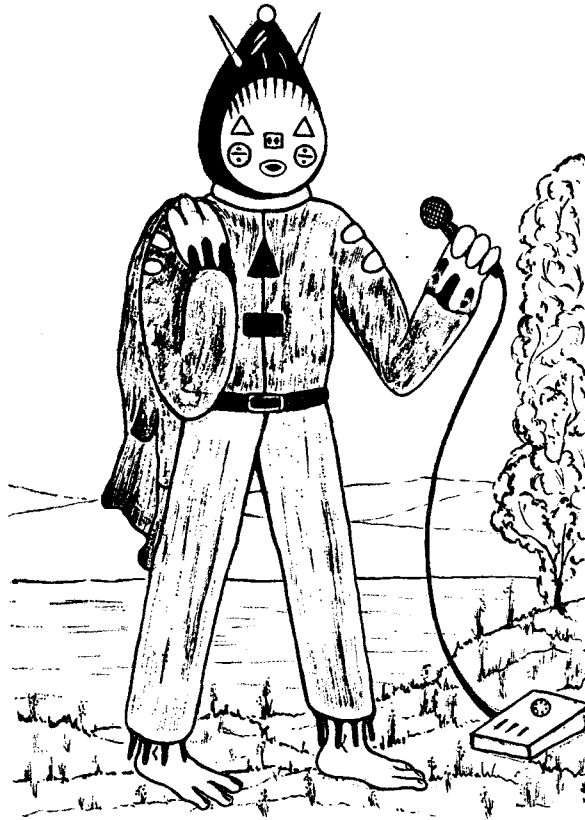


British UFO Research Association



"GHOST" or SPACEMAN?

bufo journal

Vol 6 No 5 January/February 1978

Council 1977/8

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BUFORA JOURNAL

Volume 6 Number 5

January/February 1978

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The AVB case has a fair measure of support amongst researchers generally. That the Flatwood's monster (whatever it was) existed, whilst not beyond dispute, is also usually taken as read. M Masse's paralysing encounter with the two bulbous-headed beings in his lavender field has almost become a classic. Nearer home in time and place, silver-suited seven-footers either disappearing without trace or addicted to Coronation Street on TV are taken for granted!

But what of Joe Simonton's pancakes? Or John Womack's anti-demon pill swallowing humanoids? Reference to these and similar cases will bring forth hoots of derision. It appears that we may accept intercourse but not nudity-Frankenstein monsters but not demons and lavender plant collectors but not pancake (or cookie) distributors! Or is it that at some time or another a 'top' researcher has lent support to one and not the other, so that lemming-like, as in many other fields, we accept the judgement of the 'expert'?

Think about it!

Norman Oliver

Editorial

Strange, isn't it?

Unless I'm greatly mistaken, the Georgia experience of Tom Dawson (see *Report-Extra!*) will be received, speaking euphemistically, with some degree of scepticism! Yet what are we prepared to accept or discard?

London Lectures

Saturday, 3 February 1978, 7 pm: Ley Lines in relation to UFOs.

Speaker: Paul Devereux, BA.

Saturday, 4 March 1978, 7 pm: UFO Activity in Scotland.

Speaker: Stuart Campbell, DIP. ARCH.

Saturday, 1 April 1978, 7 pm: Research Evening—Anthony Pace, FRAS., Charles Lockwood, DIP ED. STUD, and selected speakers.

All meetings in the lecture theatre of Kensington Central Library, Campden Hill Road, London W8.

Trident 'Visual UFO' Identified?

Philip Taylor

Details of the widely-reported Trident UFO sightings made over the Lisbon, Portugal, area were published in the *Bufo* Journal and *FSR* (Refs 1 & 2). Quotes in this article are from the air crew's testimony given in these reports.

Following publicity about the case in the mass media in May 1977, a suggested identification was made by a Southampton University physicist, Dr David Ramsden. I have examined the details of the research balloon said to have caused the UFO report and it is clear to me that the visual sightings made by the air crew were almost certainly of this object. The radar sightings made shortly afterwards present a more difficult problem.

The original visual sighting was made from a B A Trident flying at an altitude of 29,000 feet over the coast of Portugal on 30 July 1976 at 20.00 GMT. The previous day a large, high altitude research balloon was launched from near Trapani, Sicily as part of an international scientific project, co-ordinated by the British Science Research Council. The flight was part of a series of flights from Sicily to the USA: the balloon flying directly west to arrive 4 days later (3). The following positions of the balloon were reported by Italian and Spanish radar on 30 July 1976: Time: 0130 GMT, Position 37° 21'N, 07° 22'E. Time: 1320 GMT, Position 38° 50'N, 05° 10'W.

By extrapolating these figures, the balloon's position at 2000 GMT would have been roughly 39°N 12°W. Assuming the altitude to be 40km, the observed position from the plane at 38° 30'N, 8° 30'W would have been: Bearing 280°, altitude 10° above horizon. In fact the reported UFO was at

a bearing of 285°, altitude 20° above horizon. The difference is well within the errors in the aircraft's and balloon's position and the apparent place in the sky, estimated, as far as can be gathered, without instruments.

It is perhaps of interest to consider why the balloon had such a striking appearance at the time in question. At the plane's position, sunset at ground level on 30 July was at 1947 GMT. At the Trident's altitude, it was at 2006 GMT (*"The sun was setting"*). However, at an altitude of 40km, sunset was not until 2027 GMT. Thus, at the time of observation the sun would still be illuminating the balloon. (*"It was a beautifully clear sky"*), presenting a marked contrast with the darkness on the ground and up to 'the plane's altitude.' The fact that the sun set at a bearing of 297° is also relevant, since this is close to the direction of the balloon. This makes it likely that the sunlight was being reflected directly from the balloon's surface, at an oblique angle. The most likely explanation of the *"sausage-shaped"* objects seen in conjunction with the *"headlamp"* object is the automatic release of ballast by the balloon to adjust for variations in altitude.

The radar returns observed on the return flight, 2 hours later, remain a mystery. The balloon was flying 32km above the plane, yet the closest approach was said to be 11km, and at only 5° apparent altitude. In view of the large size of the balloon, more than 100 metres in diameter, which would doubtless have caused very strong radar returns, it seems an extraordinary coincidence for there to have been another such object in the area at the time. This obviously requires further checking with the aircrews involved to

clarify the details of the radar observations.

I am grateful to Mr J T Delury of the SRC's Appleton Laboratory for supplying details of the balloon's flight.

References:

1. *Bufora Journal Vol 5, No 5, p1 (1977).*
2. *Flying Saucer Review Vol 22, No 4, p2 (1976).*
3. *Science Research Council, Annual Report 1976.*

* * * * *

New US UFO Probe

At the request of President Carter's science adviser Dr Frank Press, NASA has agreed to examine UFO records over the last ten years to determine whether the government should launch a full-scale UFO investigation. Dr Press, who is director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy has said NASA will undertake the study at the request of the White House "*because it has the expertise and facilities.*"

In a letter to NASA Administrator Dr Robert Frosch on 21 July 1977, Dr Press said: "*We have discovered that the White House is becoming the focal point for an increasing number of enquiries concerning UFOs it seems to me that the focal point of the UFO question ought to be in NASA. Since it has been nearly a decade since the Condon Report, I believe a small panel of enquiry could be formed to see if there are any significant findings.*"

Mr Herbert Rowe, Associate Administrator for external affairs for NASA, said a project officer will review cases "*to see if it would be worthwhile to conduct a further investigation.*" Walt Andrus, Director of the Mutual UFO Network, called the NASA involvement "*a very major step*" in re-opening government investigation of UFOs.

* * * * *

Official French Government Study

The President of the French National Centre for Space Studies—CNES—has created an official research group to study the UFO phenomenon. This will include some members of all main Government Research Organisations, such as the National Centre for Scientific Research, the Astrophysical Institute, the National Meteorology Institute and various universities. The group has been titled GEPAN—Groupe d'Etude des Phenomenes Aérospatiaux Non-identifiés.

In effect since 1 May, official announcement was withheld to allow time for negotiations with various Research Organisations. Claude Poher, who has been head of the Scientific Systems and Projects Division of the CNES, as well as their Astronomy Department and their Sounding Rockets Division for a number of years is GEPAN's director.

Points from the Press

Valerie Martin

The *Huddersfield Daily Examiner* of 26 and 30 August reported that Bufora is investigating accounts of strange lights seen at night around Huddersfield and Bradford. Trevor Whitaker, Yorkshire branch secretary, said he had a number of similar reports during July and August of a large pulsating white light with smaller lights each side, and of orange flashing lights.

* * *

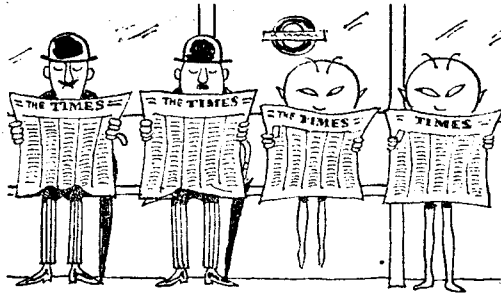
The *South Wales Echo* of 21 May refers to a Pontypridd family being frightened by a large black disc-like object hovering over a house. Shaped like a shallow saucepan, with an 'aerial' sticking up, it was first seen from a window by the daughter. A spokesman at Rhoose Airport said he had no idea what they might have seen. Credit—David Coggins.

