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BUFORA BULLETIN



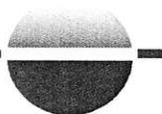
IN THIS ISSUE:

Entity Contact Experiences
Meteor Cults & Sky Gods
Bertil Kuhlemann Remembered
Aerial Intrusions—No Defence?

October 2001

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British UFO Research Association



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**BUFORA BULLETIN
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COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY BRIAN P JAMES

Editorial

Contents

It is impossible not to start my editorial by mentioning the dreadful events of September 11th - of course all our thoughts are with the families of the victims at that time, and of subsequent actions from that date. I was on holiday on that day in September, and there was something quite surreal about watching the whole scenario unfold and see the sheer scale of destruction while sitting in a pub in idyllic Lyme Regis.

In the hours after the terrorist attacks I know that I wasn't the only researcher to question why we spend time thinking about unknown realities etc when there is so much more going on that seems more important - not least the safety and security of our families, if not the entire planet. What is beyond doubt is that our world will never quite be the same again, whatever the outcome of the current military and political action.

However, in the days after September 11th, I did begin to wonder about the implications of 'defence significance' - an area that is of course frequently referred to in terms of UFO reports, and I have written a short article on my thoughts in this issue.

It is with much sadness that I have to report the passing of another long-time friend of BUFORA and respected researcher, as Bertil Kuhlemann died in September, after a long struggle against illness. John Spencer, Steve Gamble, Roy Rowlands and Bob Digby have written obituaries, which emphasise just how much Bertil did in research terms, and how fondly he will be missed.

Bertil was another of the 'old school' of researchers who would willingly listen to the

6	Bertil Kuhlemann Remembered by John Spencer, Bob Digby, Steve Gamble and Roy Rowlands
9	Similarities Between 'Meteorite Cults' Of The Ancient World' And Existing World Religions By Mark Aquil
16	Aerial Intrusions – A New Defence Significance? By Brian P James
20	Entity Contact Experiences Related by Norman Oliver, FRAS
30	Investigations Diary By Gloria Heather Dixon
41	UFOrum

opinion of others, and work with others - so different to some of the 'current crop' of researchers in this country who are never happy unless they are being confrontational.

One consequence of the September 11th events is that we have perhaps had more cause

to reflect on certain freedoms, and indeed principles of freedom that we take for granted in this country, and which of course we remember being fought for every November. One of the freedoms we enjoy in this country is free speech, so it was particularly disappointing that during this period a small group of vociferous researchers in this country chose to try to censor what BUFORA members should hear at the BUFORA lectures - yet would not (or perhaps could not) justify their stance.

BUFORA has long had a policy that it is a 'broad church' - it does not promote any one viewpoint and try to tell its members what to think - and it will continue with this policy as it enters its 40th year as an association. This is also reflected in the subjects presented by speakers at our London lectures - it is always emphasised that opinions made are the beliefs of the speaker, and are not necessarily shared by BUFORA or its council. BUFORA will not pre-censor ideas and presentations because it is lobbied by outsiders to the association (who decline to present their own case), and cannot be expected to run its lectures to suit all and sundry outside the association just to protect a few egos from being deflated.

We believe that you - the members - have the right to hear differing views and opinions, and that you are perfectly capable of discerning facts from fiction and even fantasy, and indeed that you have a right to make up your own minds on subjects presented at lectures, or indeed in this magazine.

On the subject of the London Lectures, we have taken note of feedback from both the regular attendees of the Monday night lectures, and those from outside of London who find it difficult to travel to and from central London on a weekday evening - both

groups of course tend to favour a different date and time for the lectures! We are also considering some other feedback from people who would like to return to lectures which had a more 'social aspect', and this would seem to be better suited to a Saturday lecture event, when travel is easier for people further away. We are exploring venues that would allow us to move back to perhaps bi-monthly Saturday events - either in the afternoon or evening - and which would comprise a speaker (or speakers) along with an open forum session and social meeting.

It is with regret I have to relate that Jenny Randles has had to give up editing the BUFORA UFOCall, after 13 years of compiling all the news and views for this service (which still remains popular, despite the vast quantity of news on the internet). Unfortunately Jenny wasn't comfortable with some association policy, and it is very sad that her active connection with BUFORA should end in this manner. I know that I speak on behalf of all the members and regular listeners, when I say many thanks for all your efforts over the years on this service, Jenny.

I must of course thank all of you who responded to the questionnaire sent round by one of our Vice-Presidents - Norman Oliver. Those of you who expressed an interest in getting more involved in the day-to-day running of aspects of BUFORA will have already been contacted by various members of the council. Indeed I am pleased to say that John Wickham and Robert Morrison will be joining Council - John will also be taking over as Treasurer at the end of the year.

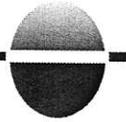
One item that did crop up in the responses to the questionnaire was people wanting a letters section in this magazine - that is one area that

is definitely up to you - the readers! As editor I would gladly publish letters, and welcome the feedback on articles in the magazine, and general issues in Ufology - but I can only do this if you put pen to paper, finger to

keyboard or whatever...I cannot ghostwrite letters of comment.

Brian P James

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Bertil Kuhlemann Remembered

Bertil Kuhlemann
—an Obituary
by **John Spencer**

On 29th September 2001 our colleague of long standing - and a good personal friend to many of us - passed away.

He was a very enthusiastic supporter of BUFORA. He attended many of our congresses and even our routine monthly lectures often travelling at his own expense from Sweden to give his support, offer and advice. When I attempted to launch a series of projects for BUFORA which were to involve overseas colleagues Bertil was the first and most enthusiastic contributor. Indeed, a short while ago he telephoned me in the middle of the night in quite a state of shock when he heard of the demise of the Bristol group (thinking it was us). He was relieved it wasn't.

He undertook Project URD with a view to collating data to prove that UFOs were a statistically viable subject for study, and concluded that he had proven they were. He was part of a research group that undertook UFO studies in southern Sweden working alongside the 'Home Guard' (a more authoritative body in that country than the name suggests to Brits). He was part of a team that approached an alien abduction claim in that country with a wholly new approach, with many important lessons to be learned for Ufology.

He was a founder member of what was then

called PICUR - The Provisional International Committee for UFO Research - (the 'P' was dropped some years ago). Although interest had somewhat waned around the world in recent years Bertil was convinced that there was a role for the Committee and was pressing for it to be revitalised for the use of Ufology all over the world.

He was an enthusiastic publisher along with his daughter, and when I visited his home in recent years I was always amazed at how much of his fairly substantial house was given over to his publishing and UFO interests. He had many beliefs that would probably be labelled 'New Age' yet he was able to combine these beliefs with a very grounded, logical thinking. His background was in engineering and he was highly regarded in his field in Sweden.

His other interest was in politics. He believed that modern politics needed a complete overhaul and - far from simply talking about it - he started his own political party and published his book 'A New Vision for Sweden'. I passed my copy round to several Swedish people I know who live in Britain but who have close connections with Sweden and many were impressed with his ideals. If there was criticism of his thinking it was that he was too idealistic; perhaps in these turbulent and difficult times we might reflect that higher ideals are sorely needed.

He was a most gentle and charming man. All who knew him will remember his liling, gentle voice and his unmistakable smile. As

Steve Gamble has said: "Bertil was one of the few gentlemen in UFOlogy. Somebody who you could disagree with but who would consider your ideas. Very different from what passes for the norm these days".

He had had rheumatoid arthritis for a while, and had suffered a heart attack a few years ago. By the summer of 2001 he "was not in very good shape", according to his daughter. Apparently he had trouble walking and got tired easily. In September his doctor changed his medication and he got an infection in a tooth. The day after his 70th birthday (September 24th) he had to go into the hospital and just a few days later, September 29th, he died from pneumonia and listeria bacteria.

He leaves a wife, Ulla, and daughter, Anne-Marie.

**The loss of an international
player—A tribute to
Bertil Kuhlemann
By Bob Digby**

John Spencer has written an excellent tribute to Bertil and so rather than repeat information I wanted to extend the perspective.

In my opinion, Bertil was one of the few players in our field who tried to see a bigger picture and from an International viewpoint. He was a founder member of the Provisional International Committee for UFO Research (PICUR) in 1979 and that was when I first met him at what was the First Bufora International Congress held at the Mount Royal Hotel near Marble Arch in London.

Bertil certainly was one of the few "gentlemen" of this subject and was a calming influence in very turbulent waters. He took the initiative in making himself known to me

and I shall always treasure the memory of very interesting discussions about the wider implications of our subject.

In his last message to me earlier this year, Bertil said the following and I will leave the last word to him. His physical presence will be missed but in other ways he is still with us.

"I understand that this question (of Ufology etc) – even if it is an interesting one – is but one of several issues we need to address in life. Especially difficult if we are in the midst of our career life and have our families, friends and hobbies."

"I think that it is important that we give each thing... (that we will allow to become an important part in our lives).. its appropriate amount of time, attention, focus and dedication – otherwise we will only be dabbling around and nothing valuable can come out of it."

"Honestly, I do not think that we are in a proper position to try to come to any kind of decision in this matter before we have had a discussion deep enough to be able to say that we have prepared ourselves for it."

**Warm Memories of a Good Friend
—Bertil Kuhlemann
By Steve Gamble**

It was with great sadness that I heard of the recent death of Bertil Kuhlemann.

I first met Bertil at the 1979 International Congress arranged by BUFORA in London, which I guess means that I have known him for a touch over 20 years. Bertil came to the Congress to represent Project URD and UFO Sweden at a meeting of senior members of

UFO groups from around the world. This group evolved into the International Committee for UFO Research (ICUR). Bertil was a strong supporter of ICUR throughout its existence serving in many different roles including for a time Chairman. He travelled the world trying to promote international co-operation and made frequent visits to the UK, often modifying his schedule specifically so he could attend a BUFORA meeting whilst here.

In contrast to many UFOlogists today, Bertil was a quiet man, always willing to listen to the other persons point of view, would analyse what had been said, then ask a few questions - but don't get me wrong, if he still did not agree with you he was not frightened to say, but at least you had been given a fair hearing. Last time I saw Bertil he was saddened to reflect upon how modern UFOlogy had become, too many people making their minds up before considering the evidence and then shouting down anybody who might disagree!

In his professional life he had scientific training and had been head of computing for a large research organisation in Sweden. These skills of constructing logical arguments and carefully analysing of data he brought with him to UFOlogy. Together with a small band of other professionals he formed Project URD which did a great deal of analysis of UFO reports to attempt to isolate common characteristics. Since he retired he was dogged with ill health, but he put his energy into forming a small political party in Sweden centred on environmental issues.

The world will be poorer for the passing of Bertil. But warm memories will live on in the minds of all those who met him.

Bertil Remembered

By Roy Rowlands

I always found Bertil a very polite man with great charm and charisma. He always took a great interest in everything and everyone. His enthusiastic dedication to UFO Research was an inspiration to all who took an interest in the subject. I could not imagine Bertil having any enemies. He seemed to get on well with everyone he came into contact with, and it was reciprocated.

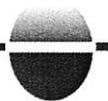
Bertil was a happy man and always smiling and he had many an amusing story to tell. I am glad that he always supported BUFORA and that he won the respect of all BUFORA Members and Officers.

I will always remember the many happy times we shared with Bertil, particularly at the BUFORA Conference that was held at the Lorch Foundation in High Wycombe. I am glad that we were able to interview him and that we have a record of that interview on videotape.

Bertil had a great sense of humour. I recall with amusement the time that Bertil was asked what his age was. He looked surprised at the question but with a big smile he replied, "I am just sixty years of youth!" That says it all about Bertil and his exuberant personality.

Bertil's passing is another sad loss to Ufology and it goes without saying that he will be missed by all who knew him.

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An Essay To Demonstrate The Similarities Between 'Meteorite Cults' Of The' Ancient World' And Existing World Religions

By Mark Aquil

Part 1

The purpose of this essay is to briefly demonstrate both the extent to which meteorites have been venerated in the Near East, and the depth of antiquity from which this phenomena originates. And how certain aspects of Judaeo-Christian and Islamic mysticism directly reflect and perpetuate traditions established long before the advent of the 'Classical Civilizations' of the Mediterranean basin and 'near east'.

