

British UFO Research Association

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**bufo
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BUFORA JOURNAL

Volume 5 Number 4

November/December 1976

Editorial Address : 95 Taunton Road, London SE12 8PA

Editorial

Off Centre?

Documentation Centres are in the news and, in particular, the advent of the BUDC (British UFO Documentation Centre) has produced a somewhat mixed response. BUDC was stated in an article by Alan Fossey in *Northern UFO News No 26* to have been 'founded on May 1, 1976 by Mark Rodeghier, Bryan Jeffery and myself . . . Bryan, Mark and I have spent considerable time testing the temperature of European ufology (including Britain) and find it, with some exceptions, to be almost frozen to death.'

Basically, the idea of a clearing-house for UFO reports—a clearing-house and reference centre that is not clogged up with the investigative and administrative problems that beset all UFO groups is a good one: indeed, Dr Hynek would appear to have given his paternal blessing to the project.

ACOS (Australian Co-ordination Section) works along lines not too dissimilar and was formed following a suggestion by Dr Hynek in November 1974.

There is a danger, however—one brought out in the editorial of *UFO Research Review Vol 1 No 2*—that the constitution of such bodies may result in a 'them and us' situation wherein the scientists as 'professionals' are separated from the 'amateur' ufologist who may well have a background of ufological experience and knowledge superior to those 'sitting in the seat of judgement.' Such a condition could easily result in a divisive situation which might set back some years

the efforts made by this country's ufologists to gain scientific respectability and to co-operate as a coherent whole. ACOS, in Australia, appears to have recognised the importance of 'keeping in touch' and is consequently a ufological force of some importance. BUDC, Alan Fossey tells us, will have both a Science Board of 'carefully chosen' scientists from various fields and a Science Advisory Group 'in which amateurs will play an important role.' It is to be hoped this will prove to be the case.

Meanwhile, there seems to be some controversy in the US regarding the workings of the 'parent body'—Dr Hynek's Center for UFO Studies. Dwight Connelly, writing in *Skylook*, the publication of Mufon states, "We have yet to see, for example, a detailed report of any case he has investigated 'scientifically' . . . and . . . 'Dr Hynek has been getting a great deal of criticism in recent months, both privately and publicly, most of it far more severe than anything *Skylook* has printed.' In the May issue of *Official UFO*, Bernard O'Connor takes Dr Hynek considerably to task, heading his article with the words, 'As I understand it, Dr Hynek, the Center for UFO Studies is nothing more than a room located in the attic of your house.' In an article in the same publication entitled *Dr Hynek the Pied Piper of Ufology* by Dick Ruhl and Kevin Randle, very considerable criticism is levelled against the Center: 'Hundreds of reports go in, few are investigated and nothing comes out.' One trusts there may be no cause for similar criticism to be levelled in the future at the Center's 'offspring.'

The astute reader will have recalled that in our last issue I stated I intended to feature Controversy and Uforum in alternate issues! I plead Editor's Prerogative for having changed my mind—also for allowing Peter Bottomley to instigate controversies in successive issues!—Ed.

Controversy

The need for better investigation

This is a difficult article to write for a number of reasons. Firstly, I shall have to be rather dogmatic and it is not in my nature to 'lay down the law.' Secondly, I shall have to criticise our investigators. This I do not enjoy because, on the whole, our investigators are a mixed bunch of enthusiastic amateurs (myself included) who are, even now, trying to do their best. Thirdly, I shall have to expand on my previous comments by saying that, in a business like ufology, amateurism cannot be tolerated and, consequently, our best is not good enough.

Some time ago I was bold enough to criticise the standard of sighting summaries contained in the *Journal*. I was told that the job is a very difficult one and the people concerned were doing their best. I was also told—and quite rightly so—that if I thought I could do any better then I ought to try. I agreed, and shortly afterwards my first batch of sighting reports arrived. I then found that I could not do any better. I had criticised our summaries as not being technically accurate: however, I soon found that it is not possible to be technically accurate when the technical details are missing from the reports. In short, the standard of investigation contained in the reports was, and is, abysmal. All too often the name of the investigator is not included so that later questioning to clear up discrepancies is impossible. Also, all too often, the large empty space wherein the witness should write his/her own story is just that—a large

Peter Bottomley

empty space. And in almost every report the witness is left to complete the rest of the form on his own. It appears that no attempt is made to explain exactly what we want to know. Consequently, as the witness is not always technically minded, we get some ridiculous answers which are a total waste of time. Take the following examples:

Size—'As big as a house': 'Half the size of the Moon': 'As big as a football,' etc.

Altitude—'High': 'As high as the sky': 'Overhead,' etc.

Speed—'Faster than a supersonic jet': 'Speed of light': 'Very fast,' etc.

Direction—'On my left': 'On my right.'

