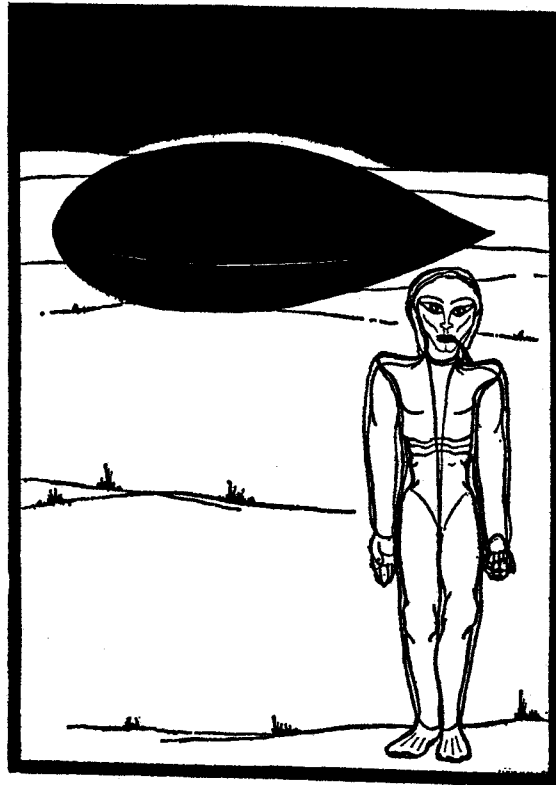




British UFO Research Association



Humanoid encounter in Wales—
see **Report Extra!**

bufora journal

Vol 6 No 2 July/August 1977

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reports than normal are being received, and if in fact I am able to print a full table of sighting summaries in our next issue, it will take up four pages at least. Whilst there are localised 'flaps'—as in south-west Wales, this increase is general over the whole country, and the number of 'high-strangeness cases' is also proportionately greater.

Whether the ultimate result will be that we are any better informed about UFO origins than we are now is in the lap of the Gods. Well, perhaps in the hands of governments as well, since I begin to detect signs that we are entering a phase where the blanket explanation of 'secret weapons,' 'new types of transport' or 'CIA devices,' etc, etc, may be employed—though where the CIA or anyone else will have obtained 3-foot aliens from is a mystery! Perhaps the Common Market is now at the root of it all! This ten-year period clearly suggests an interest in metrication! At any rate, it's obvious we can state with some certainty that 'flaps' occur every X years—which should satisfy all!!

Norman Oliver

Editorial

X marks the 'flap'

Whatever periodicity may be ascribed to UFO 'flaps,' and whatever supporting arguments may be adduced, one fact emerges: 1947, 1957, 1967 were 'flap' years, and 1977 is not going to break the sequence. Hundreds more

BRITISH UFO DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

The BUDC is an independent group of scientists seeking to investigate and analyse UFO phenomena within the natural bounds of scientific method.

BUDC publishes a quarterly BULLETIN which is available on subscription at £2 per annum (50p per copy). Cheques should be crossed and made payable to BUDC. FREE INFORMATION is also available on receipt of an SAE. Please write to **BUDC, 10 Park Court, Park Hall Road, London SE21.**

Logic and the 'Scientific Method'—part 2

Lawrence W Dale

The word 'Science' originally meant 'Reasoned Knowledge' and provided the ancient Greeks with a method to investigate many situations. There are many quotations about the definition of 'Scientific Method,' but logically it is—should be—the search for truth. Is it so? How extensive is it so? Why is it so? There are, of course, some situations which are not generally regarded as being scientific yet may be truthful. A telephone directory is probably a very accurate catalogue and a truthful one, yet it is not regarded as a scientific text. Methods of a 'non-scientific' nature include tenacity: The Appeal of Authority: Intuition. Intuition is, at times, a polemical issue and invites discussion, so I shall consider it here.

Intuition has more value than the above remaining methods, but History contains many fallacious conclusions derived from intuition. To many people, the proposition that the Earth was flat was indubitable, intuitively self-evident, yet it proved to be incorrect. However, there have been occasions where intuition has been useful. Schrodinger, apparently by 'mathematical intuition' discovered a wave equation for atomic structure:

$$\frac{\delta^2 \psi}{\delta x^2} + \frac{\delta^2 \psi}{\delta y^2} + \frac{\delta^2 \psi}{\delta z^2} + \frac{2\pi^2 m}{h^2} (\epsilon - V) \psi = 0$$

but this cannot be derived and can only be exactly solved for one electron systems.

Philosophers in the past have tried to formulate a set of rules for scientific enquiry, but due to continuous advance the rules are not sufficient, but can be used as a guideline to 'proof' discovery. The rules advise us to look at the facts. I cannot discuss all of the

rules, and those I do, will lack detail. I will consider the Method of Agreement: of Difference: of Concomitant Variation: of Residues. Statistics will also be mentioned.

Method of Agreement: One observes instances of an effect and searches for a common factor that may lead to one cause. *eg: During 10 UFO sightings, a particular strength magnetic field is noted while other effects are absent.*

However, there are few situations where only one cause is involved.

Method of Difference: One searches for an effect which is present in only one situation. *eg: During 10 flights over the 'Bermuda Triangle' the 10th flight is lost. One notices that during the 10th flight, a magnetic (or other force) surge was reported which was absent during the other flights.*

Method of Concomitant Variation: One observes that when a particular phenomena varies the general effect also varies. The varying phenomena is (according to some) the cause. *eg: During a UFO sighting, the temperature of the surroundings varies with the variation of the approach of the UFO. The UFO is responsible.*

As noted with the Method of Agreement, there is an objection to this method. We cannot claim that because two effects vary correspondingly that they are causally connected, as in the example. The value of this method is that, we CAN claim that if one effect varies while the other remains constant, then the effects are NOT causally connected. (Most philosophers agree that this remains part of the method). The reasoning here is connected to that of Part 1, ex No 3.

Method of Residues: One subtracts from a situation all phenomena of which the causes or effects are understood, and relates the Residue of effects with the Residue of phenomena. There is an Astronomical example of this in some texts. This concerns the discovery of Neptune by Adams and Le Verrier. The motions of Uranus had been studied assuming Newton's theories. Using the assumption that the Sun and known planets were the only bodies that determined the motions of Uranus, its orbit was plotted. However, the calculation did not agree with observation. More calculations showed that Uranus was affected by something outside of the known solar system. Neptune was discovered close to the position calculated for it.

Statistics is a widely publicised subject in present times, though its use often requires some explanation. The fundamental concept is that of Probability, calculating mathematically the probability of a particular situation in a number of situations. One should remember that the conclusion becomes a belief, not necessarily a fact. An English logician, DeMorgan, writes:

" . . . the state of mind with respect to an assertion to a coming or other event on which absolute knowledge is absent." More briefly, *" I believe that ' something ' will happen more than I believe that the ' something ' will not happen."* Because of the mathematical rigour, Statistics is perhaps more accurate than what I seem to suggest, but its conclusions remain probability.

Why then use Statistics? The errors produced are perhaps due to our interpretation, or execution, rather than the method. But there is a more important reason for using Statistics. If such exists, an omniscient being would not use Probable Inference since every proposition would be known to be true or false. Human beings lack omniscience and therefore must, at times, rely on probabilities. The methods mentioned above are not infallible, but combined and used with other available methods, provide a very powerful tool for ' proof ' discovery.

So what of a definition of Logic? (*Part I*). There can only be at this time, a provisional definition such as ' The systematic investigation and study of the principles of valid reasoning ' (though I regard Logic as being more fundamental), but remembering this and the rules for Scientific Method, and using Logic, many mistakes could be avoided.

Such methods as the so-called ' fringe sciences,' ESP, telepathy, etc, should be valuable assuming that they are used in the pursuit of truth. If so, they too belong to the ' Scientific Method ' (in my opinion it would not be correct to regard them as ' telephone directory ').

We should continue to use these resources and try to produce a general conclusion (concerning UFOs), and if any one of us has an advantage, let him educate the remainder, for the sake of truth.

Having recently addressed the Essex UFO Study Group, may I recommend any Essex members interested in local activity to write to them at 16 Raydons Road, Dagenham, Essex RM9 5JR—Ed.

AWARENESS—the Journal of Contact UK. For details write to J B Delair, 19 Cumnor Road, Wootton, Boar's Hill, Cumnor, Nr Oxford.

