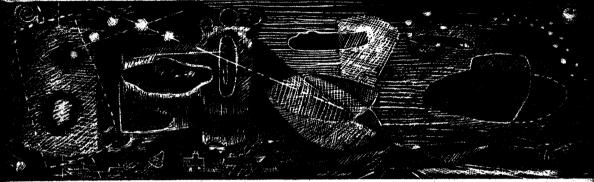
# BUFORA



# JOURNAL AND BULLETIN

Published by the

BRITISH U.F.O. RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

# CONTENTS

Editorial	,	•••	•••	•••		2
A Strange Story from C	Gallipoli			•••		4
A Means of Detecting	UFOs	•••	•••	•••		6
Book Review	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	8
Research Officer's Annua	al Report	- 27th	Nov. 1	965	•••	9
The Problems of Exobi	ology - P	art 2	•••	•••	•••	13
Notes & Quotes	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	18
"Warminster Week"	•••	•••	•••	•••	• • • •	20
Saucer Books	•••	•••	•••			20

# The BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1962

#### AIMS:

- To encourage and promote unbiased scientific investigation and research into Unidentified Flying Object phenomena.
- 2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to Unidentified Flying Objects.
- To co-ordinate UFO Research on a nation-wide scale and co-operate with persons and organisations engaged upon similar research in all parts of the world.

MEMBER SOCIETIES: Anglo-Polish UFO Research Club; British Flying Saucer Bureau; Cambridge University Group for the Investigation of UFOs; Cheltenham Flying Saucer Group; Croydon UFO Research and Investigation Society; Direct Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena; Enfield UFO Investigation Society; Fleet Street UFOs Study Group; Halifax Branch of BUFORA; Isle of Wight UFO Investigation Society; Merseyside UFO Research Group; Nottingham UFOs Group; Oxford University UFOs Study Group; Scottish UFO Research Society; Stratford-on-Avon UFO Group; Tyneside UFO Society; Welsh UFO Research Organisation.

OFFICERS: (honorary)

President: G. W. CREIGHTON, M.A., F.R.G.S. Vice-President: L. G. CRAMP, A.R.Ae.S., M.S.I.A.

B.U.F.O.R.A. Executive Committee:

Chairman: G. G. DOEL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.M.R.E.

Vice-Chairman and Publicity Officer: L. E. BEER

General Secretary: M. C. HOLT, B.A. Membership Secretary: N. T. OLIVER

Treasurer: S. SMITH. B.A.

Journal Editor and Evaluation Officer: J. CLEARY-BAKER, Ph.D. Central Information and Research Co-ordinator: G. N. P. STEPHENSON

Assistant General Secretary: Mrs. A. LLOYD Librarian and Archives Officer: P. WAIN Chairman of Contacts Section: Miss E. BUCKLE

Projects Officer: E. HATVANY

Rev. R. K. HURGON

MEMBERSHIP: The annual subscription for individual members is one guinea; \$3 U.S.A. and Canada. Membership is open to all persons supporting the aims of the Association and whose application is approved by the Executive Committee. Application/Information forms available from the Membership Secretary: Mr. N. T. Oliver, 95 Taunton Rd., London, S.E.12. or the Publicity Officer.

JOURNAL: Published Quarterly. Available only to individual members and member societies. ADVERTISEMENTS: Readers classified advertisements: 3d. a word. For details of whole, half and quarter page rates, please write to the Publicity Officer: Mr. L. E. Beer, Flat 15, Freshwater Court, Crawford Street, London, W.1.

CORRESPONDENCE: General Correspondence should be sent to the General Secretary: Mr. M. C. Holt, B.A., Bramhall, Claremont Road, Claygate, Surrey. Membership forms, subscription renewals, UFO reports, editorial material and advertisements should be sent to the appropriate officers.

EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS: Please send all exchange publications direct to the Editor or BUFORA JOURNAL AND BULLETIN, at 3 Devenish Road, Weeke, Winchester, Hants.

# THE BUFORA JOURNAL AND BULLETIN

Volume 1 Number 8

Spring 1966

Editor: J. Cleary-Baker, Ph.D.

Editorial Address: 3 Devenish Road, Weeke,

Winchester, Hants.

#### **EDITORIAL**

When Hernando Cortés arrived with his band of adventurers on the shores of Mexico, prompt and decisive action by Montezuma, the Aztec Ruler, might have preserved the Indian Empire, for a time at anyrate. The immense numerical superiority of the native forces could have offset the horses, firearms and armour of the Spaniards.

Superstition shackled the Aztecs. In Cortés they saw a White God, none other than Quetzalcoatl, the white-skinned and bearded deity who had left the Land long ago to return to his home in the East and who - it was predicted would one day return again to resume his benevolent mission among them.

Too late the Indians realized their error. They fought bravely enough after they understood that gold-lust rather than godliness was the salient characteristic of the conquistador. The aliens had by then obtained a foothold in the Country and had nothing to do but consolidate it.

Is there perhaps a lesson here for UFO-researchers? We are in possession of a mounting pile of evidence attesting to the presence of aliens in our midst. Are we, or at anyrate some of us, allowing comfortable beliefs to usurp objectivity in our thinking on the UFOs?

The pros and cons of the principal "contactee" narratives are debated in and out of season. What debate has there been concerning the sinister incident at Diamantina in Brazil, on August 20th. 1962, when Rivalino Mafra da Silva was either kidnapped or disintegrated, in the presence of his 12-year old son, Raimundo, by two ball-shaped UFOs hovering low above his dwelling? There is little or no concrete evidence for most of the "contactee" tales. Official and private investigations into the Diamantina incident have been of a most thorough and prolonged nature and have tended only to authenticate it.

One may cite, too, the scores of cases on file in which low-flying or grounded UFOs have inflicted superficial injuries on witnesses. Of the many instances in which airplane disasters have followed close upon the appearance of UFOs in a given area. All these incidents have received passing mention in UFO journals.

One is obliged to assume that there are none so blind as those who do not wish to see! Freudian psychologists tell us of a sort of mental barrier, known appropriately as the Censor, which a subject's mind erects to prevent the passage of uncomfortable facts from the subconscious to the conscious level of awareness. It may be that a similar inhibitory mechanism operates to bar the transmission of unpleasant data from the printed page to the mind of the UFO-researcher.

Not long ago I delivered a lecture to an audience composed largely of Association members, in which I ventured to suggest that the UFOs, or some of them, might be piloted by beings who are ill-disposed towards humanity. One might compare the effect of my observations on my audience to that which would be produced if a vicar climbed into his pulpit one Sunday morning and launched into the questionable stanzas of "Eskimo Nell!"

I was as shocked by the reaction of part of my audience as anyone present could possibly have been by what I said. After all, we are UFO RESEARCHERS, not UFO BELIEVERS. We have no doctrines to defend and no salvation to offer. It is our business to investigate UFOs and everything pertaining to them with clinical impartiality, not to weave romances around them and make of them a vehicle for the realisation of our private social aspirations and spiritual soarings.

