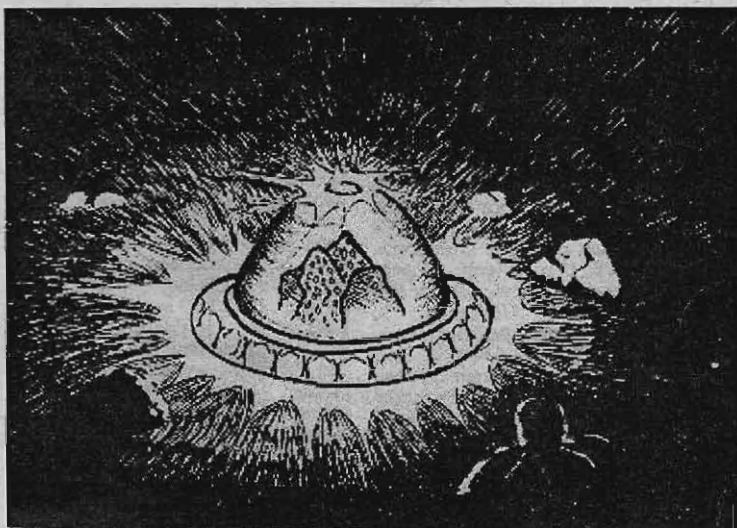


New B.U.F.O.R.A Journal

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Machynlleth 'Jellentities' .



Welcome to the October 2002 Edition - NBJ4

Also in this issue:

A Classic from Cumbria

The Lago De Cote Photograph

Sri Lankan UFOs

Circles of Light

A Welsh UFO Miscellany

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The Registered office is at:
BUFORA Ltd., 70, High Street, WINGHAM, Kent, CT3 1BJ
Telephone : 01227 722916
E.mail : enquiries@bufora.org.uk
Web : <http://www.bufora.org.uk>
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Director of Research

E.mail:
JohnandAnne@paranormalworldwide.com

Director of Investigations

Heather Dixon
New contact details in next issue

London Office

BM BUFORA,
London,
WC1N 3XX

Editorial Enquiries

BUFORA,
'Stepping Stones',
Low Road,
Wainfleet St Mary,
Lincolnshire PE24 4JQ
Ntoufo24@aol.com

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EDITORIAL



Strange, isn't it?

Unless I'm greatly mistaken, the claims of Ralph Lael - featured in *The Brown Mountain Lights* in an earlier Journal - to have been taken on a visit to Venus by 'Light Beings' will have been received with some small degree of scepticism!. Yet, what are we prepared to accept or discard? The Antonio Villas Boas case, mentioned in this issue has a fair measure of support amongst researchers generally. That 'Mothman' existed whatever 'his' origin, whilst not beyond dispute, is also usually taken as read. The actuality of these - and many other more recent accounts of landings, abductions and so on are almost taken for granted.

But, what of Joe Simonton's pancakes - remember them? The Kelly-Hopkinsville 'Goblins'? - and other seemingly outlandish claims such as Tom Dawson of Georgia having come across nude aliens who'd apparently abducted a missing Union leader? References to these and other similar cases will bring forth hoots of derision. It appears we may accept intercourse but not nudity, flying aliens but not pancake (or 'cookie') distributors. Or is it that at some time or another a 'top' researcher has lent support to one and not the other, so that, lemming-like, as in many other fields, we accept the judgement of the 'expert' ?

Think about it . . . Norman Oliver

Please send correspondence, articles, e-mails etc. for publication to the Editorial address:

BUFORA,
'Stepping Stones',
Low Road,
Wainfleet St Mary,
Lincolnshire PE24 4JQ

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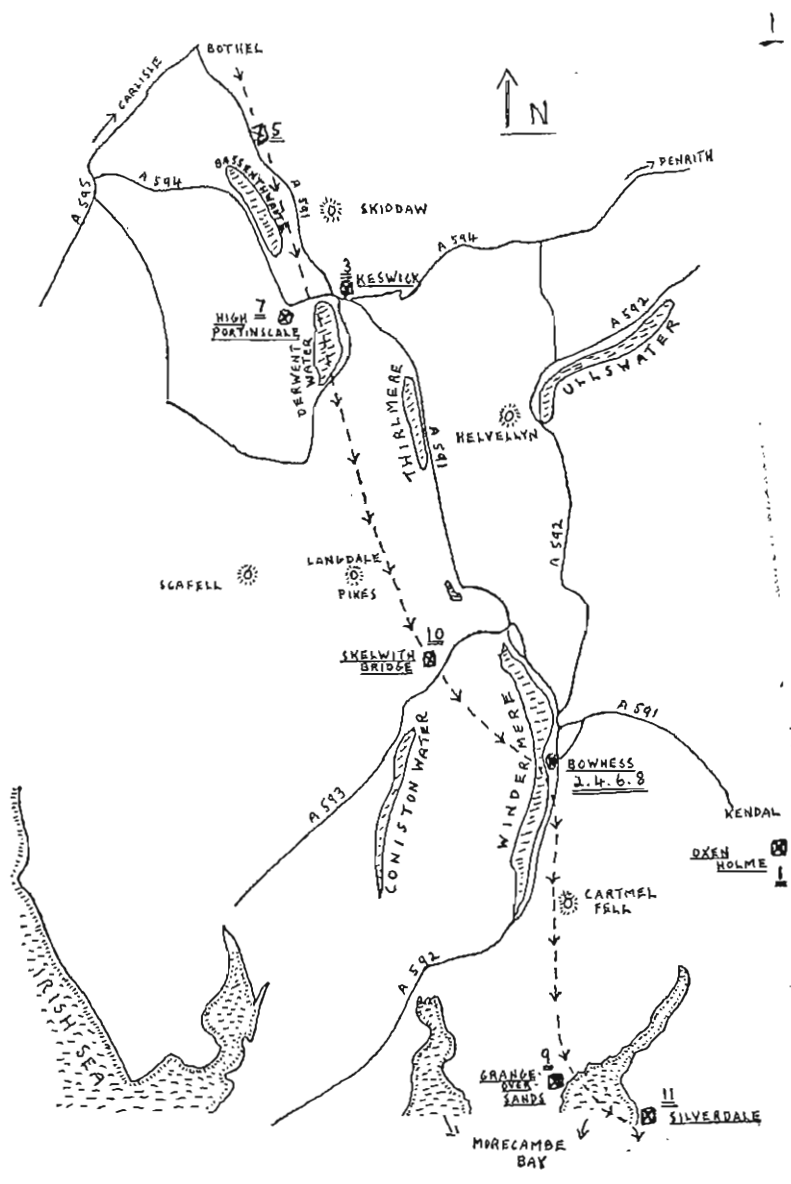
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A 'CLASSIC' FROM CUMBRIA

Presented by Norman Oliver

Not infrequently I am asked what I consider to be the most authentic and reliable UFO reports. Amongst them I would include the following, for, whilst a multi-witness report is a rare bird (perhaps 'fish' might be more appropriate in view of some of the descriptions here!), when amongst the witnesses are numbered ten or more police officers in different locations - well! Yet such was the case in the Windermere area of Cumbria just after midnight as Sunday, 28th. August 1977 commenced its allotted 24 hours. Presented here in observational order, the original account is to be found in the BUFORA JOURNAL Vol.7. No.3. Sept/Oct 1978. At the same time, BUFORA investigator R.Hall checked out all the details under the direction of then National Investigations Co-Ordinator Larry Dale. The account literally falls under the heading of Unidentified Flying Object - no suggestion was made at the time that it was an extra-terrestrial craft, though obviously this cannot be ruled out. But - WHAT WAS IT? Here are the details.

Note: the numbers on the map shown below correspond the numbers in the numbered list on page 3.



Cumbria. 28.8.77.

1. **11.47pm.** Peter Simpson, aged 12, together with his parents, observed two yellow/white lights travelling eastwards. However, viewing them from their Oxenholme, Kendal home, it was suspected these might be on an aircraft showing landing lights and, indeed, this report is twenty minutes earlier than any of the others.
2. **12.10am.** Police Constable Ian Mackenzie in Bowness noticed two very bright lights to the right of the Langdale Pikes. These slowly approached – so slowly that the witness dismissed the possibility of a plane – and became brighter: dimmer lights could also be seen at the front and rear, though as the object passed overhead the bright lights were no longer visible on the large noiseless 'shape' which, after gliding through the sky about 1,000 feet above him, moved slowly to the south-east and disappeared behind trees.
3. **12.10am.** Police Sergeant John McMullan, aged 39, describes how he was walking in Keswick when he saw two 'car headlights' in the sky just above the skyline to the north. He watched for between seven and ten minutes as, with three other policemen, he observed the 'object' travelling south slowly and silently, though when overhead it seemed to move off faster. He considered it had the shape of a hang-glider or diamond. The large white lights were on the 'wings' and a faint red/amber light could be seen in the centre. The lights were steady and were unlike navigation lights. The only sound to be heard was a quiet hum as the object moved away.
4. **12.20am.** Police Sergeant James Trohear and Police Officer John Fishwick were on duty at Fallbarrow Park Caravan Site on the shores of Lake Windermere in the company of other officers; four or five civilians were with them. The two lights – horizontal to one another – were seen approaching, and when overhead Sergeant Trohear could see a lesser light forward of the two lights and just behind the horizontal, giving the impression there was a triangular or slightly diamond-shaped object between them. Another constable at this spot described the outline as 'being that of a sting-ray fish'.
5. **12.22am** Police Officer Alexander Inglis, aged 36, was driving home to Carlisle from Keswick along the A591 Keswick to Bothel road with three other police officers when he noticed two extremely bright, white lights to the north-west over the hills. They all left the car when it was apparent that the object was travelling slowly (in comparison to an aircraft) towards them in the direction of Skiddaw. It was remarked that the lights were huge, and seemed part of the same object inasmuch as the distance between them did not alter. No-one could make out the shape of any fuselage, but when directly overhead a very faint 'purring' noise could be heard. Two fainter lights were visible at the front and rear. The object then disappeared into the direct light of the Moon.
6. **12.25am** PC Joseph Maw, aged 28, was on duty with another officer on the A592 at Miller Ground, Bowness. They too saw these extremely bright lights in the direction of Buttermere, side by side over the fells coming slowly towards them. Again, as they came overhead, two further lights were visible, all apparently on the same object whose shape could not be made out. A slight buzzing noise was heard. The 'shape' continued on its course and disappeared in the distance.
7. **12.25am** Mrs Mary Mortlock of High Portinscale, near Keswick, watched the object pass over her house after first seeing it approach from the direction of Bishop Rock in the north-west. She first saw the two lights side by side, then a third between the two front lights – amber in colour – become visible, and witness thought it seemed to be a small section lit up on the inside. She said it was

- impossible to make out the bulk of the object, because the starlight was so faint in the light of the Full Moon it was not possible to see whether the object was triangular with three brilliant lights at each corner, or whether the illuminated amber section had three antennae with brilliant lights at the end. There was no noise: the lights cast no beam and as the object disappeared towards Helvellyn only the amber light was visible.
8. 12.27am Police Constable David Wild, aged 25, on foot patrol on the A592 Rayrigg road at Bowness, saw the two lights apparently hovering over the hills about 1500 feet up. As he watched, they moved soundlessly towards him and a third light could be seen in the rear. Although unable to distinguish an exact shape, Constable Wild said he had the definite impression it was kite-shaped or 'like a skate fish'. The object must have been 'very large indeed and solid in construction'. No sound was heard and a check with Air Traffic Control revealed no aerial movement anywhere in the vicinity. Three other officers with him were also witnesses.
9. 12.30am John Platt, aged 63, of Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, together with his wife and relatives, saw the object just before retiring for the night and put out the lounge lights to get a clearer view. The object travelled slowly towards Cartmel Fell, then stopped completely and began to travel towards the house: they all went into the garden and could see first two, then four lights, the lights being so bright that the shape of the object was obscured. It 'floated' noiselessly across the sky not quite overhead, then moved off towards Grange in an easterly direction. The whole experience was 'uncanny and rather weird'.
10. 12.30am Constable Ronald Jones, aged 24, was with Police Sergeant Geoffrey Merckel when a report of an unusual object was received over the car radio. From their position near Skelwith Bridge on the A593 they watched a 'diamond, kite-shaped object' with four lights as it moved noiselessly out of sight towards Grange over the Morecambe Bay area.
11. 12.30am A husband and wife at Silverdale gave perhaps the most detailed description of the object. As the lights approached, witness fetched his binoculars and focussed them straight up into its underside 'I was looking into what appeared to be a giant ocean-going catamaran with a twin hull. A large transom at the front supported what appeared to be two giant lights (without beams)'. His wife described these lights as 'large bulkhead areas intensely illuminated'. The transom also joined together the twin hulls, which terminated in side-rear windows of light. There were two small dull orange glows on the underside. The moonlight did not reflect from the surfaces, which were a dull, shadowy, charcoal colour.

