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# BULLETIN

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WA3 6TU. (Tel: Padgate (0925  
827435) OR Padgate (0925  
824636)

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PAUL NORMAN was born and educated in the USA and has been interested in UFOs since his own sighting over 30 years ago in Tennessee.

In 1963 he migrated to Melbourne, Australia, where he continued his researches with the Victorian UFO Research Society (VUFORS), as that organisation's Vice-President and Investigations Officer. In 1979 he joined MUFON as State Director for Victoria. He is also an Associate Member of CUFOS and a member of BUFORA. He has contributed many articles to various publications and now writes a column entitled "On The UFO Trail" for the VUFORS publication "AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN."

He was a guest speaker at BUFORA's Congress at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire in August, 1983.

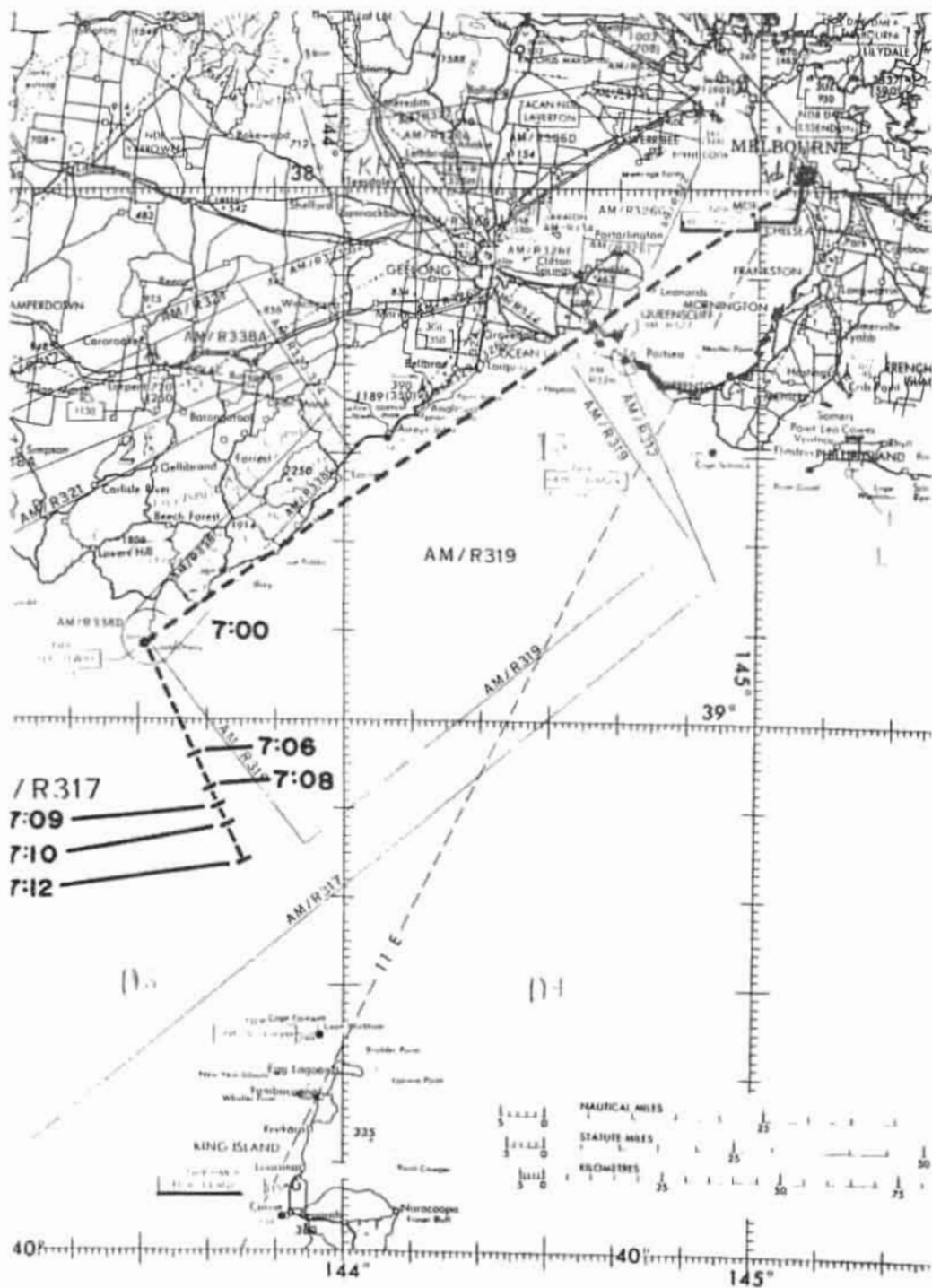
This is Part 2 of a slightly edited version of the paper given by Mr Norman at the MUFON Conference held in San Antonio, USA in July, 1984. In the earlier part (BUFORA BULLETIN, January, 1985) Mr Norman dealt with the historical background to Australian ufological research. This part deals with the 1978 "flap" and the Valentich disappearance.

#### THE FREDERICK VALENTICH DISAPPEARANCE

During the evening of October 21st, 1978, 20 year old Australian pilot Frederick Valentich, disappeared over Bass Strait, while flying from Melbourne's Moorabbin Airport to King Island, off the coast of Victoria. His last communication occurred at 7.12pm, during the largest UFO flap in Australian history. Over five and a half years after that fatal Saturday evening, no trace has ever been found of either the pilot or his blue and white Cessna model 182 aircraft.

Frederick Valentich was not the only person who reported a strange object over and near Bass Strait that day and night. Researchers have found over 50 reported observations in that area which occurred before, during and after his encounter. Most of this information would have never been found without the diligence of researchers from the Victorian UFO Research Society, based at Moorabbin, near the location from whence the mysterious flight originated.

At first this incident was being treated as an ordinary lost aircraft. It was difficult keeping details of the encounter hidden since several other pilots flying at the same time were tuned to the same radio frequency and heard the communications. The world first learned that a UFO was involved when one of those pilots tipped-off the press. On Monday morning, October 23rd, when the newspapers came out all over Australia, and the world for that matter (although overseas headlines were not as pronounced) front page headlines led the news of the day. Our telephones were ringing constantly for the following three days. Switchboards were also being flooded with calls at radio stations, television stations and the press.



## THE BASS STRAIT FLAP

The Bass Strait flap had been building up for over six weeks prior to the pilot's disappearance. The UFO flap reached a peak that very weekend of October 21st. More daytime sightings were reported than in any flap period that we have ever investigated. Many of these reports have been published in the VUFORS publication AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN, the MUFON UFO JOURNAL, the INTERNATIONAL REPORTER and other publications throughout the world.

It is a confirmed fact that many UFOs were reported in the vicinity of King Island and the area around Bass Strait on that day and night. Two months prior to this fateful event, we were receiving increasing telephone calls from individuals reporting strange lights in the sky. About this time UFO reports were being passed-on to the police and the KING ISLAND NEWS. We were not aware of the reports occurring on this island until they were forwarded to us after news of the pilot's disappearance became known.

On that same day and night something strange was taking place in the Melbourne and Victorian skies as well as over Bass Strait. That is the inescapable conclusion from startling files of evidence compiled by investigators in the vicinity. Documented interviews with people from unrelated locations up to 150 miles apart told similar stories of round objects, star-fish shaped objects and silver cigar shaped UFOs moving slowly in the sky apparently with no visible means of propulsion, no wings and no sound.

### ACTUAL TRANSCRIPTION OF MELBOURNE FLIGHT SERVICE

The transcript portion of the communication between Valentich and Melbourne Flight Service, as released by the Australian Department of Transport follows: (FS - Flight Service; DSJ - Frederick Valentich aircraft designation).

1906:14 DSJ Melbourne, this is Delta Sierra Juliet. Is there any known traffic below five thousand?  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, no known traffic.  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet, I am, seems to be a large aircraft below five thousand.  
1906:44 FS Delta Sierra Juliet, what type of aircraft is it?  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet, I cannot affirm, it is four bright, it seems to me like landing lights.  
1907 FS Delta Sierra Juliet.  
1907:31 DSJ Melbourne, this is Delta Sierra Juliet, the aircraft has just passed over me at least a thousand feet above.  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, and it is a large aircraft, confirmed?  
DSJ Er - unknown, due to the speed it's travelling, is there any air force aircraft in the vicinity?  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, no known aircraft in the vicinity.  
1908:18 DSJ Melbourne, it's approaching now from due east towards me.

1908:41 FS Delta Sierra Juliet  
 1908:48 DSJ .....(open microphone for two seconds)  
 Delta Sierra Juliet, it seems to me that  
 he's playing some sort of game, he's  
 flying over me two, three times at speeds  
 I could not identify.

1909 FS Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, what is your  
 actual level?  
DSJ My level is four and a half thousand, four  
 five zero zero.  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, and you confirm you  
 cannot identify the aircraft?  
DSJ Affirmative  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, stand-by.  
 1909:27 DSJ Melbourne, Delta Sierra Juliet, it's not  
 an aircraft it is (open microphone for two  
 seconds).

1909:42 FS Delta Sierra Juliet, can you describe the  
 - er - aircraft?  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet, as it's flying past  
 it's a long shape (open microphone for  
 three seconds) cannot identify more than  
 it has such speed (open microphone for  
 three seconds). It's before me right now  
 Melbourne.

1910 FS Delta Sierra Juliet, roger and how large  
 would the - er - object be?  
 1910:19 DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet, Melbourne, it seems  
 like it's stationary. What I'm doing right  
 now is orbiting and the thing is just  
 orbiting on top of me also. It's got a  
 green light and sort of metallic like.  
 It's all shiny on the outside.

1910:46 FS Delta Sierra Juliet.  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet (open microphone for  
 five seconds). It's just vanished.

1911 FS Delta Sierra Juliet  
DSJ Melbourne, would you know what kind of  
 aircraft I've got? Is it a military air-  
 craft?  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, confirm the - er -  
 aircraft just vanished.  
DSJ Say again  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, is the aircraft still  
 with you?  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet, it's (open microphone  
 for two seconds) now approaching from the  
 southwest.

1911:50 FS Delta Sierra Juliet  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet, the engine is rough-  
 idling, I've got it set at twenty-three  
 twenty-four and the thing is coughing.  
FS Delta Sierra Juliet, roger, what are your  
 intentions?

DSJ My intentions are - ah - to go to King Island - ah - Melbourne. That strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again (open microphone for two seconds). It is hovering and it's not an aircraft.

1912:28 FS  
DSJ Delta Sierra Juliet  
Delta Sierra Juliet, Melbourne (open microphone for seventeen seconds). No official conclusion has been given for the strange sound which was heard that interrupted the last statement of the pilot.

#### VUFORS INVESTIGATORS RELENTLESSLY CONTINUE INVESTIGATION

While military and civilian aircraft searched the area over Bass Strait, VUFORS investigators concentrated their efforts with interviews of witnesses who had reported objects they had seen flying that same day and night. Investigations are still continuing, even now. Some examples of reports follow: (Names are on file with VUFORS).

Currie, King Island, 2.00pm. The sky was clear, except one large cloud directly overhead. Out of this cloud came an object similar to a huge golf ball about a quarter-size of the moon. The object was white or silver in colour. It moved slowly to the west toward the sea. The UFO stopped at an angle of 70 degrees above the horizon, then started moving back in the direction from whence it had come. At that time there was no wind. The cloud remained stationary. The UFO was the only object seen to be moving in the sky. No balloons are released at King Island at weekends.

Beginning less than one hour after the King Island UFO was seen, twin cigar shaped objects were reported to be moving from west to east over Victoria near Bass Strait. They were last seen about 4.30pm, when suddenly they changed colour from silver to white, made a sweeping curve to the north and sped away. The movement of these objects was traced by interviewing witnesses scattered along a flight path until the objects sped away. The observers nearest to the UFOs were almost directly under the objects. They described them as being about three-quarters of the size of a BOEING 747 aircraft, joined together with two silver beams. They were last seen over the ranges near Cape Otway.

#### UNUSUAL PHOTOGRAPH MADE BY ROY MANIFOLD

At 6.45pm, just 21 minutes before Valentich radioed Melbourne Flight Service that he was encountering an unknown aircraft, Roy Manifold, of Melbourne, photograph on 35mm film, an object hurtling in a blur of speed and mist out of the water near Cape Otway lighthouse. All modes of computer analysis were used to gain data, including edge enhancement, colour contouring, digitising and filtering. The analysis was made by GSW and critique issued by William H. Spaulding, GSW Director. The photographs were also examined by other specialists.



