was Steuart Campbell, a regular contributor to JTAP. Several years ago Steuart was a supporter of the view that all UFO's could be explained as ball lightning. Having adopted this hypothesis he setout to see if the evidence supported it. After a number of years he decided that ball lightning did not explain UFO cases and adopted an alternative hypothesis.

The alternative hypothesis that he adopted was that UFO's could be explained by mirages. Indeed in this issue he presents what he feels is an explanation for a complex case (2). I make no claims for the correctness or otherwise of Steuart's view. Indeed unless otherwise stated the views expressed in any article are those of the author alone and not necessarily of the Editor, Editorial board or BUFORA. The position I am supporting, however, is that of

(PLEASE NOTE : This issue starts volume 5 of JTAP)

Editorial cont ...

allowing Steuart (or anybody-else) to offer their ideas for debate and scientific challenge.

I know that a number of people find Steuart's mirage theory unacceptable, but so far nobody has come forward to demonstrate any of it's flaws. If the theory is unsuitable, then the objections must be based on fact and a case to disprove the theory can be made. If the objections are not based on fact but just do not fit with somebodyelse's pet theory then they should be disregarded. Present me with a clear, well argued case against the mirage hypothesis and I will publish it.

But to get back to my main theme, what have we learnt in forty years? We have learnt that there is no simple explanation for UFO events. Instead of just one theory (the ETH) we now have a wide range of theories on offer. But is the psychic theory, or the psychological, or the earthlights or the ball lightning theory any more acceptable than the mirage theory. It is my opinion that for any problem, if there are more than three possible explanations then we just do not know the answer.

Despite all the gloom, I do , however, feel that we are making some, albeit slow, progress forward. I mentioned above the formation of BUFORA twenty five years ago and of it's international contacts. These are areas where some progress has been made. Instead of interested people working alone or together with one or two friends, the formation of BUFORA allowed them to share ideas and case histories with other like minded people throughout the

country. Just as the formation of BUFORA allowed the exchange of ideas within the UK, so the formation of ICUR in 1979 has extended the level of international co-operation. BUFORA, in the form of Peter Hill and Tony Pace, did a lot of groundwork in getting everybody together for the initial meeting.

The birth of JTAP coincided with the formation of ICUR. It was designed as an international scientific journal. Perhaps it is fitting, therefore that at it's recent meeting ICUR has voted to publish notes of it's activities in both JTAP and the MUFON Journal. Over the years we hope to be able to continue the expansion of JTAP as an international scientific vehicle.

In addition to regular ICUR news, a further step along this road is the inclusion in this issue of abstracts from some of the papers presented at the recent International Congress. It is the function of Journals to publish preceedings of meetings as well as original papers. It is only by taking the published work of others and adding the results of one's own research to these findings that we can move forward. In turn, of course, we should publish our own results to facilitate the work of future researchers.

In forty years time we may know what UFOs are, but will they be any less interesting?

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ABSTRACTS FROM THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS

The Fourth International UFO Congress was held at the London Business School between Friday 10th July and Sunday 12th July 1987. A wide range of papers was presented by speakers from a variety of countries. It is hoped that a report of the event will be carried by the BUFORA BULLETIN.

Here we present abstracts of some of the papers. It is hoped that the full versions of these papers will be published in the near future.

Title : UFOs A Yorkshire
Viewpoint

Speaker: Phillip Mantle (UK)

Abstract:

The county of Yorkshire has many things, from industry to beautiful scenery, from military establishments to ancient stone circles. In short, Yorkshire has a bit of everything.

One thing that Yorkshire has, and has had for quite some time, is the reported sightings of unidentified flying objects. For at least ten years now, and probably a lot longer, an above average number of UFO incidents have been regularly reported to various UFO organisations in the region.

In certain areas in Yorkshire a great variety of incidents have been reported, and it is quite clear to researchers in the area that something quite unique has been happening. From simple balls of light to the alleged landing of solid nuts-and-bolts vehicles complete with occupants, Yorkshire has seen it all.

Photographic evidence has also

emanated from the area, some fakes, some misidentifications, some simply perplexing, and some quite unidentified. To inform everyone present about the happenings in Yorkshire would take far longer than the one hour allocated to me, but I hope that I can give an overall view of some of the most perplexing incidents from Yorkshire and show some, if not all of the photographic evidence that has been acquired.

Whatever happens, I am sure that by the end of my paper, I will leave everyone in no doubt that as far as UFOs are concerned, Yorkshire is the place to be.

Title : Cash-Landrum Case

Speaker : Walter H. Andrus Jr.

Abstract:

A slide illustrated lecture on the important "Cash-Landrum Case" that occurred near Huffman, Texas on December 29th, 1980. It received exposure in England via the magazine "The Unexplained" in a series of articles by John F. Schuessler, our (MUFON) Deputy Director and prime investigator.

Title : UNICAT Project

Speaker : Dr. Willy Smith

Abstract:

From the beginning of 1987 the data base contains 600 cases for which all the pertinent parameters have been entered and which are available for statistical studies.

300 of those cases have been revised during the last year, i.e. the information has been updated and/or new information

Abstracts cont ...



Dr. Willy Smith of the UNICAT Project at the Congress

Abstracts cont ...

Unicat project cont ...

has been added. A tentative coefficient of strangeness has been obtained for all the cases in the data base. Profiles for 130+ cases have been completed.

At this point, broadening of the data base by addition of new cases is paramount, and we urge our associates and collaborators to send detailed investigation reports for consideration.

Criteria for the selection of cases

1) At least two witnesses. However, cases with a single witness (SW) will be accepted if this witness is unimpeachable, or if additional supporting evidence exists.

2) Cases have been investigated by known UFOlogists, preferably with results published in the literature.

3) Unpublished cases or cases investigated by not-so-well known researchers will be acceptable only if there is a written report accessible to the organisers of UNICAT, and if the original investigators are willing to provide additional information.

4) The cases should contain at least 10 of the parameters specified by Dr. Hynek's list, which at present contains 225 repeatable characteristics of the UFO phenomenon. In order to identify the pertinent parameters for a given case, a rather detailed report is necessary, so in general a compact summary will not be sufficient.

Objectives and access to the data base

a) The main purpose in organising UNICAT is to create a data base of high quality UFO cases, where IFOs and questionable material have been eliminated as much as possible. The data base is universal, i.e. efforts are being made to include cases from all countries.

b) The data base will be accessible to all qualified researchers, free of charge for those who have actively co-operated in it's creation, (i.e. associates and collaborators).

c) The computer output is directly readable and does not require the use of code books. The software is capable of finding all kinds of correlations among the input variables, and a search procedure can be started from any of the 255 fields.

Title : The ET Hypothesis :
Current Status and
Next Steps

Speaker : Dr. Allen Tough

Abstract:
This paper examines the current status of the extraterrestrial hypothesis. Have advanced extraterrestrial beings visited our planet during the past 40 years?

What sorts of evidence and scientific beliefs support a "yes" answer to this question?

What sorts of evidence and alternative explanations suggest the answer is "no"?

This paper organises and very briefly mentions the major facts and evidence for each.

Abstracts cont ...

The ET hypothesis cont ...

The concluding section of the paper suggests several projects and strategies as our next steps in studying the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

What do we need to do now in order to settle this question one way or the other?

Some fresh approaches within the UFO field are suggested.

Title : Proposal for the creation of an integrated global network of UFO observatories.

Speaker : T.R. Dutton

Abstract:
It is claimed the the E.T.H. has now been replaced by a verifiable theory.

The outcome of twenty year's research, Dutton's Orbital Theory links Close Encounter activity with the behaviour of extremely artificial Earth-satellites which, for short periods of only a few hours, circulate round the planet with orbital periods of 65 minutes in retrograde motion.

The lecture begins with a summary of the main features of the Orbital Theory and an explanation of it's practical consequences, emphasising that the theory can be tested both by synthesis of reports data and by direct observation.

It is then proposed that the creation of an integrated network of dedicated observatories will be necessary to test the indications of the theory adequately. After an explanation of this proposal,

the foreseen operational duties and minimum staffing levels for each observatory are put forward for consideration.

Title : Earthlights - The Geophysical Option.

Speaker : Paul Devereux

Abstract:
This illustrated talk will begin by identifying an important but hitherto overlooked clue provided by Kenneth Arnold's 1947 sighting. A brief outline of the development of the earthlights theory, which proposes that many UFOs are remarkable energy phenomena from earth, will then be given, followed by a review of a variety of lights in the landscape, which will include some new material; the laboratory production of earthlight type phenomena, with the latest findings and implications; an updated overview of the possible relationship of certain kinds of prehistoric sites with areas prone to earthlight production; an introduction to the possible psychic effects of earthlight production, and a consideration of the nature of earthlight energy. The presentation will conclude with a description of the "UFOlogical pie" in which earthlights research will be placed in the context of the whole spectrum of UFOlogical work.

This will be the most comprehensive, informed and up to date account of earthlights/geophysical work yet presented.