Points from the Press

Valerie Martin

In the *Evening Standard* of 22 February, Rex Dutta, editor of *Aquarius Viewpoint*, claims that secret photos sent to him by a top US scientist and taken by American spacecraft in the late 1960s, show mile-long machines cutting inside a volcano crater on the Moon. He maintains that two years ago, international scientists met in London to discuss the lunar phenomena. However, NASA information officers at Houston, said that all evidence and pictures taken during Moon missions are available to the public, but could not categorically say we were first on the Moon—after all, it is 4½ billion years old.

* * *

The *Northern Echo* of 14 March reported that a lifeboat crew on a NW course from Falmouth to Bridlington on the night of 12 March, saw a very bright glowing object high overhead for a few seconds before it moved rapidly away to the southwest. The coxswain said that in many years at sea he had never seen anything like it before.

* * *

The *Kent Messenger* of 4 March had an account of the first skywatch of 1977 held by Bufora's Kent and East Sussex group at Detling on 26 February. Principally on an exercise to recognise natural phenomena, members watched a distant red, spherical, pulsating object cross the sky, which was seen later on the same compass bearing by a skywatch team in the North of England. The same week there were reports of a similar UFO seen over Maidstone, and at Orpington by skywatch leader Larry Dale.

* * *

The *Kent Evening Post* of 28 February also had an article on recent UFOs

seen in Kent. Bufora RIC Larry Dale remarked that his group was now better organised to deal with the increased reports, and the burst of UFO activity was confirmed by Bufora's Chairman Lionel Beer and Charles Bowen, editor of *FSR*, which is distributed from West Malling.

* * *

In the same newspaper was a report of 'the most fantastic machine ever devised by man.' Lying in woods south of Moscow, it is a mile in circumference and is probing a mysterious new world known as high-energy physics for anti-matter, seeking proof of the theory that every particle has a twin and there is somewhere an exact replica world, peopled by beings who are our doubles. The Russians claim to have artificially created anti-matter particles for a short time, but physicists are concerned that an anti-matter galaxy coming into contact with our universe would result in a vast explosion.

* * *

The *Essex Chronicle* of 11 March tells of the search by the Dagenham Paranormal Research Group for a 'hideous 3 feet high dwarf,' which haunts Springfield. Sighted several times this century, evidence suggests that it is not a ghost, but a physical manifestation which may be connected with UFO sightings in the district, according to Andy Collins, also a Bufora investigator.

* * *

The *Manchester Evening News* of 21 and 22 March published a long enquiry into UFOs, documenting several UFO groups including Nufon, in an interview with Jenny Randles. Nufon is making a special study of the 'Penine Run,' a triangular area bounded by Manchester, Blackburn and Halifax, and scene of frequent sightings.

The *Manchester Evening News* of 2 April had an illustrated article of yet another giant machine—*Project Daedalus*, an all-British spaceship design by a small team of physicists and engineers. First report would be presented to the British Interplanetary Society at an International Symposium in May. In theory, it is now technically possible to build the 750 feet high spacecraft, assembling it in space because of stresses and radiation risks on Earth. Powered by tiny nuclear bombs, blast-off could be in 2020, but first signals would take 53 years to reach Earth from the rocket's goal—Barnard's Star, which is 6 light years away.

* * *

The *Barking & Dagenham Advertiser* of 25 March also had a news item on the Dagenham Paranormal Research Group, which is well prepared for a UFO landing. To check the increasing sightings, the organisation has extensive field kits, a 'flying squad' team on duty round-the-clock, and maintains a 24-hour hotline. Head of the group is Barry King, another Bufora investigator.

* * *

The *New Scientist* of 31 March and several provincial papers report that a survey of American Astronomical Society members revealed that 80% thought UFOs probably deserved further scientific study. The questionnaire was by Professor Peter Sturrock, astrophysicist of Stanford University, a supporter of UFO investigation and critic of the Condon Report.

* * *

In the *Evening Star* of 2 March, the weatherman described how he thought at last he had seen a UFO, after 31 years of seeing nothing which could not be explained scientifically. An intense light twice the brilliance of Venus, which was also visible, hung in

the sky north of Ipswich, then began to fade and diminish. Explanation was the landing light on the nosewheel door of a USAF F-4 Phantom jet!

* * *

The *Cambridgeshire Times* of 4 March, and other Fenland papers, gave good publicity to the Norfolk and National UFO Society. With an expanding programme of activities and publication of a quarterly news sheet, the group hopes to attract new members and compare notes with similar societies.

* * *

The *Observer Colour Supplement's* junior section, of 8 May, had a column on UFO activity in SW Wales, with cases investigated by Bufora RIC Randall Jones Pugh, including the silver-white cigar-shaped object seen in a field by pupils of a Broadhaven Junior School 200 yards away on 14 February. Stephen Taylor's experience (see *Report—Extra!*) was also referred to. A small reproduction of a painting by artist John Petts showed the pale gold UFO which he and a neighbour saw over the Towy Estuary the same week.

* * *

Many national and provincial newspapers have published articles of a general nature during the past few months, mostly assuming that UFOs emanate from outer space. The majority of cases are standard classics well known to Bufora members, but do reflect a more serious approach by the Press to the current wave.

* * *

UFOs in your neighbourhood? Or have you been the subject of a feature in your local paper? The Editor welcomes news items from readers, with name and date of journal please.

Book Review

Lionel Beer

(and now a word about our founder)

VISITORS FROM OUTER SPACE by Roy Stemman

144 pages: page size 7½" by 10" deep.
App 190 illustrations including over 70 in colour.

- Chapter Headings: 1 The Coming of the Saucers.
2 The Conspiracy of Silence.
3 Chariots of the Gods
4 Spacecraft in Early Times
5 The First of the Contacts
6 The Aliens are Among Us
7 UFOs Today
8 The Inhabited Universe
(No index)

Published by Aldus Books, 17 Conway Street, London W1P 6BS. Price: £3.25.

Part of a series dealing with the supernatural. Other titles include: Ghosts and Poltergeists: Alchemy: Atlantis: Dream Worlds: Signs of Things to Come. Author Colin Wilson and Dr Christopher Evans are listed as editorial consultants.

About the author

Bufora originally sprang from the London UFO Research Organisation since it was part of Luforo's mandate to form a national federation. Roy Stemman appears to have been Luforo's creator and was enthusiastically supported by Nigel Stephenson and Susanne Stebbing in founding it in 1959. He was Luforo's first president and edited its duplicated bulletin. However, his interest was turning to psychic matters and within about 18 months, he had dropped out of active involvement with Luforo and Nigel took over the reins. In fact, it was Nigel who, with a little help from other colleagues including myself, brought about the 2-year transition of Luforo to Bufora, this being completed in 1964. Roy has authored a biography on the British Medium entitled *Medium Rare*, as well as a major opus *One Hundred Years of Spiritualism*. He also writes a monthly column on Spiritualism for *Prediction*.



provides a balanced history of the whole UFO business.' At first glance it looks like a picturesque medley. A random peep reveals a colour painting of rocket ships landing amongst the pyramids of Egypt, while on the next

General Review

The dust jacket says ' *this book*

page there is a 1907 airship. Turn over again and there is Christopher Columbus on the deck of the Santa Maria. Another turn of the page reveals a painting spread over two pages of a giant catherine wheel in the sky over a paddle-steamer. In fact, the reference it illustrates probably refers to a sighting of bio-luminescent plankton, a curious water-borne phenomenon. Not only these examples from Chapter Four, but also the spectacular double-spread paintings ranging through the book, will stimulate the imagination, particularly of younger readers. Unfortunately they indulge in excessive use of 'artist's licence.'

The book opens sensationally with the encounter of USAF pilot Captain Thomas Mantell, but does go on to mention after a few pages, that his death might have been caused by a then, still classified, skyhook balloon. Chapter One goes on to summarise, in a relatively restrained manner, other cases from the late forties and early fifties in the USA, and how the Air Force reacted to them.

The coloured drawing on page 125 ought to make a few full-blooded males pause for a moment. Staring up from the page is a nicely proportioned blonde lady in a skin-tight green jump-suit. She represents the friendly space-woman contactee Howard Menger claims to have met in New Jersey in 1946. Eight other cartoon-character anthropoids—who have also found their way into Chapter Seven which includes the Pascagoula encounter of 1973—are illustrated to show the range of saucer occupants.

A colour version of the Piri Reis map is included in Chapter Three, with an example of the Nazca Lines, and I felt that the subject matter could have been used as a starting point for a separate book in this series. Certainly there is no lack of 'Chariots of the Gods' genre of material. Overall, the book seems to cover fairly uncritically, many facets of the UFO puzzle and seems to be orientated towards the spacecraft hypothesis. As a general introduction, and as an interesting picture book, it probably serves its purpose. However, it would have no more than curiosity value to the serious researcher seeking in-depth material.