* * *

Reveille of 19 August had an article on mysterious recorded 'voices from nowhere' speaking in a mixture of 2 or 3 languages, and Raymond Cass of Yorkshire claims to have tape-recorded 2,000. They can also come from a radio tuned to an 'empty' frequency, and could be stray transmissions, but Mr Cass says no station would broadcast in a mixture of languages. Another theory is that some higher intelligence is monitoring our broadcasts and hasn't learned our languages well.

* * *

The *Western Daily Press* of 29 August tells of members of UFO INFO, while on a skywatch, seeing a UFO crash. Expecting to see the 'genuine War-



minster flying saucer' due to appear in August, they tracked the object to the Golf Course and found remains of a plastic kite with battery-operated flasher unit, tied to a bush!

* * *

The *Daily Telegraph* of 1 July published the Royal Observatory's announcement that the most detailed and vivid photos of distant stars and galaxies ever taken have been recorded by the new British-owned 48 inch telescope at Siding Spring, New South Wales. Innumerable objects in space have been photographed which are five times fainter than seen through any other telescope, and many new galaxies are being recorded for the first time.

* * *

The *Peterborough Evening Telegraph* of 5 September had an account of the sighting by Chris Shuell of 3 large cigar-shaped objects flying high at 'phenomenal' speed at 10.25 pm on 2 September, giving off a dim orange-brown light. A spokesman for RAF Wittering said there were no flights from the station that night.

* * *

The *Sidcup Times* of 15 September mentioned a recent meeting of Sidcup Young Conservatives at which Norman Oliver gave an illustrated talk on UFOs and case histories of humanoid encounters.

The *Hinckley Times* of 16 September described the mysterious objects seen in the night sky over Burbage and Sharnford, Leics, being investigated by the Hinckley UFO Society, who pass on their findings to Bufora. Sightings mainly concern 2 silent bright lights that change direction and speed, or remain stationary. Others include a triangular object displaying a light at each corner, and single bright orange lights.

* * *

The *Daily Telegraph* of 15 September had a paragraph on the many UFO sightings in Portugal this summer, including those by a group of firemen in Guardia City, fishermen in the Algarve and townspeople of Viano do Castelo.

* * *

The *South Wales Evening Post* of 15 September outlined Swansea University College's extra mural course on the Universe by Dr Geoffrey Thomas, a physicist. With the recent wave of UFO activity in West Wales in mind, he will be including the latter in a strictly scientific setting.

* * *

The *Evening Post* of 21 September also refers to a night school series on UFOs and things paranormal, being held by the British Flying Saucer Bureau of Bristol, under founder member Capt Edgar Plunkett. A sighting of UFOs over Ashley Down has added to the enormous interest in the classes.

* * *

The *Grimsby Evening Telegraph* of 16 September had a feature on new Bufora member, Brendan Taylor, an astronomy enthusiast and resident of

the Lincolnshire Spastic Centre, Brumby Wood Lane, Scunthorpe. He would be pleased to hear from anyone in the South Humberside area with UFO information.

* * *

A September edition of the *Evening News* had a report on a spate of UFO sightings in Ashford, Kent, over several weeks. Descriptions vary from a red or orange object with 2 black window shaped holes in front, to that like a rocket with flames coming out.

* * *

The *Kent Messenger* of 23 September had an article on mysterious lights seen over Maidstone on different nights by several people. Witnesses again describe objects similar to the Ashford ones. Kent police ventured the opinion that they were flares.

* * *

The *East Kent Gazette* of 6 October and further issues, published reports of sightings by many people of a large object with bright white headlights and red and green lights around the outside. Seen at night for a month, it was noiseless or emitted a humming sound, hovered or moved rapidly, or disappeared as though 'switched off.' Sometimes a smaller light each side was seen moving to and fro.

* * *

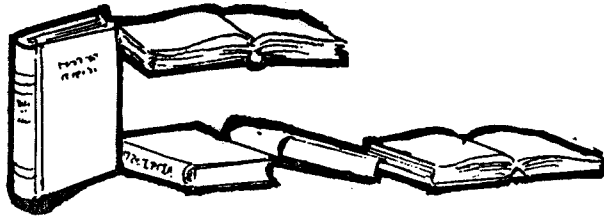
Finally, the *News of the World* of 25 September had an item on the startling experience of a French farmer who saw a flying saucer land in daylight, a naked man and woman jump out, make love in the field 3 times, then climb back and take off. Grinning gendarmes filed the report under 'Unsolved UFO sightings.!'

Book Reviews

The Twelfth Planet— Zecharia Sitchin

384pp. Illustrated &
referenced.

George Allen & Unwin £5.50.



'Not another Ancient Astronauts book!' was my immediate reaction on receiving a copy of *The Twelfth Planet*. Well—it is and it isn't! Certainly Sitchin is to be congratulated on the diligence of his research, for he parts company with many other authors inasmuch as nowhere does one find the (often dubious) quotes from books and articles with a similar theme. Going back to 'source'—the original Sumerian—Sitchin demonstrates, with over 160 illustrations, how there would seem to be overwhelming evidence for a 'twelfth planet'—yes, twelfth and not tenth as one would think—with an eccentric orbit of some 3600 years. He then puts forward the view that the hypothetical inhabitants thereof—the Nefilim—have an important part in human affairs, even to the extent of 'creating Man in their own image' by gene manipulation.

Whilst having reservations about the apparent longevity of the Nefilim, and how their planet manages to retain sufficient heat and light to support 'human' life whilst presumably orbiting through realms many times the distance of Pluto, one cannot help feeling that Sitchin makes his point—and makes it well. My two complaints are firstly, that the book stops short of the New Testament era—a time when the hypothetical planet would again have been in the Sun's neighbourhood, and secondly, that if the planet exists, it is now in the outermost reaches of its orbit and the

possibility of practical confirmation would therefore seem to approach zero. So far as the first point goes, however, I understand there is a possibility of Sitchin producing a sequel.

The argument—albeit at times one rather balks at the volume of Middle-Eastern historical and 'pre-historical' references and successions—is extremely well put. An intriguing book—**READ IT!**

Norman Oliver

"UFOs Explained"

Philip J Klass

Published by Vintage Books, 1976
\$2.45 (about £1.90).

Genuinely sceptical books about UFOs are few and far between. This book is undoubtedly one, written by an author who, along with the late Donald Menzel, has been one of the most consistent 'anti-UFO' propagandists. Philip Klass is an American technical journalist who gained some prominence in 1966 with his publicizing of the plasma theory of UFO's. This was expounded at greater length in his first book "*UFO's Identified*." The theory is given less emphasis in this, his latest book, which is essentially a long polemic against the extra-terrestrial hypothesis for UFO's.

Many familiar cases are dealt with, ranging from the 1897 'airship' sightings to the 1973/74 US flap. There

are numerous less well-known reports, most of which pose an easy target for the debunking style of the author. Two classic radar-visual cases are treated in depth, and it is in these 3 chapters that the book proves its worth. The author uses his knowledge of aircraft and radar systems to cast considerable doubts on the Lakenheath and RB-47 cases, both of which were described as 'inexplicable' by Professor James McDonald.

At times, however, the author goes over the top and makes apparently unfounded allegations, saying, for example, that the mayor of the town of Socorro in New Mexico conspired with the police force to fabricate the landing case reported there in 1964. This could be true, but no evidence for the hypothesis is put forward, indeed there is no sign of Klass having

done any direct investigation of the circumstances.

The book is rather disorganised, consisting of a large number of chapters each describing and triumphantly disposing of UFO reports. Klass is obviously certain that the whole UFO phenomenon is complete nonsense and so it is rather disappointing to find that he has no novel hypothesis, only a very old-fashioned view of extra-terrestrial life and the astonishing allegation that the scientific establishment is too gullible about UFO's! The book is recommended to all who are interested in the unbiased study of UFO's—not that it is itself unbiased but rather that it is one of the few UFO books with a strong bias against extra-terrestrial UFO's.

P Taylor

A Bell-shaped Light at Rhode-Saint-Genese

Was this a UFO phenomenon? If so, should it be classified as a landing, since it was seen on the ground? . . . The incident took place on Saturday, 24 January 1970, at about 19.45. Mr Leon Herbosch was about to take a walk near his cousin's home in Rhode-Saint-Genese. This town is situated some 12km south of the centre of Brussels and west of the Brussels-Charlroi highway.

He stopped his car in Erica Avenue and walked down Castonier Avenue. Waste ground with some large villas, both newly-built and under construction ran along the avenues of this residential estate. It was very calm and as yet there were no street lights; visibility was good, however, as there was a full moon. Mr Herbosch was walking along Reserve Avenue when his attention was caught by a faintly

luminous object on an empty site about 20m to his left. The witness stopped and saw that on the ground there was an elliptical-shaped 'blob' of 7m-8m by 1.5m which suddenly turned a light green phosphorescent colour: puzzled, he approached the object and began searching for a cause which would have produced this effect, but no ray of light or spot-light was visible. (*A similar blob was observed on the ground at Franois in France on 12 December 1968, although in this case a solid object was also to be seen. LDLN No 101, August 1969*).*

The witness stopped about 10m from the blob, startled and frightened. Within a period of about 20 to 30 seconds, the blob became increasingly brighter, seemed to vibrate, then rose and 'inflated' into a goldish bell-

continued overleaf

shape. This 'luminous bell' enlarged and reached about 5m in height. Its luminosity became almost blinding and its colour paler, almost a 'neon white.'

