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

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THE BUFORA JOURNAL

Volume 4 Number 2

Spring, 1974.

Editor: NORMAN OLIVER

Editorial Address: 95 Taunton Road, London, SE12 8PA.

Sorry! Owing to pressure of space I have had to hold over a number of items including an article by Stephen Smith: Book Reviews by Betty Wood: items from Carol Godsell and others, and several "Letters to the Editor." These will appear in the Summer issue. Ed.

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EDITORIAL

“ I make no apologies for introducing ‘ blobs,’ ‘ monsters ’ and similar abnormal and Fortean phenomena into the pages of this Journal. No-one knows for sure what falls within the scope of UFO investigation and what does not, and so long as I take care not to allow the blobs and monsters to slither or growl at you from every page, I believe they could rightly come within the field of attention of the ufologist. The way monsters are investigated and reported too, is frequently very similar to the procedure adopted in reporting and investigating UFO sightings. Our old friend Nessie is a prime example here, for similarities include ‘ sightings ’ which could be mistaken for ‘ ordinary ’ phenomena: vans with equipment to detect traces: photographs which are immediately suspect as fake or misrepresentation: watches kept in the hope of a sighting—even ‘ landings ’ or ‘ contacts ’! Indeed, even cartoons have been produced likening the phenomena to one another! Telepathy and Parapsychology too,—these facets should not be overlooked—as I have indicated elsewhere—when dealing with the UFO phenomenon: the main reason that much of the Journal content treats with ‘ hardware ’ rather than other types of report is that BUFORA is better equipped to investigate and analyse this type of report: it does NOT mean we consider others unworthy of investigation—far from it. Personally, I believe that parapsychology and the psychic field generally could well have a strong connection with a fair percentage of UFO reports and, where possible cases of this nature will also be presented in the Journal for your consideration, along with the ‘ nuts and bolts.’ ”

URI GELLER. Amidst all the claims of telekinesis and counter claims of ‘ trick-inesis,’ it seems to me that the most interesting point of all has been glossed over by pro- and antagonists alike. Let us assume:—

(1) That Uri is completely genuine: even so, how does cutlery bend and watches recommence operational activity for people up to hundreds of miles away ?

(2) That Uri has paranormal powers but is by no means beyond augmenting them with a touch of trickery here and there: I still ask, how do his apparent ‘ powers ’ extend to people all over the country, even when they may be only listening to or watching a recording ?

(3) That Uri is a complete showman and has ‘ vamped up ’ the whole thing: again I ask, what about all the others ?

It seems to me that whatever is the true answer so far as Uri himself is concerned, he has proved his point and there ARE latent powers in many people which may be brought to the surface when a particular stimulus is applied. And IF the correct answer is that ‘ space beings ’ are working through Uri (or even perhaps if not), does it not again raise the question of extra or ultra-terrestrial manipulation for some end or ends unknown ?

NORMAN OLIVER.

As a postscript readers may like to know that the above editorial was prepared BEFORE the appearance of the September/October ’73 issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. Ed.

LET'S LOOK AROUND . . .

The three items in this issue are extremely varied, and for our first I have chosen one that I investigated myself some three years ago. This was first published—at slightly greater length—in the combined COS-MOS/SIRIUS publication that preceded GEMINI: since this appeared, however, I have regretfully to record the death of one of the witnesses—Mr. Hughes

NORMAN OLIVER.

THE FLINTSHIRE UFOs.

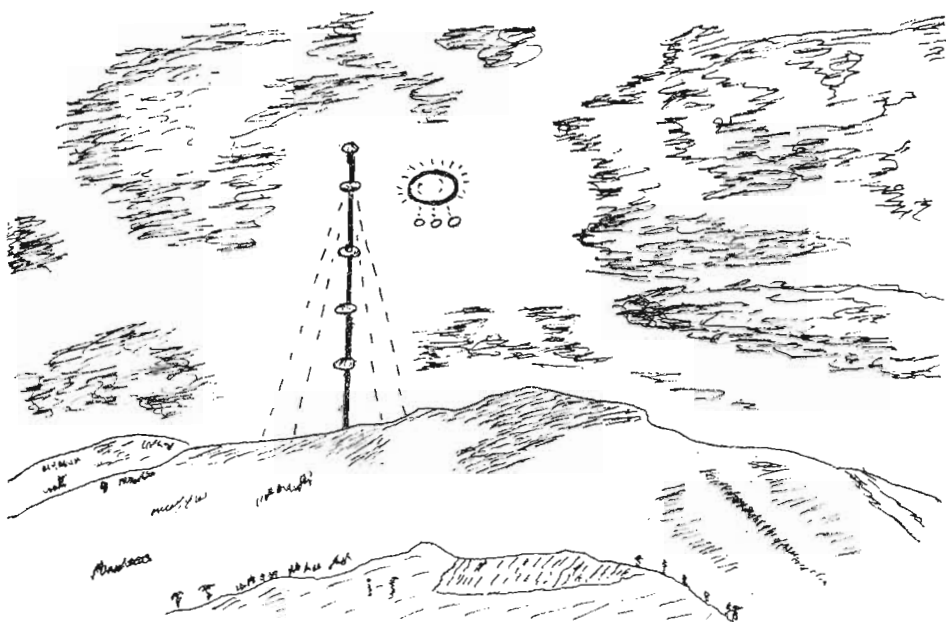
First reported in October 1970, these were subsequently seen by Mrs. Stella Dickson and her neighbours, on numerous occasions. A 'timetable' appears below, followed by details:—

- 10.10.1970: Sighting of UFOs by two people in Berthengam, also a 'Red object' was reported seen over Rhyl by local residents.
- 11.10.1970: Sighting of 'tangerine-shaped' objects near Afon-wen TV mast.
- 12.10.1970: Sighting of 'flattened globular object' near TV mast.
- 13.10.1970: Considerable TV interference.
- 15.10.1970: UFOs seen 'coming up from the ground.'
- 18.10.1970: 'Close' sightings and 'radio ham' mystery.
- October 1970—May 1971: Subsequent intermittent sightings.

For the purpose of this article, the 'subsequent intermittent sightings' are ignored and the 'flap' period concentrated upon . . .

Mrs. Stella Dickson, Mr. & Mrs. Hughes and Mr. & Mrs. Woodward are neighbours in the hamlet of Berthengam in downland country in Flintshire not far from Holywell. Some five miles to the west is the BBC TV mast at Afon-wen, and it is this mast that appears as the centre of attraction. Our 'flap' starts on Monday, 11th October, 1970 with the following sighting by Mr. Hughes of objects as seen from his cottage in Berthengam: time 7.15-7.30 p.m. Weather clear and fine:—

" . . . I'd been in Holywell, and was just coming in the back door when I happened to turn and saw this thing going round the TV mast. It was 'saucer-shaped' and reddish, rather like a tangerine and it had a 'tail' to it—like a piece of string. This was followed by four or five others at intervals of about a minute, all going round the mast, but only one was seen at a time . . ." In answer to questions Mr. Hughes told me they disappeared like someone 'blowing them off'—they rounded the mast and then seemed to 'shoot away' before they 'went out.' They seemed to be solid enough, glowing 'just like a solid thing—no flames.' The 'string-like thing' was not apparent on all of them, but was pretty lengthy—like a kite's tail. It was difficult to obtain an exact idea of size, as this could only be done in relation to lights on the mast (the top three were visible from Mr. Hughes' home), but in my own estimation, a diameter of 15 feet would not be far out. As will be seen, others saw the 'tail-like' appendages, and it is interesting to note that on one occasion when an object was seen by Mrs. Dickson, this disappeared before the 'appendage,' leaving it hanging, glowing in mid-air, rather like the Cheshire cat's grin! A low hill known as The Glol comes between the line of sight of some of the witnesses and the mast: consequently from some points only the top lights on it can be seen, whilst from others, most of the mast is visible.



From her home the following day—Tuesday, October 12th—Mrs. Dickson saw a ‘flattened globular object’ coming in from the West—as indeed did all objects apparently concerned with the mast itself. This came ‘at a steady pace,’ glowing orangey red. It gave the impression of depth and was ‘globular, but with a small protrusion.’ It ‘switched off’ or ‘went out’ before reaching the mast, then, 5 or 6 seconds later either this, or a similar one reappeared some two-and-a-half miles westwards of the mast to the right of Tremeirchion.

The next day—Wednesday, October 13th, there were no sightings, but Mrs. Dickson’s TV ‘went haywire’ in a manner it hadn’t done before at around 8 p.m., when white dots and other interference blotted out the picture completely. This lasted some seconds and no immediate explanation was apparent.

For the sightings on Friday, October 15th, we go back to Mr. Hughes. At 7.40 p.m. he saw an object ‘like a huge saucer on its side’ come up from the ground above the hill interposing, move horizontally, then sink from sight below the hill, the weather again being fine and clear. Other objects followed. So we come to the events of the following Monday—October 18th, 1970, and to quote a portion of the tape recording:—

Myself: “You were along with Mrs. Dickson, weren’t you, Mrs. Woodward, when she saw?”

Mrs. W. "Yes, up at Sodom . . . Mrs. Dickson came round and she said, 'would you come over with us to see—see if we can find out what they are?' So we went up to Sodom and waited for a while and then we could see them; they looked funny, you know, as if they were hanging on strings. We could see—like—'little ones' coming out of them. I had the binoculars with me, so both Mrs. Dickson and I had a look through them. But we couldn't bear to look—it was awful on the eyes. They seemed very near the mast . . . they were big, you know, and they seemed to 'float' on these little ones, and you could think they were on thin wires or something, hanging down.