The following work is an attempt to demonstrate what appears to be a closely related series of traditions and events, suspended within a mythology that appears to predate the oldest known organised religions on this earth. Included are several references from the Bible and Koran, and in addition, a transcript of information relayed personally to me by an Islamic Sufi.

It would seem appropriate to begin by considering the first known recorded example of meteorite veneration, which existed during the old and middle kingdoms of ancient Egypt.

The 'House of the Phoenix' situated at Heleopolis in northern Egypt appears to have

originally comprised of a solitary stone pillar upon which was placed the sacred relic known as the 'Ben-Ben' stone. Conical in shape, the relic was recorded as having been several tonnes in weight. The ancient Egyptians considered the stone to be the seed of the gods, fallen from heaven. 'Ben' is a Semitic word that translates as 'seed'. The ancient Egyptians themselves were aware that the Benben stone had been worshiped for a considerable time before the rise of 'Dynastic Egypt'. Evidence would suggest that ancestors of the ancient Egyptians, the Neolithic 'Chaldean', inhabitants of northern Egypt had by legend revered a stone that was believed to be the egg of the fabled bird of rebirth and eternity, the 'Phoenix' (later to be referred to by the ancient Egyptians as the 'Bennu Bird' and was symbolically represented as an Ibis/Stork).

At some unknown date the stone mysteriously disappeared without a trace. Many Egyptologists have presented the idea that the benben stone was used as a capstone (pyramidion) for the great pyramid of 'Khufu' (Cheops) at Ghiza.

Although at the present this scenario cannot be ruled out, it is perhaps more likely that the disappearance of the stone was due to the powerful priests of the temple, the 'Magi'. This priesthood would have been comprised

of priests from noble and high ranking backgrounds, an elitist, secular order whose influence was without a doubt considerable. Their power over religious matters and political affairs were probably second only to the royal household itself. And it is possible that in the case of the Ben-Ben stone, even greater. In order to safeguard the relic, it is likely that it was hidden at a secret location known only to the religious elite.

Some Egyptologists have suggested that it is buried in an unexcavated chamber between the front legs of the Great Sphinx of Ghiza. And others that it lies undisturbed in a hidden chamber, somewhere within the great pyramid of Kufu, (Choeops). Unfortunately the truth of the whereabouts or fate of the 'Ben-Ben' stone to this day remains unknown. The only surviving record documenting this event is from the reign of the Pharaoh Sestrosis I (whose date and dynasty remains uncertain), the stone was recorded as having been removed at some point from its sanctuary at Heleopolis. As a reaction to this Sestrosis is recorded as having the site not only restored, but also considerably extended.

The significance and importance of the lost stone can be gauged by the fact that the pharaoh, as a token of reverence for the missing relic, ordered the construction of a massive obelisk to record the event. But despite its impressive size and mass, it was considered to be a poor substitute for the original relic. It seems a little odd that the king Sestrosis, despite his all-encompassing powers of rule as Pharaoh did not know the whereabouts of the relic. This does lend some credit to the idea that the disappearance of the stone was a result of actions committed by or on behalf of the high priests of Heleopolis for reasons known only to them.

Not only was the site at Heleopolis important as the shrine of the 'Ben-Ben' stone but

according to the recent revelations by Mr Gilbert and Mr Bauval concerning the reasoning behind the positioning of religious structures in Dynastic Egypt. The very positioning of the temple of the Phoenix itself is significant to ancient Egyptian stellar religions. Research by Mr Bauvall and Gilbert, summarised in their book 'The Orion Mystery' suggests that many of the religious sites of ancient Egypt were arranged in relationship to one another, in order that they would form a perfect reflection of the major stellar constellations of the night sky across the landscape of Egypt. The temple of the Phoenix at Heleopolis was constructed as a carefully aligned representation of the star Sirius and the pyramids at Giza having been aligned to represent Orion's belt and the river Nile representative of the milky-way.

Bearing in mind the Animistic fertility-based ideas of the ancient Egyptians it seems fitting that as a symbolic ritual the Ben-Ben stone, seed of the god Osiris, was housed within the temple of the Phoenix at Heleopolis, presided over by Isis, the mother goddess and wife of Osiris. Isis was represented in the night sky by the star Sirius/Sothis, which was also the primary star in the ancient constellation of the Phoenix. Thus the symbolic union of the celestial 'mother and father' was permanently represented and was thereby believed to perpetuate and preserve the cycles of the stars and nature itself, thus ensuring the perpetual existence of Egyptian civilization.

Examples of 'meteoric' cults are also recorded by several other cultures of the ancient world. Greek classical literature has provided us with further evidence that gives an indication of the antiquity of such cults. One example, the 'Great stone of Kronos', housed and venerated at the Sanctuary of Delphi was known as the 'Zeus Baetylos'. Although somewhat smaller than the Ben-Ben stone, the meteorite was regarded with awe by the ancient Greeks.

Evidence suggests the Sanctuary at Delphi contained several fine examples of recovered meteorites, perhaps as many as forty stones were kept at the Sanctuary. This does give an indication that both the recovery and collection of meteoric debris had been an on-going process, and was a primary concern to the presiding religious elite. Eventually the appearance and inclusion of reproduced 'Omphalos' ('navel stones') became a common feature in many Greek shrines. These stones were token copies of originals, usually carved from marble or limestone. The 'Sun-stone' of Thebes was considered to be the 'transitive device' by which the 'Sibyls' (priestesses) would mediate and orate the meanings of divine messages and omens from the gods. The stone was originally situated at Thebes, in the province of Boeotia and was known as 'The seat of Manto'.

According to legend Manto was the high priestess of Thebes and daughter of the wise sage Tiresias who as a young man, was blinded by the goddess Athena for watching her bathe. Athena as an act of reconciliation for her reckless reaction, granted Tiresias the powers of prophetic vision. The stone was later re-situated at Delphi along with the priestess Manto. A record of the stone and Manto written by the scholar Plutarch indicates that the sacred stone was primarily iron in composition, this being discernable by the stones apparent magnetic qualities. Plutarch commented that Manto claimed, "For, as the iron oftentimes acts as if it were being attracted and drawn towards the stone, and oftentimes is rejected and repelled in the opposite direction". Meteoric connections also exist in the cult of Athena in the form of her original character function, the goddess of storms, lightning and thunder. The oldest known representations of the goddess were the 'Palladia'. These were stones of meteoric origin, having been seen falling from the heavens and were considered to contain

inherent powers that could bestow divine protection or give oracular sight to chosen individuals. Olympian legend relays how a Palladia made by Athena to represent her friend and foster-sister, was accidentally hurled to earth by Zeus, landing in the province of Ilium, where a shrine was built to house it.

The possession of a 'Palladium' was considered to be of paramount importance by individual sanctuaries, provinces and kingdoms, especially within the state of Athens. In the classical works of Homer, it is mentioned that one of the most celebrated relics of the ancient world was the Palladia of Troy.

The power of meteoric stones as protective Talismen was considered so great that the Greek army besieging Troy believed that their eventual victory was impossible while the Trojans retained a certain Palladium. The matter of how to overcome the powers of the talisman stone was addressed by the Greek military high command. The crisis of the 'divine stone' was addressed by the actions of the fabled heroes, Odysseus and Diomedes. They decided that they should steal the precious relic to ensure the demoralization and subsequent defeat of the entire Trojan army. The story continues that the two heroes failed in their mission, having stolen a copy of the Trojan Palladium. The original was hidden in an inner sanctum deep within the citadel. Despite the reputed powers of the stone, the city eventually fell to the Greeks and the stone taken to Italy by Aeneas as a spoil of war. Later, the relic was moved to Locris where it was put on open display, for the sake of both state prestige and veneration by the public.

Similar accounts exist of meteorites having been worshipped in Syria, Phoenicia and Phrygia. The venerated stones have been ascribed as belonging to many and various

gods and goddesses including 'Cybele', the mother goddess who was represented by a black conical stone. The presiding attitudes in the ancient Near East surrounding meteorite worship bear striking similarities throughout the area despite tribal, regional or secular differences.

Not only do the above examples illustrate that ideas and traditions relating to certain special stones were shared by early cultures covering most of the ancient world, but that similarities exist today in more than one of the worlds religions. The most noteworthy of these is the 'Black-Stone' of Jeddah, in Saudi Arabia.

This large ovular stone of meteoric origin is considered to be the most holy of all Islamic relics. It is to the Ka-Ba that every Muslim should at least once in their lifetime (circumstances allowing), perform the 'Hajj' (holy pilgrimage) preferably in time for the month of 'Dhu-ul-Hijja'. The Black Stone was venerated long before the advent of Christianity or Islam. The age of the shrine and its meteoric relic was without a doubt of primary importance to successive waves of pre-Islamic invaders and migrants to the Meccan area. Of these the most influential was the tribe of 'Qurayesh' a powerful clan who had occupied the territory by force under the command of Qusayy (a direct ancestor of the prophet Mahomet).

Due to the far-reaching cultic significance of the Black Stone and the trade routes that ran through the city, the Qurayesh became both powerful and wealthy, thereby holding the title of 'Guardians of the Shrine'. At this point in history the Ka-Ba was a place of pilgrimage to many systems of Polytheistic and Animistic beliefs.

This issue was well illustrated by the actions of the prophet Mahomet after his victory over opposing factions of the Qurayeshi clan (their tribal beliefs comprising of primarily pagan and Christian traditions) when he proceeded to systematically 'cleanse' the shrine by

destroying some 360 images of idols and effigies that depicted various pagan gods and 'Jinn', irreverently venerated alongside the sacred Black Stone. Amongst the most noteworthy of these were images of 'Hubal' the moon god, and the four goddesses 'Al-Huzza', 'Al-Laht', 'Manut' and 'Wudd'.

Furthermore, the prophet was instructed by god to test the fidelity of the population in their devotion towards the new order of Islam. Mahomet fulfilled Gods wishes by giving instructing the faithful, which decreed that rather than an individual turning to face Jerusalem to perform prayers (which had been the tradition of the Christian element of the Qurayeshi), the faithful believers and converts to the new order of Islam should pay homage to god by the recitation of daily prayers while facing and prostrating themselves towards the sacred Ka-Ba (performing the 'Quibbah').

It is worthy of note, historically there have been several attempts to remove or damage the stone. These accounts include the theft of the relic by the 'Qarmatis' who removed it from its shrine during their invasion of Jeddah/Mecca in the year 920 AD. It was returned to its rightful place some 21 years later (having cost the ruling Qurayeshi Sultan a large fortune in ransom payment).

Evidence of the continuation of an older religious system existing within Islamic tradition emerges once again in the form of the Tawaf. This ritual requires the pilgrim should approach the 'Holy of Holies' by circumnavigating the area (originally known as the 'Masjid', a word with root connections to the term Magi) around the Ka-Ba in an ever decreasing spiral of seven revolutions, then upon reaching the Black Stone, perform prayers, 'kiss' the relic by placing their foreheads against the stone. The ritual action of physically placing ones head against the stone would appear to arise from the belief that the stone possesses the quality of being able to act as a 'transmitter' through which god

and the angels can more clearly view the mind of man.

Direct similarities to the idea that certain stones possess divine and oracular powers can be found in the Bible. For example, in the Old Testament book of Genesis (Gen 28, 11-22,) Jacob, in order to save his own life, flees into the wilderness where he finds a depression in the ground in which to hide and sleep. Jacob is described as having chosen a particular stone to use as a pillow. As a result of his head being in contact with the stone he experiences visions of both angels and God. Upon waking, Joshua immediately decided that the stone was sacred, and went about 'setting it up'. Jacob then proceeded to anoint the stone with holy oils in order to venerate the 'inherent' spirit of god. Some time after the event, in another vision (Gen 35, 1-15.) God gave Joshua instructions to return to the site, and there erect an altar (on which to place the stone?). It is interesting to note that Jacob named the place 'Bethel' meaning 'Gods abode/house'. This translation can be interpreted as an indication that certain geological objects were undoubtedly believed to contain properties of an oracular or 'supernatural' nature. Despite the fact that at no point is the stone referred to as being meteoric of origin, it is obvious that it was considered to inherently contain and transfer some form of 'divine' phenomena.

