

# BUFORA

JOURNAL

Volume 4 No. 3 Summer 1974



Published by The British U.F.O. Research Association

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# THE BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1964

(Incorporating the London U.F.O. Research Organisation, founded 1959  
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## THE BUFORA JOURNAL

Volume 4    Number 3

Summer, 1974.

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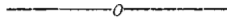
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# EDITORIAL

Yes, there IS a difference about the Journal. For the past four issues I've had to dig pretty deeply to present the UFOs: this time they've been rather more forthcoming, so I thought for once it would make a pleasant change for most of the Journal to be devoted to sighting and contact reports—normal features will be resumed in the next issue! One thing strikes me, however, namely that (excluding separate reports of the same object) all are different. This is very true of our subject generally, and it is comparatively rare that one comes across incidents similar to one another. (Brinsley Le Poer Trench pinpointed one of the exceptions to this in our last issue). What does it prove? Whilst I still consider it perfectly logical to accept that some proportion of reports may well be of extra-terrestrial craft, I also consider it logical to accept that somewhere, somehow, there is a befuddling, confusing influence at work—indeed, this is by no means confined to UFOs: it is part and parcel of our existence, past, present and—most probably!—future. But ah! Wouldn't it be nice to break through this "befuddling barrier" and uncover the mysteries behind? Or—would our minds stand the shock if we did? We can but try to find out!



In the April 1974 issue of the WESSEX UFO RECORD, John Cleary-Baker has an excellent editorial with its main theme: "Materialism is not and cannot be true." Aside from not entirely going along with the idea that all UFOs are necessarily NON-extra-terrestrial, the following quote from John's editorial finds me in full agreement: "Even the UFOs have failed them, (the materialists) the UFOs which were supposed to be spaceships of a race of super beings—presumably ultra-materialistic super beings—from the stars. Instead, through the very instrumentality of these UFOs, more and more students are being guided to the study of the metaphysical truths by which, in course of time, Man will regain his faith in himself and a knowledge of his high destiny." I know many of whom this is true—indeed it is true of myself—for it is impossible, unless one is a complete ufological sceptic to begin with, not to come to realise that one is dealing, not just with "hardware," but with sources of knowledge, intelligence, truth, (and "untruth" as suggested above!), such sources rendering a completely materialistic explanation of the phenomenon we are studying very unlikely indeed.

\* \* \* \* \*

**WARMINSTER SKYWATCH CARAVAN** will be available from Easter until the end of October, details from Mrs. M. Carey, 61 Corton, Nr. WARMINSTER, Wilts., or Mr. A. West, 49 Mill Road, BURGESS HILL, Sussex. (S.A.E. essential, thanks).

\* \* \* \* \*

The clouds roll by  
The sea is calm and blue  
But somewhere in the endless  
Neverceasing everlasting night  
Of the deep dark Universe  
Some small thing stirs.

It is so minute  
Would seem insignificant  
Even to the microscopic eye  
But from this thing  
New life is about to spring  
And into the world of whirring science  
An atom is born.

It quivers like the selenic dust  
But never moves an inch  
It gleams and then as if by chance  
Something clicks  
And jerks, and then  
Slowly it begins to spin  
Round go the electrons faster  
Faster, on, on, on go the protons—

—Charged with the fire of a million stars  
It gathers speed and out  
Out, out into the morning light  
It quickly goes.

Many a micro-second flits away  
And still alone a solitary atom  
Strolls busily about the galaxy  
Then as predestined by the mighty brain  
It meets in some dark corner  
The perfect partner of its small  
Atomic dreams  
As if where two units  
Made to one  
Linked and rejoicing  
They go on.

On, on the way to form  
in not so many years  
A perfect man, a perfect woman  
And from them  
As from the atoms  
Comes the immortality of the human race  
And of the Universe.

CAROL GODSELL.

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## TWO BRITISH CONTACT CLAIMS

Norman Oliver

### 1.—SAUCERS AND THE NIGHTINGALES

This case was first presented in COS-MOS No. 5, September 1969, and I include both this and the item about Mr. Lancashire to show that people ARE to be found in Britain who claim contact experiences of various kinds—and also because I consider they are well worth recording. I have met Peter Nightingale, his wife Frances and their family on a number of occasions and can see no reason at all why events should not have happened exactly as claimed.