The light, although vibrating, retained the sharp bell shape, its border being a little like a ray of light—very sharp, but not limited to a precise place. Its interior seemed made up of thousands of tiny luminous particles swarming all around. Once at its maximum height, the object lit up the whole landscape as far as trees a hundred metres behind the site. It looked like a flashlight of extraordinary power. The whole thing took place in complete silence, nor did the witness notice any heat or smell.

Extremely frightened, a few seconds later the witness saw the bell suddenly 'falling down or going flat' to resume its original shape. The blob then moved away to the north-east in the direction of a villa under construction, exactly following the contours of the ground and was hidden by a difference in level near a fence. At this moment the witness, overcoming his fright, ran towards his car and drove back to his cousin's home where several relatives were awaiting him. He was shivering in an extreme state of excitement and they were afraid an accident had occurred. They made him sit down and only after a long time was he able to utter a few words. The following morning, his fear gone, he returned with his cousin to the spot where the encounter had taken place, but no tracks were visible.

At the time, Mr Herbosch was 30 years old, a kind and sympathetic man, very quiet and calm. He gave clear, precise answers, without hesitation and it was almost as though he was commenting on a film he was reliving second by second. It was, of course

impossible to check what he described, but we were convinced he was a reliable witness. Other relatives corroborated the events which followed Mr Herbosch's return to the house. When asked if he now believes in flying saucers, he replied that he didn't believe in them any more than previously and thought that what he had seen might well have no connection. All he could add was that he had never felt so frightened.

It may be that this was not a UFO phenomenon. One can, however, establish an analogy with an incident which occurred in Aveyron, France, where a whole family of farmers saw 'lightballs' moving peculiarly on the farm (*LDLN No 107, August 1970 et al.*)* Also one evening at Anderlues, Belgium, in 1937, a man came across a little lightball hovering 1m above the ground, which lengthened to completely obstruct his way. It seems that in the Rhode-Saint-Genese case, there may be a relationship between the period of the phenomenon and the witness's reaction. If the bright ball was taking form when Mr Herbosch was parking his car a hundred metres away, the witness would surely have seen it, the site being completely flat. However, it happened only when the witness was very close to the blob (10m) the latter waiting quietly there when Mr Herbosch arrived. Could he have disturbed 'something' ?

* * *

Ref: Inforespace No 2 1972, pp 32-33. Investigation by Patrick Ferryn and Paul Labar.

Distributed by SOBEPS, Boulevard Aristide Briand 26, 1070 Bruxelles, Belgique. Translated by Charles Poos. To all of whom acknowledgements.

* *LDLN—Lumieres dans la Nuit, 43 Le Chambon-sur-Lignon 'Les Pins', Haute Loire, France.*

Report—Extra!

Presented by Norman Oliver

Ghost or Spaceman '73?

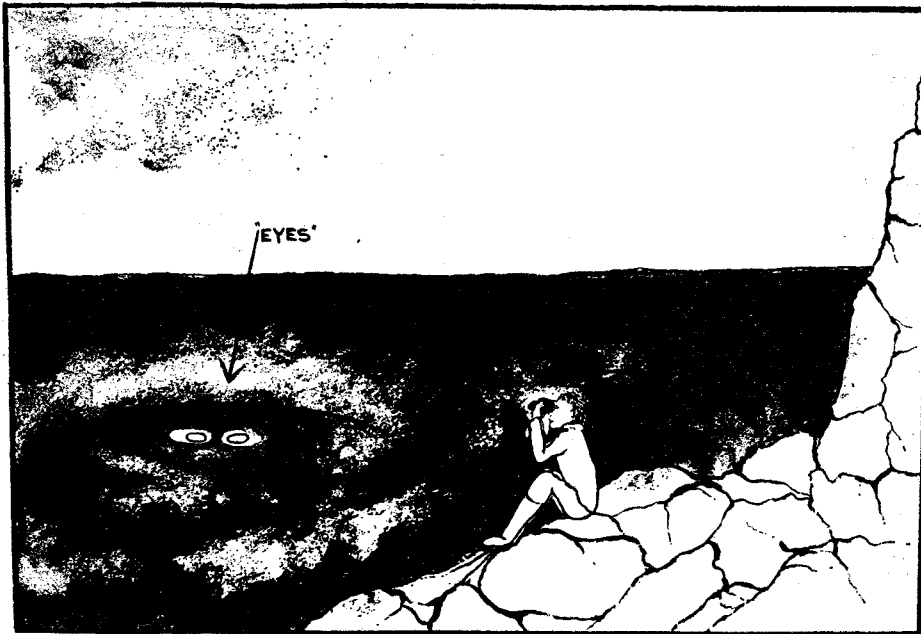
I am indebted to Leonard Cramp for advising Mr Y to write to me concerning his own and his daughter's experiences and to Mr Y himself for providing me with a very complete dossier of events. Of necessity these have had to be encapsulated: nevertheless, they make interesting reading. Mr Y has requested anonymity because of his daughter's involvement.—Ed.

"Bright red cherries"

Tuesday, 20 October 1970. Around 7 pm Mr Y was driving from Shanklin to Ryde via Seaview to see a friend. Passing through the village of Brading, he turned right to St Helens and then became aware of a large multi-lit 'aircraft' to his right about half way

between the road and Bembridge Downs. It looked enormous as it flew low over swampy terrain. He stopped the car and watched: the object hovered apparently aimlessly over the swampy margins of the river Yar: a wide ring of seven or more lights could be seen, each of them a large and clearly-defined sphere, 'like a bright red cherry' and interspersed with a turquoise and a white light: no sound could be heard. Our witness drove on and the object flew parallel. Once outside St Helens it cut across about 300 yards behind him and dropped slowly, meandering above distant hedges, now appearing smaller with the number of red lights reduced to four which seemed to rotate slowly. Mr Y again stopped and this time used his

continued overleaf



torch to signal for some ten minutes, during which time the object weaved backwards and forwards without 'settling.' He then continued on to his appointment: when he reached his destination, the red lights were still there and he left his own rear lights on to face the object. Coming out of the house his friend could see the thing also—playing 'hide and seek' between the tree-tops. As he continued on to Ryde the lights were lost to view and our witness saw them no more.

On several subsequent occasions he noticed single balls of red light in the sky which would hang stationary or follow him along as though checking his movements, but on 1 March 1972 a considerably more frightening incident occurred.

"Yellow eyes"

It was between 9 pm and 10 pm and Mr Y was perched on the cliffside at Compton Bay, having been driven there by an unexpected tidal surge seemingly caused, in part at least, by some form of droning underwater craft. From his vantage point, he observed two points of light—yellow—and '*peering up at me like the eyes of some horrible sea monster.*' He guessed the 'eyes' were not much more than 40 feet away and were just below the surface of the sea, like a sort of periscope. They disappeared and as the tide gradually subsided, Mr Y was able to bet gack to his car and drive home.

At no time did he tell his young daughter of anything he had experienced but at the beginning of May 1973, when she was seven years old, she claimed to have had a very weird encounter indeed.

* * *

Sandown spaceman or Golf-links ghost?

' A blue-gloved hand '

Fay, or so we shall call her, was near Lake Common, Sandown on a Tuesday afternoon about four o'clock with a boy about her own age when they both heard a weird wailing noise not unlike an ambulance siren. They followed it across the golf-links and through a hedge leading to a swampy meadow adjacent to little-used Sandown Airport. The noise ceased.

As they were crossing a wooden foot-bridge over a narrow brook, a blue-gloved hand appeared from under the bridge and a strange figure emerged. The figure fumbled with a book, dropped it in the water, then splashed about to retrieve it. The two then watched the figure enter a metallic hut—similar to those used on building sites except that it had no windows. It moved along with a strange hopping motion with knees raised high.

More weird wailing

The children wandered off and were over 50 yards away when the figure (which from now on will be referred to as 'he') reappeared carrying a black-knobbed microphone with a white flex attached. The wailing noise immediately returned, this time being so loud that the boy was scared and began to run away: the noise ceased and 'he' spoke into the microphone and although so far off the children could hear his voice as clearly as though he were right near them. '*Hello, are you still there?*' he asked, and in response to what sounded a friendly tone they ventured close enough to speak to the oddly attired 'person'.

Seven feet tall no neck

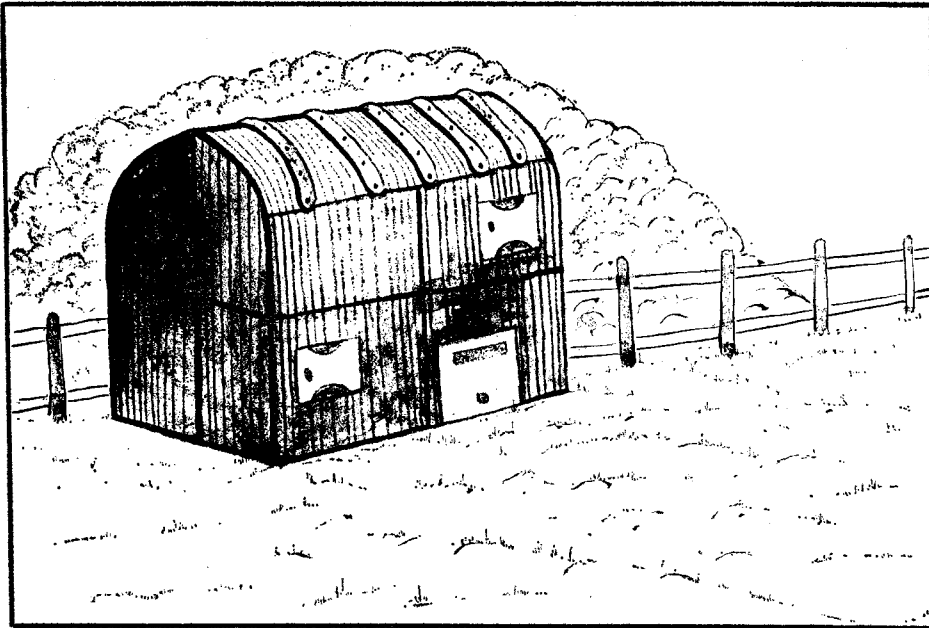
He was nearly seven feet tall and had no neck—for his head appeared to be wedged straight onto his shoulders. He wore a yellow, pointed hat, which interlocked with the red collar of a green tunic. A round, black knob was affixed to the top of his hat and 'wooden' antennae were attached either side. The face had triangular markings for eyes, a brown square of a nose and motionless yellow lips. Other round markings were on his paper-white cheeks and a fringe of red hair fell onto his forehead. 'Wooden slats' protruded from his sleeves and from below his white trousers. His first communication was in writing . . .

