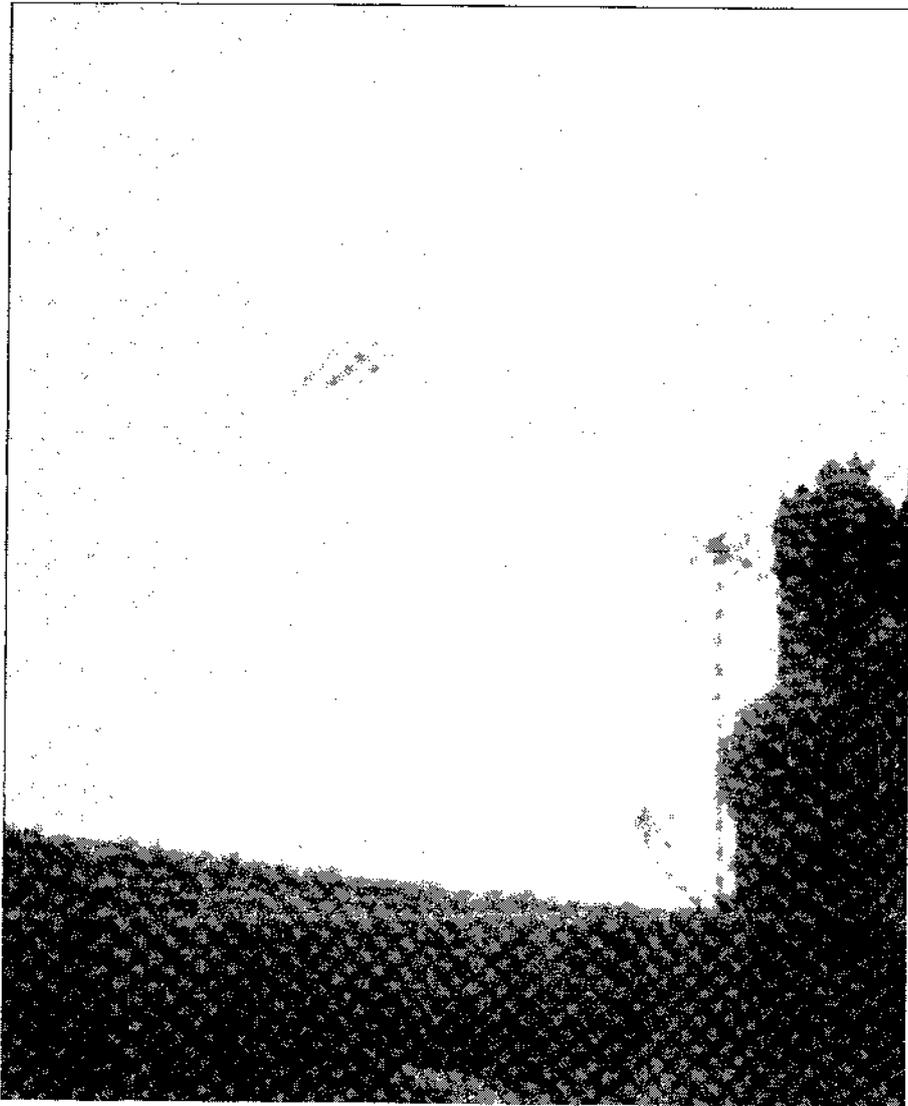


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# UFO TIMES

Number 3 September 1989



*Photographs*

## INSIDE

BUFORA receive many photographs, films & videos of alleged UFOs. Nigel Smith analyses some recent research.

Grop circles are back with a vengeance. Jenny Randles summarises this year's developments and Mike Wootten reviews the trilogy of books on the subject.

Congress '89 has been and gone. We mark the event with a special photo call and review.

Plus..... Dave Clarke continues his Project Pennine overview. Skywatcher, News, Reviews, Letters and more.



A BUFORA PUBLICATION

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The National Investigations Committee co-ordinates investigation initiatives across the British Isles and acts as an open forum for any group or individual interested in the objective investigation of the UFO phenomenon. NIC meetings are held around the country. Dates and venues of these meetings can be obtained from the NIC Secretary. The NIC is funded by BUFORA and by donation.

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WITNESS CONFIDENTIALITY

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

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

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AIMS

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

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Membership is open to all who support the aims of the association and whose application is approved by the executive committee. Applications, forms and general information can be obtained from BUFORA's registered office.

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Apologies to readers for the late arrival of this issue, we will catch-up with UFO Times 4.

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# Editorial

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Much has happened within the ufo world over the last 2 months; with much of it occurring in Britain.

Predictably, those elusive corn circles that were labelled 'mysterious' some ten years ago (despite, many seasoned farmers been long since aware of them back in the beginning of the century) came back on the scene with a vengeance, answering the prayers of the media, who are a little short of copy this time of the year.

While apparent street light engineer, Colin Andrews has been working overtime with colleague Pat Delgado publicising their book Circular Evidence (see reviews feature), BUFORA researchers, Jenny Randles and Paul Fuller have been moping up the misguided pontifications present in this book by their production of Controversy of the Circles (also see reviews feature).

With claims such as the affected crops being changed at molecular level, which will soon enter the food chain and the involvement of some never-before-seen intelligent force actioning the appearance of circles, I wonder how Andrews and Delgado get away with calling themselves 'scientists'.

But of course, Andrews and Delgado are probably not bothered with BUFORA correcting them or countering their argument, especially as Circular Evidence passes 10000 sales; they are laughing all the way to the bank. But where does that leave serious research - probably bankrupt.

However, Terence Meaden is sitting quietly in the sidelines waiting for the vortex of media hype to die down and the street lights of Hampshire to work again and will show that he and BUFORA are working on the right lines: keeping the

research very much at ground level.

While crop circles were appearing across the country like acne, The International Committee for UFO Research along with BUFORA and MUFON hosted the Fifth London UFO Congress in the heart of the West End (see Congress Review Special).

The highlight of the event was surely the presentation by Walt Andrus, (International Director for MUFON) of the fascinating Gulf Breeze photographic case for the first time in the UK. The presentation involved the showing of over 200 slides, supporting the case.

The photographs taken by 'Ed' are truly impressive (especially on the big screen). But I must say **too** impressive. In all the years I have researched the subject of UFOs, Investigated cases and now preview and review UFO material of all kinds for UFO Times from all over the world, I have never seen UFO photographs that look so detailed; except for the Billy Meier case - which have, as time has unfolded, shown to be not genuine.

I will not dwell on this opinion, but I am most concerned that an organisation like MUFON which is highly regarded all over the world would risk the loss of all credibility by thoroughly endorsing the Gulf Breeze case and the accompanying thirty five plus photos.

Personally, I feel that any alleged UFO photograph that passes preliminary tests, should be treated as a hoax until proven otherwise. History dictates that good UFO photographs are hoax photographs - but there is always the chance of an exception breaking the rule.

# BRITISH PHOTOGRAPHIC CASES

by Nigel Smith

Ever since the modern UFO age began, material evidence, most often photographic, has been held in high value by investigators simply for the opportunity it provides to investigate something concrete instead of just the anecdotal accounts (of unproven accuracy) of events long since passed. There was the chance, it was thought, of at last proving something one way or the other and the possibility of finding some answers instead of more and more questions.

But this sort of investigation has its own particular problems, firstly in acquiring the tools and expertise that are often needed, and secondly in the safe distribution of such material to all the interested parties. Both these conditions, methodological and logistical, demand greater organizational procedure than the more ad hoc forms of investigation. Two well known cases from the past illustrate this. The Peter Day film of an orange 'fireball' type UFO was not properly analysed until a decade after the event, and the damaged trousers in the Livingston case now appear to be lost altogether.

## Experienced opinions

Whilst there was a concerted effort from around 1980 onwards towards a more professional approach to investigation, analytic research was being left far behind. It was not that BUFORA didn't have access to experienced opinion, especially on photographic matters, but there was no procedure, and precious little inclination for producing extended analyses, written reports and ensuring the prompt return of material. Photographs were often passed around from member to member without any proper record of their existence at all and were lost for years on end.

So, in early 1986 the NIC appointed a committee consisting of Stephen Gamble, Roger Chinery and myself to see what could be done to improve matters. The

committee met once, voted by a majority of two to one (I suspect some collusion here) that I do should do all the work myself and then subsequently adjourned, never to meet again. I was, whether I liked it or not, co-ordinator for analytic investigations!

My qualification or otherwise for this prestigious and highly sought after position depends upon a varied background in photography, art, and film editing. Not enough to distinguish me as any sort of expert, but sufficient possibly to deal with incoming cases in the first instance and decide what further steps, if any, need to be taken. Whilst I quite at home with any two-dimensional material I would be less capable with any soil samples, mineral deposits, bits of spaceship, trousers and the like, but as none of these have been forthcoming during my tenure, it is not a problem that has caused us much difficulty.