The book of 'Joshua' (Josh 24,26-27,) refers to Joshua as having 'Took up a great stone and set it up in a sanctuary dedicated to the worship of Yahweh'. The stone is given credit by Joshua as having the ability to act as a witness against mankind's infidelity towards god. The verses relay 'Behold this stone shall be a witness against us, for it hath heard all the words of God which he spake to unto us. It shall therefore be a witness against you lest you deny your God'.

The same information is contained in the book of Genesis (Gen 31, 45-52). In this case Joshua is described as having 'Took up a stone and set it up as a pillar'. The verses again refer to the stone as having the ability to act as 'a witness to events'.

The above excerpts from the Bible can be interpreted as being similar to the traditions surrounding the Black Stone of Mecca, in that the verses make direct reference to both the physical, or near physical contact with the stone and the notion that the stone operates as some form of 'transmitter/receiver' to an alternative consciousness.

At no point in any of the above examples is reference made to the sacred stone having been altered in any way. In the long recorded history of the Black Stone there have been no attempts to alter the surfaces, or shape of the stone. Other than pathetic attempts to destroy the relic, or remove pieces, committed by aggressive outsiders. In the case of meteorites comprising mostly of iron, or other metallic elements, they would have appeared as being indestructible to human hands or any tools available to mankind at the time.

Due to the celestial nature of the meteorites, the recovery of any debris would have been of virtually unparalleled importance to the Animistic inhabitants populating the impact area. It is likely that recovered meteorites were considered far too precious and sacred to have been altered or reshaped by craftsmen. This concern is perhaps reflected in the Bible, where Old Testament tradition was originally firmly set against the reshaping of any form of altar stones, as in the book of Exodus (Exod 20, 24~25). This tradition is clearly documented by the lines "An altar of earth (rock/stone) thou shall make unto me, and if thou lift up thy tools upon it, thou hast polluted it".

Also in the book of Deuteronomy (Deu 27,5-6) it is mentioned that in the process of making an altar, no tools were to be used upon it. And again in the book of Joshua (Josh 8, 13) the same protocol is referred to. This tradition could be viewed as evidence that the stones chosen for an altar, were chosen for their quality of rareness, undoubtedly differing from the local geological format in composition, weight, colour and shape.

The question of when in the past the Black Stone was first venerated might not ever be exactly known. Although a clue to the antiquity of the stone as a religious focal point and that of its surrounding cult may exist within the name of the relic's sanctuary, the 'Ka-Ba'.

It is from the language of the old kingdom (and the first known use of Egyptian hieroglyphs dating to the early middle kingdom) that yield an amazing clue into the age of the Black Stone cult. The word 'Ka' represents the ideal of the 'substance' of life and the very 'spirit' of an individual life force. The hieroglyphic symbol representing Ka is a pair of arms fused together at the shoulders, the upper arms being horizontal, the forearms raised vertical, hands extended and open with the palms facing forwards. The Ka was believed to be inherent within a life form from birth, and was viewed as being a part of daily existence in the role of what could be considered as a partially separate entity to the physical body, guarding and guiding its physical aspect throughout its life in the material dimension. After death the Ka was believed to exit the body. Furthermore, Ka was also symbolically representative of the duality of mankind's physical and spiritual aspects.

During the middle and new kingdoms of

ancient Egypt the hieroglyph Ka was often represented painted on the inside relief of burial sarcophagi, each hieroglyph carefully arranged in relationship with others that together formed 'magical' texts that would ensure the 'nourishment' of the soul long after the death of an individual. The hieroglyphs would beseech the gods, usually 'Horns' to channel his divine essence (Ka) to the aid of the deceased.

The second syllable of the name Ka-Ba is reminiscent of the hieroglyph 'Ba'.

Ba is again one of a group of words dating from the language of the Egyptian Old Kingdom. The hieroglyph Ba is represented by a bird's body (traditionally considered to be a Phoenix by scholars), with the addition of a human head rather than that of a bird. In funerary texts the head is representative of the deceased individual. The word symbolised the human 'content of thought', the individuality of a person and their effect on the physical world during their lifetime. This was considered to be the part of an individual that remained active after death. The grave offerings left by the living were thought to provide the Ba of the deceased with 'nourishment' in the form of 'Kaenergy' rather than physical calorific energy. The two hieroglyphs when used in co-ordination with one another can be interpreted as symbolising of the transference of the mind and spirit to and from the world of the sublime and the gods. The hieroglyph was included in virtually all funerary scripts, in the hope that after death their personality would be able to journey with the individuals Ka to the celestial 'Duat' ('Tuat', home of the gods and heavenly souls), thereby remaining 'spiritually intact' and thereby gaining the gift of immortality.

Is it too much to speculate that old kingdom Egyptian was the root language from which the Ka-Ba has inherited its title? Two unique

words, the meanings of which were vitally central to matters of spirituality in the old Egyptian system of religion. The two words when used together can be interpreted as 'The transference of the eternal energy of god, to and from the individual'.

Perhaps the ancient Egyptians/ Chaldeans themselves may have made pilgrimages to the shrine at Mecca at some distant point in the distant past, centuries before the advent of Egypt as a 'superpower' of the ancient world. The journey from Egypt to Mecca (a distance of some 600 miles) would not have been a problem to the notably skilful Egyptian mariners who would have followed a southerly route along the relatively calm waters of the Red Sea, the problem of navigation being simplified by shadowing the west coast of the Middle-Eastern peninsula. This would have ensured that, the journey was relatively easy and safe.

A wealth of archaeological remains, artefacts and writings provide the evidence, that without a doubt these trade routes not only existed but that they positively flourished.

Further evidence relative to this ancient cult appears in the holy book of Islam, the Koran. The verses explain that, coinciding with the rise of the prophet Mahomet as a pious holy man, the synchronistic appearance of a comet was followed by a prolonged and violent meteor shower. Verses of the 37th Surah relay how the meteor showers were of such great intensity that astronomers were at a complete loss to explain the phenomena, ironically the situation was made worse by the fact that due to the ferocity of the storms, the soothsayers were unable to venture out to examine the stars and thereby interpret the

astrological meanings of the event.

The timing of a comet and meteor shower coinciding with the advent of Mahomet draws a close parallel to the Biblical nativity scene, with the birth of Jesus being shortly preceded by the appearance of a 'star in the east'.

In Part II of this paper, Mark will expand on some of these ideas, and recount conversations he had with a Sufi in Kashmir.

These conversations also suggest a strong validation of the ideas put forward in Robert Temple's *The Sirius Mystery* ...

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Aerial Intrusions – A New Defence Significance?

By Brian P James

It cannot be doubted that the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington on 11th September 2001 will change both commercial and military aviation for a great many years, if not decades. I certainly do not want in any sense to belittle the tragic events, or their aftermath and grief – however, the events after that date do offer us one or two clues as to perceptions of defence significance. It should also be noted that during the total ban on commercial flights in the USA immediately after the attacks, there were many spurious reports of ‘phantom aircraft’ that very much echoed the invasion paranoia of December 1942. Perhaps we also need to study the incidents of UFO reports in the USA during this period – how many people were further misidentifying natural objects as potential aerial threats?

We only have to think of Nick Pope’s views in this country to see how he argues that Britain’s air defence is very much threatened by incursions of unknown aerial vehicles on a very regular basis. As some of you may know from other articles I’ve written on this subject, I do not agree with Nick’s public thoughts and conclusions on this subject (even if this has led to me being thought of by some as an MOD ‘infiltrator’)

Whatever credence you give to Bob Dean’s accounts and claims about the “Evaluation of Possible Military Threat to Allied Forces in Europe”, a study alleged to have been carried out by SHAPE in the late 1950s, it defies

belief that the powers that be of both NATO and WARPAC during the height of the Cold War did not take true unknown incursions into airspace very seriously – for goodness sake, we were talking about possible Mutually Assured Destruction by the world’s nuclear arsenals! Don’t place too much belief in the often publicised ‘encounters’ when RAF or USAF interceptors flew out to intercept ‘intruder’ Soviet reconnaissance aircraft – these ‘intruders’ were very much known ahead of the interception, and expected, and the ritual game then played out of taking photos and exchanging good-natured waves between aircrews before the ‘intruder’ and ‘defender’ return home.

How would the interceptors have reacted to a true unknown? No government or defence force could afford to take the chance that an unknown aerial incursion was not a nuclear first strike by ‘the enemy’. Indeed the Belgian events of the late 1980s perhaps confirm this viewpoint, or did they?

Let’s recall that at the height of the Belgian Wave, it was only the Belgian Air Force that scrambled any aircraft to intercept aerial targets coming in from Eastern Europe. Be in no doubt, these were supposedly true unknown aerial targets, not the games of Soviet reconnaissance aircraft – where in NATO was the decision taken not to mobilise its defensive aircraft? Remember, the unknown targets had already flown across the NATO airspace over West Germany – home

to numerous USAFE and RAF bases, whose very role was to intercept WARPAC first strike incursions! Seems like someone in the chain of command forgot to tell the Belgian's what was going on!

According to the accounts, at times in the Belgian Wave, these unknown targets flew towards British airspace, yet at no time did the RAF apparently think it warranted an alert, implying that they already knew this was no threat, and to that end they would be of no defence significance.

Let's not forget the world situation at the time

going to die *when* we have a nuclear war!" (my emphasis.) Western Europe at this time could not have been more aware of defence and security!

We have to think again to another tragic event, and subsequent ones, to consider another factor here. We all remember the mystery that surrounded the loss of TWA flight 800 on 17th July 1996, which even now prompts conspiracy theories that it was downed by a rogue anti-aircraft missile, or even links to the alleged Montauk Project, to say nothing of claims of UFOs being seen in



of the Rendlesham Incident in December 1980 – again supposed to be of “no defence significance.” There was still considerable international tension over the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan, and Martial Law had just been enforced in Poland, under the instigation of the Soviet Union, and the Cold War was at its coldest since probably the Cuban missile crisis. We had a relatively new government in Britain, who were preparing us for nuclear war, as witnessed by Deputy Prime Minister William Whitelaw's Freudian slip in a TV interview – “Of course people are

the vicinity...

Another commercial flight suffered a near tragedy in the very same area only six months later. However, this near tragedy was directly attributable to air-defence operations, and I was always surprised that certain sections of the media didn't cover this event more fully. On 5th February 1997, a Boeing 727 of Nations Air Charter was en-route from Puerto Rico to New York's Kennedy airport. When it was 70 miles off the US's eastern seaboard,

it was intercepted and buzzed by two F-16 fighters of the 177th Fighter Wing of the USANG, causing great panic and distress on the airliner, as its pilot's were responding to proximity warnings of collision – the F-16s had gone that close. The pilot's of the Boeing 727 had to take evasive action, and the passengers were given a very rough ride as the airliner was forced to dive 4000'! At one point the F-16s had buzzed the 727 so close that the airliner's proximity warning system could no longer detect the fighters, and they 'engaged the commercial airliner more than once. ANG commander, Col. Thomas Griffin - spokesman for the 177th Fighter Wing made some very interesting comments at the time, and which seem even more curious in September 2001.

The two fighter pilots had detected an "unauthorised aircraft" in their area – remember this airliner was transmitting its identity to civilian air-controllers by means of its transponder. He added "...it was their mission to check out any aircraft that appeared to be intruding US airspace", and that "...they had to get close enough to identify it". The two ANG F-16s were on exercises being controlled by the US Navy, who insisted that they had ordered the pilots to disengage their intercept of a civilian airliner.

While the above may indicate a gross lack of communication between USANG, USN and civilian air controllers, it should not be forgotten that even in 1997, the US military were vigilant to aerial intruders, remember, according to Col Griffin "...it was their mission to check out any aircraft that appeared to be intruding US airspace" I see no reason to suspect that this policy had not been enforced between February 1997 and September 2001.

I have to admit that while I was watching news reports of the airborne terrorist attacks

in the United States on 11th September, I was left wondering just what the USAF and ANG were doing, once it must have become clear that the first airliner hitting the World Trade Center was no accident. I did see reports that confirmed that the hijackers turned off the automated identification transponder systems on board the airliners, which would have effectively made them invisible to normal commercial air traffic control, but surely air defence radar must have been tracking these aircraft – surely four civilian airliners (even recently I have seen statements attributed to Vice-President Dick Cheney that six airliners were at one time unaccounted for) vanishing off air traffic control systems with no reports of crashes might have raised suspicions? It can only be a matter of time before conspiracy theorists take this line of thought much, much further!