Publication of the photographs brought "Professors of Impossibility" out of their arm chairs for another debunking attempt. They decreed that the photographs showed "a cloud or a puff of smoke". VUFORS advisors quickly exploded this hasty announcement. The object appears only in two of the six pictures, taken while the camera was in automatic sequencing. The time interval between each photograph is confirmed by the setting sun's position. In the last picture the so-called cloud is already nine degrees into the shot. This means it would have been moving at over 100 miles per hour. It is not possible for a cloud or puff of smoke to move at this speed on a calm day.

#### ADDITIONAL UFO REPORTS FLOOD INVESTIGATORS

Communications between Valentich and Melbourne Flight Service were recorded from 7.06 to 7.12 pm, before an unexplained sound abruptly terminated the communications. During that time, 20 people located in different areas around Bass Strait, observed a green light in the same direction and at the same time the pilot was reporting the approach and description of an object with a green light.

In addition, other reports have been forthcoming. In the southern suburb of Frankston, a mother and four teenagers reported what appeared to resemble a sky rocket, although the object was stationary. The colour appeared to be a mixture of red, pink and white.

The witnesses estimated the object to be a quarter-size of the moon. The mother said that at the time of sighting she did not realise it was a UFO, until later when she learned that other people had seen the same object. At the same time, a bank manager and his wife, while driving on the highway west of Melbourne, observed a star-fish shaped object out over the Strait. They noticed green flickering lights at the ends. The couple are of the opinion that it was the same object that Valentich was reporting before the strange sound jammed his radio transmission.

Another sighting was reported from Ormond, a suburb in southern Melbourne, occurring at 7.15pm, when lights were noted in a cigar-shaped arrangement. The lights were described as looking like "silver rain" as they appeared to fall or else were turned off from top to bottom.

Two lads were out in the street communicating with their walkie-talkies when they saw a star-shaped object appear at a low altitude over their heads. It was moving slightly faster than an aircraft as if on an approach run to the airport. During the observation, both witnesses recall a sound like a low pulsating hum was associated with the object. Each of the walkie-talkies, first became jammed with static then communication was lost altogether, even though the lads were only a short distance apart. Communication was restored when the UFO flew away. Their description was of an object with bright white lights placed intermittently at each tip of a star-fish shaped object and at various points along the arcs to the tips.

There were many other similar reports of flying objects throughout southern Victoria during that same day and night and continued for several days following this strange encounter. These reports were being referred to VUFORS from various sources.

## THE STAR-FISH SHAPED OBJECT RETURNS

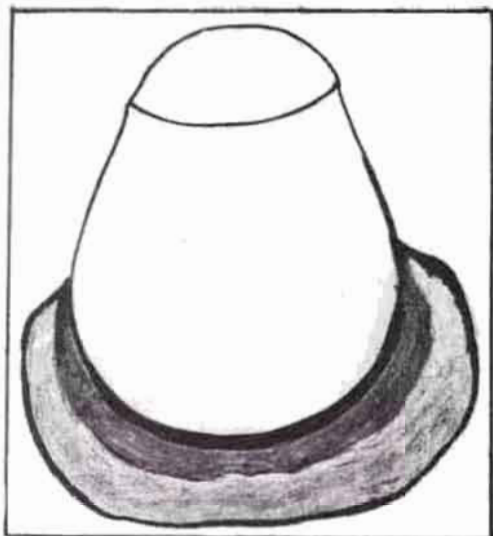
An outstanding sighting was reported on Monday evening, October 23rd, 1978, only two days later. It occurred at 9.00pm at two families were preparing to leave the beach. They saw a cigar-shaped light speeding low over Port Phillip Bay, from the direction of Bass Strait. When it reached a position about halfway across the Bay, between the observers on the Frankston beach and Williamstown on the opposite shore, the UFO flashed a brilliant white ray of light. Following this event a smaller red light was noted to have detached itself from the larger object. As the large UFO sped away to the north, the smaller red one flew at a much slower speed towards the beach where the observers were standing. As the smaller object approached the beach, the nine people observed that the object was shaped like a star-fish with red lights at each tip. They could also hear a low humming sound as it flew nearby. When the red-lighted UFO was a mile or so past the group, it stopped in mid-air for a few minutes. It then accelerated away at a much faster speed in the direction of Bass Strait where the larger white lighted object had first appeared.

## THE WHITE ACRES PHYSICAL TRACE CASE

The Frederick Valentich encounter has done more to change the attitude of Australian officials than any other single event. After this apparent accelerated thaw within the ranks of officialdom, we later found an opportunity to respond with an excellent physical trace case report. The incident occurred on the White Acres farm at Milmany, near Rosedale, Victoria. An official was informed of our findings and the preliminary report was submitted to the RAAF. An indication that a strong gravitational force was associated with the appearance and operation of this UFO may give us a clue to the strange metallic sound heard at the time of the Valentich encounter. It is theorised that it could have been the sound of the Cessna model 182 breaking up, because of unusual stresses applied to the aircraft's structure.

The White Acres encounter took place between 1.00-1.50am on September 30th, 1980. The witness was awakened by the noise of his horse galloping around the paddock and a commotion among his cattle. When he went outside to investigate, he saw what he thought was an aircraft about to crash. But to his surprise, the object levelled off and flew within 500 feet of his house to a 10,000 gallon water tank three-fourths of a mile from his house. He watched the object hover over the tank and then settle to the ground 100 feet from the tank. He then considered the possibility that a helicopter might be making an attempt to rustle a cow. He jumped on his motor-cycle and sped to the scene.

When within about 50 yards of the object, he could see it was no known aircraft. From the light of the full moon he could tell that the craft was bell-shaped. The main body was orange in colour with a white dome on top. As the UFO gave off a blast of heat and began to rise slowly in the air, he noted that a large circular rim was under the bottom similar to a large tube. This rim receded in width as the craft ascended, small stones were falling from below the craft. The witness was left shaken by the experience, with headaches and sleeping difficulties. The latter persisted for several weeks. The 10,000 gallon concrete water tank was kept full, as an emergency measure, in case the regular water supply failed. When examined, he found the tank was left nearly empty with only one foot of water at the bottom.



Sketch from a model of the white Acres UFO. It was described as bell-shaped, orange body, white dome, with a black tube-like rim around the base.

Algae, which was normally on the bottom was found pulled to the sides around the top of the tank. Three vertical cracks were found that had been caused by stress on the tank. Rocks which had been thrown up against the tank to get them out of the way of mowers had been pulled by the force in a path from the tank to the 30ft circle left on the ground where the object had landed. Smaller rocks that had been seen falling from the object, as it flew away, were found on the ground directly below the object's flight path.

#### MANSFIELD, OHIO HELICOPTER CASE

Another major case that could assist us in finding clues to the cause of the Valentich disappearance is the famous helicopter encounter with a UFO over Mansfield, Ohio, USA. That startling incident took place five years prior to the Bass Strait mystery. Larry Coyne and his crew were flying a US army helicopter when an object hovered overhead. At the time the helicopter was flying at about 1700 feet. The UFO, a silver metallic-like cigar-shaped object with a green light, pulled the helicopter to about 3800 feet without movement of the controls. There was also a loss of communications during this encounter, as well as the manoeuvrability of the UFO as described by Valentich five years later. Larry Coyne and his crew returned to tell their story - Frederick Valentich did not!

#### GOVERNMENT CO-OPERATION IMPROVES

Three and a half years after this amazing incident, the Australian Department of Transport (DoT) released its final report concerning the Valentich encounter. The bottom line read: "Cause of the disappearance is unknown."

Since that time, there have been several meetings between various officials and ufologists in Australia. Discussions during these meetings concerned various cases where veteran investigators have been involved over the years. The current situation has improved whereby some reports have been declassified and made available for further studies. However, certain unclassified

reports still remain in official files. Some of them concern cases where we were personally involved in the investigations. We are grateful for this better co-operation and will not argue the case, although the Freedom of Information Policy is now in effect in Australia. After all, we also have confidential reports not available for publication and we will not betray that confidence. Unfortunately, the person most responsible for this better co-operation is not available to receive credit. He is Frederick Valentich, who disappeared over Bass Strait, during an encounter with an unidentified flying object.

#### CONCLUSIONS

I have tried to summarise several Australian cases where people have experienced the same type of effects, observations and/or reactions from encounters with UFOs as reported by thousands of people around the world. The Frederick Valentich encounter provides an excellent case for study. It is an incident that can be compared with several other encounters where objects have revealed similar characteristics such as, magnetic effects, ignition failure as well as communication failures etc. There is no doubt in my mind that the disappearance of Valentich and his Cessna was caused by a UFO. I do not know whether he went up, down or was disintegrated. My first guess is that the electro-magnetic effect stalled his engine, (since he did report that the engine was rough-idling or "coughing") and he finally crashed into the water. There is also the possibility that the mystery sound which ended the transmission between Melbourne Flight Service and the pilot was the sound of his aircraft in the early stages of disintegration. Another possibility is that his radio frequency may have been jammed deliberately by persons or entities.

However, at this stage of the COUNTDOWN TO REALITY, I think that a fairly accurate prediction can be made. That is, sooner or later, your house lights will go out, or your television will go on the blink or your car or aircraft ignition system will malfunction during the presence of a UFO. You will be told, by the "Professors of Impossibility" that the object was a balloon, star or a flock of ducks. You will be told by the same "professors" that the electro-magnetic effect is a coincidence. But don't you believe it! The electro-magnetic effect of the UFO is no more of a coincidence than sound is coincidental to our primitive rockets as they roar overhead. And that also applies to the space shuttle.

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(Continue on page 2)

REPEATER BALL LIGHTNING?

<u>CASE</u>	83-028	Investigation by CLIVE POTTER and UFORM
September 5th, 1977	02.00GMT	Burbage Common, Leicestershire.

AB is a former wartime navigator, flying Mosquitos. He is now aged 67 and retired. At the time he had awakened in his home at Hinckley and decided to go to the bathroom when he observed four lights on the ground over Burbage Common. They looked to be dazzling through the French windows.

The lights were blue/white and intense enough to throw into relief a line of trees at the edge of the woods to the north east. Rising upwards and clearing the tops of the trees a fifth light was visible, greenish/yellow and the apparent size of a toy balloon held at arm's length! It rose and sank moving along the line of ground lights. At its highest point it intensified and reflected onto the wall of the room in which AB stood. Finally, as it reached the end ground light everything suddenly went dark.

As all of this was happening a whitish/yellow glow was visible shining through the cloud base (at 3000ft) and moving at a slow, steady speed from south-east to north-west.

AB at first assumed the ground lights to be in a quarry that is in that line of sight but when his eyes detected foreground and background detail (thanks to the light emitted) it became obvious they were closer. He estimates that they were about 30ft apart in an evenly spaced line and clear sapphire blue. The greenish light he calls a "Christmas bauble" and was like a searchlight without a beam. At its brightest his own shadow was cast onto the wall by the light, even though he estimates the latter to have been about 1.5km away.

The ground lights were visible for about three minutes. After they had vanished the sky glow (which was not unlike the moon shining through cloud) moved from above the woods and vanished in a direction towards Leicester. When it had also gone AB looked at the kitchen clock and saw the time was 02.05.

No sound was heard at any time. There are no roads in the area but the Hinckley/Leicester railway line is in this direction not far from where AB estimates the lights to have been.

The witness was first interviewed on the day of the sighting and re-interviewed later. There were no ground traces at the site and no evidence (e.g. of parked cars, camping activity in the field etc.) A farmhouse adjacent to the site had observed nothing (the residences were interviewed) which surprised AB due to the brilliance of the lights.

No aircraft, territorial army exercises or other standard explanations have been found. The ground is not marshy in any sense. It is however possible that this was some sort of UAP electrical activity akin to ball lightning. This possibility is strengthened by several previous phenomena witnessed by AB at the same location. These include inexplicable loss of electrical power to the house on several occasions and the sighting of what AB regards as "ball lightning" around 40 years ago just outside the house.



He describes this as a ball of opaque green with a yellow/white outside edge around three feet in diameter. It crackled and was in view for about 10-15 seconds as it glided along and then disappeared with a fizzing sound. Its appearance was marked by a bright flash of light. No scorch marks were left on the ground but a strong fresh ozone smell was.

This classic close encounter with BL occurred in daylight during a thunderstorm.