Mrs. Dickson described these appendages as 'almost like dotted lines with little balloons at the bottom,' but to begin at the beginning:—On October 18th, Mrs. Dickson felt strongly she should get closer to the mast. It was a very lonely spot, so she asked two neighbours—Mr. & Mrs. Woodward—if they would go with her. They parked the car about a mile away (in a direct line) on the verge of a narrow, practically unused country road on high ground known as Sodom. Shortly after 7 p.m. a UFO appeared. It was red and 'like the sun,' so that no-one could look right at it. It 'just appeared' away to the west coming towards the mast. On reaching it, it turned as if to go round, then disappeared. The same thing happened every three or four minutes until seven or eight had been seen. Some had these 'string-like' appendages hanging below them, and attached to each 'string' was a small dull red ball. Some UFOs 'went out' and just left the red balls before they too disappeared. Others 'burst' with a jagged blue-green flash. Mrs. Dickson states that about three—after they'd 'gone out' made a 'muffled backfire,' but not all did this. This was the more extra-ordinary because the sound took considerably longer to reach them in some cases than in others. (Estimating the distance from the mast on visiting Sodom as 1-1½ miles, this would roughly give the expected time lapse as 7-8 seconds—Ed.)

Despite the nearness it was again difficult to estimate size accurately, partly perhaps because of the brilliance of the objects, but they were larger than the TV mast lights. (Again I would estimate 15-20 feet in diameter.) About 8 p.m., the lights ceased to appear, but some fifteen minutes after the last UFO had 'gone out,' the lights of a car were seen coming up the hill. Mrs. Dickson hurriedly put her car lights on and a van shot round the bend at speed, halting at the next bend and backing off the road. All three witnesses walked towards the bend to see what was going on, (this road being normally deserted). A man got out of the vehicle, which was in fact a 'pick-up' van. He was carrying a box and began scraping a hole in dead leaves to put the box in. He then 'fiddled' with the box and a bulb lit up on top. Then, running to the van, he put a large aerial on the platform of his 'pick-up'—turning it as though lining it up, then went inside the van and stayed there. Mrs. Dickson and Mrs. Woodward went up and heard the man apparently broadcasting in a language sounding like a very nasal Japanese.

As it was now after 9 p.m. they decided to leave and Mrs. Dickson suggested it might be wise to tell the police about the man and on reaching home promptly rang them. Her report was noted and shortly afterwards they rang back to say that if she'd take them to the spot a police car would be sent to pick her up. Ten minutes later it arrived, and about half-way on the journey a message came over the intercom to say that there had been a 'military exercise' in the general area, but they'd still better continue.

They arrived at Sodom at 11 p.m. and the van was still there with the man inside. The police went to the van and questioned him, and on returning to Mrs. Dickson they said he was a radio 'ham': his papers were in order and they were quite satisfied, but had advised him to notify them of his activities on future occasions.

By a coincidence, about the only guest house in the vicinity lies at the foot of the hill on which stands the mast! Here I stayed overnight—no UFOs were seen—indeed no-one else here could be found who had seen any either! Yet from here of all places sightings should have been in evidence. There is a "Junior Leaders" army training ground on the far side of the mast, but—unlike Warminster—this is a comparatively minor training ground—not one where experimental weapons might be tested or heavy equipment used. Indeed, one would think the BBC would not take kindly to the Army using the mast for "target practice" in any case!

So—what were these peculiar Flintshire UFOs? Remember—although seen from Sodom and Berthengam, no-one at the foot of the hill (admittedly a sparsely populated area) has reported them. Remember too the difference in time-lag mentioned by Mrs. Dickson. What of the peculiar appendages? The brilliance of the lights? (This was after sunset, so no possibility of reflection). What too of our "radio ham?" The time taken to come from the mast to Sodom would have been about fifteen minutes, and this was in fact the time interval between the disappearance of the last UFO and the van screeching to a halt at Sodom. Perhaps time will tell.

UFO Incident at Kera Village, Kochi

This report is a precis of one that appeared in the magazine of the Japanese Association—JUFORA, one of whose investigators has re-checked on it. It originally appeared in a book MICHINO HOSHI O MOTOMETE (Looking for Unknown Stars) by Tsutomu Seki. Full acknowledgements to both sources. The age of 13 is given for the first boy; no age is mentioned for the others:—

First witness: At the end of August 1972, boy 'A' found a strange disc which was like a bat flying around Mt. Fodai. He told 'B' and 'C' who were brothers; in the night they went back there to try to discover what it was. 'A' saw it again and as they looked, it landed. They approached it, but as 'B' got close it became brighter: they ran away. At first they thought it was silver, but weren't certain because of floodlights in a nearby golf practice area. Thirty minutes later they came back, but couldn't find anything. The next evening they saw a mark on the ground of a small disc at the same spot. It was circular, about 20cm in diameter, there being four small holes.

Second witness: At the beginning of September 1972, five boys saw something bright flying about one metre above a rice field. It was rotating slowly and had many small different coloured lights. The boys were frightened and ran away: when they went back to search for it, it had disappeared.

Third witness: Three days later 'C' found an object "growing brighter in the rice field." 'B' and 'D' went close and took a picture of it. When the flash went off it seemed to rise about 1.5m (about 5ft.). The picture was of rather poor quality looking like a bottle in a grassy plain.

Characteristics of the UFO.

- A. They subsequently captured the disc on 6 or 7 occasions. They usually went to look for it at night—it was not difficult to catch.
- B. The disc always disappeared after they caught it.
- C. They used to keep it in 'B' and 'C's brother's room on the first floor of the house.
- D. It was about 18.5cm (7.5ins) in diameter, 10cm (4ins) in height 1.3kg (2.9lbs) in weight and was made of some lustreless metal.
- E. There were some wavy patterns on the underside.
- F. In the middle of the underside there was a square containing many small holes. A ridge surrounded the square. When they threaded wire through the holes a "lid" in the bottom opened; they couldn't shut it or take it off. They saw something like part of a radio or TV set inside and then the lid shut of its own accord.
- G. They put some water in the holes and the object made a noise like a cicada.
- H. They hit it with a stone but it didn't crack.
- I. They hit it with a hammer without visible effect.
- J. The disc appeared luminous.
- K. They put silver paint on it in one place and a mark on top so they knew it was the same disc whenever they caught it.
- L. It disappeared on one occasion whilst the boys were carrying it to 'E's home; at the time it was held by 'B'. It came out from his hands, shot to the fence and flew towards Mt. Fodai.
- M. They showed it to 'F's father, a teacher at a technical high school to ask what it was, but he didn't know. 'G's mother saw the light of it through a bag.
- N. One day after the disc disappeared (not the last time), they brought the empty bag to 'B's room. When they arrived the disc was in the bag.
- O. The last time they saw it, they were carrying it to 'H's home by cycle. They put it in a plastic bag, tying the top with string. 'B' held the bag—he was riding on the back seat of the cycle and was suddenly knocked to the ground; he checked the disc, but it had disappeared; there was no trace of it in the bag, but the knot was still securely tied. . . .

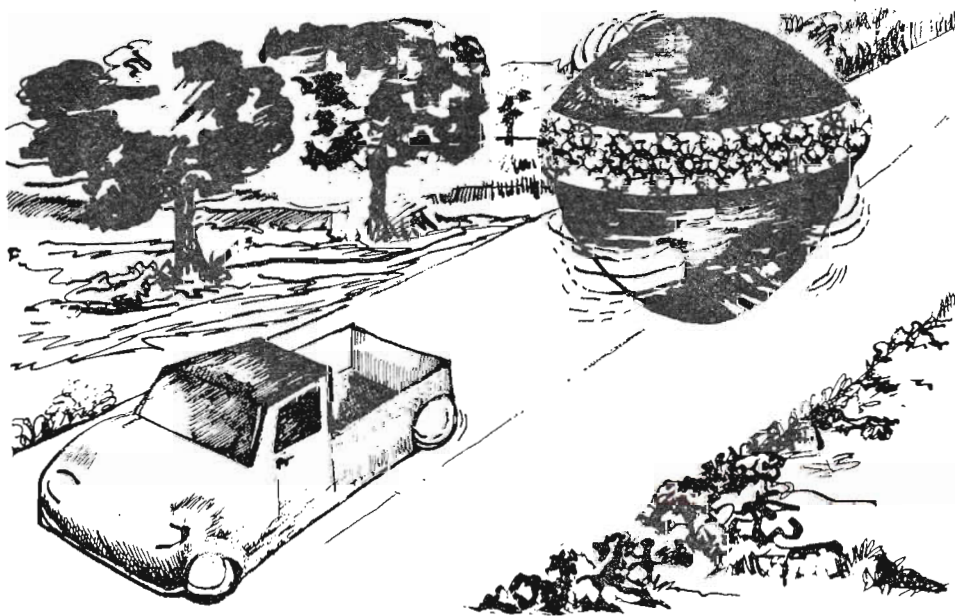
The JUFORA investigator adds: "It is up to you whether you believe this or not, but I have no reason to doubt these nine boys." The boys are just referred to as 'A,' 'B,' etc. in the JUFORA magazine, but I doubt it would have helped if all the names had been printed—other than to give me a headache Ed.

Our last report is extracted from the magazine SKYLOOK, which, in recent months has had quite a job in attempting to keep its readers informed on reports in the U.S. where, at the time of writing, "flap" conditions still pertain. SKYLOOK is a very well-presented magazine which sticks to the facts. (Subscription is \$6 for 12 monthly issues—and it DOES come out regularly!)

UFO FIREBALL TEMPORARILY BLINDS TRUCK DRIVER

Eddie Webb, 45, of Greenville, Missouri, a truck driver says that he encountered a UFO whilst driving a tractor-trailer rig on Interstate 55 just south of the Jackson exit at Wedekind Park about 6.15—6.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 3rd October, 1973. He states that he saw a bright object approaching "real fast" in the air behind him and describes it as "turnip-shaped," saying that it appeared to have three sections, the top and bottom ones being made of what looked like aluminium and spinning, whilst the centre section was steady and was comprised of glittering red and yellow lights. The object covered both lanes of the road.