In the days and weeks following the attacks, it has been 'revealed' that the governments in both the United States and Britain have now empowered their air defence fighters to shoot down commercial aircraft that are deemed to be potential threats - I would be fascinated to find out how the RAF are now reacting to 'UFO' reports and anomalous radar traces! I would be very surprised if there is any real change in air defence policy.

Clearly the official line that UFOs pose no defence significance does not square with events and publicly stated air defence policy, unless the evaluation of a lack of threat has already been made higher up the chain of command – so who does know what is behind these aerial intrusions by clearly structured vehicles of unknown origin?

BOOK REVIEW

TITLE: Disctech, (A theory about Alien Technology). **AUTHOR:** Robert Kingsley Morison. **PUBLISHER:** United Writers Publications Ltd, Ailsa Castle Gate, Penzance, Cornwall, England TR20 8BG Tel: 01736 365 954. **PRICE:** £14.95. **ISBN:** 1 85200 073 2.

UFO sightings are one thing, UFO research is another, speculation and mind boggling ideas is taking things a step further and this book certainly puts the cat amongst the pigeons with a theory which when one ploughs their way through this book makes you ponder, 'could the author be onto something here' ! The author begins by looking at the very basic and fabric of life/atoms and what makes up the universe. It's clear to see that the author is clearly annoyed by the 'mumbo jumbo' talk by teachers to students throughout the world where students were fed a number of scientific ideas many of which were out of date ! Admittedly those teachers were not in step with all the current advances in science and when those advances came round, some stuck to the old ideals !! The author looks at the very genesis of matter and tells us that "*Some forms of energy are totally imperceptible to our physical senses until they impinge on matter, then we can perceive and measure their potencies*". The ideas of cosmologists and relativists are looked at and weighed up. Sir Isaac Newton and a number of other scientists views of the universe are looked at as if the theory by Emanuel Swedenborg. Microdynamics, dimensions and atoms are all equally looked into which is the author's way of paving the floor for the main structure of his book.

book well over my head and I'm sure another reviewer may well have understood all these principles, however even I could see the way this book was developing. He eventually gets to the UFO scene in which he tells us in was around 1955/56 that he really began to take an active interest in UFO reports. It was in July 1969 that he conceived what he terms his 'elementary idea' for generating levitational forces which is based on the vortex theory. Not only did he want to know what UFOs were, but being from a scientific background himself, he wanted to know how the UFOs operated, what drove them, what fuelled them etc. The author presents a good number of UFO cases in respect to the theories that he was beginning to develop in regards to what controls these objects and you can certainly see the way in which his mind is going. As I ploughed my way through this book, I began to warm to the author's theory and the early part of the book, heavy though it was, began to make sense. But what conclusion did the author reach after studying this phenomenon since 1956 I hear you ask, ? well it's partly to do with levitation and that's all your getting from me. ! To find out the crux of what the author believes is the driving force behind the UFO mystery, well you'll just need to buy this book and find out. An interesting and thought provoking book then and certainly interesting enough to grace the book shelf of any serious and budding UFOlogist.

**Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson SPI
(England) spi_spi@hotmail.com**

I must admit I found the early part of this

Entity Contact Experiences

Related by Norman Oliver, FRAS

This account of a series of contact experiences was presented by Norman Oliver to the Eureka Springs conference earlier this year. Here, Norman relates the accounts of an old friend of BUFORA.

When I spoke at last year's Eureka Springs Conference, I briefly referred to two contact experiences that happened - and, indeed which are still happening to a friend of mine in Thailand. Any of you who were at the conference in 2000 may recall that I then asked if anyone had come across a contact where the alien entity's eyes had twin pupils. No-one had, and, indeed, I still haven't found reference anywhere to such an entity - and that includes researches back into Mythology and Ancient Deities.

Since then his contact experiences have developed, I thought you'd like to know more about them. Last year I didn't have my friend's permission to give details. This year I DO! I know he would welcome ideas, observations or suggestions - that anyone might have. On occasion I've also passed some of the details on to Lou Farish, and he can confirm the accuracy of much of what I say. Events appear to be ongoing - but they're intriguing enough up to now.

So.... Here we go.....

My friend's name is Larry Dale. Back in the late 70s, he was the then NIC - National Investigations Co-ordinator of BUFORA. Currently I am myself a Vice-President of

BUFORA, and back in the 70s and 80s edited its Journal, and it was in this capacity I was first in close contact with Larry, as he'd provide me with details and results of investigations into reports so that I could write them up for the Journal.

If it isn't a contradiction in terms, I always found him a very 'down to earth' type of guy. He always expected his investigators to give him full and correct facts about every case, and it's probably true to say I couldn't have produced the Journal as well as I did without his assistance. He also had - and indeed HAS - a keen interest in the Korean martial art of Taekwondo. He's now a black belt, which involves considerable mental and physical discipline - more of that later.

First I'd better explain the Thailand connection. Back in the early 50s I lived in Thailand myself for some 4 years. Larry was still in England, but I introduced him to a Thai lady living in the house adjoining the one where I resided myself. Larry took early retirement, married this lady and went to live in Thailand. He still lives there and has no wish to return. As neighbours between 1993 and 1996 he and I were in constant touch until I returned to England. Since that time we've been in regular communication by letter, phone and latterly email. Purely as an 'aside' incidentally, every Thai, male or female, has a nickname by which they are usually known, and when such names are translated into English, the result can at times be a little unfortunate. Larry's wife's nickname

translates as “Rat”, her full name being “Ratanaporn”, but that’s by the by!

As well as being a Taekwondo black belt – currently Larry instructs a local school in Taekwondo (and he also runs his own classes), Larry has also always had a fascination for mathematics – particularly higher mathematics and calculus. To a degree, this comes into his experiences, but I’ll keep such references to a minimum, as to be honest, whilst my own mental arithmetic is pretty good, my algebra, quadratic equations and calculus are definitely not. Both Larry and myself are fellows of the Royal Astronomical Society.

Two relevant points here. First, the discipline of Taekwondo also includes mental exercise, metal discipline and meditation. Second, Larry has, over the years experienced many coincidences associated with the numbers 3 and 8 (This is relevant to his contact). Numerologically speaking, in fact, ‘8’ is his life number...

To give one example... When I first mentioned his future wife to him, I incorrectly gave her birthday as January 28th, to which he replied “But, that’s my grandmother’s birthday” I then said, “Hang on, I’ll check the date,” then corrected and said “No, I’m wrong, its January 8th.” To which he responded, “But, that’s my mother’s birthday!”

But, to his experiences...

I would like to emphasise at the outset, that if Larry says something happened – IT HAPPENED! He makes a darned good witness, and is always matter of fact...

The story really goes back some 45 years – to the mid-1950s, when Larry was a schoolboy in his early teens. He then lived in Bow, in East London. Midday one Saturday, he was crossing the road at Bow church. This

church, is in fact, on a large island in the middle of the road which separate the east and west bound carriageways. He’d crossed the westbound road, when, with the church behind him, he started to cross the eastbound lanes. He then experienced a ‘slowing-up’ feeling – time was dragged more and more as he crossed the road. He was moving more and more slowly, unable to speed up. After what seemed like an age, he reached the pavement, turned right, and for some reason, looked round to his left, where, some 20 yards or so away, he saw a ‘twin’ of himself looking back at him, but walking in the opposite direction. He felt quite sure that this ‘other self’ was smiling, though he knew his own face must have been expressing surprise!

Then turning, he found he was suddenly walking at speed, giving chase, and he immediately collided with a lady carrying a lot of shopping – who made an appropriate remark about what she thought of the younger generation! He ran on hard, looking to catch up with his ‘twin’, but he figure disappeared amongst people out shopping. Retracing his steps a few minutes later, he met his friends, and they thought his story was hilarious!

Right, here we jump ahead some 25 years to around 1980. Larry was then married with three children, the youngest aged four. He lived in Petts Wood, in the county of Kent.

In his home there, on a number of occasions over a period of weeks in that year, Larry would hear a baby crying. However, no baby was in the house, and none were in the houses on either side. No-one else in his family, or in either of the adjoining houses, could hear the baby – only him. He always heard the crying when in the lounge, and would follow its sound out of the room, where it would then appear to come from upstairs, but as he walked up the stairs, it would grow fainter and disappear. He would hear it for about 5 minutes before it would cease. He mentioned it to me at the time, and I could think of no

logical explanation. He also visited Tim Good, who gave as his opinion that some entity or another might be trying to contact him – which may have been prophetic in view of what was to happen 20 years later – 2000.

So, now we jump forward that 20 years, to March 2000. Larry has now been living in Thailand, with his wife (who is incidentally a staff nurse at Udornthani hospital), for around four years. Until last year he can recall no other experiences of a psychic or alien nature. In the middle of the night, in January of 2000, he heard that same cry of a baby as 20 years before. His wife was asleep, so he got up, and opened the bedroom door. But, as he went outside the crying ceased – it was only audible to him in the bedroom. Lasting about five minutes on each occasion, this was repeated at night four or five times during the next two weeks.

His house is on a corner, with two other houses adjoining, belonging to his wife's sisters, the three homes forming an L-shape. In none of them were any children, or any age...

Back to the 'crying'. On about the fifth or sixth time he heard it, it was at midday, not in the night. Obviously if you awake quickly at night one can be slightly disoriented, but now of course, he was wide awake, and he again heard the crying as he entered the bedroom. All this time, he was able to follow the 'strength' of the crying. He stepped forward slowly, following the intensity of the sound, and on reaching a central spot, felt a tingling sensation. The crying faded into the background and aspects of a face appeared in his mind.

Larry's Taekwondo meditation techniques mean that he has full mental control – he can make his mind blank for a while, and concentrate on whatever he wishes, and so on. However, what appeared, or what was projected to him was OUTSIDE his control! He himself says he felt what was happening,

including the crying, was technologically induced, since he believed that supernatural/psychic events do not normally focus on one very small area.

All subsequent communications were received in the bedroom, on some occasions when he was in bed, and not always at the particular point where the first projection was seen. His wife – with one small confirmatory exception (I'll come to in a moment) – was, and still is completely unaware of anything unusual. Larry's told her nothing of his experiences for several reasons. For one thing, Ratanaporn was usually either working at the hospital at the time, or asleep. Also, as with most Thai's, her English, while adequate for everyday use, is otherwise rather limited – say for example, you were to say to a Thai "He's round the bend", or "He's two sandwiches short of a picnic" (Neither of which I hasten to add apply to Larry!), the result would be puzzlement, and they might ask "Where is the bend?" or "Why did he not take enough sandwiches?" – you get my drift.

Back to the entity's appearance. The head and face was all that was 'shown', and Larry described this to me from three angles of view – the front, side and from above. The frontal shape was not unlike that of a 'Grey', but the top of the forehead seemed almost flat. The mouth appeared rather as a three-tired series of dots or holes. The eyes were green with black pupils, but there were two pupils in each eye. As I've commented, this is something that I've not come across in any in any other form of alien contact, and I've not subsequently located any alien visitation that has such a feature. I've even delved into mythological gods and ancient religions to try to uncover instances of a 'twin-pupilled entity', but without success.

The face was generally of a light purple colour. From a side view, the head extended backwards a remarkable length, this being

about three times the height of the head, with the purple colour still dominant. From an overhead view, the head again appeared extremely elongated, its top being of a bluish colour with no hair whatsoever. From a computer graphic subsequently made by Larry, we both remarked that from the 'overhead' view, the head rather resembled a coffin!

Larry felt that the images were being directly placed in his 'minds eye', and he sensed too that the words "equation" and "formula" were being directed to him. Also, he felt somehow, that the entity was indicating to him that it was Larry who should next try to get in touch. The entire experience lasted for only a few minutes before the image faded.