Can there be ball lightning "window areas" I wonder?

#### UFDs OUT AT SEA

CASE            83-023            Investigation by MICHAEL LEWIS  
September 25th, 1983    19.55BST    Harwich Harbour, Essex

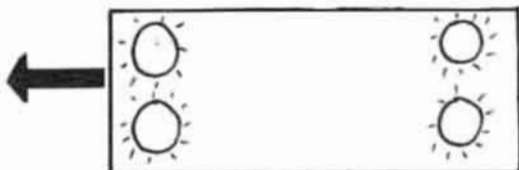
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In September/October/November, 1983 there was a wave of UFD sightings in and around East Anglia. Often these involved objects seen to emerge from or go into the sea. There was a very large multi-witness event in October which was seen by UFD investigators Dot Street and Brenda Butler as they stood outside Col. Charles Halt's house on the USAF base at Bentwaters, Suffolk!

One of the most interesting reports stems from 47 year old Mr T. a Managing Director, who was alone sailing his yacht towards Harwich having headed out of Felixstowe, Suffolk. Felixstowe was at the centre of the sea-borne encounters and it was around this point (some five miles south of Rendlesham Forest) that the object which passed over Bentwaters was first spotted.

On the night of September 25th there was a clear sky after rain and a slight breeze. Mr T. has just looked up at the top of the mast at the wind indicator and saw what he took to be an aircraft heading east/west, albeit at an unusually low height.

He then realised that the brilliant white lights were steady and not flashing and they shone so brightly that they threw a strange square shape into focus. There was also no sound.



The object moved slowly and went out of sight, heading towards land. The possibility of this being some sort of exercise by the military was considered but no evidence for this was forthcoming.

It remains unexplained.

CASE 83-026, investigated by BOB EASTON, compares interestingly with the above. The object was sighted on the morning of November 15th, 1983 at approximately 04.50 by the fishing vessel "Alison Theresa" out of Harwich and near the Medusa

duoy. It was described as a brilliant green ball, which came slowly from the sea, levelled off and then moved out of view. Bob obtained a copy of the coastguard log which recorded the radio message from the vessel. This says: "Just seen a quite large green light - not a flare - pass in front of us - very weird - don't like to say it but UFOs come to mind."

Flares were, of course, an option. But the coastguard checked this out and found it invalid. RAF Bentwaters insisted they had no exercises on that night.

Mysterious green fireballs of this kind have been common around the coast (which has several nuclear power stations, including Sizewell). One of the most famous occurred in February, 1975 and was investigated for BUFOA by Peter Johnson. In this case the object came onto the beach and hovered before going back to sea. It emitted a pungent odour like acid droops and petrified a large alsatian dog, which fled the coast in terror. This took place right beside the nuclear reactor.

There were several other sightings in October/November, 1983 also around Sizewell. Some may have been meteors of course. But the phenomena is very reminiscent of the green fireballs seen near Los Alamos, New Mexico three decades ago which meteor expert Dr. Lincoln La Paz, investigating for the government, could not explain.

#### UFO AERIAL DISPLAY OVER ESSEX

<u>CASE</u>	83-024	Investigators MIKE WOOTEN and STEVE CHETWIND
October 10th, 1983		19.15GMT. Hatfield Peverel, Essex.

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Certainly the most complex sighting to occur during the mini-wave in Eastern England during the latter quarter of 1983 was superbly investigated by the combined efforts of two RICs. As it is complex only a brief summary can be provided.

The principal witnesses are the Ashton family: Francis, aged 38, a dairy herd manager, his wife Carol and their children Nicholas 14 and Louise 12. They live in the village of Hatfield Peverel which is six miles north east of Chelmsford. On the night of October 10th, 1983 the weather was mild with a wind speed of 10 knots from the west-south-west and cloudy, although with large patches of clear sky.

Carol Ashton had gone to the dustbin in the rear garden and after idly watching the stars observed the appearance of several lights in the south-east (bearing 130°). A red light came first, and then several others (yellow, white, blue) which all seemed to merge. They were not flashing and seemed to be part of about six "objects", each containing several multi-coloured lights. A group of four of these headed north, but one split off, made an instantaneous turn back south here meandered about with several other similar objects.

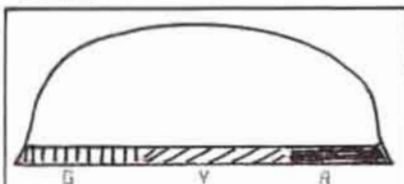
Carol paid close attention to this main object, which had descended and was clearer than the others. She watched it manoeuvre about the sky, having to move from back to front of the house to totally follow its movements. It finally headed off north-east.

In description she says it was dome or half moon shaped with the merging lights on its base. Her husband and children

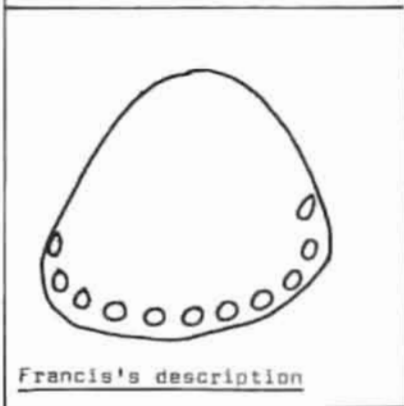
Carol Ashton in her Essex back garden points in the direction from which the objects appeared.



joined her during the estimated 15 minutes (by reconstruction) during which the events occurred. Their descriptions are very similar although Francis Ashton (who had a leg injury and so was less mobile than his wife) draws the objects in a more conical shape.



Carol's description



Francis's description

The witnesses seem positive that the objects were not aircraft. However, it is not possible to rule out some sort of military exercise. There are plenty of candidate air bases in the region and so many overflights from civilian airports that the checks made left it impossible to isolate individual flights. No relevant exercise was discovered, however, despite written comments from the Ministry of Defence and Southend airport and checks with the police. The total lack of sound during the experience (in view of the number of objects and the multiple directions from which they were seen) is a definite problem.

Upon investigation it was discovered that the house clock was 15 minutes slow. The family claimed to have suffered rolling picture television interference during the events. Mike Wootton, a City and Guilds qualified television engineer, inspected the set and found no faults. He suggests a number of possible causes for the problems (one of which is reflected signals from overflying aircraft, either conventional or unconventional). In truth there is

no way of assessing the real nature of the alleged disturbance.  
The case remains open but potentially explicable.

MINI-BALL LIGHTNING IN A TOWN CENTRE?

CASE                      84-04                      Investigation by PAUL FULLER

August 4th, 1984                      17.45BST. Winchester, Hampshire.

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Fifty-Four year old sales assistant Mrs MC was walking along Stable Gardens in the centre of the town when she had a most unusual UFO experience.

The UFO (or rather UAP as it almost certainly was) took the form of a bubble about the size of a tennis ball which floated west-east across her path at eye-level, coming within three feet of her. The bubble back-tracked and almost landed on the grass, then rose very steeply and disappeared out of sight over a car park.

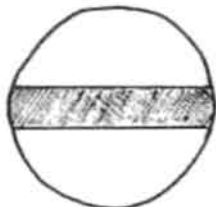
It was transparent and with a dark central band. Unlike soap bubbles it did not reflect rainbow light and behaved unlike a bubble in that it circled, changed direction and climbed whilst remaining in tact, for about two minutes.

She was so intrigued by what she had seen (which was never reported as a UFO) that she contacted a local retired weather broadcaster, Cyril Eckenden, who is of the opinion she observed ball lightning.

Upon investigation the following facts were arrived at:  
Object translucent (i.e. transmitted light but not detail)  
Approximate diameter 5cm with a 1cm band. The band did not alter its position.

Mrs MC estimated duration as between one and three minutes and was puzzled by the total lack of people or traffic during her observation. This suggests an OZ factor effect. Paul Fuller suggests the time estimate is in excess of what it should be and as the nearby road junction is controlled by traffic lights the absence of ambient traffic may not be important.

The investigator is reasonably satisfied, due to a number of factors, that this was not an ordinary soap bubble. But what of the ball lightning option? Paul Fuller discussed this with Mr Eckenden and he suggests that the "controlled" behaviour of the object (e.g. circling the witness once before almost "landing" on the grass verge) could be due to the possession of a static electric charge.



The object seen in Stable Gardens, Winchester

Detailed weather records were sought from Bracknell and Solothampton Weather Centre and are included in the investigator's excellent case report (even a satellite weather photograph!)

August 4th, 1984 was the wettest day of the month, with 10.6mm (mostly falling after 18.00). There was thunder recorded in the general area that day (although Mrs MC reported it as being dry and fine at the time of the event). The wind was westerly between eight and 12 knots, the temperature varied between 15.2 and 20.1°C and the barometric pressure 1012mbs. A depression centred on Dorset was moving east at the time.

The investigator's report on the BUFORA files will form a useful asset to any researchers interested in ball lightning formation and prediction. The detailed weather data and maps in connection with the sighting probably make this report unique - but hopefully the first of others to come.

It is certainly our job to help science understand such UAPs.

#### VOVKA RUSTLING IN CHESHIRE!

CASE            84.10            Investigators NIGEL FARRELL and MUFORA

September 22nd, 1984            22.10BST. Warrington, Cheshire.

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There are those who say that Warrington has only one call to fame. Indeed an advertisement (which infuriated local residents, including Director of Investigations, Jenny Randles) once showed a Russian holding a bottle of Vladivar Vodka, distilled in the town, saying "Why else go to Warrington?"

Now it seems, at least according to the local paper, that these same Russians have decided to visit and steal Greenall and Whitley's secret formula. However, the possibility of (presumably by now rather intoxicated!) alien rustlers was mooted too. The reason? For the second time in five years a UFO has been seen over the Greenall factory!

On this occasion two fifteen year old girls observed an object like a smartie cut in half with multiple lights, and some red and green ones in between. It came from the east and seemed to hover before moving off out of sight over the brewery. Around the object, they said, was a sort of haze.

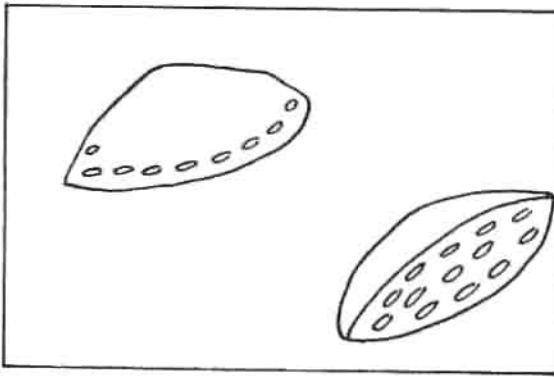
Investigation was undertaken by the local group and the first piece of information concerned the weather. There was low cloud and drizzle moving from Manchester towards Warrington. As for air traffic, Manchester and Liverpool airports both had flights. Manchester was especially busy with holiday-makers. It was impossible to verify if any of these were responsible.

You may wonder why Jenny Randles did not investigate this case herself, as she lives locally. There was a good reason. Jenny saw the "UFO" as it headed westwards from Birchwood to Lower Walton, the other side of Warrington.

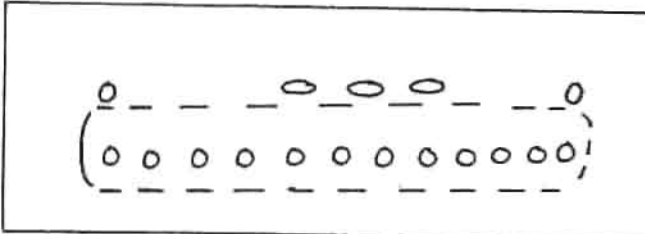
In fact it was an aircraft, a quiet jet which had all its cabin lights blazing and was flying through low cloud and misty rain. This created a strange effect with the haze. It was momentarily regarded as strange, sufficiently so to take Jenny into the garden for a closer view. Here the true nature of the object became obvious.

It is interesting here to notice: (a) how a known stimulus was distortively interpreted and (b) how the media further en-





What the two 15 year old girls claimed to have seen.



What Jenny Randies saw.

hanced the illusion of strangeness with their quite irrelevant illusions to the Vodka factory. In a case like this any investigator should have automatically thought of the aircraft option, thanks to the summer air traffic which reaches a peak about this time on a Saturday. But it would have been very easy not to follow this line by over-commitment to the belief in the exactness of the witness testimony.