Abstracts cont

Title : Rendlesham Forest -
New Evidence.

Speakers : Harry Harris and
Mike Sacks

Abstract:

The details of the involvement of Harry Harris and Mike Sacks in Rendlesham are as follows :-

They were first alerted to the case by Jenny Randles who suggested that they contact Brenda Butler and Dot Street which they did. Acting on information received they then proceeded to contact eye witnesses to the Rendlesham incidents which resulted in their being invited to the base under some degree of confidentiality.

Until now they have not felt themselves free to reveal all that they have heard and seen with regard to their investigations into this case but this is to be put to rights at the BUFORA congress by revelations never before, so far as Harry and Mike are aware, made public.

Title : UFOs Can Seriously
Damage Your Health.

Speaker : Jenny Randles

Abstract:

This paper provides the government health warning for close encounter witnesses which the government refuses to give.

By way of case histories a pattern of medical (or physiological) effects can be built up. A level of quite surprising consistency emerges and leads to ideas for the actual energy associated with UFOs that might be responsible. Can we explain

what is going on purely in terms of UAP (or natural atmospheric phenomena)? Or do cases such as car-stops offer clues to more exotic and conventional UFOs being involved in at least some cases?

The problems of medical exploration of cases is then open to review. What has been done? What has not been done? What are the difficulties involved in comprehensive study of close encounter witnesses?

The second half of the paper examines what we know about medical effects, looking at previous work in statistically surveying these phenomena. For this presentation of an entirely new statistical analysis of 3052 British cases between 1947 and 1987 has been made. This allows very specific new data on the incidence of cases with physiological effects, the type of phenomena most commonly reported, the category of cases in which physiological effects are reported, plus more interesting and oblique information - such as the type of witnesses involved, the duration of the effects and the correlation with landings, occupants and CE4 (alien contact) cases.

A special look at the problems created by CE4 cases leads into a closing discussion of five primary needs which the physiological effect cases demonstrate. These needs effect UFO investigators, witnesses and the medical profession and could - in rare instances - make the difference between life (or serious injury/illness) and death.

Abstracts cont ...

Title : UFOs Exist

Speaker : Bertil Kuhlemann

Abstract:

The most common reaction to reports about UFO phenomena seems to be : "there ain't no such things". This is a reaction put forth by officials, scientists and news media people, most of whom have not studied the subject in depth. This gives cause to a basis for ridiculing and condemnation of witnesses to UFO phenomena by their relatives, friends and neighbours. As a result, many people refrain from reporting their sightings. Roughly speaking, there is a fairly well grounded basis for assuming that only ten percent of all UFO sightings are reported. A great proportion of the unreported sightings are well into the higher strangeness class. This presentation will take a deep look into the accumulated mass of information gathered over the years of the reports screened from IFOs which are grouped into classes according to the types of phenomenon. We find - regardless of whether we view the cases individually or analysed statistically - that UFOs exist, but on what ground can we come to that conclusion by assessing the characteristics of the reported phenomena from a scientific viewpoint. The scientific ground for such a conclusion is what the serious UFO research of today is about.

Title : Project Hessdalen Update

Speakers : Odd-Gunnar Roed and Erling Strand

Abstract:

Hessdalen is a valley situated approximately fifty kilometers northwest of a town called Roros or sixty kilometers south of Trondheim.

The population started to see strange lights in the atmosphere from the sky and down to the ground in December 1981. Since then these lights have been visible there every winter more or less. In the winters of '84 and 785 UFO-Norway and UFO-Sweden held what is called Project Hessdalen (Parts one and two).

Part one is written down in detail in English and can be brought for £10. The Norwegian Defence research Establishment (NDRE) has helped a lot in this work by lending scientific instruments, amongst other things.

Head of the field investigation, Leif Havik, has recently written a book about these phenomena, the lecture is mainly from this book.

Erling Starand is speaking about the scientific report of the Project. Odd-Gunnar Roed will give some of the valleys inhabitants' sightings.

The Technical Results of Project Hessdalen.

The instrumentation which was used in Project Hessdalen Part 1 and 2 will be described. The readings these instruments gave will be presented and discussed along with the computer analysis of the photographs. The co-operation with other institutes and what this has lead to will also be presented.

Abstracts cont ...

Title : The UFO - An
Unidentified Form of
Creativity.

Speaker : Ken Phillips and
Alex Keul

Abstract:

The paper is looking at fifteen close encounter reporters with fifteen pre-reporters and ten control subjects. We are looking at both gender and an age span between twenty and sixty years. Furthermore, we are looking at an important result from this paper, particularly certain questions, questions number twentyfive and twentysix, "Do you recall your dreams?" and "Have you dreamt about UFOs and flying?". The control group chose the same proportion of flying dreams. We are looking at religious and mystical experiences, also a question on the paper and a concentration of ESP experiences. We have decreed that the close encounter witnesses have a tendency to be fantasy prone personalities. We are looking at the membership of religious groups versus spirituality, background, reading and exposure to UFO books and so on and winding up with belief systems in the Bermuda Triangle etc. and life in outer space belief and finally the results of the Rorschach and EPI tests, (Rorschach is an ink blot test, a classical projective personality test method confronting the examinee with ten black and white and coloured ink blots and with a question of what could this be, in other words we are looking at the inner creativity and sensibilities of the witness by getting them to construct firmer images from images depicted in the ink blots. The EPI is the Eysenck Personality Inventory, so called objective

personality questionnaire. This is looking at the neurosis scale and the extroversion/introversion scale with a third dimension of a lying scale) and also the psychological hypothesis for close encounters, all of this paper and the future direction of research investigation.

After a pilot study in 1982 using the Anamnesis protocol, the anamnesis being a life history of the witness, it was decided that the witness deserved further study. In 1985 a modified version of the current anamnesis was developed and linked with two other studies, the witness Rorschach and the witness EPI (mentioned above) The outcome of these studies vis-a-vis the English control project and the draw-what-you-saw project form the basis of the 1987 Congress paper. In short, we are determined that the witness is a crucial factor in the UFO experience and moreover, the closer the experience the more relevant becomes the life history of the witness.

We feel that armed with these new data we have pointed a way for future UFO research and investigations.

At the time of closing for press abstracts were not available for the remaining papers presented at the Congress. Should they become available then we will present the material, subject to space being available.

It is planned to hold another Congress in the summer of 1989, probably during August. Further details will be published as they become available.

THE TODMORDEN UFO EXPLAINED

Steuart Campbell

PREFACE

Steuart is well known to readers of JTAP for his work in the field of investigations, particularly his work on the Livingston case (1) and other cases occurring in Scotland.

More recently he has been working on the hypothesis that mirages can account for many UFO reports (for example see ref 2). He presented a paper on his findings at the recent International UFO Congress.

Here, Steuart presents his evidence to explain a previous reported case.

ABSTRACT

The central UFO report in a book about an alleged UFO mystery in the (English) Pennines is shown to have been stimulated by a mirage of the planet Venus. The subsequent account of abduction and examination obtained under hypnosis has no basis in fact.

INTRODUCTION

The principle UFO report in Jenny Randles book "The Pennine UFO Mystery"(3) is that by PC Alan Godfrey that he encountered a 'craft' on the Burnley Road, Todmorden (West Yorkshire) on the 28th November 1980. Apart from the account of the incident (pp 122-131) the book contains an account of an attempt to reconstruct it by use of hypnosis (pp 147-169). Randles earlier gave an account of this incident in Flying Saucer Review (4), although there the constable's surname was given as 'Davies'.

THE REPORT

The FSR account described how, at about 0515 (presumed to be GMT) Godfrey, driving a plice Panda car, was about to turn off the A646 (Todmorden to Burnley road, see Figure One) as he headed north-west when he saw a glowing object 'about 200 yards (183 metres) farther on'. It was dome-shaped, emitting 'fluorescent' light from the top, had a 'row of