Hello

He wrote in a note-book in a large hand, 'Hello and I am all colours, Sam.' The boy was hesitant, but Fay read each word as it was pointed to: this

was necessary as the words were not laid out in conventional sequence. The children ventured closer and discovered that the creature could talk without the aid of a microphone, though his lips did not move and speech was unclear—rather like that of a person who does not open his mouth properly. He asked the children about themselves so they ventured to ask questions too. They asked about his clothes, which were all ripped, and he told them he only had one set so he could only wear those. Because of his strange white features they asked if he was really a man. The answer was a chuckled 'No.' They also asked if he was a ghost. The vague reply was ' . . . Well, not really, but I am in an odd sort of way.' 'What are you then?' they continued, but only obtained the answer 'You Know' with no further explanation. He also said he had no name. There were others like him-

continued overleaf



self, though, and he drew a rough sketch of one of them. He also confided that he was frightened of people and scared they might hurt him. Apparently if attacked he would not fight back.

. . . . into his Hut

At his invitation the children crawled through a flap into his hut, which contained two levels. The lower had plenty of headroom and was 'wall-papered' in blue-green and covered with a pattern of dials. It also had an electric heater and simple, wooden furniture. The upper level was less spacious and the floor was metallic. He told the children that he fed upon berries which he collected in the late afternoon: he didn't say where, but did indicate that he had a 'camp' on the mainland he could go to. He also said that the water from the river could be drunk once he had cleaned it. Once inside the hut he removed his hat to reveal round, white ears and sparse brown hair. Before eating a berry, he performed an odd 'conjuring trick.' He placed the berry in his ear, thrust his head forward and caused the berry to disappear and reappear at one of his odd eyes: repeating the process, the berry travelled to his mouth. (*A possible explanation could be that he was wearing some kind of protective mask and analysing the berry to check it wasn't poisonous*).

' and Goodbye '

The children talked to this strange being for half-an-hour or more, then, after saying 'Goodbye,' they rushed across the golf-links to tell the first man they met that they'd seen a ghost: he merely laughed. But the children were merely convinced of their experience and that the being was either a ghost or someone dressed up.

* * *

Fay told her father of her experience some three weeks later, on 2 June 1973. At first he found the story quite unbelievable, but was amazed at the detailed account and Fay's certainty as to its truth: she was quite upset when he suggested she'd made it up or invented it. Mr Y saw the boy, but found him not easy to communicate with, though he did get a statement from him verifying that he'd seen it too. Apart from 'make-believe,' other possibilities considered included a 'shared hallucination' and a deliberate hoax by someone. There was such an extraordinary amount of detail, however, which included the further point that the creature clearly had only three fingers on each blue-gloved hand and three toes on his bare, white feet, making a deliberate hoax somewhat difficult. And, indeed, why go to all that trouble?

Mr Y tells me that although bizarre, certain elements of the story rang true to him and he also took account of the possibility of some connection with his own previous experiences. Summing up, he says, "*I get the impression that Fay was somehow taken into a bubble of alien reality created by this strange personage he told them he had just made the hut. Also, Fay told me that while they were talking to this 'ghost', two workmen nearby were repairing a post. They paid no attention to the weird charade—as though they could not see it.*"

* * *

Well, Ghost, Spaceman, Imagination, Hoax or Hallucination?—Take your pick. Just a child's make-believe? Perhaps, but there are a number of unusual elements in the story and it is very detailed. Remember too, that quite a percentage of reports of sightings come from children (the Welsh 'flap' is a case in point: in particular

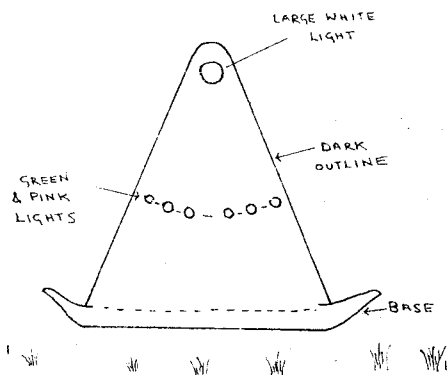
the 'box-dropping' incident and the 'humanoid' report from Broad Haven School—see Vol 6, No 1). One last point: Mr Y visited the spot, but could find no metal hut anywhere in sight, nor any indication of one: not really surprising, no matter in what light one views the children's story, for, to make a comparison, how often are traces found in reported UFO landings? The case rests

★ ★ ★

Warminster Cone

Inw K Phillips

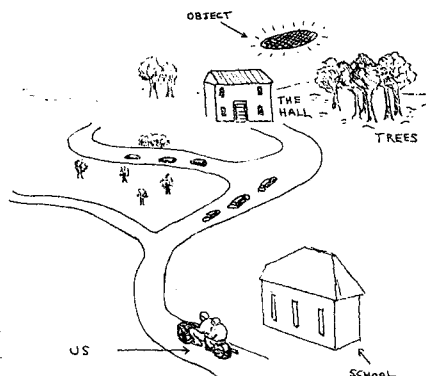
Bridget Chivers of Whitley, Nr Melksham reports that she was driving along the A36 road near Warminster on 28 August 1977, and was approaching the turning to Upton Scudamore just after 11.30 pm, when she noticed a bluish oval-shaped light in the sky: she slowed the car down and wound down the window—the object was now a dark silhouette and much lower. She drove a little further along the road until level with the object, then stopped the car, by which time the object was resting in a field by the side of the road. Its shape was that of a large inverted cone standing in a shallow dish, having a string of green and pink lights about halfway down the cone with one large 'searchlight' type at the top.



Bridget states that she grabbed her camera which wouldn't work, then tried another and managed to take three photos before it disappeared leaving in its place a yellow musky type smoke. Duration of the sighting was five minutes. The Warminster group UFO INFO carried out an analysis on the photos which "do not show what Bridget saw," but had suffered through being passed around amongst various people. Bufora RIC Ken Phillips thinks the report open to considerable doubt, but, though not happy with the photos, UFO INFO believe Bridget to be a reliable witness.

★ ★ ★

'Saucer' at Townley Hall

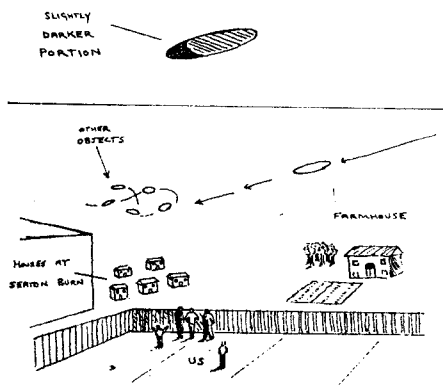


David Parkes, aged 19 and Stephen Metcalfe, 16 were driving home through Townley Park, Burnley, Lancs on 14 August 1977 at 11.40 pm. They were on David's small motor bike and were about 75 yards away from the Hall when they saw an "orange or orange-yellow saucer-shaped thing" in the air between the Hall and some trees, apparently about to land. There were a number of cars in the general area and the two watched for a short while after the object had descended behind

continued overleaf

the Hall but there were no developments. They then decided to "get out quick." On reaching home, David told his father and they returned to the spot by car, but nothing was to be seen. The object had emitted a humming sound and its brightness was compared to that of the Moon on a dim night.

Seaton Burn Black Ovals



Though now somewhat dated, this report of an incident in June 1973 has just come to hand and is, I think, sufficiently unusual to justify inclusion: Ian Drever, Graham Dobson and others were talking in the schoolyard at Wideopen, Seaton Burn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, when they spotted a black object in the sky giving off a smoke trail. Ian ran over to a group of people to make them look so as to have more witnesses and they watched the object fly down over Seaton Burn. Then, four other objects were seen apparently 'homing in' on Seaton Burn: these were flying in from various directions and the first object now joined them and they all flew together in a figure eight formation. They began to fly closer together and the figure of eight became smaller, then they suddenly turned towards the same point in space and vanished. All

had been emitting black smoke trails and these vanished about one minute after the objects disappeared. The time was 12.45 in the afternoon and the objects—all black sharply-defined ovals had been in view for between one and three minutes.

Anglesey again

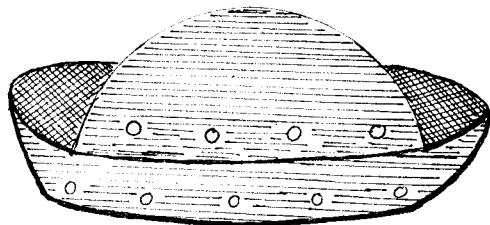
Readers will remember the daylight sighting by pupils and their teacher at Rhos-y-bol school in Anglesey reported in Vol 6, No 1. At the end of October I received a letter from Police Constable John Owen of Bodorgan, Anglesey, telling me of an object seen both by his wife and himself on Friday, 21 October 1977 at 12.50 am. Now 37, he has been a constable for 19 years.