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(continued from page 10)

Norman, Paul, "Frederick Valentich Encounter Update" BUFORA BULLETIN, June, 1983. British UFO Research Association (BUFORA), 40 Jones Drive, Whittlesey, Peterborough PE7 2NU.

VUFORS Committee: "Pilot Valentich, Death or Abduction?" The Australian Annual, Flying Saucer Review; 1981 edition published by VUFORS.

Lester, G and Killey, K. "The Devil's Meridian. Lester-Townsend Publishing Co., Sydney, Australia, 1980.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS must be notified to the Membership Secretary and Chairman immediately, otherwise continuity of publication cannot be guaranteed and it is not always possible to replace publications which have not been received.

Ahmad Jamaludin has long impressed me as one of the most interesting researchers around, and I have been sorry he has not published more in English UFO journals. I hope his contribution on abductions (BUFORA BULLETIN, August, 1984) will be the first of many such articles. His ideas about time-dilatation effects and the cause of amnesia in such cases were original and perceptive - all too rare attributes in ufology these days.

However, impressed as I was by the thinking and by the fact that he had actually carried out research in order to try to justify it, I am not entirely sold on his hypothesis as yet. I think a number of things need to be contemplated, and I set them out here hoping that he may respond in a future BULLETIN.

#### IMPORTANT DATA

First, while I can understand his reasoning, I am not sure he was right to select only UFO abductions. That is (I presume) he had a criterion whereby a case had to involve the witness being involuntarily taken aboard the UFO in order for it to count. At this stage of the game I am not too sure that the dividing line between what we might call a CE3 (where a witness encounters aliens plus a UFO) and a CE4 (where he undergoes contact with them) and perhaps even a CE5, if we want to be truly pedantic (where he goes on board their craft for some reason) is distinctive enough to allow clear differentiation of cases for research purposes. It might instead be confusing the issue by missing out very important data.

Let me offer an illustration. A typical, pure CE3, would be Gaynor Sunderland's July, 1976 Clwyd encounter (see ALIEN CONTACT) where she observed entities undertaking some sort of soil-sloping experiments beside a landed UFO. A CE4 would be exemplified by the claimed contact within Rendlesham Forest in December, 1980 (see SKYCRASH). Here the aliens allegedly communicated (by telepathy/or sign language) with the base commander of RAF Bentwaters. A CE5 would be described by the Farringdon case; where five witnesses claim to have met aliens from the planet Jandis on board a UFO (see THE JANDIS PEOPLE). All seem very different. But there are many aspects which break down these barriers of illusion.

The Rendlesham CE4, for example, was regarded as a mere CE3 by some witnesses who claim not to have been close enough to have observed the contact. One witness ('Art Wallace') further states that he lost consciousness at the point where the contact began and only hypnotic regression hypnosis revealed certain information which he now thinks took place after this time. That involves a meeting in an underground room with an alien entity, who proceeded to impart information very much akin to a normal abduction. The only difference seems to be that 'Art Wallace' was not saying he was on board a UFO at the time; but it is almost certain that this 'location' is not spatially real (merely psychically real) in all abductions. The way the witness chooses to describe it may not be relevant.

Incidentally, if any reader disputes this comment I would be fascinated to know what evidence they have for suggesting that the inside of the UFO (as described by UFO abductees) was spatially real. All the evidence I have seen strongly points to it being a psychic construct (with the witness still physically in his car, or wherever he was initially). Not that this in any

sense detracts from the quasi-reality of the abduction experience. To me the true test is that no third party has ever reported seeing a witness being taken on board a UFO, whilst he himself remains aloof from the experience. Such an "eyewitness abduction" would be the sort of case that would rock the UFO world if it were well supported. However, as it stands I think its absence leaves one in need of a different kind of explanation.

But to return to my main point. The Rendlesham case is thus seen as being potentially a CE3 a CE4 or a CE5 - depending on (a) where you were when it happened and (b) whether your memory was stimulated by hypnosis or not.

Notice, too, the Janos case. Here the original conscious memory was of a UFO encounter only, with vague memory of aliens. It was a CE3, no more, and only just that. The children involved (who were not hypnotised) did not recall certain details that would turn their memory into a CE4 (although no direct indication that they had been abducted). It was only they hypnosis which made the event into a CE5, in any sense at all.

#### INTRIGUING ASPECT

However, when one examines the Gaynor Sunderland encounter a most interesting result occurs. Hypnosis here failed to move the experience upwards from a CE3. No abduction was imagined. No contact even. Just a better description of the already remembered entity observation. What price Lawson's birth trauma theory in this case? After all, Gaynor Sunderland (as a young child) ought to have been able to recall this sort of memory better than many adults! What is more, subsequent hypnotic experiments on Gaynor produced vivid "past-life" memories which demonstrated that she was imaginatively gifted. By all accounts she ought to have visualised a dramatic abduction under hypnosis. The fact that she did not remains to me the most intriguing aspect of this fascinating case.

The point of this discussion has been simple. Some of the amnesia cases in the Jamaludin study began as ordinary UFO sightings - not even CE3s. Some were CE3s and some CE4s. Some were even borderline CE5s. As for the non-amnesia cases the degree to which one would call them CE5s varied considerably. The Travis Walton case (which was not an "eyewitness abduction" - in case anyone suggests that it is - because the other witnesses ran away and only saw Walton hit by a lightbeam, no more) is indeed similar to the 'Art Wallace' hypnotic recall, in that most of the action takes place in a 'room' and not on a UFO. What is more - how many CE3 cases (where no memory lapse seems to exist), or even ordinary UFO encounters for that matter, do not have subsequent hypnosis conducted? The answer is virtually all of them. That might seem like a moot point - but it is very far from that.

#### MINI-TIME LAPSES

Consider the PC Alan Godfrey case (see THE PENNINE UFO MYSTERY). Here Godfrey sees a UFO and then it is gone. He has no real recollection of a time-lapse and only very careful on-site reconstruction by investigators confirmed the likelihood of a 15 minute gap. Hypnosis then moved what was no more than a UFO close encounter (a CE2 probably) all the way up to a standard CE5 with all the trimmings! How many other CE2 cases have mini-time lapses such as this? In other words how many potential CE5s lie masked within our already existent data? My guess is very possibly hundreds!

It is for this reason that I started to explore the question of the OZ Factor - towards which Ahmad seems to be working. But his criteria for normal/abnormal conditions before the abduction do not go nearly far enough. The "green mist" which I agree is an interesting feature of a very few cases (e.g. the Avelay abduction), would not be regarded by me as part of the OZ Factor. This, I think, of as a set of symptoms which the witness shows, and which almost certainly represent a switch in the level of consciousness. Ahmad's "strange silence" is definitely a very significant OZ Factor symptom; but others he has not looked for include sudden dramatic calm and a time-suspension/distortion factor. If one extends his "conditions" in this way, cases like the Betty Andreasson affair (which he terms "normal") most certainly do not appear so. Betty Andreasson plainly describes the OZ Factor in the pre-abduction stage of her experience.

#### A SUBJECTIVE FACTOR

I am also very dubious about the total 100 per cent normality figure for non-amnesia cases which Ahmad relates. The problem is that the OZ Factor is very subjective and few CE3-CE4-CE5 investigations (especially those in South America - which form a bulk of his non-amnesia cases, or those followed up before the last few years) have simply not been researched sufficiently well for this vital clue to be detected. A witness rarely ventures subjective information without prompting (which is not the same as leading of course!) He is aware of the controversial nature of what he has experienced and will refrain from adding any detail that to him might seem like calling into doubt the absolute reality of his encounter. He knows it happened. But if he speaks of a "dream-like" feeling or "time suspension" he may well fear that you will consider that he either dreamt or hallucinated it.

I am quite satisfied that the OZ Factor is far more commonplace within the close encounter experience than we appreciate. Time and again I have seen ordinary CE1/CE2 cases feature such things. There are quite a few CE3 cases that include it too. Because in such events the witness does not remember/or realise that there was a time-lapse then nobody conducts regression hypnosis. How many of these cases would become CE5s in this way?

#### INTERESTING DATA

Harry Harris has co-ordinated a team of half-a-dozen researchers (including myself) who have worked on some dozen cases of all kinds since 1980. Unofficially we call ourselves TRUTH (Iswords Revealing UFO Testament Hypnotically) and we have employed eminent and sceptical psychiatrists in our work. The full data on this work, when it is collated, will prove interesting I believe. But we use as a major clue the detection of the OZ Factor, and have carried out hypnosis even when this is the only hint of a potential abduction. A deeper experience has not emerged in every case. But it has done sufficiently often to be of significance. In at least one instance the memory was only of a CE4 and not a CE5. It was to all intents and purposes an "aborted abduction" (something Lawson has insisted must be found if his theory is to be proven invalid). Presumably on the birth trauma hypothesis no "aborted" baby would now be living in order to have this memory!)

Another factor which concerns me is that Ahmad has only included part of the abduction literature. He has selected two types of CE4/CE5 - when in fact there are four.

fully conscious interlocking testimony would be far more likely to prove convincing of UFO reality. As for the single witness events in the TYPE C category look at the sort of cases we have: Sergeant Moody, State Trooper Schirmer, Police Constable Alan Godfrey et al. Perhaps the social status of these witnesses made it necessary for the memory impedance to take place. A police officer would be a much more credible witness with full conscious recall than an Argentinian truck driver!

In conclusion let me stress a couple of items. I am not down-rating Ahmad's study. Quite the contrary. It was easily the most exciting piece of new ufology I read during 1984.

Furthermore I am not eschewing any hypothesis of UFO origins. Nor am I arguing that memory retrieved under hypnosis is valid, per se. I am positive that it is in the least heavily influenced by subjective distortion and imagination. All work on hypnotic regression demonstrates this. But that it is not simply imaginative distortion is demonstrated to my satisfaction by the overlaps between cases and the statistical factors which emerge.

#### LAWSON'S HYPOTHESIS

As for Lawson's hypothesis I am highly doubtful. I am impressed by his research and admire his technique and application of scientific experimentation into a field where so little has been done. One thing that stands out as far as I am concerned. He argues that there are birth trauma implications partly (if not largely) because of the similarity between the alleged UFO entities (small, three ft creatures with large heads) and the human foetus. Yet in none of the British TYPE C cases which TRUTH has studied, and in none of them otherwise cited (the Aveley abduction, the Jenps people case, the Sunderland family encounters etc) have any aliens fitted the American prototype upon which Lawson has based his theory!

Now I substantial doubts that the birth trauma works for American cases and not for British ones. I also doubt that British foetuses do not look like American ones. The real reason for the difference is, I suspect, more cultural. The form aliens take in hypnotic memory is largely a product of the cultural norm afforded to an alien by society. In America that is the foetus-type being. In Britain it is not. This norm is probably moulded by previous media stories. So (in a way like the theory of "Morphic Resonance" proposed by scientist Dr. Rupert Sheldrake) the form of alien in Britain has been constantly emphasised and re-emphasised by the fact that the British media concentrate on British CE4/CE5 cases thus creating an imagine in people's minds.

#### ISOLATIONIST

I have yet to see Lawson, or one of his supporters, even tackle that question!. Indeed when I raised it at a conference in the USA last year I received looks of disbelief. "What - your British abductions don't involve 3ft tall creatures with big heads?"

"No. Never."

But all these researchers needed to have done was to look at the British UFO media. Unfortunately ufologists are terribly isolationist and most of us only know the UFO facts about our own country.

The UFO enigma, however, is global. It does not stop at the shores of the Atlantic! we will only solve it by international effort.



HILARY EVANS is the author of several books on aspects of social history and he lectures frequently on UFOs and other anomalous phenomena. His book THE EVIDENCE FOR UFOs was published by the Aquarian Press, in conjunction with the Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena (ASSAP) in 1983. This one was of the books in the EVIDENCE FOR series of which Hilary Evans is the editor.

He has been a Council member of the Society for Psychical Research and is a founder member of ASSAP.

He was elected to BUFORA's Council following its Annual General Meeting in December, 1984.

Kipling once wrote: "What should they know of England, who only England know?" With equal reason we may ask, what do they know of UFOs, who study nothing but UFOs?

Even if there is such a thing as a UFO phenomenon *per se*, something that is not reducible to or explainable as anything else, it is nevertheless hinged around by other phenomena: and if the ufologist is to determine what is and what is not a UFO, he must familiarise himself with what is happening on either side of the frontiers of ufology. Sometimes the adjacent regions are familiar enough; but others are still largely unexplored, and may contain some surprises for the ufologist who thinks he knows what is relevant to his research.