Ten years young!

SIGAP—the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena, celebrated its tenth anniversary on Wednesday 11 May, with a buffet dinner at the Prospect Country Club, Ash Vale. Well-attended by past and present Sigap members, a very pleasant evening was spent renewing old acquaintances and partaking of the excellent fare provided by Omar Fowler and the Sigap 'team.' Tributes to Sigap's work in the field of UFO investigation were paid by several of the invited guests, including Alan Fossey of the British UFO Documentation Centre: Norman Oliver, Bufora Journal editor, and Charles Bowen, editor of Flying Saucer Review. We wish Sigap well, congratulate them on past achievements and look forward to their twentieth anniversary celebrations in 1987.

May I apologise to those whose contributions have been held over or omitted. As we are in the middle of a flap period I feel that whilst this continues emphasis should be placed on the reports themselves and on our investigators, many of whom are having an extremely busy time.—Ed.

Report—Extra!

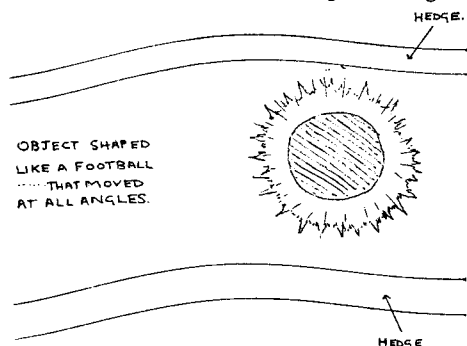
Presented by Norman Oliver

From hedge-hoppers to humanoids!

Currently there is a huge variety of reports coming in: a very gratifying state of affairs, but one, nevertheless, which makes selection doubly difficult. Certainly, though, the sub-title is well-justified. So—let's begin with the 'hedge-hoppers' and work our way up.

Movement mimicry

Inv R Jones Pugh

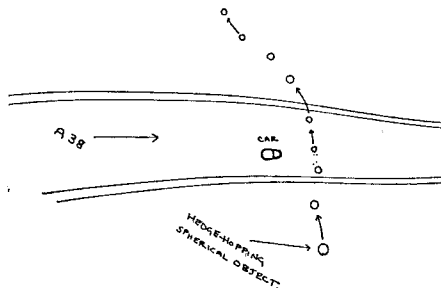


others continued on under a couple of barbed-wire fences, across a potato field and down a bank. From there, in Deborah's words 'There was something in the field opposite out of the ordinary. I have never seen anything like it before in my life I thought it was my eyes playing a trick—but it wasn't.'

'The most astonishing thing about it was the 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—for example, 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.'

★ ★ ★

Hedge-hopping sphere



The variety of cases from Wales in general and the Pembroke area in particular has been amazing, and RIC Randall Jones Pugh can scarcely have had time to interview one set of witnesses before having further reports thrust upon him, and our first item comes from Herbrandston, Milford Haven.

Deborah Swan, aged 13, was with her brother and five friends on 14 April last: it was around half-past six in the evening, and after having been in the park for a while, they'd decided to explore, since there had been so many reports of weird happenings that they thought they'd like to 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 scary.' The

On 27 November 1976 Mr G W Taylor had the following experience and I quote his words since as an example of conciseness they would be hard to better:

"Travelling by car on A38 from Truro to village of Zelah (Cornwall): car speed

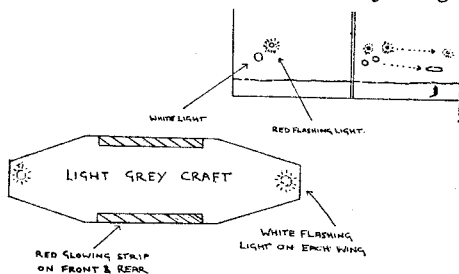
app 40 mph. Time app 8 pm. Passenger wife. Sphere passed in front of car: white light. Wife noticed it first: didn't say anything till I said, 'What the Hell's that?' Sphere about the size of a football: very low to the ground and hedgehopping: visible 10 seconds. No sound: no electrical disturbances. Road clear. No oncoming traffic or vehicles to rear. No road lighting.

Not a reflection from windscreen. Not a flare. No electrical storm or lightning. Concord boom recorded 9.04 pm. Correct to flight time 27.11.76. Other booms also recorded not on Concord's flight time. Last one recorded 7.58 pm 25.4.77. Single boom only. Concord gives two within 4 mins. If I could have stood on car bonnet I could have touched it. Assessment of size 12 inch diameter."

* * *

Octagonal object

Inv Barry King



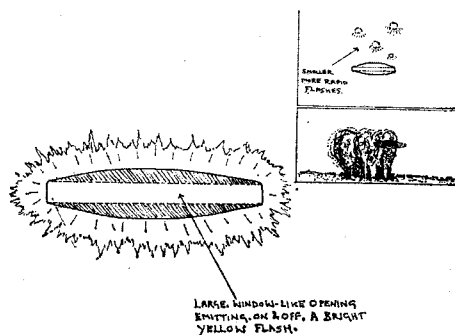
Wednesday, 2 March 1977. At Dagenham, Essex, Gary James, aged 17½, saw a white light accompanied by a smaller red flashing light 45° above the horizon. The time was 7.15 pm. These two lights were then joined by another two: each red light was close to the white light at an angle of 75° and four such formations were seen during the next half-hour. The lights broke formation and one of the red lights flew over Gary at low speed: the shape was not clear, but the underside consisted of about eight circular holes which 'glowed from red to black.'

This object then moved out of sight over some houses. Gary continued down the road to Parsloes Park, from where lights could be seen some way away in the sky. Then a 'craft'—apparently one of the white lights previously seen—flew above him: this was 8-sided with a white light flashing on each 'wing,' also having a strip of red at the front and rear first glowing brighter then darker: the colour of the object was light grey. After it had disappeared into the distance, Gary went on to Becontree station, which is on a hill, and observed 10 lights (white and red) in a 180° arc on the horizon. Total duration of sightings—35 mins. The only sound heard was that of a 'jet-like whistle.'

* * *

Sheffield 'flashing cigar'

Inv J Whitlam



The description of this sighting, in the words of the witness, John Rothwell, of Intake, Sheffield, runs thus:

"About 5.40 pm on 21.1.77 it was already beginning to get dark when I spotted the object in the high sky. There were no clouds and the sky was full of stars. My first reaction was a normal one, but it soon changed as there was no sound of an engine of any kind. I grabbed my binoculars for a closer look.

continued overleaf

The UFO was roughly cigar-shaped, but had blunted ends. It came from the south and appeared from nowhere. As I focussed my binoculars, a faint blue tint first caught my eye as the outline became clearer. Though the craft appeared aero-dynamic in shape, it had neither one end nor the other, making me believe it was probably circular if looked at aerially: it travelled very slowly and smoothly.

There were no appendages or hints of landing gear. Unlike planes, which have frames in between each window, this craft had one long opening over its full length (and—if circular—probably all round). A bright yellow flash was emitted from this opening, followed by a duller glow. These flashes were repeated but there was no regular discernible sequence: sometimes they followed immediately on one another, sometimes there was a wait of up to ten seconds. Smaller, more rapid flashes seemed to follow both above and behind the craft, but not in front. There was no noise and the low speed was constant, accounting for the long period of observation.

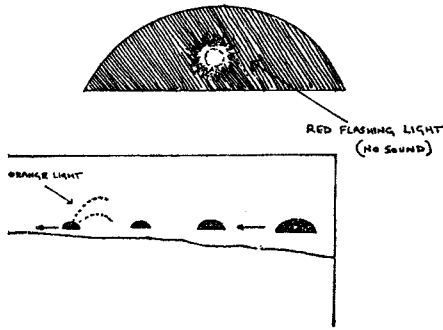
After moving away very slowly northwards and apparently 'hovering' for sometime behind trees (now 'flashing' more than ever), it disappeared as mysteriously as it had arrived. Before hovering, it hadn't slowed down, it had just stopped abruptly."

* * *

Maidstone 'mass'

Inv J Castle

Robert Cole was on his way home at Maidstone on 3 February 1977 at 6.42 pm after garaging his father's car, when, as he crossed the grass verge outside Welland House, he saw a dome-shaped object 'with a dark mass' and a red flashing light in the centre, travelling from west to east. There was no sound. It appeared to be very

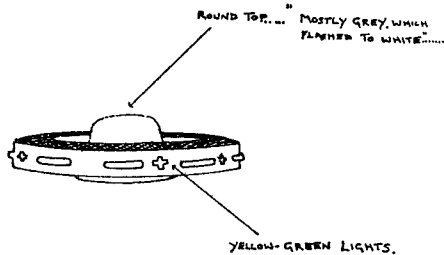


low, and as it neared the western horizon, an orange light curved eastwards from it: as he went behind the flats, it seemed to be coming in his direction. Robert went to the washing area in order to get a better view, but both objects abruptly disappeared.