The requirements as I saw them were thus:

1. To establish a centralised link between the investigation and research departments which also becomes an official reception for all incoming material.
2. To define procedures for the handling of, and the research into, any such material.
3. To encourage a more rigorous approach to analysis using whatever technical and

human resources are available, to the full extent that the research merits.

Three years on, and after handing this responsibility over, I believe that we have made some headway toward fulfilling those aims. Every case that is submitted is now automatically given a research code number and a receipt is now issued by return of post. A log is kept of every item, it's source, reception date and of every subsequent transfer that occurs during it's investigation. This is particularly important in cases where there are several original negatives and various prints, blow-ups, duplicate neg's and contact sheets from different sources, all of which need to be recorded in order to avoid later confusion. Material is returned as soon as possible together with some sort of written assessment, up to the standard that it merits.

I have as much as possible relied on the expertise of processing labs, photographers and film and video technicians wherever applicable, as well as consulting a whole range of opinions within BUFORA, Assap and elsewhere.

When there have been a variety of possibilities to discuss this has been reflected in the report, but of course the extensiveness of any investigation depends ultimately on both it's 'strangeness' and the amount of data there is to work on. Photographs with obvious developing stains or ducks in flight, I have been confident of returning with just a short note of explanation. The quickest I have managed is three days, whilst half the cases are dealt with inside three months.

### Improved resources

As for BUFORA's own resources, we have added an 8mm film viewer which has proved invaluable on two occasions. The one regret I have is not establishing free access to computer enhancement facilities, although had there been any cases that would have benefited from this, then further efforts would have been made. One of the problems is that in most cases, the image size is too small and lacking in detail and clarity for any additional information to be

revealed no matter how much they are enlarged or enhanced. (It is for this reason also that I have not included any in this article - I believe none would reproduce successfully)

### Cases received

From March 1986 to March 1989 I have dealt with 28 cases in total, of which 4 are concerned with phenomena not strictly related to UFO's. (BUFORA is nothing if not versatile!) 12 can be described as current investigations, that is, that the purported event took place sometime from 1985 onward, and that ours was the first analysis or evaluation of the evidence. 10 were photographs, 1 was 8mm film and 1 was video.

There was also a backlog of another 12 cases dating from between 1969 to 1984 that had not, as far as I know, been previously evaluated. 1 was 8mm film and the rest, photographs.

As well as these, two fairly recent photographic cases that had been investigated by others were sent to us for reference and additional comment. This included the now notorious Cracoe Fell photographs that have been analysed by Ground Saucer Watch in the States and by others, and have been the subject of much controversy 'oop north'. I also had the opportunity to look at 2 important pieces of 16mm footage from the archives, the 'Stanton' and 'ATV' films.

Of all the cases, I believe 18 have so far been reasonably satisfactorily explained as non-anomalous phenomena, although it is difficult to make absolutely positive identification on photographic evidence alone. For example, a photo may appear to show sunlight glinting off a weather balloon, but if the image is too small or out-of-focus then it may not be possible to prove it definitively - that is down to the investigator to ascertain exactly what was in the area at the time. But how can we be sure that sunlight reflecting off an anomalous flying object would look any different? The answer is we can't. In most cases all that photographic analysis can provide

is an aid to the normal investigative procedures, not a replacement for them. Final assessments are made as always by the investigator and the NIC. Nevertheless I have recommended IFO evaluations in 9 cases as follows:

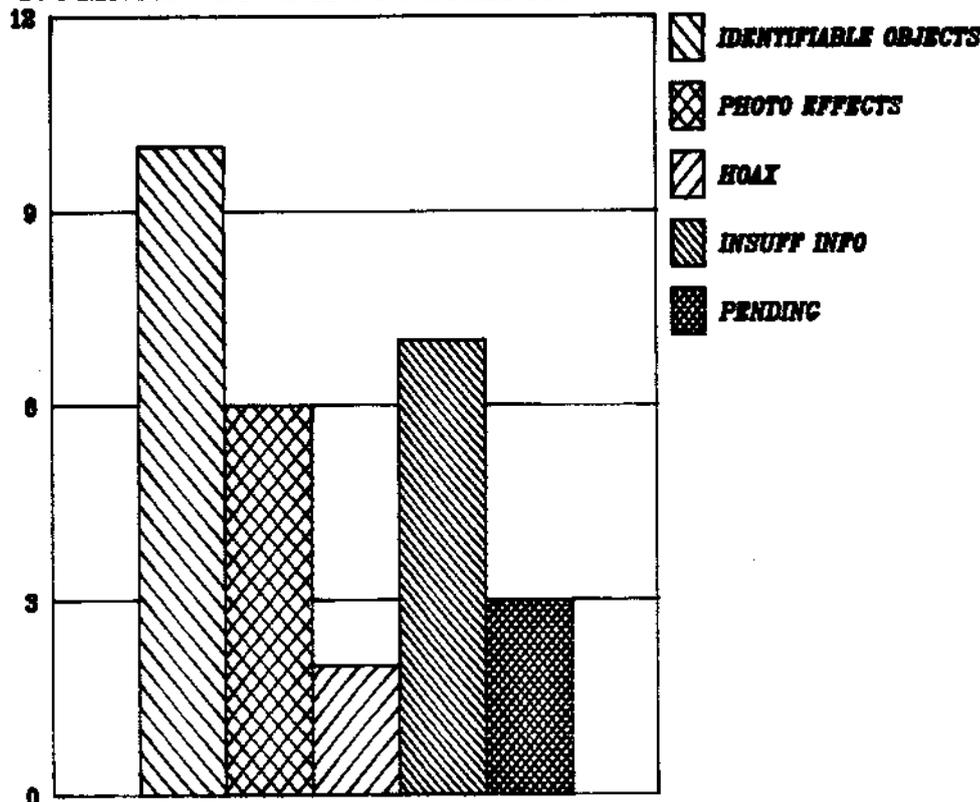
3 were caused by various aircraft emissions such as vapour trails, fuel discharges or military jets using afterburners - it's not always possible to distinguish which. Included in this trio is the 'ATV' film and also an event in Leicestershire in 1977 which is almost unique in providing objects of the same object from two separate sources.

Another 2 were caused by weather balloons. A helicopter, a snowdrift, a kite or polythene bag and a duck scored one each. All of these are airborne objects and can be described as classic IFO's with the exception of the snowdrift which was not flying at all but stuck on the side of a hill and seen from a distance. In the first 7, it was the way that sunlight was reflecting off the objects, often from a low angle at dusk, and against a darkening background, that turned them into 'UFO's'. In all those instances they were seen by the witnesses first and

then stayed around long enough - from between 10 minutes to several hours - to be photographed. This is not so with the polythene bag and the duck, who were only spotted on inspection of the printed photographs. Their claim to UFO status is due only to their photographers difficulty in identifying the still images of quite mundane objects that would not have attracted their attention at the time of taking the photographs. To be fair, the kite, polythene bag or whatever, (which I suspect is snagged on a telegraph wire) appears on a photo of the site of a reported haunting so it is no surprise that the photographer is suspicious of it.

In fact in 8 of all the cases there was no original UFO sighting at all, and the purported anomaly only came to light when the film was returned from the chemist. Because of this they are evidence of very doubtful value and strictly speaking are not UFO cases at all. However, if they are sent to us they ought to be explained if at all possible. Apart from the two I have described, 5 of the other six were caused by various photographic effects integral to the act of taking the photo, and not actually of phenomena existing in the world.

## NUMBER OF PHOTOGRAPHIC CASES RECEIVED



One supposed ghost photo was caused by multiple exposure, one was simply a developing stain, one was caused by the time exposure of a moving object, one was an internal lens reflection of distant lights and two were caused by the reflection of the flash light. Admittedly in one of these latter two cases the witness believed he had seen something unusual, but he tried to shoot it through a window using flash and of course all he got was a photo of the flashlight itself. The other photo was a domestic photo in someone's front room,

but facing a mirror in front of which was a glass ornament. The result was a small, fluffy-looking, white 'entity' with two beady red eyes, standing on the mantelpiece. Very cute, but unfortunately not anomolous.

Another two cases had no reported sighting with them. The 8mm 'Solent' film which was sent anonymously, and a hoax shot using the old favourite UFO-stuck-on-a-window method who's accompanying letter avoided making any claims for authenticity.

Not so shy was the perpetrator of the other hoax event, Peter Beard, who provided a series of four pictures also shot through a window, but with the camera in different positions to make the UFO appear in motion.

Part 2 of Nigel's article will appear in **UFO Times 4**.

### Star Struck

This managed to convince not only the Daily Star (actually this isn't too difficult) but for a long time also, Dr Bruce Maccabee the American physicist, director of MUFON and world's top UFO photograph expert. Page upon Page of optical equations came winging their way across the Atlantic in order to prove each of successive theories about the validity of the UFO, none of them in any way convincing and he has since changed his mind. Unfortunately the negatives have also been lost in the states. Contrary to the impression given in the popular press, BUFORA, or at least, the Director of Investigations and myself, have never believed this case to be genuine, although any investigator has the right to his own opinions.