"Thin red-coloured flame"

He wrote: ". . . . At the particular time my wife was preparing for bed and awaiting my arrival home. Before retiring, she decided to draw back the curtains in the back kitchen—the window looks out towards the sandy Aberffraw Common. On looking out . . . she saw a long thing red-coloured flame in the sky. This flame appeared to be vibrating, but did not seem to be moving in any particular direction. At first my wife thought it was an aircraft on fire, but within seconds the 'flame' appeared to form a circle and a domed figure appeared. This figure then started going backwards and forwards. There was no mistaking the shape and such things as portholes could be seen quite plainly.

"At this time I arrived home by car and my wife came running into the garage: to say that she was excited would be putting it mildly. She was able to say what she had seen and added that it was still there. I rushed

into the kitchen, and there was no mistaking the fact that this object was in the sky. I can only describe its colour as that of the setting sun. As regards size, I should say it was about double the size of the sun as we see it.



“ Outlined in lipstick ”

“ After seeing the object I ran out into the garden and called to my wife to go for my binoculars. Unfortunately at this time, the object seemed to go backwards and faded away.

“ I then telephoned the RAF station at Valley. I established there were no night flights and that no aircraft were in the area . . . I spoke to the air traffic controller and informed him of our sighting. I telephoned my HQ at Colwyn Bay and my sub-divisional office at Llangefni. The sketch enclosed is quite accurate as my wife had outlined it in lipstick on the kitchen window during the period she was looking at it needless to say, both my wife and myself are now very interested in the subject Yours sincerely, John P Owen.”

In view for 7 minutes

In a further letter, PC Owen told me they had both viewed the object through glass and in the open before outlining the object on the window, apparently, his wife had opened it to its fullest extent—to make sure that what she was seeing was real. The duration of the sighting by his wife had been 7 minutes and by himself about a minute-and-a-half.

The object was seen in a SSW direction, remaining and then fading away in the same direction, though before fading (as though going backwards and disappearing from sight) it had moved backwards and forwards to and from the house. (Not side to side like a pendulum).

The weather at the time was fine with occasional cloud. There was no wind to speak of and the Moon was not visible. No noise was heard.

* * *

This would seem to be a most reliable report from experienced witnesses, and the conclusion ‘UFO’ appears almost inevitable. Certainly, too, Mrs Owens is to be congratulated on her presence of mind in drawing the outline of the craft on the window. The impression of the outline shown here is accurate, apart from the portholes in the original sketch appearing a little larger.

* * *

Humanoid, box and aquatic UFO

Inv R Jones Pugh

During the afternoon of 15 May 1977, Mrs Coombs’ twin daughters Joann and Layann went into Middle Cliff field not far from their home at Ripperston Farm, St Brides in Pembroke to play games. It was just after 3 o’clock, and they’d been playing for a while when they saw a silver-suited figure walking around some 60 to 70 feet away: this figure, moving away from them, went up to the hedge, seemed to walk straight through the barbed wire fence, then disappeared.

On the other side of the field a silver-white ‘platelike object’ with a red light was now seen to land: a ramp-like stairway came out from it and a red

'box' was ejected down the stairway to the ground. Mission apparently accomplished, the stars were retracted, a door in the craft shut and it took off. The children ran back home and brought their mother and nanny out to the scene, but by this time both 'man' and object had disappeared.

However, the adults searched around in the grass where the box would have been 'deposited' and discovered some very large footprints which had clearly not been made by the children. Whilst the adults were searching, the children had climbed onto a bank from where they shouted out that there was a silver object, similar to the one that had landed, flying seawards and it had entered the water in the direction of Stack Rock. By the time the adults reached the bank it had already entered the water, but both twins and Mrs Coombs' eldest daughter Katrina who had joined them maintained that this was exactly what had occurred.

* * *

Thaxted—an EM case?

*Inv Andy Collins,
Barry King*

Mr Stevens of Chelmsford, aged 24, a musician and postman, had completed a recording session at Cambridge and was travelling home along the A130 in the early hours of 3 August 1977 in a rented, three-month-old Vauxhall Chevette E.

"Christmas cracker"

He passed through Thaxted village in Essex about 3.30 am and, turning right over the brow of a hill, noticed a red-orange or peach coloured glow through an opening in some bushes to the right: he carried on for about 100 yards, then the glow was seen through another gap, but this time in more detail. Mr

Stevens stopped the car on the left of the road for a closer look: he discovered that in fact there were two orangey-red objects, both stationary 300 to 400 yards away, and apparently hovering some 50 feet above and behind a small clump of trees over open fields sloping away from the road. The left-hand object seemed farther away and appeared as a very diffuse oval light: the one on the right, nearer, seemed to comprise a circular centre emitting 'concentrated' light with a diffuse glow to each side: its left 'side' was shaped like the end of a Christmas cracker, its right side was shaped like a tapered point. There seemed a division between the glows and the light as though they were not attached. Both objects seemed to cast light skywards rather than towards the ground.

"Power surge"

Watching through the open car window, the engine ticking over, the witness noted a momentary increase in brightness from the left-hand object. The other one then seemed to move up, resume its first position, its colour deepening as it did so, then it glided slowly towards the car in an apparent slight upward arc. Mr Stevens began to get worried and decided to move on. Starting in first gear on a slight incline, he moved into second, then third, and changed into fourth when on the brow of the hill. Travelling down the other side in top gear, he realised that although the accelerator was hard down his speed was only 35 mph, although otherwise the car was running normally: this lasted for around a quarter-of-a-mile, when the car suddenly surged forward to 50 mph and rising. As a result, the witness had to jam on the brakes in order not to overshoot an approaching left hand bend. On reaching Chelmsford, he reported the incident to the police who despatched

a patrol car which searched the area but could find no trace of the objects. The whole encounter had lasted some 1½ minutes and—the car's engine apart—had been silent throughout.

Compass variations

Two days later, a complete vehicle examination was conducted by Andy Collins and Barry King. In particular a comparison of compass readings was made between the Chevette and a sister car at the premises of the rental firm—both cars being mechanically and electronically identical. The readings obtained are summarised as under (both cars were positioned exactly the same and all readings were taken with North at 000°.) It will be noted that variations are considerable—particularly around the engine:

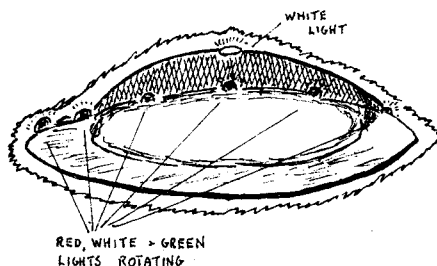
TAH 894R
TAH 893R car under
control car examination

Left wing	290°	108°
Right wing	130°	240°
Bonnet	350°	257°
Roof, left side	130°	016°
Roof, right side	118°	345°
Rear door	020°	132°
Front seat	118°	130°
Back seat	350°	050°

After a thorough examination and test drive, Barry King's report concluded that:

"Having found no real faults with the vehicle and visiting the sighting location, the details given by Mr Stevens seem consistent with our own findings. Although I cannot rule out 100% a normal malfunction of the vehicle I feel it is not impossible that an outside energy or force was responsible for temporarily preventing Mr Stevens from leaving the area by way of limiting his car's speed."

Disc over airfield



At 9.30 pm on a Sunday evening in early January 1977, the witness (who has requested anonymity) was returning by car with his family from Llantwit Major, to their home in Bridgend, when, passing Llandow Airfield, about two miles from Wick, his wife saw a flashing light in the sky. At first they thought nothing of it as Rhoose Airport and St Athan RAF Station were both quite near, but then a brilliant orange flash lit up the ground—almost as though a plane had blown up.

Suddenly, they realised an object was moving across the road in front of the car: this had the shape of a round disc, silver-grey in colour. It was something like 200 yards away and had an estimated diameter of 30 feet. The car had been stopped by the hedgerow and, as its occupants watched, the object first hovered about 60 to 80 feet above the road, exhibiting rotating red, green and white lights, then moved very slowly and noiselessly away over disused Llandow Airfield and circled back in a southerly direction towards them and, turning eastwards, rose into the sky at a fantastic speed and disappeared.

Witness had lived by airfields for much of his life and stated categorically that this was no aircraft.

* * *

Sardinian Saucers

I am indebted to Varricchoi Massimo of Rome for telling me about some past and present Italian reports: two of these could well be connected—certainly the objects seen were clearly something more than LITS—this is what happened:

Besieged by a UFO—one

On 9 June 1974, Egidio Traga was travelling in his 850cc Fiat along the Carbonia-Cagliari road in Sardinia, and was between Villamassargia and Siliqua, when his engine stopped: puzzled as to the cause, his bewilderment increased when he realised the car was still moving at the same speed! He applied the brake: the car slowed, but again increased speed when it was released. He braked again and then realised there was a strangely-lit ball in the air above the road, a ball some five meters in diameter and brilliantly coloured, its hues changing from white to yellow, blue and orange. This passed over the car, then stopped and hovered at an altitude of about 100 meters. The car stopped, but on trying to alight, Egidio realised it was being 'shaken' by some sort of force. He remained in the car for something like an hour and a half whilst the UFO hovered. It then flew off and conditions reverted to normal.