* * *

'Flashing egg-yolk'

Inv R Jones Pugh



On 9 February 1977, a pupil at Pembroke Comprehensive School whose hobby is drawing, went to school at about 8.45 am. He was quite early and few people were about. After walking around for a while, he heard a buzzing noise and looked round to see a 'plate or saucer-shaped UFO, mostly silver.' It had yellow-green lights on the side and 'kind of retro-rockets.' On top of the craft was a 'round thing like an egg-yolk.' This was mostly grey, but flashed to white. The witness tried to find someone else to con-

firm the report, but by the time he had done so, the object had disappeared. The whole incident lasted about 45 seconds. The object was sharply defined and 'stayed completely still but revolved.' Witness noticed that birds nearby were disturbed.

* * *

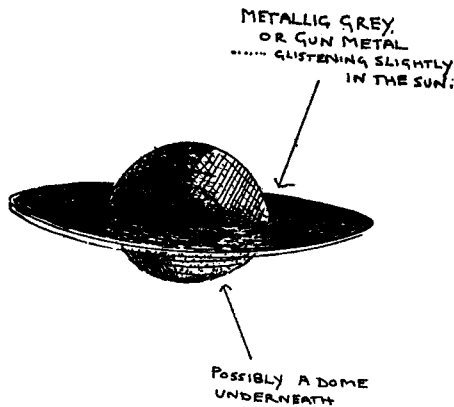
Walthamstow disc

Inv A Collins

Though apparently first sighted and drawn from a second floor window by two designers some six years ago, it was only recently that three further witnesses were located and interviewed, largely due to the persistence of Andy Collins and Barry King. The date of the original report was 19 November 1971, but due to the lapse of time, the witnesses could not confirm this, and indeed, were inclined to place the occurrence a couple of months earlier. Other features, however, seem to show that the reports are of the same object.

On the afternoon concerned, all three witnesses, Mrs Hazel Piggott, Mrs Jaquel, Charles and Mrs Lorraine Monksfield were travelling along Forest Road, Walthamstow towards Spruce Hill Road, where two of them lived. They were returning home from a babies' clinic. Hazel Piggott's two-year-old child suddenly pointed up at the sky, indicating to his mother that she should look. On glancing up towards the south, they could see, around 1,000-1,500 feet up, a disc 'cruising' towards them. They described it as a silver-grey, or even gun metal in colour, and it had a large rim with a dome on top. Mrs Piggott thinks there may also have been a dome on the underside: no other protuberances were noted.

The witnesses watched the object for perhaps two to three minutes as it came from the Technical College area,



crossed right over them and then disappeared behind trees near the *Guardian* newspaper offices. One of the witnesses thought the object hovered for a short while, but cannot now be certain. All agreed it was travelling at the speed of a light aircraft and there was no sound at all.

* * *

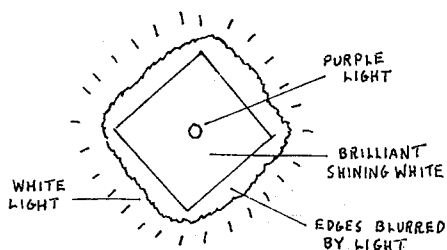
Doncaster 'diamond'

Inv S Thrower

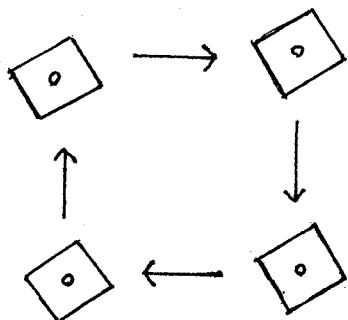
Mr Thrower has written in to give full details of an unusual report investigated in May 1975 referring to a sighting made by three fourteen-year-old boys on 14 January 1975 at 6.30 pm. He writes:

"The sighting occurred near Bentley Colliery in a field behind Victoria Road: map reference 569073 app. The boys were playing in the field when they became aware of a white light which lit the field up. Looking up into the cloudy sky they saw a diamond-shaped object 'about the size of an A4 sheet of paper.' It was at cloud level and was described independently by each boy, all of whom gave the same drawing.

continued overleaf



It then seemed to get bigger and the boys felt it was going to land: it made a 'sort of square dance' five or six times, each square taking about two or three minutes to complete.



After about ten to fifteen minutes the object went out 'just like a television being switched off,' the purple light in the centre being the last light to disappear. No sound at all had been heard. The boys were in the centre of the field and they felt they had 'been seen.' One of the boys was so frightened that he almost had to be carried by his friends who then ran off and went home."

* * *

Report from Wickford

Inv Andy Collins

See full-page illustration

At about 5.45 pm on 6 December 1976, John Bailey, aged 10, set out from his home in Larkwood Walk, Wickford, Essex, to buy some tobacco for his father, at a paper shop about a quarter-of-a-mile away in Nevenden

Road, the main road between Wickford and Basildon. John turned left at the top of Larkwood Walk into Hyde Way: then, when just about to turn right into Park Drive, he glanced up and caught sight of something in the sky.

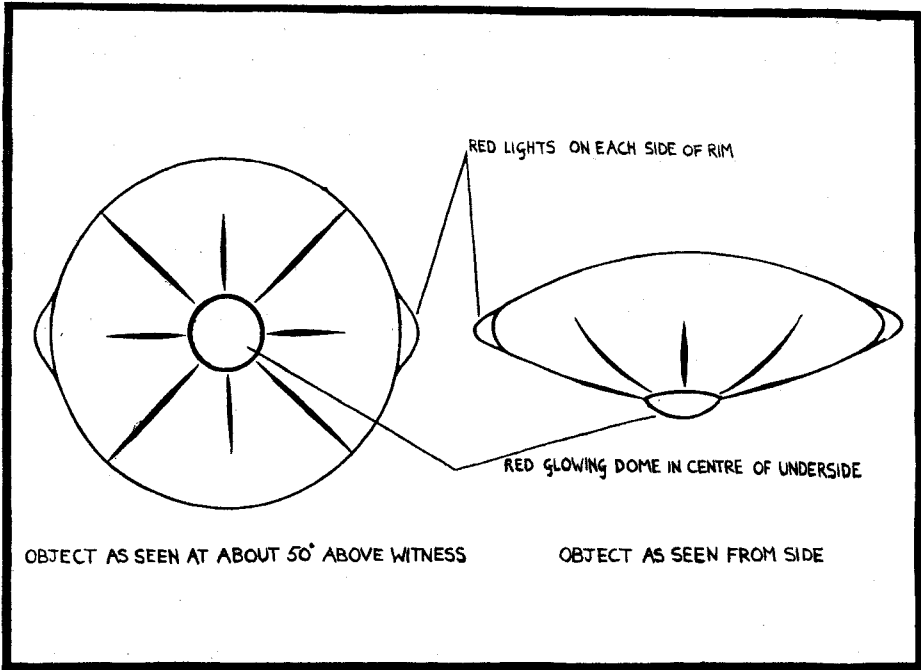
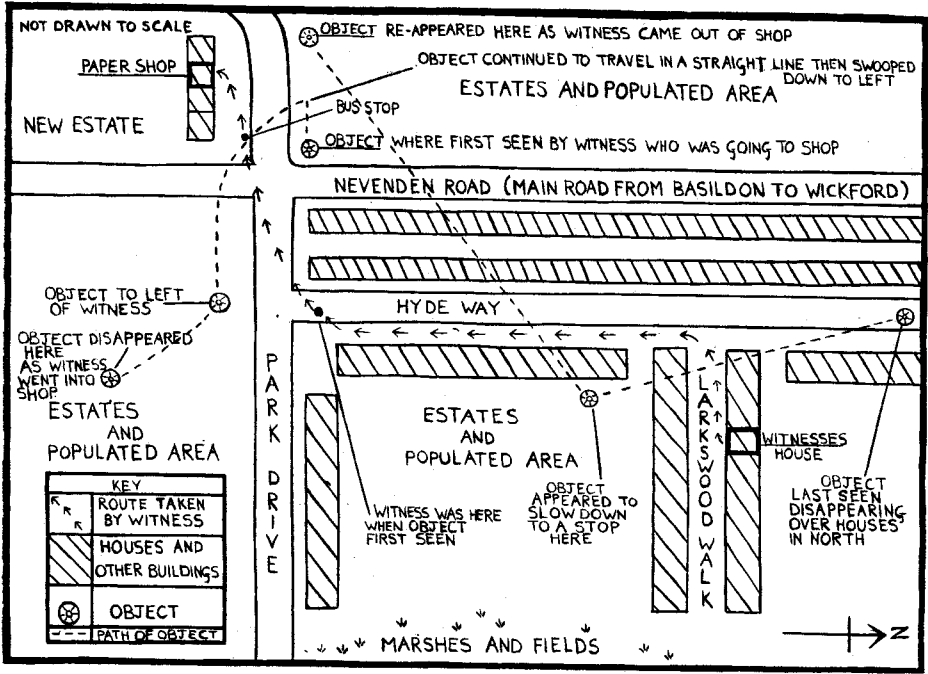
On his right, at an elevation of 50°, was a disc-shaped object, white in colour, with a large glowing red dome in the centre of the underside. On each side of the rim were two red lights. There also appeared to be a 'shimmering effect' around its outside. The disc was spinning on its axis and it looked as though there were lines, alternately long and short, underneath it. These seemed actually engraved into the disc.