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## M1 VIDEO REVISITED

by Harry Harris

After the report by Ken Phillips detailing the events filmed by Traffic Police remote cameras on the M1, BUFORA member Harry Harris along with Mike Sacks and Linda Taylor present their findings and evaluation of the case.

After detailed analysis and perusal of the tape in particular by our colleague Mike Sachs, it was apparent to him, that the two main objects seen in the top right hand corner of the screen are indeed Jupiter and Venus.

As Mike pointed out, through the duration of the video film, these two planets sink slowly into the western horizon approximately 2° per 2½ minutes, which of course is quite natural.

### Trajectory

Mike was able to confidently predict that the camera was facing in a westerly direction - indeed Mike marked the screen of the television set with a felt tip pen on two occasions accurately predicting the trajectory of both planets as they 'set'.

If the film is run again one will note

a small but sharp 'camera shift' which gives the effect of the two astronomical objects descending and immediately hovering - one can note that the motorway lights at the bottom right hand corner moves into the camera shift in synchronisation with the appearance of the said objects ie. the motorway lights and the two planets do not appear until the camera shift is executed.

The other moving objects seen, are in our opinion, merely aircraft on inward and outward bound flights.

Naturally Mike's calculations and our observations are based solely on what can be seen from the video film itself and we are not in a position to comment on any other objects that may have been seen by police officers or civilians which are not shown with any reasonable clarity on the video film.

# CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## *The Way Ahead*

by Steve Gamble

As announced in the July issue of UFO Times I was invited at the June Council meeting to become Chairman of BUFORA, with effect from that meeting. I should like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Arnold West for all the work he put in on behalf of BUFORA over several years as Chairman. Fortunately Arnold will be continuing as a member of Council and will also retain some of the jobs additional to Chairman that he took on over the years.

Amongst the decisions taken at the June Council meeting was that to raise subscriptions to £18 per annum (although to lessen the burden existing members are being invited to rejoin at £16.50, providing they renew before 31st October 1989). This increase for new members represents an increase of 20% over the old rate (but only 10% for existing members). Although some of the 10% payable by existing members will be taken up by inflationary rises (for example postal charges will be going up by about 10% in October), the primary reason for the increase is to fund BUFORA's expansion plans. Any donations over and above the subscription will be gratefully received. The purpose of this article is to explain to the members why this was necessary and what Council hope to achieve.

### Fair Comparisons?

Some people will compare the BUFORA subscription with that they might pay to a local society. These are often priced at less than £10. A much fairer comparison is with other national, technical 'leisure' associations, I think here in particular of organisations such as the British Astronomical Association and the British Interplanetary Society. Both of these have a subscription rate which is higher than the new BUFORA rate. It must be said that both these organisations offer

better services to their members. For example they both have a central headquarters office that houses extensive libraries which can be consulted most days. The objective of the Council is to offer better services, on a par with these other organisations.

Many of you will be aware that a planning meeting was held in Leicester in March between the Council and members of the Investigation and Research departments. The meeting was set up and chaired by Paul Fuller. From this meeting a number of useful ideas came out. Over the next few months I, together with other officers of BUFORA, will be examining how some of these can be implemented.

### A Planning Trilogy

Three ideas in particular will be investigated. Firstly is the creation of a central headquarters office which will house an extensive library and BUFORA's unique case report archive. In time it is hoped that this can be staffed by at least one full time employee. This will allow much greater access to BUFORA's research materials and ensure somebody is on hand at all times to deal with enquiries. A full time staff would also free members of the Council from many routine tasks, allowing more time to direct projects and to meet the members, ensuring that BUFORA better meets the needs of its members.

The second project is to re-investigate the subject of charitable status. This was something that BUFORA applied for during the mid-1970's but was unsuccessful. Charitable status would have a number of advantages. BUFORA would be able to claim exemption from or reduced rates of certain taxes. In addition we would be able to claim back tax paid by members on their subscriptions. In the longer term this

would have the effect of keeping subscription rates down.

The third project is to arrange a number of regional lecture meetings throughout the country. It is my personal wish that there are at least two (but preferably three or four) regional meetings held in each lecture season. I travel some seventy miles to attend our existing lectures, often not getting back home until about half past one on Sunday morning. I know there are people who travel even further, so either have to stay in London overnight or get home at some hour I would rather not think about! There are many members who are just not in a position to do this, so miss out on some very interesting material and the opportunity to meet other members. Clearly this is not a situation we should allow to continue especially if BUFORA is to live up to being a national organisation. Regional meetings take resources both in time of BUFORA officers and money to set up. Please support them.

These are all ambitious projects, but in the long term will be extremely beneficial to BUFORA and our members. In the short term we will need to build up a 'fighting fund' to get these projects off the ground. The rise in subscription rates will only go some way towards meeting this goal.

We also need to increase our membership. If each member went out and found just one person to join BUFORA we would double in size overnight. At that sort of size a number of economies of scale come into force. For example about one quarter of the printing costs of our publications is spent making the printing plates and setting up the machine. This cost is fixed whether we print 500, 1000 or even 2000 copies of the UFO Times. The extra savings from 2000 members could be used to extend the library, or for research or for investigation. Lets put it another way - this saving alone would allow us to double overnight the amount we spend on Research and Investigation.

A whole range of new services would become viable if we had enough members, for example more members spread throughout the country would make

regional lectures more viable. Why not make it YOUR personal project to recruit at least one new member? This is something every member can take part in.

BUFORA needs to market it's other services like lectures, publications and UFOCALL more effectively. Over the years BUFORA has done much to advance ufology, we should now start to capitalise on our achievements. BUFORA is held in high regard in the International UFO community. BUFORA hosts the International Committee for UFO Research. Our Research and Investigation work is highly regarded, in the past couple of weeks alone I have received requests from two major national groups for help with projects. Our two books 'UFOs 1947-1987' and 'Phenomenon' have sold well worldwide. This is a good base to build upon.

By attacking in all these areas we should build BUFORA into an organisation not only fit for the 1990's but ready for the twenty first century.



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF BUFORA LTD.**

The FIFTEENTH Annual General Meeting of BUFORA Ltd will be held at THE LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, SUSSEX PLACE, REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, NW1, in the LECTURE THEATRE at 6-30pm on Saturday 3rd March 1990 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.

On behalf of the Council of Management,

S.J.Gamble (Chairman)  
1st August 1989.

# THE STATISTICAL TREATMENT OF UFO REPORTS

## Number 2

by Paul Fuller

### Definition

The importance of definition cannot be emphasised strongly enough when we come to the statistical evaluation of UFO reports and the events these reports attempt to describe. The purpose of definition is to accurately describe the range of phenomenon from which we are sampling such that for every report being made we can decide whether or not the report represents a statistically valid case. In short, we must be able to recognise reports of apples when we are only interested in reports of oranges.

Now, this may seem like academic nit-picking to those of you who are unfamiliar with the application of statistical theory, after all, reports of UFOs are, well, just reports of UFOs. If somebody reports a UFO sighting, shouldn't that be enough to qualify the report as a statistically valid case. Regretfully, I must beg to disagree. In my opinion, we must address the question of 'When is a UFO report NOT a UFO report?'

### Critical Decision

Take, for example, the Rendlesham Forest case - possibly the most well known British UFO report of all time! The case itself actually seems to involve two separate events, involving a multitude of different phenomena (radar trackings, trace marks, radiation effects, contact with entities, etc) and an abundance of conflicting, first-hand testimony - all of which add up to a confusing, inconclusive case report". Personally I would hesitate to include the report in a statistical database because it's authenticity is so open to doubt, however, the danger in this decision is that we might be excluding a statistically valid case. Whilst this seems a trivial example (after all, we're only missing a single, ambiguous case), our decision clearly reflects on our attitude to all military cases. If

we decide to exclude Rendlesham (for whatever reasons), should we not also omit the Lakenheath-Bentwaters events Or the Tehran (1976) case? Clear our decision is critically important given the number of well documented high-strangeness reports involving military personnel.

In this situation, an encouraging approach has been to hold the more dubious cases in a Pending database (like MAYBECAT in the UNICAT system), until such time that we were more certain of the value of our data. However, even then this procedure runs a grave risk for all the high strangeness cases because these concern events which are, to say the least, highly complex and ambiguous. Clearly we have to be careful where we draw the line between a valid case and an invalid case. Pushing cases to one side may turn out to be self-defeating if we end up with a large collection of (very strange) reports which we feel are statistically invalid whilst our collection of valid reports is resultantly deficient. This is why definition is so important to the ufologist, statistics without definition simply measure subjective variations on the part of the ufologist compiling the data.

### Classification

Clearly our definition of what is, and what is not, a statistically valid UFO report significantly affects our ability to successfully infer characteristics of UFO reports in general from the samples we collect. However, our definition (1) of a UFO report is only the start of the problem because we are then faced with the problem of deciding whether or not the enormous range of events being reported to us are all being created by the same phenomenon. If we decide that they do all represent a single, highly complex phenomenon, we can proceed to describe that phenomenon with reference

to all the cases in our database.