There is so much pulpy, predigested thinking on the UFO subject, which has to be exposed in its shallowness if constructive ideas are ever to replace it. For example, the apparent technical perfection of UFOs is held widely to reflect a corresponding mental and spiritual eminence on the part of the UFO-denizens. How so? We are 2,000 years ahead of the Romans in time and technically it is undeniable that a Roman galley is hardly to be compared with the "Queen Elizabeth," or a Roman catapult with a modern bazooka. Yet there has been little corresponding spiritual advance over the period - unless, indeed, the H-Bomb is more spiritual than the sword!

Certainly there is no open attack upon us by the UFO-denizens. Perhaps it is a question of numbers, or maybe they realize that our scientific "know-how" is at a level when we could very quickly reproduce anything we might capture, thus spanning a wide technical gap in a short time.

Can we rule out the possibility that subtle methods of control, involving mass hypnosis and suggestion, may even now be in operation? Certain very disturbing phenomena in the social sphere suggest that we cannot.

Perhaps the Aztecs, with their brutal sacrifices of thousands of human victims on reeking altars, deserved most of what they got at the hands of the Spaniards. Are we more deserving of consideration at the hands of the Powers-That-Be than were the Aztecs?

Mutually antagonistic Power blocs threaten the world with atomic annihilation. Wild life is destroyed systematically in the name of progress. In this Country alone, four-and-a-half million harmless creatures annually are subjected to the attentions of the vivisector and "scientific" experimentalist. We poison our soil with chemical fertilizers, pack our hens into batteries and expose our livestock to the cruelties of so-called intensive farming. O Brave New World!

Perhaps I am indulging in emotionally-charged thinking myself when I suggest that Nature may be planning a sharp lesson for us, at the hands of some alien race less divorced than we from the Eternal Verities.

## MORE THAN 400 OBJECTS IN ORBIT "Evening Standard" 27.5.66.

More than 400 separate pieces of man-made equipment circling the Earth outside the atmosphere have been detected this month by defence department tracking stations said Mr. Merlyn Rees, Under Secretary for Defence (RAF), in the Commons today.

Lionel Beer, Flat 15, Freshwater Court, 59a Crawford St., London, W.1.

#### A STRANGE STORY FROM GALLIPOLI

The narrative which follows is extracted from the March 1966 issue of 'FLYING SAUCERS," edited by Ray Palmer and published by Palmer Publications, Box AD, Amherst, Wisconsin 54406, U.S.A.

#### A DAY TO REMEMBER IN AUG. 1915

The following is an account of a strange incident that happened on the above date, which occurred in the morning during the severest and final period of the fighting which took place on Hill 60, Sulva Bay, Anzac.

The day broke clear without a cloud in sight as any beautiful Mediterranean day could be expected to be, except however, hovering over Hill 60, were a number, perhaps six to eight, "loaf of bread" shaped clouds. All shaped exactly alike, and of a light-grey colour.

It was noticed that in spite of a four or five mile an hour breeze from the south, these clouds did not alter their position, shape or form, nor did they drift away under the influence of this breeze. They stood there hovering at about 60 degrees or perhaps a little higher. Also, resting stationary on the ground right underneath the group of clouds was a similar cloud in shape, perhaps 800 ft. long, and 220 ft. high by 200 ft. wide, absolutely dense, almost solid looking in structure, and positioned about 14 to 18 chain from the area of the fighting, within the British held territory.

It turned out later that this so called cloud was straddling a dry creek bed or sunken road (The Kaiaick Dere). A British Regiment, later found out to be the 1/4 Norfolk Regiment, of several hundred men, were noticed marching up this sunken road or creek toward Hill 60. However when they arrived at the "cloud", they marched straight into it with no hesitation, but not one of the men of this marching column was ever to be seen, "coming OUT of the cloud" to delay and fight at Hill 60.

About an hour later, after the last file had gone into the cloud, and disappeared, this cloud very unobtrusively LIFTED up from the ground, and slowly, like any fog or cloud would, rose until it joined the other similar clouds already mentioned. On viewing them they all looked "as like peas in a pod". Strangely, although the other clouds or objects (UFO) had been hovering in the same place, as before described, unmoved by the wind, as soon as they were joined by the one which had been on the ground, they all moved away northwards i.e. towards Thrace, the breeze, however, was still blowing from south to north which meant that these "clouds" all moved against the wind, and slowly continued to move thus for about three quarters of an hour until they disappeared from our entire view.

From this date, the 1/4 Norfolk Reg. was posted as "missing" (or wiped out) and on Turkey's surrender in 1918 the first thing the British authorities demanded of the Turks was the return of the Regiment supposing them captured. Turkey replied that she had neither captured this Regiment, nor made contact with it and did not know that the Regiment existed.

A British Reg. in 1914 - 18 consisted of any number between 800 to 4000 men. These who observed this incident vouch for the fact that Turkey never captured that Regiment or made contact with them.

The above described incident was observed by 22 men of No. 3 Section of the 1st. Div. Field Co., N.Z.E.F. from the trenches on Rhododendron Spur, a distance of about 2,300 yards above the creek, and from which vantage point 500 ft. up we had a perfect view including both sides and ends of the creek and the cloud as it rested on the ground, (owing to the elevation of the observers).

The above complete statement is witnessed by the signatories below who were present and witnessed the whole incident.

WE THE UNDERSIGNED, ALTHOUGH LATE IN TIME THAT IS: 1965. ON THE FIFTIETH JUBILEE OF THE ANZAC LANDING DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED INCIDENT IS TRUE IN EVERY WORD. SIGNED:

- R. Newnes, 157 King St., Cambridge, N.Z. (Since deceased)
- C. L. Newman, 73 Freburg St., Otumoetai, Tauranga, N.Z.
- F. Reichart, Matata, N.Z.

#### Editorial Comment & Evaluation:

I have no doubt that the three witnesses are relating what they believe to be the truth. Records establish that they were indeed on Rhododendron Spur on the relevant date, which students of the Gallipoli Campaign will have no difficulty in pinpointing as August 21st. 1915.

Having examined various narratives of the Campaign, I am unable either to confirm or condradict the weird story which the men relate. There is said to be in existence an "official" account in which the particulars are cited - if so, I have been unfortunate in failing to locate it.

In a Despatch to the War Office, the British C-in-C, General Sir Ian Hamilton, recounts what he calls, "a very mysterious thing." In pursuit of the flying Turks, Colonel Sir H. Beauchamp, with 16 officers and 250 men of the Norfolk Regiment, vanished into wooded country and never emerged again. This, however, was on August 12th. and involved the 5th. Battalion of the Norfolks.

On the vital date, August 21st., Sir Ian remarks: "Sulva Bay and the plain were wrapped in a strange mist." Other narratives of the Campaign observe that the unseasonable mist endured all through the day. There are vivid descriptions of units plunging into it, not knowing where they were heading or in what direction the Enemy's defence-works lay.

On the debit side of the ledger, it must be remembered that our three New Zealand witnesses told their story fifty years after the event. Furthermore, conditions on Rhododendron Spur on August 21st. 1915, with men subjected to the intense Summer heat while restricted to a pint of water per day for all purposes, not to mention the incessant artillery duelling and all the smoke, confusion and strain of battle, cannot, to say the very least, have encouraged careful and reliable observation.