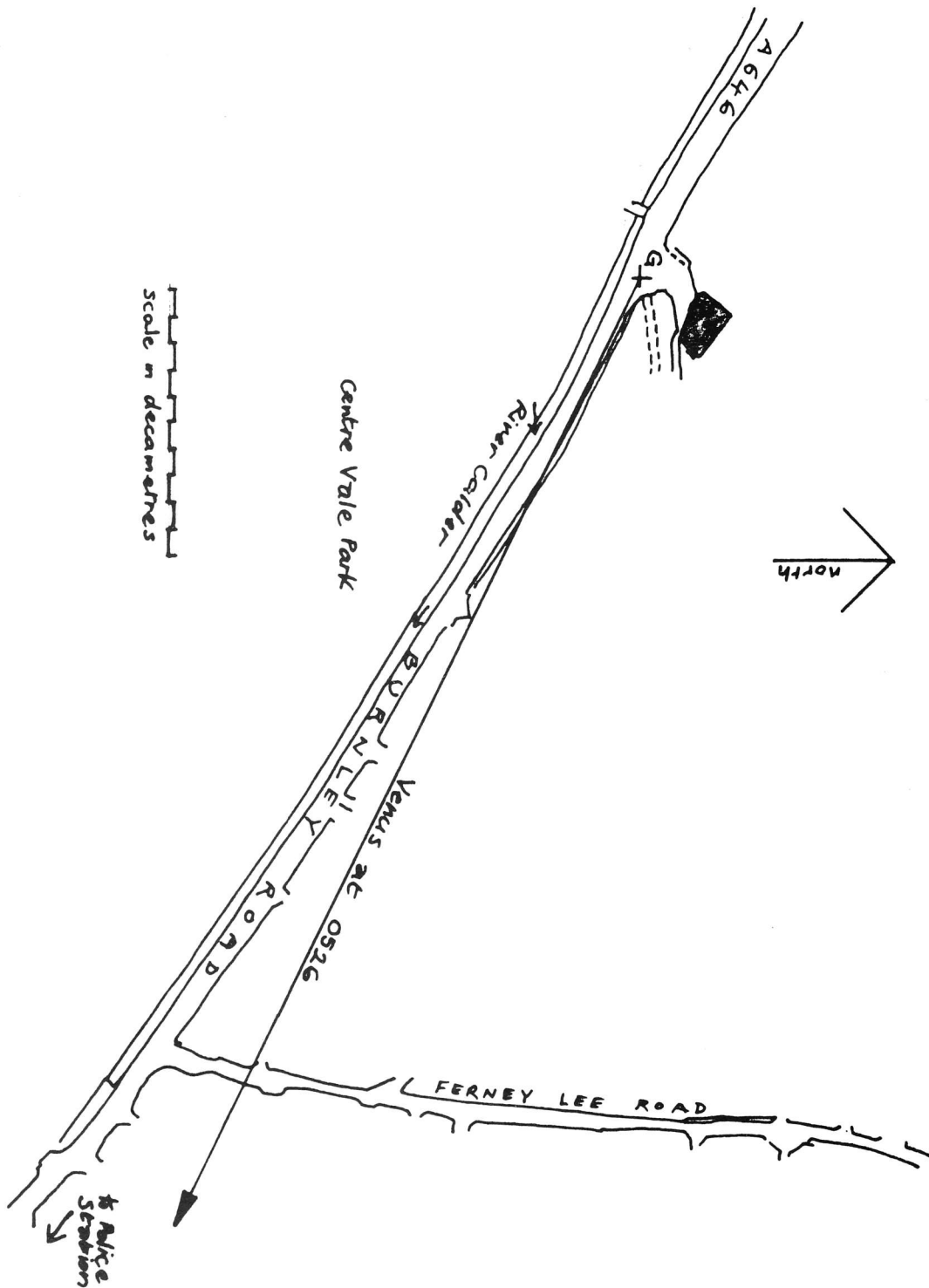
square dark "windows"', and was rotating. He thought it was about 6 m in diameter and was hovering 1.5 m above the road (see FSR article [4] for further details). Suddenly he found himself further down the road with no object in sight. Returning to the police station (after collecting a colleague) he found the time was 0530.

In the book Randles described how Godfrey set off at 0505 on a final tour of inspection before his shift ended at 0600. He turned onto the Burnley Road and had travelled only a few hundred metres towards the junction with Ferney Lee Road when he saw a bright light 'seemingly on the road ahead'. He then drove to within 100 feet (30.5 metres) of the thing' and sketched it (see Figure Two). Intially he reported that he had later turned the car around to drive back to the police station, but when interviewed six weeks later he failed to mention it. Then he described how he merely got out of the car for a few seconds, looked at the sky behind him to confirm that the

Todmorden cont ...

FIGURE ONE

A plan of the area of Todmorden where the incident occurred.
'G' shows the point where PC Godfrey stopped his car.



Todmorden cont ...

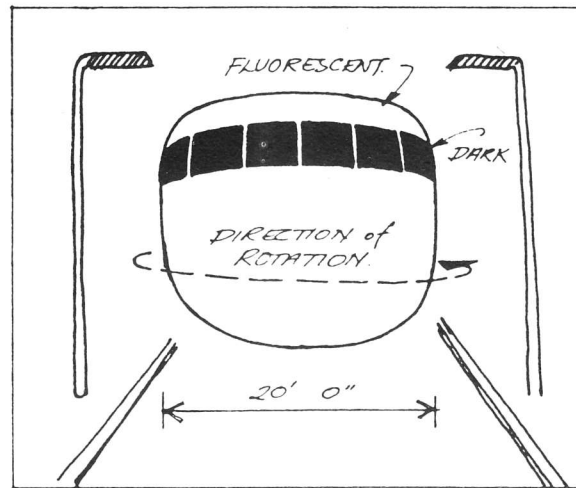


FIGURE TWO
PC Godfrey sketch of the object he saw (20'0" = 6 m).

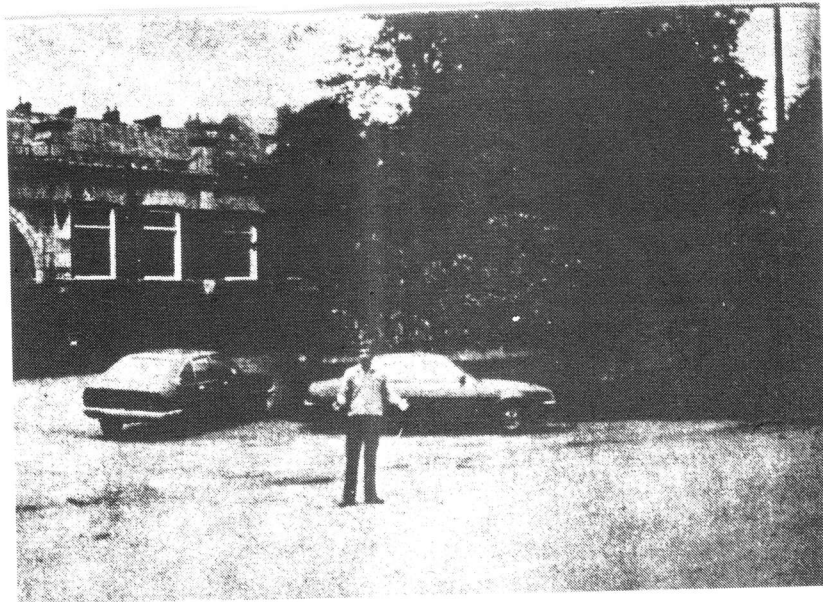


FIGURE THREE
Photograph of PC Godfrey standing in Burnley Road
where he stopped his car (photograph looking north-east)

Todmorden cont ...

object had vanished, and drove back into town (WITHOUT turning the car around). The book relates how Godfrey and his colleague first returned to the scene of the incident before returning to the police station at 0530.

Under hypnosis Godfrey described how the incident occurred when he was 'going to turn right up Ferney Lee Road', but he did not describe turning the car around! The book also contains a photograph of Godfrey standing at the spot where he had his strange experience (see Figure Three); this point is marked as 'G' on the plan (Figure One), 350 m from the junction with Ferney Lee Road. Hypnosis also produced an account of an encounter with aliens and their examination of Godfrey inside their craft.

The investigation (by MUFORA) did not resolve the conflict between Godfrey's statements that he was travelling north-west, about to turn right into Ferney Lee Road, and his subsequent conviction that he did not turn the car around. Nor do the investigators seem to have noticed that in the photograph Godfrey is standing on the north-east side of Burnley Road where his car would have been facing south-east TOWARDS Todmorden town centre. Evidently he did not turn the car around because it was already facing towards the police station (in the centre of Todmorden). His claim to have been just about to turn into Ferney Lee Road must be an error, although he may have made this turn earlier.

DISCUSSION

Now what Godfrey saw as he drove south-east can be

explained by the astronomical hypothesis. Venus, at magnitude -3.8, lay only two degrees above the horizon on an azimuth of 113 degrees (altitudes and azimuths given to the nearest degree) at 0515. By 0526 it lay at an altitude of four degrees, exactly in line with that part of Burnley Road (116 degrees), see pointer on Figure One. Because the road falls towards Todmorden centre Godfrey must have had a good view towards the horizon where Venus was rising (unfortunately a photograph of this view has not been published). But what he saw was more than a mere sight of Venus; it must have been a mirage of the planet, enlarged and distorted so that it appeared as a spacecraft. Such a mirage must have been the result of a temperature inversion somewhere along the line of sight, possibly in the valley in which Todmorden lies. No precise weather data have been published by either Randles or MUFORA.

Unaware that he was looking at a mirage of Venus, Godfrey took it to be an object only a few hundred metres away because he had no distance/size clues. Furthermore he took it to be a (space)craft because its appearance could only be reconciled with memory data of such craft (from films and sketches of such objects by others). In fact no evidence was found that such a craft was present on Burnley Road.

His subsequent account under hypnosis is certainly unreliable, the result of the conflation of various memories to please the hypnotist. That the stimulus was Venus shows how unreliable a tool hypnosis can be. The shortcomings of hypnotic regression to obtain evidence from witnesses have been previously discussed

Todmorden cont ...

extensively by DeGroote (5) and myself (6).