He woke his wife, who was asleep in the cab, but she didn't see anything out of the rear view mirror on her side of the cab. Webb then stuck his head out of the window to look behind and seconds later was blinded by a flash which felt like a large ball of fire which struck him about the head and face. His glasses fell off and he couldn't see, but he managed to stop the truck. Mrs. Webb said that her husband screamed, "Oh, my God! I'm burned! I can't see!" One of the lenses fell out of the plastic frame which was warped. Mrs. Webb, who serves as a relief driver at times, then drove to the Southeast Missouri hospital.



Sgt. Ed. Wright, of the Highway Patrol, took Webb's glasses to Dr. Harley Rutledge, head of the Southwest Missouri State University physics department to be analysed. Rutledge, who had been working on UFO sightings at Piedmont, said that he put the glasses under a microscope and "it appeared they were heated internally." The plastic apparently got hot and the mould came to the surface. The heat warped the plastic, causing the lens to fall out. In an interview with

the press some days later, Rutledge said he produced similar results in a laboratory by passing a highway flare back and forth over the glasses. The flare was used, he said, after other truck drivers reported seeing a flare on the highway at around the same time and place Webb said he was injured. "The test didn't prove that his story isn't true," said the physicist. "It could have been anything from a flare to a spaceship."

"One thing which seems to substantiate Webb's story is that whatever struck his glasses did not come from directly ahead, but from slightly to the left," Dr. Rutledge said. "This is what you would expect from a person looking to the rear from a truck window."

Temporarily blinded, Webb's vision began returning and he could see with blurred vision for about three feet. He was treated by an ophthalmologist who found no damage to his eyes. Asked by the press about what he had seen, Webb said: "I don't know what it was; people want me to say it was a flying saucer, but I can't say that. I just don't know. I always thought that people who saw those things were crazy. Now everyone thinks I'm cracking up, but by God I saw something and it blinded me."

When interviewed by a staff writer from the Southeast Missourian at his home he wore sunglasses, seemingly exhausted and shaken by his experience. His forehead appeared slightly red as if it had received a mild sunburn and he complained frequently of pain which went deep inside his forehead and eyes; he still flinched at bright lights.

Giving more details on the encounter, he said that when he first saw the lights behind him they appeared to be about a mile away, but approached rapidly. He was driving about 55-60 miles per hour and said that the object seemed to be about 30 feet in diameter as it came behind his rig and was four to five feet above the ground, he thought the object must have been at least ten feet high. When he stuck his head out of the window, "I saw something which looked like a light from a spotlight come down on the tandem of the trailer and at the same time the object started to rise higher in the air."

Up to this time he had heard no motor noise, but as the object started to rise, he heard a "humming" sound which seemed to rise in frequency as the lights rose higher. "I stuck my head out a little farther, looked back and a bright white flash, like a ball of fire, hit me in the face. When the light flashed, everything stopped—noise and all—and the lights went out."

He put on the brakes and stopped in the middle of the road, screaming that he could not see. Mrs. Webb turned on a light in the truck and looked at her husband to find his forehead red and hot as if it had been blistered. One lens had fallen out of his glasses and the frame was melted and twisted.

A policeman thought the flash might have been gas formed by the load of plastic in the trailer, but when the trailer was checked, there was no damage to the cargo or the truck, authorities said.

On 9th October the Missourian reported that Dr. Windsor, Mr. Webb's ophthalmologist in the St. Louis hospital said he doubts Mr. Webb's temporary blindness was caused by the heat and light from a flare, and is checking the theory that the man was "scared into blindness." Dr. Windsor found no evidence of damage to the eyes and is now testing to see if his partial blindness is pathological or a form of psychic shock. "I think something definitely happened to this man," he said.

Presentation by

Norman Oliver

The point has been made in our correspondence columns that my presentations have so far been a little short on the telepathic(para) psychological side, and I feel this is a justifiable criticism. I had scheduled one such for this issue, but space, or rather lack of it, has beaten me and it will now appear in the Summer journal Ed.

In our last issue, Mr. Wilkins, of Handsworth suggested it might be an idea to print an article or two on precautions investigators might take to avoid possible ill-effects from close encounters. N.I.C. Ken Phillips has forwarded me the following article from Philip Hamilton on this aspect of Ufology which I am pleased to reproduce in these pages. Ed.

SUSPECTED UFO LANDINGS — POSSIBLE HAZARDS.

Hazards that investigators might be expected to encounter in the event of a physical appearance of a UFO on the ground fall into three categories: chemical, physical and biological.

1. CHEMICAL

Possible dangers here are from substances that either:—(a) cause burns or blisters on contact: *e.g.* acids, alkalis, bromine, (b) very fine particles which are absorbed through the skin or inhaled, and which cause delayed effects: *e.g.* gases, very finely divided metals, silica or asbestos.

However, substances in group (a) will probably have been neutralised by the earth by the time an investigator arrives; similarly, gases or vapours will probably have dispersed to insignificant levels. Therefore, the only likely danger in such a situation is the handling of any very fine powders that might be present.

Precautions: In the event (probably very unlikely) of any fine powder being present the main precautions are:—

- (1) Wear gloves (rubber).
- (2) Use some kind of face mask, *e.g.*: surgeon's mask, to prevent inhalation of any dust thrown into the air on being disturbed.
- (3) Wear some form of goggles to ensure protection of the eyes.

2. PHYSICAL.

This refers to what is known as ionizing radiation (commonly radioactivity) and I can only deal with those forms of radiation known to present technology. The chances of any 'craft' which can perform the aerobatics often described in sightings being powered by any form of conventional atomic pile are extremely unlikely. Therefore, the presence of any radioactive substance will not be "extraterrestrial," but caused by ionization of the ground. Thus it will probably be of very low intensity if at all.

Precautions:—

(1) Use of Geiger Counter. These instruments are the traditional ones used by prospectors and will pick up most forms of ionizing radiation likely to be encountered except very weak Beta-emissions: *e.g.* Tritium & Carbon 14. In all probability, there will only be background noise, but if any unusual substances are present it is a useful safety measure.

(2) Use of Dosimeter. These devices can be purchased fairly cheaply and provide a measure of exposure to ionizing radiation. They are not detection devices as such, they merely give the wearer some measure of the total exposure to any easily-measurable radiation.

(3) If anything is to be handled or approached closely, then the investigator ought to wear rubber gloves, face mask, goggles and wellington boots; the boots being washed before leaving the site.

3. BIOLOGICAL.

If there is any suspicion that the reported "craft" had its atmosphere open to ours, then precautions ought to be taken against possible bacterial or virus infection.

Ideally the protection should be complete, but the aforementioned gloves, mask, goggles and boots should be sufficient. If any samples are taken, then the outside of the container, gloves and boots should be washed with some form of sterilising agent; formalin solution is probably sufficient and is easily obtained quite cheaply from most local chemists.

One last point: when removing protective garments, make sure that they have been de-contaminated first and be careful not to touch other parts of the body or objects: e.g. paper, pens, cars, etc. with contaminated gloves. If possible it would be useful to wear something like a laboratory coat or a storeman's coat which could be removed, folded inside-out and placed in a polythene bag until it was washed. Also, if any hazard is anticipated, an assistant would be useful, especially in any de-contamination process.

PHILIP N. HAMILTON, B.Sc.,
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Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Whilst I hold myself to be open-minded and willing to ponder any information which may be of relevance to the subject, I have also formulated the following theory. It is presented in what may be regarded as a flippant style, but I would be glad if you would give it your erstwhile consideration.

GALACTIC WRONG NUMBER?

If, as I do, one considers the theory of parallel, co-existing universes to be more than science-fiction ravings, then an immediate explanation of many baffling UFO reports is made available.

With a few notable exceptions, which I shall cover later, it is a general trend that UFO sightings are a very short-lived individual phenomenon. Why? Don't they want us to see them?

It seems unlikely. Anything with the technology to build craft like that would almost certainly have little to fear from us, and any "secret purpose" could easily be hidden by vision, sound and radar-blanking devices. No, I propose that our alien visitors are here by accident rather than sinister, or even benign, intent.

Consider another universe where journeys of many light centuries are accomplished as easily as you or I would catch a number 3 bus to the gasworks. Obviously some co-ordinates would be required for such a trip, so the aspiring business man or cosmic sales traveller looks in his "directory" for the location and other physical information about his destination.

Is it too outlandish to think of an error in that great directory of planets and suns. One digit, a minute or degree, a fraction of time, or their equivalent, incorrectly recorded? Maybe the mistake has already been discovered and put right, but the time dilation effect of long FTL* journeys has sent many of these vessels blundering into "our" time-space. Perhaps there co-exists quite "close" to us, a similar planet Earth, which in that dimension is a thriving inter-galactic commercial, military or pleasure centre, with thousands of arrivals and departures each day.

With the undisputed diversity of life which must exist elsewhere in the galaxies around us, it is feasible that some of the more bizarre sightings such as transmuting shapes, hazy, luminous clouds, and all those others which defy mechanical explanation or configuration, may be actual living creatures, capable of traversing the void with the ease of thought.

There are significant exceptions. From the reports it would seem that when UFOs have landed the inhabitants of these enigmatic ships quite often appear to be dis-oriented, or seeking information as to their whereabouts. On some occasions violence or threatening acts have been in evidence, suggesting bewildered, confused, even frightened behaviour.