. . . . and two

Around the same time, 3-4 am, Antonio Floris and Giuseppe Gramai were also driving not far from Siliqua, when they stopped their car—a Prinz 4L—to watch a 'star' brighter and larger than the others. The 'star' moved towards them, now clearly visible as a luminous object of some description and they made to move off, but the engine refused to start. The object rose higher and the car began to move, but immediately stopped as the object

came down again nearly to ground level. The two ran from the car to a nearby farmhouse and knocked, but obtained no reply. They then cautiously returned to their car and waited till the object went away, when, as with Egidio Traga, their car restarted.

* * *

Finally, Lou Farish has been telling me of several recent US contact claims and Tom Dawson's is, at the same time, both 'usual' and unusual—but you'll see what I mean! First reported in the Panam Georgia Journal of 11 August 1977, it was somewhat enigmatically headlined, "*Did He or Didn't He?*" Well, since I'm not quite sure whether he did or he didn't, I'll plunge straight in and leave you to judge for yourselves! So

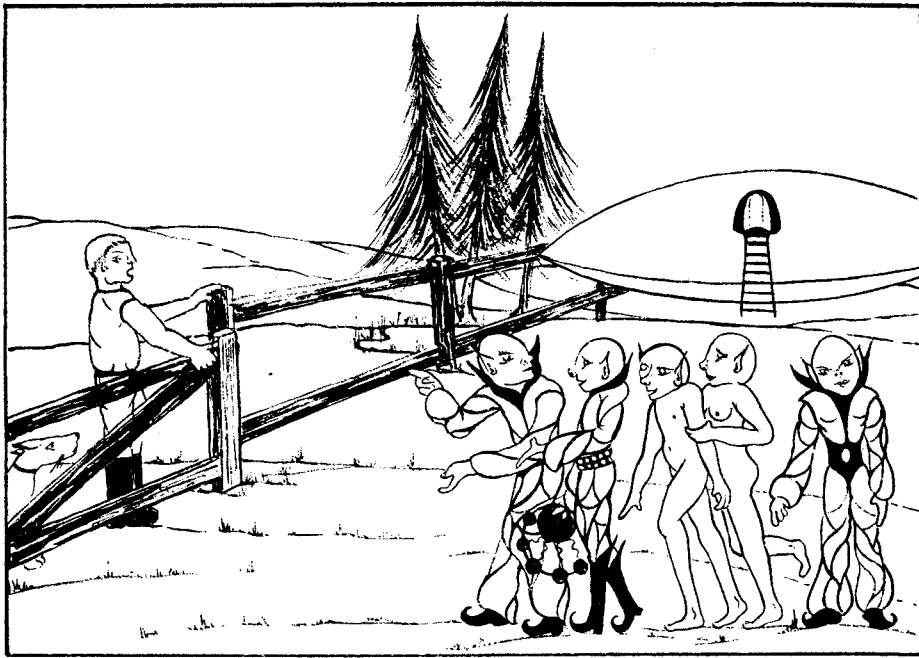
Tom Dawson's experience

Tom is a 63-year-old retired automobile dealer living in a Georgia caravan park with his wife and seven year-old daughter. He prefaces his story with the words, "*I don't care what they say, this is the honest truth. It DID happen and it's the first time I've experienced anything like this*"

"Unable to move a muscle"

It was Saturday, 6 August 1977, a beautiful day and he went for a stroll with his two dogs, calling on a neighbour—Mrs Kolbie—on the way.

Around 10.30 am he walked down to a fishpond behind some pines and crossed over the pasture with the two dogs romping at his heels: about forty cows were grazing nearby. He stepped inside the gate to the field and before he could close it a strange circular shaped 'space-ship' set down in front of him hovering two feet off the ground: he found he was unable to move a muscle as were also the dogs and cattle—they all 'froze' in whatever position they were in when the ship landed.



Alien nudists?

As it stopped a hatch opened and five strange-looking 'humans' marched out—two women and three men. Their skin was "*white as a flour sack.*" Their noses were sharp and turned-up and they had pointed ears "*sitting right on their shoulders.*" One man and one woman were completely nude and hairless. The first one out, apparently the leader, 'tested' the ground, then motioned the others to join him. Two more men then emerged from the craft, seemingly to guard the hatch entrance. Clothing worn by the 'non-nudists' was "*extremely beautiful,*" male and female dressed alike. Shoes were made of a silky material and were turned up at the toes and pointed.

"Hula-hoop" medical

The aliens approached cautiously and gave Tom what he thought to be a

form of medical. A '*skull-cap sort of thing*' was placed on his head: attached were several cords connected to a large ring something like a hula-hoop on which was a set of dials. His clothing was removed, but as examination was in progress a loud voice came from the ship, calling, '*I am Jimmy Hoffa*'*: this was repeated three times, a fourth shout being cut short. Examination completed, the cap was removed, the aliens walked away about ten feet and went into conference. They had high-pitched voices—very shrill and at one time Tom thought he heard the name 'Jupiter' and wondered if they intended taking him aboard the craft.

Treated for hysteria

Apparently they did not, for the aliens then returned to their ship, closed the hatch and it took off. Tom got a

continued overleaf

glimpse of it about 75 feet off the ground, then it was out of sight in a wink and he and the animals were free to move around again. He dressed and ran back to Mrs Kolbie and tried to relate his experience, but was too excited to talk. He was taken to hospital and treated for hysteria, but the hospital stated he had been taking nothing that might have caused hallucination, nor was there any trace of alcohol. Something had definitely 'given him a big scare.' Three days later when talking to the reporter he was still excited. Mrs Kolbie confirmed his condition when he had rushed into her and all enquiries made by the reporter indicated that Tom was not normally an excitable person, nor given to 'telling the tale.'

* * *

* *Jimmy Hoffa was an American labour leader who disappeared under mysterious circumstances.*



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Catalogue of UFO Sightings in Essex for 1976

Andy Collins

An excellent reference work for 1976 Essex reports, my only criticism is that astronomical and meteorological terms are occasionally used a little loosely—for example 'a capela' is mentioned when presumably the first magnitude star Capella was intended. This apart, Andy has gone to a great deal of trouble in producing tables of sighting characteristics and statistics: distribution of sightings and other features of interest to the researcher.

One hopes Andy may be able to produce a similar survey of 1977 Essex reports in due course, since some of these have been quite spectacular. *N.O.*

Printed by Nufois Press, 443 Meadow Road, Nottingham. Further details from: Andy Collins, 19 St Davids Way, Wickford, Essex SS11 8EX.

AWARENESS—the Journal of Contact UK. Details from The National Chairman, Contact UK, 59d Windmill Road, Headington, Oxford.

UFO Reports and Scientific Investigation of Rare Phenomena—2

Philip Taylor

Ball Lightning

This form of lightning, which normally takes the form of a slowly drifting brilliant sphere, has been dismissed as an optical illusion by some scientists and remains on the fringe of orthodox science. The reason for this, simply that it cannot be explained by conventional theories of lightning formation, has a direct similarity with the UFO situation. That it is recognised at all is perhaps because it lacks the sensational and sometimes emotional aspects of UFOs, as well as having appeared as a well-defined single phenomenon which, it must be said, is not true of UFOs looked on as a whole.

As with UFOs there are few, if any, fully authenticated photographs, but in some cases physical effects caused by a lightning ball has enabled an estimate to be made of the energies involved; however, there is still no generally accepted theory of formation or explanation of their stability for relatively long periods.

The number of simultaneous witnesses of a ball lightning event is usually small, although in a few cases—such as ball lightning entering an airliner cabin—larger numbers have been involved. Obviously the relatively low altitude at which the phenomenon generally occurs precludes observation over a wide area. It thus shows the closest similarity to the typical UFO report and naturally leads on to ball lightning or other similar but unknown plasma phenomena being put forward as an explanation of UFOs. It has been proposed as the major source of UFOs by some—for example, Philip Klass in his book *UFOs—Identified!*

Now it is significant that almost all observations of ball lightning have been made during thunderstorms or shortly afterwards (*'more than 70%—Charman 1975'*) and particularly in those rare instances of people being in close proximity to a lightning strike: this is manifestly not the case with UFOs. It is begging the question, however, to assume that all UFO sightings in fair weather are *not* ball lightning, since its formation is improperly understood and some observations labelled "ball lightning" have occurred in clear conditions. Here we are led onto the boundary between the UFO and the ball lightning report—is it the presence of a thunderstorm which labels the phenomenon ball lightning? Perhaps the clearest demonstration of the prejudice aroused by UFOs is the publication in leading scientific journals of ball lightning reports based on eye witness accounts when an identical case with the 'UFO' tag would never be accorded such respect. There is still fairly solid evidence that ball lightning reports are related to thunderstorm occurrence on a world-wide scale, even if pre-UFO era reports are considered. This forces the conclusion that if the 'plasma' hypothesis is to remain credible as an explanation of some UFOs, there is a need for radically new ideas about the formation of ball lightning or a new plasma phenomenon not requiring the electrical disturbances of a thunderstorm certainly a challenge to science.

I hope that these articles have shown that the UFO experience is not unique in its observational circumstances in that physical sciences have already

continued overleaf

drawn on observations made by unprepared people by chance. No new methodology invoking psychic powers or the supernatural is necessary. What UFO-logy is burdened with is the aura of emotionalism—of belief and non-belief which is foreign to science and chokes the observed facts with misidentifications and hoaxes. The study of UFOs can be encompassed by existing physical sciences if only it is permitted to do so.