If, on the other hand, we decide that several previously unrecognised phenomena are all independently resulting in UFO reports, then we need to be able to classify our cases into subgroups of reports and then carry out statistical analyses on each subgroup independently. In short, if we believe that entity reports are being generated by previously unrecognised psychological processes, but that ground trace cases (or car stop cases) are being created by another, totally unrelated phenomena, we cannot produce meaningful statistics if we group entity reports and ground trace reports together.

The classification problem really boils down to our beliefs about the phenomena we study and the value we place on other, possibly related phenomena. By attempting to classify cases into mutually exclusive categories, we are attempting to make some kind of sense about the reports we receive and we are making the assumption that each sub-category can be explained by a single, independent explanatory model. This assumption (which many ufologists make quite unknowingly) seems fine until we realise that some entity reports are also ground trace cases, whilst some car stop cases can also involve entities (2). Even producing a meaningful classification of UFO reports turns out to be a complex, difficult task - largely, it must be admitted,

because of the complexity of what is being reported to us.

The classification problem is clearly important to ufologists because it affects the sort of analyses we would wish to carry out on the reports we receive. Fortunately, multivariate statistical techniques like Factor Analysis may make our task more easy because techniques like this allow us to compare cases across all the parameters we have collected and they produce their own, independent classifications based upon the variations they find in the data set. The application of such techniques assume a common, underlying structure within the data and their use relies upon us choosing the correct parameters which define that structure. Clearly our choice of variables is very important when we apply such techniques, but even then-as my next article will explain - the way ahead is by no means clear.

#### NOTES

(1) = For an interesting discussion of the problems of definition, see JTAP Vol2, No1 (May 1981) p 3-7 & JTAP Vol1 No2 (January 1982) p 40.

(2) = It is a measure of our failure that we cannot assign reliable statistics for the proportion of entity cases which involve ground traces, or the proportion of car stop cases which also involve entities.

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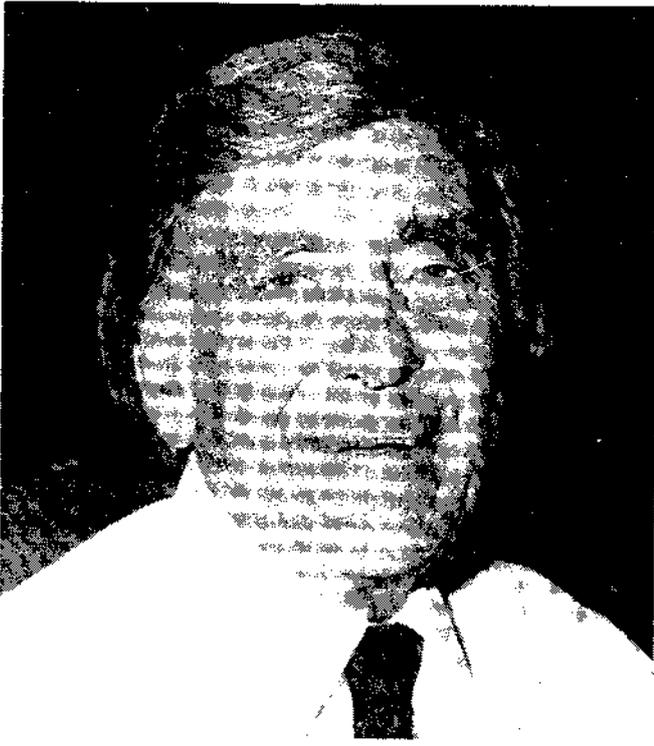
# CONGRESS 89

## The 5th International UFO Congress

### PHOTO-CALL

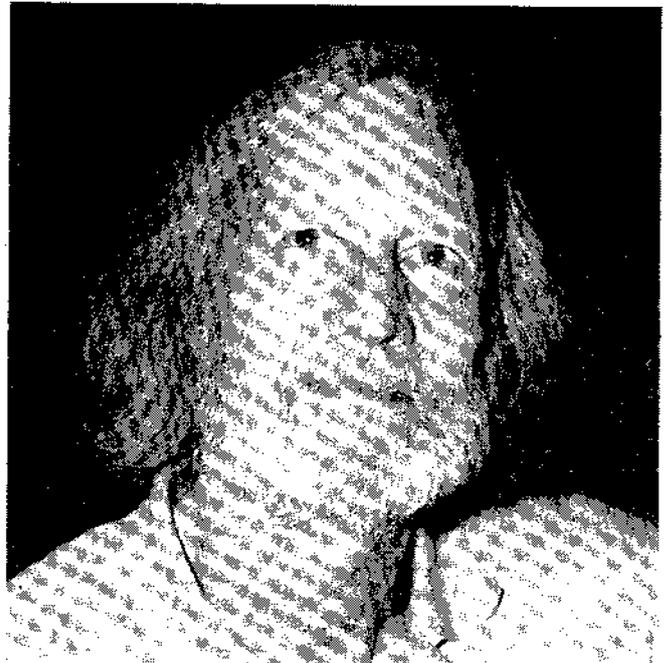
by Mike Wootten

On the 14th July, the three day 5th London International UFO Congress opened with BUFORA president, Sir Patrick Wall reminding the delegates what open minded and thorough UFO research should be about.



Major Sir Patrick Wall

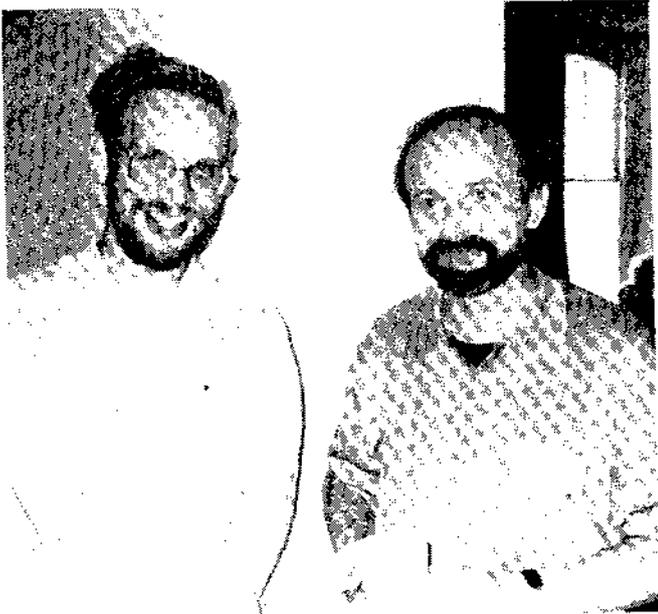
Hilary Evans started the ball rolling with the first main stream presentation of the Friday where he discussed 'Balls of Light' and his Ball of Light International Data Exchange (BOLIDE). Evans highlighted the fact that although it is a popular belief that UFOs became visible from Kenneth Arnold's 'first' sighting, light phenomena of many types have been reported through the ages on a regular basis.



Hilary Evans

The Friday afternoon session started with an hour long Abduction debate, where six selected speakers gave a brief ten minute presentation of their thoughts concerning abduction experiences. Those who took part were: Walt Andrus, Cynthia Hind, John Spencer, Claude Mauge, Jenny Randles and Maurizio Verga. The overwhelming factor that came over was the diverseness and sometimes completely polarising viewpoints that were presented. Walt Andrus spoke of a nuts and bolts reality, John Spencer rejected this for a more subtle psycho/socio 'reality'. However, both Claude Mauge and Maurizio Verga stated that abductions in their countries (France and Italy respectively) were either rare or non existent. Cynthia Hind underlined African cultural differences in close encounter reporting.

The Friday continued with papers from Claude Mauge, who showed ways of defining the UFO and Philip Mantle who discussed the Barnsley Photographic Hoax in great detail and showing how inter-continental co-operation can work.



**Claude Mauge (right) with Paul Fuller**

The Friday night was rounded off with the Congress gala dinner and a humorous talk from Lionel Beer.



**Philip Mantle**

Saturday 15th started with a short talk from Ken Phillips, who updated the Congress on latest Anamnesis developments

Bertil Kuhllemann followed with a thought provoking talk of who the UFO community should take a stand with official civil and governmental department.

This year, the media has presented the circles phenomena to the consumer with great ferocity. Paul Fuller, who has researched the circles phenomena for over nine years presented his latest findings and the theories of meteorologist, Terence Meaden. This talk proved to be controversial; (living up to the name of his co-edited publication 'Controversy of the Circles') with pointed questions from the audience.

After Cynthia Hind's talk 'Close Encounter Effects on People in Africa, the highlight of the congress was presented by Walt Andrus (for the first time in the UK).

With over 200 slide to present (the projectionist was certainly kept on his toes!), Walt disclosed the intricate details of the Gulf Breeze case and the



**Walt Andrus**

investigation of 'Mr Ed's' photographs with great enthusiasm.

Moving on to Sunday 16th. Several short papers were presented to open the last day's proceedings. Maurizio Verga and Giant Paolo Grassino followed with a discussion of cases and the evolution of UFO research in Italy during the 1980's.