Larry thought about this, and decided that the crying had only been an 'initial' attempt to contact him, and if he waited again for it, it wouldn't be HE who was attempting contact. Since the contact had been a mental one, he decided to use his Taekwondo meditation techniques, partly because the colour of the entity had been his own meditation colour-purple; and partly that since he'd have been hard put to initiate a 'physical' method, it seemed the best option.

So this is what Larry subsequently did, always meditating either in the bedroom at the spot where he'd first been drawn, or when he was actually in bed.

On his first and subsequent attempts any former images that had manifested in his Taekwondo meditations were completely superseded by the head he had seen. To quote Larry himself: "What seemed to have happened was that my 'encounter' reprogrammed all previous images and replaced them with just the one - our 'friend'. When I ask a question and get an answer, there is no colour change. The image colour is green, but when I receive an answer, part of it changes colour, the whole slowly then

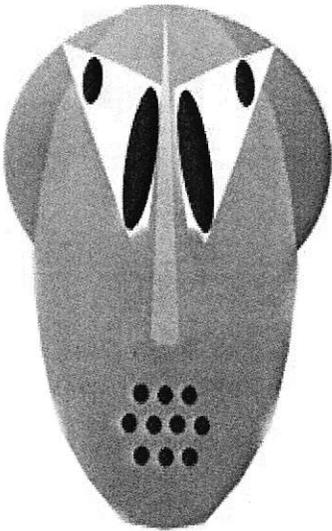
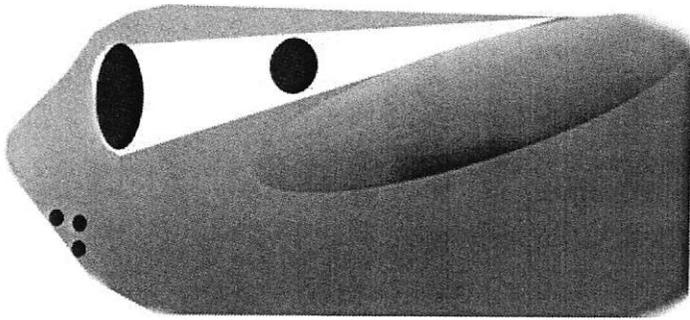
disappearing, allowing me to travel on further until I meet the changed image again. I am talking here of only the frontal facial view"

Now when I read this I couldn't help thinking of a comparison with a computerised website - where you 'explore' one particular facet of that site and then 'return' to its 'homepage'. Larry continued, "When I asked about the identity and origin of the entity, I did not understand the answers I received. When I tried to establish identity I was told 'Mee' or 'MI'. When I asked if 'he' was human, the answer was 'no'. As to its origin, the response was 'CAN EVERYWHERE TO 24'" Concerning the entity itself or its whereabouts, there was no further information offered than this...

Larry continued his account: "It seems that I can revisit answers when I restart a meditation, and always I seem to have to start at the beginning. But I can only revisit a certain number of times, since earlier answers have already been 'deleted'. One of the things I do not understand are the way answers are given to me. I don't 'hear' the answer - it is somehow 'inserted' and I feel at the time something going into an appropriate location in my mental dictionary - a very weird feeling"

Now this again brought to my mind a computer association [*Not unlike one experienter I know who describes this 'input' as being like a software 'download' - Ed*] It also brought the thought that the entity had no intention of offering direct information itself - it was just waiting for appropriate questions asked of it - not answering any that he (?) she (?) or it(?) (no information on gender was ever given, indeed it was indicated it was not allowed to be given) didn't want to, which seemed a trifle one-sided [*But which does have some parallels with information dowsing - Ed*]

Be that as it may, taking into account Larry's



A graphical representation of 'MI' © Larry Dale

mathematical strengths, questions he asked concerning numbers and time were those that were answered in depth. Obviously one doesn't accept anything he was told as being 'gospel' truth, but they do open other 'spectrums of view' so to speak.

The first information he was given was when he asked about TIME. It was indicated that whilst it is fundamental that an electric current through anything produces a magnetic field associated with it, that field also has an intrinsic 'TIME DIMENSION' or 'TIME

FIELD'. It was at this point, I have to say, that I began to 'lose' Larry, or rather Larry lost me, as he had the maths and calculus to test out what was being said, and I didn't. But, he DID run a long conversation with 'MI' along these lines. As I'm sure that you, like me, would find many of the mathematical correlations more than a trifle 'heavy going', I'll keep things to the 'bare bones' and not venture into the world of calculus.

Indeed, it quickly became a hurdle for Larry himself, since on questioning further, he found the race if his contact - 'MI', had no numerical systems, no numbers at all!

So think for a moment. How can one describe area, volume, quantity and so on **without** using numbers? On occasion in Thailand I've come across this at its simplest - for example it might be said, **not that** "I have three pairs of trousers", but that "I have a pair of trousers that are grey, and another pair the same, and I also have a brown pair". They do have numbers to use if they need to, and such a way of quantifying things can only be used at its most simplistic.

This is what Larry himself wrote on this subject: "It seems that its left to me to ask questions of 'MI', so I thought I'd try to get some idea of how these 'beings' think, and I

thought the quickest route would be through numbers. Asking how equations would be solved would give me two ideas. Whether numbers are viewed in the same way as we view them, and also to an insight into their 'society', and its philosophy... But, the short answer was that they don't have numbers." With considerable difficulty, Larry managed to convey the basic concepts of **our** numerical systems, but one thing he found impossible to explain was the concept of negative numbers. However, the entity – 'MI' quickly found a way to represent their own methods. 'MI' seemed to pick Larry's mind on this, and they exchanged a series of algebraic/geometric equations as a sort of 'halfway house'. Over a period of several weeks, Larry worked on these and forwarded to me a 20-odd page 'illustrated treatise' of how he managed to understand their system (Please see the example diagrams). Again, I could follow him just a little of the way algebraically, but I'm not even going to try getting into this now! I think the best I can say is that their system is a 'form of empathic correlation', or maybe 'pictorial empathic concepts' [*Who else thought of crop formations – Ed?*]

At this time, the other main item discussed **was** time. Not content with the 'magnetic time' concept I referred to earlier, our friend 'MI' also related their concepts of time, which were radically different to our own. Once more to quote Larry: "OUR concepts of time involve the passage of time – the past, present and future 'MI' states that the 'future' is 'passive'; the 'now' and the 'past' are 'active'. But, there is a fourth component of 'unused' or 'dead time'" However, the terms 'dead' or 'unused' time are also referred to as a 'general or special operating time component', were only further explained by going into Einstein's General Relativity Theory and further complicated equations, neither of which I propose to try now!

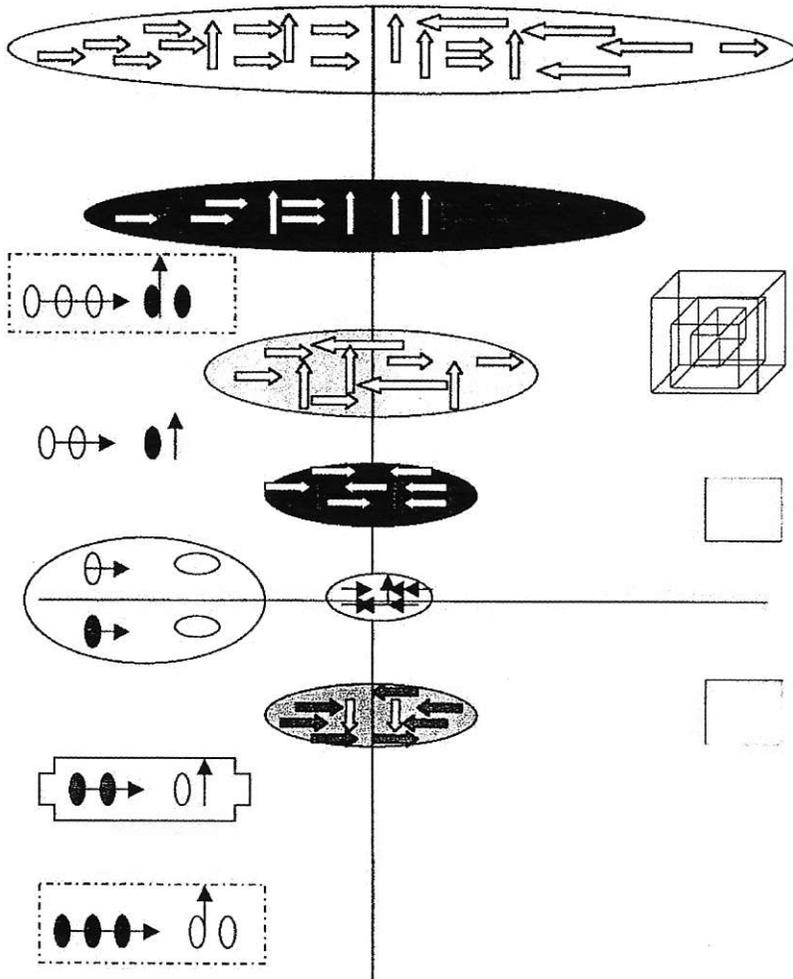
Much more, largely technical information (whether true or false) was obtained from the entity on the subjects of Relativity, Genetics, DNA and so on, but Larry could get no-where on the more practical aspects of MI's species, place of origin etc. Then suddenly, he found that the face – the entity – disappeared from his meditations, and he could no longer recall anything subsequent to the face of MI appearing – anything relevant to this contact, that is. Fortunately Larry made copious notes, and also put them onto disk. So, since he 'lost contact', we've both been trying to work out – not only from the point of the entire exercise, but what we might be able to find out about MI, the entity.

In doing so, we've explored Lord knows how many different areas of possible association - mythological figures; ancient Gods; ancient monuments; the recession of the Equinoxes; star and constellation names and positions; numerology; and even Runes.

Basically there have been three 'clues' to follow up. Firstly the name itself – MI; secondly the twin pupils in the eyes; and thirdly possible associations with the numbers 3 and 8. You'll recall that the answer given as to 'point of origin' was "Can anywhere to 24" – which raises two points. The first of these is Larry's 3 and 8 are factors of 24, and secondly whilst the entity mentioned 24, he later said that he had no numerical system at all! And, with regard to his twin pupils – might even this be allegorical? A possible reference to himself at the time of his encounter with a double, then as a schoolboy – a pupil? If these occurrences had been related to me almost by anyone else I probably wouldn't have taken them too seriously – but, I've known Larry for around 30 years – I know that his attitude to anything of this nature is "OK, I've no doubt that overall, its possible, but I'm sceptical of it without proof". And of course Larry knows that I share a similar attitude.

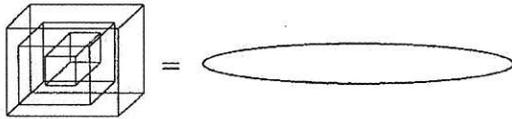
'Mi' takes a next step along with additional 'captions'.

You can see that 'Mi' has inserted three new formulae shapes, yellow, white and orange.



As you might imagine it has taken me some time to work these out. (Maybe if I were a true Mathematician I would not have taken so long. But there you are -I aint and it has)

The cube arrangement is the addition of all the three formulae lines in Equation 2/ and this gives the yellow shape. Or Algebraic terms:-



$$3a + 4b - 2c + 5a + 2b + 3c + 4a - 3b + 4c =$$

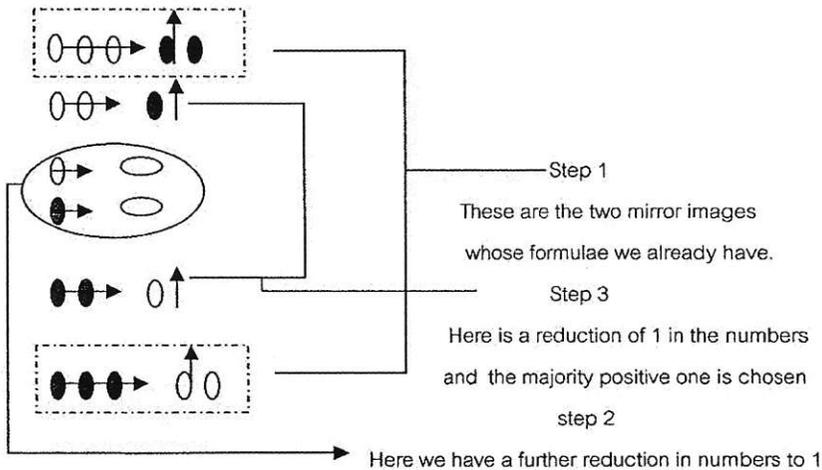
$$12a + 3b + 5c = 29$$

The two blue and oranges rectangles represent mirror images and so the first formulae line of Equation 2/ becomes:-

$$-3a - 4b + 2c = -4$$

Not too hard to work out, but as to the reason, we need to consider the third insert at the zero or crossing point of the 'x' and 'y' lines, first. This point took me the most time to work out.