The description given by the last witnesses (who requested anonymity), though somewhat at variance with the others, should, I feel, be given full consideration as it appears to have been the only instance of binoculars being used, and, indeed, earlier in the same year a 'catamaran' type craft had been reported from the Hampshire area.

This occurrence surely bears comparison with even the more 'classic' sighting reports, for how many others have included accounts from more than ten trained observers in several different places – and certainly the account of the last witness reads reliably also. Pity the craft – whatever it was – did not put in a daylight appearance; had it done so at Windermere, one cannot but feel that, in the holiday season, dozens of photographs would have been taken.

Table of reports

Time	Heading	Chief Witness
2345 to 2347	W to E	P.Simpson
0001 to 0011	N to S	J.McMullan
0010 to 0020/25	NW to SE	I.D McKenzie
0015 to 0025	NW to SE	M.Mortlock
0020 to 0025	NW to SE	J.I Trohear
0020 to 0030	N to S	J Fishwick
0020 to 0030	N to S	B.Nicholson
0022 to 0027/32	NW to SE	A.L.Inglis
0025 to 0030	NW to SE	J.R.Maw
0027 to 0032	NW to SE	D.Wild
0027 to 0030/37	NE to SW	A Bowness PC
0030 to 0032	N to S	Silverdale witness
0030 to 0032	NE to SW	R. Jones
0032 to 0033	N to NE by N	J.Platt
0033/4 to 0033/44	NE to SW	G.A. Merckel

Overall apparent course of the object was North to South. It was first observed north of Bassenthwaite Lake, went over Derwentwater and Lake Windermere and was finally seen heading out to sea over Morecambe Bay.



RE-EXAMINATION OF THE LAGO DE COTE 1971 PHOTOGRAPH

John Watson. Typology of Advanced Unidentified Vehicles, July 2002

What appears to be a metallic, disc-shaped object can be seen on this aerial photograph, stated as being taken on the 4th. September 1971. The object seems to be emerging from the water near the coast of this inland lake.

A Ground Saucer Watch investigation of the Costa Rican Geographic Institute photograph concluded that the photo was genuine and of a real, unknown object. The photograph was also studied by Richard F. Haines and Jacques Vallee (3,4.). Our study of the case is still continuing, but preliminary conclusions are as follows:

Haines and Vallee concluded (3,4.) from internal photographic evidence that the object was over 200m in diameter. However, our studies of the maps and the photographs reproduced in Haines and Vallee indicate a maximum dimension for the object of 40m. Timothy Good has also independently estimated the object to be about 50m in diameter (2).

The grid squares on the map are assumed to be 1000m, as the overall dimensions of the lake are known to be some 1800m each way. The portion of the photograph showing the coastline as reproduced in Haines and Vallee is shown below superimposed on the outline of the whole lake (fig.1). The coastline does seem to be correctly aligned north from symbols drawn on the photograph, and we are satisfied that the area of coastline has been correctly identified. Thus the photograph can be given a scale and dimensions taken from it directly. The scale is consistent with the size of roads, buildings and trees visible in the photograph. The dimension of the disc could be less if it is some distance above the surface of the water.

Photographs were taken at 20 second intervals, and there was no object or water

disturbance visible in the subsequent photographs (1). This indicates a speed of between 65kph and 130kph (100-200mph) to clear a 50% overlap of the (slightly cropped) image reproduced in the best and worst cases, considerably less than Haines' and Vallee's estimate.

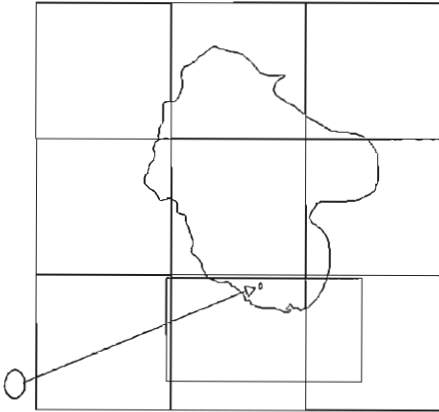


Fig. 1 Map of the Lago de Cote with the assumed area of the published photograph inset. Grid lines are 1000m.

The object could either be a cone shape with rim, of various heights, or possibly a rounded inverted bowl shape.

We attempted to model the object and reproduce the photograph. Its proportions indicate that it was inclined at an angle of about 40 degrees from the picture plane, and was a cone or bowl shape as shown below (Fig 2)

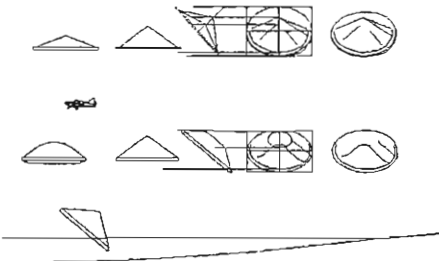


Fig. 2 Projections of the image into possible elevations

Three different computer programmes (Ecotect, AutoCAD 2002 and Encyclopedia Galactica) confirmed Haines' and Vallee's calculation of the sun angle at 08.35EDT on 4th September at 11 deg.N, 85 deg.W. Haines and Vallee give values of 16.7 degrees altitude and 85.4 azimuth.

A computer rendering of a simplified 3D computer model of this scenario can be seen below. As Haines and Vallee comment to similar effect in their 1989 paper, if the object is indeed a flattened cone inclined to the horizontal, then all or most of the top surface of the object should be in shadow. Also, Haines and Vallee are right to look for the shadow of the object on the water. Clearly the real sun position in the photograph is not as seen in this model. This can easily be seen from the shadows of the building and the trees, to which we have assigned common sense heights.

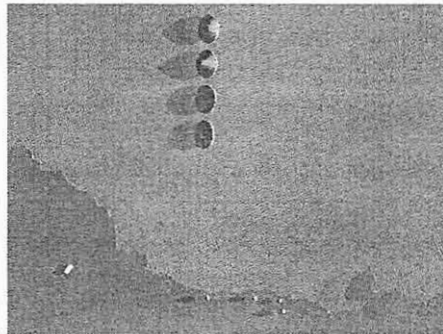


Fig. 3 Rendered model with sun position at the given date and time.

We then attempted to establish the sun angle from the photograph itself. Working from published reproductions and versions on the web, we measured the azimuth as approximately 70 degrees. This was judged from the shadow of the prominent tree on the coastline south of the object, allowing for the topography and the oblique angle of the photograph and comparing this with the shadow of the small white building to the west. The altitude was calculated in a similar way. The same prominent tree scales at about 10m in diameter and casting a shadow of about

18m long. The small building scales at about 7m x 14m, casting a shadow of about 4m. As a reasonable assumption, a tree of 10m diameter with a fairly long trunk as seen, could be 8m to 15m high. A rural building of 7m x 14m could be 4m to 6m high. This gives altitudes of between 25 and 55 degrees, centering on a value of about 45 degrees.

This apparent significant discrepancy between the observed sun angle in the photograph and that predicted by calculation remains to be explained. The observed sun angle (roughly azimuth 70 degrees, altitude 43 degrees) would be seen in that region in mid-morning from the beginning of June to mid-July, according to our computer based predictions (AutoCAD 2002).

A computer rendering of the scene can be seen below, using the sun angle at 10.37 EDT on the 4th. July in the region (azimuth 68.8 degrees, altitude 43.7 degrees, Fig.4).

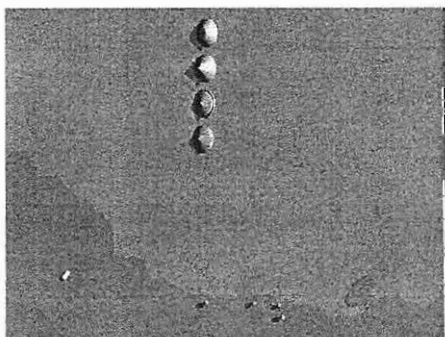


Fig. 4 Rendering using a sun position derived from the photograph.

Whilst the rendering in Fig.4 is not a faithful reproduction of the photograph, the shadows of the trees and the building are a good deal closer to that seen in the photograph than those seen in Fig.3. In addition, the whole scene is illuminated more brightly, as in the actual photograph. The photograph is taken from an oblique angle, whilst the model is seen from directly above. Were this reflected in the rendering (as it could be in the future) we would expect to see less of the shadow of the building to the west, and more of the tree

trunks and their shadows, as is indeed seen in the photograph.

However, the appearance of the object itself is nowhere near accurate. The material is set to be a dull silver finish. Given the sun position in the photograph, it is difficult to understand why the west side of the object is not in shadow. We had expected to see some reflectivity from the water surface illuminate the west side of the object, or some other unexpected reflection, but have not been able to achieve this with the computer model as yet.

Experiments with a real model suggest that a highly reflective water surface could reproduce the effect seen, of light where one would expect to see shade. However, the reflectivity and back scatter would have to be of a very high order, whilst the sun angle is relatively oblique and the water surface should have a low scatter effect. Moreover, there is nothing in the photograph to suggest this. Possibly, the sky is in fact relatively dark, and the dark sector on the object and the dark sea is reflecting a dark sky behind the camera. However, we believe that the complete lack of similarity between the predicted and observed lighting on the object calls its reality into question.

A lighting condition which more closely reproduces the effect seen on the object in the photograph occurs when the sun is at azimuth minus 80 degrees and altitude 20 degrees. However, this is obviously at variance with the observed sun angle.

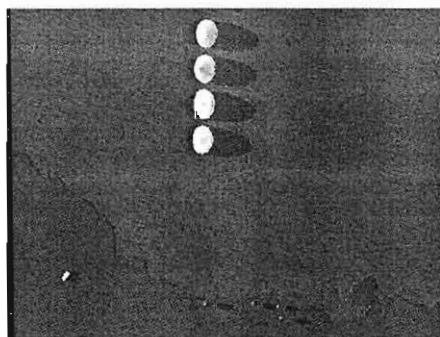


Fig. 5 Lighting correct for the object

Discussion

This photograph is highly suggestive of a flying saucer exiting the water at an angle. The dark part to the west has the faint image of a submerged side. However, there remain for us a number of unresolved puzzles relating to the time and date of this photograph, and what appear to be internal inconsistencies in the lighting effects. We have therefore been unable as yet to confirm the authenticity of this photograph.

References

- (1) Personal communication with Ted Roe, NARCAP, 2002
- (2) Timothy Good, *Unearthly Disclosures*, London 2001
- (3) Haines R.F. and J.F.Vallee, *Photo analysis of an Aerial Disc Over Costa Rica*, Journal of Scientific Exploration, Vol.3 No.2 pp 113-131, 1989.
- (4) Haines R.F. and J.F.Vallee, *Photo Analysis of an Aerial disc Over Costa Rica*, Journal of Scientific Exploration, Vol.4 No.1 pp71-74, 1990.



A WELSH UFO MISCELLANY - Part Two

I am devoting a fair proportion of Journal pages in this issue to Wales since, not only is the South Wales 'flap' of 1977 included here but the '70s saw quite a number of other extremely interesting reports also ... Norman Oliver.

In our last issue we finished with the October 1970 TV mast sightings at Berthengam - so, let us proceed from 1971 . . .

1971. 16 August. Llwyngril, Merioneth

A sighting by a family of four on holiday. Shortly after sunset they noticed a bright yellow-orange cigar shape with a spot at one

end - this 'spot' being only visible through binoculars. The object moved very slowly across the sky, taking some twenty seconds to disappear. A further twenty seconds later a similar object appeared some 10 degrees west of the first, fading out half a minute later. Visibility was extremely good, and estimating the distance by that of the Llyn promontory opposite, the objects could have been up to 20 miles away, at which distance they would have been over half-a-mile long!