Others may also have seen a mirage of Venus that morning. Venus rose at 0453, exactly the time a group of police officers in a patrol car on a hillside above Halifax (8 km to the north-east) reported seeing a brilliant ball of light 'swoop down' towards them from the east (FSR). This indicates that the temperature inversion responsible for these unusual appearances of Venus lay well to the east, either in the Vale of York or over the sea. In her book Randles describes this incident as one in which a 'steel-blue ball of light' was seen over the moors to the north, 'pulsing in a slow rhythmic throb' and moving 'in arcs and zig-zags' (page 128). If the officers really were looking north this could not be Venus, but the autokinetic movements indicate a star. The bright blue star Vega lay only eight degrees above the horizon to the north-north-east (azimuth 29 degrees), while another blue star, Deneb, lay at an altitude of nine degrees almost due north (azimuth five degrees). Venus was almost certainly the 'ball of white light, tinged with blue' which a Todmorden school caretaker reported seeing at 0545.

In conclusion, it is shown that the Godfrey report was stimulated by a mirage of the planet Venus, and therefore the account of abduction and examination obtained under hypnosis can have no basis in fact.

Editorial Note:

Stewart has written a paper explaining fully the Astronomical Theory of UFO

Origin which he has submitted (elsewhere) for publication. He gave a review of this theory at the 4th International UFO Congress and it hoped that his paper can appear as part of the proceedings.

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I.C.U.R. NEWS

Steve Gamble

WHAT IS ICUR?

ICUR is the International Committee for UFO Research. This body is an association of respectable UFO groups from throughout the world. membership is by invitation only and only groups, not individuals, are invited to join.

WHY IS ICUR NEWS IN THIS JOURNAL ?

At a recent meeting of ICUR concern was expressed that people were not getting to hear about the work of ICUR.

It was agreed than rather than ICUR attempting to publish it's own Journal that, for a trial period, news of it's activities should be spread by way of occasional items in two existing Journals. The two Journals selected were the MUFON Journal (published by the Mutual UFO Network, based in the USA) and the Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena (published by BUFORA in the United Kingdom).

ICUR MEETING

Two meetings of ICUR were held in London in association with the Fourth London International UFO Congress. These meetings were held on the 9th and the 11th of July 1987.

The first meeting opened under the direction of Bertil Kuhlemann (of Project URD, Sweden).

As chairman of ICUR, Bertil gave a review of activities since the last meeting, which had been at the Third International Congress, held in 1983.

It was his sad duty to have to report to the meeting the death of the President, Dr. Allen Hynek. It was not proposed, at this point, to nominate a new p President.

At the previous meeting two projects had been set up. The first of these was the production of a standardised UFO manual which was being chaired by Stanton Friedman of Canada. The second project was to look at standardisation of terminolgy and computerisation. This project was lead by Robert Digby of BUFORA, U.K. Short reports on these projects were received. During the discussion it became clear that urgent action was needed on the subject of standardised classification of cases. Many groups and individuals had added additional points to Hynek's original six point classification scheme. Some of these additions used the same classification but different description of the 'object' whilst other schemes used a different classification for something of similar description in somebodyelse's scheme. It was felt that ICUR should take a lead here in proposing a common scheme.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Bertil Kuhlemann and his colleagues from URD had run the ICUR Administration for four years and now wished to stand down. It was felt that the bulk of the administrative tasks should be handled by a small number of people in regular contact. Therefore the following were appointed :

Chairman : Robert Digby,
BUFORA, U.K.

(continued next page)

I.C.U.R. News cont ...

Vice-chairman : Walter H.
Andrus (MUFON
USA)

Secretary : Stephen Gamble
(BUFORA, U.K.)

Treasurer : John Spencer
(BUFORA, U.K.)

Robert Digby is a past chairman of BUFORA. He has been a member of BUFORA since 1971 and very active in UFO Research throughout that time. His special areas of interest are UFO photographs and the UFO witness. More recently, Robert has been extensively involved in organising the Fourth International UFO Congress.

Walter (Walt) Andrus was one of the founding members of MUFON. Walt has been the International Director of MUFON since 1970. Mr Andrus has been interested in UFO phenomena since he, his wife and son had a daylight sighting of four UFOs in August 1948.

These officers will continue until the next meeting of ICUR. It is hoped that the Fifth International Congress will be held in August 1989, and that the ICUR meeting will be held in conjunction with that event.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The Committee had received one nomination for membership of the Committee. This had been for Project Unicat.

Project Unicat was elected to full membership of ICUR. They were represented at the meeting by Dr. Willy Smith.

On the subject of membership of ICUR it was noted that several organisations had

not paid their fees recently. As none of these members were attending the meeting, various members of the committee were detailed to remind these organisations.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Bertil Kuhlemann presented the treasurer's report to the meeting. This item was a masterpiece of international finance! As URD had held the bank account in Sweden the bank balance was in Swedish Crowns, however as the ICUR meetings were usually held in the UK membership fees had been drawn up in £ sterling. Add to that the group who paid in US \$!!! Still at the end of it ICUR appeared to be solvent.

After some discussion it was agreed that there was no need to raise the membership fees for the next period.

ICUR LOGO AND LETTERHEAD

As part of the image of ICUR being more outgoing there was some discussion about an identity for ICUR. It was agreed that some form of logo and a distinctive letterhead would help promote ICUR.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

The following full members were present at the July 1987 meeting :

- BUFORA, United Kingdom
- MUFON, United States
- Project URD, Sweden
- Project UNICAT, United States

Apologies were received from

VUFOS, Australia
SUFOI, Denmark

who were unable to send a representative on this occasion.

WHAT DO EXTRATERRESTRIALS PLAN FOR OUR FUTURE?

Dr. Allen Tough

252 Bloor St West, Toronto, ON, Canada, M5S 1V6

ABSTRACT

It is possible that a few UFO and abduction reports provide some insight into the plans that advanced extraterrestrial beings have for humanity's future. Assuming for a moment that this is so, what might these plans be? Five possibilities are (1) no plans at all, (2) educating or preparing us, (3) interbreeding with us, (4) providing significant help, and (5) severe harm. Although present evidence is far from convincing for any of these possibilities, continuing enquiry into extraterrestrial intentions could be highly beneficial.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Dr Allen Tough is a futurist with a particularly strong interest in the place of extraterrestrials in our future. Consequently, he serves as the MUFON consultant on future studies and he includes UFOs in his graduate course on potential futures. He is a Professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and the University of Toronto. Although he is a Canadian, his PhD (in social sciences) is from the University of Chicago.

INTRODUCTION

The future of civilization is of great interest and concern to all of us. Advanced extraterrestrial beings from some part of our galaxy will probably play a major role in that future. What will that role be? Because this question is one of my major academic interests, I have surveyed the literature in various fields to see whether it helps us answer that question. One of these fields is the UFO field.

It is possible that some UFO reports are triggered by an encounter with an extraterrestrial being or spacecraft. Elsewhere (1) I have wrestled with whether such encounters have in fact occurred, and have ended up baffled and unsure. Most of the available data are incomplete or of questionable quality, sometimes even

contradictory or apparently absurd, and therefore not very convincing. At the same time, though, it is certainly possible that some of the reports provide valid information about advanced extraterrestrials.

Consequently, I decided to engage in a "what if" exercise. What if a few of the reports, claims, ideas, hypotheses, or rumors in the UFO field provide valid information about advanced extraterrestrials? What might we then learn about their plans for us? For the purposes of this paper, therefore, I have simply assumed that the UFO field provides some valid insights into future extraterrestrial behaviour toward us. This assumption allows us to move on to the question of just what those insights might be.

In response to the question

I.C.U.R. News cont ...

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Extraterrestrial Plans cont ...

interbreeding. Budd Hopkins has mentioned "the dovetailing evidence that genetic experimentation is at least one central purpose of UFO abductions." (3) He has found that this experimentation apparently includes sperm and ova sampling operations, artificial insemination, and the later removal of embryos. Maybe extraterrestrials are aiming for successful interbreeding between themselves and humans. (It is hard to predict whether such interbreeding would be primarily beneficial, disastrous, or neutral for humankind.)

How convincing is the evidence for this intention? Most of the data come from abduction cases and are elicited under hypnosis. Some people find this source of data convincing and valid whereas others are highly skeptical.

Regardless of our best guess about whether interbreeding is already occurring, surely we must admit that it is a definite possibility sometime during the next 2000 years through advanced techniques of genetic engineering. I am now studying various possible 2000-year futures involving partial or complete intermingling of our genes with those of an extraterrestrial species. The majority or a small minority of human beings may remain distinctively human (biologically and culturally). Alternatively, interbreeding may be so common that no distinctively human group remains 2000 years from now.

SIGNIFICANT HELP

Some sort of highly significant positive help is a fourth possibility. Perhaps

some extraterrestrials are planning to foster human progress and evolution in major ways.