Distance—'Long way off': 'Not far away.'

The list is endless and yet, ludicrous as these answers may seem, I have actually encountered them on sighting report forms. What is the point of having a research and analysis team if there is nothing to research or analyse? In every case above the answer 'Don't know' would have been preferable to the answer given. However, the matter does not end there. Bufora is currently striving to obtain a position of respect within the scientific community. But such a position will never be attained if the current standard of investigation continues. Investigation is the cornerstone of our whole organisation: without the appropriate standard of investigation, every-

one, including the witness is wasting his/her time.

Unfortunately, space does not permit examples of 'ideal answers,' and even if it did, 'ideal answers' are not always available anyway.' I think we all realise that we have to make the best of what we have, but that does not mean that our best cannot be improved. Bufora's new sighting report form should prove easier to complete and the new training manual will be quite authoritative. However, until both of these are readily available, I would respectfully like to suggest that we all give some serious thought to our own individual investigation techniques.

For instance, a good idea might be to let the witness write his/her story in his/her own words: then have the investigator ask the questions and the *investigator* should fill in the answers. Filling in forms is a bind at the best of times. However, the investigator will have seen the sighting report form

often and *should* know it well, whilst to the witness it is totally new.

I hope I have not dampened any of our valuable enthusiasm with this article. In fact, it is my hope that this article will provide a boost for that enthusiasm by showing another area into which it can be directed for the betterment of all ufology.

To add fuel to the flames. With one reservation—which I feel Peter would not oppose: namely that a proportion of amateurs—of the type I had in mind in this issue's editorial—are capable of acting professionally, I find myself in full agreement. I have frequently omitted sighting summaries from the Journal because they lacked basic facts: in some cases even the time of a sighting or the town and county have been left out! Practically none seem capable of being written up into an interesting full-length feature, which is one of the reasons why such current reports are a rarity in the Journal.—Ed.

General sees Flying Saucer

The Sunday Express of 11 July carried a report from a correspondent in Madrid of a UFO sighting by General Carlos Caverio, c/o of the Spanish Air Force in the Canary Islands. He reported seeing a UFO hovering over the village of Sabada in eastern Spain. He described it as 'giving off a brilliant light and travelling at an extraordinary speed.' The object, he says, took only two seconds to cover the 12 miles to the next village.

The Sunday Express also refers to a report by Dr Francisco Padron who, on the day following the General's sighting, had an experience of his own. To quote the *Sunday Express*, 'It was nearly dark,' he said, 'And I was driving along a lonely road. Then I saw a round sphere about 40ft in diameter hovering above the road ahead of me.'

'It was emitting a bluish light about 20ft above the ground. As I approached, my radio cut out but my headlights kept working. I passed right underneath and saw, silhouetted inside through a type of porthole, two very tall figures dressed in bright red. Then it took off and vanished in the direction of Tenerife.'

Flying Flower-Pots

These two sighting reports, received from the Belgium Society SOBEPs, were presented by them for comparison, since they felt a number of features were common to both. Pauline Grego has here summarised them for Bufora readers.

M. Manselon, aged 37, is referred to as 'a calm and quiet man, very well-known throughout the district . . . earnest and completely reliable.'

Sonia Plume, aged 20, was, at the time, pursuing her studies at the County Institute for Applied Social Science in Marcinelle, and is described as 'intelligent, sincere and a good observer,' the only reservation being that her father's eyesight was not sufficiently good to provide adequate corroboration.

Malataverne is a small village of 400+ inhabitants in the canton of Montelimar in the province of Drome, some 8km south of Montelimar. Cuesmes is a well-populated area on the south-western fringe of Mons.

The Malataverne Object

Together with his brother-in-law, M. Manselon manages a small quarry some 600 metres from his home in Malataverne. Between 19.50 and 20.00 on 14 March 1969, he returned from the shelter where an employee was switching off the generator and walked to his office where he had some things to collect before going home. Suddenly he looked up, noticing a bright light in front of him and immediately became paralysed. 'It was impossible for me to call out: no sound came from my mouth. In front of me was a kind of bright barrel.'

The object hovered about 1.5m above the ground: it was around 2m high and 1.5m wide: it was bright but not dazzling. Also on the object—which was 8 or 9 metres away from the witness—were two aerials. There was no noise. The outline was very sharp, but the upperside was foggy and blurred and M. Manselon noticed that the object did not cause light to be reflected as the ground wasn't visible. It seemed to be pulsating, but no detail was clearly seen about the object itself, which then rose up vertically very slowly. At this

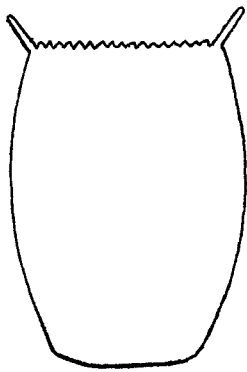
point the witness regained control of his movements. After hovering at an altitude of between 8 and 10 metres, it dipped and switched off, this being the last he saw of the object. 'I ran back to the shelter of the generator the employee had just stopped, he hadn't seen or heard anything. Early the following morning I returned with my brother to see whether we could find anything, but there was no trace, no coloration, nothing odd. In any case, I didn't feel I wanted to tell anyone about this experience at the time.'