* * *

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As our investigators will now know, I have resigned as NIC. The reason for my decision was one of increasing financial difficulties leading to gross dislocations in the function of my office. I hasten to add that this situation was *not* the fault of Bufora's Council who, without fail, always reimbursed me for any expenditure incurred. The problem was one of insolvency: my inability to make the initial outlay of cash necessary for postage and stationery and finally those massive phone bills. To make matters worse, this country experienced one of its highest UFO-reporting rates ever and, due to my inadequacies, the delay in initiating investigations became longer until a point was reached when this delay became unacceptable and I tendered my resignation.

I wish to thank all of you who assisted me whilst I was in office. Co-ordinating investigations on a national scale is no easy task, but due to the ceaseless dedication of our investigation team my load was lightened considerably. I sincerely hope that this spirit of co-operation will be afforded to my successor, Larry Dale, who, I'm sure, will do his level best to ensure that investigations will be satisfactorily continued.

Ken Phillips, RIC (TL)

* * *

On 7 November 1977, BBC 2 showed another programme in the series *The Long Search*. Mainly this has examined different types of religions throughout the world.

It is well known that a great deal has been written by numerous authors

about possible UFO connections between various ancient texts, paintings, etc., and during this episode an Indonesian island was visited, inhabited by people known as the Tarajas.

Throughout the programme many points were raised that could have possible UFO connections, including the following:

When other Indonesians were asked about the Tarajas, one of the answers given was "*Ancestors in starships coming from the sky.*"

When funerals were held—known as *The Ritual of the Ancestors* and lasting several days, it was said that the souls of the dead would be sent to the land of the souls and from there to the stars. Accompanying the dead would be a sacrificed animal.

Apparently humans used to talk to the High God, but someone broke his Fire Flint, so he removed the stairs from Heaven to Earth.

Two types of so-called spirits mentioned were (a) the *Daiarter* spirits which were described as small yellow people who could speak the native language and haunted the rice fields and (b) The *Ancestors*, about whom no description was given apart from the fact they were supposed to have watched from the sky. The people were not allowed to wear black at a funeral, but could wear yellow, the same colour as the *Daiarter* spirits.

By reading and examining ancient texts it is surprising how much can be found that could in some way be related to UFOs.

*S C Battman,
Basingstoke.*

FROM: +orfon c2206a
UNIT: Statistics Spearhead
TO: Mission Forward Station:
DATE: 0i0i+3

MESSAGE:

" I continued my research as instructed. To the question " *Do you believe in Flying Saucers?* " I found there appeared to be some correlation between positive and the humans I asked on Wednesday evenings. This was very slight however, and I think we should not give too much weight to it.

" One thing about humans is that unlike us they grow in size. It appears that the smaller ones are produced by the larger ones as a result of some obscure biological process. They call the end result of this ' *giving birth.* ' I ventured into the market place therefore and began to collect statistics to see if I could discover any correlations. Some humans I approached would not reply but brushed hurriedly past. Amongst those who did respond to my question, " *Have you ever given birth?* ", 35% said " *Pardon?* " 5% said " *What's it to do with you?* ", 2.7% said " *I'll knock your flaming antennae off.* " and one, whose reply I shall include on my return as half-positive, half

negative, stated " *Not yet, but any moment now!* " The remainder either said they didn't know or ventured some unrelated observation such as " *I've a train to catch,* " the significance of which escaped me. Concerning the number of times of giving birth, apart from one human who answered " *One Hundred,* " the average of the positive replies was once or twice, though occasionally a greater number was claimed.

" Some of the humans became quite belligerent and eventually a law-enforcement type appeared. He listened to me sympathetically for a couple of minutes then advised me to return to my spaceship without delay. I did not, therefore, obtain sufficient samples to arrive at a definite conclusion, but there does seem to be a definite correlation between " *giving birth* " and the type of garments worn by humans. I hope to bring further details on my return."

+orfon c2206a.

Seriously, though, is this how our statistics might seem to aliens?

L Taylor

Thank you, Mr Taylor: I've taken the liberty of making slight amendments but the substance of your 'communication' remains the same—Ed.

Bufora Lecture Recordings. Vol 6, No 1 contained a list of titles available from Robin Lindsey. Members requiring copies are advised to send for this issue or, if information on availability of titles subsequent to February 1977 is wanted, to write to R J Lindsey, Montague Villas, 87 Station Road, Whittlesey, Peterborough PE7 1UE.

MAPIT—the Manchester Aerial Phenomena Investigation Team—are compiling a catalogue of Cheshire East sightings. Areas covered are those surrounding Stockport and Buxton, Derby. If anyone can help with material would they write to David L Rees, MAPIT, 92 Hillcrest Road, Offerton, Stockport, Cheshire SK2 5SE.

Sighting Summaries

Presentation by Pauline Grego

Code No.	Date	Time	Place	Report	Class	Investigator/ Credit
Uncoded	1924	0845	Shortlands, Kent	Object with 'two tails'		L DALE
Uncoded	1962	1530-1900	Bletchley, Bucks	Hovering 'cigar'	C3b	K PHILLIPS
Uncoded	Jan 1969	2130	Ripley, Yorks	'Pure white' circle		S PITT, WATSUP
Uncoded	1972	2000-2100	Wednesfield, W Midlands	Elongated saucer		
Uncoded	21.3.72	2000	Heywood, Lancs	Discoid with cupola	C3c	
73-102	July	2100	Lazonby, Cumbria	Turquoise rugby ball	B4b	
74-014	January	2230	Dartford, Kent	Bright hazy light		
75-264	1975	1820	Workington, Cumbria	Grey flame with ball structures		R HALL
75-265	Late 1975	Midnight	Donaghadee, N Ireland	Stationary white oval	C3b	M JOHNSTON IUFORC
76-386	15.12.76	1645	Longton, Staffs	Orange disc		
76-388	August	Midnight	St Saviours, Jersey, CI	Two pear-shaped objects	C3b	N VAUTIER UFOJA
76-389	August	2130	St Clement, Jersey, CI	Disc with coloured lights	C3c	D PRESTON UFOJA
76-390	23.10.76	1145	Portsmouth, Hants	Two dark-grey objects	C4b	WATSUP
76-391	1.11.76	0840	Portsmouth, Hants	Silver disc	C4c	M HANDLEY WATSUP
76-392	6.11.76	1650	Lee-on-Solent, Hants	Ebony-black object	C3c	WATSUP
76-393	20.9.76	1915	Hayling Island, Hants	Disc with lights	C3b	WATSUP
76-394	27.11.76	1330	Cookley, Worcs	One and six humming discs	C1c	M PRITCHARD UFOSIS
76-396	October	1645	East Dean, E Sussex	Pink cylinder	C3b	L DALE
77-104	23.8.77	2205	Hemel Hempstead, Herts	Red and white lits	C4b	K PHILLIPS
77-105 (a)	22.5.77	Mid-day	Wilston, Leics	White silvery object	C4b	
77-105 (b)	3.6.77	2230	Wilston, Leics	White-orange light	C4b	VAPROL, Leics
77-106	17-18.5.77	2355-0010	Copt Oak, Leics	Bright vanishing 'star'		VAPROL, Leics
77-107	May	2330	Market Harboro', Leics	Blue lits	C4c	T THORNTON VAPROL
77-108	19.5.77	0030	Launde Abbey, Leics	Spinning object	C3b	VAPROL, Leics
77-109 (a)	11.5.77	2045	Thurmaston, Leics	'Saucer' with red lights and aerial	C3b	
77-109 (b)	11.5.77	2045	"	"	C3b	
77-109 (c)	11.5.77	2045	"	"	C3b	T. THORNTON
77-109 (d)	11.5.77	2045	"	"	C3b	
77-110	26.5.77	2330	Hersham, Surrey	Manoeuvring lit	B4b	SIGAP
77-111	17.2.77	1930	Welbourne, Lincs	Manoeuvring orange lits	C4c	P R HUDSON

continued overleaf

Code No.	Date	Time	Place	Report	Class	Investigation/ Credit
77-112	15.2.77	1945	Woodall Spa, Lincs	Varicoloured lits	C4c	P R HUDSON
77-113	16.2.77	2055	Woodall Spa, Lincs	Varicoloured lits	C4b	P R HUDSON
77-114	26.5.77	1530	Woodall Spa, Lincs	Spherical object	C3c	P R HUDSON
77-118	25.5.77	2000	Bransholme, Hull	Bright silver cone	C3b	D SHELTON
77-142	5.7.77	1245-1400	Westcliff, Essex	Silver object with 'flames'	B1b	P O'GRADY
77-144	17.7.77	0250	Newport, Essex	'Fat red cigar'	B3c	A COLLINS
77-145	18.7.77	0400	Gt Yeldham, Essex	Object 'with wings and legs'	C3c	A COLLINS
77-154	11.7.77	2135	W Farleigh, Kent	Oval object	C3b	J CASTLE
77-156	1.7.77	2123	W Farleigh, Kent	Silver disc	C4b	J CASTLE
77-157	6.2.77	1900	Birling, Kent	Red objects with light beams		J CASTLE J HIPKISS
77-160 (a)	25.4.77	2130	Gravesend, Kent	Silver disc with lights	C3b	
77-160 (b)	18.4.77	2210	Gravesend, Kent	'Saucer-like object'	B4b	B BASTER
77-161	11.3.77	2300	Gravesend, Kent	Disc with dome	B3b	B BASTER
77-162	?	?	Newbridge, Co Kildare	Saucer-shaped object		J HIND
77-163	10.6.77	Midnight	Kirkintilloch, Glasgow	Manoeuvring blue object	C4b	N STEPHENSON
77-164	28.7.77	1732	Watford, Herts	Round white object	C4b	G M ROBERT
77-176	28.2.77	0515	Leigh, Worcs	Rotating top	B3b	D WELFORD Mrs M WEBB
77-177	21.7.77	0100	Hayes, Middlesex	Multi-coloured football	C3c	N OLIVER
77-178	3.8.77	2145	W Anstey, Devon	Gold object	C3b	
77-179	2.7.77	1420	Clapham, London	Three 'white dots'	C4b	N OLIVER
77-180	20.5.77	2100	S Molton, Devon	Three cigar-shaped objects	C3b	
77-181	28.2.77	1930	Malmesbury, Wilts	Orange/gold lit	C4b	G BAKER
77-182	2.3.77	1915	Nr Swindon, Wilts	White flashing lit	C4b	G BAKER
77-183	22.8.77	2250	Notting Hill, London	Amber 'sausage shape'	C4c	

75-264 1975. 18.20.
Workington, Cumbria.