After lunch, probably the most important and impressive key note speeches of the Congress was given by John Spencer, who blew apart some of the myth, shallow theoretics and shabby investigation of abduction cases and underlined (many times) the vital need for witness lead investigations. He discussed the first abduction: the Betty and Barney Hill case in great depth. Re-evaluating the case in mundane terms that made logical sense.

Too many times, the investigator will push the hypnotised witness into scenarios that probably never happened. Spencer warned that these practices can leave witnesses with apparent 'genuine memories' shrouding the real abduction (if it exists at all), thus, diverting research along the wrong path.

John Spencer's paper will appear in full in UFO Times 4.



John Spencer

John Spencer followed on to present a paper written by Dr Willy Smith (who was unable to attend) presenting evidence to show the Gulf Breeze case to be an elaborate hoax. Smith's paper was not welcomed warmly and points he made were discarded by the audience and by Walt Andrus.

The last part of the afternoon included a report by Jenny Randles of conclusions reached by an abductions panel (which meet outside of the main congress programme) that drew together researchers and witnesses to discuss investigative practices, specifically aimed at improving abduction research.

The final word was on Gulf Breeze. Further debate and presentation of the 'Mr Ed' photos produced a grand closure of the Congress.

Personally I enjoyed the event (although I was stuck in the projection booth). Most of the papers presented included fresh material and fresh approaches to the UFO phenomenon.

I understand that the event made a modest profit with a majority of delegates indicating a favourable feedback. Congratulations to ICUR.



The ICUR team: (Top left) J. Spencer, B. Kuhlemann, M. Verga, G. Grassino, S. Gamble. (Below left) B. Digby, Walt Andrus, Sir Patrick Wall.

# CIRCLES UPDATE

by Jenny Randles

BUFORAs research into mysterious crop circles being discovered in fields around Britain took a dramatic new turn in the summer of 1989 with the publication of "Controversy of the Circles". This came alongside two other books from meteorologist Dr Terence Meaden and FSR UFO consultants Colin Andrews and Pat Delgado. (All to be reviewed elsewhere in this issue of UFO TIMES.)

Here I merely wish to briefly update some of the dramatic events that followed publication of the book "Circular Evidence" in particular. The Andrews/Delgado book (which has nice pictures and offers vague and confusing evidence in support of the UFO connection) achieved considerable media publicity in a cleverly orchestrated campaign that saw features in newspapers as diverse as the Sunday Times and the London Evening Standard. Several TV features (including main news coverage as a proper midstream item rather than a 'silly season' add-on at the end of a bulletin) also occurred.

## Hype

Part of the reason for this was the PR hype. The authors were also aided by the very fortuitous arrival of over 200 circles in Wessex this summer (more than ever known before). Some might see an element of coincidence in that and wonder if the huge publicity and the increase in circle numbers might not be wholly unrelated (although many of the circles allegedly appeared before the book or publicity arrived).

These circles also featured novel designs, some of which might enhance the idea that they are the product of an 'unknown intelligence' (as Andrews and Delgado diplomatically phrase their beliefs). Examples include crucifix and teardrop shapes. They also bolstered their claims by alleging via press releases and through MPs questions in the house of commons that there was a

potential danger to health should you eat crops from effected circles as dangerous radiation could be getting into the food chain. This certainly did not harm the sales potential of their book although at least one farmer told us they were less than happy with the damage such vaguely supported statements might be doing to their own family livelihood.

## Serious Research

The stance of BUFORAs investigation and research team has long been known on this phenomenon. We have fought for rationality and common sense and co-funded serious research with the meteorological community and also sponsored two major public debates in London in 1986 and 1987. "Controversy of the Circles" amply sets out the position statement of Paul Fuller and myself prior to summer 1989 as the two NIC members most directly involved in the circles phenomenon.

Certainly the new events of 1989 will need to be digested and reported on at some future date. We have fought an interesting media battle against what we both perceived as the irresponsibilities of these FSR consultants and some of their colleagues. We have tried to show the feebleness of their much touted 'UFO evidence'. Small successes were achieved with sensible articles in sources such as the Sunday Times and a curious debate between myself and Colin Andrews on the highly popular Gloria Hunniford radio programme (which saw Andrews - as I

judged it - much on the defensive yet apparently unable to answer direct questions without frequent repeated asking).

In addition, Paul and I have been following the actual circles events with fascination. A circle site near Chester has been monitored all summer and I investigated a dramatic report from Marple in Cheshire where eye-witnesses saw hay being sucked up into a tight spiral, creating an oval 'UFO' that drifted across the sky and then dumped its load. An alleged circle was reputedly left in its wake. And - I also studied and photographed a circle site in a field of oats in Nottinghamshire. Other sites outside the Wessex cases observed by Paul Fuller are in Leicestershire, Staffordshire and Essex and are being researched by various BUFORA investigators.

What this all clearly shows, of course, is that the circles are a long-standing and widespread phenomenon that are more common than first believed. That fits the proposition that they are essentially a natural mechanism and ties in very strongly with predictions that arose from the joint BUFORA/TORRO survey of cereal farmers in Hampshire. That

seems to me to be highly significant. But the debate will, of course, rage on.

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## Essex Circles Discovery

by Mike Wootten

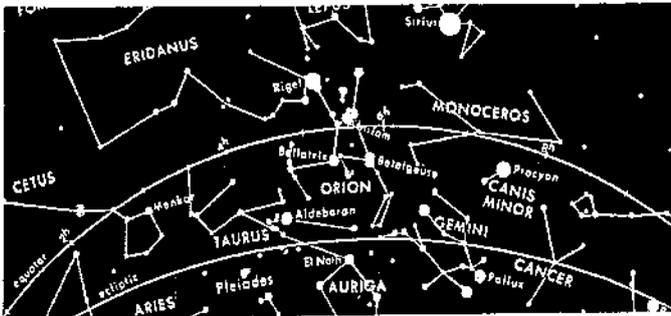
Over the years that crop circles have been appearing over the British landscape (with varying and more complex patterns appearing as each year unfolds), I have not personally seen one 'live'. But that all changed on August 3rd, when after being alerted by Paul Fuller of a 30 ft circle appearing in Shenfield not twenty miles away from me in Essex, I eagerly dispatched myself to the location.

Apparently the circle was first noticed by local residents on the 18th July and was situated 8 ft from a public footpath. However, some ten days later, another circle appeared only 5 ft away

Continued on page 20.



The Shenfield circle



# Skywatcher

Edited by Gary Anthony

## Introduction

In this edition, Skywatcher brings you all the regular features: the planets, Skydata and news from NASA and the ESA. Plus two important projects, which are regarded as cornerstones in space research and exploration: the Galileo probe to Jupiter is ready for launch and XMM - a space observatory which will utilise the latest technology in X-ray photography.

## skydata

### SEPTEMBER

8th 09 h 49 m  
 15th 11 h 51 m  
 22nd 02 h 10 m  
 29th 21 h 47 m

RA	Dec
13h > 14h	+00° > -10°*
06h > 08h	+10° > +30°
18h > 20h	-15° > -30°

\* Sept 6th only # Oct 17th only

### 1989

First Quarter  
 Full Moon  
 Last Quarter  
 New Moon

Venus  
 Mars  
 Jupiter  
 Saturn

### OCTOBER

8th 00 h 52 m  
 14th 20 h 32 m  
 21st 13 h 19 m  
 29th 15 h 27 m

RA	Dec
16h > 17h	-20° > -30°#
06h > 08h	+10° > +30°
18h > 20h	-15° > -30°

### Meteor Showers

Name	Begins	Maximum	Ends	Max ZHR	Radiant Coordinates
M Orionids	Oct 16	Oct 21	Oct 26	30	06h 24m RA +15° Dec

## The Planets

**VENUS** - In September Venus is at magnitude -4.0 and continues to be a brilliant evening object, visible for about half an hour in the western sky after sunset. On September 6th, Venus passes 1.9° N. of Spica (bright star in Virgo). The Moon is near the planet on the 3rd.

During October Venus is still a brilliant object in the early evenings, visible in the south-western sky. On October 17th, Venus passes 1.8° N of Antares (bright star in Scorpio). Again, The Moon is nearby on the 3rd.

**MARS** - The planet Mars is in conjunction with the Sun on September 29th and unobservable this month.

Mars is still unobservable during October.

**JUPITER** - In September Jupiter is at magnitude -2.2 and is a conspicuous object in the night sky, rising before midnight, the planet is visible as a morning object. On the 22nd, the last quarter Moon is nearby.

Note: All co-ordinates refer to the equatorial system.

By October, the planet is moving slowly eastwards in Gemini, reaching a stationary point on October 29th, at magnitude -2.3. The Moon is nearby on the 19th.

**SATURN** - The ringed planet is at magnitude +0.4, a prominent object in Sagittarius during September evenings. Saturn is stationary on the 11th, after which, this planet reverts to an easterly motion against the stars. Moon is near on the 9th and 10th.