Extraterrestrials may already have greatly influenced human history during the past 50 or 50,000 years. (4,5) Three leading contributors in the UFO field have told me that they believe extraterrestrials are continuing to monitor humankind as a genetic and/or cultural experiment that they initiated thousands of years ago. It may even be that two different extraterrestrial groups are fighting over our future fate. It is also possible that at least one group of extraterrestrials has already established cooperative and helpful contact with the U.S. government and perhaps other national governments.

Helping us build a flying saucer capable of remarkable speed and maneuverability is one obvious sort of aid for them to give us. Extraterrestrials may also protect us from a nuclear holocaust or other catastrophe. They may plan to help us reduce our worst dangers and follies. They may benevolently guide our goals, strategies, morals, spiritual development, arts, and sciences.

Based on the literature on extraterrestrial intelligence and on four mock meetings with extraterrestrials, I have concluded elsewhere (6) that probably all advanced extraterrestrial civilizations are helpful or at least peaceful rather than violent. I also concluded that some sort of help from extraterrestrials is highly likely for us eventually (if we do not extinguish ourselves first with our nuclear weapons) and could well be occurring already. The

most likely types of help are (a) instant protection to avoid a nuclear holocaust or other imminent catastrophe, (b) long-term help in reducing grave dangers, and (c) help in improving nondangerous areas of life.

The UFO field provides little confirmation of these three specific types of help but it may provide a little support for the general possibility of positive extraterrestrial aid. Such support, however, is largely in the form of rumours. The only data are ostensible extraterrestrial messages that are typically somewhat vague and general, such as "clean up your act, get rid of nuclear weapons, and live with one another in love and harmony." Although such advice is excellent, is it not likely that advanced extraterrestrials would choose to provide much more specific advice and help?

DEVESTATING INTENTIONS

Finally, we cannot omit the possibility that extraterrestrials may have a highly negative future in store for humankind. They may be planning to conquer and rule us, to annihilate us, to eat us as a delicacy, or to manipulate us into starting World War III.

Do extraterrestrials plan to harm humanity significantly? Only rarely does the literature on extraterrestrial intelligence, SETI, and UFOs(7) defend this possibility, despite its popularity in science fiction novels and films. In the UFO field there are some reports of harm to individuals, aircraft, and animals, but there is no indication that anything worse is planned for

us.

As with the concept of the apocalypse or Armageddon in the religious field, there are some people in the UFO field who believe a global catastrophe would serve the useful purpose of cleansing the Earth. Those who are "true believers" or properly prepared would be saved from the holocaust (perhaps by being removed from the Earth in extraterrestrial spacecraft) and then would be able to establish a better world on the recently cleansed Earth.

SUMMARY

We see, then, that the UFO field suggests four possible extraterrestrial plans (if they have any plans at all) for our human future, ranging from highly positive help through to complete extermination. Although the present evidence is far from convincing for any one of the four intentions, all four possibilities are worth keeping in mind as we continue to explore UFO phenomena. Perhaps some readers of this Journal will be able to suggest additional evidence, or gather data in support of one type of plan.

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Extraterrestrial Plans cont ...

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- 4) Girard, Robert C., (1987) Ambiguity in UFO Behaviour. In: Hilary Evans and John Spencer (Eds) UFOs 1947-1987: The 40-Year Search for an Explanation. Fortean Tomes, London, pp 264-268.
- 5) Greenwell, J. Richard (1980) Theories of Extraterrestrial Origin of Man. In: Ronald D. Story (Ed) The Encyclopedia of UFOs. Doubleday, Garden City, pp 118-120.
- 6) Tough, Allen (1986) What Role will Extraterrestrials Play in Humanity's Future? Journal of the British Interplanetary Society: Interstellar Studies, 39, no. 11, pp 491-498.
- 7) One of the UFO encyclopedias published in 1980 devotes only ten lines to "the invasion hypothesis" and in the other one I could not find any similar articles at all despite its extensive cross referencing.

NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM BUFORA

Two new publications by BUFORA were both released at the International Congress in July.

These are "UFO World '87" and "UFOs 1947-1987 : The 40-Year Search for an Explanation".

UFO World '87 is compiled by Jenny Randles and follows on from the very successful UFO

BUFORA Publications cont..

World '86. It follows a similar (A5) format to the previous edition and contains reports, news and theories from around the world. It costs £1.25 (P&P extra, 25p (UK), 50p (Overseas)).

UFOs 1947-1987 is a major new volume, edited on behalf of BUFORA by Hilary Evans and John Spencer. It runs to some 380 pages and details cases, theories and the whole of the UFO subject over the forty years since Kenneth Arnold's report.

As a special introductory offer BUFORA are selling this to members (on quotation of membership number) at the cover price of £12.50, but sent POST FREE. To Nonmembers post and packing £2.00 extra (overseas sent by surface mail).

Other publications

The following are also still available. Post and packing extra (25p [UK], 50p [O/seas] per publication).

Mystery of the Circles	£1.25
UFO World '86	£1.25
Congress 79 papers	£0.75
J-TAP (Please state issue)	£0.75
Newsclipping Round-Up (state Aug or Dec 86)	£0.75

Please send cash with order to:

BUFORA (Pubs)
16, Southway
Burgess Hill
Sussex
RH15 9ST.

Membership forms and meetings cards are available from the same address on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope (size 9.5 by 6.5 inch)

RESEARCH NEWS

Edited by Stephen Gamble, Director of Research.

INTRODUCTION

The idea of this column is to provide regular updates of the work of the BUFORA Research department.

As announced in the BUFORA Summer Newsletter (page3), this issue contains a detailed status report from Ken Phillips on the Witness Centred Study project. BUFORA has recently made a small additional grant to aid this research.

On the subject of grants to aid research, I would remind readers that BUFORA does operate a Research Grant scheme to support worthwhile projects. Details of this scheme have been published in various issues of JTAP and the BUFORA BULLETIN in recent months. Should you have any ideas for research projects but be unable to carry them out yourself, we would still be interested to hear from you.

WITNESS CENTRED STUDY - CURRENT STATUS.

Report by Ken Phillips

After three and a half years of steady application of the Anamnesis/Rorschach/EPI Witness study, some one hundred cases have been investigated (including both UFO and paranormal reports), plus ten control subjects interviewed, using the three protocols. What then, in the way of concrete conclusions, has emerged from this rather exhaustive study, containing as it does, such a wide range of both personal-demographic and psychological details?

Firstly, with very few exceptions, the collective psychological profiles are well within the range of what is generally considered to be "normal" vis-a-vis the 'Western Technological Culture'. This result is at variance to that obtained by Dr. Scot (at Luton) who determined that many UFO witnesses were of a highly neurotic state. However, it should be pointed out here that BUFORA's E.P.I. (Eysenck Personality Inventory) testing employed both the 'Lie Scale' and the 'Extroversion Scale'; the slight "weighting" on the Lie scale seeming to suggest that witnesses were not happy with this form of investigation.

As for the Rorschach, the outcome was indeterminate due to the lack of international standards, consequently, the investigators were reduced to studying the fantasy responses of the witness only. Although there was a trend towards giving fantasy descriptions within the percipient group, in fact it was the control group that gave the highest content of fantasy description!

Because the Rorschach and E.P.I. gave such inconclusive results, it was decided to abandon these two protocols as being non-valid in terms of the UFO/Paranormal percipient having an unhealthy psychological profile. This left only the Anamnesis as an instrument for gauging the witness.

Fortunately for everyone concerned, it was the Anamnesis that really gave significant results, and which enabled the investigators to proceed to a narrower, yet more pertinent

Research news cont...

Witness Study cont ...

form of study developed by two independent researchers in the U.S.A. This is the MICIS (Memory, Imagination and Creativity Interview Schedule) of Barber and Wilson who are based in Massachusetts. The reason for this progression is a direct consequence of three salient outcomes of the Anamnesis study: firstly, the significant 'social dissatisfaction' cluster, secondly the dream reportage relevant to UFOs/flying, and lastly, and even more significantly, the high level of E.S.P. reportage of the percipient (the latter trait hardly figured at all in the control group). The MICIS study (which has already commenced) will provide valuable data for a continuing research programme at both Salzburg University (in conjunction with Dr. Keul) and the Framington Institute, Massachusetts (in conjunction with Drs. Barber and Wilson).

In conclusion then, this particular BUFORA/ASSAP research programme has shown UFO percipients to be highly creative individuals who, in a way yet to be determined, are "different" (highly developed from an evolutionary point of view?). It is hoped therefore, that the MICIS will provide more information concerning the witness in the early 1990s.

After forty years of frustration, the way ahead, in terms of UFO research, is now clear.

COMPUTER INDEXING

This project has continued under the leadership of Mike

Wootten.

Progress has been slow here in recent months. It is now hoped that these technical problems have been overcome. Work on coding cases from the 1970's ready to be entered to the database continues.

During May, confirmation of BUFORA's registration under the Data Protection Act 1984 was received. Our registration number is F0779204.

A number of offers of help have been received in recent months. These will be taken up as soon as possible.

PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF UFOS

To the physical scientist the best proof of the existence of UFOs is physical evidence. This may take many forms ranging from photographs through various electromagnetic effects to actual objects claimed to be parts of UFOs.

For a number of years BUFORA has run special sections to look at this physical evidence. The photographic section was formed in 1974 by Bob Digby, John Shaw, Steve Gamble and Terry Brewis to examine UFO photographs. Later this combined with a Traces group (which examined alleged ground traces caused by UFOs) to form the Physical Evidence group. The Physical Evidence group is now headed by Nigel Smith, who is also a very active 'general' field investigator.

When Anthony Pace was director of research, BUFORA ran two groups who were looking at other areas of physical effects of UFOs. The first of these was the Vehicle Interference Project, the other was a similar group investigating

Research News cont ...

Physcial Effects cont ...

cases with Radar involvement.

The Vehicle Interfernce project published a report in 1979 on their activities. This was compiled by Geoffrey Falla (Edited by Charles Lockwood and Anthony Pace) and included a catalogue of cases they had discovered involving vehicle interference. A few copies of this report are still available. In recent months there has been an upturn in the number of reports from the UK. At least one of these reports involves effects on a car (preliminary report of the car's fuses blowing), so I am investiating the worth of reopening this project.

The second specialist group that Anthony Pace had was investigating Radar cases. Some members have expressed an interest to me in cases of this kind. I will be reactivating this project, so invite interested members to contact me giving details of their skills. Much work was carried out by the earlier group to produce a report similar to the Vehicle Interference Report, however this was never published. I hope that after some work the new group will be able to see this project completed.

GREAT CIRCLES PROJECT

At the May Research Meeting it was agreed that BUFORA should assist Roy Dutton in investigating his Great Circles theory. Roy produced a paper for the Research department outlining possible methods of investigation. This is now under consideration.

Roy's theory tries to show

artificial craft orbit the Earth for short periods of time. It is important to realise that the Great Circles theory has nothing to do with circular damage to fields of crops.

An extensive paper about this theory was published in the September 1986 JTAP and Roy has presented it to both the May 1987 BUFORA Lecture meeting and at the Fourth International Congress.

CORN FIELD CIRCLES

This project has continued under the direction of Paul Fuller.

Paul has been carrying out a survey of cereal farmers in Wiltshire and Hampshire to determine the true incidence of circular shaped crop damage. In addition to this he has been investigating new formations as they are discovered.

This year has produced a large increase in the reported number of formations. So far thirty three formations have been reported for 1987. This compares with a total of about eighty for the years 1979 to 1986. Some interesting new formations are included.

The survey of farmers produced some interesting results. Paul has been working on a detailed technical and statistical report of these findings which will be produced in small quantities for discussion with external experts. The study was jointly funded by the Tornado and Storm Research Organisation (TORRO) and BUFORA. The survey produced information about several previously unknown circle formations. Paul has been assisted in carrying out follow-up interviews on these

Research News cont

Corn Filed Circles cont ...

cases by Colin Andrews.

A update sheet to the Mystery of the Circles report has been produced which includes some of the latest data. Paul is working on a definitive article on the circles and the data from the survey. As this is likely to be of some length we may have to split it over several issues of JTAP.

What of the future? Most of the data we have on circles relates to Hampshire and Wiltshire. Do they occur in other southern counties? Do they occur elsewhere in the country? If funding can be made available it is proposed to carry out two further small surveys elsewhere in the country to try to answer these questions.

On completion of the surveys it is proposed to produce a concluding report then close down the project. The project started when several of the national newspapers stated that UFOlogists had claimed that these circular areas of damage were UFO landing sites. This appeared to be nonsense and BUFORA set out to try to find the genuine cause. It seems most likely that they are caused by an interesting atmospheric phenomenon. Having established this, what should BUFORA's interest be in it in future? Unless anybody comes forward who is keen to run a 'monitoring' project, I would propose closing down this activity allowing valuable resources to be allocated to other projects.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CATALOGUE

Northamptonshire investigator

Ernest Still is producing, with the help of other Northamptonshire members, a catalogue of sightings of all forms of shortlived aerial phenomena over Northamptonshire. This primarily covers the last forty years. It will include data from the BUFORA Case Index and from newspaper libraries.

It is hoped that once the research budget has been allocated, it will provide enough funds to allow this information to be computerised.

CORRESPONDENCE

Due to lack of space it has been necessary to hold over several long items of correspondence until the next issue. This includes items about Roy Dutton's Great Circle Theory and Steuart Campbell's Mirage Hypothesis.

It should be stressed that the views expressed in correspondence are entirely those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of BUFORA or the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to reduce the length of overlong letters where this does not materially alter the views presented. Authors should refrain from using insult or slander and stick to factual information.

In common with MUFON, we shall reserve the right to apply the 50% rule. Under this another writer may respond to an article, either by letter or a short article. The original author may respond using half the wordage. The responder may respond again to the author using half the wordage etc.

Steve Gamble, Editor

TIME ESTIMATION OF SIMULATED UFO EVENTS

S.J. Gamble, R.S. Digby and K. Phillips

This paper examines how much reliability can be placed upon the report as produced by the witness. The estimation of the time estimate for a simulated UFO sighting is used as an indication of this reliability. Both control subjects, who were not involved in the UFO subject as either percipients or investigators, and UFOlogists (i.e. a mixed group of percipients and investigators) were used for these investigations.

Steve Gamble is Director of Research for BUFORA and secretary of ICUR. As well as UFOs, he has long had an interest in psychology. Robert Digby is a past chairman of BUFORA, lecturing frequently on the subject. He is also currently chairman of ICUR. Ken Phillips is a long time investigator and has carried out extensive work on the problems of witness reliability. He has worked for a number of years with Dr Keul of Austria on the Witness Anamnesis.

INTRODUCTION

A UFO event can be thought of as being made up of three components :

- 1) The UFO
- 2) The UFO report
- 3) The UFO reporter

It is very rarely that the investigator can get to examine either a claimed UFO or parts thereof, so in practice we are left with only the last two categories of evidence to study. Both Hynek (1) and Hendry (2) have made it quite clear that we study UFO reports and not UFOs. The UFO is merely the stimulus for the report.

Gamble (3) has previously stated that the witness should be regarded as a form of recording instrument and therefore needs to be calibrated. Hynek (2) has stated that some measure of accuracy needs to be applied to the witness. If the witness is seriously at fault and is unable to accurately describe the event they witnessed, then the whole report becomes suspect. The data processing industry has a term for this, the so called Garbage In,

Garbage out. Or as Hill (4) put it, no sophisticated method can compensate for deficient data, for example all a computer will allow you to do is get the wrong answer more quickly !

So just how accurate is the data obtainable from witnesses? We set out to examine this point using a large, and varied

TABLE ONE.

ESTIMATED TIME UFO OBSERVED BY TWO CONTROL GROUPS, ONE ALL MALE, THE OTHER ALL FEMALE.

GROUP	MALE	FEMALE
TIME	20	15-20
(in seconds)	15	5
	20	10
	15	10
	15	10
	45	15
	5	15
	20	25
	60	12
	15	10
	30	10
	12	10
	5	20
	30	10
	30	20
		20
		10

Time Estimation cont ...

group of subjects. These will be described below.

As the parameter we decided to study we took the estimation of the duration of a simulated UFO event. For this simulation a slide of a scene which could be a UFO event was projected to the audience for a fixed period of time. The actual period of time is not relevant to this paper, which sets out to examine individual variation.

In addition to making a time estimate, the subjects were asked to draw the object they saw. These drawings are not discussed here, but some of them have previously been discussed by Digby (5).

METHOD

The method for this experiment has previously been discussed by Phillips (6). Briefly the work was carried out using members of the audience at lectures on the subject of UFOlogy. There was no control over the make up of the audience.

At the start of the lecture the slide of the UFO event was projected for a short period of time. The audience was then asked to draw a picture of what they had seen and to estimate the duration.