1971. 8 September. Llanfairfechan, Conwy, N. Wales

Witness and his fiancée noticed an oval white object in the sky some 35 degrees above the horizon to the north - seemingly obscured by haze like a bright bulb seen through frosted glass. Its apparent diameter was that of the full moon. After watching for ten minutes they made a phone call, after which the object was still visible but nearer the horizon and somewhat flattened. Time was around 9.30pm.

1971. 26 October Twm Barlwm Mountains. S.Wales

Two witnesses from Newport, Mrs. A.B. and Mrs M.J. were driving along when they saw a cone-shaped object moving slowly, blunt end first towards the mountains, behind which it went out of sight. It was red in colour.

1973. Denbigh Moors

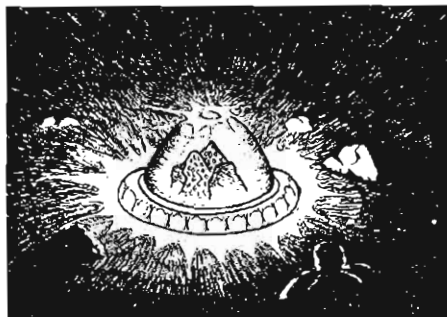
A 'tongue-in-cheek' warning concerning fluoridated water was given in a letter to the North Wales Chronicle by Dr. Jan Abas of Llandegfan, Anglesey. According to his letter, whilst hiking on the Denbigh Moors in 1973 he had encountered a 'technologically advanced and peace-loving alien, a glossy-haired female of stunning proportions'. This 'peace-loving lady' then produced a 'shiny pencil' which paralysed him for three minutes. On coming round he wrote, 'Lying next to me were a pot of transistorised honey and two digitised incense sticks' The alien had gone.

Dr Abas's conclusion was that he was almost 100% certain the encounter had been an hallucination caused by moving to Anglesey

from an area with an unfluoridated water supply!!

(Can anyone tell me exactly what a pot of transistorised honey and digitised incense sticks look like?! - Ed.)

1975. 22 July. Macynlleth. Powys



Investigated at the time by researchers Andy Collins and Barry King, this is possibly one of the most intriguing accounts to have come out of Wales – or indeed anywhere else! A schoolboy – Trevor – aged 14, was strolling ahead of his father in the countryside near Machynlleth around 5pm. in the area of Dovey Vale when, below the brow of a hill some fifty feet away, he saw a landed object an estimated forty feet in diameter and some seven to eight feet high. He leapt behind one of the many boulders in the area and watched. The object had a transparent dome and a large circular base ('like a paddling pool'). There were circular lights positioned around the base, each intensely bright and not of a colour recognisable to the boy. Between each light were what appeared to be deep grooves or curves set into a silvery base rounded at the edges. At the apex of the dome was another large light, about five feet across, and, again, Trevor could not describe the colour. The dome had a lesser diameter than the base by about 8 or 9 feet and appeared to be 'slotted' into it. In the centre of the base inside the dome was a 'big metal unit' of irregular shape, roughly 15 feet long and 7 feet tall at its highest point: it looked silver in colour. No 'controls' could be seen.

Also inside the dome were two forms or entities like pieces of jelly – large, irregularly-shaped 'lumps' of a jelly-like substance. These were a white, translucent colour, and inside them were hundreds of white discs (like doughnuts) each about 6 inches across. These forms were estimated to be up to 7 feet across with a similar height, but they were constantly changing shape, though from the movement of the discs, their centres remained inactive. One form was in front of the metal unit, the other half-obscured behind.

Trevor watched for nearly half a minute, still crouched behind the boulder, then he noticed a panel or section begin to open up on the right of the base. This pivoted slowly down towards the ground and after a few seconds the entity in full view 'floated' towards the section, gradually lowering itself down a 'hatchway' and out of the opening. Trevor now ran back over the ridge calling to his father, then, for no apparent reason, ran back up again. The entity was now back inside and a noise 'like a car revving up but quieter' came from the craft.

At this point, discs of light on the side and on the apex flashed in a 'chameleon-like' manner and began to blend in with the colours of the surrounding countryside. The flashing accelerated faster and faster, becoming larger and larger until the entire craft blended in with the background and became invisible. Trevor again ran back.

Trevor's father said that when his son had rushed back the first time he had said, 'You won't believe me – come on.' Then he had run back up, crouched down for a short time, then again ran back to his father 'really petrified' and shouted, 'a jelly man got out of it'. The only thing his father noticed on going to the spot was a strange noise being produced as the wind passed through the grass.

Subsequently, Trevor experienced very considerable psychosomatic after-effects. These commenced the following day when his speech was impaired. Three weeks later he became blind in his left eye, the blindness changing to the right, then becoming almost total before easing. His personality also changed and up to mid- 1978 was still being

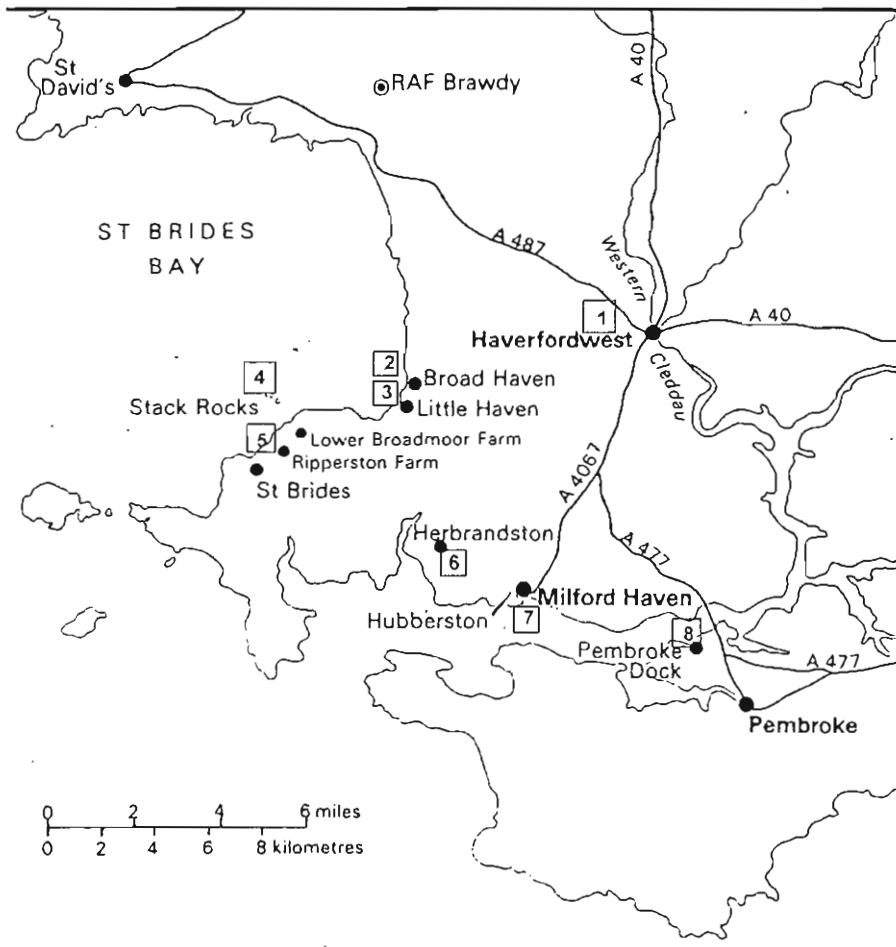
seen by a psychiatrist. The boy and his parents were interviewed in March 1978, a second investigator and a trained psychologist/hypnotist also being present.

1977. 3 February. Clarbeston Road.

A number of villagers reported a bright, silvery object with a projecting arm moving across the sky at around 7.30pm.

Account copyright - A.B.Collins

1976/1977. THE DYFED 'FLAP'



October 1976 Talgarreg

A comparatively minor incident – though maybe one which heralded the approaching 'flap'. Two men were out shooting foxes when, between 7.30pm and 8pm, they saw what appeared to be a 'very slow moving star' which, after a while, disappeared, only to reappear again. It then disappeared for good, but another 'moving star' was seen to the right of the first one. This turned three or four times at a 45 degree angle, then disappeared.

1976. 9 December. Rosepool

(Near (3) on map)

Mrs Dorothy Cale was travelling from Broad Haven to Milford Haven with her 10-year-old son – they were in a friend's car. It was a cold, dry night with no moon. As they drove along the road between Walton West and Rosepool – a long, lonely road – there appeared, very suddenly, a very bright, flashing light above the left-hand hedge. This was vaguely dome-shaped and as it flashed there seemed to be a zig-zag nucleus rather like an electric bulb filament. It gave a yellowish light, so bright that it lit up the whole of the surrounding area and the sky above it. The driver stopped, thinking they were going to run into something, but after it had flashed four times, it disappeared. During the short time it was observed, the witnesses had the impression it was the top of something obscured by the hedge, which at this point was quite high. The size of the flashing object was estimated at about 5 or 6 feet across and 3 feet high – and the distance above ground level at around 15 to 20 feet.

1977. 3 February. Rhos-y-Bol, Anglesey

Whilst not in the Dyfed area, I have included this account here in view of the reports from the children at Broad Haven on the following day.

Nine girls, aged 9 to 11 and a teacher were playing netball at Rhos-y-Bol County Primary School. It was 3.20pm. As the ball was thrown up, all saw an object with a silvery cigar-shaped base and dome on top travelling smoothly northwards. It went behind the only cloud to be seen, re-appeared again, then

disappeared. The teacher took the children inside and they each drew the object without conferring.

1977. 3 February. Herbrandston

(See (6) on map)

At Herbrandston School many children watched a cigar-shaped object fly over the school buildings at playtime.

1977. 4 February. Broad Haven

(See (3) on map)

Here, we come to the report that sparked off interest in the press and media generally. This was the sighting at Broad Haven school. Up to fourteen children at Broad Haven County Primary School stated that between 1pm and 3.45pm, that Friday, they had seen a silvery metallic object on the ground within a quarter-of-a-mile of the school, several also claiming a silver-suited figure was nearby.

Some described the object as a cigar-shape, partly behind bushes, but it was also said that the object first seemed to be 'stuck', then tried to take off before going behind the bushes.

One of the more detailed descriptions was by nine-year-old Jeremy Passmore, who described it as silvery-green with a yellow/orange to red light. It had a disc at the bottom and a sort of dome on top of this with the light on top. He said he saw a person in a silverish-green suit about 350 yards away. The sighting lasted up to 20 minutes, then the craft moved and vanished. A number of the children were asked to make drawings by the headmaster – again this was done without the children conferring.

It might well be wondered why none of the pupils went near the object. The answer is simple – their playground was fenced in and there is a stream running round the fence between them and the field where the object was sighted.

1977. 9 February. Pembroke Dock

(See (8) on map)

A young man heard a buzzing and on looking round, saw a 'plate or saucer-shaped UFO' in the sky. It had yellow-green lights on its side and a silver body. On top was a 'grey, round thing like an egg-yolk'

1977 10 February. Haverfordwest.

(See (1) on map)

Two boys were skateboarding on the playing field at Haverfordwest Grammar School and saw a blue light 'like a workman's lamp on a stand' near the ground. One threw a stone at it and the object rose about twenty feet, appearing as an orange-coloured cigar shape before disappearing.

1977. 17 February. Broad Haven.

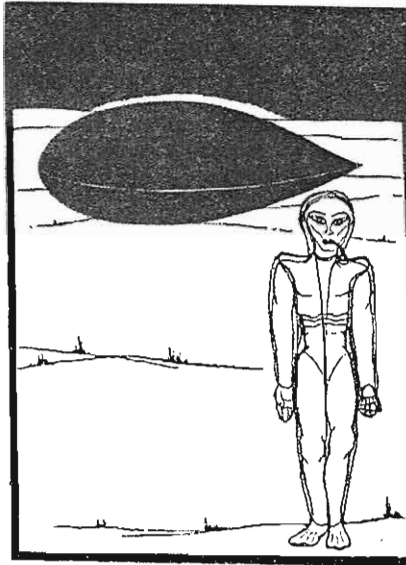
(See (2) on map)

A teacher at Broad Haven School was leaving at 10.30am. when she saw a large, shiny, oval object in the sky. Metallic, with a small dome, its body had a number of ridges.