Any postwar failure on the part of the Turks to account for missing British units, need occasion no surprise. The Turks did not bury their own dead and of the 44,000 French and British soldiers killed in Gallipoli only about 11,000 rest in marked graves.

I submit that our witnesses may have seen a British Unit vanish into the mist and may not have observed it emerge again. They may later have learned of the August 12th. incident and have confused matters in their own minds over the years.

On the credit side of the ledger, students will be aware that individuals have occasionally been abducted by UFO agency under cover of artificial fogs. There is more than a hint that whole groups of persons have been taken in like fashion.

As of now, therefore, my verdict on the Gallipoli story must be the Scottish one of, "Not Proven." Further research might serve to establish or to dispose of it.

## A MEANS OF DETECTING UFOS

T. Thompson

Recently I have been examining the feasibility of a device which, while normally unattended and operational for long periods, would give indication of the proximity of UFOs. But before such a device could be designed it was essential to consider which consistent characteristics of bona fide sightings could be integrated into a practical detector.

The apparent electromagnetic (E.M.) aspect of the phenomena immediately sprang to mind and many authentic reports supported this hypothesis. This was my own conclusion in an analysis of the Wildman case of Feb. 1962, (1) though Dr. Doel "shot" it down in the subsequent issue of the Bulletin, (2) when he pointed out that location tests after the incident disclosed no residual magnetism present. Possibly we were both right. A static field would have had the effect envisaged, i.e., saturation of the ignition coil, resulting in reduced efficiency of the firing operation. On removal of the external force the vehicle's performance would return to normal. However, we would expect metal objects near the area to exhibit magnetic properties. This was not evident as Dr. Doel discovered. But a fluctuating E.M. field could produce the same adverse effects on the car and subsequent environment tests would reveal no evidence of it.

One other effect of a metal body, exposed to an intense alternating field of very low periodic frequency, would result in the body vibrating at that frequency. Was this the case at Warminster in Sept. 1965, (3) when Major Hill's car came to an abrupt halt and then began to oscillate violently.?

Another recent UFO sighting suggesting an E.M. association occurred near Langenhoe, Essex, (4) when a motor cycle's ignition and lights failed. It is interesting to note here that 'bikes invariably employ the magneto system (incorporating similar principles as used in car coil ignition) to derive ignition and lighting.

A. C. Purton, discussing "The UFO E.M. Frequency" in an excellent article some time ago, believed it must be low iin the E.M. spectrum, i.e., an alternating one between 20 - 100c/s. (5)

His conclusions, based on observation, indicated a promising lead to pursue. And regardless of the origin of UFO fields - emanating perhaps, from an advanced motivation system, or, navigational and other equipment aboard - the possible detection of them supported by visual evidence could herald a major advance in UFO research.

Anyhow, thinking on these lines, I decided the time had come to digress from further theorising, and to initiate practical effort, however crude.

The above considerations, if valid, suggested certain essential requirements of any detector:

- (i) The equipment must be sensitive to weak alternating E.M. fields in the 10c 10 kc/s range, or,
- (ii) to moving static (steady) fields.
- (iii) It should be capable of resolving energy which may have vertical or horizontal polarisation.
- (iv) The surveillance, or scanner element should have an omnidirectional characteristic directivity would be an obvious disadvantage.

Possessing an assorted supply of radio and T.V. "junk" in my den, constructing an instrument to these specifications was a simple matter. Restrictions on space prevent too detailed description of the prototype. (a circuit is given below)

The heart of the device, a transistorised 2-stage preamp, giving a 64 db. gain (1600:1), was fitted inside one of several 3" diameter search coils, and the array erected at a height remote from domestic interference (switching and T.V. etc.) The coils, 2 feet long, wound single-layer with 36 swg., were mounted right-angled to each other. As many turns as possible were necessary, for the maximum induced emf from the UFO field, and also to facilitate correct matching to the higher impedance input of the preamp. The preamp, made on perspex 3" by 2", was mounted in the vertical coil when it was found that its associated matching device (a 40:1 loudspeaker transformer) enhanced the sensitivity.

A main 4 watt amplifier and switched battery supply to the preamp are located indoors - cheap Woolworths connecting wires being adequate to convey signals and battery currents between the two sites. Using coax cable for signal currents, whilst reducing the overall noise level, would push up costs. The main amp. drives several speakers located throughout the house.

Well, how does it work? As I see it, a low-flying UFO in the immediate vicinity propagating, say, a 100 c/s force field, of vertical polarisation, will induce a minute current in the vertical coil. Amplified 1600 times, sufficient signal is available to load the main amplifier which reproduces the 100 c/s.

If however, the emanating field has horizontal polarisation, currents will be induced in one or more of the horizontal coils, depending on the azimuth bearing of the field source. (At this stage only one H-coil is in service; three should be the minimum, though more than three creates matching problems.) If a static E.M. field is present, and provided it is not stationary or moving very slowly, induction could occur in any of the coils.

Undoubtedly, many will pick holes in the system as it stands, some reviving the old chestnut of the inverse square law and the infinitismal energy perceptible say, 5,000 feet from an UFO, to operate the device. But let me emphasise, this is only a prototype embodying several features of reliable sightings. And, it is operational, though plans are afoot to increase the range and sensitivity yet more.

With the existing set up, for optimum results, a simple drill has evolved. When at home I switch on the equipment and set for an acceptable level of "mush". The various speakers then provide continuous, unobtrusive monitoring.

Whatever the failings of the system it is wide open to extensive development. Interested BUFORA members who feel the basic idea is sound, and are keen to participate in minimising problems of sensitivity and range, might find certain courses rewarding.

These include:-

- (1) The construction of larger coils and employing ferrous magnetic core materials.
- (2) A higher siting of the pick-up element.
- (3) Greater accuracy in matching coils to input of preamplifier.
- (4) Preamps of greater gain (in the 'one above another' stage, costing about 7/6 would give a further 32 db. resulting in an overall gain of 64,000 to one.
- (5) Screened leads used for all signal paths to maintain a good "signal / noise figure."
- (6) The main amp. transistorised, resulting in a portable instrument ideal for sky watches in areas isolated from mains supplies.

To demonstrate the efficacy of detectors developed on these lines, they could be installed for continuous operation near a "high density" zone such as Warminster. And if successful other applications would soon be apparent, viz, at ley centres in sparsely populated districts or near government establishments situated in areas unfavourable to visual sightings because of constant overcast conditions.

#### REFERENCES

- (1) LUFORA Bulletin, Mar. Apr. 1962
- (2) LUFORU Bulletin, May June, 1962
- (3) F.S.R. Nov. Dec. 1965 (World round-up) and BUFORA Journal, Autumn 1965.
- (4) F.S.R. Nov. Dec. 1965 and BUFORA Journal, Winter 1965.
- (5) BUFORA Journal, Summer 1964.

#### Editorial Note.

In the interest of readers, I have submitted Mr. Thompson's manuscript to two competent authorities, who inform me that his "device" is practical and capable of doing what is claimed for it.

A copy of the circuit diagram may be obtained on application to me. Please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope with application.

J. C-B.

#### **BOOK REVIEW**

## ANATOMY OF A PHENOMENON Jacques Vallee Neville Spearman

The author holds a degree in mathematics and astronomy. His field of research includes artificial satellites, microwave radio and radar technology, and computing science. He is a consultant on NASA's "Mars Map" project.