Investigation: M. Gueritault

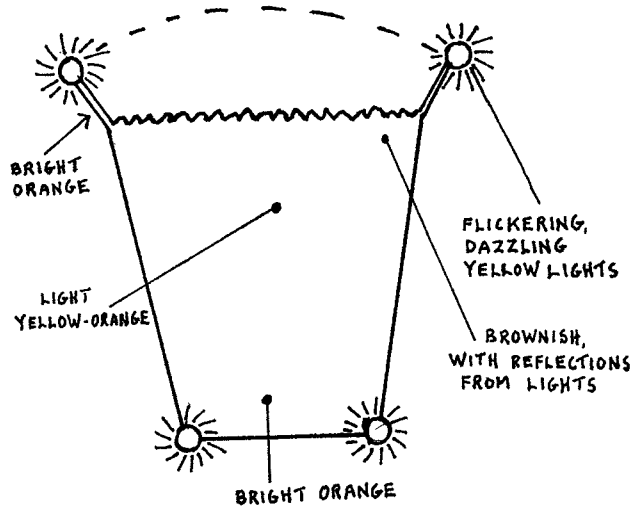
Ref: Lumieres dans la Nuit No 101 1969, pp 18-20. Distributed by Lumieres dans la Nuit, 43 Le Chambon-Sur-Lignon, 'Les Pins' (Haute-Loire), France. SOBEPs Bld Aristide Briand 26, 1070 Bruxelles, Belgium. Original translation by Charles Poos.

Flower-pot in the sky at Cuesmes

On Friday, 14 September 1973 at 19.45, M. Marc Plume and his daughter, Sonia, left their home in rue du Marais at Cuesmes. They were travelling in a Dyane 6 at about 50km per hour on the rue du Troublot. Night was falling and the Moon shone in the east almost in front of them.



MALATAVERNE OBJECT



CUESMES OBJECT

'Suddenly,' said Sonia, 'just as we rounded a bend with nothing obscuring the landscape, I saw an object almost in front of us to the east-south-east hovering at an altitude of about 200 metres, almost over an electric cabin which was less than 200 metres away from us. I cannot say whether it was already illuminated or if it switched on suddenly. It looked like a flower-pot, the size of a small car with the kind of saw of which you could see the teeth. At the extremities of this part two short slanting aerials stood out: the object's body and the aerials were a bright orange colour. Four dazzling yellow spots were placed on the aerials and the base of the object seemed to twinkle. The upper part, almost under the teeth, seemed a lighter foggy yellow-orange and the teeth were brownish with yellow-orange reflections. The object was covered by a light orange dazzling halo located between the aerials. The thing was animated by slight vibrations: it appeared to be solid and self-luminous but no reflection was visible. I im-

mediately pointed it out to my father, but as he is astigmatic he saw nothing but an orange blur.

'A few seconds later, when we reached the electric cabin, the object dipped to the right and flew off in the direction of Cibly, following a slightly curved and gradually rising flight, the brightness fading and the outline becoming blurred. It was moving slower than the speed of a plane. By then we had reached the crossroads: my father stopped to give way to other cars and for a few seconds my attention was diverted from the object. When we started again to take the rue de Chemin de Fer in the opposite direction from the object, it had disappeared as though switched off—that is the opinion I got because normally I should still have seen it before it disappeared in the distance.'

Ref: *Inforespace No 17 1974, pp 30-32. Investigated and distributed by SOBEPS, Aristide Briand, 26 1070 Bruxelles, Belgium. Original translation by Charles Poos.*

Mystery Hill

Several people have recently asked me whether UFO reports are still being received from the vicinity of Horsenden Hill, Perivale. I have come across none—which is not to say, of course, that there have been none. It occurs to me, though, that the majority of our present readers may be unaware that this hill was the source of numerous UFO reports up to four or five years ago. The following occurrence, originally published in COS-MOS 12, Nov 1970, was a particularly intriguing one, and is, I feel, worth re-presenting. For the record, it should be stated that Horsenden Hill is not many miles distant from London Airport: all types of aircraft lights, including brilliant white landing lights therefore abound. All the witnesses, however, were fully aware of this: moreover, what they witnessed did not lend itself to a LITS explanation—and, as will be seen, there were other complications!—Ed.