It is not difficult to draw a parallel which we can all readily accept. Suppose a foreign visitor to England, having no knowledge of the language, boarded a London Underground train, having been given detailed, but mistaken instructions on how to find his desired point of arrival. When he alights from the train and goes up the street, he finds neither friends waiting to greet and guide him, nor recognisable landmarks by which he can seek them out. The result is apprehension, perhaps even

panic, and in certain types of individual, belligerent behaviour. Now, the resourceful stranger in a strange land (apologies to Heinlein) will quickly seek out the correct information and be swiftly on his way, having no wish to cause concern to those who expect him. Quite so with the errant UFO, a rapid check with the computers, a slight correction to course or vibration frequency and POOF! It's gone, speeding on its appointed business. Only seconds or minutes have passed, but dozens of puzzled witnesses start up the hullabaloo again.

But, if like our overseas friend, the operatives of this device, or even the space-spanning creatures itself, are given to panic so far from home, then all sorts of neuroses may develop with the resultant amazing, and sometimes even frightening events so well known to UFO reporters.

Relatively few of the modern tales concerning UFOs tell of direct study of specific data by the aerial mysteries, and yet the ones which do, *e.g.* human beings carried off for medical examination, hypnosis, and so forth, suggest to me that CURIOSITY is a universal factor.

Some alien entities, perhaps more astute than others, realise their navigational error and before they correct it, take time to study the worlds or dimensions into which they have strayed. It is conceivable that Fred Hoyle's galactic phone-book has already been amended; does this mean that UFO sightings will cease as soon as the cosmic Post Office can deliver new copies? I rather doubt it, for there would always be the curious ones, with their memory and knowledge of what they had seen and what they desired to learn here.

I try not to fall into the trap of taking my fanciful theories too seriously and I am delighted to see through reading the Journal the policy of BUFORA seems similar. Nothing kills interest quicker than crusty old greybeards mumbling into their whiskers without the slightest trace of humour. . . . Keep up the good work please.

*FTL—Faster than Light

M. J. EARDLEY,
Audley, Stoke-on-Trent.

Dear Mr. Oliver,

On January 24th during the 7.30 a.m. news, it was reported that a mysterious explosion had occurred on a hillside in North Wales. Witnesses said that they had previously seen a bright light cross the sky in the direction of the hills.

Whilst contemplating the explosion, I'm sure many BUFORA members will see the similarity between this occurrence and the Warminster flap of 1966—to quote from Arthur Shuttlewood's WARMINSTER MYSTERY: "It was a huge blast—it was 1.55 a.m. when the loud bang woke so many of us up from sleep . . . it was a sultry, sticky sort of night, and my wife and I both jumped when the explosion rent the air . . . I ran downstairs in double quick time. Outside I saw a monstrous orange flame in the sky over by the old Roman earthwork." I think there is some significant connection here.

Is it not strange that no more has been said of the Wales explosion? Also, it was reported that police were not allowing anyone into the vicinity due to poor light and the dangerous condition of the rocks—if this is true then how come experts managed to investigate the area in the same "poor conditions?" One expert said it was probably a meteorite—do they contain explosive material?

I think generally that this explosion was connected with UFO activity and the authorities put a stop to revealing the *true* facts for fear of frightening the populace, which is their usual answer when questioned.

ANDREW M. GLYNN,
Abingdon, Berks.

Whilst I would not rule out UFO activity—there have been subsequent UFO reports from various places in Wales—the general area is pretty inaccessible and police are probably justified in advising the uninitiated not to investigate. Tony Pace has an informative article on the “meteorite” elsewhere in this issue. Ed.

Dear Mr. Oliver,

In July 1970, it was reported that detailed study of photographs taken by America's Orbiter 2 and Russia's Lunik 9 revealed mysterious objects on the surface of the Moon which were apparently the work of intelligent beings. No-one seemed to know what these objects were.

I appreciate that this is not directly concerned with UFOs, but indirectly there could well be a connection. As native life cannot exist on the Moon, it looks as though unearthly visitors have been there. These events do not necessarily imply that UFOs are craft from planets in other star systems. In fact it could well be the opposite.

The report stated that photographs were taken in 1966 at different locations. Groups of artifacts at the two separate areas were placed in geometric patterns, and the American spaceprobe photographs showed what seemed to be shadows of eight pointed spires shaped like Cleopatra's needle.

In their book *FLYING SAUCERS ARE HOSTILE*, Brad Steiger and Joan Writenour carry a similar account. They state that pictures taken from Ranger 7 in 1964 show two large white objects that had never been seen before. Harvard University's magazine *SKY & TELESCOPE* reported that Ranger 7's pictures showed over 200 of these “moon domes.” I now understand that these domes have been “identified” as a natural feature after all, but what about the photographs of “Cleopatra's Needle?” A Soviet space engineer has claimed that there could be a connection between the spires and the Egyptian pyramids and there appears to be a certain amount of evidence to support this. . . .

. . . . personally I am beginning to accept the views put forward in *NEW UFO BREAKTHROUGH—ALLENDE LETTERS* . . . that UFOs are craft employed by an ancient underground civilisation of *THIS* planet . . . I shall conclude that along with the *ETH*, the parallel dimension/universe theory and the time travel suggestion we should also add the “Hollow Earth” concept. This idea helps to fill in many “holes” concerning UFOs and our past.

T. HALL,
Sutton Coldfield.

Dear Mr. Oliver,

Regarding the suggestion put to you in the Autumn 1973 Journal, p.17, concerning skywatches on Haytor, I thought you may like to know that a few of us meet regularly down here in Exeter for watches on the Tor . . . some interesting sightings have been made.

J. JEFFREY,
Whipton, Exeter.

Dear Norman Oliver,

Having had a keen interest in Ufology for many years, with some practical experience of the phenomena in the Warminster area, I recently decided it was about time I joined the ranks of BUFORA.

I had presumed that the Investigation and Research aspects of BUFORA's organisation would be of a higher standard than those of the smaller groups. I must confess to feeling slightly disillusioned on both counts, having ascertained your approach to these subjects.

The new N.I.C., Mr. K. Phillips, in his introductory article states, "So far as the LITS-type cases are concerned—log them by all means and then forget them." I presume from this statement that he feels them hardly worthy of notice. If this is the case, then I would expect him to offer some explanation other than "artifacts in the sky" as a reason for their appearance in areas of UFO activity.

I also note that the Lakenheath Case of 1956 is to be the subject of a new research project. It is beyond my comprehension why you should resurrect an 18-year-old case when there is plenty of current activity available for study. Ufologists seem to be obsessed with old cases. The action is NOW! Sufficient information relating to past history is already available.

Finally, I am disappointed to find such a lack of interest with regard to the almost CONSTANT activity occurring at Warminster. From my own experience of the past three years, no practical research has been conducted in this area by BUFORA. Certain "representatives" have visited, only to express their disinterest in LITS or to scorn the testimony of persons like myself who have witnessed the activity during the past years.

It would seem that BUFORA rejects the claims of Warminster researchers for much the same reasons as many sceptics ridicule the subject of Ufology—*i.e.* misidentification, hallucination and the like. I assure you that Warminster is still an area of high UFO activity and should be the subject of your serious attention.

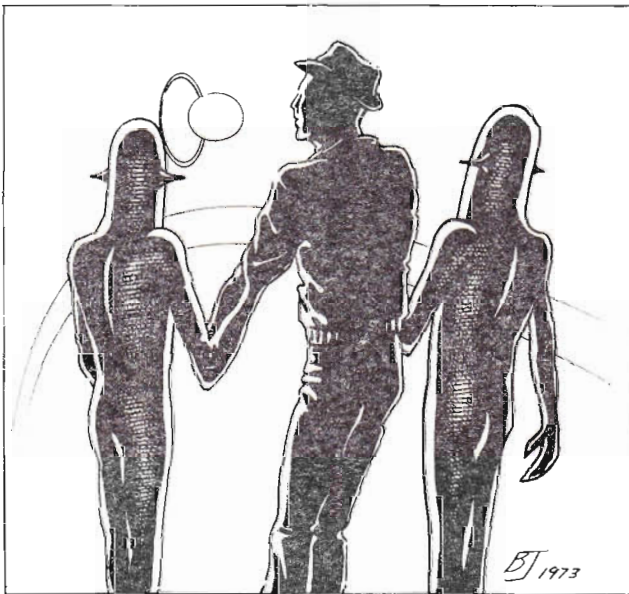
You may feel I am only using your pages to express my own grievances. This is not so. I am only anxious that useful areas of research are not over-looked until they become past history.

G. N. PIKE,
Warminster, Wilts.

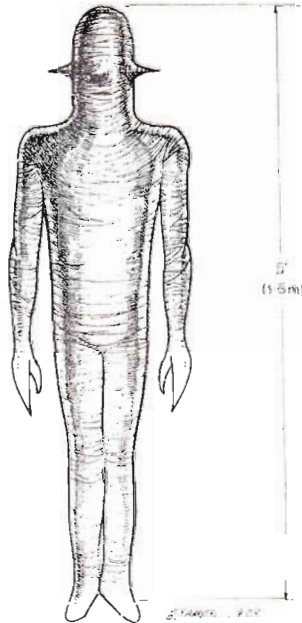
THE PASCAGOULA CREATURES

We are pleased to present in these pages drawings by Brian James, which were featured in the November-December A.P.R.O. BULLETIN, of the Pascagoula, Mississippi contact. Our thanks and full acknowledgements to Coral Lorenzen and A.P.R.O. for permission to reproduce them. Details of the case itself appeared in our December Research Bulletin.

The A.P.R.O. BULLETIN comments that the first impression one gets from looking at the drawings is that the entities appear to have something pulled down over their heads, and suggests that the "claw-like" hands could have been a glove made to simulate claws. Referring to "occupants" in general A.P.R.O. state that the mass of information they have received leads them to consider one of two conclusions: (1) That there are a large number of different types of occupants from different origins, or (2) That the intelligence behind the UFOs is deliberately attempting to confuse earthlings.



Hickson on board UFO with two creatures



Round & About

Vice-Chairman's Column

URI GELLER AND FSR.