This book is not for the sensation seeker, although sensational cases have not been excluded. The author takes a hard cold look at the whole UFO scene. Metaphorically, he has taken a large gardening fork (scientific analysis) to turn over the fallow soil (UFO evidence) and breaks the lumps into small pieces, carefully removing the stones (misconceptions.) He has waded into the controversial issues and starts off with a fairly thorough rehash of the mythological and historical aspects. Serious consideration is given to the idea, put forward by more romantic authors, of the Earth being 'seeded' with life from outside. The probability of visitation by inter-galactic beings and local planetary ones is discussed at some length. However it seems that there are too many major unknowns to draw any firm conclusions.

Although the author is prepared to accept certain types of saucer"pilots", he appears to show bias by dismissing "little green men", "giants" and "contacts of the 'Venusian' type".

The modern era of UFO activity began in 1946 with the "ghost rockets" seen over Scandinavia and Europe, although many other writers give the impression that it started about the time of the Kenneth Arnold sighting in June 1947. Vallee has had access to the files of the U.S.A.F. and his review of modern cases ends with 1964.

There is an index, plus an 196 entry bibliography, which incidently bears six entries referring to Vallee's own writings. The novice will find this book particularly valuable as it condenses a great deal of "saucer" literature and evidence into one volume, and the author admits to not having reached any definite opinions. I can recommend this work to all serious students of ufology.

Lionel Beer

Price 25/- (obtainable from BUFORA Librarian)

# BRITISH U.F.O. RESEARCH ASSOCIATION RESEARCH OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT - 27th Nov. 1965

I have gone through all our records of reports of sightings in the British Isles . . . . . at least 1,200 reports in our files (possibly 1,500).

Those reports which gave descriptions very similar, if not identical, to those of known objects, such as "fireball" meteors, satellites, aircraft lights, planets, vapour trails, aircraft fuselages, and balloons, I immediately passed over. In this way, I automatically excluded at least two-thirds of the reports. (These are described by formulae A to D in my paper.)

The remaining reports, 350 or more have been summarised onto sheets of paper, one sheet for each report . . . . . Next I have attempted to sort out the reports into types or groups. (The theory of this is explained in my paper.) This is not easy when one is working with only some 300 reports, so my divisions at this stage have had to be very broad, and the main ones represent common types which most of you are already well aware of. . . . Objects seen for only a few seconds are not normally included . . . .

Taking objects sighted in daylight, I find 37 reports of objects which are seen stationary in mid-air, then suddenly move away at an incredible speed. Of these, 13 have the shape of a circular object with a dome in the middle. Of the remaining 24, a shape is not clearly distinguishable in 11 cases, and 13 have a variety of different shapes. We are, therefore, justified in grouping together domed circular objects, clearly seen in daylight, which suddenly speed away from a stationary position, as possibly representing a particular phenomenon. (Whether the phenomenon is a physical reality, or a collection of hoaxes or illusions, is of course another matter, which we are not discussing at the moment.) In none of these cases does the object leave a trail when it speeds away. A pair of such objects were seen resting on the sea by the crew of a British submarine in 1956, before taking off, with a buzzing sound, according to one report.

Next we look at other moving objects of unconventional shape seen in daylight, of which we have 39, and we find that 20 of these are circular objects with dome. In none of these 20 cases, or in the 13 referred to above, is the shape seen to change except as can be accounted for by change of perspective.

Returning to those 13 which suddenly speeded away from a stationary position, out of 5 cases where the object is reported in most detail or very close: a swishing is heard from one; a buzzing sound from another under which three projections are seen; and windows and 3 or4 legs on another. Two are bluish with transparent domes.

Noise heard at close quarters, unchanging shape, hovering and phenomenal acceleration without a trail being left, suggest, of course, the phenomenon of a machine controlled by unknown power.

Of the other 20 which move more slowly, a trail is left in 3 cases, however. In one of these 3 a hissing is heard, and in 2 different cases out of these 20 sounds are heard: 1 humming, 1 buzzing.

The only other shape of which there are several reports in daytime is a sausage or cigar shape: there are 8 such cases where the object has features distinguishing it from an aircraft fuselage. One of these has 4 or 5 divisions, a second has 4 windows, a third has 5 windows, a fourth has 7 windows, each a row along the object's length. Only one of these 8 suddenly speeds away from a stationary position.

Turning now to objects seen at night, i.e. after dark, we find 15 reports of sausage or cigar shaped objects with several lights in a row along the object's lengtn. One of these suddenly speeds away from a stationary position. One of these is heard as a buzzing (and a clicking).

27 other reports are of completely luminous sausage or cigar shapes. 6 of these are reported suddenly speeding away from a stationary position, 1 of which is heard to be making a flapping sound like a broken dynamo.

Nightime domed circular objects with rows of lights parallel to the base there are 14 reports (incidentally there are only 2 other reports with a row of lights and these on a humming top shape and a ringed sphere.) Two of these suddenly speed away from a stationary position. As for sound, 2 gave a slight swishing, 1 a humming, 1 a high pitched vibration, 1 a droning.

Of completely luminous domed objects, I have included 8 as not being like planets. 3 or these suddenly speed away from stationary position. Such a snaped object was seen to land in Essex only two months ago, making a humming noise and causing the witness's motorcycle engine to cut out.

A notable type of observation is two very bright lights, one following the other when moving, not appearing as an aircraft with landing lights. There are some two dozen of these. One landed in the west of Scotland in February, 1961, and the ground was found to be scorched when police reached the spot where the object nad been sighted. One has been heard humming. These may possibly be justifiably grouped together with sausage or cigar shaped objects with rows of lights, as in three cases where the two lights went out a long silouette was seen inbetween.

We have 9 reports of round or oval glowing objects with band or ring clearly seen across the middle, with reasons for their not being the moon seen through cloud. All are orange or yellow, except 2 which are blue. The familiar humming has been heard from one. We have an actual cine film of one of these taken in Sheffield in August 1962. It is possible that these are night sightings of the saturn-shape type of UFO, established from knowledge of world-wide reports (though until last week we had record of only one seen in daytime in the British Isles, though that by an experienced pilot).

Moving single lights with definite halos, though some may be known phenomena, I have included as there have been several such reports from naval observers, and 2 of the 9 I have grouped suddenly speed away from stationary position, 1 was heard humming, yet another whirring.

Moving single lights with trails (not possible to be aircraft vapour trails in reflected sunlight), orange or blue (like the ringed round or oval ones), we have 10 reports, 2 suddenly speeding away from stationary position. No sound heard from any of them. These have also been reported a number of times by naval observers at sea, but of course they may be earth-man-made rockets with luminous ionised trails.

The only other reports I have been able to group from such a small collection of reports, and perhaps without justification in view of the small numbers, are:

6 moonlike (with reasons why they could not have been the moon), 1 humming, 1 zooming noise, 1 sound like siren;

4 heel-shaped, 1 suddenly speeding away from stationary position, other 3 moving;

4 rings (or doughnuts), 1 suddenly speeding away from stationary position, other 3 moving.
(All the above at night, i.e. after dark.)