The night was that of Tuesday, 12 May 1970. Brian French, who claimed a number of UFO sightings in the area was in his back garden when he saw a white light moving slowly along above the trees atop Horsenden Hill about a mile distant, the time being 10.50 p.m. Almost immediately he received a phone call from Rosina Bishop and Michael Howard at Harrow-on-the-Hill about 1½ miles from the opposite side of Horsenden Hill. They had sighted a 'Mexican Hat' type of object and were ringing up to ask Brian to keep a look out, not knowing he had already seen a peculiar light. They later described this object as 'having curved ends with a rather high centre part which looked as though it had an 'indent' in it—like an oval with a black mark in the middle.' Originally it was seen at a distance of 150-200 yards, this being estimated by comparison with trees in the area: a rough computation of the diameter was also possible, this giving a figure of somewhere around three feet. On being told of this sighting, Brian went out to see if the light he had first seen was still around: it was, but as he watched, it dipped beyond the hill and disappeared from view.

Rosina and Michael then walked to a

vantage point lower down their hill. From here they had a clear view across the countryside to the north slopes of Horsenden Hill; there they saw the mysterious light circling the hill at a fast speed. They went back, got their car and drove over, stopping at the foot of Horsenden Hill by the car park of the public house, The Ballot Box, then closed and deserted. The car was turned round, facing north in the direction of Harrow and Michael got out and stood by its side looking up the slope towards the top of the hill. They waited a short while—it was very dark and the whole area had an eerie feeling—when suddenly they saw two white lights flash on on the slope of the hill: these went out and two huge lights appeared in their stead moving towards them down the hill. These were red and completely round, and unlike the rear lights of a car for instance, threw no light at all on the ground beneath or in the air around. They were just two large glowing red 'roundels' moving towards them down the slope of the hill: there was no noise. The hill at this point would be unsuitable for a car, though farther along there is a short road to a car park on the hill. The lights, however, did not move along this road, but away from it and down the hillside. Both witnesses

had the impression of a dark object between the lights, but it was impossible to distinguish it clearly—their car was not facing the object and so headlights were no help.

As the object glided quickly towards them both witnesses understandably became scared and drove quickly back down the road for a hundred yards or so, having in mind also that by so doing they would obtain a good view of the object when it reached the road; from where they were now, however, their view was cut off from the hill itself, and as the object did not come as far as the road they did not see its departure—nothing was seen in any direction.

They then drove to Brian French's house: Captain Mackay, then Bufora's chairman was contacted by phone and came over within half-an-hour, by which time it was after midnight. The party of four then returned to the hill and were at its foot by the car park when a police panda with two police officers came down from the road on the hill, stopping by them. For possibly a minute nothing was said, then the following conversation took place. (Details were written down at the time by Captain Mackay who kindly allowed me to make use of his notes—and were confirmed by the others).

Brian F: "What's going on up there?"

Police: "You've not got the right code word (pause). It's the Official Secrets Act."

Capt. M: "We were wondering whether"

Police: "H G Wells had a word for it (pause). They've done it this time (pause). You'll read it all in the papers tomorrow."

Michael: "It can't be that secret if its all in the papers tomorrow!"

Police: "This is it! The world's really coming to an end."

Rosina: "Saw this strange thing circling the hill—what is it?"

Police: "It's Official Secrets—can't tell you."

The police panda car then left but returned shortly afterwards accompanied by a 'Black Maria.' Both vehicles went to the car park at the top of the hill, where they stopped: a number of police alighted carrying torches and dispersed about the hillside. At this point our witnesses decided it might be prudent to depart in case this new 'invasion' of the hill might mean involvement on their part. In between the panda leaving and the 'Maria's' arrival, however, Captain Mackay and Michael Howard had gone up the hill to examine by torchlight the ground where it was thought the object might have landed. On the arrival of the police, they made their way down the hillside, rejoined the others, discussed the case, then departed. Police stations responsible for covering the area were contacted next day, but denied there had been any reports from Horsenden Hill the previous night or police activity there.—Ed.

Having read the account, the reader may well find the history of the hill itself of considerable interest. The legend that follows was researched by Michael Howard and Brian French:—

The Legend of Horsenden Hill

Horsenden Hill is situated in an area of Middlesex well known for its historic background and ancient connections. It is in fact a 'Ley Centre,' a meeting place of several prehistoric trackways—the motorways of pre-Roman Britain.