The planet moves into the southwestern sky, setting by 22h on the 1st and 20h by the end of October. Saturn is still a prominent object in the evenings at magnitude +.5. the Moon is near on the 7th.

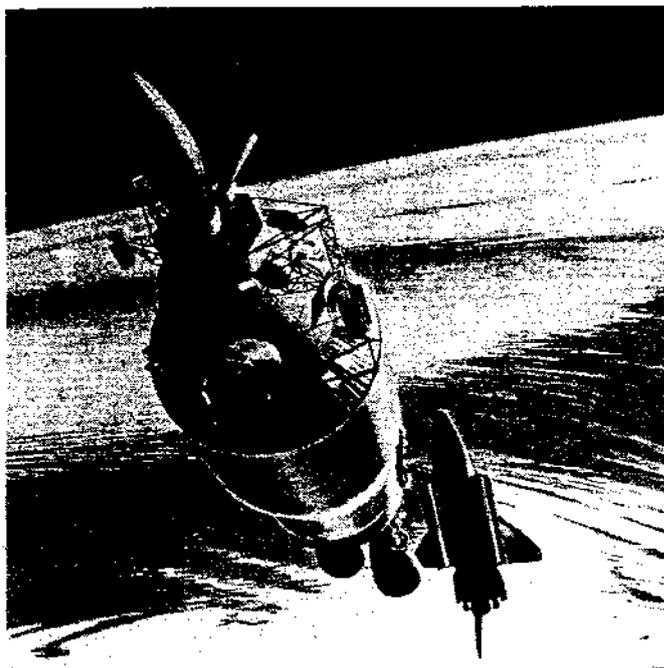
The motion of the planets against the backdrop of stars is slow but readily noticed by hours of observing and more readily noticeable from night to night and month by month.

## SPACE NEWS

### Galileo - Going to Jupiter

The Galileo mission to Jupiter is scheduled for launch on board the NASA Shuttle, Atlantis on the 12th October, using the less powerful solid booster instead of the liquid fuelled Centaur as originally planned. The Galileo probe will now travel past Venus on a gravity assisted path and is expected to reach Jupiter late in 1995. Galileo is designed to enter the atmosphere of Jupiter and will hopefully reveal yet unlearned details regarding the giant planet.

Whether Galileo will be launched on schedule is uncertain, as with all shuttle launches at this time and depends upon the redesigned shuttle, incorporating the lessons learned from the very unfortunate Challenger disaster of the 28th January 1986.



**The Galileo spacecraft**

### X-Ray Observatory for ESA

At a meeting in Paris on June 12th, ESA's (European Space Agency) Science Programme Committee selected instruments for the Agency's X-ray Multi-mirror Mission, XMM.

This sensitive X-ray observatory will comprise a large array of mirrors and will be put into a deep Earth orbit to look at X-ray emissions from faint stars and the nuclei of distant galaxies. The reason for a deep Earth orbit is because the Earth's atmosphere strongly absorbs X-rays, observations of X-rays have to take place at altitudes exceeding 200km.

XMM will carry an array, three imaging telescopes capable of measuring luminosity and spectral energy distribution of celestial X-ray sources. Each telescope will have a focal length of 7.5 metres, giving this X-ray observatory the greatest X-ray collecting power of any mission to date. It is hoped that XMM will reveal unprecedented detail of the X-ray emissions of objects ranging from stars in our own neighbourhood - to massive galaxies as large as a hundred million suns at the very edge of the observable universe.

The instruments selected are: very advanced X-ray cameras for the prime focus positions of the three telescopes, two reflection grating spectrometers - to measure the spectra of X-ray sources. A telescope which operates at visual wavelengths has also been selected, to enable the study of both X-ray sources and optical emissions simultaneously.

### XMM Facts

XMM is an important part of ESA's programme called 'Horizon 2000', XMM is expected to have an operational lifetime exceeding 10 years after its scheduled launch in 1998. XMM will also be ESA's largest scientific satellite.

All these facts should keep Europe's astronomers 'happy' in the forefront of astrophysical research 'well into the next century'. All information courtesy of NASA and ESA.

If any investigator requires astronomical information to help with the evaluation of case investigations please write to:

Gary Anthony, BUFORA ARP, 141 Newington Street, Hull, North Humberside, HU3 5LF.

Circles.....Continued from page 17

from the original, but only 15ft across.

### Analysis

Both circles swirled crudely in a clock-wise rotation, with most of the corn stems broken at the base. The central point (unlike most 'genuine' circles) was positioned precisely in the middle of both circles. The topography of the area is very unlike most of the circle 'hotspots', with slight undulations and no major hills in the area.

A local resident who reported the circle to BUFORA stated that a three point leyline passes some 50 yards away

from the circle; so does the A12, but I doubt whether that has any significance either.

After studying the affected area closely and discussing my findings with Paul Fuller and Terence Meaden, I am convinced that the discovered circles are hoaxes. With the heightened media attention to circles this year, hoaxes are to be expected.

### Gwent Circles Mystery Solved

After the discovery of 98 'circles' on a 1500ft, heather covered ridge in the Welsh Black Mountains. Colin Andrews stated, "We believe we have something of major proportions in Wales."

Unfortunately, he hadn't. The circles were produced by a farmer to allow young grouse to get to the young heather shoots. Well, you can't win them all.

### INTERNATIONAL UFO SEMINAR

by Stanton T. Friedman

Sheffield Central Library Theatre  
Saturday 28th October: 1.30pm  
Tickets £3.00 (£2.00 OAP/students)

Radcliffe Civic Centre, Manchester  
Sunday 29th October: 7pm  
Tickets £5.00

"Flying Saucers ARE Real" is the title of two illustrated lectures to be presented by nuclear physicist, Stanton T. Friedman in Sheffield and Manchester.

The events are sponsored by the Independent UFO Network and supported by BUFORA.

Friedman's lecture will cover 5 large scale scientific studies of US Air Force data not generally discussed. More than 60 slides will illustrate his presentation and a question and answer session will follow.

For further details and advance bookings contact: Phillip Mantle, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 7SW. Tel: 0924 444049.

# REVIEWS

**Earthlights Revelation, by Paul Devereux, 254pp hardback, Blandford Press. £14.95**

In 1982, Paul Devereux along with Paul McCartney published the book Earthlights. The book described and theorised upon the nature of lights being generated from subtle tectonic strain along fault lines. Postulation of the lights generating close encounter visions were included. The UFO community generally did not warm to the idea. However several visionaries did: it seemed so much more sensible to look at the earth for answers rather than the sky.

Probably most of the criticisms voiced was a lack of evidence and looseness in the theory of generation and effect. I am sure Paul would agree with me that his theory needed strengthening.

## Unequivocal

However, these criticisms have been addressed. After reading Devereux's latest work 'Earthlights Revelation' I can unequivocally say that it lives up to its name. After this book, no one could truthfully say that there not enough evidence to show the existence of an Earthlight reality.

Devereux shows page after page of UFO cases from all over the world, carefully researched; traceable to specific local faulting. To say that the discovered relations are coincidence in my opinion, would be an insult to the research and to the author.

ETHers, Nuts and Bolters and the such like get a rough ride. Devereux states,

"The extraterrestrial projection onto UFOs is the scream of a lonely species." And I quite agree. He also states, "Quite frankly, I do not think that 'nuts and bolts' ETH adherents see how puny their ideas are, nor how conveniently in step with our own cultural development they happen to be."

From the beginning of the book, the author successfully places classic cases into an earthlights framework. Arnold's encounter in the Cascade mountains in 1947 is discussed at length: emphasising the catalytic effect that that single sighting had on the perception that generations of witnesses would have on future sightings of such enigmatic light phenomena.

The only criticism I would have is the dust cover is not as inspiring as the pages it protects. But, this is not the author's fault.

## Eating Ufological Pie

In 1988 (1), The author showed how the UFO phenomena could be apportioned in a 'Ufological Pie'. Earthlights Revelation certainly seems to eat away at some of the portions and shines as a main contender to render many UFO sightings prosaic, in terms of a phenomena that is exciting, Earth bound and pushes back the boundaries of scientific knowledge. Earthlights Revelation should certainly bring Ufology to a new 'dawn of realisation'.

(1) Ufological Pie, Devereux Paul, BUFORA Bulletin, No 27 Jan 1988.

**Review by Mike Wootten.**

# NEWS

As an organisation, Contact International has laid dormant for some years now. However, Contact have, to some degree, awoken from hibernation with the re-launch of their in-house journal, 'Awareness'.

Unfortunately, the 28 page A5 magazine seems to be rather behind the times and very ETH centred. Margret Fry illustrates the possible genuineness of the Meier photographic case plus many case histories and letters are included.

Contact's address is 11 Ouseley Close, New Marston, Oxford, OX3 0JS.

I hear that a new UFO documentary video film has been produced in the United States and stars Telly Savalas. 'Channeling: Voices from Beyond' chronicles alleged alien contacts via the new age media of channeling. Shirley MacLain has a hand in it somewhere (not surprisingly) so do the entities: "Bashar", "Mena", "Leah" and "Lazaris" (all household names in the US New Age scene).