The delay in publication of the September-October issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW was due to a number of reasons, including a change of printers who then had promptly to vacate their premises, the paper shortage, and a fire at the printer's brand-new composing equipment. There was a naughty rumour circulating that the fire occurred whilst an article on Uri Geller was being set up. At the time I did not even know that FSR were carrying an article on Geller and was most surprised when confronted with his photo on the front page of number 19/5.

KEN'S MYSTERY OBJECTS.

Our press clipping service (Durrants) send us a certain amount of rubbish and I intend to take them to task on this matter. One of the more amusing items in this category comes from the London EVENING NEWS of January 14th, 1974. The headline reads: "Ken's Bright Idea Takes a Battering From UFOs."

"Ken Bailey's scheme to be seen by drivers at night went wrong when UFOs took a hand" or was it a wing? 62-year-old Ken from Bournemouth, runs five miles every night to keep fit, and during the power crisis he brought out his luminous track suit, last used during the war-time blackouts. It has his name in large glowing letters across the back. "Ken thought it would be safe on darkened roads." That was, until he was attacked by mystery objects from out of the sky. "I didn't know what they were; then suddenly I realised it was owls. They were attracted by my suit." "It has happened several times now, but I intend to keep on wearing the suit. I'll risk the owls."

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTORS GAZETTE.

The second number of this monthly magazine, published in January, kindly lists BUFORA in its "Societies and Clubs" column. This issue printed in brown ink (not my favourite) is well illustrated and runs to 20 A4-sized pages. ICG is designed to appeal to every type of collector, and items range from Antique Pipes to Valentines and Victoriana, not forgetting common-or-garden things like beer mats and sun-dials. Subscription: £2.40 a year including postage from: 105 Nightingale Lane, Bromley Kent.

PROVINCIAL PUBLICATIONS.

Last time I mentioned a few local groups: this time I am turning to local magazines. The one which probably impressed me most was the January 1974 issue of SCAN, edited by Leslie Harris and published "twice-yearly" by Bournemouth Unexplained Phenomena Research Group. Its 22 quarto pages of typed-litho are tidily laid out, but with no wasted space. More important is the material, which is both sensible and interesting, and I was relieved to find that the editor was by no means convinced that nearly all satellites passing over Star Hill, Warminster, were UFOs. Write to: Leslie Harris, 5 Grenfell Road, Moordown, Bournemouth, Hants BH9 2UD.

Round & About

Lionel Beer.

The latest PEGASUS dated 1974 reached me at the end of January. This persuaded me that its publishers, the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena (SIGAP) were still active. Admittedly the material is somewhat dated, with some taken from other publications, but it is none-the-less worth reading and reflects the scientific outlook of SIGAP. For details of the varying subscriptions arrangements, write to: The Hon. Secretary, 20 Loman Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey.

MUFOB or rather the MERSEYSIDE UFO BULLETIN seems to arrive with unflinching regularity and I should mention first of all that its editorial panel is not seeking subscribers. When not criticising other groups, including BUFORA, or individuals, MUFOB includes some serious no-nonsense articles and useful research data. If you support a cynical hard-line and think you can persuade them to put you on the mailing list, try writing to: John Harney, 53 Woodyear Road, Bromborough, Wirral, Cheshire, L62 6AY.

I will round off this section with two school-boy publications. Neil Watson and Paul DeVos jointly edit a 20 page duplicated (soon to be partly or fully lithoed—Ed.) magazine called UFO REPORT, at 9p a copy inc. post from: 170 Church Hill Road, East Barnet, Herts, EN4 8PP. Michael Dean, Secretary of the Wirral UFO Society, producing SKYLINK, a 6 page school duplicated news-letter, has asked me to mention that they would like to see an adult UFO group formed in their area, and have had articles about themselves printed in the Cheshire Observer group of papers. Write to: Michael Dean, 3 Holmfield Drive, Great Sutton, Wirral, Cheshire, L66 2SS.

PRESS CUTTINGS.

I would be interested in hearing from anyone in the London area who might be interested in helping to sort out press cuttings and pasting them neatly into a book for record purposes. This would greatly assist BUFORA, and I would be happy to reimburse travelling expenses. Please telephone me after 7.30 p.m. at 723 0305 (Marylebone).

ORIGIN OF THE MEN-IN-BLACK?

Back in the early fifties, one of those trashy American male-type magazines with pictures of ladies in provocative poses referred to "... the black suited men of M18." Unfortunately a careless writer or perhaps compositor, altered this to "... the black-suited men or MIB," when quoting from the article in another magazine. You have a better story—maybe?

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Kensington Central Library, Campden Hill Road, London, W.8.

Saturday, 4th May, 1974—UFO "MECHANICS"

Lecture by Bryan Winder, B.Sc., C.Eng., F.I.Mech.E., who will put before us scientifically valid suggestions as to the "modus operandi" of certain types of UFOs.

Saturday, 1st June, 1974—UFOs IN LITERATURE

Lecture by Lionel Beer. This talk was originally entitled UFOs CHRONICLED, and in addition to summarising some historical material and its sources, Mr. Beer plans to show a number of colour slides. Some of these slides may not have previously been seen in the UK.

Round & About

Notes and Quotes

HELICOPTER OR UFO?

Police in four counties: Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire and Cheshire have been investigating many reports received in early January of a "mystery helicopter" which no-one seems to be able to reach before it vanishes again.

"WE LOVE YOU TOO DEPT"

dissipating its energies on observatories for which there seems no practical function in ufology"

"BUFORA would be better employed concentrating its efforts on the organisation and dissemination of information, than
JOHN RIMMER,
Merseyside UFO Bulletin.

'BLOB'

INFO JOURNAL, Vol. 3, No. 2 quoting

East of Dallas, Texas, Edna Smith reported seeing a "blob" climbing a telephone pole. "It was red and pulsating," she said. Dallas Times Herald.

ANOTHER 'BLOB'

A North Dallas woman claimed, "I've got the same thing on my hedge,—I can't kill it." Same source.

PEACH OF A SIGHTING—OR GONE FOR A BURTON

The Derby Evening Telegraph dated 9.6.73 reported under the heading "UFOrange" that, "An Unidentified Flying Object was spotted early today." A reader in the Pear Tree district of Derby said the orange shape appeared over the BURTON area, stopped for a few minutes on the horizon, then disappeared rapidly."

WELSH "SPACE BALLS"

Red and white balls of light performing odd manoeuvres over the Denbigh Moors only a few miles from the scene of the Flintshire UFOs in "Let's Look Around" were reported at the end of January. Speculation is rife as to whether there could be any possible connection with the "meteorite" further south. Original report came from one of the "Flintshire" witnesses. Report under investigation.

COUNTED YOUR LEGS LATELY?

Henry McDaniel, of Illinois, reported a "triped" sighting at 9.30 p.m. on 24.4.73. He heard a scratching at his back door—and there was a monster "It had pink eyes, a large head and was a dirtyish grey colour; it was hairy and 4 or 5 feet tall standing in front of the door on three legs just like a human being." (?!—Ed.)

Round & About

Norman Oliver

ALSO UFO REPORTS

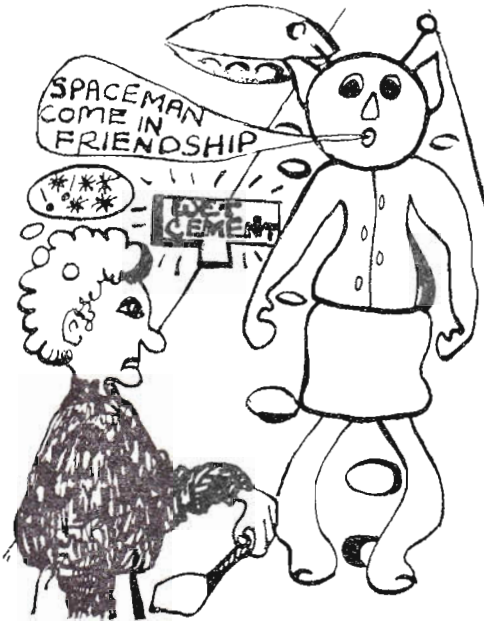
“ All knowledge, all information between human beings can only be exchanged within a play of tolerance ”—Dr. Bronowski, speaking in his programme “ The Ascent of Man.” (“ Tolerance ” here refers to knowledge confined within certain limits—Ed.).

THEY JUST SAW RED!

Sheriff's Deputies in Pine, Louisiana were following UFOs with their patrol cars last October 9th when Deputy Michael Moore said that one of five orange-reddish objects almost “ attacked ” a police car. “ One of our deputies was scared pretty bad,” Moore said. “ He turned on his red lights and they came down at his patrol car. He turned them off and they vanished like in a cloud . . . our deputies spotted five and other witnesses saw them too,” UFO MAGAZINE NEWS BULLETIN.

FOLLOW-UP

The “ Betty and Barney Hill ” type contact claimed by Mimi Gorzelle and referred to in Vol. 3, No. 11 has been followed up and many more details have come to light through the good offices of Lucius Farish. Full coverage in our next issue.



“ With acknowledgments to UFO REPORT ”

WANTED

W.A.T.S.U.P. need back Nos. of JOURNALS: Pre-1970, if possible in sequence—urgent. Please contact: R. J. NASH, BUFORA Regional Co-Ordinator, 12 Southwick Rd., Cosham, Hants. Telephone: Cosham 76386.

Round & About

Association News

It is hoped this year to bring out our first *Proceedings* for 1973, which will include shortened versions of the various lectures given at our monthly meetings in London. We are always particularly conscious of the fact that our out-of-town members are missing some excellent talks and we somehow intend to try and bridge this gap. However, what is snarling up the process at the moment is the fact that we cannot find anyone willing to make a very rough set of notes from our tapes and put them into presentable form. All our London typists appear to have folded their tents and crept away in the night. However, we could possibly arrange the typing if only someone would be kind enough to transcribe the tapes into reasonable longhand. We could even lend a tape recorder provided it was within a modest distance of our Chairman's present home in Birmingham. Wouldn't someone like the chance of listening to some of our past lectures in return for a moderate coverage of the tape in question? We do not want a verbatim report—just fairly ample notes, which we would edit later. It's not an easy job but well within the capabilities of a person with a quick mind and a flair for reporting—there must be plenty of you around hiding your lights under a bushel! We would be most grateful for your help.