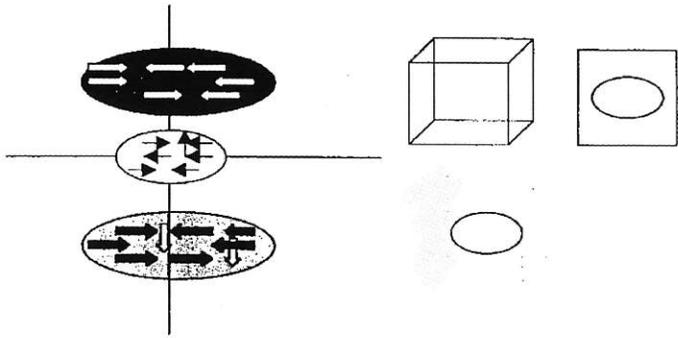
Since we are the Zero point we put the answer to this formulae line '= 0'.



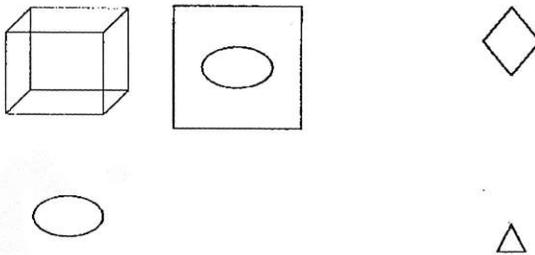
And 0. They have been placed in the 'zero' shape (because one has been reduced to zero) and are therefore not permitted formulae.

So our resulting formulae line is :-

$$2a + 4b - c = 0$$



What 'Mi' does next is to take away the '..... = 0' line from the image (blue) and adds the '..... = 0' line to the mirror image (orange)



In our terms, algebraically (P1) :-

$$\begin{aligned} (3a + 4b - 2c) - (2a + 4b - c) &= 4 - 0 \\ (-3a - 4b + 2c) + (2a + 4b - c) &= -4 + 0 \\ a - c &= 4 \dots \text{and} \dots -a + c = -4 \end{aligned}$$

Now at the top page 9 I gave the representation of the addition of all three formulae lines of Equation 2/ giving the new line represented by the yellow circle. 'Mi' now adds this new line to the third (or bottom) line of Equation 2/ and gets a result involving the same two coefficients as in (P1) above.



So, currently we're both continuing to 'follow-up' possibilities in various directions, but –there could well be a 'sting-in-the-tail' here... At one point I suggested to Larry that the appearance of MI and his subsequent DISappearance might just indicate that, having been satisfied that Larry was an appropriate human to communicate with, our friend just might start thinking in terms of a more physical manifestation – and it could be what Larry has been experiencing in recent months just might be a prelude to something of a more physical nature. This is what's now been happening, and its different again....

In early January of this year, Larry was taking a Taekwondo class at the school in Udornthani where he teaches. He glanced around, and saw a woman sitting at the side of the gym. He thought she was in her 30's, with long dark hair and a medium dark skin (this in fact can be anything from near-white to a very dark-brown). He assumed that she was a parent. He turned his head to give more instructions to his class, and on looking round again, found that the lady had gone. On asking whose parent or friend it had been, he received the response "What lady?" A similar incident occurred a week later.

Then, a further week after this, he was going out to his midday teaching and was about to lock up, when he saw that Noi – his sister-in-law who has a room at their home, was still there, so he left the door open, but somehow he felt something was odd. When he returned a few hours later, Noi asked why he hadn't locked the door when he'd left, as she in fact had gone out before him. He told her that as he'd walked out, he'd seen her on a wooden settee. (In Thailand, people more often than not, whatever the occasion may be, just leave without saying anything to anyone). Anyway, he and Noi just laughed about it. But later, he realized the odd thing – this 'lady' he'd seen a

Noi was sitting wearing a knee-length skirt, and had her legs crossed – but Noi never wears skirts like that, nor sits in that manner!

Then, on January 27th, Larry sent me an email, and I quote from it:

"My mysterious lady has turned up again. I found her lying beside me one night last week. I could not see Ratanaporn in the bed. I got out of the bedroom to make sure I was still in my bungalow. I found that I was, but when I turned round, the lady had gone and I saw my wife sleeping soundly. The next night she told me that she'd had a dream where we were both in bed, but there was along-haired lady between us. I had not told her of my experience, and am reluctant to do so in case I scare her"

Other than in a later dream, which may or may not be relevant, there have as yet been no further experiences of this nature.

So, to summarize the whole series of events – seeing his twin when a schoolboy; the crying babies; the advent of MI; and the mysterious appearing and disappearing ladies. I'll quote the words that Larry wrote down before contact with Mi was 'terminated':

"... When 'Brain' is developed faster than Technology then life will succeed. If Technology is faster than Brain then life will die. Technology alone cannot escape the end, but the Brain – or Technology backed up by the Brain, CAN"

Do you know, I think I rather agree with that! MI – whether he, she or it – could well be right there.

Larry has indicated that the experiences have taken a new twist, but I'll report them to you in the fullness of time.

INVESTIGATIONS DIARY

By Gloria Heather Dixon
BUFORA DoI

There has been quite a lot of interest from our members recently about the Postal Training Course (PTC), which has been highlighted due to BUFORA Vice President, Norman Oliver's recent questionnaires to members asking for their comments and opinions on what they would like to see within our association. The response to this form from our members has certainly been gratifying.

Two books which are recommended reading for the Postal Training course are now out of print and often difficult to obtain. Both are excellent books and these are *UFO Study* by Jenny Randles and *The UFO Handbook* by Allan Hendry.

*Because of the problems in locating these books, I would like to recommend a book for those of you on the PTC, or thinking about enrolling in the near future. The book is entitled *The UFO Investigator's Guide* by David Coomer. This is a user-friendly manual for the UFO investigator/researcher, which is coherently organised with practical information about UFO investigating and reporting. It is also an informative reference guide for anyone who has an interest in the UFO/unexplained field of study.*

While I do not agree with some of David Coomer's comments and information, particularly relating to parts of his chapter on

abduction, this book nevertheless covers a wide-ranging area of information on the UFO phenomenon for potential investigators and researchers. There is a 'Resources' section at the back which will be very useful for those who are conducting research or need to have information on worldwide UFO groups, who is who in ufology, ufological terms, internet sites etc.

To order this book, please contact Lionel Beer on 020 8979 3148 or write to him at

115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2QY enclosing your cheque.

PRICE: £4.50 including post and packaging.

RECOLLECTIONS OF SOME EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS AND A TIME LOSS IN WEST YORKSHIRE

In the July/August 1998 issue of the BUFORA Bulletin, Paul Ascough documented a synopsis of a case he investigated in 1995. As this case is very significant within the annals of high strangeness cases, which involve missing time, I thought it might be important to look at these events again in more detail and also bring this compelling case to the

attention of members new to BUFORA.

I have kept in touch with two of the witnesses over the years since they experienced these events and have spoken with them both within the last month. I will comment on their thoughts at the end of this case summary.

Events as they unfolded...

On a warm mellow evening in July 1995 a husband, wife and their niece and her boyfriend were enjoying a barbecue in the back garden of their niece's home when they experienced some very strange and inexplicable events.

The back garden was surrounded by six foot privet hedges and the neighbours on both sides of the house were out for the evening. They ate beef burgers and watched the lottery draw on television and then returned to the garden, where music was playing on the stereo.

Both husband and wife were sat on a small bench outside the back door and generally 'messaging around' as the husband put it. He looked to the right of him over the hedge and at about an estimated quarter of a mile away, he observed some flashing lights for a few seconds. That was his first sighting and then he remembers his second sighting when he described something above him with a black door; it was high up with what seemed to be vapour across it. It opened and a beam of light shot out. The husband then observed an object, which was at a slight angle and appeared to be in front of his eyes above the trees with light coming through the trees. He describes lights in a triangular shape on the top and four lights on the bottom. The top lights were moving in the opposite direction to the lower lights.

He then remembers that he and his wife and

niece went over to the privet hedge where he watched the object appear to drop down behind the trees between some nearby houses. It then appeared again and shot a beam of light out towards a house, moved up and disappeared, reappearing lower down the valley. The husband comments that it didn't move, but was suddenly 'not there, but there'. He then watched the object move down the valley and across the bridge out of view.

To give members a sense of what occurred next, the husband comments in the following way...

Then later on was the moon thing – it was low in the sky. It was a funny moon though. I didn't really recall that until later on when they said there shouldn't have been a full moon that night. (Astronomical information indicates that the moon would not have been visible before 11pm) I always thought I was sat on the bench all the time this was happening, but I was sat on the bench and my wife wasn't next to me, she was standing. The object was going down by the trees and everything was in slow motion, you couldn't hear any noise. I could see the side of her face and she was talking or shouting her head off – but I couldn't hear her voice. There was no sound there and that is when I thought this is important and I had to get up because this was my wife and I stood up – just to get up

There were other things while this was happening – the silence. It wasn't a proper silence, it was like one step below silence, as though you were really somewhere else, like up in space. That is what I mean by the silence. Then there was a slightly warm feeling. I remember when I was sat on the bench at one point looking over my right shoulder, looking at what I thought was the house wall, it was all light. Thinking about it now, the houses are redbrick and this

looked like white sandstone. That is when I heard a sound. I was the only one who heard this, but I told the others.

When it had all finished things came back to me and everything was all mixed up. It was like backward and forward; time was missing. It started at 9.40pm; we all know that. I had mentioned to my wife it was twenty to ten, then a few seconds later, it was 10.50pm. When I saw my niece running towards the barbecue in slow motion, that was in my mind and my wife seemed to be chasing her, then my niece was coming back towards her and then just disappeared. There were other things too like when my niece's boyfriend went into the other garden and then he came out of the house. It was all mixed up and doesn't follow on with any continuity. My wife and I thought things were strange before all this happened (All four people report feeling and sensing a definite curious change of atmosphere prior to the events that occurred)

His wife gives the following account of how she perceived what this incident...

I was sat on the bench with my husband and it was just above my head and very big. It was low and I felt I could have jumped up and touched it. I ran over to get my niece's boyfriend asking him to look at this object and when I turned and looked again it wasn't there, it had moved further down the valley. There were rotating green, red and blue lights on top like an arch, but not flashing. I don't know how long I was looking at it, but then it moved down the valley and that is when the big moon came up. I said to my husband that this couldn't be the moon because it was too big. It was unreal because it seemed to be as though daylight was all around it. As the object went toward the 'moon' it was as though it

broke apart and then the object was gone.

Then we just sat outside talking about it. I can't really remember what happened, but I was on the bench and my niece was in the middle of the floor, but my husband remembered her being near the back door. Also the stereo seemed to go off unless it was still on, but we couldn't hear it. We could hear nothing whatsoever. My husband said I was shouting and I've got a loud voice so I couldn't understand why no-one else came out, as there are a lot of houses around there, but nobody else had seen this. It was as if there were just four of us out there. Nobody else existed, just us four, it was just so weird.

This object could have been there all the time, but not lit up, because when I saw it, what attracted me in the first place were the lights and the shape of it, a bottom part with this thing on the top. So if that was above us people would be able to see it.. When my niece's boyfriend saw it, he remembered it as being just black. It was summer people were out having barbecues and it was twenty to ten. It was just going dark like sunset, because it was pretty light when it happened and then it was pitch black and it was gone.

Why didn't anyone else see it – that moon-we've never seen a moon like that? It was as though the object just went directly into the 'moon'.

His wife then goes on to say that they had not had much to drink and that her glass kept disappearing. She comments on this in the following way...