Unfortunately, I do not know when this result of a two year study is winging its way over to Britain, but I am sure it will be soon.

## The Circles Trilogy

**Circular Evidence**, by Pat Delgado & Colin Andrews. 190 pp hardback, Bloomsbury, £14.95

**The Circles Effect and its Mysteries**, by George T. Meaden, 114 pp hardback, Artetech Publishing, £9.95

**Controversy of the Circles**, by Paul Fuller & Jenny Randles, 112 pp paperback, BUFORA Publishing, £3.95

Three books about one subject and all three with a different approach.

Circular Evidence is a beautifully produced book with large colour pictures of crop circle damage. It would certainly look very nice sitting on a coffee table, but is short on words and firm theory. The book takes a chronological look at many circle formations starting with 1979 (although the authors were not involved with phenomena until the early 1980's), and finishing in 1988.

The book details the plethora of circle types and swirl patterns with accompanying measurements, photographs and diagrams. It is a shame that these details were duplicated in two chapters.

Where the Circular Evidence falls down the proverbial grain shute is when it connects the circles with other unknown events and presents shallow theories with little scientific support, except for the vortex theory which is unceremoniously thrown out on many occasions. However, poltergeist activity, Gordon Creighton's dog vomiting in a circle and UFOs are thrown in for good measure.

It is very dangerous to try and explain one unknown with another. But as they say, there's nothing like a full

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blown mystery to sell a book.

Although Andrews and Delgado dismiss Meaden's theories, they use the basic vortex structure to explain the mechanics of circle formation but substitute the wind for an unknown force and despite their claims of UFO involvement, they state that the 'force' is invisible'. If this is true how could people report UFOs if they are invisible?

Another gripe is that there is no references or index (a sign that the book is only intended for 'coffee table' consumption and not for scientific futherment); except for some references supporting the last chapter, which include books like 'The Worlds Greatest UFO Mysteries' and 'Light Years' that are not exactly classic UFO works. The mind boggles as to where other sources of information have been gleaned from.

Moving on. Terence Meaden's book, 'The Circle Effects and its Mysteries' is a scientific work. Meaden's meteorological background shows, as the book only includes information supporting the vortex theory. The book is systematic; being cross referenced and including an index.

His theory accounts for all types of circles and he presents eyewitness accounts of circles forming, vortices hitting buildings and vortices that 'fail'. The theory also accounts for possible UFO sightings associated with circles by explaining that vortices would have an electrostatic charge that could glow. All pretty convincing stuff. All through the book Meaden has been able to project a sence of confidence in his theory which results in practically convincing the reader he is right.

However, one area he has missed out was his association with BUFORA and the work he has carried out with Paul Fuller (who to Meaden's shame does not mention once).

Finally we look at 'Controversy of the Circles'. This book looks at the circles with a more wide angled view than the two previous works. It not only presents the evidence of circle formations and theories in full, but also includes the

politics, the personalities, the media hype and the survey that BUFORA carried out in conjunction with TORRO of cereal farmers in the south of England.

'Controversy of the Circles' is not a lavish production like the other circles tomes, but it is well thought out, authoritative (with Fuller being involved with circles right from 1980) and does not pull any punches.

So what should you buy. Well, if you are really into circles then buy all three as each offer something different (with Circular Evidence providing the pretty pictures). If you are a meteorologist then buy 'The Circles Effect and its Mysteries'. But if you are interested in a comprehensive and wider view, then grab a copy of 'Controversy of the Circles' as it has all the information you need to keep up to date with the circles mysteries (except for the pretty pictures).

Review by Mike Wootten

### Newsclipping Service

BUFORA has probably the largest collection of British UFO related press cuttings in the UK.

Comprising of over 3500 magazine and newspaper cuttings, the BUFORA Newsclipping Reference Library has in excess of 5000 cross references to aid and compliment the work of UFO investigators and researchers.

For further details of this unique service write to (enclosing an sae):

Michael Hudson,  
BUFORA Newsclippings,  
71 Knight Avenue,  
Canterbury, Kent,  
CT2 8PY,  
UK.

# Project Pennine

## A Landscape UFO Study in the North of England

### Part 2

by Dave Clarke

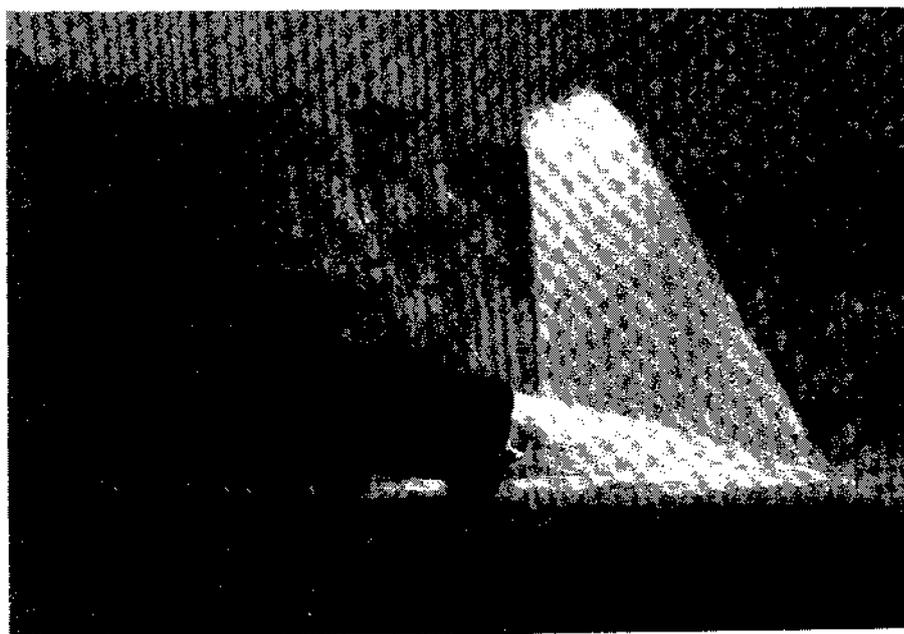
**This is the concluding part of Dave Clarke's compelling and detailed paper.**

According to the newspaper reports at the time, the police forces of Derbyshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire, were involved in attempts to trace the unidentified night-flying helicopter in January 1974, as it was assumed that the machine was flying without a license at dangerous low altitude. On January 15th, 1974, after the helicopter had been pursued by police panda-cars on three occasions, it was reported that Special Branch had been called in to organise the hunt for the pilot which involved asking all helicopter pilots to account for their movements on the nights in question.

The "Daily Mirror" on January 15, 1974, reported how "the helicopter has been making low-level trips after midnight over the desolate moorland of Derbyshire's High Peak area. It carries no civil aviation markings and as it sweeps over fields a bright spotlight probes the darkness..." It was suggested by newspapers and several police spokesman that the helicopter was being utilised by IRA terrorists in planning a bombing campaign or was being used to smuggle illegal immigrants into Britain. However, after several weeks of investigation it appears the sightings of the helicopter came to an end, and the police apparently never solved the mystery or discovered who the pilot was.

My study of this mystery has convinced me that there was never any real helicopter involved. I have traced some of the original witnesses who reported the helicopter to the police, and they now say that they never positively identified what they saw as a helicopter. One of the first witnesses who reported seeing the phantom helicopter on September 18, 1973, was Simon Crowe, of Macclesfield, who at the time was employed by Peak Security to guard quarries and explosive magazines near Buxton in Derbyshire. He reports that:

"The two best sightings I had were both in Hillhead Quarry [a large limestone quarry, southwest of Buxton in Derbyshire], one about ten o'clock and the other about midnight, I think in the



**The Phantom Helicopter**

same week. On no occasion did I positively identify it as a helicopter - apart from its ability to hover and the sound from the rotor-blades. On the first sighting it hovered at about fifty feet from the ground with spotlights shining downwards into the main quarry floor. When I approached in the landrover with my headlights on, it rose slowly and flew away towards Mines Research. On the second occasion it rose out of the quarry and I was not aware of it until I saw the lights. It quickly disappeared in the same direction as before."

### Beam of Light

All that was seen by many of the people who reported a "helicopter" to the police were lights; in a sighting by two police constables at Darley Moor in Derbyshire a "terrific beam of light" was seen which appeared either to emanate from the ground into the sky or vice-versa, accompanied by a peculiar drumming sound.

It should be noted that at 8.38 p.m. on the evening of January 23, 1974, there occurred an earth-tremor measured at 3.5ml on the Richter scale at Latitude 55.92 Longitude -3.30, at a depth of 15km centred on the Bala Faultline in North Wales. This tremor coincided with a large number of sightings of strange aerial light phenomena in North Wales, the west coast and co. Durham, as well as a report of a large flaming object (originally thought to be a meteorite) crashing upon the Cadar Bronwen mountain range in North Wales. Dr. Ronald Maddison, senior lecturer in astronomy at Keele University, who with his students led the search for the meteorite in the week following the "explosion" recently told me that:

"...my own belief is that this event was a further demonstration that such rock movements as occur along faults may generate sufficient electric potential to cause an electric discharge in the air. I feel that the piezo-electric effect may be the mechanism involved..."