1977. 11 March Llansteffan

It was just after 1am and John Petts was about to retire. He switched off the living-room light, drew back the curtains and looked out south-eastwards across the estuary. Above the distant hills he saw a horizontal strip of light in the sky, a luminous pale gold, rather like the light of the Moon, which at first he thought it was. But, staring intently, he saw that the outlined shape was clear and sharp, far from woolly-edged as it would be if behind a cloud - he had thought at first the Moon had appeared in a small gap between clouds.

He then observed a clear-cut shape, evenly lit as though from within, pale gold, and the 'shape of a weaver's shuttle'. It stayed poised, without movement or sound, then suddenly 'switched off' like a light going out.



1977. 13 March. Solva.

Stephen Taylor was walking home towards Solva from a visit to his girlfriend. The time was 9pm and he looked up to see a well-defined pear-shaped object in the sky. This was glowing and had an orange ring around it. There was scattered cloud about but some stars were visible. He went into a friend's house to tell of his sighting but was not believed. About half-a-mile further on he became aware that something was blocking out lights he could usually see on the horizon: he felt afraid but didn't know why. He then realised the lights were blocked out by a black shape grounded in a nearby field. This shape appeared quite large, some 20 by 30-40 feet and there was a dim glow about what seemed to be the underside: Stephen continued watching the object and lit a cigarette. As he did so he heard a noise like someone walking on leaves and saw a figure about 6 feet tall wearing a transparent suit. He noticed it had very high cheekbones, was hairless and had 'unnatural' eyes. Where one would have expected a mouth there was a small rectangular box with a 'pipe' extending from it and going over the left shoulder. Afraid, he

struck out at the figure and ran. His sighting at 9pm. had lasted about five seconds: his encounter with the landed craft and humanoid occurred about 9.30pm. and lasted for a few minutes.

1977. 26 March. Broad Haven.

(See (2) on map)

This was a Saturday morning and about 7.50am. Mrs. Josephine Hewinson, having been awake for some twenty minutes, sat up in bed. It was a bright, sunny morning and, looking through the bedroom window, she realised that the greenhouse in an adjacent field could not be seen. A large object was parked on the ground in front of it. This was silver and 'like a jelly mould'. It had no windows or lights, nor was there any sign of life around it.

There were three distinct layers to the object, which was smooth and metallic looking. Size was estimated at about the size of the greenhouse plus fifteen feet, which would give a total width of at least 35 feet. It towered above the greenhouse like a double-decker bus.

Mrs. Hewinson decided to go closer to the window, and in so doing lost sight of the object for a few seconds. In that time it disappeared and the greenhouse and trays inside could again be seen. The object left no mark, not even a broken twig. An interesting point was that a pony which habitually stands close to the gate of the field was huddling close to the hedge some five hundred yards away.

1977. 27 March. Near Ripperston Farm.

(See (5) on map)

As is mentioned later, the Coombs family of Ripperston Farm near Little Haven featured prominently as witnesses to a number of 'flap' events alleged to have taken place. This was, I believe, the first. Pauline Coombs was returning home to the farm with her children when her eldest son saw a bright light 'falling out of the sky'. She accelerated to avoid a collision, then found that the oval, yellow light, about the size of a football, was following the car just above the hedgetops by the side of the road. A hazy beam of light was shining down from it. As she neared the farm her car

lights and the engine both lost power and began to fade. As the car stopped, she and the children got out and raced to the farmhouse. The light then flew off and disappeared

1977. 14 April. Broad Haven.

(See (2) on map)

Deborah Swan, aged 13, was with her brother and five friends. It was about six-thirty in the evening and, having been in the park for a while, they'd decided to explore – they thought they'd try to find 'This Outer Space Thing'. Having gone a little way from the park, two of their friends decided to go home as the atmosphere 'began to get weary'. The others continued on under a couple of barbed wire fences, across a potato field and down a bank. From there, to quote Deborah, 'There was something in the field opposite out of the ordinary. I have never seen anything like it in my life before – I thought it was my eyes playing a trick, but it wasn't.'

The most astonishing thing about it was its colour, which was a brilliant, gleaming silver. The shape was like a round football and also the movements. It moved at all angles – backwards, frontwards, left to right.....as we moved, it moved as well. If we moved to the left, so did this thing: if we moved to the right it did the same. We then ran back as fast as we could....we didn't hesitate to look back, but just kept running with fright.

1977. April. Milford Haven.

(See (7) on map)

At a quarter to five in the morning a 64-year-old man was making an early start to the day. At 6 o'clock he was going to drive a group of senior citizens to London. Suddenly, he saw an area of light pulsating on his bedroom wall and, looking out of the window he could see a large area of orange light enclosing two silvery coloured objects.

The first he described as being 'like a very large Easter Egg'. Estimated at about four feet in diameter, it was moving back and forth a little above and behind the chimneys of the house opposite some 50 or 60 feet away. Its movement was horizontal, rather like that of a pendulum. No sound could be heard. Witness

then realised there was another object to be seen, this one being about 40 feet above his bedroom window. The 'object' appeared to be a man in a sort of boiler suit, possibly seven feet tall, stationary and on a level with the 'egg', in the position of a free-falling parachute jumper – motionless in the sky with arms and legs outstretched. The head was 'normal' in shape but witness could not see the face. This 'motionless humanoid object' remained in its hovering position for around 25 minutes, during which time the 'Egg' was continually pursuing its pendulum-like motion.

At the end of this period, the 'Egg' moved up above rooftop level and glided away sideways – as did the 'Man', and both gradually disappeared from view.

1977. 7 April. Milford Haven.

(See (7) on map)

Although the descriptions have considerable differences, one cannot help wondering whether, in view of the coincidence in date, time and place, this and the previous incident were two witnesses very different perceptions of the same occurrence. The house from where the incident was reported is only a couple of streets away from the 'Easter Egg' account and was on the same day in the early morning. The 17-year-old witness took little notice of the time as she had got up, feeling unwell, to go to the bathroom 'in the early hours'. On her return from the bathroom, through her bedroom window she saw what she described as a 'spaceship' hovering above the street. In front of it, she said, was a small humanoid figure with long hair and a large curved nose. This figure was dressed in a one-piece silvery suit and finally landed on the outer window sill. The figure, however, was apparently only around 3 feet tall.

On the 'spaceship' outside was to be seen a window through which she observed two faces similar to that of the figure on the sill. After some minutes this 'space dwarf' returned to the object, entered it from underneath and the UFO then shot away over the rooftops.

1977. 19 April. Little Haven.

(See (3) on map)

Mrs. Rosa Grenville was then the proprietress of the Haven Fort Hotel in Little Haven. She was in bed when she realised there was a humming sound like the central heating can make – but the central heating wasn't on. She got up to check and, on going back to her bedroom she looked out of the window and found the area at the back of the hotel was lit up.

In a corner of the field outside there was a pulsating, bluish light. She found a pair of binoculars and through them she saw an oval object with two human-like figures moving nearby. These figures were tall, with long arms and legs and were dressed in what seemed like white boiler suits. Their heads were 'pointed' and seemed to have no features. She called to her husband, who didn't hear, so she had to go and wake him. When he came back with her both object and figures had gone.

1977. 22 April. Ripperston Farm.

(See (5) on map)

This month saw one of the numerous experiences claimed by the Coombs family of Ripperston Farm. Much reported at the time, this being a '7-foot tall silver-suited figure' that watched television through one of their farmhouse windows. The window was high above the ground, hence the figure (unless standing on a box!) must have been extremely tall. It had a 'black visor thing' where the face should have been.

Mrs Coombs had noticed it for some time before telling her husband since she thought he wouldn't believe it. However, at last he saw the figure as well, and phoned the police, but on action being taken it disappeared. She and her husband had previously been chased by a 'bolide' that apparently destroyed the car's electrical system.

1977. May. Ripperston Farm Area.

(See (5) on map)

Mrs Coomb's twin daughters were playing in fields near the sea when they saw a 'funny man with a square face' in a silver suit. The figure walked off, disappearing into another field. They then said they saw an object 'shaped like a plate' come out of the sky and hover just above the ground in front of them. Doors opened and some 'stairs' came out. A dark red box was ejected from the object which then flew out to sea, apparently actually entering the sea between the shore and Stack Rocks a quarter of a mile or so from the shoreline. The girls said the box then disappeared in front of their eyes. They then went home and fetched their mother and grandmother who searched the area, found no box, but did come across some very large footprints.

1977. 30 October. Stack Rocks.

(See (4) on map)

Once again the Coombs family were involved. Around 3pm. Mrs Pauline Coombs and her mother, Mrs Gryez, together with the four children were returning to the farm by car. The day was warm and sunny. Suddenly Mrs Gryez exclaimed, 'What on earth is that?' and pointed upwards. Mrs Coombs stopped the car and everyone got out to watch a round, flat disc, whitish in colour move seawards across the sky. It was difficult to estimate the height of the object, but it was probably around 200 feet travelling 'at the speed of a motor boat going across the bay' - probably around 20mph.

The family then watched the disc lower itself to the height of Stack Rocks, then without altering speed, literally 'crash' into the face of the rocky islet, completely disappearing into it. There was no noise or crash and it literally just disappeared into the rock. They then decided to investigate closer and crossed two smaller fields down to the water's edge. Standing on a headland sloping down to the sea they had a perfect view of the side of Stack Rocks facing the mainland, from which they were separated by only about 400 yards.

Mrs Coombs and her mother approached the sea as near as they could and then saw 'two men moving about on the rock'. At first they

thought these were skin divers, but their heads appeared very elongated and far larger than a human head. Indeed, Mrs. Coombs described the heads as being almost rectangular in shape with the corners rounded off - the figures seemed to be humanoid but not human.

The two watched for about 15 minutes as these figures moved about on the uneven surface of Stack Rocks. These rocks rise abruptly from the sea to a height of 60 to 80 feet, the sides being pitted and uneven making footholds difficult.

As they all watched, they saw a 'door' opening and closing on the Broad Haven side of the rocks. There seemed to be a 'shimmering haze around the doors'. These seemed much like an ordinary household door, but their sideways movements reminded the witnesses of a serving hatch. The space behind them was 'quite black'

As the doors opened and closed rhythmically, the family saw a silver clad figure walking up and down as if surmounting a series of stairs, then descending again. No steps were visible, but the actions were such that the head would appear, then the shoulders and chest - to about waist high. Then the motion would cease and without changing position the figure would again descend.

The figure to the left of the Stacks 'walked about with a normal gait as though walking on a flat surface'. From Mrs. Coombs' description this humanoid seems literally to have 'walked upon the water', or at least, at water level - and it also seems to have given the impression of blending in with the rock face itself. This figure eventually disappeared by climbing behind the left side of the rocks - the seawards side. Ultimately, the doors and the energetic humanoid abruptly disappeared.

When the family returned, they had barely got inside when the phone rang and a neighbour living in Broad Haven directly opposite Stack Rocks, phoned to ask whether anyone had seen figures on the Rocks.

1977. July. Haverfordwest.

(See (1) on map)

On this occasion, Mr Randall Jones Pugh, BUFORA RIC for the area, who personally investigated all the more unusual reports in the region had an unusual experience himself.

At about 10.30 one evening, prior to retiring, he pulled aside the the curtain of his bedroom window – which overlooks St Brides Bay and saw a fairly thick sea mist was coming in.

Across the main road, some 30 feet wide, lies the Pembrokeshire National Park and it was in a field directly opposite his window that he saw a crescent-shaped object with a pipe-like stem sticking upwards for a distance of some 3 feet. In spite of the near-dark conditions, he could see the outline of what looked like the upper half of a 'dome' – the right hand side being obscured by sea mist. However, as soon as he'd pulled aside the curtain and allowed the bedroom light to show, the object took off vertically at a very fast rate. The 'tube', which appeared to be of glass or plastic, flashed a very bright red light three times – so bright that he could see the 'filaments' in the tube quite distinctly. The 'thing' took off very rapidly, but he was able to count these three distinct flashes at, perhaps, one-second intervals, the intense pulsating red light showing up the 'filaments' vividly.