Well, Kohoutek was rather a damp squib, wasn't it? A friend of mine swore she saw it in all its glory but as she pointed out the star Sirius a few nights later as being "the comet," I took her previous report with a very large pinch of salt. Astronomers' previous predictions that "it would light up the sky" must have left a few red faces and various explanations have been put forward as to why it didn't come up to scratch. Apparently it wasn't a patch on the last appearance of Halley's comet, so we'll have to wait until that comes around again.

A recent survey shows that 51 per cent of Americans believe that UFOs are real and not the figment of imagination. In addition, 11 per cent said they had seen UFOs. One of the former astronauts, John Young, is reported to have said that the odds are that UFOs do exist, and the indefatigable Senator Barry Goldwater is understood to be another supporter. Of course, it all depends what you mean by UFOs. The controversy between the "inner" and "outer" space protagonists appears to be hotting up again but surely there is room for all shades of opinion in a subject as this, without hackles rising at the mention of the opposite view. It seems to me, as has been pointed out in this Journal many times, that the subject of Ufology can contain any number of solutions—all at the same time. Something that might interest the non-ETV hypothesists can be found in the last few chapters of that remarkable book *THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A YOGI* by Parimhansa Yogananda. The remainder of the book is also well worth reading, being the life story of a man who developed incredible powers himself, with many descriptions of amazing occurrences by other "Masters" that he had himself witnessed. You either believe it or you do not. Yogananda was a well known figure in America and presumably his story is capable of verification or otherwise. The chapters in question concern some globular "lights" which terminate in a very close encounter—but the actual explanation may surprise even some of the most advanced inner space adherents! Read it for yourselves—there's a very good paperback version for about £1.00.

Round & About

Betty Wood

BOOK REVIEW

BIGFOOT: The Yeti and Sasquatch in Myth and Reality by John Napier, published by Jonathan Cape, 1972.

Alongside the study of the generally accepted UFO phenomena there has grown an interest in other strange manifestations loosely termed "the monsters." Mothman in West Virginia, the Loch Ness Monster, the Surrey Puma, and the Yetis in the Himalayas are some of them. Whether these reported phenomena have any connection with UFOs is something that each individual must decide alone, but those who are fascinated by the enigma of the UFOs are often equally captivated by the reports of strange life forms seen on our planet. This book by an unprejudiced scientist takes a cool, detached look at the reports, photographs and film relating to the creature or creatures known variously as the Yeti or Abominable Snowman of the Himalayas, and the Bigfoot or Sasquatch of North-West America. The author is well qualified for this study. As an authority on primates and Anatomy, he scrutinises the evidence with scientific thoroughness and sorts the wheat from the chaff. The various sightings and witness reports are analysed in detail, as are the photographs of tracks, some of which are reproduced in the book.

John Napier first examines monster lore in general, as part of human mythology and in the form of historical reports. Then he considers the reports from Asia. The first published account of a Yeti sighting dates from 1832, and the latest report of a sighting and footprints from 1970. Chapter 3, "Bigfoot in America," deals with the sightings in the North-Western States. It has a detailed discussion of the controversial movie shots taken by Roger Patterson in 1967, and a searching analysis of this film by another independent authority is included as an appendix. A whole chapter is devoted to the Minnesota Iceman, that ambiguous figure which first came to the notice of researchers when it was exhibited around the fairgrounds of the USA. Encased in a block of ice and maintained by refrigeration, it appeared to be an unknown form, a living hominid which had been shot through the eye. Clever and realistic enough to engage the serious attention of experts, this artefact (if that is what it was) and the machinations of its showman make a fascinating story.

The mechanics of how animal and human footprints are formed are described in detail, and this knowledge is applied to the known tracks recorded by photography and plaster cast. Some of the tracks are almost certainly made by known animals, but others cannot be explained easily by any known life form. Footprints are the only physical evidence available for the study of this phenomenon, and so receive a great deal of expert attention and analysis. The author's conclusion is that there is very little evidence that he can accept as a scientist, but there is a residue that he cannot find an explanation for. Does the Yeti exist? John Napier finds the question is unresolvable. Does the North American Sasquatch exist? Here the author finds more evidence in favour of its reality which cannot be ignored, but it is not the sort of "hard" evidence which scientists feel comfortable examining.

As well as the above-mentioned appendix, there are tables of sightings on two continents, comparative footprint dimensions, and a list of mammals found in the Himalayas. There is also a useful index. Well produced and worth the price of £2.95, BIGFOOT has been written in a readable style for the non-scientific reader, and provides a useful reference on the subject

COLIN BORD.

BUFORA MEETING, FEB. 2nd, 1974

UFO QUIZ

Early in January, BUFORA was advised by the admin. officer of Kensington Central Library, that it might not be able to hold its scheduled meeting in February at the normal time due to the library's interpretation of DTI regulations on the restricted use of electricity. However, despite a severe attack of influenza, I was able to sort this out quickly, but soon after the problem was solved, we heard from Charles Bowen that he had to go into hospital to have a severe sinus disorder rectified. It proved impossible to find a suitable alternative speaker at short notice, so I suggested a UFO quiz, bearing in mind that "brains trust" meetings had somewhat fallen from favour. The idea was adopted enthusiastically. Ken Phillips and Christopher Strevens provided a supporting programme with short talks on investigation and research, and a possible method of UFO propulsion respectively. The quiz questions were jointly devised by Roger Stanway and myself, and I am most grateful to Roger for his help both with the questions and on the platform. The primary object of the quiz was to encourage interest in ufology and space, but we awarded several small prizes in the form of book vouchers in order to stimulate those present. As I recall, the overall prize winner was Brian Baster, now living in Gravesend, who scored 16 correct answers out of twenty. Carol Godsell of Guildford was the lady with the highest mark (a member of SIGAP). Some of the questions are very simple so that everyone had a chance of getting a few questions right, and are designed so that in most cases the answers would be very short—one to four words. See if you can better Brian Baster's score of 16. Answers will appear in the next issue of the Journal.

LIONEL BEER.

QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. In what year was the first man-made artificial satellite successfully launched into orbit around the Earth?
2. If the Sun, the Earth and Jupiter are all in a straight line, with the Earth between the Sun and Jupiter, which of these bodies is nearest the Earth?
3. The first successful manned space flight, or manned satellite was launched on April 12th, 1961, and the Astronaut completed one orbit of the Earth in 89 minutes, to land 108 minutes after take off. Who was that Astronaut?
4. Who is generally credited with discovering the moons of Jupiter?
5. On June 24th, 1947, Kenneth Arnold made history with his report of gleaming discs flying over Mount Rainer in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State. How many discs did he report seeing?
6. In January 1958, a navy ship taking part in the I.G.Y. sighted a disc flying over Trinidad Island, a lonely rock in the Southern Atlantic Ocean. A series of four good photos of the UFO were taken which were later turned over to the press by the president of that country. Which country?

7. Do you know where Warminster is? BUFORA researchers discover, after plotting a series of sightings on a map of the UK, that they all lie on a line running due North-South. Also, the line runs between (but not through) Warminster and Edinburgh. Arthur Shuttlewood and his "dedicated band of watchers" report that on the same evening at about the same time as the other sightings, they saw a very bright object to the West of Warminster. Could it have been on the same line as the other sightings? (Yes or No).
8. Which is the furthest South—Warminster or Dover?
9. On June 26th, 1959, Father Gill reported seeing a UFO in the sky near his mission station in Papua. The people at the mission waved to figures they saw moving about on top of the UFO, who waved back. How many figures were seen on the UFO?
10. A very interesting case came to light in the "Condon Report," which took place on the night of August 13/14th, 1956, when fast moving objects were picked up on radar. What was the name of the UK air force base at the centre of this activity?
11. The "Condon Report" was published as "The Scientific Study of UFOs" and was commissioned by the US Air Force. Which university was commissioned to produce this report?
12. Who wrote "Flying Saucers Are Real," first published in the US in 1950?
13. In which year did the following headlines appear in British newspapers: "Z car chases star spangled UFO for 14 miles," "Police chase flying cross." "The flying thing leaves the constables baffled."?
14. A writer called Cedric Allingham claimed to have met a spaceman near Lossiemouth in Scotland in 1954, soon after George Adamski had made his world shattering claims. From where did Allingham claim his spaceman came?
15. In 1966 a BBC TV team showed on "Tomorrow's World" the true explanation for a UFO which Mrs. Oldfield claimed she had seen while flying over Cannock in Staffordshire. What did the UFO turn out to be?
16. Mount Palomar in California is well known because one of its observatories houses a 200 inch reflecting telescope. Why is Mount Palomar also well known to ufologists?
17. Which husband and wife underwent a medical examination by alien beings at New Hampshire in the USA, according to statements they both made under hypnosis—the subject of John Fuller's book "Interrupted Journey"?
18. What constituted the crucial evidence in the Great Falls, Montana, case of 1950?
19. What is the name of the observational theory originally developed by the leading French ufologist, Aimé Michel?
20. What does author, Philip J. Klass believe to be the true explanation for UFOs?