Peter Nightingale writes, he is a teacher of music, has studied optics and knows his Astronomy. He, together with his wife and children lay claim to about half-a-dozen UFO sightings in the years between 1955 and 1966. On one occasion their sighting of a cigar shaped craft over Horsham in Sussex was substantiated by a number of other people. He, and his wife were—and still are as far as I know—always on the look out for anything unusual in the sky, but I think you will agree that six or seven sightings over around ten years does not indicate a “will to believe” in anything they see.

Nevertheless, UFOs were always at the back of their minds, and it was in January 1967, that Peter's wife Frances experienced two telepathic contacts on successive nights at their Sussex home. Frances had gone to sleep and then woken up in the early hours. She is quite sure she DID wake up—that it was no dream—for two reasons. Firstly, although she normally sleeps soundly, when she wakes up at night she stays awake, and so it was this time. Secondly, when she dreams, she always dreams in colour, but what she saw was entirely in black and white.

She woke up suddenly, felt impelled to get up: couldn't understand why and wasn't pleased because she knew a sleepless night was in prospect. Then she felt calm, went back to bed and on doing so, received a mental picture of a Saucer with people in it. She could see men and controls, but one man's face in particular was in close-up. He smiled and informed her, "I want your husband to come into the garden—there is a message I want to give him!" Frances was petrified and declined, because she knew that her husband—who was asleep—would go like a shot and she was afraid something would happen to him. As she was thinking that, all those in the craft smiled as though, she said, her reaction, albeit silly, was the one they'd expected. In the end, after quite some time, they "gave her best," saying they would return later.

The following night she had a similar experience at 10 p.m. with her husband present and they were both fully awake. This time she acted as the "go-between," so to speak, between the crew and her husband, and when her husband asked a number of questions, some technical, the replies he received via his wife were outside the scope of her own knowledge. After a while communication became weaker and Frances was told, "we will come back," but on asking "when," the reply was, "we do not make appointments."

On the first occasion, when the suggestion was made that her husband should go out into the garden, Frances thought, "Well, what will you do then?" And immediately was given a picture of a craft hovering over the garden, showing a light shaft from the Saucer to the ground, and it was indicated that by stepping into this, transmission to the craft would be possible.

The men were tallish, human-like, wearing what appeared to be loose robes. (Actually, when I was questioning Frances about this point she turned to me and said, "You know, they looked quite like you!" Since I'm told the only person I resemble is Enoch Powell, I think you'll agree that a Saucerful of Enoch Powells in monks' robes would be a rather unusual sight!—Ed.)

Anyway, she had the impression they were hovering some way up, but would come down immediately they knew her husband had accepted their invitation. This apparently would be for him to go for a short trip, and on this first evening, Frances said she was afraid to look out of the window in case she might be hypnotised, but though she was afraid, this was in case anything should happen to her husband. The second time her husband Peter was too busy thinking of questions and asking them then to look out. This second occasion was for a shorter period and he didn't want to move away in case they stopped "transmitting" which did in fact occur quite quickly.

## 2.—WHAT HAPPENED TO MR. LANCASHIRE?

For the sake of simplicity, the contact experience of Mr. Lancashire is related in full detail. It should be noted, however, that his memory regarding what took place between his approaching the light source and finding himself back in his sentry-box was almost a total blank for years afterwards. He believes there was a deliberate attempt to erase these events from his mind, but notwithstanding this, recollection gradually returned, though it was not until incidents occurred many years later that his memory was triggered. Mr. Lancashire originally wrote to Lionel Beer, having noted his address from a letter in the Sunday Mirror at the time the "Betty and Barney Hill" story was featured. This letter was passed to me and on to (then) COS-MOS investigator Eric Richards. I would just add that information at the time from another source alleging that Mr. Lancashire had been "seized by pygmy-sized men" was incorrect and I take the opportunity to apologise to Mr. Lancashire for having stated this in the original article (COS-MOS 9, May 1970) and am pleased to set the record straight.