The object was moving slowly, in the same direction as the boy. Suddenly it swooped across to his left, then carried on moving in the same direction. John then turned left into Park Drive, and the next time he looked up, the disc had disappeared, so he entered the paper shop and, having bought the tobacco, went outside to return home.

The disc reappeared, this time on his left and he decided to run back home. He crossed into Park Drive from Nevenden Road, then evidently the object swooped across again to the right, and from then on, appeared to follow him all the way down Park Drive and most of Hyde Way, where, he said, it almost seemed to stop spinning and remained nearly motionless before again spinning fast and continuing on its course. John last saw it going out of view to the north behind some houses.

He rushed into his house in a state and his father immediately asked him what was wrong. John started relating his story, and straight away his father ran into the front garden to try to see the object: his son joined him. Together they noticed three white lights in

continued on page 14

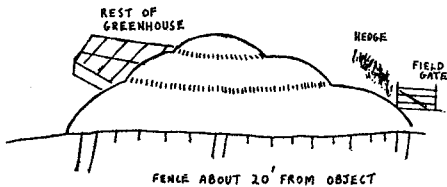


formation travelling in an arc from the south-west towards the north-west: these were shortly followed by three red lights in an exactly similar formation, direction and course: these seemed to be trying to catch up with the first set. According to the father, both sets were much too large and strange-looking for aircraft lights. This second part of the sighting lasted for four minutes, taking the time up to 6.08 pm, the two incidents together covering just over twenty minutes.

* * *

Littlehaven Landing

Inv W. G. Cale



About 7.50 am on Saturday, 26 March, 1977, Mrs Josephine Hewison, 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 the greenhouse in the 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 were there any signs 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 thirty five feet. It towered above the greenhouse like a double decker bus. Mrs Hewison 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.

* * *

Pembroke pear-shape and humanoid

Inv R Jones Pugh

Illustration on front cover by Jennifer Cook

Stephen Taylor was walking home from a visit to his girlfriend on 13 March, 1977: the time was 9 pm and he looked up to see a well-defined pear-shaped object in the sky: this was glowing and had an orange light around it: there was scattered cloud about but some stars were visible. He went into a friend's house to tell him of his sighting but was not believed. About half-a-mile further on he became aware that something was blocking out lights that he could usually see on the horizon: he felt afraid but didn't know why: then he realised the lights were blocked out because of a black shape grounded in a field nearby. This appeared quite large, some twenty feet by thirty to forty feet and there was a dim glow around 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 six feet tall wearing a transparent suit. He noticed it had very high cheek bones and unnatural eyes. Afraid, he struck out at the figure and ran. His sighting at 9 pm had lasted about five seconds: his encounter with the landed craft and humanoid occurred about 9.30 pm and lasted for a few minutes.

Subsequently a number of further incidents have been reported including a seven-foot tall silver-suited figure appearing at the living room window of Mr &

Mrs Coombs of Ripperston Farm, Little Haven: this was about 1 am on a Saturday morning and it was only a few days before that Mrs Coomb's car had been followed up the track leading to the farm by a glowing ball. When the figure was seen at the window their dog, normally noisy, was agitated but very quiet. Afterwards it wouldn't go outside.

* * *

In the last Journal I said I hoped to present some American reports in this issue. Space does not really allow me much scope (does it ever?), but I would like to refer to a comparatively little publicised report—or rather series of reports first brought to my attention by Lucius Farish. These came via Stanley Ingrams, a reporter on the Tennessee paper *The Pulaski Citizen* following the publication of a book *UFOs over the Tennessee Valley* which he co-authored with W A Darbro, a space scientist at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

The Swanner Story

Ingrams had come across a claim by a David Swanner of telepathic contact with aliens calling themselves Plantoes who 'come from a Twin Earth'—a planet almost the same as our own on the opposite side of the sun to ourselves and in the same orbital plane. (*Please, please, don't write to me to say such a planet doesn't exist—I know it's 99.9% recurring impossible!*). The Plantoes neatly side-step this, though, by stating that during an atomic war some 60 years ago, they erected a form of atomic screen which both rendered their planet safe from attack and made it invisible: the screen is alleged also to make our equations come out wrongly! But—as I wrote in a recent editorial—claims of contact from more improbable realms not infrequently appear to have a greater degree of confirmation than others, and so it is in this case.

Swanner first claimed to have been contacted telepathically on 17 January, 1974. He is married, now aged 37, with two daughters aged 13 and 5. He lives in an isolated section of North-West Giles County, Tennessee, 5 miles from the nearest phone at the end of a rough driveway in the middle of woods. He works for ten hours a day as a factory hand. He was 'told' that he had been watched by extra-terrestrials since he was 14 and had an 'unusual mind': he was to pass information given to him on to Ingrams: information which at this point only concerned the old theme of misuse of atomic energy, the idea being that Ingrams should publicise such information since the US Government were keeping the facts secret—again a well-worn theme.

On 25 January, 1974 a phone call was received by *The Pulaski Citizen*—Ingram's paper, saying the caller had witnessed Swanner entering a glowing white ball in the woods, having driven up to it in his truck. Ten minutes later the thing returned, Swanner alighted and re-entered the truck: the caller had taken the number of the truck hence the other details were established. On being questioned, Swanner remembered nothing of this experience, though a second witness was located who had been farther down the track in the woods and had seen a white flash. On 6 February, 1974, Swanner claims he was invited aboard a domed disc about 20-25 feet in diameter and given a physical examination of some sort with x-ray type pictures projected on a screen. This time he was apparently treated to a 45 minute trip to Hawaii and back.

On his return it was suggested to him by Ingrams that he should ask for something tangible in the way of proof, and several weeks later was given a small metal pellet as he was on his way to work before daylight. He was told,

' this is what you asked for ' and that it was ' blown ' on the outside of their craft as a form of heat shield, containing three ingredients. Ingrams gave cuttings from the pellet to four different people, and, according to his column of 2 October, 1974, *' The first two reports are in agreement. However, I have reason to believe that they got together and agreed upon the report, even though there was doubt in their minds as to the accuracy of the determination The report from the third sample determined it to be an alloy and gave the two metals involved, their percentage in the alloy and the purity which was 99.99%.'*

The Plantoes are allegedly between 4½ and 5½ feet in height, weigh 100-150 pounds and have a life-span of around 125-175 years. They are stated to be white, about 1500 years ahead of us in technology and experts at mental telepathy—and it may be a significant point that whilst it is alleged they could not communicate directly with Ingrams, they were once reported as saying they could ' put ideas into his head.' It was claimed they had 13 different models of craft, and certainly in the sightings and contacts reported no two were of a similar design.

Other contacts with the Plantoes were reported to Ingrams including some by a close relative who was contacted telepathically several times, and who on 20 March, 1974 walked on to a football field and *' was about two-thirds of the way down the field when suddenly I was in the ship—until then I hadn't seen it I heard the door close and there were the two little men.'* (The ' contacts of this witness were allegedly called Alton and Tombo). This meeting resulted in a trip to Northern Australia and back. Later, on 5 May, 1974, the same witness was guided to a landed UFO near a farm in Giles County, a UFO some 75 to 100 feet long and football-shaped. At these and a later

meeting information was given to be relayed to Ingrams. This was for him to publish and ranged from information about scientific research to MIB, as well as predictions of earthquakes and similar happenings: latterly such information is said to have become increasingly unreliable and Ingrams now considers it probable he is being deliberately ' fed ' false information.