One Sunday evening at 18.20, the witness was in his bedroom listening to the radio, when he saw a 'machine-like craft' floating around the gable end of his house. He estimated the object to have a twelve-foot high tail at the back, two thirteen-foot long wings, a twenty-five-foot long fuselage and two ball structures at the front with a frame around them. There also appeared to be an arch structure like a cabin. A smoky cloud then covered the object which vanished and the witness states that tree branches nearby are now sprouting on one side only and birds seem to keep away from the area.

Ino R Hall

76-393 20 September 1976. 19.15.
Hayling Island, Hants.

Witness, Neil John Landymore, aged 17, was taking his eight-year-old brother to the 'fort,' an open space next to the golf links and the gravel pit on Hayling Island, at about 19.15 when their attention was drawn to a rather insignificant red light in the sky over the Solent. A thunderstorm was in progress at the time and the witness thinks he noticed the light whilst watching lightning flashes. The object, which did not appear to be an aeroplane, but which did seem to have a solid body, flew across the Solent, taking about fifteen minutes to reach the eastern road just below Cosham, on the way performing a curious but fantastic manoeuvre. It lit up, flew

first horizontally, then straight up vertically without losing speed, then continued on its course over Southsea before reaching Cosham, where it was seen to light up again, there being a red central light, one large solid light and white lights equally spaced along the edge, and beams of white light came from underneath. The whole object was extremely bright, brighter than the lightning flashes, and when so 'illuminated,' was visible for four or five seconds, longer than the lightning. It appeared to be at an altitude of 150-200 feet.

Inv WATSUP

77-046 27 March 1977. 23.30.
Rutherglen, Glasgow.

Mr Forsyth, who lives in a top floor flat with a good view of parts of Glasgow, was looking out of his window at about 23.30, when he noticed an object moving very slowly across the sky over the north-east part of the city about a mile distant. It was sharply defined, triangular in shape, and 'blue with a turquoise glow.' The witness observed the object for over half a minute, when it stopped and then sped off northwards at a fantastic speed.

Inv T O'Neill

77-047 14 February 1977. 18.00.
Pangbourne, Beds.

Three witnesses observed three objects low in the sky heading towards Reading, some six miles away, at intervals of about ten minutes. They appeared as balls of fire which hovered for between one and two minutes, then moved away to the north-east at very high speed at an approximate altitude of 500-600 feet. On looking through binoculars, each object appeared as a spherical flaming mass.

Inv J S Roylance

77-082 28 March 1977. 19.40.
Tadworth, Surrey.

Witness, Mr John Wilson and his wife, were travelling from Headley to Sutton, when, on reaching the Tadworth roundabout on the A217 at approximately 19.40, they both noticed a white light in the sky directly ahead. The object was stationary, then it became very bright and started to pulsate rapidly. It was at its brightest just before it was lost to sight when their vision was obstructed by a high hedge. When they passed the hedge the light was no longer visible. When it was at its brightest, it was estimated as three times the brightness of Venus.

Inv Bob Green

77-088 13 April 1977. 23.00.
Bromley, Kent.

At about 23.00, witness Gail Sandra Golding and her sister, sighted a slow-moving object in the sky just below the tree-line. The object gradually passed over the field behind their garden and moved soundlessly towards the house. It was triangular in shape, yellowish in colour but not over-bright and as it reached the housetop, the girls went through the house to the front garden to watch it pass over, but it had completely disappeared.

Inv T Good

77-110 26 May 1977. 23.30.
Hersham, Surrey.

Christopher Bridgman, a British Astronomical Association member, was observing the constellation of Draco, when he saw a small but intense light very high up and moving from the zenith in a southerly direction. It moved irregularly, increasing and decreasing in speed and swaying a few degrees from side to side. When just above the tree-line, it stopped and 'flared up' showing a small red ellipse surrounded by a blue aura. The object then vanished without trace. Another witness just managed to see the red ellipse and blue aura through a telescope viewfinder (5X Magnification), before it faded into nothing.

Inv SIGAP

77-113 9 September 1977. 05.35.
Cleethorpes, Lincs.

Witness Mr Granville James Bruce, aged 39, was going to work along Taylor's Avenue, Cleethorpes, at 05.35 on Friday, 9 September. The sky was clear and there was no wind. On looking up, he saw a sharply defined black object, which at first appeared round, but changed to an oval shape, travelling noiselessly across the sky at an estimated height of 1,000 feet. The object maintained a steady course, and was visible for some minutes until it was lost to view over housetops, having turned slightly seawards.

Inv B Taylor

Don't miss the Nottingham Conference on 15-16 April. See details on page 28 and enclosed leaflet.

BUFORA NOTTINGHAM CONFERENCE

Bufora's third weekend National Conference will be held at the George Hotel, George Street, Nottingham from 11.45 am on Saturday, 15 April until 6 pm on Sunday, 16 April, 1978.

Speakers and papers already booked include:

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- 2 The nature of starships—David Viewing.
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B. Research Projects

- 1 The Vehicle Interference Project.
- 2 Radar Cases Project.

C. Field Investigations

An illustrated report on the intensive UFO events in Pembrokeshire in early '77—Tony Pace, FRAS.

D. UFO Detection Techniques

- 1 Project on Radio Noise Monitoring—Larry Dale
- 2 Magnetometers and other instruments for possible UFO detection.

John Hind, Mark Stenhoff, BSC, FRAS, FBIS and Arnold West will also be amongst the speakers.

Please use booking form included with this issue or write for further details to: Conference Organiser, 5 The Ridgeway, Farnsfield, Newark, Notts NG22 8DG.

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Kings Langley, Herts, England.

Peter Hill of Buforia, Edinburgh, has sent me a copy of the *P & O Wireless News* of 18 August 1977. This includes the following item:—

Acapulco : Reports of an unidentified flying object some 30 miles West of Acapulco have been substantiated by a man who saw what he claimed was an alien craft hovering over his chicken run. Brandishing a shot-gun the man attempted to discourage the invaders from stealing his chicken by firing at them. His wife told police that she saw a bright light strike her husband before the craft departed at high speed. The man later went to a restaurant with some friends and during the course of the evening his ears were seen to fall off. The man said he could feel no pain and before the ambulance arrived other parts of his face had disintegrated. The man was dead on arrival at the hospital—apparently he had just fallen to pieces. Doctors said that he was suffering from strong radiation burns.

Has anyone any further information concerning this alleged incident? Ed.

Memo to all RICs. Please let me know if you have not as yet received ID cards: also advise me of the system adopted for RIC/Investigator contact in your area. L Dale, National Investigations Co-ordinator, 11 Wimbourne Avenue, St Paul's Cray, Kent BR5 2NS.

Personal Column

Catastrophist Geology: A journal of academic level includes results of UFO research though not primarily UFO orientated. Enquiries to: *Catastrophist Geology*, C.P. 41003 / Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro -RJ-20,000, Brasil.

The Cosmonauts 1977: A 75-page duplicated booklet giving full personal and career details of the Soviet Union's corps of cosmonauts. An invaluable work of reference. Full details from: Gordon R Hooper, 88A Connaught Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex CO13 9PT.

Michael Hervey, author of *UFOs Over the Southern Hemisphere* would welcome newspaper cuttings mentioning UFO sightings or old UFO journals in any condition. Reply to: 12/12 Wolseley Street, Drummoyne NSW 2047, Australia.

Adamski—Venusian Scout UFO pictures in gloss or matt. SAE for details or international reply coupon to: R Lawrence, Hampstead H G Wells Society, 47 Belsize Square, London NW3, England.

For more information about *The Universal Panufogis League* and their publication *The Panufogist Unorthodox Quarterly*—\$6 per year, please contact Larry Stephens, Route 9, Box 12-A, Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110, USA.

Cassette Tapes: *Skyquest* cassettes available as follows: UFOs & YOU £2.65 (\$4.50); UFOs OVER ENGLAND £2.65 (\$4.50); SKY EXPLORING—AROUND POLARIS £2.50 (\$4.25); OUR SOLAR SYSTEM £2.50 (\$4.25). All inc P & P. If ordering two tapes deduct 20p: four tapes deduct 50p. Norman Oliver, FRAS, *Skyquest (B7)*, 95 Taunton Road, London SE12 8PA.

Skywatch UFO Detector : Successful magnetic needle type detector, incorporating latching circuit and audio alarm, battery operated. £9.00. Stamped addressed envelope for explanatory literature. Malcolm Jay, 102 Nelson Road, Chingford E4 9AS.

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