A number of other incidents were alleged, both by the Coombs family and others, including claims of teleportations, not of people, but of cattle. On one day alone, this was said to have happened on five distinct occasions. On one of these, Billy Coombs and his son were showing a friend and his wife round Ripperston Farm. In one pen were 16 fully grown cattle. Right opposite were twenty calves. Momentarily they all turned round to watch the calves for four or five seconds, but when they turned back the cattle had disappeared, subsequently being found hungry and thirsty three-quarters-of-a-mile away. Locks and gates were fully inspected and stated to have been in order.

Investigator Randall Jones Pugh himself, though not originally ascribing the events of the South Wales Flap to any particular origin, DID believe they took place, but latterly, after one or two strange personal experiences he did not wish to elaborate upon, considered there WAS a malevolent aspect to them and finally withdrew from investigating, also destroying many, if not all of his records.

So – what was the 'Flap' all about? Apart from believing with Pugh that numerous people had numerous experiences, all that can really be said is that it happened!!

1977. 21 October. Bodorgan.

For a final Welsh report from the '70s let me move up to Anglesey, for, almost to the day the 'Stack Rocks' incident occurred, I received a letter from Police Constable John Owen of Bodorgan in Anglesey. These were the contents:

"The date was October 21st. 1977 and my wife was awaiting my arrival home, and before retiring she drew back the curtains in the back kitchen – the window looks out onto the sandy Aberffraw common – and she saw a long, thin, red-coloured flame in the sky which appeared to vibrate . . .

"At first", he continued, " My wife thought it was an aircraft on fire, but within seconds the 'flame' had formed a circle making a domed figure...there was no mistaking the shape and portholes could be seen quite plainly.....

"It was at this point", he went on, "that I arrived home and my wife rushed into the kitchen and there was no mistaking the fact that there was this object in the sky. I can only describe its colour as that of the setting sun. As regards size, I should say it was about double that of the sun as we see it.

"After seeing the object I went out into the garden and called upon my wife to go for my binoculars. At this point, unfortunately, the object seemed to move rapidly backwards and disappeared. I then phoned the RAF station at Valley and established there were no aircraft in the area. I spoke to the Air Traffic Controller and informed him of our sighting. I also telephoned my HQ at Colwyn Bay and my Divisional Office at Llangefni.

"I am enclosing a sketch of the object. This is quite accurate, as my wife had outlined it in lipstick on the kitchen window during the period she was looking out - she having her handbag with her as she opened the curtains.."

In reply to a letter from me, Constable Owens stated that his wife had seen the object for some 7 minutes: he for about 90 seconds. He and his wife had watched it both through glass and in the open and were convinced it was an aeroform of completely unknown type.

I still have a copy of the original drawing made out in lipstick on the window - though now somewhat faded. I can think of no other occasion where anyone had the presence of mind - or was in a position - to draw a UFO in this manner.

The foregoing is by no means a complete list of UFO reports from Wales in the '70s - nor is it intended to be. There were certainly many others, some extremely unusual - maybe I can include some of these and also bring us up to date in Part 3.

Norman Oliver

Phenomenal Afternoons in London

Meetings will be held at The Sols Arms, 65-68 Hampstead Road, London NW1 2PN, and will last from 3.00pm until 6.30pm. Nearest tube station is Warren Street on the Northern line.

Entrance: Public £6.00, SPI and BUFORA members £5.00. Light refreshments included.

Tickets available from our Box Office:

Evolution
PO Box 633
Beaconsfield
Bucks HP9 2GL

Advance tickets call 07949 178835. All cheques payable to Strange Phenomena Investigations.

Tickets also on sale on the door.

Saturday December 7th

Brian Allen
Reading the Mind of God - the possibility of parallel Universes

SIGHTINGS FROM SRI LANKA

A number of countries worldwide are having 'flaps' at the moment - not only directly concerning UFOs. Cattle mutilations and visions of the BVM are also prominent as will be seen from items elsewhere in this issue. However, the Sri Lankan reports are particularly interesting as it is rare to receive reliable accounts -- or, indeed, any accounts at all from this region. The Sri Lankans, incidentally, practise the 'Theravada' form of Buddhism and by a coincidence, on the same day that I received details of the reports I was also forwarded items from Lucius Farish that appeared in the *Bangkok Post* concerning a 'breakaway' group of Buddhist monks in Thailand - in which country Theravada Buddhism is also institutional - who had just completed a large new temple built in the form

of a spaceship – presumably to emphasize some of their 'breakaway beliefs'.

But, back to Sri Lanka. The first account came via the *Ananova News Service* on June 21st. and concerned a UFO that had been seen hovering over a sacred cliff. This took the form of a 'mysterious blue ball' witnessed by a large number of people in the Dimbulagala area in north central Sri Lanka hovering for long periods above the cliff. Dimbulagala, apparently, houses historical ruins dating back to the first century AD and speculation was rife in the area as to whether aliens might be studying the technology used to construct ancient buildings, one of the witnesses, Sanjaya Bandara, suggesting that 'They might have travelled to our ancient sites to find a key to the mysteries of the Universe'.

The UFO has been videoed by Gamini Obeysekera, who works for the government channel Rupavahini, who said, 'It took three days for me to get this strange blue light on video tape. It seemed to be heading towards the sacred areas.' A team of astrophysicists from Colombo University is reported to be investigating the sightings.

A later report from *Ananova* dated July 4th. states that one of the astrophysicists – Professor Chandana Jayaratne – says that the sightings 'have been confirmed by a group of keen observers' and it is also stated by a member of the observing party that more than 100 villagers have seen the UFO. It would seem that it was an object capable of emitting an intense 'V'-shaped beam of light: also, that during its high-speed travel between locations it made a buzzing noise similar to that of a bee. It would also change direction rapidly to avoid colliding with trees and was observed on three consecutive days.

Another account, this time from the Sri Lankan *Sunday Times* of June 16th. came from the Kotmale power station's chief engineer. Bandula Perera who had seen a strange flying object above his hilltop home in Kandy on June 11th. It seems he had also spotted a similar object some eight months prior to this. The object was apparently shaped like a pyramid on top and was round at the bottom.

"It was two to three metres in diameter and a bright blue light spread around it'. A yellow glow emanated from the interior 'as well as a red light surrounding it'

Altogether the object had been in view by the witness for around four minutes and had been moving sideways 'at a normal speed'. Mr. Perera said that on the occasion of his first sighting the object had been travelling south to north, but on the second in the opposite direction. His own opinion was that it could be a spy plane – or something else!

'Experts' are said to be visiting Kandy, Polonnaruwa and Gampaha and other areas from where sightings have been reported to interview eye-witnesses before coming to any conclusions. These experts were said by the *Sunday Times* to 'represent an organisation known as the UFO Research Association working in co-operation with the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA).'

A reference is also made to the sightings in Polonnaruwa by *The Sunday Observer (Sri Lanka)* of 30th. June, where it is reported that 'Not too long ago, a Sri Lankan writer suggested that the main *dagobas* in Anuradhapura had been built arranged in a specific pattern as a signal for extra-terrestrial beings. The Pyramids at Giza, he explained, were built in a similar pattern, observable from the sky. Is it possible that these UFOs are space-alien looking for the *dagoba* pattern but in the wrong ancient city?'

On being consulted, Sir Arthur Clarke, for many years a notable and respected Sri Lankan resident, went through most of the 'usual' meteorological and astronomical explanations for UFOs adding, '...the whole world would know in five minutes of any spacecraft that comes our way, as the system detects the entry and movement of any object larger than a pebble, adding that 'Hollywood must take a good part of the blame for this mass hysteria'.

Method thinks he may have missed out on a couple of points here. Firstly, even allowing his first observation to be correct – and it has its flaws

– why should any of the powers-that-be decide that we should be made party to the presence of space – or any other form of non-terrestrial craft? Secondly, I rather fancy that Sri Lanka has more 'Bollywood' watchers than Hollywood, and whilst a fair proportion of films from the sub-continent may well have a mystical side, I doubt they produce many concerning UFOs and Spacecraft!

A further report from Dawn.com, Pakistan, again forwarded to me by Steve Gamble and headed 'Lankans claim seeing UFO' written 'By Our Correspondent' reads as follows:-

Colombo, June 15: "Sri Lanka's ancient kingdom of Polonnaruwa has apparently caught the eye of alien beings.

"Villagers in the region last week claimed sighting a beam emanating from the sky. They also claimed that they had seen 'short men' near the premises of the ancient temples and kingdoms of the Sinhala kings."

"A local UFO expert, Sanjay Bandara, rushed to Polonnaruwa after hearing the stories, told newsmen that the outer space beings had come to study the ancient ruins of the region."

At the time of writing this, all the reports – particularly the latter – seem to be somewhat short on detail. Hopefully this will be remedied before long. One might just make the observation that if the men/entities/aliens/whoever observed in Polonnaruwa were described as 'short' by the Sri Lankans then they must have been unusually so since the Sri Lankans themselves are by no means noted for their stature.

Just as a thought, perhaps we should be 'politically correct' and describe Greys and other short presumed alien entities as 'vertically challenged'!! Wonder how it would come out in translation?!!

Norman Oliver



WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ?

Back in 1984 I received a letter from a lady living in North London. A schoolteacher, she and her son, aged 12, had been holidaying in the Peak District, spending a few days in the village of Millers Dale, near Blackwell in Derbyshire. To quote from her letter:

"...on Sunday evening the 6th. May at around 9pm. I had a very strange experience. I am unable to explain what I saw in rational terms which is why I am writing to you.

"With my son I was walking alongside the river at Millers Dale when a movement caught my eye. I heard a rustle in the vegetation and saw an object lift off the ground to a height of about three or four feet. It made a whirring sound and then moved off at terrific speed into the sky. It moved into the sky from the hovering position to what I can best describe as a 10o/c position. It had an oblong shape, silver or yellowish, and had what looked like little legs at each corner. It was about five feet long and three feet wide – I think it might have been hollow.

"Whether it is connected or not, the previous evening at about 10pm I saw two flashing lights descend rapidly (too rapidly for a plane) and disappear. Shortly after my experience on Sunday I saw these lights again – my son saw them also

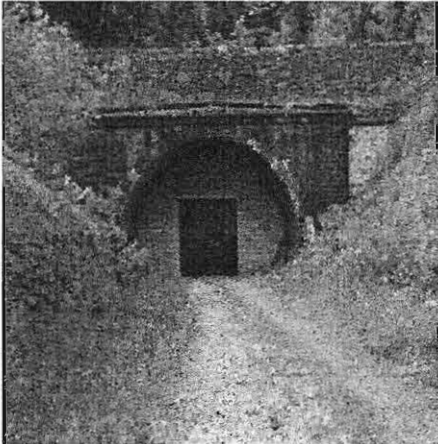
"I also felt a very distinct rumbling along the ground as I walked along the bank of the river on the Saturday evening – it was like a tube train going along underneath. This would have been about 25 feet from where I saw the objects"

Some weeks later I interviewed her and her son at their North London home and found both of them to be excellent witnesses. In between her letter and making this visit, however, I had visited the area of Millers Dale and discovered several odd features.

Millers Dale is, so to speak, on two levels, one about 150 feet above the other. She had seen the object rise between trees by the river on the lower level, and what immediately struck me

was the precision with which the object must have risen, for, in the area were numerous extremely tall trees which would have given its flight direction little margin for error. The witness agreed with me on this point. Millers Dale itself doesn't – or at least it didn't 25 years ago – consist of much more than a couple of dozen houses and a small pub. I found two people who had seen strange lights in the area, but neither could be more explicit.