There are many other shapes or formations of lights in day or night which may permit grouping with similar sightings, when a much larger collection of reports is used.

The above should be studied in conjunction with the paper "Correlation of UFO Data" by G. N. P. Stephenson, and it must be remembered that the above figures refer only to sightings in the British Isles in BUFORA's files.)

Extraction of reports from the old files of the British Flying Saucer Bureau and the Flying Saucer Review may double our number of British Isles reports. The number will be increased tenfold if we take all worldwide reports . . . However, from studying the distribution of the reports we have already summarised, I am doubtful whether we will discover anything of value from correlating reports . . . . . . so unless we obtain useful results from correlating British reports with events and features of the land, I will not attempt the colossal job of working through worldwide sighting reports . . . . . I think we are much more likely to learn about UFOs from thorough investigation of landing cases . . . .

bulletins and magazines, and compiled a subject index . . . . . We now have a

thousand different issues of UFO publications in our files . . . .

#### Worldwide Landings

Of worldwide landing reports, we have summarised over 200 cases in our files,

- 250 including near landings (object a few feet above the ground).

In 54 cases some kind of evidence was found: scorched grass or bushes, flattened grass, impressed ground, crater and/or holes, or substance deposited. In 4 cases of landings and 7 near landings, "electromagnetic effects" were reported, e.g. failing of car engine, lights and radio; and in 5 cases in the U.S.A. radio-activity was detected shortly after the landing. Of all these cases less than one-third occurred in daytime.

Scorching was found in 14 of the 54 cases, flattened grass in 8. The area is usually circular, but varies in diameter from a few feet to 40 yards! Every case is different in some respect. In 5 cases of scorching, 3 or 4 indentations are found as if made by supporting legs, upon which the object was actually seen to rest in 2 of these cases. In 7 other cases holes of some kind are found. These indentations or holes vary in shape, size and distance apart. Their width varies from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches to a foot. Objects have been reported landing on legs on 12 occasions since 1954.

On 12 occasions marks or craters very similar in pattern to those found after an observed landing have been discovered.

As no two cases are identical, it is obvious that, excluding hoaxes, we are dealing with a variety of different models. With UFO sightings one rarely finds two that are identical in all respects, especially when detail can be seen. It may be suggested that reported variations in shape and detail can be accounted for to a large extent by witnesses' inaccuracy of memory or inability to draw. The consistent variations in shape and size of affected areas and holes at landing sites however suggests there are numerous different models, each one used only once for a particular purpose. This is a very interesting observation. If only one or two different models were observed, the possibility that UFOs were earth-man-made machines might be considered.

It is difficult to believe that so many flying saucers could be manufactured and flown on earth without at least some rumour of one being seen taking off from an official enclosure. Of course one or two types of reported UFO may be earth-manmade. One brings to mind the case in France on 17th Oct. 1954 where the man who stepped out of a landed disc-shaped craft and was asked by the witness if he came from Mars, replied, "No, French. Where am I?"!.....

We have 79 cases of figures being seen beside the craft when on the ground and 14 where the object is hovering some feet above the ground. In many cases the figures are not more than 4ft. tall, and in others they are very tall or grotesque. Others are reported looking just like humans, though usually in a special kind of dress such as a tight-fitting garment. Just over half of the 93 were seen at night.

We have reports of 71 other landings, where no evidence was reported found nor figures seen, and near landings 9. Less than one sixth of these landings occurred in daytime.

Regarding the shape of landed objects, though a few are reported oval or egg-shaped, most are vaguely described as round, circular or like an inverted saucer. Here we are not able to distinguish shapes with the ease we could when studying sightings, but perhaps this is because we have far more sightings to choose from and select the more complex shaped ones. However, a dozen landed objects are domed.

A variety of noises are reported from 21 cases, including 7 whistling, 5 buzzing, 4 humming, 2 hissing, 2 whirring; the different sounds are not associated with certain shapes.

The great variety of shapes, detail, dimensions and sounds, the unusual height or appearance of the occupants, extraordinary powers of acceleration, electromagnetic affects, radioactivity, invisible means of propulsion in most cases, all suggest that we are indeed studying craft from other worlds.

From studying the distribution of landing reports in time and area of the globe, I note only the following of interest. Within 40 days, from 10th September to 18th October 1954, as many as 62 landings (or near landings) were reported in France. Within the 40 days from 22nd April to 31st May 1964, 12 landings were reported in the United States of America, and 15 cases throughout the world within 40 days from 1st July to 8th August this year. Otherwise they are fairly evenly distributed from 1952, growing in number each year.

igating landing sites, or thoroughly searching areas where UFOs are seen low as if they were contemplating landing or having done so. And of course the sooner we go after the event the better. To detect radioactivity one must go within a matter of hours after the landing. This is why it is so vitally important that we establish contact with local newspapers and police stations and obtain their co-operation. In certain parts of Australia I understand the police pass on reports to the UFO investigating societies as a standard procedure.

On the question of equipment, as our finances are limited, it has been suggested that we open a special fund to which members can contribute, especially if they wish to join expeditions to landing sites.

G. N. P. Stephenson, 12 Dorset Road, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey. 27th November 1965

#### THE PROBLEMS OF EXOBIOLOGY

Part II: Life in the Solar System.

#### Introduction.

Part I of my three articles told the story of how it is thought life could have evolved from the primordial cosmic elements into the complex compounds found in living beings. Of course the story does not finish with chemical evolution. This process must be followed by the long period required by the evolution of metabolism. Chemical evolution produced the basic constituents of life but as I said in Part I there is still another hurdle to be overcome, from chemical molecule to biologically organised cell. This gap has yet to be bridged in theory and is still an outstanding problem of biology.

The Microsphere Bridge.

Light however may be about to be shed. Since I wrote my last article I have come across some results oof further experiments set out in the Science Journal. Professor Sydney Fox of the University of Miami has formed some microspheres by first polymerising various amino acids to form proteinoids, in much the same way as could have occurred in the primitive oceans. He then suspended the proteinoid in water, whereupon it formed small microscopic spheres which were reminiscent of the unicellular animals like amoeba. These microspheres even had the tendency to aggregate. They were about the size of bacteria. Could this phenomenon be a demonstration of how life evolved from the primordial "soup"?

From Soup to Man.

So far then theory has given us a rough outline sketch, backed by experimental evidence, of the processes involved in chemical evolution. The next step from the first unicellular organisms to the diverse creatures alive today on this planet Earth is well known in outline so I shall not bother with the details at this time, save for one comment. That which must never be forgotten is that TIME is an essential factor in evolution. To illustrate this point I shall take the example of the Earth where we know evolution has taken place. The generally accepted figure for the age of the Earth is 4,500,000,000 years. This estimate is extrapolated from studies of the Earth's natural radio-activity and from the age of the sedimentary rocks (about 3,000,000,000 yrs.). The fossil record indicates that life first appeared around about 2,000,000,000 years ago, but could have been even then in existence for a few hundred million years. Thus we see that the primordial soup took about 1,000,000,000 years to form and evolve the first amoeboid sea creatures. A further 2,000,000,000 years were required for these organisms to evolve into our presentday creatures. Of course the evolutionary path to Man was far from straight. It branched many times to produce the many classes of plants and animals. Occasionally it failed to make a healthy growth and the branch went the way of the dinosaurs and the dodos.