Nearby have been found 'Sarsen Stones' used to mark the way in ancient times. Some are over 3000 years old and reputedly transported from Wales. Many are similar to their larger counterparts making up the great rings of Stonehenge.

continued overleaf

An interesting legend exists about Horsenden Hill. It is said that when the Saxons invaded Britain, their leader Horsa crossed the Thames at Brentford, making camp at Harrow-on-the-Hill, where he could easily survey the countryside and ward off attack. Harrow is just two miles due north from Horsenden Hill. We are informed that Harrow comes from the Old English 'Heargh,' meaning 'a sanctuary' and probably refers to the pagan temple Horsa built there to his strange gods. The legend goes on to relate that Horsa's wife, whose name has not been passed down to us, was regarded as a sorceress and worker of magic. She was reputed to possess clairvoyant powers, and also on certain nights to travel down to the vale between the two hills, there to dance naked with the 'Elfin Folk.' Due to her nocturnal orgies, the vale was named Perivale, which, translated from Old English means 'Fairy Vale.'

Whether you consider these fairies to be the 'Little People' of folklore, a pre-Celtic pygmy race or little green men from a UFO, it is interesting that Horsa's wife was rumoured to receive her mysterious powers from these 'Elfin Folk.' What became of the Saxon sorceress is not recorded, but her daughter Elaine was converted to the new religion and founded a Christian community of nuns, giving her name to nearby Ealing. Horsa was buried on the hill which now bears his name. It is said he rises from his tomb on moonlit nights to ride on a pure white horse, though this was last recorded at the end of the last century.

VOLUNTEER(S) REQUIRED! Are there any members who could spare the time to assist in, or take over, the mailing of the Journal? If YOU can help, please contact Arnold West at 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex RH15 9ST.

Northern UFO Network Convention 1976

Nufon held the first of its 1976 conventions at the Grosvenor House Hotel in Sheffield on May 22, 1976. The hosts were the Sheffield, Dinnington & Rotherham UFO Research Association. The attendance was limited to approximately 60 (although it was not publicised as a public meeting), but it afforded an excellent chance for the north's ufologists to get together for an informal afternoon.

Papers were presented by John Longhorn (committee member of Contact UK) who spoke on the early history of the phenomenon, Trevor Whitaker (of Bufora's Yorkshire branch and Chairman of Nufon)—who discussed the current failings of UFO organisation and suggested ways and means to overcome them, and Peter Warrington (of the Manchester UFO Research Association) who entered into the realms of speculation concerning the nature of the UFO phenomenon, viewing it in its most puzzling aspects as something even stranger than we might imagine. In addition, Bernard Delair (Secretary of Contact UK) presented a paper on the monitoring and processing of the various factors inherent within the phenomenon. This was read in his absence by Nufon Secretary, Jenny Randles. Proceedings of the conference are available from Nufon (c/o 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester) at a cost of 50p plus postage.

By the time this reaches you, a further convention will have been held in Manchester on October 23, amongst the speakers being author Raymond Drake. A report on this convention will be made in a later Journal.

Jenny Randles

Humanoids seen in Epping Forest

August 1967. Chingford, Essex.

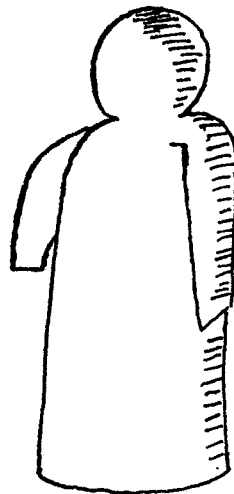
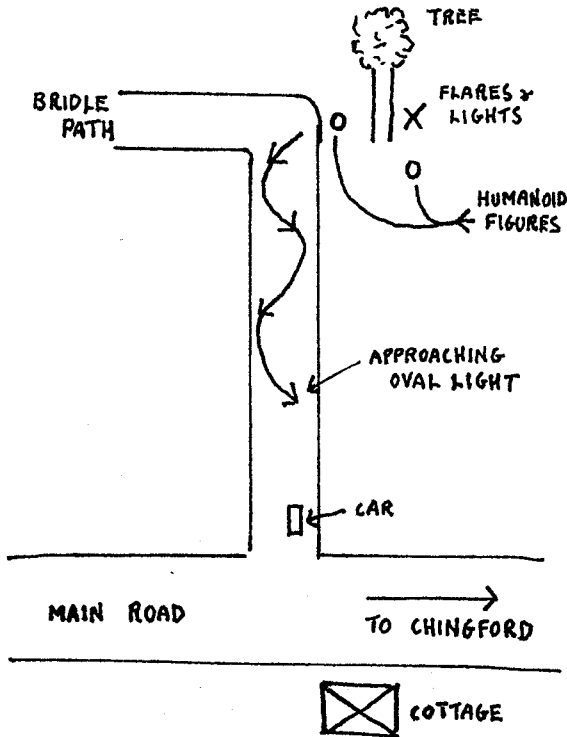
Despite its age, this report has some interesting factors associated with it. The witnesses do not want any publicity so it will simply be stated that it involves a young man and his wife, who was then his fiancée. They were parked in a car at the end of a bridle path, inside Epping Forest. The time was about 23.30. At the end of the path they saw a small red light. At first they thought it was a reflection of their cigarettes in the windscreen, but as they waved these about, the light did not move. After a while it flickered out. Then a red firework seemed to shoot up from the ground by a tree. Lights came off this and bounced around, and did not die away quickly

as with normal sparks but were in view a minute or more.