#### THE UFOLOGY/METEOROLOGICAL FRONTIER

Every ufologist is aware of the more obviously UFO-like natural phenomena, from lenticular clouds to the planet Venus. But nature contains more surprises than even the editor of NATURE knows of; as witness the many volumes of Bill Corliss's SOURCEBOOK PROJECT, which demonstrates just how many more things there are in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our ufology. His volume on 'luminous phenomena' should be required reading for the ufologist, with its dazzling array of anomalous sightings ranging from 'luminous aerial bubbles' to 'radar-stimulated phosphorescent displays.' His section on 'nocturnal lights' contains a rich choice of alternative explanations for lights-in-the-sky.

Pigeon-holing a reported UFO as a 'probable natural phenomenon' is, of course, not at all the same thing as saying precisely what it is. Many of Corliss' anomalies are far from being well understood. Ball lightning, for instance, is often proposed as an explanation for UFO sightings, yet, despite extensive research, it remains very imperfectly defined. Before we can confidently say of a specific UFO-sighting that it is ball lightning, we need to know what we are saying. How large can ball lightning be? What is its maximum life-span? How stable is it? What limits are there to its capacity for movement? What altitude can it reach? Can it really penetrate matter without causing damage?

At present, any identification of a UFO with ball lightning can only be tentative: it really amounts to little more than saying that we believe that particular UFO to be of natural origin, and in all probability meteorological. Even that may be pushing it too far. What, for instance, is the relationship - if any - between ball lightning and earthquake lights?

Ostensibly, the former is an atmospheric phenomenon - that

seems clear enough, since it so often occurs in connection with thunderstorms: earthquake lights, on the other hand, as their name indicates, imply a geological origin. But this distinction may be more important than real. We must be ready to entertain the possibility that both types of event - a certain meteorological condition on the one hand, a certain geophysical condition on the other - are capable of generating the same kind of plasma-like phenomena created in the process of certain advanced engineering operations. In a recent issue of PURSUIT Vol.17 no.2, Harry Lebelson writes of the alarming tendency for 'ball lightning' to be accidentally generated in the course of particle beam weaponry research. Again we have to ask, are we really talking about the same phenomenon?

Many of nature's strangest happenings are rare and elusive. But the ufologist should still be aware of them, for after all, so are UFOs!

#### THE UFOLOGY/GEOLOGY FRONTIER

I do not suppose any of us are in any doubt that geophysical phenomena of some kind are in some way associated with, and perhaps responsible for, at least a proportion of UFO reports. Both Paul Devereux and Michael Persinger claim to have established quantitative correlations between specific geological conditions on the one hand, and fluctuations in the number of UFO reports on the other. Devereux bases his claim on geographical data, Persinger on an analysis of events over given time-periods. Both sets of findings appear significant, and promise to give ufologists firm ground of a sort to stand on.

But even if proved valid, these findings are unlikely to lead us directly to clear-cut solutions, for they still leave us with many interpretations of their data to choose from. Here is just one conjectural example. We can reasonably accept that earth tremors and earthquakes are preceded by tectonic stress, and we know that they are accompanied on some occasions by earthquake lights, which we may suppose to be wholly physical in nature. But these geological events may simultaneously effect changes in the earth's atmosphere which can act on the human brain; alteration in the quantity and proportion of charged particles can, for about one person in three, trigger off effects ranging from mild headaches through more painful migraines to alarming experiences such as hallucination; and of course hallucinations are anything but physical in nature!

Things could get even more complicated. If we imagine circumstances in which a witness hallucinates as a direct result of seeing a physical light stimulus - like the earthquake light: this would be something like what happens when a witness sees the planet Venus and reports it as an alien spacecraft with windows and flashing lights. The witness is, as it were grafting his hallucination onto something he really sees because it is really there!

Once again, it is essential that the ufologist make himself aware of such possibilities. Fortunately, though this remains a largely unexplored region in which orthodox scientists are very reluctant to set foot, there are a growing number of studies exploring the interface between events that are literally down-to-earth, and the processes of our human minds.

## THE UFOLOGY/PSYCHOLOGY FRONTIER

Some knowledge of how the mind works will be useful to the ufologist in his most basic activity, field investigation; witness evaluation is impossible without some awareness of what the human mind is capable.

These days, few of us are likely to take a UFO report at its face value, no matter how straightforward it appears to be. We would regard some inquiry into the character of the witness as an essential part of preparing a report. And yet this is a very recent development: it is a sobering thought that the vast mass of UFO reports which form the data base of our research were gathered by investigators who made no attempt to assess the dependability of the person making the report - indeed, who would have thought this to be something quite outside their area of responsibility, even an impertinence! As recently as 1977, a senior BUFDRA investigator was solemnly recording the amazing claims of self-styled witnesses in the West Wales flap, without raising even one critical eyebrow, let alone considering what psychological factors might have been involved.

Fortunately that kind of naive approach is virtually a thing of the past, at any rate so far as responsible investigative organisations are concerned. The valuable work being done by Ken Phillips in England and Alex Keul of Austria, establishing a scientific approach to witness evaluation, is fortunately more characteristic of UFO investigation in the 1980s. But there is still a need for ufologists to be aware of the problems involved, even in such relatively straightforward matters such as the dependability of eyewitness testimony: Richard Haines' OBSERVED UFOs provides an excellent introduction to the pitfalls we may encounter.

But 'what the witness saw' is only the first and the most accessible aspect of the problem. There is a need too, to ask 'why', for if there is a why, if a witness is emotionally predisposed to see one thing rather than another, this is liable to distort his account. (Equally of course, this would apply to the investigator if he/she was motivated by anything less than an inspired pursuit of the Truth for its own sake!) Here, on the frontiers of psychology and sociology, is a tangled undergrowth of private preoccupations and cultural conditioners with which the ufologist must become familiar.

## THE UFOLOGY/SOCIOLOGY FRONTIER

There is no better illustrations of personal and social forces at work in a UFO situation than that landmark study, WHEN PROPHECY FAILS, which describes how a group of social scientists infiltrated an American UFO cult and obtained first-hand understanding of the motivating factors predisposing a certain category of UFO 'witnesses'. The cautious ufologist must learn to be on his guard against such biases which may not always be manifest.

Whether we like it or not, the UFO - at any rate in its 'extraterrestrial visitor' guise - has become a symbol for our age, carrying a load of emotional meaning for people who are bored or frustrated by their terrestrial existence. People conditioned by exposure to extreme UFO beliefs will not, to put it mildly, make reliable witnesses! And yet how many cases in Keyhoe or Alme Michel, even in NICAP's THE UFO EVIDENCE or the Figuet and Duchon DOSSIER COMPLET may have been submitted by people with such undetected motivations?

The way in which people respond to UFO sightings is of course a measure of prevailing social attitudes, so these again

are something with which the ufologist must acquaint himself. As we are all only too aware, society's attitude towards 'the unexplained' is ambivalent: the general public ranges from indifference to a starry-eyed fascination, the scientific establishment would prefer not to get involved for fear of making a fool of itself in uncharted fields when there are safer paths to tread, while the media, though often sympathetic, are understandably greedy for 'good stories.' An excellent compilation from Keele University ON THE MARGINS OF SCIENCE looks at ufology and other fields of anomaly research from a sociological viewpoint.

#### THE UFOLOGY/RELIGIOUS BELIEFS FRONTIER

Social responses to UFOs are frequently coloured by religious belief: there is still, for example, a substantial and highly vocal school of thought which holds that UFOs are sent by Satan, their 30 year mission to boldly prepare the way for Antichrist, and Armageddon. Yet another set of complicating factors to bedevil what might otherwise have been a nice straightforward investigation! There is no need for the ufologist to become an expert in theology and demonology, but he should at least be aware of the basic beliefs of those who look at UFOs through quite different eyes than he does. Cynthia Hind has told us how radically different are the responses of tribal communities in Africa: but we do not have to go so far afield. Fundamentalist Christians, even in the most highly sophisticated nations of the world, espouse beliefs hardly less primitive than savage tribespersons in the deserts of the Sudan or the Australian outback.

Religious beliefs are of course inherent in a class of phenomena which a good many ufologists would be apt to dismiss as irrelevant to their research: namely visions. But, as I have tried to show in my book VISIONS, APPARITIONS, ALIEN VISITORS, there is no clear-cut line to distinguish one kind of sighting from another. It may be that the same mental process is involved when a teenage Catholic peasant girl claims to see the Virgin Mary, as when a worried American housewife claims to see an extraterrestrial alien. Even if he doesn't go along with this hypothesis, the ufologist must be aware of similarities between some kinds of UFO report and parallel events in seemingly unrelated fields.

An obvious example is the Fatime sighting, in Portugal in 1917, when several peasant children claimed to have seen the Virgin Mary on several occasions, and when a great many people claimed to see some remarkable aerial phenomena. It has been suggested that this was in fact a ufological event; whether or not this is so, it is clearly very like many UFO events. It has been shown statistically that there is a correlation between UFO sightings and religious visions; these are facts the open-minded ufologist has no right to ignore.

#### THE UFOLOGY/PARAPSYCHOLOGY FRONTIER

Many ufologists are reluctant to get involved with psychic matters, relating them vaguely to the occult and all kinds of weird goings-on which clearly have no connection with a hard scientific study such as ufology. Alas, such an attitude stems from ignorance. Serious psychical research today is a very feet-on-the-ground affair, as more and more links are forged between the physical and the psychical.

For example, much interest is currently being shown in

people who are 'electric sensitive' - such as those in whose presence television sets spontaneously switch channels, street-lamps blink off, computers malfunction. These effects are real, however inexplicable: consequently, real energy is being deployed, a real force is involved. Two years ago, the PROBE investigation team in Bristol encountered just such phenomena, in a case which involved both UFOs and poltergeists, clearly associated. We are a long way from understanding why a person who displays psychic ability should also be extra-labile to have UFO sightings; but once again, there is a correlation which it would not be scientific to ignore. A knowledge of poltergeist phenomena, as embodied in a book like Gauld and Cornell's POLTERGEISTS raises many questions which are relevant to UFO investigation.

#### THE UFOLOGY/MYTHOLOGY FRONTIER

So, too, does a study of mythology and folklore. The series of books by W.R. Drake, GODS AND SPACEMEN IN HISTORY and so on, shows how many reports, strikingly similar to present-day UFO reports are to be found in old chronicles; while Vallee's controversial PASSPORT TO MAGONIA seeks to draw conclusions from such material. Bertrand Meheust's brilliant study, SCIENCE FICTION ET SOUCOUPEES VOLANTES, opens up another disturbing dimension, by showing how closely related today's UFO stories are to old sci-fi tales - to a degree which defies coincidence, yet cannot be explained in any cause-and-effect way.

Perhaps even more disturbing, though, is how closely related UFO happenings are to present-day political fact. The fascinating account of THE PERFECT COVER-UP in Yorkshire UFO Society's journal QUEST (issues of September-December, 1984) is a warning to the ufologist of what covert government practices may be clouding the UFO sky - though perhaps after CLEAR INTENT and SKYCRASH not many of us need such a warning! For obvious reasons, it isn't easy for the ufologist to acquaint himself with what the powers-that-be are up to; it is only too easy, too, to be swept into a paranoia of suspicion. But books like Peter Laurie's superb investigation BENEATH THE CITY STREETS and Donald Bain's disturbing THE CONTROL OF CANDY JONES are salutary reminders of what we are having done to us by those whom we have appointed to run our world.

Much of this, you may feel, has little or nothing to do with ufology. Of course you are right; but that is precisely the point. If ufology is to progress, it must be isolated from irrelevant matters; but we shall not establish what is irrelevant simply by ignoring whatever seems, at first glance, to be so. The frontiers of ufology are not clearly marked; establishing what lies within them, and what without, calls for wide-ranging study and an open mind. It is vital that the ufologist be willing to explore the frontiers of his subject if only because - to conclude by quoting another poet, Robert Frost this time - 'good fences make good neighbours.'

#### RECOMMENDED READING

(Unfortunately, some of these books are American or French, and not easily available here. Most, however, are in the ASSAP Library.)