Life in the Solar System.

Apart from these unsuccessful evolutionary forays, time has produced on Earth several types of animals with more or less intelligence, one of which has succeeded in creating a technologically minded society that than control the others. Has a similar process occurred on any of the other planets in the Solar System? The immediate quick answer is that there is no evidence that another race, comparable in technological progress to Man, exists in the Solar System. But how far could life have evolved on our neighbouring planets?

#### Mercury.

This is not very promising as an abode of life. Originally it was thought that Mercury had a 'captured' rotational period and always turned the same face towards the Sun thus having a very hot side (at +320°C) and a very cold side (at about -250°C). Now the temperature range is thought to be a little less harsh because radar studies at Aricebo Radio telescope, Puerto Rico, indicate that Mercury rotates on its axis once every 59 days. Also the surface seems to be rather like that of the Moon, being smooth but interrupted by many craters. This factor and the fact that the rate of spin is not synchronised with the Solar forces acting on the planet suggests that Mercury may once have been a satellite of Venus. The lack of synchronisation suggests that Mercury entered its present orbit about 500,000,000 years ago.....too short a time for evolution of intelligent life. The change from an orbit near Venus to the present one would have been catastrophic for any life on the planet.

There is more evidence, however, that points to the lack of life on Mercury. Repeated attempts to obtain spectra containing absorbtion lines or bands due to an atmosphere have met with negative results, both in the visible spectrum and in the infra-red region. These results are not entirely unexpected as Mercury is only 5,000 kms. in diametre (Earth diametre = 12,800 kms.) and has not a strong enough gravitational field to hold an atmosphere as does the Earth.

#### Venus.

This planet is perhaps the odd-man-out of the Solar System, unless the Aricebo findings on Mercury are correct, for Venus is the only planet without a satellite. On the other hand it certainly has an atmosphere, much to the annoyance of the astronomer. Nothing is known of the surface of Venus because of the clouds in its The planet is almost the twin of Earth as regards size and gravity. It is of course generally warmer than Earth but how much is uncertain. American Mariner Venus probe sent back temperature readings as high as 400°C but these are now in considerable doubt. A new report by Dr. J. Strong, Director of the John Hopkin's Astrophysics Laboratory, says that instruments on an unmanned balloon flight on 1964 October 27 showed that the surface temperature was about -40°F). The difference between these two readings is startling and the only conclusion we may take is that the surface conditions are unknown and the state of evolution of any Cytherean life is uncertain. That there is the possibility of a form of life is not ruled out, however, because the balloon flight of October 27 also detected ice-crystals in the Cytherean clouds. The presence of water vapour is thus likely, and water vapour suggests the presence of oxygen, a necessity of intelligent life.

On the other hand, the atmosphere near the surface may be in very rapid motion, and if the surface is dry severe wind erosion akin to sand-blasting (as in the Colorado Desert) would prevent the evolution of the higher animals. Evidence for these winds was found by Lord Ross from studies of the carbon dioxide radiation bands in the infra-red region of the spectrum. The strong radiation emitted in these bands was observed to be obscured by large and variable motions of the atmosphere. Further the spectra of the day and night sides of Venus are similar in quality showing that the atmosphere is well mixed, again pointing to strong atmospheric currents.

Thus it seems that Venus, though not ruled out as an abode for low plant and animal life, is not a suitable habitat for even the hardy Treens of science fiction.

#### Mars.

In complete contrast to Venus, we do know quite a bit about Mars. Telescopic observations have mapped the main dark features and the polar caps on the otherwise uniformly orange-brown surface. They have also produced a controversy, the now notorious 'canali' of Schiaparelli and Lowell. It is of interest that none of the Mariner 4 pictures so far published nor the reports released, give any indication of these enigmatic features, though the pictures do show some lunar-type craters. I cannot say at the moment whether the canali exist as Lowell pictured them, but their presence or otherwise does not really matter to this survey.

Mars is about half the size of the Earth (Mars diametre = 6,800 kms.) and has a surface gravity one third that of Earth, thus favouring lighter framed animals and plants, if they could survive. Its rotation period, or day, is about the same as Earth's and so is its axial inclination, so Martian days and Martian seasons are comparable to Earth ones, though the former are cooler and the latter longer, as the Martian year is 687 days long.

Spectral comparisons of the Martian desert regions and various Telluric rocks indicate that the surface of Mars may consist of an igneous rock similar to felsite, a fine-grained compact variety of quartz-porphyry. Atmospheric measurements give a surface temperature of between +27°C (+80°F) and -10°C (+14°F); the upper limit being reached on a hot Martian summer's day. Carbon dioxide seems to be more plentiful than on Earth but oxygen and water vapour are present only in small quantities. The polar caps are composed of a frosty deposite at a temperature much below 0°C. Prospects for animal life are not extremely good, but signs of possible vegetable life are fairly clear. The dark regions are seen to be khaki in a Martian summer, but turn browner as the winter approaches. Spring a wave of freshening of the browns to greens spreads from the polar cap, that is melting, or subliming, towards the equator. The process is very reminiscent of the growth cycle of Telluric plants, but beyond the evidence of this colour change there are not many corroborating factors to discount any purely chemical theories of the change. Measurements of the spectra of the green areas do not indicate chlorophyll nor water, so seed plants and ferns are not likely to be found. In any case the night-time temperature would be sufficient to freeze these plants to Plants that could survive the rigours of the nights are lichens and hardy mosses.

However, quite recent survival experiments under simulated Martian conditions showed that many low life-forms adapted readily to the oxygen-and-water-starved environment. A key discovery was that the resistance of many plants and animals to freezing temperatures increases as the level of oxygen in the air is reduced. The highest form of animal yet to show this capability of surviving in this simulated environment is the common fresh-water turtle. But could these higher animals have evolved in Martian conditions? Probably not, because it must be remembered that one of the effects of lack of oxygen, besides that found in the experiments outlined above, is that the metabolism, or, roughly, the rate of living, of any animal in these conditions is slowed down. Life becomes more and more a struggle to survive.

Remember how difficult it was for the climbers on the last stage of the conquest of Everest before the use of oxygen breathing apparatus was thought of? Any animal in those conditions would be fighting to survive, whereas the first requisite for an intelligent and technological being to evolve, is that he or it should have time off from the struggle for creative thought. The estimated pressure of the Martian atmosphere at the ground level is only one tenth that of the Earth's atmosphere. On Earth such a low pressure is found at a height of about 50,000 ft. or 10 miles.

Despite these rigours and hardships that any Martian life-form would have to endure, the weight of informed opinion expects many low plants and animals to be found when Man or his space-probes reach Mars.

"It is my firm conviction that if life got any foothold at all (on Mars), it is likely to be there now." (Dr. Sanford Siegel).