'I sat down and my glass was there and then it was gone, so I went into the kitchen for a fresh glass and poured myself another one and put it under the bench and then that had

gone too. *The glasses just kept disappearing all the time. My niece ended up with no glasses in her house the following day. There was also a strange atmosphere there all night.*

Later on in the evening...

At 11pm everyone was very confused about their memory of events that evening and the two women fell asleep on the lounge floor instead of going to bed. The husband was violently sick. All four people felt very unwell following this incident particularly the wife, who suffered from headaches and a fear of closing her bedroom curtains for a long period of time afterwards. This fear is still on-going.

They had also informed the police after these events and although they were very helpful there was nothing reported or logged that would have been relevant to their experiences and therefore they could not be of assistance.

The investigator into this case in 1995 is a paramedic and he made the following observations in his report about the family...

'My impression is that both husband and wife are honest and truthful. Their story has not changed, nor has it been embellished in any way. Both are sincere in attitude and do not wish to profit or make any money from this incident. Quite the opposite, they merely seek an honest explanation of what happened to them and why. They do not wish their involvement in this incident made public, but hope that BUFORA may be able to offer an explanation, so they may carry on with their normal daily lives in peace.

There appears to be no normal explanation for their confused memories. As far as can be ascertained no drugs were consumed and neither did they drink more than normal

during this social evening. The husband describes his own memories of that night as imagining it was all recorded on a video tape, cut into lengths of a few seconds, dispose of many segments and splice the remainder together in the wrong order. A very graphic description!.

I do not believe conventional aircraft or hallucinatory experiences played any part in this incident.

The witnesses do not suffer from epilepsy and neither have a background of out-of-body or near-death experiences. The husband and wife feel that whatever happened to them was very real and extremely frightening and neither one have experienced anything like this before and do not wish to experience anything like it again.'

Relevant Background Information.

Investigator, Paul Ascough, checked out background information about the area.

Structural faults include two small thrust faults running generally West to East and one major fault running WNW to ESE with small to moderate dips.

Weather conditions that evening were an almost clear sky with excellent visibility and a small amount of cumulus cloud, temperature 18 degree centigrade (65 Fahrenheit).

Location: Small housing estate of semi-detached bungalows and two-story houses. Houses 32-35 feet high, bungalows 18-20feet high. Grass and open areas within estate and fields to either side with tree-lined avenues, many up to 80 feet high. General area hilly.

Newspapers included Halifax Courier, and Yorkshire Evening Post. No local paper carried any story, which was relevant to this

investigation.

Civilian Airfields: *Leeds/Bradford Airport and Manchester Airport. Neither had anything reported or logged although Manchester airport stated that there was a small increase in air traffic over Calderdale due to strong winds and this was reported in the Halifax Courier a few days prior to the incident.*

Military: *RAF West Drayton and MOD – nothing reported and no military flights in the area.*

Astronomical Information:

Before 10pm (British Summer Time), the brightest object in the sky was Jupiter, low down in the South. The Moon was rising between 9.30 and 10pm GMT, so this would not have been visible before 11PM BST. By midnight Saturn had risen in the East, but the bright moon would have washed this out. Prior to 10.30pm BST they would certainly not have been observing the moon.

Further Developments and comments.

An interesting footnote here is that the husband had developed a severe form of psoriasis in February of that year particularly on his hands and feet and his GP diagnosed that he would have it for the rest of his life. His feet were so bad that sometimes he couldn't walk with it. After these events and by October his psoriasis had completely cleared up and has not returned. His wife experienced bad headaches after this incident and describes this as not being like a normal headache, but a stabbing pain at the back of her head.

These physiological effects could, of course, be entirely unrelated and independent of these events, but they are a factor in recording this

case.

These puzzling events occurred to an ordinary hardworking family in their early thirties with two children, and have made a deep and lasting impression on each of them in the way they view their perception of reality. Paul Ascough, the investigator commented, in his report that they were a happily married couple with two sons, who were intelligent and down to earth in their attitude. He also remarked that neither one of them were over imaginative or had delusions of any kind and had not been interested in the subject of UFOs prior to these experiences.

Due to problems that evolved after these events between the two couples, Paul was unable to interview the niece and her boyfriend.

Hypnosis

Prior to BUFORA becoming involved in this case, another UFO group were contacted and regression hypnosis was used by this group in order to establish what may have occurred. I have deliberately not given any details of what emerged from the hypnosis sessions due to the BUFORA NIC's continuing moratorium on the use of this method to elicit an objective truth about the events. As an addendum to this case, I will document part of a recent interview that I conducted for Strange Times Magazine with Judy Jaafar, BUFORA AI and Vice Chairman for BUFORA. This concerns the use of hypnosis and memory and is very relevant to cases like this particularly its unreliability and possible distortion in an understanding of inexplicable experiences as it represents a "truth" as understood by the witness rather than an "objective truth" about the event.

Hypnosis in the above case with three of the witnesses created an abduction scenario,

which was not only a very real problem in their trying to deal with whatever these experiences were, but also created some real terror for the lady involved and exacerbated her fear about what may have occurred, demonstrating just one good reason for **never** using this method in these cases

As an addendum to the above case I am including an extract from the current issue of Strange Times Magazine when I conducted an interview with Judy Jaafar. These are her thoughts on the use of hypnosis)

**ALIEN ABDUCTION, HYPNOSIS
AND MEMORY: THE DEBATES
RAGE ON.**

Concluding comments

Sadly because of administrative problems, the witnesses were not contacted until September 1995. The husband had written a letter the day after these events asking we respond as soon as possible. Because they did not hear from BUFORA, they contacted another organisation. Unfortunately because of this, BUFORA Investigator, Paul Ascough was unable to visit the site of the alleged incident until two months after the event, which was most unfortunate.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this article, I have spoken with both witnesses during the last month and it is interesting to record their comments all these years on.

Both feel, very strongly, that they can remember these experiences as though they were yesterday and have not altered or changed their mind about the confusing and fragmented memories of that night. Both parties and particularly the lady are still very anxious to know what happened that night. Even over six years on, the fear of drawing her bedroom curtains before sleeping remains and she has never drawn her curtains at night since these events. The husband's psoriasis has never returned.

This case continues to remain unexplained.

GHD: Judy, during your previous response you mentioned memory and the very controversial issues going on here with memory retrieval. You have been enrolled on a course with the London College of Clinical Hypnosis over the past year, which has made you acutely aware of the problems concerning memory and the way it works. This is very important in the area of claims of alien abduction and the way regression hypnosis has been used in many cases to elicit an objective truth about these experiences. This is of course at the cutting edge of the tremendous problems in the area of abduction issues that have been creating continuing debates with the United States and the UK for some time now. I would be very interested in your thoughts in this area.

JJ: In my reading over the years, particularly into alien abduction accounts from American researchers, I have always felt very uncomfortable when I was reading the transcripts of hypnotic regressions. I always suspected that in some way this wasn't right. It was a gut feeling I had that this was not the correct thing to do and what really bothered me about regression hypnosis was that the witness does not understand anything about hypnosis. It is a very powerful tool and can be dangerous when used wrongly and no matter what fantasy a witness might come up with during hypnosis, it has to be remembered that under a hypnotic trance state, your capacity for imagination and fantasy is probably

doubled or trebled.

So whatever they come up with as far as the abduction scenario is concerned, when they talk about this through hypnosis and when they take a recording or read the transcript afterwards, that has now become a real event for them irrespective of whether it actually happened or not. It is now real - and that really bothered me because I felt that we were dealing with somebody's mental health here - for the rest of their lives. Because they've been hypnotised, they really believe that they must be telling the absolute truth because they have this peculiar notion that hypnosis is like a truth drug, but it certainly isn't!

They feel that this must have really happened to them the way they imagined it under hypnosis, and that is a huge responsibility for their therapist to take on and it is not one that I would ever want to do. These were my feelings about it before I ever studied hypnosis and obviously it has been a bone of contention in ufological circles for years now. BUFORA holds a moratorium on the use of hypnosis and we have had problems from other groups about this, so I decided, purely out of curiosity and a desire to know, so that I could make an informed judgement, that I would go and study hypnosis myself and find out what this is all about. What it can do and what it can't do. When it should be used and when it shouldn't be used and this what I have almost completed now. I have completed my first course, which means I am allowed to practise as a therapist. I am now doing a further more in-depth course, which finishes at the end of September and I'm afraid that every concern I had about hypnosis has been confirmed during this course. The literature about hypnosis has been around for a very long time and it was modern hypnosis that was pioneered during the latter part of the nineteenth century by some French doctors working in Paris. They were medical doctors, medically as well as psychologically qualified, and they took up hypnosis as an experiment to find out what it was all about

and what they found out still stands today. Someone, who is under hypnosis is highly suggestible, highly imaginative and, something which is conveniently forgotten nowadays in hypnosis study, highly telepathic. Experiments were conducted that proved beyond a doubt, that certain subjects were highly telepathic under hypnosis, much more so than in a normal conscious state. No-one really knows how hypnosis works, but there are actually eight different theories to explain it and not one of them actually explains it in full, but there will be a part with which you can identify. A hypnotic trance is a strange situation.

One thing that I've learned, which is actually very interesting, is the problem of memory retrieval under hypnosis. Memory as we understand it at the moment, is deemed to be part of the unconscious mind, not the conscious mind and when you experience anything, the first avenue of experience is your sensory memory, which takes in all the data on the spot, immediately. It is then passed very quickly into your short term memory where it is processed and if this is emotionally significant enough for you remember it, to bring it out at a later date, it is then processed and coded into your long-term memory. Now long-term memory is a function of the unconscious mind, not of the logical, analytical, conscious mind. The unconscious does not work in language, logic, reason, rationality - that is the conscious mind. The unconscious works in symbols and metaphors and images, which is therefore a non-verbal recording. Symbols, metaphors, emotions and perceptions; most people don't know that every single emotion you have comes from your unconscious mind and is not a product of your mental analysis of anything. That's why emotions are so hard to deal with, you can't shut them off or turn them on, because they are part of your unconscious mind. Memory also resides here in your unconscious mind, so you have to understand

that anything that you are memorising, (apart from what we call conscious learning, where you have to memorise information say for an exam, that is a conscious process) or anything you are picking up perception-wise, feelings-wise, in your day-to-day life, will bypass your conscious mind totally, and go straight into the unconscious memory banks.

The only way you can retrieve that memory is to go into the unconscious and pull it out, but you cannot converse in logical language with the unconscious mind. It will bring forth something that is a metaphor for what you are actually looking for, so therefore when you are retrieving memories from your long term memory, it will be coming back as a series of perceptions, images, feelings and emotions. It is very contextual and very dependent on how it's being coded in the first place. How you are going to retrieve it depends on all of these things. It is not a cut and dried process, unlike going to a video cabinet in your house and thinking ah that is the video I want to look at again and pulling it out and it still remains the same as when it was recorded. This does not happen with memory - not at all. Once it has been processed and then coded, the decoding process is very complicated and will not make you re-live an event. It will give you a feeling of an event and it will concentrate mainly on your feelings at that time, not on the actual objective, chronological order of things that were happening. It will pull that out of your memory as a feeling, an emotion, and a perception and this is where we come to the really sticky stuff about regression hypnosis. You take someone back for example to 'missing time' where they have no conscious memory of any event, so therefore the analytical, logical, judgemental process cannot be brought to bear on the situation. Immediately the witness has to delve into their unconscious mind, which as I have explained is actually an emotional storage house, but their retrieved memory that they may then come up with, is based on their emotional feelings when they are being put under

hypnosis. If they are fearful that they have been abducted by aliens because they have 'missing time' and they have read about 'aliens' and 'missing time' that fear will then present in whatever memory they can come up with then and if they are afraid, they will have a fearful memory of an event in their past because they actually have no logical conscious memory of anything. They go directly to the unconscious mind, which is wonderful, dreamlike fantasy factory. It is so important in our lives, we need to be able to do this otherwise we wouldn't be doing it. It sorts out all of your emotions, it is not like a filing cabinet, it is not an archive, it is an emotional repository to access every day of our lives; to keep our mental health balance. And this is what you are sending your witness into, totally unprepared, they don't know what they are looking for except that they feel they have been abducted by aliens otherwise they wouldn't be with a ufologist in the first place. This is very obvious and they have already made up their mind that this is what must have occurred and you go into your unconscious with that conscious thought in your head and it's very likely that you will come up with a scenario where that is exactly what happened, because that is what you are expecting. Your mind will accommodate you beautifully and it goes into psycho-drama mode filling in the spaces, confabulating, giving you meaning where there was no meaning before. But the meaning is a purely emotional, psychological meaning. The meaning has no need necessarily to have any objective content at all.