All this was occurring 75 yards in front of the witnesses. In the glare of these lights one, possibly two humanoid figures appeared. They were clad in a 'flowing white mackintosh' which hid the legs. No other details, save a rounded head, were visible. Their height was estimated as between 1½ and 3 feet. Very tiny—the witnesses were quite sure. The witness tried to flash his car headlights to get a better view but these were dipped and would not reach.

Now someone appeared to step out from behind the tree and waved what looked like a bright lantern at them. The light was brilliant white, though

continued on page 11



THE FIGURE

Uforum

Dear Sir

I was very surprised to read there was only a 20% membership response to the questionnaire sent out to all members in Vol 4, No 11—very poor indeed. I would, however, like to make the point that although I find the *Journal* of considerable interest, I would be a lot more interested if I were able to attend some of the meetings: it would attract a lot more interest if they were held around the regions—at the moment I find it impossible to attend any in London. This could well produce new members who hitherto knew nothing of Bufora car stickers could also be used to advertise the existence of the Association.

*A W Bastick,
Pencoed, Mid-Glam.*

Sir

Often I hear or see news items which have no follow up and seldom manage to obtain further information. These include: 1. The satellite orbiting Mercury which is believed to be artificial. 2. The translation of the scrolls found in the Nile caves where the statues were removed recently. Undoubtedly other members are also interested and would welcome the inclusion of such subjects in the *Journal*.

*David Medina,
London SW19.*

I agree, David: there are many subjects with possible UFO associations in which members could be interested—from Astronomy to the Yeti and back via the Old Testament to Astral Projection, Atlantis et al. You name a subject and I guarantee someone will come up with a ufological connection! Seriously though, related subjects may well be referred to from time to time when they appear relevant. Re the Mercury satellite—can

anyone help? Having been in Nigeria for six weeks during the summer the only satellite news around was when Muslims were asked to report seeing the New Moon for the start of Ramadan!—Ed.

Dear Sir

Some time ago, I forwarded our National Organiser a photograph which was taken at Freshwater in Pembrokeshire, since it showed a group of people standing on a clifftop, whilst behind them in the sky there appears the distinct outline of what looks like a UFO.

Subsequently a write-up in Vol 4, No 10 of the *Journal* which suggested that the 'saucer' image could represent a fault in the film emulsion Now, however, I am beginning to wonder! Indeed the following extract from Major Donald E Keyhoe's book *Aliens from Space* might have some significance in confirming that UFOs, although detected and tracked by radar, can remain invisible to the human eye:

"On the night of May 13 1967, a UFO was tracked by radar as it approached the airport at Colorado Springs. Since NORAD headquarters is in this area, any unidentified aircraft or UFOs get quick attention. If advisable AF interceptors are scrambled for a swift check on the 'unknown.'

Though there was intermittent rain and snow showers, there was fair visibility. *But the UFO remained invisible*, even when strong 'blips' on the radar scopes showed some solid craft near the airport. The blips were not 'ghost-echoes,' the operators were experts and they knew they were tracking something real

As shown by radar the UFO flew over the airport at about 200 feet. This is the normal procedure for an aircraft

... According to the radar track, the UFO came within 1½ miles of the control tower, *but the tower operators could not see it, even with binoculars.*"— (Page 242).

Certainly the ability of a UFO to become visible has been confirmed by a friend of mine, who once saw a UFO remain completely stationary and completely visible for quite a few minutes before vanishing from sight.

Since I was the one who investigated this particular incident, I must confirm that I was quite unable to contact the person who actually took the photograph, so positive details are almost completely absent.

Is it possible, therefore, for the camera to reveal details hidden to the human eye? Certainly, I do not think that it was a hoax, or that the slide was doctored in any way—I'm quite positive on that score! Was it, therefore, light reflection? Or a fault in the film emulsion? Or just a plain old-fashioned invisible UFO?

*R. Jones-Pugh,
Haverfordwest.*

P.S.—In that same issue, Lionel Beer comments on 'The Tungus Saga.' The 4 April 1976 edition of the *Sunday Times* provides new evidence in this respect under the caption 'Mutation Mystery.'

Dear Sir

I wonder if any of our members around the country would be able to assist me in locating some information on the Allende-Jessup mystery.

I am at present doing some research and am looking for two publications relevant to the afore-mentioned. The first is the November 1967 edition of *Saga*, in which author Brad Steiger

publishes his account of the Allende mystery. The second is the annotated version of M K Jessup's *The Case For The UFO*, or I think that title has now been changed to *The Case For UFOs*. If any member can help me with either of these, or indeed any information relevant to the case, I would be obliged if they would write to me at the address below. Material either for loan or purchase would be acceptable.