- Bain, Donald THE CONTROL OF CANDY JONES. Playboy Press 1976. How the CIA hypnotised and exploited an innocent member of the public.
- Corliss, William THE SOURCEBOOK PROJECT. These wonderful books are a treasure store of hard facts; most obviously relevant to the ufologist is the volume on Lightning, auroras and nocturnal lights. The ASSAP Library has the full range.
- Devereux, Paul EARHLIGHTS. Turnstone. 1982. We are promised a sequel to this thought-provoking work sometime in 1985.
- Evans, Hilary VISIONS, APPARITIONS, ALIEN VISITORS. Aquarian Press. 1984. I have to list my own book because it is the only one I know which makes a comparative study of entity sightings.
- Festinger, Riecken, Schachter, Gauld, Alan and Cornell, A.D. WHEN PROPHECY FAILS. Harper Torchbooks 1956.
- Haines, Richard POLTERGEISTS. Routledge. 1979. The most comprehensive study of this fascinating subject.
- Laurie, Peter. OBSERVING UFOs. Nelson-Hall. Chicago 1980. Excellent manual by one of America's most knowledgeable investigators.
- McClure, Kevin BENEATH THE CITY STREETS. Penguin. 1970. Mind-boggling probe into what governments do without telling us.
- Meheust, Bertrand THE EVIDENCE FOR VISIONS OF THE VIRGIN MARY. ASSAP/Aquarian Press. 1983. Impartial introduction to the most popular of all anomalous happenings.
- Persinger, Michael A. and Lafreniere, Gyseline F. SCIENCE-FICTION ET SOUCOUPES VOLANTES. Mercure de France, 1978. One day some brave publisher will translate this splendid study; meanwhile, try out your French or read the brief account of it in my Visions book.
- Soyka, Fred. SPACE-TIME TRANSIENTS AND UNUSUAL EVENTS. Nelson and Hall, Chicago, 1977. Seeks to put anomaly research on a statistical basis.
- Taylor, Gordon Rattray THE ION EFFECT. Dutton, New York 1977. Fascinating demonstration of the interaction between natural forces and mental processes.
- Wallis, Roy (ed) THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MIND. Secker and Warburg. 1979. The best account I know of how the mind works and what it is capable of.
- ON THE MARGINS OF SCIENCE. Keele University. 1979.

NEWSPACE - A new bi-monthly publication from Pitch and Moment Publications, 5 St. Mary Close, Crowland, Peterborough, PE6 6NR (Tel:0733 211109). £3.95pa (six issues). NewSpace is aimed at all those interested in the rapidly developing areas of space technology and space flight. APRIL/MAY, 1985 issue looks at Shuttle Delays/European space programme/Japanese space research/Halley comet flyby missions.

BRENDAN TAYLOR, 32 years old, is a resident at the Lincolnshire Spastic Centre, Scunthorpe, Humberside. He is interested in astronomy, UFOs and related phenomena, and this article is the first of a number by him which will appear in the BULLETIN from time to time.

Brendan is currently taking a correspondence course in sociology, he sits his examination next month, and has also written a book about UFOs for which he is currently seeking a publisher. This deals with the physical UFO as well as that which comes from what he terms The Parallel Spiritual Dimension.

He would like to thank his friend at the Centre, Michael Burnett, for having typed the manuscripts from which this series of articles is taken.

In this first article I have listed some "Ordinary Sightings" reports of which are collected every year, not only in this country, but all over the world. Most of them can be explained, but there is a group that cannot. To put a figure on both groups; out of 100 reports, 90 per cent are explicable in terms of natural phenomena, the remaining 10 per cent are not. Of the 90 per cent I have listed below nine items that people misidentify as spacecraft.

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Planes           | 5. Planets        |
| 2. Meteors          | 6. Stars          |
| 3. Satellites       | 7. Ball lightning |
| 4. Fireballs        | 8. Comets         |
| 9. Weather balloons |                   |

Planes are easily confused since, when people see anything strange in the sky, one of the first things that they do is to strain their ears for noise coming from the object. When there is none they automatically assume that it was not a plane. This is wrong since there might be a wind blowing in the opposite direction making it virtually impossible to hear anything. The second reason concerns the coloured lights on the plane. These are white, green and red. Since, in most sightings, these three colours are noticed it is likely that some of these objects are in fact planes.

Meteors can be mistaken since they make a beautiful spectacle of different coloured lights.

Satellites can resemble the movement of stars because, when you look at the former, you notice that they move faster than the latter. If you do not know what you are looking at confusion can arise.

Fireballs are very similar to meteors and with their vapour trails can also be confused with aeroplanes.

Planets have often been the explanation behind a sighting, with Venus the culprit in many reports.

The confusing element with the stars lies in the illusion they create of emitting flashing colours.

Ball lightning is often found floating in the sky and on the ground and can easily be mistaken for something else.

Comets move slowly across the skies and, like weather balloons have frequently been mistaken for UFOs.

I will now examine a selection of ordinary sightings relating to the 10 per cent category i.e. the category where the reports do not seem to have any explanation in terms of natural phenomenon. All the reports are taken from GUFORA publications. The first report happened in August, 1955. Four people were involved. They were sitting in a car outside an inn, when they saw an object appear over treetops half a mile away. It travelled towards them and at the same time made a right-angled turn. The following description of the object was given. It resembled a row of lighted shop windows through which an outline of objects could be seen. At each end of the object bluish green rays emanated. Also noise was heard, described as a mixture of an electric motor and a taxi-ing jet.

The second report happened in north-east Scotland in 1965. The witness, who was female, was fetching some clothes in off the line, when she noticed an orange glow hovering over the nearby wood. She described it as being 'disc shaped' and giving off red and green flashes. She also said that the object appeared to be solid, metallic and finely polished.

The final report happened in September, 1980. There were two witnesses, a man and a woman. The latter was in the garden hanging out washing, when her husband told her to look up at the sky. When she did so she saw a round silvery object shaped like a child's swimming ring. It seemed to have a small dome on the top, white lights all around the outside and a black underside. It glided 200ft above the witnesses and finally disappeared behind some trees and houses. The interesting thing about this sighting is that one witness said that there was a faint humming sound coming from the object, while the other witness said that it was completely silent.

The following figures are the total number of reports in my possession for the years 1976-80.

1976	11
1977	49
1978	37
1979	21
1980	11

What can be said about these figures? It is not surprising that there were more sightings in 1977 than in the other years because that was a "flap" year. These occur in 10 yearly cycles, although why this is so is not yet known. One theory that I find interesting is that there could be a connection between "flap" years and sunspots. There might be something in this because, as anyone interested in astronomy will know, sunspots take two cycles of 11 years each to reach maximum and minimum. Whether the theory is true remains to be seen. Is there a pattern behind the sightings? I believe that there is, and in order to show this it is necessary to go back to 1977. The following figures list the monthly sightings for that year.

January	3	July	4
February	3	August	7
March	3	September	6
April	2	October	5
May	6	November	4
June	2	December	4

One interesting point that stands out in the list is that if you divide the list up into halves, you will see that most of the sightings happened in the last six months - a difference of 11 when compared to the first six. This is not surprising when you consider that the former contains two of the summer months when more people will be out and about. This becomes more interesting when you compare the monthly sightings of 1977 with those for 1978. These were:

January	6	July	1
February	3	August	1
March	1	September	1
April	6	October	4
May	2	November	6
June	1	December	5

Comparing the three summer months of 1977 with the same period in 1978 there is a marked contrast, why this occurs is hard to tell. Most of the sightings which fall into the 10 per cent category are nocturnal. The list below shows the sightings according to the 24 hour day.

12.am-12.59am	4	12.pm-12.59pm	1
1.am- 1.59am	6	1.pm- 1.59pm	2
2.am- 2.59am	6	2.pm- 2.59pm	0
3.am- 3.59am	1	3.pm- 3.59pm	2
4.am- 4.59am	4	4.pm- 4.59pm	2
5.am- 5.59am	1	5.pm- 5.59pm	7
6.am- 6.59am	3	6.pm- 6.59pm	5
7.am- 7.59am	5	7.pm- 7.59pm	10
8.am- 8.59am	4	8.pm- 8.59pm	7
9.am- 9.59am	1	9.pm- 9.59pm	12
10.am-10.59am	0	10.pm-10.59pm	4
11.am-11.59am	1	11.pm-11.59pm	9

What can be said about the list? Well, if you divide it up into quarters you will see that the best time, as far as sightings are concerned is from 6am to 11.59pm. The total number of sightings in those six hours is 47, just under half the total of 97 sightings. As you can also see, there are some hours when there are no sightings at all. The reason for this is probably because there are fewer people around at those particular times. The main pattern that emerges from the list is that there is more activity at night than in the day. Why? There could be a number of reasons. One of the most interesting theories is that the object(s) are some kind of nocturnal phenomenon, and therefore are being seen in a different light spectrum. An offshoot to this theory is what is called The Colour Element. This happens in reports where there are a number of witnesses all of whom see object(s) with

brightly coloured lights. Say that there are five people, who see an object with yellow, green and blue lights. Four out of the five see those colours, but the fifth sees a slight variation - for example the yellow lights, according to this witness, were more orangey. The question now is why the slight variation in colour? It could be because that person is seeing a slightly different spectrum of light to the others. All the sightings that fall into the 10 per cent category would probably have been explained in terms of natural phenomenon if all the witnesses seeing them were unqualified. But the fact is that some of them are not and do have knowledge of natural phenomenon and what is capable of rational explanation. According to such reliable witnesses what they have seen does not correspond to anything that they know or have previously experienced.

#### BUFDRA ACCREDITED INVESTIGATORS

BUFDRA now has 21 Accredited Investigators, 12 of whom are RUCs. Their names and addresses are listed below.

- + Stewart Campbell 4 Dovecot Loan, Edinburgh, Scotland EH14 2L7  
(031 443 3687)
- + Jenny Randles 21 Whittlewood Close, Jarrington, Cheshire,  
WA3 6TU (092 582 4036)
- + Clive Potter 13 Cheshire Drive, South Wigston, Leicester-  
shire LE8 2JA (053 378 6011)
- + Stephen Banks 2 Lea Road, Jalon Stone, Staffordshire  
ST15 0JS (078 581 6158)
- Raymond Shaw 5 Whitehill Road, Osborough, Wethering,  
Northamptonshire NN14 2J2 (053 676 1032)
- + Tony Green 59 Rydal Close, Jarrodon, Worcester, Hereford  
and Worcester WR4 9DG (090 542 7408)
- + Stephen Chetwynd 23 Albany Road, Old Windsor, Berkshire SL4 2QD  
(075 356 9041)
- Ken Phillips 13 Falcon Avenue, Springfields, Milton Keynes,  
MK6 3HG (090 667 0870)
- Richard Adams 1 Studland Close, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire  
HP21 7UN (092 683 116)
- David Pearson 53 George Street, Jedfarn, Bedfordshire,  
MK40 3AV (023 421 1735)
- + Peter Johnson 1 De Marley Garth, Lherringham, Norfolk NR20  
8JG (026 302 3389)
- + Dot Street 15 Blackberry Jay, Culton Road, Suffolk  
CO32 3HF (050 284 600)
- + Mike Wootton 4 Ivy Road, Leyton, London E17 8HX (01 556 9049)
- Mike Lewis 52 Stafford Road, Garnet, Hertfordshire SG5  
4LR (01 449 5908)
- Job Easton 29 Crown Road, Hillericoy, Essex CM11 2HF  
(027 745 6701)
- Albert Budden 76 Ravensbury Road, Sandoworth, London SE16 4LW.
- Roy Rowlands 122 Minchester Avenue, Kingsbury London W9 9TD.  
(01 204 0290)
- + Philip Taylor 5 Southdown Place, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2JL.  
(027 347 5913)
- Paul Fuller 83 Alresford Road, Winchester, Hampshire,  
SO23 8J2 (096 265 513)

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Report of NATIONAL INVESTIGATORS' COMMITTEE meeting held at the LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, London, W31 on Saturday, March 3rd, 1985. In this brief report JENNY RANGLES picks out some of the important matters discussed and the decisions taken.

ATTENDING: Co-ordinators: Philip Taylor (South East); Mike Joatten (East), Dot Street (Anglia); Mike Lewis, Paul Fuller, Ken Phillips, Albert Budden (AJs), Stephen Gamble (BUFORA Research Department) Chris Pearson (BUFORA Treasurer).