The foregoing is not by any means a complete summary of the ' Planto saga '—further details of this and other US claims will be published as space permits. Many may reject this type of report out of hand: personally I find them very worthy of study in any event—whether they are true in whole or in part, whether they are consciously or unconsciously made up by the ' contactees ' or whether the wool is being pulled over our eyes by the entities concerned. What does intrigue me is that in many reported contact cases, the ' aliens ' display a remarkable degree of omniscience, claiming to be able to explain many Fortean phenomena from the Bermuda Triangle to the Yeti: this would, of course, be permissible if they were all to give the same explanations—but they don't! Further, their omniscience usually stops short of being aware of the existence of most of the other groups of aliens who, over the last decade or so, are stated to have honoured us with their presence. Nevertheless, I consider a study of contactee reports—and the contactees themselves—is more likely to bring us closer to a solution of the UFO mystery than almost any other approach.

Our next Report Extra will include details of the suspected landing and trace case at Hainault, Essex on Tuesday, 3 May, 1977 investigated by Barry King.

Uforum

'An Elf in Chap's Clothing'

I read with interest the report on the alleged contact at Farnborough which appeared in the Jan/Feb 1976 issue of the Journal. Given that it is still considered genuine, I would like to make some comments on the case—especially regarding the name used by the entity. This, as you will recall, was either Freka or Alfreka.

Sometime after seeing this article I happened to read *Hobgoblin and Sweet Puck* by Gillian Edwards—a book tracing the evolution of fairy names and belief through history. Among a list of Saxon elf-names in Chapter three I came upon: 'Aelfric, (translated), elf-king or elf-ruler: as Alfric re-borrowed from the French as Auberon or Aubrey.'

Another case of Keel's Ultra-terrestrial name-juggling or a further boost for Magonia?

*Nick Maloret
Watsup—Wessex
Association for the
Study of Unexplained
Phenomena*

Dear Sir,

I read your article in Vol 5 No 6 with great interest (Up, Down, Around or . . . ?). At the close you ask, 'are we asking the right questions?' I feel we are asking all the right questions but one: that is, 'where do you think

UFOs come from? Of course, Bufora is working on various hypotheses, but I feel these have remained in the dark with no one saying 'I have it' and laying themselves open to ridicule.

Many people have their own theories and there are some who think they have solved the UFO mystery. What I consider we should do next is to pool all the theories into a 'think tank' and make different theories known to members. (Through the Journal?). These should then be criticised, examined and questioned by all members.

Eventually the theory (ies) most popular will be unquestionable, and at this stage we shall be near to solving the UFO mystery. I have my own theory . . . and would like to hear those of other members.

*Stephen Davis
Ilkston, Derby*

Nice to know someone reads my editorials, Stephen! I'm not at all sure, though, that the most popular theory would turn out to be unquestionable: nor would we be any nearer proving it. In Vol 3 No 12 (Autumn 1973) I contributed an article 'Take your pick' which listed at least eleven different theories: you might like to send for this back number. Certainly, though, I will bear in mind the idea of setting out different theories and their pros and cons in the Journal—Ed.

1977/1978 Lecture Series: Kensington Central Library, Campden Hill Road, W8:

Saturday, 3 September, 1977. 7 pm: THE UFO MYSTERY—SOLVED?
Speaker: Ian Grant. *Chairman:* Norman Oliver, FRAS.

Saturday, 1 October, 1977. 7 pm: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.
Speaker: Jean-Luc Delrieu (Special guest from France). *Chairman:* C A E O'Brien, CBE CT MA FGS FRAS.

Sighting Summaries

Presentation by Pauline Grego

Code No.	Date	Time	Place	Report	Class	Investigator/ Credit
Uncoded	Unknown	Early Dawn	Hanley, Staffs	Cylindrical grey object		—
Uncoded	Summer 1944	1145	St Ives, Huntingdon	Dark grey ball shape	B4c	—
Uncoded	1958/59	1800/1815	Newcastle, Staffs	Descending orange object		—
Uncoded	Dec 1965	App 2000	Cookstown, Co Tyrone	Hovering tilted 'saucer'		MILES JOHNSTON
Uncoded	Summer 1968 or 69	Evening	Marlow, Bucks	'Fireball'		UFOSIS
74-143	Nov 1974	1900	Tankerton, Kent	Three light-blue triangles	C4b	V MARTIN
74-144	Sum 1974	Dawn	Dagenham, Essex	Orange cigar	C3c	B KING
74-146	Mid-1974	0100-0200	Bandoran, NI	Round, glowing white-grey object		T CULLEN
75-259	1.11.75	2252	Belfast, N.I.	Five gold oval objects		BUFORA, N.I.
75-260	28.11.75	1721	Belfast, N.I.	Very bright red object		M DUFFY
76-349	2.11.76	0130	Maidstone, Kent	Huge dark red object emitting ray		—
76-354	24.10.76	2230	Upminster, Essex	Spherical orange object	C4a	A COLLINS
76-355	27.11.76	0715	Wickford, Essex	Pink crescent-shaped object	C4b	BOB EASTON
76-356	1.11.76	1945	Draycott, Staffs	Elongated light(s)	C4c	D JAMES
76-359	31.12.76	1750	Cheadle, Staffs	Dark object with lights and legs	C4c	D JAMES
76-360	2.8.76	2000-2130	Dudley, Staffs	Two round and one grey object	C4b	D JAMES
76-361	8.10.76	0330	Warminster, Wilts	Moving light near ground level	B3b	A COLLINS/ B KING
76-362 (a)	29.11.76	0745	E Malling, Kent	Small white-yellow disc	A4a	J HIPKISS/ J CASTLE
76-362 (b)	29.11.76	0200	Gravesend, Kent	Bright white diamond shape	A4a	B BASTER
76-362 (c)	29.11.76	0315	Gravesend, Kent	Round white object	A4a	L DALE
76-362 (d)	29.11.76	0320	W Kingsdown, Kent	Very bright white object	A4a	L DALE
76-362 (e)	29.11.76	0320	W Kingsdown, Kent	Very bright white object	A4a	S J BATEMAN
76-364	6.6.76	2230	Crooklands, Cumbria	Bright moving ball with tail	C4a	N STEPHENSON
76-365	31.12.76	1900	Congleton, Cheshire	Three bright orange lits	C4c	P ROGERS, UFOSIS
76-367	12.10.76	2030	Dudley, W Midlands	Round orange object		M PRITCHARD, UFOSIS
76-369	12.10.76	2000	Dudley, W Midlands	White pulsating ball	C4b	M PRITCHARD, UFOSIS
76-370	1.7.76	2200	Sallins, Eire	'Descending red cloud'	C4b	T HIGGINS
76-371 (a)	1.7.76	2325	Sallins, Eire	Red, white object descending and ascending		T HIGGINS