#### The Major Planets.

Both Jupiter and Saturn are very similar in type. They are large planets, rotating at a high speed for their size, and having atmospheres of methane and ammonia. The compositions of the lower levels of the atmospheres, and the composition of the Jovian Great Red Spot are the greatest mysteries of the Solar System. Various models have been suggested for the composition of the Jovian atmosphere. One consists of an outer layer of ammonia gas, with ammonia crystals suspended in its near-liquid lower layers. The middle layers of the atmosphere consist of ammonia and water under quite considerable pressure, and this layer may merge imperceptibly into the central core of ice and rock, thus causing the planet not to have a solid surface for life to live on. This arrangement explains the very low density of Saturn, which could be floated on water if enough could be found for the purpose! With a small core, the preponderance of the lighter constituents, ammonia and methane, would create a light-weight planet.

Even this inhospitable "atmosphere" of methane, ammonia and water has been suggested as a possible bearer of life, albeit only at the level of evolution of the bacteria. Dr. Elie Shneour, a research associate in genetics at Stanford University, U.S.A., said at a symposium on unmanned space exploration at Denver on February 10 that there appeared to be a succession of fluid layers on Jupiter, some of which could support life.

#### The Outer Planets.

Uranus and Neptune, along with Titan, the largest Saturnian satellite (diametre = 4,800 km., nearly equal to Mercury's), have similar atmospheric compositions to the two major planets. They are similarly inhospitable to life. Of Pluto very little is known, but the chances of life so far out from the Sun are virtually nil.

#### The Moon.

I have left this satellite to the last because it is our nearest neighbour in space and therefore the first that Man will set foot on. What is he going to find there?

With the first Manned Lunar probe imminent, the amount of speculation as to the conditions on the Moon to be expected on arrival there has increased quite considerably. That the Moon has not an atmosphere is accepted as fact, so are the temperature readings that have been obtained from the surface. These give a midday temperature hot enough to boil an egg, over 100°C (212°F), and a night time temperature below -100°C. The lack of a very cold night suggests that there may be some heat still in the central core of the Moon, as on Earth. Another feature

that bears out this suggestion is the series of outbreaks that have been observed in various craters, notably Alphonsus and Aristarchus, by both Russian and American astronomers.

The three American Moon probes in the Ranger series sent back to Earth some very detailed pictures of the surface, showing features not yet seen from Earth. The result has not been complete agreement among astronomers, because there are several ways in which the photographs can be interpreted. Some think that the surface is covered by dust, others not; Some believe that the dust layer is several feet thick, others that it is only a matter of inches; finally it is not known whether the Lunar rock surface is hard, or soft and porous. For the final answers to these questions we shall have to wait for the American Surveyor program to put instruments down gently on to the surface.

The question of whether life could exist on the Moon hinges on whether there is sufficient number of deep caves or amount of permanent shadow for ice to remain as a source of water. It is thought that caves might exist that go far enough down into the rocks to gain some heat from the warm central core, and to be free from the large temperature variation of the surface rock. Further these caves may contain sealed pockets of a biologically useable gas and it has been suggested that the Moon may harbour life within its solid rock.

Summary.

It is a depressing picture, is it not?.....especially for the Dr. Randalls and the Aetherialists of this world; but it is based on scientific fact and reasonable extrapolation from these facts, not on the home-made hypotheses of self-made "telepaths".

We have however learnt much from this study of our own Solar System that can be applied in our quest for life outside its bounds. First we have seen that evolution is a complex prpcess with many blind alleys and paths in its course, at each of which a slightly different route could have been taken had conditions been favourable for the change. Secondly we notice that this game of chance with natural selection has taken an immensely long time to reach its present state. It has taken 2,000,000,000 years, all but 25 million of which were needed to evolve a creature able to communicate more than alarm signals and mating calls to its fellow beings. Further we must remember when hypothesising on other races of higher intelligence than Man, that Man has taken only 300 years to reach the present technological level after inhabiting this planet for 25 million in a state recognisably different from the other primates. What difference 100 years on 25 million could do is beyond comprehension.

Thirdly we remember that during the whole of the Earth's long history the Sun, the giver of heat, light, and life to this planet, has remained in a stable state. It has neither flared into a nova nor started to pulsate like a Cepheid.

Fourthly during this stable life the Earth has remained in a near circular orbit at just the right distance from its primary to create conditions suitable for life. Fifthly we see that planets nearer the Sun than Venus and farther from it than Mars are very inhospitable places indeed, showing that there exists about our star a band of life bearing planets in a habitable zone.

With these conditions in mind we can take a look beyond the Solar System for other suitable habitats for intelligent life. What are our chances of finding other civilizations in space? Is the product of evolution frequently a civilized, technologically minded being or must we refer to our presence here in the words of the Duke of Wellington.... "It was a damned close-run thing"?

Part III.

In the third part of this article I will attempt to answer these questions as the search for life is extended beyond our small corner of space. I will also consider the possibility of forms of life existing that are completely alien, for example the silicon man and the chlorine world, to find out if thefanciful worlds of the science fiction writer could exist in reality.

S. L. Smith, B.A.

## NOTES & QUOTES

That Charlton "Crater."

I am unable to agree with the suggestion made by Alan Sharp in his article in the last issue of the "Journal," that the celebrated Charlton "crater," of July/ August 1963, was due to lightning. On page 7 of the Summer'64 issue of the "Journal," in ascribing a crater-like depression in the Epping area to this cause, I specifically repudiated it as the agency responsible for the markings at Charlton. The Charlton markings were too symmetrical to be due to the action of lightning. Furthermore - no doubt because the trail of evidence was cold when Mr. Sharp followed it - some of the facts have been misstated and the inferences drawn from them are correspondingly distorted. I remain of the opinion that the Charlton "crater" was caused by a UFO and not by any other artificial or natural agency. Sequel to Scorriton.

A lecture given by my friend Norman Oliver at Kensington, on February 26th. last, did nothing to remove my scepticism concerning the weird "contact" tale to which I referred recently in this column. However, in order to remove any misunderstanding, it should be made clear that Mr. Oliver and Miss Eileen Buckle, the two Committee members referred to in my earlier paragraph, are investigating

this affair impartially and not as believers in the story.

A "Contactee" Retracts.

Howard Menger, author of the well-known, "From Outer Space to You," now admits that the "contactee" story he told is false and the photographs of Adamskitype saucers which illustrated it are fakes. Menger seeks to blame the U.S. authorities for his duplicity, adopting a line somewhat reminiscent of that taken by Dr. Leon Davidson on the subject of UFOs generally. However that may be, the affair demonstrates that well-meaning but uncritical people are easily fooled by specious "contactee" narratives and photographs. More details later, when the retraction and its implications have been studied carefully.

"SAUCERS' DENIAL — MONTREAL, Monday. Sir Bernard Lovell, head of Jodrell Bank observatory, said in Montreal last night that unidentified flying objects reported over North America recently were only meteorites. Speaking during a stop on a flight to the United States, he said: "Scientists have been able to explain every U.F.O. they have investigated." — Reuter.

'Daily Telegraph,' April 19th. 1966.

So Now We Know!
Or Do We?

"... According to the English-language Buenos Aires 'Herald' of December 5th., Father Segundo Benito Reyna, Director of the San Miguel Observatory in Argenta, has found clearly visible UFOs in photographs taken of the moon. On another occasion recently, he saw a UFO closely following the U.S. satellite Echo II."

- Quoted from "Saucer News," March 1966.