*Thomas Higgins,
65 Sarto Road,
Nass, Co Kildare, Eire.*

Humanoids seen in Epping Forest

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not dazzling, and oval in shape. Its apparent size was 3" at arm's length. It moved closer towards them, weaving from side to side across the path. When it reached within 15-20 feet, the headlight beam was flashed directly at it. It passed underneath the light, which was 6-7 feet off the ground, and revealed that there was nothing at all between ground and light.

Shocked by all this they decided to leave. The car ignition failed several times before they were able to drive back onto the road. Here they were met by a man coming out of a cottage. He talked of strange lights in the woods and said his wife had locked herself in her bedroom terrified. The principal witness left him and drove into town. Here they simply told the police that someone was letting fireworks off in the forest. The police went to the woods with torches but the witnesses do not know what these investigations revealed since they went home very shaken. It should be noted that at the time the witnesses did not view the incident as a UFO event. They have since, however, taken an interest in the subject and the husband knew about alleged UFO car-stalling reports.

Sighting summaries

*Uncoded Various dates
Reading*

This report concerns a series of fascinating 'repeater' sightings made by the witness, Mr Shepherd and his family. The first observation occurred in Midsummer 1972 at 20.45. The witness and his wife observed a matt black coloured streamlined rocket of complex design travelling slowly westwards, followed by a trail of flame at the rear. At first they thought it might be an aircraft in trouble but could see no wings or tailfins. When first seen it was descending towards them, but it levelled off at about 200 feet, made an instantaneous turn to the south and faded away silently into the distance over a period of about three minutes. Some of the subsequent sightings have simply been of lights, but on March 13 1974 there was a most interesting occurrence which is receiving more detailed investigation owing to the possibility that it was a near landing. Between 18.30 and 19.00 on that date, three of Mr Shepherd's children two of their friends, and a man walking his dog, spotted a disc-shaped object hovering about 30 feet above a nearby school field. It was yellow/orange with a light haze surrounding it and flashing red and blue lights banded around the centre. An orange beam of light was coming from an indent in the underside of the object illuminating the ground beneath. It remained in this stationary position for two minutes, constantly emitting a steady humming sound. It then shot straight up to a considerable height, stopped momentarily and moved off. Mr Shepherd was summoned by his daughter but saw only the very end of the sighting as the lighted craft sped away into the distance. *Flying Saucer Review* were contacted about the case but took no further steps when the adult witnesses involved refused to answer questions. The sightings have continued since and a formation of five disc-shaped objects was reportedly seen in 1975.

Inv. John Roylance

*Uncoded October 1972. 22.30
Malvern Hills, Worcs.*

The witness, a salesman, observed what appeared to be a bright red star travelling west at a very high speed and altitude and leaving no trail. The witness estimated the speed as 5000 - 7000 mph but could not judge the size or altitude. The object then hovered for approximately ten seconds and then shot off in a northeast direction (approximately 150 deg to its original course) and without appreciable acceleration. It seemed to reach its original

speed instantaneously after which it disappeared into the distance, the sighting having lasted 2½ minutes.

Inv. R. Jones-Pugh

*75-140 9 November 1975. 11.15
Letchworth, Herts.*

A housewife observed two shining silver discs behaving very erratically below low cloud. They were changing position very rapidly but were invisible while moving. It was only while stationary that the objects were visible. They were estimated as being roughly the size of a 10p coin held at arm's length, and were in a northwesterly direction. The sighting lasted between four and six seconds and ended when the objects—'just vanished.'

Inv. R. Everett

*Uncoded 28 October 1975. 10.45
Barton, Nr. Manchester.*

Three witnesses, driving along the A57 towards Warrington, saw what they thought was Concorde, a silver/white smooth cylinder, very low and the size of a horizontal finger at arm's length. It had a pointed and drooped nose at the front and moved silently and slowly towards the northeast. It was in view for at least five minutes and subsequent investigation has revealed only one candidate, a helicopter manoeuvring around the nearby small aerodrome, but the witnesses' descriptions do not at all tally with this. All three were interviewed separately and gave consistent stories. One of the witnesses used to work at Hawker Siddeley's Woodford airport and feels that this object was moving slower than stalling speed for an aircraft. There were no windows, markings, or tailfins on the object, which apart from the nose looked like a cigar tube. It was observed from various angles and it does not seem as if reflection can have made any existing protruberances disappear. At present unidentified.

Inv. Phil Whitehead & Jeff Porter

*75-081 28 January 1975. 21.30
Hebden Bridge, Yorks.*

A leading railwayman was standing at a bus stop when an amber light the size of a 1p piece at arm's length appeared in the sky from the Halifax direction. It had fuzzy edges and after initially moving very fast it stopped suddenly and hovered for a couple of seconds. It then shot off again at a right angle to its original course.