Code No	Date	Time	Place	Report	Class	Investigator/ Credit
76-371 (b)	1.7.76	2325	Sallins, Eire	Red, white object descending and ascending		T HIGGINS
76-372	5.7.76	Midnight	Nr. Sallins, Eire	Large red oval object		T HIGGINS
76-373	31.10.76	1915	Sallins, Eire	Descending red objects		J HIND
76-374 (a)	31.10.76	2200	Dublin, Eire	Red undulating object		
76-374 (b)	31.10.76	2200	Dublin, Eire	Red undulating object		
76-374 (c)	31.10.76	2200	Dublin, Eire	Red undulating object		
77-007	25.1.77	0728.	Penrith, Cumbria	Slow-moving hazy 'headlamp'		
77-008	9.1.77	1855	Huntingdon, Staffs	Manoeuvring red lit	C4b	D JAMES
77-009	20-21.1.77	2130/0400	Penkull, Staffs	Bright ovoid light	C4b	D JAMES
77-010	26.1.77	0845	Belper, Derbyshire	Silver bullet shape	C4c	S M DAVIS
77-011	7.2.77	1230	Newcastle, Staffs	Manoeuvring cigar-shape changing colour	C4b	D JAMES
77-012	5.2.77	2055	Porthill, Staffs	Bright object	C4c	D JAMES
77-013	14.2.77	1437	Southend, Essex	Oval, descending object	C4c	A COLLINS
77-014	13.2.77	2015	Barking, Essex	Gold star-like object	C4b	B KING
77-015	3.2.77	1842	Maidstone, Kent	Dome-shaped 'mass' with red light	C4c	J CASTLE
77-016	7.2.77	2215	Bearsted, Kent	Manoeuvring object with red, white lights	C4b	J CASTLE
77-017	3.1.77	2045-2105	Smethwick, Staffs	Bright 'light bulb'	C4c	R M CROOK
77-018	3.2.77	1736	Heanor, Derbyshire	Flaming red elliptical object	C4c	S M DAVIS
77-019	3.2.77	2000-2130	Hornchurch, Essex	Dull oval emitting red spot	C4b	BOB EASTON
77-020 (a)	17.2.77	2030	Grantham, Lincs	Oval rotating object	C4b	P HUDSON
77-020 (b)	17.2.77	2030	"	"	C4b	
77-024	16.3.77	1450	Ruchill Park, Glasgow	Silver-grey 'joined oblongs'	C4b	T O'NEILL
77-025	16.1.77	1600	Hyde Park, London	Two hovering 'boom-crangs'	C4b	J SHAW
77-026	5.2.77	2330	Welling, Kent	Dark oval with lights	C4b	—
77-027	4.3.77	2020-2150	Chipperfield, Herts	Brilliant round object	C4a	A COLLINS
77-029	3.3.77	1815	Romford, Essex	Dart shape with orange lights	C3c	B KING
77-031	4.3.77	1800	Chadwell Heath, Essex	Silvery oblong	C3c	B KING
77-032	23.2.77	1920	Rainham, Essex	Pairs of orange lits	C3b	B KING
77-033	2.3.77	2130	East Ham, London	Two white lights	C3c	B KING
77-034	2.3.77	1845	Dagenham, Essex	Orange lits	C3b	B KING
77-035	2.3.77	1915	Dagenham, Essex	Octagon with lights	C2c	B KING
77-036	February 1977	1845	Stroud, Glos	Two hovering objects with orange light	C4b	G A BAKER
77-037	24.1.77	0850	Trowbridge, Wilts	Moving 'smoke-ring'	C4b	G A BAKER

continued overleaf

Code No	Date	Time	Place	Report	Class	Investigator/ Credit
77-038 (a)	5.1.77	1900	Naas, Eire	Oval flashing object		T HIGGINS
77-038 (b)	5.1.77	1900	"	"		
77-038 (c)	5.1.77	1900	"	"		
77-039 (a)	14.2.77	1005	Benfleet, Essex	Shiny bullet-shaped object	C3b	P. O'Grady
77-039 (b)	14.2.77	1005	Benfleet, Essex	Shiny bullet-shaped object	C3b	
77-040	5.3.77	2150	Long Newton, Cleveland	Round blue disc	C4b	T WHITAKER, BUFORA, Yorks
77-041	21.1.77	1740	Intake, Yorks	Blunt cigar-shape	C4c	J. E WHITLAM

74-143 November 1974. 19.00.
Tankerton

Stuart Waller and a friend were walking in Tankerton, when both noticed three flashing sharply-defined triangles moving south-east above the tree-line of a wood, about one mile away, in triangular formation. The sighting lasted about fifteen seconds, ending when the objects moved upwards into cloud.

Inv V Martin

76-349 21 November 1976. 01.30.
Maidstone, Kent.

The witness sighted a huge, round and sharply defined dark red mass flying very fast overhead and abruptly coming to a halt. It then projected a dark red ray onto a nearby farmer's field. As the ray moved further away, it became lighter in colour, going from red to orange. The object continued on a westerly course, speeded up and faded into the distance.

Inv V Martin

76-355 27 November 1976. 07.15.
Wickford, Essex.

On the morning of 27 November, Mrs Howell had just finished serving early-morning tea, when Mrs Longmure entered the kitchen, glanced out of the window, and noticed a pink crescent-shaped object in the sky moving east. She immediately drew Mrs Howell's attention to the object, and they both watched it manoeuvring for about five minutes, after which the object moved upwards, disappearing into some cloud.

Inv Bob Easton

76-362 29 November 1976. 07.45.
East Malling and Gravesend.

Miss Ann Smith was cycling to work at East Malling Research Station on 29 November at 07.45, when she noticed a bright light above the Station buildings in the western sky.

She observed it for about four seconds, after which it disappeared, reappearing in the same position five seconds later, somewhat brighter. At Gravesend the same day, Mr Burton saw a bright object come into view from the north at 02.00, carrying out various manoeuvres and beaming a very bright blue ray down to the ground five times, each beam lasting five to ten seconds. He called the police, who also saw something, but could not confirm the blue rays. Their sighting was of an apparently round, bright object travelling westwards for about twenty seconds.

Inv J Hipkiss,

J Castle, B Baster, L Dale

77-014 13 February 1977. 20.15.
Barking, Essex.

Mr Bessent was casually looking out of his south-facing window, when he noticed a star-like object, deep yellow-gold in colour, hovering above the high-rise flats in front of him. He stood watching for a few seconds, when the object began to move slowly eastwards in a straight line. After calling his wife they both watched as the 'star' arced upwards ten to fifteen degrees, then 'flared up' to about twice its original size and brilliance. This took three to four seconds. The object then became very small, turned red and was lost to view. Within ten seconds, the whole episode was repeated exactly, when finally, as a plane flew past, the light overtook the plane at two or three times its speed.

Inv Barry King

77-024 16 March 1977. 14.50.
Ruchill Park, Glasgow.

Witness was sitting on a park bench with her two-year-old child in Ruchill Park, when she heard a noise resembling a plane, although there was a noticeable difference in sound. On looking up, she observed a strange huge object, fairly low and moving fast, though not

unusually so. It was long, shaped like two oblong balloons joined together, but hazy in the middle, and she had the impression that there were one or two triangular shapes pointing up from the middle through the haze. She described it as unreal looking, 'like something out of a science-fiction movie.' The object then went behind some cloud, dipping lower, and finally disappearing behind trees and bushes.

Ino T O'Neill

77-025 16 January 1977. 16.00.
Hyde Park, London.

Witness and her friend were watching a flock

of birds when, noticing that one of them was stationary, realised it was no bird. They then thought it might be a kite, but it was too high and there was no wind. For this reason, and that it was motionless, a glider was also ruled out, as was a plane. They then considered the possibility of a weather balloon, but it was the wrong shape. As they watched, they noticed a second object further away and possibly higher, the same 'boomerang' shape. With neither object moving, they watched for some ten minutes until they became bored.

Ino J Shaw

Lecture Summaries

Jenny Randles

Bufora Research Evening 5 March, 1977

Once again this evening, in which short papers on various topics of a research nature were presented, proved of great interest. There were three papers, and each speaker managed to provide some stimulus for discussion afterwards.

David Viewing has given some excellent talks to Bufora in the past, but perhaps none more controversial than this one. He entitled it *The Future of UFO Investigation—some proposals*. In it he called for the abandonment of all UFO Research groups—although he did recognise that this proposal might not prove too popular! His reasoning was that our aim was to prove the extra-terrestrial hypothesis (which is of course not the aim of Bufora) because there was no support for any other theory (something which many strongly disagree with). In order to do this a more rigorous sifting of data had to be done, and non-ufo reports should never be published. It was this self-created noise which was hiding the signal of potentially significant ETH reports. According to his scruples, even the Condon Committee had not done enough sifting, and the

only method of achieving this was to create a professionalised investigation team free from the quasi-religious membership which appears to surround ufo groups. It should be noted in this respect that Bufora is working along these lines—whilst at the same time not abandoning its group structure—so as to provide highly skilled investigators by development of the training programme.

Mark Stenhoff, Bufora Council member, then provided some thoughts on presenting the ufo problem to the scientific community. He had used some psychology tests on physicists and ufologists, in separate samples, to look at their attitudes. He found the ufologists less objective, more paranoiac, more religious and more prone to accept borderline phenomena. The results were not conclusive as the samples were small, but I doubt if anyone would be terribly surprised by them. However, they do indicate a definite belief polarisation between ufology and science. Ufology needs to be more self-critical. Reports will have to be written in scientific terminology if they are to be palatable to science. They must also be based purely upon the assumption that they represent a new physical phenomenon,

not necessarily a particular hypothesis. The biggest problem will be to overcome the scientific tendency to pass the buck if direct relevance to a scientist's field of study is not shown. Attempts must be made to show this relevance.

The evening closed with Robert Digby giving some information on the contingency plans for dealing with landing cases with traces. He also looked at some of the problems inherent within trace analysis and investigation.

* * *

UFOs—The Photographic Evidence. Robert Digby 2 April, 1977

Following on from his highly popular lecture at the Birmingham Conference last Autumn, Bob provided some more insights into the problem of analysis of photographic cases. He also illustrated the talk profusely, which greatly enhanced the presentation.