MISSING TIME, ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS AND BRAIN DYSFUNCTION

GHD: What are you saying here exactly, Judy, that an event did actually occur during this 'missing time' in order for a person to perceive that they had an anomalous experience?

JJ: The witness will present with some kind of

conscious memory of an event that has led them to believe that something strange has happened to them in a 'missing time' period and consequently they will seek out a ufologist or a paranormal researcher, so you know that they are coming to you with their mind already set and this is very important to understand.

Missing time itself can be a product of many things and the most obvious thing is a total misperception of the passage of time. It happens to us in our daily lives every day where we go into a trance state several times a day, day-dreaming, reverie as we are falling asleep, sleep itself being the deepest trance state possible and this happens to us naturally every single day of our lives. For example, you can be sitting watching a television programme and you go into a reverie state and although you are still there in that room and the television is still on and part of your mind is actually paying attention to the television, the main part of your mind has drifted off and is doing something else and it is not aware of the passage of time, because the unconscious mind works without time altogether. There doesn't seem to be a time constraint with the unconscious mind, it seems to exist without linear time and you would look at your watch and think that half an hour has passed and you realise you have missed the television programme, but you don't automatically think that you must have been abducted by aliens. You know that you were still physically there, it's just that your mind was somewhere else. This is an example of how often this happens to us, but if you have an event like seeing a light in the sky, which you find to be anomalous, it may well not be at all; it doesn't matter whether it's really anomalous or not. If you decide in your mind that the light is inexplicable, this may then trigger an emotional state of fear, of puzzlement, of wonder, where you will then go into an internal drama in your mind.

Another possible reason for missing time which I first became aware of several years

ago, is the idea that the electrical function of the brain can be disrupted by something in the environment and this is now being widely discussed by a number of serious researchers. I think this explanation may account for a significant percentage of cases that have been reported as UFO related 'missing time' which in fact were not at all. The UFO relation is a spurious connection that has been made to explain the missing time, where actually the 'missing time' may well be related to an electromagnetic anomaly and the environment that the witness has to pass through. It could be of geomagnetic origin, it could be to do with high-tech installation structures in the environment, causing malfunction in the brain. It could also be to do with anomalous electromagnetic fields, which are actually very interesting and which Jenny Randles has covered well in her latest book, 'Time Storms', and this in fact was my evaluation of the first case I ever submitted to BUFORA, and this was exactly what I thought had happened. However, the witnesses overlaid their own ideas about being abducted by aliens, but in fact they never saw an alien or a UFO of any kind, but because for twenty minutes of their lives time had gone haywire, they presumed that this must be the case and that they had been abducted by aliens and this is a real problem that we have in research now.

The idea of alien abduction has become so pervasive in our society that people are using it to account for all sorts of things that can be explained in much more logical scientific terms.

Given an understanding of the physiology of the brain, that is probably one of the main reasons for time slips and time anomalies as an electromagnetic interaction. Let's face it, we are an electrical chemical organism and for all sorts of reasons, it would be very foolish of us to overlook the fact that we are living in an electromagnetic environment. So it seems logical to assume that a person's individual electromagnetic field or biological

field has the capacity at times in their lives to interact with a much larger environmental field and when two of these fields come together there will be electrical changes within the body. Therefore this could account for many episodes of missing time.

GHD: Would you say that this could be quite a large percentages of cases in terms of your own investigation?

JJ: Yes, I would think this is a possibility in many cases particularly when you look at where 'missing time' reports come from. If you go out in the field, which many investigators actually do not do, and survey the environment, you may find that there is a scientific explanation for interrupted brain activity, which a psychologist would call a fugue state where you have no memory of what you were doing at the time. Not because you weren't there or not doing anything, but because the electrical signals in the brain were scrambled, memory is not able to be processed or recorded and you are left with a blank space. So, if the memory has not been processed or encoded, it is not there and no amount of regression hypnosis will ever bring back a memory that has never been deposited. Imaginative confabulation will take over.

UNDERSTANDING HYPNOSIS AND ITS USE AS A THERAPEUTIC TOOL TO COMBAT TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES

GHD: What part does hypnosis play in traumatic episodes, where it is used as a therapeutic tool to help someone come to terms with a trauma of some kind?

JJ: We have to make a very clear distinction here between regression to a memory for therapeutic practises and regression to a memory for the purpose of eliciting some kind of truth about the event. These are two very different things. In therapeutic hypnosis, memory is a key to just about everything in someone's life as it is your emotional and perceptive repository for your whole life. This is how you remember your life, through your emotions. When therapy is being conducted

with someone, who has a memory of a bad event or trauma of some kind, there is a standard technique used by therapists called 'memory manipulation' or 'memory substitution.' This is very effective, in fact frighteningly effective, where you can take someone back to a memory that has been disturbing for them, causing them to be neurotic, or anxious, or depressed. You can take them back to this memory and take them into it and then involve them in what is called psycho-drama, and this is all under hypnosis where it works very well. You can actually get a person to return to that event and play it a different way, where their role then changes and they become more empowered and where they become a protagonist rather than a victim in the event and they can feel better about the way they handled the event in the past.

This is carried out surprisingly easily and you can actually substitute a new memory for an old one to make that person able to cope and their life better. You can manipulate the memory to enable them to remember anything they want to remember and erase the old memory and at the end of a session like this you can actually give a post-hypnotic suggestion to make them forget that the process has taken place, that they have substituted a memory and actually forget that they have been hypnotised at all and when they leave the therapy room they will have no memory of ever having done this. This particular method is used in severe trauma cases like rape, sexual assault, post traumatic stress disorder, war veterans etc. and this is frighteningly effective and if we apply this to regression hypnosis in general, it is so easy to manipulate and change people's memories. This worries me because if they wish to change their perceptions and feelings about an event, can this in some larger way affect the actual reality of the event itself? We are coming into what is real and what is not real here, which is another subject altogether. I find this very worrying, that therapists can do

this so easily. When they're doing it in a therapy situation, it maybe the only way they can go in order to help someone. In some ways this does justify the means, but certainly not during an investigation process, where it is so obvious to me how easy it is to change somebody's perception of an event and you're going to use that then as a tool to establish an objective truth? This is not on at all.

The more I have studied hypnosis, the more I am in agreement with the moratorium that BUFORA holds on the use of hypnosis. I do not believe this should ever be lifted. In addition you have to understand something about memory, in a natural process where memory is shunted to dead ends, shall we say, in the brain, where they are left and they are forgotten, this is a natural process and is a healing process. Your mind cannot possibly contain every single sensory memory that you ever had. It would go into overload, so it selects what it needs to remember and forget what it doesn't and when you keep asking a witness time and again about their experience, when you keep hypnotically regressing them, when you keep pursuing

them, you are not allowing the natural process of forgetfulness to happen, which is a therapeutic process in itself and this doesn't happen with witnesses and I think this is terribly wrong, because you are not allowing memory to work in its proper way.....

I hope that this has been informative to some of our members on the way memory and hypnosis works in order to create an understanding of the controversial issues surrounding hypnosis and its use in the UFO field of study to elicit an alleged objective truth about claims of high strangeness events.

May I take this opportunity to wish all investigators and members a very happy and magical holiday season

Gloria Heather Dixon

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UForum...

Dear Sir,

I was very interested in the articles by Gloria Dixon and by Brian Allen in the April and June issues of the BUFORA Bulletin, on the subject of the events at Windwhistle Hill near Chard in Somerset. The idea was proposed that localised EM phenomena could be the trigger for strange events. In the incident in September 1977, the Walker family recalled seeing a large orange light in the sky, before the car engine stalled and the lights failed. The engine could not be restarted, there was a strange silence, while everything seemed to move in slow-motion, and a humming vibration was noted. On arriving home it was also noted that a period of about half an hour seemed to be unaccounted for. A few days later in the same area, they observed two figures t the side of the road. One of these, a very tall figure with impossibly long legs, crossed the road just in front of the car.

While recently reviewing vehicle interference (VI) effect cases, I noted a case with some very similar features, which occurred in Draguinan, France in October 1973. In this case a motorcyclist and his girlfriend reported seeing an orange-yellow ball of light, with a revolving halo, slowly travelling across the sky. Returning later to the site with friends, a strange modulated sound was heard, along with a wave of heat. As the cars were being driven away, three figures were encountered – walking in a slow ‘mechanical’ manner, and two ‘red legs’ were seen which crossed the road ahead of the car. A little later the car

was suddenly thrown sideways off the road – then returned to the road again without any action taken by the driver (BUFORA VI Report Case 102)

It does seem evident that there are links between some UFO reports and other events which may be described as paranormal. Particular locations seem to be the focus of what is best described as ‘materialisation phenomena’, sometimes apparently linked with an energy source of some kind, as well as temporal anomalies in some cases. We do, however, know that UFOs often indicate the operation of intelligence, and it has been already been said (By Arthur C Clarke) that manifestations of advanced technology could appear to us to be indistinguishable from magic.

Jenny Randles’ new book *Time Storms* – as mentioned by Brian Allen also includes a number of case reports vehicle effects which were included in the original BUFORA report of 1979.

Yours sincerely
Geoff Falla

Geoff has recently been working on an update to the 1979 BUFORA Vehicle Interference Report, and we hope to have this published early in 2002.

I have to admit one aspect of VI that I find equally as puzzling as the ‘car stops’ are the

cases of 'car restarts' - apparently of their own volition.

An internal combustion engine requires more than just an HT electrical current to start the engine - it requires compression of the combustible fuel/air mixture to enable it to reach its ignition cycle. In order to achieve this when it is stopped, it requires a starter motor to get the engine turning over - usually at considerably more than 500rpm to achieve this ignition cycle. If a modern car engine is stopped/stalled, the ignition switch will have

to be effectively 'reset' to engage the starter motor (to prevent accidental engaging when the engine is running at high revs).

So if the effects in a vehicle interference 'car stop' are purely electromagnetic in nature, causing the engine to stall - the key should need turning back to its 'start' position for the engine to spin and fire up - HT current alone will not restart the engine!

Does this suggest another factor other than 'just' electromagnetic fields?

The Chances Of Anything Coming From Mars...

...May still be remote, but remember how the red planet produced UFO reports in May and June of this year, as it was low and bright in our southern skies at its closest approach to the Earth?

Be prepared for even more reports 2003! During the last week of August in 2003, Mars will be at its closest approach to Earth at any time in recorded human history (better people than me have calculated this on their PCs!), reaching conjunction on 28th August. It will again be fairly low in British summer skies, but even in mid-August it will be rising at 8.30pm, and will be at -2.66 magnitude. On 28th August it will be rising in the SSE as the sun is setting on the opposite horizon at 7.35pm, and will by then be a beacon-like -2.83 magnitude - to think about how bright this will look, go out in the late evening now and look high in the eastern sky to find Jupiter (it is quite unmistakable), and consider that Jupiter right now is only around -2.5 magnitude!

At midnight on 23rd August 2003 Mars will still only be 22 degrees above the horizon (mid-British latitude), but will seem like a red-orb in the night sky, so be prepared for many misidentifications! Also of some interest in terms of spectacle will be on the 8th and 9th of September when the moon will be either side of the red planet - unfortunately the occultation of Mars occurs on the other side of the Earth during our daytime!

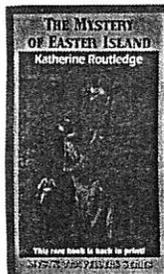
This conjunction of Mars is being celebrated with the 2003 British National Astronomy Week, so there will be much publicity for this 'encounter' before the event, and the public will be invited to go out and watch by local astronomy societies.

I suppose despite all the pre-event publicity and hype, being Britain we can guarantee cloudy skies all that week anyway, so nothing will be seen of this astronomical spectacle ;-)

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