SUBJECTS

The data used here is made up from three audiences. Two of these audiences were at private clubs where the members have no special interest in the subject of UFOs. These were taken as a control group. The third group was at a major international conference attended by both UFO percipients and UFO investigators. This group is

TABLE TWO

DETAILS OF UFOLOGIST GROUP
GIVING TIME ESTIMATE (IN
SECONDS), AGE, AND SEX (n=46)

TIME	AGE	SEX
10	33	M
12	35	F
7	57	M
5	33	M
15	33	M
8	26	M
7	52	M
10	36	M
8	40	M
10	27	M
8	39	M
12	22	F
10	50	M
10	27	M
5	28	M
15	20	M
7	55	M
5	61	M
18	31	M
180	--	F
5	66	M
20	40	M
13	29	M
7	--	F
15	30	F
6	32	M
2	39	M
13	28	M
5	47	M
4	55	M
15	36	M
30	42	M
15	47	M
5	49	M
10	29	M
4	31	F
10	41	M
14	42	M
5	33	F
<10	55	M
8	17	F
10	25	M
10	22	M
11	17	F
15	53	M
5	63	M

FIGURE ONE

PLOT OF TIME ESTIMATES MADE BY THE TWO DIFFERENT CONTROL GROUPS SPECIFIED IN TABLE ONE

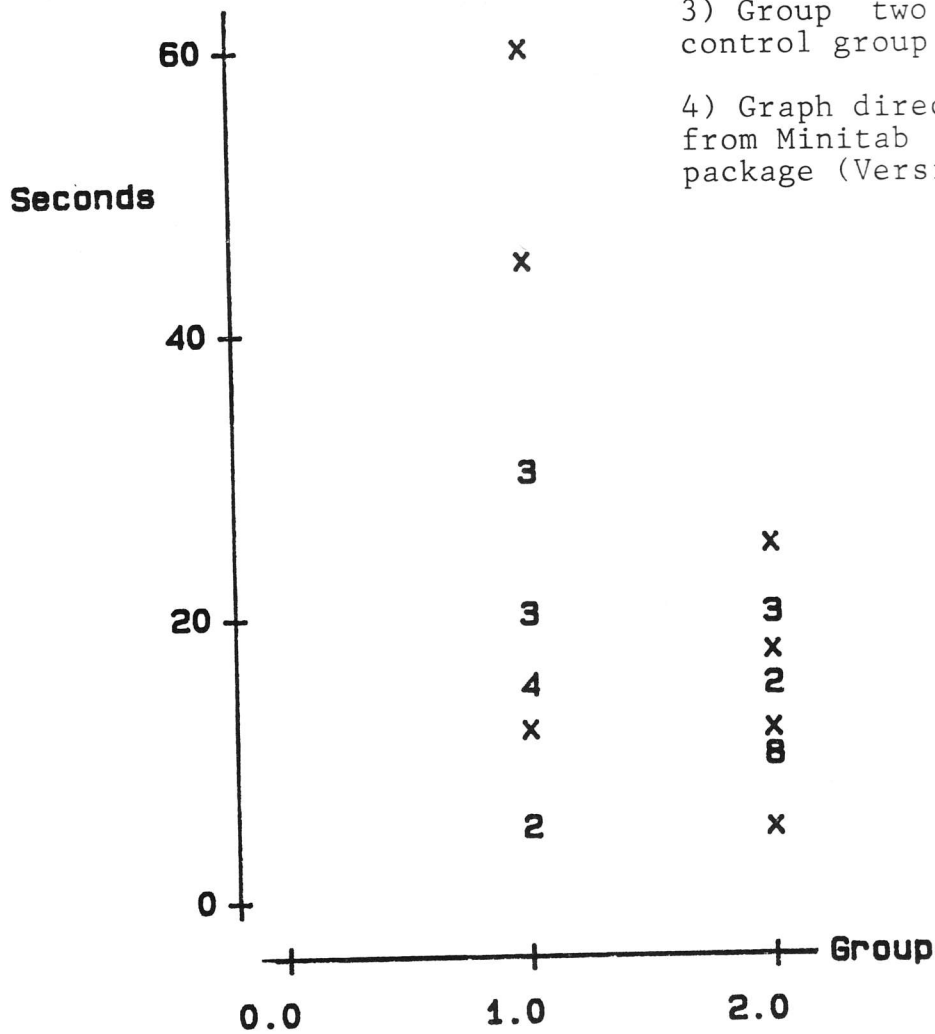
NOTES:

1) All times are in seconds

2) Group one is male control group

3) Group two is female control group

4) Graph directly plotted from Minitab statistical package (Version 5.1)



Time Estimation cont ...

referred to as the UFologists group.

The basic data for the control groups is set out in Table One. As one audience consisted of entirely females and the other entirely of males, classification on this count was easy.

The basic data from the UFologists group is set out in Table Two. In addition to the duration and making a drawing, this group were asked to indicate their age, occupation and gender. Neither the age or the occupation are discussed in this paper. From this group we had to exclude one subject who drew a star (but stated it was a mirage!) and stated the duration as being too long. (It should be pointed out that this was NOT Steuart Campbell).

RESULTS

We will deal first of all with the results from the control group. In total there were thirty two subjects in this category. A better idea of the spread of these results can be obtained from Figure One.

The data in Table One were read into a statistical program called Minitab. Figure One is a direct plot of the data produced by Minitab (Version 5.1). This was then used to carryout some elementary statistics. The following were obtained :

Group	1	2
Subjects	15	17
Median	20.0	10.0
Mean	22.5	13.5
Std Deviation	14.8	5.32
Std Error of Mean	3.8	1.3

TABLE THREE

DURATION TIME BANDS AS USED IN THE BUFORA CASE INDEX SYSTEM.

CODE	DURATION
0	0-9 seconds
1	10-29 seconds
2	30-59 seconds
3	1-2min 59 secs
4	3-4min 59 secs
5	5-9min 59 secs
6	10-29min 59 secs
7	30-59min 59 secs
8	1-1hour 59 mins
9	2 hours or more

From these results it can be seen that as a group the males would estimate the duration (expressed as the median) to be twice as long as the female group. The results for the female group were more tightly spaced (as shown by the standard deviation and the standard error of the mean). Due to the relatively small numbers involved, too much should not be read into this. Indeed a third group of all females (which we were unable to include here) shows a similar distribution to Group One (the all male group). These two groups can be shown to be statistically significantly different, yet this would appear to be a purely chance result.

The results for the UFologist group are set out in Table Two. As can be seen this individual group was some what larger than the combined members of the two control groups. These data are plotted out in Figure Two for comparison with the similar duration data obtained from the control group. It can be seen that the UFologists gave overall a tighter grouping of

Time Estimation cont

FIGURE TWO

DISTRIBUTION OF TIME ESTIMATES OF UFOLOGISTS VS DISTRIBUTION OF ESTIMATES OF CONTROL GROUPS

Time
(in Seconds)

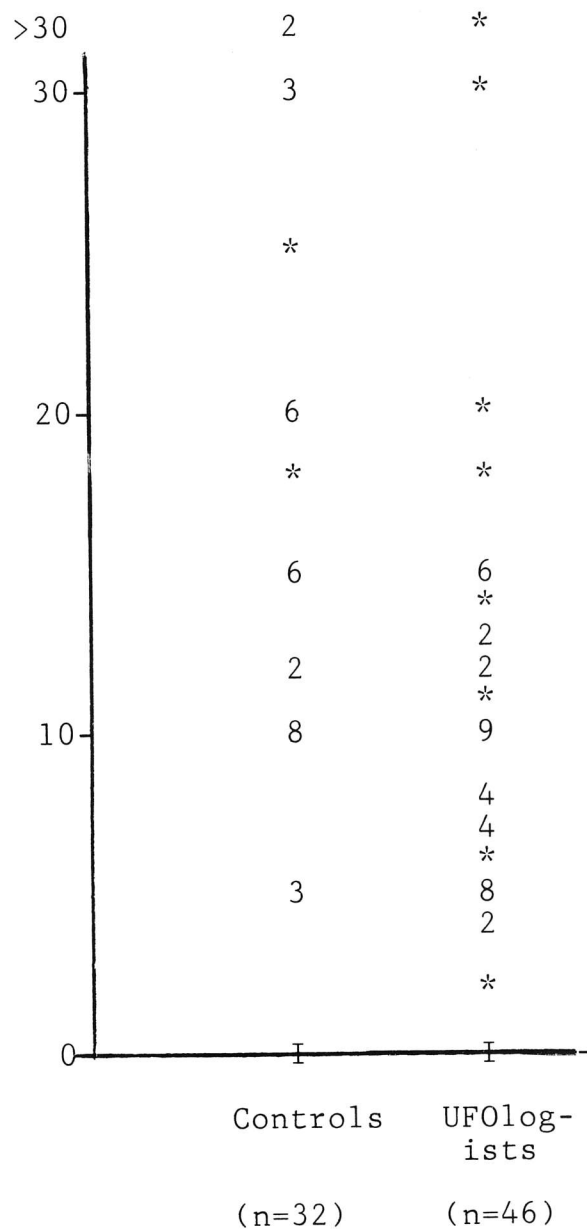
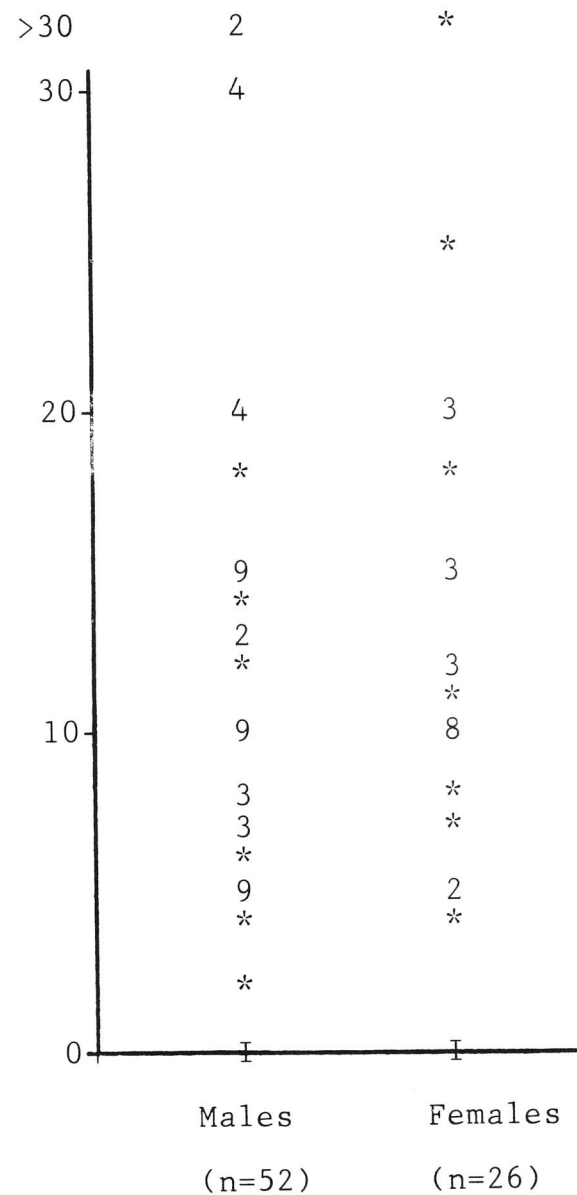