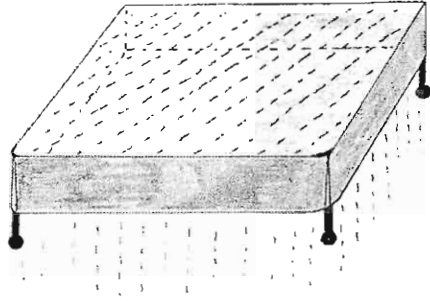
One point also interesting was that the road to the higher level led to a disused station and there was a viaduct over the road. The station platforms remained and information and a kiosk was provided there for the benefit of walkers in the area: indeed some former railway lines had been converted to this use. The station had been large, despite the lack of population in the area, since in the days before Dr. Beeching, who wielded an axe on many of our smaller or less-used lines back in the 60s, prior to this it had been a junction of what were then two main lines crossing over from the East to the West of England. A hundred yards or so along the footpath which had replaced the former track there was a tunnel with a boarded up entrance.



Here the path ceased and one had to climb onto the hill above the tunnel to proceed. Whether connected with the 'rumblings' experienced by our witness when at the lower

level or not, faint 'thuds' were to be heard from above the tunnel, presumably emanating from it, or being echos of sounds from lower levels. I was unable to determine source.

The witness drew a sketch of the object that had been seen and it was oddly reminiscent of the old (now very old!) 'Flying Bedstead' prototype of VTOL Aircraft.



In view of the reported 'rumblings' and the lights seen by the witnesses I wrote to the Meteorological Office both to enquire whether there had been any 'quake' reports in the vicinity at that time and the possibility of earthquake lights. Contrary to popular belief Britain continually experiences earthquakes but, most of them are so low on the Richter Scale that their effects are negligible.

I heard nothing for around a month, but then received a reply from the British Seismological Survey Office based in Edinburgh. The Office informed me that no quakes at all had been evident in close proximity to Millers Dale anywhere near the times of the observations. In my letter I had only referred to the rumblings and lights as I felt that any mention of the 'Flying bedstead' might prejudice any reply at all! However, in addition to their confirming there had been no quakes in the vicinity, the Office further informed me that it would in any case have been impossible for 'Earthquake Lights' to be the culprits in the case of the descending, flashing lights as such lights have never been found to be associated with earthquakes of less than 5.5 on the Richter Scale – and we certainly do not experience many (if any) of those in any part of the U.K.!

Altogether, this was an intriguing case. Clearly, an object was seen – whether the flashing lights or rumblings were associated with it in any way is clearly a matter for conjecture. But, so far as this object was concerned, I believe it to be a unique report. Clearly it deserves the appellation of UFO, but to claim it as an alien space craft would, I think, be stretching imagination to its limits! The size, too, was so small. One has to consider that it might be a remotely controlled craft of some description, but – controlled from where, for what purpose – and by whom? That, I think, is anyone's guess!

Any suggestions?

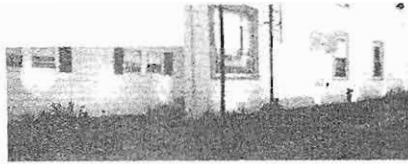
Norman Oliver



CIRCLES OF LIGHT

“For the past few years, unusual and unexplainable circles of light have been observed in a number of towns and cities throughout the Northeastern United States. From such locales as Freeport, Long Island N.Y., Burlington VT and numerous locations in the state of Rhode Island, residents have observed these beautiful, geometric light patterns. Most are formed from light reflected from the windows of adjacent homes and buildings. They appear on the buildings, then move on to the ground as the angle of the sun changes...”

So runs the first paragraph on the web site <http://www.themiraclespace.org/circles.htm>. On this website B.J.D.Rabbit then follows up with a more detailed list of locations in the U.S., opening by saying, “A new form of miracle has been observed in 1997 – the circle of light. These circles most commonly appear on the sides of houses and a variety of them have been observed at over 60 locations.



Rabbit goes on to tell us that in most cases they appear when the sun is out – generally when the sunlight is at a suitable angle to reflect from one or more windows on to adjacent houses. It would appear that whilst in some places they are only seen in the early morning, in others it may be at midday or for a few hours in the afternoon. Then again, the light circles may be seen in some places only in the Spring or Autumn, and on occasion they have even been reported by moonlight. Some appear in the same place year after year: others vanish after a while. They may be observed to move up and down, changing angles with the Earth's rotation, whilst others have even been reported on the ground. Up to six circles – some double – have been seen on occasion and have also been visible on a number of houses at the same time.

Rabbit also cites instances where they've appeared on cars and clothing – one remaining on the witness's shirt when he went inside. Other places where they've appeared have included bedroom walls and the sidewalk – on both these latter occasions when the witness 'wished they could see one'.

Forms such as a bright 'X' inside circles – or even a rectangle have also appeared, he states. Whilst no 'healings' or other 'psychic phenomena' have been reported by anyone, it has been claimed that designs grow brighter when people meditate near them. This and much more about the 'Circles of Light' is to be found on the website and, inevitably perhaps, there are comparisons with crop circles. Some of the pictures shown are quite extraordinary and in some cases would appear to negate the possibility of reflections. One in particular shows eight circles low down on the side of a building at slightly varying levels, some longer than others, all seemingly having an 'X' in the centre, one, in fact, being a double circle with an 'X' in each circle. Other photos show multi-

circles on the side of a Denver, Colorado hotel and a pattern of them on a building in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I certainly recommend a visit to this site when you can form your own opinion as to source from the variety of photos presented.

A second website:

<http://www.taracanada.com/CirclesofLight.html> is also thoroughly recommended. This too has a large number of photos of buildings with multi-patterned light circles present. These include depictions from buildings in places as far apart as Edinburgh, Austria and Guildford in Surrey. This site also raises questions and makes a number of observations on the phenomena, - for example:

“...physicists who have examined this phenomenon note that in order to produce such a focussed image, the windowpane would need to take on an extreme curvature or concavity: as much as several millimetres, which is not evident under normal observation. It also tells us that three important questions are raised:

- Why would light circles sometimes appear as reflections from some windowpanes only, and sometimes as reflections from all the windows of a building?
- Why does there appear, if a window is concave, an additional form like a bright 'X' in the center of a round reflection?
- Why should the concave surfaces appear in such masses recently?

Again, I would say that this site is 'recommended viewing'.

I have to admit that I did not at first take these reports too seriously, regarding most of them as being perfectly explainable, but the more one looks at them, the less they appear to be an 'ordinary sunlight reflection'

It was comparatively recently that I received an e-mail from Steve Gamble giving me details of a report that had appeared in the *Brighton and Hove Evening Argus*. Though now in

Lincolnshire I'm a native of Sussex, having been born in nearby Worthing and this account was in an area to which I could easily relate.

This was the original story from the Brighton and Hove Argus website:

“Light Circles Baffle X-Perts”

by Lynn Daly

Mystery: strange lights appear in Lisa's garden.

Lisa Stewart has seen the light – unfortunately she can't explain it

In a mystery worthy of investigation by Mulder and Scully from TV's The X Files, strange circles of light have appeared around Lisa's home.

The lights are perfect circles with a pronounced X at the centre and have baffled experts.

They appear suddenly on buildings, pavements and other surfaces when the sun shines and can last for hours, days or weeks.

But in a spooky twist, the lights appear only to be visible to certain people.

Lisa, 36, first saw the mysterious beams six years ago and took some photographs but thought little more about them.

Then, as summer warmed up this year, the lights began to appear again.

At first Lisa, of Clarendon Road, Hove, thought they were reflections but she has been unable to find an explanation for them.

She said, 'In the last few months, I've been seeing a lot of these circles in my garden, around my house and around Brighton and Hove.

I think they are a strange phenomenon, on a par with crop circles. I know other people have seen them but I think you have to be receptive to them. Maybe I've seen them because I've been looking for them.'

Lisa's children, Holly, 8, Fern, 9 and Dale, 12, have seen the lights.

Lisa, a homeopath, healer and musician, said, 'My daughters have also seen angels which I couldn't see, although I could feel their presence. They are not worried by these experiences and nor am I'

Similar light shapes have been seen around the world including Norway, Germany, Slovenia, Canada and the USA.

Some have been squares, rectangles or star shapes. Closer to home, similar lights have been spotted on the walls of the Jarvis Hotel in Guildford, Surrey.

Lisa would like to hear from anyone else who has seen the light circles. Call her on 01273 262408.

Reporter Llyn Daly. Email address: llyn.daly@theargus.co.uk

Address Argus House,
Crowhurst Road,
Hollingbury
Brighton BN1 8AR

Should any member, local to Brighton or otherwise have come across this phenomenon themselves I would also appreciate hearing from you myself.

Ed



FROM HERE AND THERE

Presented by the Editor

Really, so much has been going on, in so many different areas since the last Journal appeared that it has become quite difficult to decide precisely what to leave in and what to omit – there are now so many sources worldwide reporting UFO and other phenomena. Unless directly quoting someone it is also sometimes by no means easy to

credit correctly to source since frequently several sources are involved. Anyway, here goes:

Lou Farish's May 2002 UFONs (UFO Newsclipping Service) included an item from the San Francisco Chronicle of May 5th. This year by Angie Wagner about the desert outpost of Rachel, Nevada – population 65! Close to the Area 51 Military Base, most of its residents seem* to have had some form of UFO experience at one time or another. It appears that the 'UFO Connection' began some years ago when a Nevada Test Site worker claimed that alien craft were to be seen at this base. This appears to have been given a 'semi-official' status as a 98-mile length of Nevada Route 375 – on which road Rachel is to be found – has been named officially as 'The Extraterrestrial Highway', and, indeed, green Highway signs have been erected which include images of two 'saucer-type' spacecraft with illuminated portholes. Rachel is in fact the only 'town' along this Highway, being largely a collection of trailer homes. (If you think the population a tad small for it to be classified as a town, I once came across " 'Y' City" in Arkansas – Population '12!'). These trailer homes include the Little A 'Le' Inn, which announces to tourists on its sign, "Welcome earthlings and/or aliens. Please specify planet" Inside the bar has 'saucer' pictures and souvenirs, including bumper stickers: key chains: Area 51 'ID Cards' – and even a bottle of alien slime in a tube. Clearly a 'must' for one's next visit to Nevada!

In its April 5th 2002 editon, the *Western Daily Press* of Bristol features Dave and Christine Thomas, of Wellington, Somerset who set up 'Utopia Investigations' at the end of 1999. Over the years they have investigated a number of claimed alien abduction cases in the general area. The article particularly refers to one in woods at Longleat where a woman had started to play with two lion cubs, then found she had been abducted into a craft manned by small 'greys'. Many readers will recall the 'Warminster Flap' years when numerous sightings and strange experiences were claimed in the general area which includes Longleat and Shearwater Lake. The

Wellington area intrigues me too, since, back in the late '70s an 'abduction and rape' case was reported a mile or two from Wellington. Investigated by Andy Collins and Barry King, this was reported in detail in the *BUFORA Journal* at that time. Utopia Investigations has a web site - www.utopia-investigations.co.uk

The **Bonsall Moor** area was again in the news on April 24th 2002, when, in its issue of that date the *Derby Evening Telegraph* there was included a report of the experience of Ron Gaunt, a radio enthusiast, who reported that a bright blue light shone down on his car whilst he was talking on a long-wave radio. Sheep in a nearby field were startled. Gaunt said that it was a very clear night, but that suddenly it became like broad daylight, making him feel very dizzy. Though normally he would have continued transmitting till dawn, he decided to leave the Moor a few minutes later.

Chinese ET Relics?

Recently I received the following 'Forward' from MUFON representatives Jean and Richard Siefried. The precise original source is unclear, but the content was extremely interesting. This is how it read...

'A group of nine Chinese scientists will go the West China's Qinghai Province this month (June) to examine possible extraterrestrial relics.

'This is the first serious scientific study of this mysterious site near Delingha City in the Qaidam Basin according to the Haixi Mongolian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture.

The site, on Mt. Baigong, 40 kilometers southwest of Delingha City is known by local people as 'the ET relics'. On the north of the mountain are twin lakes, dubbed 'lover lakes', one with fresh water, the other salt water.

The 'ET Relics Structure' is on the south bank of the salt lake, looking like a pyramid and 50 to 60 metres high. At its front are three caves with triangular openings. The central cave is the largest, its floor standing two metres above ground with its top 8 metres higher. About 6 metres in depth, inside is a half-pipe about 40

centimetres in diameter tilting from the top to the inner end of the cave. A similar pipe of the same diameter goes into the earth with only its top visible above ground.