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

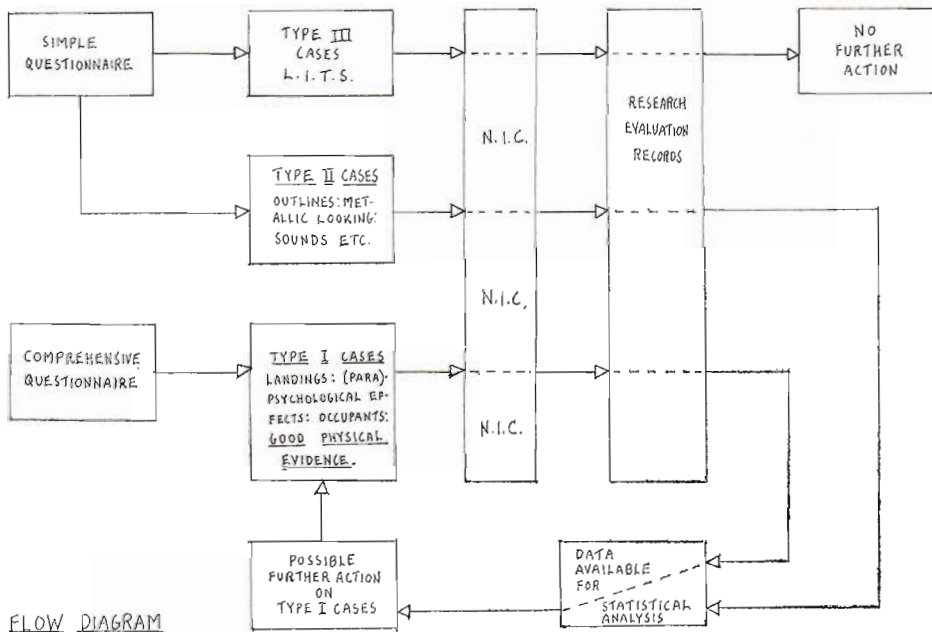
A comprehensive discussion on "investigation procedure" by the Research Section towards the end of 1973 included the following points:—

(a) **Investigators' Field Kit.**

Whilst "Type 1" cases are a rare phenomenon indeed, nevertheless, should there be a landing of a UFO, investigators **MUST** be ready and **EQUIPPED** to act promptly in order to avoid indigenous factors marring any possible landing marks, etc. (*i.e.* the trampling of the site by curiosity seekers). Furthermore, if one day we—the ufologists—could prove beyond all reasonable doubt that a machine of unknown origin had landed, then the aims of our Association would be vindicated. Just one undeniable case in 100,000 or so reports is all that is needed, and by the correct use of a good field-kit we may prove just that!

(b) **BUFORA Investigators' Handbook.**

Interviewing UFO witnesses is a science in its own right—the tendency to "lead" witnesses, for example, is a fault that easily occurs, sometimes without the investigator realising he is doing just that! There are many useful hints in the Handbook on how to overcome this and many other problems.



(c) **Establishing efficient processing procedure for sighting reports.**

As I mentioned in my first report, speed is *essential*, for it is a well-known psychological fact that if a person has a "bizarre experience," the memory-decay factor sets in almost immediately; so that even a couple of days or more after such an experience, nine-tenths of the information given by that person can be distorted to say the least! So the quicker investigators can interview a witness, the greater is the chance of the report being accurate.

Personally, I would like to see Investigators-Research streamlined even further by the introduction of two types of "sighting-report" forms; one to deal with LITS cases and another for Type-1 reports. (See flow diagram). For these Type-1 cases I envisage a questionnaire framed in such a manner that it would be compatible with the punched-card system of indexing and I intend to obtain committee sanction for its production.

I will conclude by saying I have been very impressed by the work Tony Pace and his colleagues are doing in Staffordshire; they work really hard for our Association—and there is much we can *all* do in our small way to help them; therefore, if there is anyone willing to help in the field of investigations, please contact either Tony or myself—particularly if you live in East Anglia, North & Mid Wales, Scotland and N. Ireland.

KEN PHILLIPS, N.I.C.

Type-1 cases. These are cases which, according to our accepted tenets of science, afford the highest standard of *physical* evidence: *i.e.* UFO landing sites yielding measurable impressions, precipitations and radiations: physiological and psychological effects on close-contact witnesses and *animals*: radar-visual reports: electromagnetic effects on equipment and, finally, multi-witness reports (independent) substantiated by photographs.

Type-2 cases. Cases with varying degrees of doubt: *i.e.* lone-witness accounts of craft of unknown origin: UFO photos: unsubstantiated multiple-witness reports.

Type-3 cases. Lights in the sky. (LITS).

I asked Ken to supply the above information for readers' benefit and I would emphasise that the Type-2 and 3 definitions are not intended to imply that the witness is a liar! Just that they are almost impossible of scientifically acceptable proof.

SIGHTING REPORTS.

As from our next issue detailed up-to-date sighting reports will be featured. Some rather older reports were available to print here, but as they were neither particularly detailed nor recent it was decided to omit them since space in this issue—which I have agreed to limit to 32 pages—is at a premium. Evaluations of some of the reports in the last Journal are given by Tony Pace in the next article. Ed.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATIONS

1. Explosion in North Wales.

Certain information has now been obtained by the Research Department on the mysterious explosion which occurred in North Wales on the evening of January 23rd, 1974 and on the luminous phenomena reported on that same evening.

According to most reports, at about 8.39 p.m. a violent explosion shook the little village of Llandrillo in the Cader Fronwen range, Merionethshire. The sound was heard some 30 or 40 miles away. For a few seconds furniture and even the walls and windows of houses jumped about. The tremor was recorded as far away as Edinburgh University. A number of residents who left their homes for the safety of the open air reported seeing lights on the mountain which had not been there before! Accounts of this incident in the press also described the observations by numerous people, including Welsh coastguards, of a bright fireball crossing the sky at the time of the explosion. As a result, it was speculated by the media that a meteorite had hit the mountain giving a luminous display and causing the explosion.

During the days following, police, RAF and mountain rescue personnel supported by reconnaissance aircraft searched for traces of a fall, but found nothing! Had a meteorite fallen? Certain details did not fit—there were discrepancies in the newspaper stories.

The arrival of a meteorite is often accompanied by sounds likened to detonations or explosions—the resulting acoustic effects from the high speed passage and disruption of a solid body in the Earth's atmosphere. A sonic boom and shock wave are produced which in theory might be sufficient to rattle windows, etc. However, it is extremely unlikely that a shock wave so produced could have accounted for an earth tremor of the magnitude recorded at Edinburgh. Did a meteorite hit the ground with cosmic velocity (some miles per second) and produce the recorded tremor? This is possible, but the original entry body would have required a weight of between 5 and 10 tons in order to retain any of its cosmic velocity (velocity in space). For example, a 2cwt. iron body entering the Earth's atmosphere at 40km. per second would have entirely lost its space velocity at a height of 16km. and would then fall under the counter-acting influences of the Earth's gravity and air resistance. The passage through the atmosphere of a body large enough to hit the Earth at several miles per second and produce a ground shock wave, would create a most spectacular sight indeed, producing a large and highly luminous fireball—many times brighter than the full Moon. The reported fireball of January 23rd was just not bright enough and only attained a magnitude of minus 7. (Full Moon about minus 12.5).

What did happen then? An official of the Edinburgh University Seismological Station stated that at 8.39 p.m. on January 23rd they had recorded an earthquake lasting between one and two seconds and of medium strength for the British Isles. There had been a sudden release of energy resulting in an explosion. He also commented that this particular tremor may have been connected with the Bala fault in North Wales, an area prone to earthquakes of this nature.

What of the fireball? A bright ball of fire was observed from a wide area on the evening of January 23rd, *but* the time of appearance was about 9.58 p.m.—almost one hour and twenty minutes after the explosion! To an observer at Silverdale, Staffs., the head appeared like a blue-green rugby ball surrounded by a red and yellow halo and trailing a tail of yellow and white sparks. Information obtained shows that the fireball became luminous over East Anglia and ceased glowing at a height of about 40km. over North Cheshire. No ponderable material therefore would have survived the fiery passage through the atmosphere.

In conclusion it would now appear that two separate natural events occurred on the evening of January 23rd, 1974, which were entirely unconnected but as often happens in the press, were lumped together under the heading of a mysterious explosion in North Wales.

What of the lights on the mountain! I would tentatively put these down to that poorly understood electrical phenomenon associated with earth movement—those strange earthquake lights.

2. Comments on the “Norwegian Report” in Vol. 4, No. 1.

Of the alternative “subjective comments” given by the witness, (b) and (d) appear to be the most likely explanation in my opinion. The direction of observation *i.e.* 10° to 15° East of true North and the latitude of the observing site 69° North suggest a natural phenomenon—Aurora Borealis. However a reader in meteorology at the Balfour Stewart Auroral Laboratory, Edinburgh University suggested after researching the report that the event may have been the decay of the last stage rocket of a Russian satellite launching. He did not say whether there had been any auroral activity on the evening of October 26th, 1972.

I next consulted an authority on satellite launchings and re-entries and received the following reply. “According to my records, no satellite or rocket re-entered the atmosphere on that date, at least for them to be seen in the position reported. My records give no information of any Russian Launch and so I feel it is unlikely that it had anything to do with a first or second stage rocket associated with a satellite launch, unless the launch was unsuccessful. This leads to a possible explanation, *i.e.* there was an explosion in the rocket which was full of fuel. The dumping of rocket fuel during the Apollo flights produced spectacular lights even from Britain. I have just re-read the report and find nothing that could definitely eliminate the possibility.”

The phenomenon therefore is not yet positively identified.

3. Evaluations.

Report 4/1/4. Most of the information contained in this report is consistent with the observation of a high flying aircraft (probably a jet) reflecting the setting sun.

Report 4/1/8. This sounds like a bolide.

Report 4/1/11. Probably the same phenomena as 4/1/8.

Report 4/1/12. Perhaps the silvery rods were the beams from the headlights of a stationary vehicle which later moved off from an inclined road causing them to distort and finally disappear. Weather conditions are not disclosed; therefore one cannot rule out some optical phenomenon due to the rising sun. The second observation could have been an aircraft travelling eastwards and catching the rays of the sun.