FIGURE THREE

ANALYSIS OF TIME ESTIMATE DISTRIBUTION BY SEX. (CONROL GROUP AND UFOLOGISTS COMBINED DATA)

Time
(in Seconds)



Time estimation cont ...

results with a majority falling in a five to twenty second duration range. However this group did have one outlying result (at 180 seconds).

For the sake of completeness, the combined results of the control and UFOlogists group are broken down in terms of gender and this is illustrated in Figure Three. Unfortunately there are twice as many male as female subjects. visual examination shows a fairly even spread of results between both groups.

DISCUSSION

What is clear from these results is that witnesses are very bad at estimating the duration of an event. Haines (7) has stressed the importance of accurate temporal measurement in being able to estimate velocity of reported objects and in being able to tie in the reports of different witnesses at different locations. He also states that the two most frequently asked questions of witnesses are "When did it occur?" and "How long did it last?". Yet from these results it would seem that these two fundamental questions could be totally misleading.

On a more practical level, consider duration in relation to the classic sighting form (such as the BUFORA R1). The duration obtained from this might be classified into duration bands, such as used by Wootten(8) for the BUFORA case index (see Table Three). Remember that all subjects in all groups saw the 'UFO event' for exactly the same period of time, then examine the tables again. You will see that the spread of estimates can cover all categories in Wootten's

table from 0 to 4, or as the range is from 2 to 180 seconds, there is up to a ninety fold difference.

CONCLUSION

A vast range of variation has been demonstrated in the ability to estimate duration by any individual subject. The degree of accuracy does not appear to be related to either gender or the familiarity of the subject matter.

It is suprising how few statistical analyses there are in the field of UFOlogy, yet this would seem to be the only way to lessen the effects of individual variation. All too often great store is placed upon a single case rather than considering it in the context of the subject as a whole. If witnesses can be so inaccurate with time estimates, how much store can be placed on any other reported detail?

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BUFORA meetings will be held on the following dates using the facilities of the London Business School, Sussex Place, Regents Park, London, N.W.1. Unless otherwise stated all meetings start at 18:30 hrs.

Whilst it is not anticipated that meetings will have to be altered or cancelled without prior notice, BUFORA reserve the right to do so. All members are urged to attend early so that the meeting may start on time. There is a small admission charge which at the moment is £1.00 for members and £2.50 for non-members.

This years lecture programme was organised by Manfred Cassirer, to whom thanks are due.

September 5th
Speaker : Peter Warrington
"RADAR and the UFO"

October 3rd
Speaker : Timothy Good
"Above Top Secret"

November 7th
Speaker : Bob Coultie
"Psychics and Saucers"

December 5th
Speaker : Andy Roberts
"Cracoe : UFO into IFO"

1988
January 2nd
Speaker : Tony Cornell, M.A.
"Investigating Anomalies"

February 6th
Speaker : Prof. Ray Leonard
"The Turin Shroud :
Conjectures on its Origin"

March 5th
A.G.M followed by
Speaker : John Rimmer
"Abductions"

(continued next column)

April 2nd
Speaker :
Guy Lyon Playfair, M.A.
"Mind and Magic"

May 7th
Speaker : Phillip Taylor
"UFOs and Astronomy"

June 4th
Speaker : Martin Shough
"The Reality of the UFO
Phenomenon"

Meetings normally end at approximately 21:30. half way through the evening there is a short break and the evening concludes with questions and discussion.

1988 A.G.M.

This will be held at the London Business School on Saturday 5th March 1988, starting at 6-30pm.

The main business of the meeting will be to receive the Chairman's report, the Report of the Council of Management, the Accounts of the Treasurer and to appoint the Auditor according to the Articles of the Association. A more formal notice and the AGM papers will be published nearer the time.

The AGM will be followed by a talk by John Rimmer on the subject of Abductions. Whilst there is no fee for attending the AGM charges to cover the following lecture will be collected at the start of the evening.

UFOs 1947 -1987
edited by Hilary Evans and
John Spencer

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Aims and scope of the Journal

Research and investigation into unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena has progressed from the early days of wild speculation into an area where scientific analysis and evaluation methods can be applied to a number of specified areas.

It is realised that ufological research is subject to a great deal of speculative comment, much of which lies on the boundaries of current scientific thought. Many existing scientific institutions accept limited discussion of UFOs and related phenomena where it has some bearing on their discipline. The Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena (Journal TAP) offers a forum for scientists and researchers to present ideas for further discussion, results of investigations and analysis of statistics and other pertinent information.

Journal TAP aims to meet a wide range of discussion by incorporating an approach with breadth of scope, clear and topical comment conducted with scientific rigour. It intends to offer a truly international forum enabling researchers throughout the world to publish results in an authoritative publication which should serve to further knowledge of the cosmos and benefit mankind in so doing.

Notes for contributors

The Editorial Board will be pleased to receive contributions from all parts of the world. Manuscripts, preferably in English, should be submitted in the first instance, to the Editor-in-chief, 40 Jones Drove, Whittlesey, Peterborough, PE7 1UE, United Kingdom.

Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced on one side of A4 size paper with wide margins and submitted in duplicate. While no maximum length of contributions is prescribed, authors are encouraged to write concisely.

The author's name should be typed on the line below the title. The affiliation (if any) and address should follow on the next line. The body of the manuscript should be preceded by an abstract of around 100 words giving the main conclusions drawn.

All mathematical symbols may be either hand-written or typewritten, but no ambiguities should arise.

Illustrations should be restricted to the minimum necessary. They should accompany the script and should be included in manuscript pages. Line drawings should include all relevant details and should be drawn in black ink on plain white drawing paper. Good photoprints are acceptable but blueprints or dyeline prints cannot be used. Drawings and diagrams should allow for a 20 per cent reduction. Lettering should be clear, open, and sufficiently large to permit the necessary reduction of size for publication. Photographs should be sent as glossy prints, preferably full or half plate size. Captions to any submitted photograph or illustration should be appended and clearly marked.

In the interests of economy and to reduce errors, tables will, where possible, be reproduced by photo-offset using the author's typed manuscript. Tables should therefore be submitted in a form suitable for direct reproduction. Page size used should be A4 and width of table should be either 10.5 cm or 22 cm. Large or long tables should be typed on continuing sheets but identifying numbers should be placed on the upper right-hand corner of each sheet of tabular material.

Reference to published literature should be quoted in the text in brackets and grouped together at the end of the paper in numerical order. A separate sheet of paper should be used. Double spacing must be used throughout. Journal TAP references should be arranged thus :

- (1) Jacques Vallee: 1965. *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, vii, Henry Regnery, Chicago.
- (2) David Haisell: 1980. Working Party Report, *Journal TAP* 1/2, pp36-40

With the exception of dates which should be presented in the astronomical convention viz : 1977 August 06, no rigid rules concerning notation or abbreviation need be observed by authors, but each paper should be self-consistent as to symbols and units, which should all be properly defined. Times however should be presented in astronomical form using the 24 hour clock and Universal Time (UT) where possible. If local time is used, this should be specified viz 19h 15 GMT.

The Editorial Board shall have the right to seek advice from referees on suitability for publication and may, on their recommendation, accept, seek revision of or reject manuscripts. If considered unsuitable for Journal TAP, the Editor-in-chief reserves the right to forward manuscripts to the Editor of *Bufo* Journal for consideration. The Editor-in-chief's decision will be final.

Book reviews and letters for publication will also be considered.

Where permission is needed for publication of material included in an article, it is the responsibility of the author to acquire this prior to submission. All opinions expressed in articles will be those of the contributor and unless otherwise stated, will not reflect the views of *Bufo*, its Council or the Editor-in-chief.

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