Above the cave are a dozen pipes of various diameters which run into the mountain. All are red-brownish - the same colour as surrounding rocks. The two smaller caves have collapsed and are inaccessible. Scattered about the caves and on the bank of the salty lake are large numbers of rusty scraps, pipes of various diameters and strangely shaped stones. Some of the pipes run into the lake.

According to Qin Jianwen, head of the publicity department of the Delingha government, the scraps were taken for analysis. Results showed they were made up of 30% ferric oxide with a large amount of silicon dioxide and calcium oxide. Eight per cent of the content remained unidentified.

'The large content of silicon dioxide and calcium oxide is a result of long interaction between iron and sandstone, which means the pipes must be very old", reported Liu Shaolin, the engineer who did the analysis. "This has made the site even more mysterious," Qin said. "Nature is harsh here. There are no residents, let alone modern industry - only a few migrating herdsmen to the north." It has been suggested the site might have been a launch tower left by ETs...

The area is high. The air thin and transparent and the Purple Mountain Observatory of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has a large radio telescope 70 kilometres from the site.

The July 2002 edition of *Fate* includes an article, '*An Alien Heat*' by Scott Corrales which examines cases of abduction for sexual purposes, several of which I recall featuring in an item '*Sex and Saucers*' in the magazine *GEMINI* back in the '70s. Indeed, a large part of this article is taken up with the well-known case of Antonio Villas Boas who claimed an abduction on October 15th. 1957, during which he was seduced by a female humanoid, the alleged reason being that they 'wanted a good stallion to improve their stock'. If my

recollection is correct, this was the first reported case claiming sexual relations, and the complete background to the entire affair was excellently presented by Gordon Creighton in *Flying Saucer Review* back in the late '50s via reports from Dr. Olavo Fontes. Accounts of others' experiences – Jose Inacio Alvaro of Pelotas in Brazil, an 18-year-old trainee electrician and Juan Valario on November 30th. 1982 were also included. Interestingly all three reports are from Brazil.

Also in this edition of *FATE* was a review of the Carteret Lights. These were seen on July 15th. 2001 when more than a hundred people observed them, many having stopped their cars to get out and have a look. Amongst them was a police officer, Lt. Daniel Tarrant, who told reporters, 'I saw 16 golden-orange coloured lights, several in a V-type formation, with others scattered around the 'V'.

These lights were also captured on camcorder, the video showing what is described as 'a rather haphazard arrangement of about nine lights moving in unison over some rooftops'

No 'normal' explanation could be uncovered for the lights, which were also tracked on radar, when it was found that there were a large number of objects in the sky without 'transponders' – which are standard for all commercial aircraft.

The *FATE* article concludes by speculating that, in view of the hazards of there being large craft flying around without transponders this could lead to renewed calls for Governmental investigation into UFOs.

Several recent issues of the *INUFOR DIGEST* of New South Wales, Australia seemed to present the same idea as myself inasmuch as they almost entirely featured Welch UFO reports. Included in their pages were a number of accounts – mainly from North Wales and Anglesey, supplied by Margaret Fry and colleague John Roberts. My own reviews of Welsh reports have so far only reached the '70s and it is good to see so many from recent years being featured 'down under'. With Margaret's permission I hope to include

several of these reports in a later *Journal* myself

Still in Australia, the *AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN* of June 2002 includes an interesting report from Richlands, Queensland on Friday February 22nd. 2002 at 9.50pm. This reads: "A woman happened to look out of a front window from a darkened room, and on the acreage property of a neighbour across the road to the north, she saw what at first seemed to be the front of a very high truck seen by moonlight. On looking closer, she saw a giant dome-shaped vehicle accompanied by four pods that seemed to be scraping things off the ground as they went – with arm-like appendages.

The object was moving slowly towards her and, at her last sight of it was only about 30 metres away. In the moonlight it had appeared to be a metallic grey and was some five metres wide, with the pods extending beyond its own width, these pods appearing to be about a metre in size."

Coming nearer to home, *The Essex Chronicle* of April 26th 2002 featured a report from Springfield with the headline 'I saw eight UFOs'.

Bruce Fenton, aged 25, had been watching a planetary alignment (readers will recall that earlier in the year mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn were so aligned for several days), when he saw eight glowing Unidentified Flying Objects move across the night sky 'faster than fighter jets.'

Bruce had been watching the sky since just before midnight, but then, around 12.20am. he suddenly saw these eight round, orange lights shoot across the sky towards him from the west. With a fellow watcher they followed the flight of the lights as they disappeared over the northern horizon. They were estimated to have been the height of passenger jets – maybe moving at twice the speed of sound, but there was no sonic boom as they took around twenty seconds to cover the distance from horizon to horizon: they seemed to be flying in a loose formation. Both witnesses were at a loss to give an explanation, discounting

meteors, balloons and satellites, with which they were familiar. No other report is known to have been made about the phenomenon.

'Anti-Gravity Propulsion' is examined in an item on the web site www.janes.com by Nick Cook, JDW Aerospace Consultant.

Nick opens by telling us that 'Boeing, the world's largest aircraft manufacturer, has admitted it is working on experimental anti-gravity projects that could overturn a century of conventional aerospace propulsion technology if the science underpinning them can be turned into hardware.'

Boeing, it seems, are trying to solicit the services of a Russian scientist – Dr. Evgeny Podkletnov – who, it is believed, has proceeded in developing any-gravity devices both in Russia and Finland: so far, however, without success due to Russian officialdom not being particularly co-operative!

The Boeing project has its own internal name and acronym – GRASP -, standing for 'Gravity Research for Advanced Space Propulsion'. Its purpose is, in the words of a document obtained by JDW, 'to explore propellantless propulsion ('anti-gravity'): to examine and determine the validity of Podkletnov's work and to examine possible uses for such a technology.

Uses could clearly include aircraft propulsion: electricity generation: space launches: artificial gravity and – certainly not least – as a weapon. It seems that Podkletnov claims a Russian laboratory installation has already demonstrated that a beam 10cm. wide of gravity-like energy can repel objects a kilometre away. The device generating this beam can, it would seem, exert an 'instantaneous force of 1000g on any object, sufficient, as the item states, to vapourise it...

Personally, I feel it will be no more than a few years before 'anti-gravity' propulsion methods take over from more conventional ones – maybe coupled with a 'warp' drive. Researches are ongoing in both these areas and, indeed, it was shown by the multi-national scientific attendance at Brighton University last year (coupled with the presence

of CIA and MI5) that there is a significant indication of major developments in these areas in the not too distant future - Ed.

The next two items – from Azerbaijan and Chile - are taken from *UFO NEWS UK* the website <http://www.ufoinfo.com> - amongst others - of Anthony James (e-mail AJames@emufora.freereserve.co.uk). My acknowledgements to Anthony.

Baku, Azerbaijan (press report)

UFOs spotted in Baku. A number of Unidentified Flying Objects were spotted in the sky above the metro station, where they hovered for several hours, the Azeri daily, *Yeni Musavat* reported June 17th. 2002. However, the article read, once the reporter got to the scene the UFOs were nowhere in sight. 'We asked local street vendors for information. One of them said the UFOs remained in the sky for five hours', the article read. Their witness claimed to see a round white object that looked like a saucer. The alien craft hung in the air side by side for five or six hours, the article read. It also noted that several spectators had previously seen UFOs.

Villarica, Chile.

Around 21.00 hours on Wednesday night July 12, 2002, dozens of families in Villarica were watching TV or listening to the friendly voice of their local radio station, which mixed with the soft sound of the rain falling in the darkness and silence of the evening. But this tranquility was suddenly and unexpectedly altered by the appearance of a UFO which lit the winter night. In spite of clouds obstructing a clear view, it was seen from several points of the lake region by hundreds of people.

In the control booth of Radio Apumanque, Patricio Castillo, 28 was choosing music selections for hundreds of listeners. At 21.15 hours, the station's phone began to ring. The radio controller raised a headphone and heard the voice of co-worker Pilar Castillo, asking him to look out of the window because there was a very strange object in the sky. Patricio hung up, looked out of the window. "I looked and saw a luminous object with three red lights on one of its sides. It was still for a few

seconds and then made a very swift movement. I stopped looking at it for a few seconds as I ran in to play a song. When I returned it had gone," he explained.

He had been working for 9 years in radio and never had a similar experience...the UFO made no noise, dismissing the possibility of a plane. Pilar Castillo, his co-worker had left a meeting after 21.00 hours when she realised there was something strange in the sky....the luminous object vanished suddenly. "It was like a shooting star that changed colours as it went away. It came from the direction of Nancul to Villarica. It was red for some minutes, then turned violet

Alberto Sandoval, a self-taught cameraman with years of experience managed to record the UFO on video tape. He said, "A neighbour called me and told me to go outside with the camera to film a strange object in the sky. I took out my machine and between the raindrops managed to obtain some images which have a duration of five seconds. Sandoval said that this wasn't the first time he had obtained UFO images in the lake region. "In the summer of '95 a neighbour woke me up at 5am. I took my camera and filmed a strange object. The sky was clear and I could see a luminous sphere similar to last night's only larger. Translation© 2002, Scott Corrales, IHU. Original source Diario El Cronista, Chascomus, Argentina.

'Implant' Scientist

Few, I think, will have heard of Bill Mallow, but his recent death will leave a definite gap in Ufology, since he was one of very few scientists willing to investigate such things as claimed alien artifacts and, in particular, implants.

On one occasion he found that an object that had been in a man's leg for some forty years since he was a boy - when had experienced a 'close encounter' incident - was made of a most unusual type of glass near-impossible to be reproduced and which has no known industrial use. Another time, when an object found to be almost pure iron was removed from an experimenter, it was found to be

invisible to X-rays even though put through all known tests. Bill was also a musician, poet and singer and the holder of 38 U.S. patents. He paid for all his work connected with UFOs and Close Encounters out of his own pocket since his institute - The Southwest Research Institute - had requested that he did not work on this type of project.' Though he continued to conduct it despite their objections.

His death is a sad loss to scientific UFO research.

Bonnybridge

Steve Gamble recently sent me details of news items from four sources - *BBC Ceefax*: *BBC News* website: *Ananova News Service* and *The Observer*, all commenting on a recent survey by *Visit Scotland* concerning the Bonnybridge sightings.

BBC1 Ceefax on June 24th. included the following under a heading:

UFO SIGHTINGS "HIGHEST IN SCOTLAND"

'Scotland has the highest concentration of UFO sightings of any country in the world, research has claimed'

'There are 3000 reported UFO sightings in Scotland a year, the study commissioned by tourism body *Visit Scotland* said'

BBC News website of June 23rd provided the comments, amongst others that: 'Scotland is top alien nation': 'Bonnybridge tops the list for reported sightings'. 'The area of Bonnybridge in Stirlingshire has become a hub for UFO enthusiasts following reports of numerous sightings'. 'The area has become known as The Falkirk Triangle and other reports of sightings have been recorded in neighbouring West Lothian'.

Ananova News Service of June 23rd. emphasised the point that "One theory is that the area near Bonnybridge is a window into another dimension. That would explain why certain people see a UFO and others don't - because a UFO is some kind of paranormal phenomenon, rather than a nuts-and-bolts spaceship." The item in *The Observer* of June 23rd. by Scotland Editor Stephen Khan

included the comment '...Scotland has a proud new boast: it has become the landing strip of choice for flying saucers and other mysterious, metallic, hovering craft.'

'More odd incoming craft have been tracked over the hills and glens than anywhere else on Earth and UFO enthusiasts are flocking north to experience Close Encounters of the Caledonian kind.'

We trust the Bonnybridge 'flap' will long continue.

Skulls

Lucius Farish recently forwarded me details of a website -

<http://www.ufodisclosure.com/skulls.shtml>

which concerned ancient skulls - most of them very ancient - from Ica, Peru and Merida in Mexico.

These skulls were photographed by Robert Connolly on a round-the-world trip back in 1995 that he made for the main purpose of collecting materials from ancient civilisations. The discovery of a variety of extraordinary skulls was, in fact, incidental to his trip and by no means its main purpose.