TONY PACE, *Research Director.*

BETWEEN YOU AND ME . . .

. . . ALL DONE WITH MIRRORS

BRINSLEY LE POER TRENCH

President, Contact International
Vice-President, BUFORA.

In my book *The Eternal Subject*, (1) I wrote: "Another interesting possibility that I have not broached before, is that the ufonauts are able in some way to project "mental" pictures. A possible example of this might be found in the two extraordinary French sightings at Oloron and Gaillac described earlier. It has always struck me as quite uncanny how the same scene, the same actors, the same actions, without an iota of difference, was gone through at Gaillac, ten days after the first identical sighting. *There is something crying out to be learnt here, I feel sure.*"

Now, these two classical sightings were originally described by Aimé Michel in his first book, *The Truth about Flying Saucers* (2). The first sighting took place on Friday, 17th October, 1952, at Oloron. It was an absolutely clear day. The event was witnessed by M. Yves Prigent the head of the Oloron High School, his wife and their three children. In my book I gave M. Prigent's account of what he and his family saw, as related by Michel in his work.

"In the north, a cottony cloud of strange shape was floating against the blue sky. Above it a long narrow cylinder, apparently inclined at a 45° angle, was moving in a straight line towards the southwest. I estimated its altitude as two or three kilometres. The object was whitish, non-luminous, and very distinctly defined. A sort of plume of white smoke was escaping from its upper end. At some distance in front of the cylinder, about thirty other objects were following the same trajectory. To the naked eye, they appeared as featureless balls resembling puffs of smoke. But, with the help of opera glasses it was possible to make out a central red sphere, surrounded by a sort of yellowish ring inclined at an angle. "The angle," according to M. Prigent, "was such as to conceal almost entirely the lower part of the central sphere, while revealing its upper surface." These "saucers" moved in pairs, following a broken path characterized in general by rapid and short zig-zags. When two saucers drew away from one another, a whitish streak, like an electric arc, was produced between them.

"All these strange objects left an abundant trail behind them, which slowly fell to the ground as it dispersed. For several hours, clumps of it hung in the trees, on the telephone wires, and on the roofs of the houses."

Michel went on to state that various people were able to collect some of this "gossamer" like substance, which rapidly became gelatinous, sublimed in the air and disappeared.

Ten days later, on 27th October, the whole scene was re-enacted again over Gaillac. The same actors, the same play. The long plumed cylinder, inclined at 45° in the midst of a procession of saucers flying in pairs zig-zag fashion, and dispersing as at Oloron, large quantities of "Angel Hair," the name generally given by ufologists to the "gossamer" like substance. At Gaillac, there were about 100 witnesses, including two police officers.

Now, I appreciate that these two sightings are "old hat," but it is my contention as I have stated elsewhere, that it is no use just recording, analysing and filing sighting reports away, and forgetting about them. You see, sometimes long afterwards, you can learn something of great importance, and these two sightings are cases in point.

The very fact that the action, the players, the whole scene, was exactly the same over first, Oloron, and then, ten days later at Gaillac is extremely significant.

I think it highly probable that the ufonauts have something like a library of pictures or a projection sighting bank! In my book I suggested the ufonauts were probably able to project "mental" pictures. Upon reflection I now think that these were projections of another sort.

The first of the two sightings, the one at Oloron, if we follow up my theory, may or may not have been an original sighting. Both may have been projections of an earlier one, but certainly I think the second one at Gaillac, which was absolutely identical in every detail to the Oloron one, was a projection.

What do I mean by a projection? I think that the ufonauts would have a moving picture of the original event, available to be shown to certain people in specific localities. Perhaps, this motion film of UFO phenomena is projected by the clever use of mirrors reflecting the sun's rays and focussing the film on the appropriate place where it is to be seen. Much in the same way as the heliogram, a message transmitted by a heliograph (which is a signalling apparatus employing a mirror to reflect the sun's rays), is received.

Maybe, it is done in a much more sophisticated way. Whatever manner the result is achieved, I am sure that the ufonauts are capable of projecting very realistic pictures of previous events in the sky to Earth people.

Some readers of this article may point to the "Angel Hair" that dropped over the landscape at both Oloron and Gaillac, as proof that the two identical sightings could *not* have been projected pictures in the sky.

I agree that this is an important point to be taken into consideration. On the basis of our present earthly, scientific knowledge, it would seem in the face of the evidence to be correct, but I submit this is not necessarily valid.

Let us take another look at it. According to my theory the incident was filmed. On each occasion "Angel Hair" dropped. Obviously the film (if there was one) would repeat on the second occasion this part of the scene. However, critics of my theory may quite rightly say some people on the second occasion at Gaillac, actually handled the "Angel Hair" which dissolved almost immediately afterwards. Therefore, how could this second repeat performance at Gaillac be a projection of a film?

My answer is that throughout the history of pictorial art, from time to time new dimensions have been added. We had plain black and white stills, now we have colour stills. We had silent black and white movies. Then we had sound added, giving us both the human voice, music and other effects. Later, colour films with sound. Later still, three-dimensional colour films. More recently, we have heard

about "smellies," that is, films in which there might be, for example, a scene depicting the sea waves breaking on the coast of Cornwall, England, or off the coast of British Columbia, Canada. The cinema audience would be treated to a smell of ozone, adding another dimension of reality to the performance. I understand that this is something we shall all enjoy in the cinema before long. I gather that the "ozone" smell is an illusion and would not necessarily come from the sea waves portrayed on the screen.

Although at Oloron (if that was the original event) the "Angel Hair" was real enough, in the repeat performance at Gaillac, it may be this substance could have been seen dropping because it was in the film, and the witnesses on the ground could have thought that they were actually handling the substance! The ufonauts with their advanced technology may have introduced still another dimension into their film-making, with which we are not yet aware. In the same way that our film industry is experimenting with "smellies," they have gone a further step, and introduced a pseudo "Angel Hair," like the example of the "ozone" in the "smellies."

Anyway, I am convinced that the repeat performance at Gaillac, ten days after the Oloron incident was a projection. If you re-read the fantastic account of the first one at Oloron, with its cylinder object at the 45° angle, the thirty other saucers in pairs, the actions gone through and then appreciate that this whole spectacular scene was gone through again at Gaillac ten days later, it seems to be sticking out a mile that some kind of projection occurred.

In this article I have been throwing out some suggestions as to how this exact second performance was achieved. Some of my ideas may be "way out." That I am prepared to admit. However, perhaps, some of you readers will think around what I have written and send in your own ideas to the editor.

Incidentally, if you have heard of any other duplicated sightings on such a big scale, please let us know. I think this opens up a considerable area for us to explore. Another exciting aspect of the fantastic UFO enigma.

REFERENCES:

- (¹) Le Poer Trench, Brinsley. *The Eternal Subject*, Souvenir Press, London, 1973, pp. 66-70.
- (²) Michel Aimé. *The Truth About Flying Saucers*, Criterion Books, New York, 1956, p.146.

BUFORA Personalities **No. 4**

ANNE HARCOURT

Many of the duties performed by BUFORA's Officers and Committee Members have no direct connection with UFO Investigation and Research; the amount of paper work that all departments have to contend with is phenomenal—and it all has to be dealt with in one's "spare" time. One of those whose duties consist almost entirely of paperwork is BUFORA's Membership Secretary, Anne Harcourt.

Born in Watford, Herts, Anne spent her early years in Burma, but returned to England for her education, specialising in science subjects. Following a secretarial course, her first job was in the Paleontology Department of London's Natural History Museum; she then went to Kenya for seven years, and it was here her interest in UFOs was first aroused when Kenya had a "flap" in Sept./Oct. 1954. From then on Anne read all she could on the subject, and on returning to Britain went to Edinburgh where she became the fifteenth member of the Scottish UFO Society, and during this time had a memorable meeting with George Adamski.

After moving to Kent in 1966, Anne joined BUFORA, was elected to the Committee in 1968 to take over the work of Membership Secretary from Mike Holt and has been "stuck ever since."

Though Anne's other interests include Archeology and ESP, her ideas UFO-wise are "strictly nuts and bolts" and she is not particularly impressed with explanations involving other dimensions and psychic phenomena ("Surely something has to be solid to show up on radar?"). Anne writes:—"We have come a long way in the 20 years since I first became interested when, if one dared to raise the subject at all, one was subjected to ridicule, disbelief and "pull the other one"; now, I find, whatever the company, interest is at once forth-coming, a discussion ensues and all manner of ideas are put forward—at last UFOs are accepted by the general mass of the peoples, they even appear on Corn-flake packets! I feel that with the new generation of "scientists" now coming along who have grown up with science fiction, rockets to the Moon, probes to Venus, and Skylab, maybe we have some chance of "scientific" acceptance too. The closed minds of those who are too egotistical to believe there could possibly be a more advanced life form than themselves must give way as they had to in medieval times, when they were finally forced to realise that their Earth was not the centre of the Universe!



* * * * *

In the following paragraph from "The Art of Scientific Investigation" by W. I. B. Beveridge I think you will find what part BUFORA is trying to play in the investigation of UFOs:—"Discoveries are made by giving attention to the slightest clue. The aspect of the scientist's mind which demands convincing evidence should be reserved for the proof stage of the investigation. In research, an attitude of mind is required for discovery which is different from that required for proof, for discovery and proof are distinct processes."

* * * * *

Without wishing to plagiarise the quotation it is certainly true that BUFORA were fortunate to "discover" Anne's capabilities; true also that these capabilities have been "proved" and "evidenced" by the searching "investigations" she has endured in her—to date—six years stint as Membership Secretary; a more efficient M.S. would indeed be hard to find.

NORMAN OLIVER.

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