*Inv. John Beresford
continued overleaf*

West Yorkshire contact claim

This item was featured in the Northern UFO News, August 1976, and is here summarised. The report was made by Graham Barker of West Yorkshire Research (UFO). Investigations were also made by Trevor Whitaker, Bufora, Yorkshire. Full acknowledgements to all concerned.

Following an appeal for sightings to initiate the West Yorkshire Research (UFO) Group, one was received which concerned a Mr L. The name is withheld since Mr L is well-respected, holding a local government position of some regard: consequently he is cautious and wary of any publicity. The only people to interview Mr L have been Mr Barker and a colleague, and Trevor Whitaker (accompanied by a psychiatrist). Mr L's claim is as follows:

The first encounter occurred about 1974 when a being about 6½' to 7' tall, dressed in a white one-piece suit with a high collar came to him whilst he was lying in bed and he felt 'intense joy.' The being greeted him and vanished: at a second similar meeting the visitor stayed longer.

Around February 1976, the being returned with a colleague similarly dressed but somewhat shorter. Their faces were ashen-grey, larger and longer than ours. Their eyes were narrow, the pupils catlike. Each hand had only four digits.

Though a 'feeling of warmth' emanated from them, they appeared troubled, and Mr L was shown a piece of plastic U tubing some 6" long x ¼" wide. On his saying it should be easy to repair, they asked if he would like to see the craft. He agreed, and was told to lie flat on his back on the bed, relax, and in a few seconds he would be unable to move. Mr L then felt himself ting-

ling and floating into space, a few seconds later being under the craft, 'an inverted bathtub surrounded by a golden glow like a fluorescent tube which doesn't strike properly.' He entered through the middle underside and then recalls being on a table in a large room in an anaesthetised state, with eight more beings around him in pairs and a large red/purple eyelike structure examining him. This period is vague, and the witness thinks hypnosis might aid recall. He remembers asking such questions as 'Who were they?': 'Why they were here?' and 'Why him?' The answer was something like 'An insignificant being such as a worm should not ask such questions, a thousand of your years are but a day to us.'

Mr L next remembers being in bed with the two beings present in the room. They told him he would be unable to move, said goodbye and vanished: five minutes afterwards, feeling and movement returned to him. Certain after-effects are claimed, such as abdominal pains, pains at the base of the skull and behind the right ear. The psychiatrist's opinion is that Mr L may well be suffering from hypnogogic hallucinations, meaning the experiences were entirely subjective, but no firm conclusion has yet been reached as Mr L has no previous psychiatric history.

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75-077|078 10 April 1975. 05.10
Thundersley, Essex.

Three people travelling in a car followed the path of a strange formation of lights moving northwest. There was a triangular formation of three white lights and heading this by some distance was a larger red one. They stopped the car but could hear no sound, although the object appeared to be quite close by. It disappeared behind some houses after being in view for a couple of minutes.

Inv. Barry King

Books and Leaflets

Title	members	non-members (all post free)
Guide to the UFO Phenomenon	45p	65p
The Use of Analytical Instruments in the Search for Extra-terrestrial Spacecraft <i>David Viewing</i>	30p	50p
Investigation Procedures <i>Trevor Whitaker</i>	30p	50p
An Engineer's Look at UFO's <i>Leonard Cramp, ARAeS, MSIA</i>	30p	50p
Articles of Association	£1.25 (members only)	
Journals as available	35p	50p

(In some cases, only photocopies of Journals can be supplied, at cost, plus handling and P & P).

All publications are available from:

Arnold West, Bufora Publications, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex RH15 9ST.

Personal Column

BRITISH UFO DOCUMENTATION CENTRE is a research unit directed by serious amateurs and scientists dedicated to scientific appraisal of UFO problems and rigorous solution. SAE for free information: Secretary, BUDC, 10 Park Court, Parkhill Rd, London SE21.

UFO-DETECTOR WANTED. Must be in good working order. Send details and price to M. Leigh, 34 Kingshill Drive, Kenton, Middlesex HA3 8TF.

Forthcoming Meetings

Saturday, 4 December, 1976. 7 p.m.—Annual General Meeting. 7-8 p.m. (members only). "Happenings and Experiences," 8-10 p.m. (open to non-members).

Saturday, 8 January, 1977. 2 p.m.—Open Seminar—"The Role and Contribution of Local UFO Groups."

Saturday, 5 February, 1977. 7 p.m.—"Controversy-Hypotheses Galore."

The December and February meetings will be held at Kensington Central Library, Campden Hill Road, London W8. The meeting in January will be held in the afternoon only, at Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate, Manchester.

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