Connolly tells us that, whilst the data on the skulls is incomplete - this rendering assessment of age, placement of origin and other factors somewhat difficult, the skulls fall into four separate groups, these being 'Conehead', Jack O' Lantern, 'J' and 'M', these being his own 'convenience' labels based on the shapes of the skulls. The earliest skull found, however, he designated 'Pre-Modern'; this was found in the Paracas region of Peru.

Photos and diagrams of the 'Conehead' type are first shown and the 'enormity' of the cranial vault is clearly demonstrated, its elongation exceeding that of any skull depiction I have come across before. Its shape certainly might be taken to suggest an alien origin - though this is not claimed by Connolly. The cranial capacity is up to 2500 ccm and the author speculates that such a shape 'may be a biological response - a survival of the species mechanism - to increase the brain mass 'without the danger of relegating the species to

extinction and keeping a viable biological product intact'. No 'conehead' type is to be seen in modern civilisation.

So far as the 'pre-modern' type of skull is concerned, we are told that 'according to orthodox anthropology, such a skull just cannot be'.

Connolly also pictures the 'J' type of skull and tells us this 'it is equivalent to the modern type of skull in all respects but with several factors out of proportion, eye sockets being about 15% larger and the 'enormity' of the cranial vault, its capacity reaching as high as 3200ccm.

Whether 'binding' of the skulls might have been responsible for their elongated appearance is also discussed - and dismissed, but, I cannot give full justice to Connolly's presentation in a short item, and a visit to the website is strongly recommended. I guarantee that anyone looking at the photos of the skulls will be amazed at their appearance and speculation as to origin will be rife.

As many readers will be aware, there has been a major 'flap' period in Argentina since April 2002, both of cattle mutilations, sightings and other phenomena. This now appears to have spread into other South American countries - including Chile, from which country I have included an example in this feature. I had intended to refer to a few of the 'flap' incidents either in the above feature or in a separate article. However, more new material is continually being received and it would now take the best part of a Journal to give adequate presentation. I am therefore holding this over to NBJ5, when I will be able to devote a section of the Journal to the 'flap' and give readers a more complete idea of its extent and manifestations.

Norman Oliver



???

This will be a regular NBJ feature in future. Based on a suggestion by Judith Jaafar, who herself receives a number of enquiries on various UFO and UFO-related matters, members are invited to send in any questions or problems they may have and we'll do our best to find an answer for you. This issue is devoted only to one question – appropriately enough answered by Judith Jaafar to whom it was addressed. But – please write in – whether you have a straightforward question connected with UFOs/Abductions/Crop circles/Whatever, or whether you have a problem of the 'agony aunt' variety. We will do our best to find an answer for you and any request for anonymity will be respected, though if you wish your name to appear – fine. Let's hear from you.

Ed.

Question – from S.R.

'My friend believes she has been abducted several times. On the latest occasion she reported a strong smell of ammonia when she 'came back'. I have never read anything like this. Is it something you have come across?

Reply – from Judith Jaafar

Thank you for your enquiry. Strange smells are quite a common factor in reports of the paranormal, particularly when altered states of consciousness are involved. Scientifically speaking, this would suggest that the altered brain state is connected with stimulation of the olfactory centre. Persons suffering from epilepsy often notice that strong smells like ammonia indicate that the electrical activity in the brain is altering and that an attack is imminent.

Recent studies suggest that temporal lobe epilepsy (simply an electrical misfiring in this part of the brain, and quite common amongst the population) is linked to paranormal experience and perception. The complexities of this link have yet to be determined, although ongoing research both here and in Canada

shows very strong links between this type of experience and electro-magnetic radiation and ultra-low frequency sound waves in the environment.

Perhaps your friend would like to write to BUFORA in more depth about her experiences as it is impossible for us to make any evaluation without a lot more information. Please ask her to get in touch with me at the following e-mail address (is she's on-line) mail@gaia66.freeserve.co.uk - or write to the editorial address marked for my attention -if she wishes.

Let's be hearing from you. All questions should be submitted to the editorial address below by letter or e-mail. The question/problem will then be passed on to the person or persons best qualified to provide an answer. As stated, strict anonymity will be observed if requested

Editorial address – see inside front cover.

BOOK REVIEWS

Lisette Larkins, *Talking To Extraterrestrials*

As a glance at the back cover tells us, Lisette Larkins, the author of this book about extra-terrestrial communication "dares to confront the accepted UFO 'abduction model' and instead describes a new paradigm in which the encounter experience takes the initiate on a profound spiritual journey" and adopts a somewhat different approach from the 'standard' relation of abduction experiences.

Having, back in 1987, been 'blasted from above by a white funnel of light that shot through the ceiling and pierced my whole body with an electrical vibration', further lights and vibrations transpired, frequently followed by 'missing time' episodes. Electrical anomalies and malfunctions were also experienced and she awoke during one such occurrence to find herself face to face with a group of aliens. These 'ETs' communicated with her telepathically and continued such form of communication subsequently, sometimes when she was in an 'abducted' mode: sometimes when she was asleep or even during the daytime, when she could record her/their thoughts, questions and answers, subsequently relating such dialogues – which might even be added to as she was typing – in book form.

It is impossible to go into full detail of the dialogues here, and I will just select and relate a few topics and replies to give prospective readers a brief idea of content. First, though, two points. Whilst the author is at pains to point out that 'chanelling' is not the medium used and that her contacts are very much in the land of the living, there is a definite similarity between 'channelled' messages and the E.T. dialogue presented. To me, as I am sure there will be to others also, there is one rather large surprise. Lisette's 'contacts' are, in fact, a group of Greys; Greys, of course, are usually thought of as being a 'subordinate' type of alien without many redeeming qualities. Here, however, they appear much as the more 'angelic' superior humanoid types of the Adamski era, and some of the discourses are reminiscent of the 'warnings to mankind – you are despoiling your planet: you are but children' type of communication then much in evidence.

By no means entirely, however. In the main, the book takes the form of 'Q and A' sessions and some of these include many rather more 'down to Earth' – if you'll pardon the phrase – dialogues, not infrequently of a humorous nature – something which again one does not really associate with our Grey 'friends' – or whatever! The following are samples of the type of question asked and replies received,

but Lisette points out, quite correctly, that it's impossible to cover everything.

Oh, one thing, by the way. The ETs encountered are usually in the nude; which makes it all the more interesting that, other than facial features, which I shall come to in a moment, I can find no mention of other physical characteristics – which isn't to say I haven't missed one somewhere! Too, at a later point, there is mention of the aliens wearing badges, but no reference is made as to how they are attached! However, at one point the question was asked as to how they sexually procreate. The answer included the following: "We too, have male and female genders. We do link physically in a union of love, but the linking does not entail the male's genitals engaged with the female's reproductive organs.....Through an exchange of what might be termed high voltage energy between the couple there is an electromagnetic surge...our version of semen....."

Questions on facial features rather centred on the eyes, which, as by now every UFO researcher must be aware, tend, in the case of the Greys, to be somewhat over prominent. Replies included the points that, as their planet was dark, they need to have excellent sight, but this was by no means the only reason. 'Predominantly, our eyes are a multiple sense hub where myriad tasks are going on all the time' These tasks were multifunctional, also being used for 'radar', some nutritional requirements, absorbing impulses and 'pleasurable sensations'.

Others of the many questions put to these beings included some relating to food and drink. As to whether they drank water, the reply was given that they rarely require liquids in the manner that we do, absorbing most of what they needed through their skin, as is the case with some animals. So far as food is concerned, their main source of nourishment appeared to be from sources of light – a type of photosynthesis. Seemingly they could, should it be necessary, ingest substances through the mouth, but much preferred a light source for this purpose.

This book is, in fact, a complete record of question and answer sessions between the author and the ETs with whom the author believes she was in contact. It is impossible in a short review to cover the entire spectrum of subjects, questions and so on that were raised and answered. In most cases, I have to say, the answers given were often quite straightforward, more so than one has come to expect in claimed extra-terrestrial encounters. These included references to Einstein and Edison; 'Encounter Phenomena' generally, Atlantis; the Arts; electro-magnetic frequencies; longevity, materialisations; near-death experiences; spiritual associations; inter/multidimensional travel and numerous others, the answers being given, as I say, in perhaps a more understandable manner than is frequently the case in claimed alien encounter experiences.

There are two appendices. One from the viewpoint of UFO investigator Joe Nyman, who examined Lisette's experiences and concluded by saying 'It is one woman's story. Readers will relate to what Lisette has to tell because her experiences could just as well be ours.'

The other appendix, entitled 'A Clinician's Psychological Perspective of a UFO encounter Experiencer' is by Alan Ludingto, a practicing licenced family and marriage therapist and not, he states, an expert in paranormal features. However, he assessed Lisette in various clinical settings over around six years and ends his contribution by saying, 'I encourage all of you to read this book. It is by a woman who has had life experiences that offer you a door to new thoughts and feelings. It is a reminder of our fullest potential, where the unity of mind body and spirit might ignite extraordinary human experiences that defy explanation.'

Certainly the book is absorbing and readers will find many of th 'ETs' answers intriguing to say the least.

T. Huntington

Lisette Parkins, *Talking to Extraterrestrials*. Hampton Roads Publishing Company Inc. 1125, Stoney Ridge Road Charlottesville, VA 22902. USA. 2002. If not available at bookstores, may be ordered direct from publisher on 1-800-766-8009 – or web site www.hrpub.com.

Ziauddin Sardar and Iwona Abrams, *Introducing Chaos*

I have never read a book that I understood more than this: I have never read a book in which some of the almost bizarre comparisons and conclusions I understood less. That is symptomatic of both content and presentation. The entire book is completely chaotic – and so it should be, but it is nonetheless entertaining. Illustrations abound – in fact there is one on every page. In some cases this assists the reader to understand what on earth is or may be going on: in others it leaves her or him (Yan and Ying appear on the first page) completely baffled and wondering whether they may have lighted upon a '60s-type' psychedelic publication. Indeed, the commencement of the back page blurb tends to make one doubt one's sanity and wonder exactly what one is getting into, as it commences, 'If a butterfly flaps its wings in Brazil, does it cause a tornado in Texas?'

Again, to quote from the back page, 'This is an accessible introduction to an astonishing and controversial theory that could dramatically change our view of the natural world and our place in a turbulent universe.'

I find it very hard indeed to review this book – well written and presented as it is, without resorting to quoting exactly the definitions, ideas and reasons that are used by the authors. And to review a book by placing the entire review in quotes would, to say the least, be chaotic. Let me confine myself therefore to three such quotes... "Chaos is exciting because 'it connects our everyday experiences to the laws of nature by revealing the subtle relationships between *simplicity* and *complexity*, and between *orderliness* and

randomness"....."It presents a universe that is at once deterministic and obeys the fundamental physical laws, but is capable of disorder, complexity and unpredictability" ...and, as a definition.... "It is the qualitative study of unstable aperiodic behaviour in deterministic nonlinear dynamical systems."

Chaos' is discussed not only on a scientific level, but also on a 'day-to-day' basis: a 'household word' if you like, inasmuch as it can - and does - affect everyone and everything. If you think about it, there are many points in all of our lives - maybe almost even daily, though this might be somewhat too regular to be chaotic!

A decision may have been made here, an action there, where, if a different course had been taken, our life would have been vastly affected. Or is that Determinism? The book gets you like that! Whatever, the effect on our own life, our friends and relatives, might well have been even more chaotic!

The reader will, I guarantee, enjoy those illustrations. Some almost brought me to the point where I was able to produce some order to the chaos my mind was presented with. Others reintroduced complete disorder!

Whether he/she understands the ideas and implications put forward or not, the contents of this gem of a book with its disruption of a 'way' of viewing scientific theory - and, indeed human (and non-human) life will, by the very nature of its presentation, transfix the reader to its pages, even if only because one hopes that, by the end, he/she may be able to understand precisely what the anarchic principles are that it is believed dispute universal 'order'!

Try it though - you'll never be the same again
T. Huntington

Ziauddin Sardar and Iwona Abrams
Introducing Chaos. Icon Books UK. Grange Road, Duxford CB2 4QF (Originally published in 1998 under the title *Chaos for Beginners*) £9.99.

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