In general terms he stated that investigators were too ready to accept photographs as proof of what the witness says that he saw. In fact this need not be so and from their analysis the percentage of identifiable or hoax photographs is the same as the percentage for non-photographic reports—about 90%. Of course hoaxing is a far greater problem with photographs, and it is becoming something of a schoolboy hobby to fake ufo pictures. The case of Alex Birch, who for ten years fooled all experts with his photograph until admitting a hoax on television shows the dangers. Investigators need to be very wary of ufo photographs.

The requirements for a good ufo case were illustrated. These are:—

1. Two independent witnesses to the taking of the photograph.
2. The original negative, plus the whole film on which the ufo section occurs, to be submitted to qualified scientists for analysis.
3. Reference points on the photograph with the alleged object.
4. At best a movie film, at second best a series of still pictures.

One case did fit all of these criteria—the famous Trinidad Island case where photos were taken by a scientific survey team during the International Geophysical Year.

To conclude, he explained how a photographic analysis should be conducted. Firstly, the photograph is assessed for subjective potential. Then all natural possibilities should be examined, both for what may have been photographed and for camera or film defects. The possibility of hoaxing must then be carefully examined. If these tests are passed the consistency within the story and its relation should be looked at, and tests to assess the overall consistency should be applied. It has, for example, been found that photographs could not have been taken because of the lighting conditions. A good quality photographic case which passes these tests is very important—but a case which does not is most misleading evidence if it is used in the wrong way.

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Lectures resume on Sat, 3 September: see notice and lecture card.

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Out of this world

Such was the title of a TV documentary on BBC 1 on Tuesday 10 May. In places it did a very good job, and it was refreshing to find most of the interviewing unobtrusive and not weighted against the ufologist. Unfortunately, by accident or design (can one possibly consider it accidental?), the two sky-watchers who opened and closed the programme by scouring Box Hill for UFOs with the aid of a photoflood cum mini radio-telescope detector, were the spitting and vocal images of Dud and Pete! Neither did the appearance of the Aetherius Society charging a prayer-power projector do a great deal to enhance the scientific image!

Nevertheless, much of the remainder of the programme—though individual contributions were obviously severely

cut—was well worth watching, and as well as interviews with Mrs Bowles and Mr Pratt of Winchester fame, and Mrs Roestenberg, whose 1954 sighting of a tilted craft above her house, was a 'classic' of its type, Charles Bowen, Gordon Creighton, Arthur Shuttlewood and the Earl of Clancarty were also featured, as too were various photographs and films.

To me, the best contributions came from Mrs Roestenberg, whose clear-cut account of her experience I found most impressive, and Charles Bowen who, though clearly 'cut,' was solidly convincing even in areas such as the AVB case where presentation is by no means easy. Despite its faults, mainly due, perhaps, to a desire on the part of the producer to 'maintain a balance,' I found the programme—once past the prayer chants of Dr King and his disciples—quite compelling viewing.

Norman Oliver.

RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME AND ESSAY COMPETITION

In the May/June 1976 Journal, Vol 5, No 1 a brief mention was made of an appeal to sponsor research grants and a research article competition. Although the response was not as good as was hoped, we have now launched the Research Grants Scheme and Essay Competition.

These schemes are intended to stimulate active involvement in research projects by individuals in the UK working on their own or in groups at home and utilising both existing literature and information from cases and questionnaires selected from Bufora's archives or indeed, from any other sources.

The amount available for grants and competition prizes in any year will depend upon Bufora's financial situation and initially the funds allocated for both schemes are relatively small—

£100 for grants: £30 for essays.

After becoming a limited company, one of Bufora's major future targets is charity status and the potential financial advantages this can bring. As finances improve, so will the amount of our income that can be earmarked for this much needed research incentive. Donations for these schemes are still welcome, and will be of direct help in increasing the total finance available.

Lack of space prevents us giving greater detail about these new ideas, but any member particularly interested in applying for a research grant or contributing an essay, should write for a copy of the grant application form and conditions or for the essay competition rules. These can be obtained from: A R Pace, Director of Research, Newchapel Observatory, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

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"*WHY I BELIEVE ADAMSKI*" (1960). (With excerpts of letters from George Adamski to Dr Davidson).

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"*THE CIA BECOMES INVOLVED*" (1958). (Radio signals analysed by US agencies).

"*CAPT RUPPELT'S BOOK AND THE SECRET AGENCY*" (1957). (The CIA mislead the Air Force).

. . . . **Partial reprints** of significant portions of two US Government publications:

"*UFOs: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY*". (Library of Congress, 1969).

"*AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION OF FLYING OBJECTS.*" (US Air Force, 1968).

IN ADDITION all material from earlier editions is retained, including a full photocopy of AFR 200-2: many early USAF press releases; the Robertson Panel summary of 1953, with letters from Capt Ruppelt and Dr Menzel; "*An Open Letter to Saucer Researchers*" and "*ECM+CIA=UFO*," by Dr Davidson; the full 1966 and final 1969 Project Blue Book Summary Reports; etc, etc.

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A recent report from the north of Chile tells of a corporal in charge of a seven-man strong army unit who, after approaching two brilliant lights in the desert, suddenly disappeared—watched by the other six. A quarter of an hour later they saw him reappear, but with several days' beard growth and the date on his watch five days ahead. On re-appearing, he lost consciousness and when he recovered, kept repeating the words: '*the light, the light,*' followed by '*you will never know who we are or where we come from but we will return again.*'

Silver Suited Beings—Now is the time!

Reports coming from the Pembroke National Park area of Dyfed, (*see Report Extra*) make the Winchester encounter (and subsequent claims) of last November seem like an hors d'oeuvre. Three schools reported daytime discs. Mrs Pauline Coombs and her husband were chased in her car by a bolide that apparently destroyed the car's electrical system. On another occasion, she and her husband found a silver-suited giant watching television with them through their farmhouse window. Mrs Grenville was awakened by a noise like a central heating pump and looked out to see silver-suited men walking around a fiery disc: burn marks were found in the field next day. Mrs Bassett's car radio crackled when she saw a strange blue flashing light which was also said to have disrupted television reception in the area. A light was seen going up Great Treffgarne Mountain co-incidentally with a power blackout. Another strange powercut occurred a few days later while I was staying at Solva by St Brides Bay in June. Children watched a silver-suited man walk clean through a turf hedge and later reported physiological effects. Stephen Taylor saw a silver-suited fish-eyed being near the perimeter of the NATO base, RAF Brawdy! He said a dog was scared out of its wits.

The activity in Dyfed and other parts of the UK continues, and we may never have another opportunity like this to record such 'high strangeness'

phenomena. It is unprecedented for the UK. Buforia Journal and Buforia's administration is covered by your subscriptions. Our research is funded by your generosity in giving donations. We have developed sophisticated investigation techniques over the years, but cannot cope with the present wealth of cases without your help. Valuable details of the physical traces including possible radioactivity, the power cuts, the television interference, besides detailed descriptions of the silver-suited beings and their machines, need to be gathered quickly before they are lost and forgotten for all time. We need funds now, to cover travelling and research expenses of our voluntary investigators, so they can spend time in Dyfed and other out of the way areas. You can enable them to carry out in-depth investigation into specific cases—perhaps the particularly striking report of a daytime disc dropping out of sight into the sea not far from the NATO base! To cover this essential work we need a donation of about £5 from each member. Not all can afford this much, so those who can give more, please give generously.

Lionel Beer—Chairman.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to Buforia Ltd, and sent to the Hon Treasurer, Stephen Smith, MA, 5 Arndale Road, Sherwood, Nottingham M95 3GT (or myself if you wish). Donors will be listed in a future Journal.

Reports from Australia tell of three perfect discs found buried in a coal mine: each have a diameter of five feet and resemble steel objects which have been long buried. Aborigine folk lore in the area of discovery recalls a craft from the heavens visiting them in the distant past. The discs are being subjected to scientific examination.

Personal Column

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

(The use of the word 'successful' should not be taken to mean you will automatically see a UFO, but Malcolm's literature DOES quote names of purchasers who have.—Ed.)

UFO Photographs. George Adamski Venusian Scout Ship available in gloss or matt. SAE/SASE for details to: R Lawrence, The H G Wells Society, 47 Belsize Square, London, NW3, England.

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

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The Use of Analytical Instruments in the Search for Extra-terrestrial Spacecraft <i>David Viewing</i>	30p	50p
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Aims: To encourage and promote unbiased scientific investigation and research into UFO phenomena. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to UFOs. To co-ordinate UFO research on a nationwide scale and to co-operate with people and organisations engaged on similar research in all parts of the World.

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