#### Warminster on T.V.

On April 1st. 1966, the B.B.C. transmitted a 30-minute programme dealing with the "Thing" and its effects on the townspeople of Warminster. Mr. Shuttlewood of the "Warminster Journal" spoke at length about his experiences. Your Editor put in a word for the UFOs. The Rev. Lewis Inge, who seems to have become more sceptical about them than he was at the time of the Public Meeting in August 1965, described an alleged one-man helicopter aircraft which, he said, may have been mistaken for a UFO. This device is supposed to enable an airman to take off "in a sheet of flame!" Sounds a little dangerous to me and I hope asbestos suiting is provided by the R.A.F. for the pilots! The programme was entitled, "Pie in the Sky," which is the title of a revolutionary song once popular with the American anarchists of the I.W.W., or "Wobblies." Really! Who would have thought Auntie B.B.C. would have heard of it?

#### A UFO that Wasn't!

The "News of the World," issue of April 10th., featured what at first sight looked like four excellent photographs of a UFO, tagen from the window of an air-liner over Cannock, Staffordshire, by a passenger with a cine-camera. Alas! Investigation has proved conclusively that the photographs, although taken and reproduced in good faith by all concerned, were the result of a species of optical illusion which transformed the talpiece of the airliner into a saucer. An object lesson for the too-easily-convinced.

#### Fiction or Truth?

A 19-year old California girl named Claudette Crawshaw has given birth to a child with seven fingers, bluish skin and webbed feet. The mother alleges that she was the victim of criminal assault by six alien creatures from a UFO. It is said that Miss Crashaw described the creatures in detail nine months before the birth of the child. I need hardly say that I view this tale with very considerable scepticism and that the probable explanation of the affair is that the girl invented it all as an explanation of the baby's deformities. Yet - what if she did not? True or false, the story will hang around her neck from now on and the chances of her ever enjoying a happy and normal life are - for obvious reasons - extremely slight. Whatever the facts, I pity her sincerely.

#### A Note for Critics.

Some members of BUFORA seem to assume that matter appearing in this "Journal" represents the official views of the Association on UFOs and matters cognate. Unless specifically stated in a given case, this is not so. All views expressed, whether mine or those of my contributors, are personal ones and do not represent official Association policy. Refer to Article 9(c) of the BUFORA Constitution.

I. C-B.

#### "WARMINSTER WEEK"

It is proposed that the last week in July shall be devoted to an intensive BUFORA "blitz" on the Warminster district, in order that photographic and sound records may, only assuming that luck is with our investigators, be obtained of the UFO phenomena still being reported frequently from the district.

Persons, whether Association members or not, who may be willing to spend some time in the vicinity of Warminster during the week of July 24th. to 30th. next, or who have constructive suggestions to proffer concerning the most suitable methods of tackling the task in hand, are asked to write to me, enclosing s.a.e., as soon as possible.

Nobody can guarantee that the "Thing" will oblige us by running the gauntlet of our cameras and tape-recorders. Even if results are negative the effort will not be wasted, in that valuable experience of teamwork "in the field" will be gained by all who participate in the "Week."

J. C-B.

#### SAUCER BOOKS

We can obtain the following saucer books for you, which although not necessarily recommended by us, we would not attempt to stop you reading. ALL PROFITS will GO TOWARDS obtaining essential works for our reference LIBRARY.

Please add 1/- for postage. Please make cheques and postal orders payable to BUFORA.

Orders to: Mr. Peter Wain, BUFORA Librarian, 26 Kings Road, London, S.E.25.

The Flying Saucer Story	Brinsley Le Poer Trench	25s.
Flying Saucers and the Three Men	Albert K. Bender	21s.
Flying Saucers Through the Ages	Paul Thomas (Misraki)	
	Translated by Gavin Gibbons	21s.
Inside the Space Ships	George Adamski	25 s.
My Contact with Flying Saucers	Dino Kraspedon	21s.
Road in the Sky	George Hunt Williamson	35s.
The Saucers Speak	George Hunt Williamson	16s.
The Sky People	Brinsley Le Poer Trench	25 s.

Other books by Le Poer Trench and Hunt Williamson are also obtainable.

BUFORA HANDBOOK Number 2, Price 7/6d will be obtainable shortly from Mr. Peter Wain.

Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, North Riding of Yorkshire: Tyneside UFO Society: W. D. Muir, 72 Greystoke Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 2. Tel: Day: Gosforth 5-7111 Ext. 679. Evening & night: J.L. Otley: Newcastle 3-8025

Lancashire, Wirral Peninsula (Cheshire), Isle of Man, Anglesey, North Wales: Merseyside UFO Research Society: R. Donnelly, 2 Buckfast Close, Liverpool 10. Tel: A. Rawlinson: Anfield 6921.

Cheshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire: Direct Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena: P. Heffron, 37 Lea Dale Green, Leyland, Nr. Preston, Lancs. Tel: Leyland 21734; (or Tel: Mrs. J. Nelstrop: Bramhall 4802.)

Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, East & West Ridings of Yorkshire: Halifax Branch: J. M. Stear, 2 High Park Crescent, Heaton, Bradford 9. Tel: Bradford 41842.

Nottinghamshire: Nottingham UFOs Group: M. A. Kenyon, 112 Calverton Rd., Arnold, Nottingham.

North-east half of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Wales south of and including Cardiganshire & Montgomeryshire: Cheltenham Flying Saucer Group: A. R. Cole, Ellesmere, 7 Okua Rd., Charlton Kings, Glos. Tel: J. Whitaker: Cheltenham 53864.

Warwickshire: Stratford-on Avon UFO Group: J. D. Llewellyn, 63 Masons Rd., Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire.

Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Rutland, Suffolk: Cambridge University Group for the Investigation of UFOs: Easter term: 20th April to 10th June: A. C. H. Durham, Clare College, Cambridge. Vacations: J. A. Popple, 10 Kingsmead Road, Waterbeach, Cambs. Tel: (all year round) Waterbeach 660 or (day): Cambridge 55691.

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire: Oxford University UFOs Study Group: T. A. Williamson, Brasenose College, Oxford.

Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, South-western half of Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire: British Flying Saucer Bureau: G.F.N. Knewstub, A.M.Brit.I.R.E., A.Inst.E., 27 Avonmouth Road, Shirehampton, Bristol. Tel: Avonmouth 2288.

Hampshire, Isle of Wight: Isle of Wight UFO Investigation Society: F. W. Smith, 4 Connaught Road, East Cowes, I.O.W.

Surrey: Croydon UFO Research & Investigation Society: H. Roberts, 47 Brigstock Rd., Thornton Heath, Surrey. Tel: THOrnton Heath 8480.

Scotland: Scottish UFO Research Society: Glen Chandler, 11 Lismore Crescent, Edinburgh 8. Tel: Abbeyhill 3025.

Northern Ireland: T. Thompson, 23 Mountainvale Rd., Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim.

London, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Sussex: Central Information Office: Ken Rogers, 1 Vicar's Moor Lane, Winchmore Hill, London, N.21. Tel: LABurnum 2482: Personal enquiries answered 8.30 - 10.30 a.m. & 8.00 - 10.30 p.m. weekdays; reports taken at all times. (Alternative Tel: N. T. Oliver: LEE Green 7653.)