#### PETER DAY FILM

Richard Adams confirmed that he had contacted SCUFORI with reference to the Peter Day film. SCUFORI had now concluded its investigation and decided that the object seen on the film was the F-111 which was known to have crashed that morning. No information on how this conclusion had been reached was known. Ken Phillips had found contradictions in the F-111 story from his newspaper research. SCUFORI promised Richard Adams and Ken Phillips a written case report and a return of the film and film very soon. Messrs Adams and Phillips were urged by the Committee to press, before the next BUFORA Council meeting, for a definite response.

#### PHOTO CASES

Several problems had arisen. Steeton Laboratory had pulled out of their offer of assistance and Nigel Mortimer had withdrawn from ufological research. The UK computer enhancement facilities at Sheffield had been returned to the USA. In the latter case, however, the analyst was still willing to submit cases (at no cost) to the USA for analysis, but only 35mm prints. Data should be sent to: Tony Marshall, 19 Eden Drive, Loxley, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S6 6TC (Tel:0742 331084). PLEASE TELEPHONE FIRST TO ENSURE THAT MR MARSHALL WILL ACCEPT THE CASE.

Stewart Campbell complained about the non-return of material and/or a report from BUFORA Research. This matter was referred to Mr Gamble.

#### FULHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC CASE

Mike Joatten advised on a multiple photographic case which BUFORA had obtained via the Daily Express. The newspaper had decided to defer reporting on the case until the results of the BUFORA investigation was known. The event occurred in Fulham on June 21st, 1984 and involved seven pictures taken on a Praktica MLE 5f.3.5 with 135mm telephoto lens. Six photographs were at one or two second exposure and one at 1/2 second. Time was dusk and enlargements show a circular mass of lights (yellow/white, with some red and green) hovering over houses and moving very slowly away. 400 ASA film was used. Debate centred around the object being an aircraft travelling away from the camera. Mike agreed to obtain comparison shots at the site, using the same camera and film, of any aircraft passing over and to log air movements at a similar time of day. The sociological background, which has a bearing on the case, was also discussed.

#### ANONYMOUS MOVIE FILM

This was shown at the BUFORA lecture in December, 1984 and is now in the possession of Jenny Rangles and Peter Hough who are investigating its background. Enlargements up to 2000 times



have been made of one frame, but no definite answers have resulted. The possible location of the film is believed to be the south coast. Paul Fuller had obtained some panoramic site photographs to compare with the film and these suggest Southsea promenade (near the lighthouse).

Richard Adams had published a letter in the Luton press (the film was hosted from Luton) but there had been no response. Jenny had talked to the Luton media after Bill Dillon, local investigator, had passed on a letter she had written to several of them. Three stories had appeared appealing for the anonymous cameraman. Again, no response. The legal position on the film had been checked, and it was felt that the Adams' letter probably covered the matter since all reasonable effort had been made to trace the owner of the copyright. The letter remains, however, with the cameraman. Investigations now centre on Southsea.

#### COMPUTER PROJECT

Mike Jooten had coded all 1980 cases onto the Spectrum file and had given some trial print-outs to demonstrate effectiveness as a research tool. He is working on pre-1980 cases and has also finalised a one page summary sheet for use by all investigators. This acts as a rapid at-a-glance check of data in case file, and speeds data transfer onto computer. NIC approved format and adopted it as standard for all future cases.

Mike Lewis said he could print copies cheaply. ICFE Treasurer granted the sum of £10 for this for immediate printing of copies of summary sheet and 25 copies (one per NI) of explanatory manual to accompany it. Jenny Tandler agreed to distribute it to NIs.

Paul Fuller had produced a paper looking beyond what Mike Jooten agree was only intended as a case index file. Paul's computer research base would require changes at the level of data collection and thus in the #1, #2 forms. Copies of his "BASIC DATA IN UFO REPORTS" were handed to relevant NIC members who are to report back to him with comment.

Steve Gamble said the Research Department was to publish a paper in the Journal analysing computer manpower and hardware/software available amongst members. The Jooten file would be available to all users of Sinclair Spectrum computers. Mike said that he also had a software programme which contained all planetary positions, moon phases, bright stars, etc and that this astronomical data for specific date, place and time could be made available providing a SA was sent with the request.

#### ANAMNESIS

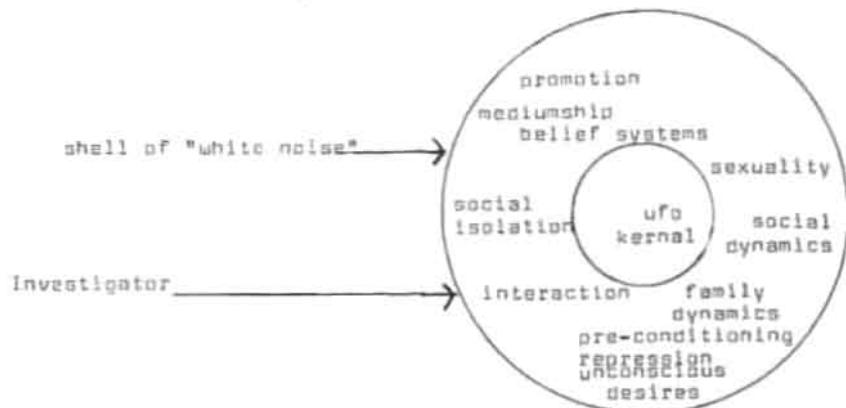
Ken Phillips said that Dr. Alec Keul had sent some preliminary results. These indicated that the psychoanalytical theory did not explain all GEs. Witnesses were normal, even in bizarre cases. Some of the contentious questions on the form had been removed. The NIC decided not to make it standard policy, but to encourage investigators to apply anamnesis to a range of cases as a trial period over the next couple of years, then assess results. Copies of the questionnaire were available from Ken Phillips. He would receive reports on the anamnesis experiments and co-ordinate them.

(Continued on page 10)

This Paper was given by GUFORA's Training Officer, Ken Phillips, at the Anglo-French CUMI-UFO Congress held at Hardelot, France, on March 23rd-24th, 1985.

A year has elapsed since I last spoke to European colleagues concerning the UFO Anamnesis as a legitimate 'tool' of non-physical investigations of UFO witnesses. Since our last meeting, the Anamnesis has produced some very relevant data in terms of the human aspect of the UFO experience - an aspect that has been scandalously neglected over the past 40 years of UFO research.

The message that is beginning to emerge is one of very powerful social and personal dynamics which forms a "shell" of "white noise" around a kernel of whatever constitutes the 'hard' UFO phenomenon (putative physical effects). Such dynamics generate cognitive and perceptive discrepancies as to render the "physical data" valueless. In fact, it has been demonstrated quite convincingly at Zistelheim, London and Warrington that perception errors could be as high as 100 per cent! Yet this is the sort of data that has been input to various archives all around the world as accurate estimations! The proposed model of the characteristics forming the "white noise" is shown in the diagram.



From an entirely practical point of view, Dr Alex Keul of Salzburg University is of the opinion that the "UFO kernel" is not accessible to a physical scientific enquiry due to the phenomenon's transitory and non-predictable nature. However, 21st century science may have the necessary know-how with which to conduct such an enquiry. In the meantime, investigators have little alternative but to study the "shell" that surrounds the phenomenon i.e. to study the witness him/herself. Otherwise there will be a further 40 years of frustrating stagnation.

At the present time, there are two main thrusts concerning

the Anamnesis: the Austrian witness Project (AWP), and the English witness Project (EWP). Hopefully, this quality will be extended, given an open-minded approach, to the French Witness Projects and/or the Belgian Witness Project (BWP), etc. Already the EWP/AWP has shown that the (psycho-pathologic hypothesis) is not holding up under such scrutiny; even in some of the more Bizarre cases. On the other hand, however, many of the cases showed a singular lack of objective reality, but a very consistent subjective reality. Furthermore, other important indicators are beginning to emerge which demand that we search our social fabric more intensely. Such indicators can be outlined here with a degree of confidence:-

1. There is a "promoter" of the report - not necessarily the witness (mediumship).
2. Powerful family dynamics.

Of course, one has to be careful over making sweeping statements and/or employing reductionist thinking, since we merely end up by declaring "that the UFO experience is nothing but....." The situation is far more complicated than that.

With these fundamentally new guidelines emerging from the EWP/AWP, it is crucial that the investigator must change his/her role from one of looking out of the window with the witness, to one of witness counsellor. This is particularly relevant to the close encounter cases where the witness is not so much concerned with origins and type etc but with the meaning of their experiences. After all, real or imagined, there has to be a reason for it all! For the sensitive investigator, this means searching life memories for that critical stage which pushed the witness to the edge of reality.

(continued from page 32)

- + Eric Morris 12 Hickham Road, St. Judeaux, Plymouth, Devon, PL5 1JA (D96 265 513)
- + Geoff Falls Highcliffe Avenue, Beauvale Villa Co Rd., St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands.
- \*Frances Pickering 34 South Road, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria.
- + RIC \* (Preliminary, not yet ITC approved)

CONTACTS WHO WORK WITH UFOERS IN AREAS NOT COVERED BY AIs/AIICs

- BLUFDIG (Gordon Barraclough, 8 Feulah Avenue, Breccombs, Lancashire, LA4 6UD)
- MUFORA (Peter Hough, 6 Millden Avenue, Luton, Trotter Manchester, WA3 1EN)
- WYUFDORS (Martin Daglass, 19 Bellmount Gardens, Bramley, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS13 2ND)
- SSPR (David Clarke, 5 Old Hatford Road, Handsworth, Sheffield, Yorkshire, S13 9QZ)
- SUFORS (Nigel Watson, Westfield Cottage, Crowle Bank Road, Althorpe, Humberside DN17 3HZ)
- NUFGIS (Syd Henley, 433 Meadow Lane, Hattingham, Hattinghamshire NG2 3GB)
- SIGAP (Umar Fowler, 45 Burden Way, Grange Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6HD).

If you want a good general guide to the science fiction of H.G. Wells, then THE H.G. WELLS SCRAPBOOK edited by Peter Haining (New English Library, London, 1978) should fill the bill. Of particular merit are the hundreds of drawings and photographs which depict all the facets of his work. If you decide to plunge into the text you will find that Haining has selected an interesting variety of wordage which illustrates Wells' impact upon 20th century thought.

Wells was inspired by the work of Baron Munchausen who described the weird inhabitants of the moon and their habits, and by Sir Humphrey Davy who wrote about a trip through the solar system, and examples of their work is given in this book. It is worthwhile to see how he used his knowledge of such writings, along with his knowledge of Swift's, Verne's and other authors' work, as a launching pad for his own imaginative goals. Haining reproduces a tale written by Wells when he was 20 years old entitled "A TALE OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY" which reveals an early penchant for humour, prophecy and scientism of the omniscience of science. Another story by Wells entitled "THE MAN OF THE YEAR MILLION" which is reproduced, is a speculative item on how nature and evolution is liable to change us into creatures who have one large head supported by two hands. If you have seen the film DARK STAR you might remember that the freaky astronauts had rather a lot of problems with an alien similar to the human of the remote future Wells predicted, so we have plenty to worry about in the future! It is interesting to see how Wells also used this hypothetical being as his prototype for the Martians in "THE WAR OF THE WORLDS."

One of the best essays in the scrapbook is "ECSTASY AND TIME TRAVEL IN SEVENDOKS" by Basil Copper which gives some excellent background details and insight into the environment in which Wells wrote "THE TIME MACHINE." Apparently Wells left his wife and went with his new love, Catherine Amy Robbins, and her mother (!) to 23 Cardley Road, Sevenoaks, for a holiday. On top of this the landlady discovered and broadcast the non-marital status of Wells and Miss Robbins to all and sundry. So conditions in January, 1894 were hardly perfect for the creation of a story which made him famous. Perhaps this alone shows what a genius he was!

Several reviews of his more famous stories are reproduced from contemporary journals and newspapers. Even Wells, however, was treated roughly by the media when "THE ISLAND OF DR MOREAU" was first published. For instance Chalmers Mitchell wrote:

"He has given us in 'THE TIME MACHINE' a diorama of prophetic visions of the dying earth, imagined with a pitiless logic, and yet filled with a rare beauty, sometimes sombre and majestic, sometimes shining with fantastic grace. But, with regard to 'THE ISLAND OF DR MOREAU' Mr Wells has put out his talent to the most flagitious usuary .... The usurious interest began when the author, not content with the horror inevitable in his idea, and yet congruous with the fine work he has given us hitherto, sought out revolting details with the zeal of a sanitary inspector probing a crowded grave-yard."