### Charge Sources

According to Dr. Michael Persinger "the tectonic strain theory can predict the probable areas where luminosities should be maintained. They would be more evident near sharp shapes (cliffs, towers, etc) subject to electric charge collection, and electric charge sources (radio towers, high tension powerlines)..[and] since water-levels contribute significantly to the resistivity of subsurface minerals, factors which increase the resistivity (i.e. reservoirs) should increase the likelihood of UFO displays in that area."

The association of strange lights with prominent rock outcrops, reservoirs, quarries, electricity powerlines and towers is found again and again in the Pennine study. The above paradigms are only one of the avenues of knowledge which have been opened by our research into the mysteries of the Pennine moorlands. Project Pennine also hopes to correlate sightings of the low-level light phenomena with the geological faulting, as well as magnetic and gravitational anomalies of the landscape in question.

It appears that areas which sit on top of areas under tectonic strain may play host to all kinds of luminous aerial phenomena. When major earth-tremors do occur, spectacular displays can often be expected as for instance in the January 1974 Berwyn mountains event. Furthermore, immediately following a strong earth-tremor which again shook North Wales and the north of England on the morning of July 20, 1984, all kinds of strange manoeuvring lights appeared in the skies over West Yorkshire, two local UFO investigation groups receiving up to 60 sighting reports for the night of July 23rd alone!

The evidence for flaps of sightings such as these being related to geophysical light phenomena released through a seismic stress field into the atmosphere is quite overwhelming - the close correlation between the movements of the UFOs and the layout of the geological faulting below has been clearly demonstrated in some instances by recent research. Whatever the

explanation there appears to be ample evidence from the years 1974 and 1984 alone that earth tremors in the North Wales/Irish Sea area can produce luminous UFO spectaculars over the Pennine hills.

There is no reason to invoke the involvement of extraterrestrial visitors in an attempt to understand the long history and baffling complexity of the UFO phenomena studied by Project Pennine. Rural tradition clearly associates the light phenomena which our present technological culture associates with "aliens" with the natural - but unfathomable - processes of our mother planet itself.

The Pennine UFO phenomena is unquestionably related to the landscape itself, and the aims of Project Pennine are just one step towards determining exactly what the connection between light phenomena and landscape really means. It is hoped that common environmental factors can be isolated in an attempt to further our understanding of the origin of the unknown energy forms which must logically involved and the processes at work in their interaction with human society and perception throughout recorded history.

#### PROJECT PENNINE CONTACTS:

David Clarke, 6 Old Retford Road, Handsworth, Sheffield S13 9QZ, South Yorkshire.

Andy Roberts, 84 Elland Road, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 2QR.

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

Project Pennine thank the following for valuable help towards the Project's aims:

Philip Mantle, Martin Dagless, Philip Shaw [Glossop Mountain Rescue Team], Tony Dodd, Granville Oldroyd, Peter Hough, Paul Bennett, Jenny Randles, David Kelly, Rodney Howarth.

# LETTERS

If you want to air your views on the UFO subject, then send your correspondence to:

The Editor,  
UFO Times,  
103 Hove Avenue,  
London,  
E17 7NG

### Mystics

Dear Mike,

What a lot of nonsense is contained in Bill Dillon's 'Aspects of New Physics within Ufology' (UFOT, Nos 1 & 2)! Here is a mystic trying to persuade us that aliens are attempting to educate us using something called 'New Physics' on a psychic plane! Readers should be aware of Dillon's overwhelming ignorance.

First the physics. The 'Newtonian Universe' has not, as he claims, crumbled, although Newton's universal ideas have been replaced by those of Einstein (and latterly Hawking). Newton's mechanics are still very much alive. In particular the parameter or distance has not been removed - it is just relative. Far from introducing 'instantaneous transfer' (a Newtonian concept), Einstein removed it! In the Einsteinian universe no action at a distance is instantaneous.

Dillon is no better informed about the microscopic world. Matter does not consist of nothing, it consists of energy (or particles that are quantas of energy). Nor has photon duality indicated the existence of other dimensions or universes - the duality has merely indicated our inability to model the behaviour of energy quanta. There is no evidence for the existence of other universes but dimensions beyond

three are believed to exist (or have existed). Mystics commonly misunderstand quantum physics and believe (wrongly) that it offers some new explanation for events in the macroscopic world. As for 'psychic elements' (whatever they are) being 'compatible with current thinking in physics', this is quite wrong. Reputable scientists will have nothing to do with psychics. There is no evidence that so-called psychic phenomena exist. Nor is there anything called 'new [or 'second'] physics', or a 'new universe'.

Second the ufology. Dillon's examples betray a lack of judgement. Harley Rutledge was an eccentric physicist who believed that ufo's were reacting to his thoughts! He wrote a book (but no scientific papers) which revealed his methodological errors and exposed his ufological mental set. His work was certainly not 'thorough and objective'. I don't know what Dillon knows about the Iguape Case but I suggest that it is no more than the brief account that he has given us. There has not been a full investigation but the likelihood is that there was no 'UFO' at all. It is hardly helpful to illustrate an argument by a relatively unknown case from half-way around the world, what is more a case that appears to contain more superstitious elements than most. It is very poor justification for his hypothesis and may in fact not justify it at all. Dillon's interpretation of the event is completely unjustified and betrays a lack of understanding of investigation techniques (to say nothing of science).

Dillon's gullible acceptance of the UFO Myth and his preoccupation with mysticism have led him astray. The universe may be strange but it is not as strange as he believes.

Steuart Campbell,  
Edinburgh

**Editors comment:** Your views are certainly valid. But articles such as the one presented by Dillon are worthy of publication as they are controversial and prompt response. And thank you for your response.

But I will take you to task on you comment that there is no evidence of psychic phenomena existing. There are many examples of the existence of human psychic ability to warrant further research. Steuart, be a bit more open minded, it's good for the soul!

**Well Done**

Dear Editor,

I have just received the first copy of UFO Times [May 1989], I would like to say that this is a superb publication, packed new great ideas in a great new format.

The skywatch section, recent case section and the new general look of the publication has vastly improved its quality.

The idea of a UFO update phone-in [UFOCALL] is again a great idea, which I hope will be kept far away from the realms of the Sunday Sport headlines. Will it be advertised in newspapers? I hope so.

Best of luck with UFO Times, and I hope funds will be able to increase the size of the publication.

R.K.Grant

**Editors comment:** I hope that in the future, we will be able to upgrade all our publishing efforts. But we must carefully balance our budgets to make funds available for research and investigation: which is what BUFORA is all about. Thanks for your support and I hope it continues.

#### **BUFORA POSTAL LIBRARY**

The comprehensively stocked (with many rare titles) lending library is open and ready for business. All books are available against a returnable deposit (less postage costs).

Any member interested in this service write to: BUFORA (PL), 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST.

# DIARY

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2nd September

BUFORA London Lecture **Abductions**

Speaker Jenny Randles at the LBS.

7th October

BUFORA London Lecture **The Bromley Poltergeist.**

Speaker Manfred Cassirer at the LBS.

14th October

**BUFORA Regional Lecture: Edinburgh.**

English Speaking Union, Atholl Crescent, Starts 2pm. Programme includes Jenny Randles plus Scottish cases update.

Full details from Malcolm Robinson, 4 Woodlea Park, Sauchie, Clackmananshire, FK10 3BG

28th October

Stanton Friedman lecture, Sheffield

29th October

Stanton Friedman lecture, Manchester

see page 20 for more details

4th November

BUFORA London Lecture **What Proof Do They Want?**

Speaker Maurice Grosse at the LBS.

18th November

**BUFORA Regional Lecture: Manchester.**

Central Library, St Peter's Square. Programme: Celtic Connections: Dave Clarke plus 3 films to be shown & discussed.

Details from Philip Mantle, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 7SW.

BUFORA lectures are held every first Saturday of the month at the London Business School, Sussex Place, Outer Circle, Regents Park, London, NW1. The LBS is only a five minute walk from Baker Street tube. Lectures start at 6.30pm. **All are welcome.** Full lecture programmes are available from BUFORA (LP), 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST.

If you have an event that you wish to publicise on this page **free of charge** then please write to the editor (Diary) 103 Hove Avenue, Walthamstow, London E17 7NG. Three months in advance.

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## Stop Press

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### Tornado Dogfight with UFO Reported

Reports have been received by BUFORA's investigations department of an alleged dogfight and chase between an RAF Tornado fighter and an anomalous light above Blackpool Promenade on July 5th. It is alleged that the Tornado flew

dangerously low and fired at least one air to air missile at the unknown orange ball of light. Chiefs at RAF Walton deny any such incident. However, BUFORA investigators are continuing to make enquiries to corroborate the witness' claims. A full update will appear in a future issue of **UFO Times**.