As might be expected "THE WAR OF THE WORLDS" is given wide treatment both in the text and illustrations. The panic created on October 30th, 1938 in America by the Orson Welles' broadcast of the story is noted (an event which should be considered by all ufologists) and George Pal tells how he produced the 1953 film version. It is nice to know that Garrett F. Serviss wrote a sequel entitled "EDISON'S CONQUEST OF MARS" in which a human gang of astronauts set out to revenge the devastation caused by the Martians!

A full reproduction of "THE QUEER STORY OF BROWNLOW'S NEWSPAPER" by Wells is given. Nearly forgotten the story is about a November 10th, 1971 copy of the EVENING STANDARD which is delivered 40 years early. By accident I read the story on November 10th 1981, so there is a synchronicity for the file. Wells' science fiction stories are put into context in an essay entitled "SCIENTIFIC ROMANCES" (pp 97-106) and makes several important comments.

THE H.G. WELLS SCRAPBOOK will make you want to discover more about Wells the person and Wells the "world's first futurologist, literary giant, cartoonist, inventor, world historian, educator, international statesman and social philosopher." Makes you wonder what he did in his spare time.

Send all comments in a time capsule to NIGEL JATSON, Westfield Cottage, Crowle Bank Road, South Humberside, L417 3HL.

Continued from page 3:

#### Ais

Following receipt of the Distell "fiaren" case I offered A1 status to David Pearson of Bedford. The ill-health of Peter Johnson was discussed and A1C agree that hot street should take over as A1C for Anglia with Peter remaining an A1.

Under ANY OTHER BUSINESS hot street was given the A1's permission to use a pseudonym for a witness in a difficult case.

Jenny said that, so far, she had only received three A1 photographs of IFD for the IFD sensitivity index. More ambiguous photographs for this index were required and all A1C were urged to seek out suitable examples.

There had been no further feedback from Albert Juddon, who had left the meeting early, on the A1C guidebook which he is editing. All A1s were asked to suggest to Albert or Jenny articles on specific case investigation types to include in the book.

Stewart Campbell's refusal to sign the Code of practice was also discussed. A1C policy is that all A1s must sign.

The next A1C meeting was postponed for Saturday, May 6th, 1982.

NOT L1/L

BRITISH TELECOM have a Valley  
Comet Hotline on 01 790 3600.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Stewart Campbell (sic),  
Edinburgh, Scotland.

Sir -

### UFUs in Scotland

Nigel Mortimer asks (BUCFNA BULLETIN December/January) what the UFO situation is like in Scotland (Incidentally, a separate country not part of another country), and where are all the reports?

If, as I claimed, there was nothing special about the Pennines, and no real UFO activity there, then Nigel should not be surprised if I say that there is also no UFO activity in Scotland. In nearly 12 years' investigation I have yet to find a Scottish UFO report that could not be explained in a conventional manner (with the possible exception of the Livingston case, which I explain in an unconventional yet terrestrial way). All reports turn out to be misperceptions of natural or man-made objects or hoaxes. The logical conclusion from this is that UFO reports from other parts of the UK and from other parts of the world have similar explanations and that none of them are due to extra-terrestrial or ultra-terrestrial activity. My experience also shows that in an area where the investigator is both sceptical of LHM claims and well-informed about the range of phenomena that can be interpreted as a UFO the number of reports and the number of reports that are classified as unknown reduces. The number of reports will increase if the investigator goes out of his way to collect them, say by advertising or by appearing on radio or television programmes and asking people to send in their reports. Consequently the number of reports is no accurate measure of any real "activity" and investigators can generate UFO reports. I regard the reports in Jenny Randles' THE PLANING UFO MYSTERY as no more than the usual crop that can be dug up with a little effort anywhere in the world. There is no evidence that UFUs (as extra-terrestrial craft or any other product of intelligence) exist, and we may conclude that they do not exist and that Earth has not been visited and is not now being visited by aliens. Nor

is there any reason to suppose that UFUs are operated by creatures who live inside the Earth (which is not hollow) or by time travellers (time travel is not possible) UFOlogists are wasting their time.

Sir -

### UFO Bibliography

Lionel Jeer should add to his UFO bibliography (BUCFNA Bulletin, March, 1985) the following:

- The Landing of the Saucers (1952)  
Kenneth Arnold/Ray Palmer  
The Evidence for UFUs ((1983)  
Hilary Evans  
UFO Phenomena and the Behavioural Scientist (1979)  
Richard Haines(ed)  
Observing UFUs (1980)  
Richard Haines  
UFUs From Behind The Iron Curtain  
Ivo Hobara/Julien Nevebergh  
(1974)  
UFUs Explained (1974)  
Phyllis J. Klass  
UFUs - The Public Deceived(1983)  
Phyllis J. Klass  
UFO study (1981)  
Jenny Randles  
UFUs - A Scientific Debate(1972)  
Carl Sagan/Thornton Page (eds)  
The UFO Verdict (1980)  
Robert Sheaffer  
UFUs and the Limits of Science (1981)  
Ronald D. Story  
The UFO Question (Not Yet Answered)  
P.J. Lillico (1976)

#### Delete:

Heard, Keyhole, Lind, Lore, Randles (UFO REALITY), Stringfield, Vallee (both books)

#### UK Periodicals

Add        Maps in  
Delete     Flying Saucer Review

From: Daniel Gooding  
(Member), London, UK.

### UFUs Over London

Sir - On April 19th, 1984 I viewed an unusual flying object from a first floor room. The outline of the object was not visible. It had two red lights which were close together. Others



In my family saw and heard it in the ground floor living room; it made a great noise as it flew past flow in the sky. Time 10pm.

At about 10.30pm a UFO was seen from the ground floor kitchen (on the other side of the house). It had two white lights, one changed to red as the craft altered course (and probably speed).

At 11pm I saw more UFOs. The most significant had a green and white light. This I watched from the first floor balcony as it closed in slowly towards me. It then hovered silently. I alerted my brother in the next room. On returning to the balcony I saw that the two lights had retreated towards Tottenham Court Road. The object was still moving slowly. I concluded that I had not seen a helicopter (no noise) nor an aeroplane (it hovered). I felt that the object had not been on a predetermined route. Whilst on the balcony I sensed that it (the craft) seemed to know I was viewing it. I felt no danger or hostility.

At about 9.10pm on April 26th a bright white light pulsed as it moved across the sky leaving a trail. At 9.25pm there were distant red pulsing lights moving in the opposite direction (reminiscent of those seen on April 19th). The craft seen on the evening of April 29th all appeared to be shaped like aeroplanes. Previous experience has shown that there are some very strange "aeroplanes" to be seen. On two separate occasions I have seen an "aeroplane" shine a white spotlight ahead of it for no obvious reason. There were many strange "aeroplanes" in the central London area during October/November, 1962.

At 8.25-30pm on April 29th I saw two lights move towards Granville Square. They changed direction towards the Post Office Tower, and the lights alternated in colour (white/orange/green) and were sometimes flashing. There were four or five lights in all.

Two white lights closing in slowly. They changed direction and moved slowly towards the Tower.

A craft higher in the sky, three or four lights (white/red - alternating movements)

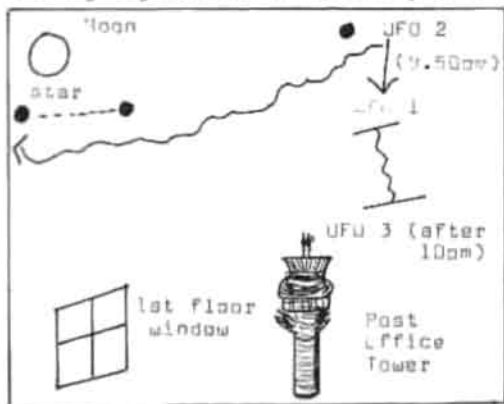
At least six or seven lights alternating on a craft. White: blue-white:red.

Craft with several lights which went around the PO Tower.

At about 8.40pm an aircraft with white/orange/green alternating lights went around the PO Tower.

At 8.56pm a craft with about four lights. A central orange light pulsed slowly.

The three UFOs I saw on May 13th all moved in the wavering, zig-zagging motion described in UFO literature. This was the third or fourth evening in the last two years that I have seen bright pulsating lights move in this way over the London area.



UFO 1. Moved in an uneven zig-zag path across the sky. I viewed it through binoculars. Semi-circular shape light.

UFO 2. Saw this briefly move a short distance.

UFO 3. I watched this through binoculars. It was hardly visible due to clouds.



## JOB VACANCIES WITHIN THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

I am seeking two enthusiastic members who would be able to help me with the administration of the Research Department. Both these posts are honorary, but a small budget is available to offset essential expenses. Applicants should have access to their own typewriter and have a reasonable standard of written English. Apart from that the only other qualification is enthusiasm. These jobs will offer you the chance to meet and correspond with other people interested in UFOlogy.

### RESEARCH MEMBERSHIP

Over the years BUFORA receives many offers of help with research from different members. Often it is not possible to use these offers immediately. It will be the function of the post holder to reply to members offering help, to find their areas of interest and either suggest existing projects with which the member might help, or to recommend to the Director of Research that a new project be started which makes use of the member's specific skills. The post holder will be invited to join the Research Committee.

### RESEARCH SECRETARY

As Director of Research there are many routine office jobs that I have. I am now seeking someone to assist me with these. The jobs include such things as arranging meetings of the Research Committee and of the BTAP editorial board and replying to enquiries for information. In addition I would like to start properly minuting the research and BTAP meetings.

Anyone interested in helping with either of these tasks is invited to write to me at the research headquarters, the address of which can be found on the inside front cover of this issue of the BULLETIN, or to contact me at one of the lecture meetings. Any additional offers of help to work on research projects would also be welcomed.

STEPHEN GAMBLE

### S-O-S TO MEMBERS

BUFORA is poised to make great advances in the British UFO scene.  
We have the right people and the right dedication

### BUT

We are short of resources.

We need to centralise our filing and administration in the Greater London area.

We need your help!

If anyone knows of a room(s) which can be made available in an office/industrial location where BUFORA can hold its very valuable files/case histories and have a desk for one staff member please let any officer of the Association know. **URGENTLY!**

**BUFDRA PUBLICATIONS****- SPECIAL OFFER**

The following publications are offered at a special rate to members. Applications to Arnold West, 15 Southway, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, together with your cheque/PO for the appropriate amount. THESE ARE REAL BARGAINS.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER AT LIVINGSTON.  
64pp. Large format. £1.50 (plus 50 p&p). (Previously £3)

UFO INVESTIGATOR. Standard Field Investigators Handbook. £1.50. (plus 75p p&p).

CONGRESS '79. 32pp large format. Papers by Eduardo/Rnewstab/Hill/Anderson. 75p (plus 30p p&p)

VEHICLE INTERFERENCE PROJECT  
Geoffrey Falls. 102pp. Case reports. £1.50 (plus 50p p&p) (Previously £4).

21st ANNIVERSARY MEMORABILIA

Lionel Beer also has some copies left of the four page leaflet produced to mark BUFORA's 21st anniversary in 1983. These outline the Association's history. Also he has some of the special badges, overprinted with the Association's logo and which are now something of a collector's item. Send two 13p stamps (10p for each extra badge ordered) to LIONEL BEER, 15 Freshwater Court, Crawford Street, London, W1. For the leaflet send two 10p stamps. For the badge and leaflet send 30p in stamps.

4 assorted BUFORA Bulletin/Journals (£1 incl p&p).

**JUNE LECTURE**

An extra lecture has been added to the 1984-85 Lecture Programme.

This will be held, as usual, at the London Business School, London, NW1 at 6.30pm on SATURDAY, JUNE 1st, 1985.

As this issue of the BULLETIN went to press the name of the guest speaker had not been confirmed. It is hoped, however, to arrange a talk on UFOs and their treatment by the media.

**NEW PUBLICATION**

SCIENCE AND THE UFOs by Jenny Jandies and Peter Barrington was published by Basil Blackwell, in April, 1985, priced £12.50.

The book provides the first survey of how science has tackled the UFO phenomenon and offers a challenge to scientists and UFO investigators.

They suggest ways in which scientific standards may be applied and what fruits such an inquiry may yield. They also illustrate ways in which the lay-man may make a serious contribution.

Both authors are critical of science and of UFO experts and are not afraid, however, to recognise that there is any underlying UFO reality, although this may not be what the popular media would have us believe.

FURTHER DETAILS FROM: Ludo Craddock, Basil Blackwell, 108 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1JF, Oxfordshire.

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