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It was late summer 1942: Albert Lancashire was on guard duty at a radar site two miles from Newbiggin-on-Sea on the Northumberland coast. It was a dark night and Mr. Lancashire stood in front of a sentry-box about 30 yards from the sea. Suddenly a light shone from the sky about 300 feet above and away from him over the sea; it was surrounded by a "black cloud" and his immediate thought was, "What have the Germans invented now?" He went quickly into his box to try to see the object without being seen. The light, which was of a yellow colour "rolled back on itself" rather than being switched off, its position then being much lower with the object close to him but still over the water. Suddenly Mr. Lancashire felt impelled to go outside, and another light shone out a yard or so in front of him a little above his head. Startled he threw up his arms and felt himself drawn towards it. He walked "along the beam," so to speak and found he was aboard a spacecraft the crew members of which were of our own height, the "captain" having dark hair and wearing "goggles." Mr. Lancashire was made to lie down on a couch or table looking upwards at the blue-domed ceiling of the craft. He could see a man leaning over another long table-like construction wearing a skull cap like a surgeon's; this man too, wore very thick glasses or goggles and smiled as though in welcome. He is sure a medical examination of some kind took place, but still cannot remember details, although he believes a persistent tongue rash over the years may have an association. He next recalls being back in his sentry-box.

We now have a rather remarkable gap of 25 years during which time, beyond a few "lights in the sky" sightings, little of note "saucerwise" happened to Mr. Lancashire. Then, during October 1967, he experienced a series of incidents, some of which could well have a psychic origin, which were in part responsible for triggering off his memory concerning the details of his 1942 contact. The first occurred whilst he lay on his bed one evening smoking. He noticed a small pinpoint of light over the bedroom door: this grew in intensity and size until it became as large as a grapefruit and changed into a human head: it was tilted slightly upwards

and was not directly facing him. Although the head itself remained immobile the eyes continually moved from side to side. The face had high cheekbones: the hair was black with just a trace of beard around the face. After a few minutes the image gradually faded and disappeared.

Shortly after this he was on duty in his signal-box at night (he is a signal-man with British Rail), when he saw and felt what he could only say was a "presence." This took the form of a bright light which appeared a few feet from him: it was so bright in fact he could scarcely bear to look at it. Inside the light he could see the head and shoulders of a man appearing exactly as though chiselled out of white marble, the only detail visible being a black line across the top of the head. This faded and disappeared after a couple of minutes, followed by the light.

Still in the same month, and again on duty in his signal-box at night, he saw a dark object in the sky surrounded by little red lights blinking on and off only a few hundred yards away. As it drew level with the box he waved his arm. The object stopped, the red lights went out and in their place was visible a dome-shaped light; the object then move off at terrific speed. Yet a third time under the same circumstances, he observed a green light out of the corner of his eye; he turned his head, and found part of one wall of the signal-box to be glowing green without any accountable reason or visible source for the light. This too, gradually faded.

In the December of the following year—1968, the signalman in the next box down the line phoned through to tell him of a bright white object the size of a full moon hovering near a large mill chimney—a prominent local landmark. Mr. Lancashire saw it also and they both noticed it was revolving below the top of the chimney, sometimes appearing circular, sometimes cross-shaped. After a few minutes it sped off at terrific speed, starting its journey with a large 'W' movement, then shooting away in a straight line.

A number of other incidents have also occurred to Mr. Lancashire during subsequent years, mainly of a psychic nature, some possibly with a bearing on his original experience. Mr. Lancashire's signal-box lies in the Manchester area, and, at the time of writing this (May 1974) he is still working there. I have not met him myself, but the opinion of Eric Richards quoted below is the same as that of other friends of mine who have done so. Mr. Lancashire has four children, a daughter and three sons.

ERIC RICHARDS: "... my opinion of Mr. Lancashire is that he is by no means a crank: he is absolutely sincere and clearly believes all he has told me. He is in himself definitely sure they had him in that UFO in 1942 and did something to him. I would say he is above average intelligence . . . it is my opinion he has had genuine experiences. He is perfectly willing to undergo hypnosis to arrive at the truth."

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Is there a physicist or member knowledgeable in molecular structure who would be interested in trying to interpret the 'telepathic projections,' apparently of this nature, frequently experienced by a young Hampshire man? Letters addressed to Mr. Young, c/o the Editor will be forwarded.

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## THE WEEKLY DISTRIBUTION OF UFO SIGHTINGS

Stephen Smith

In 1971, Vallee (1) reviewed the earlier paper by Saunders (2) on the distribution of UFO activity by day-of-the-week. Both papers had arisen from the publication of Keel's book (3) OPERATION TROJAN HORSE in which the author identified what he called "the Wednesday phenomenon" in a sample of 730 Type 1 sightings reported in the American press during 1966. Saunders in his paper presented results for daily distribution of sightings from his UFOCAT-70 covering the period from 1922 to mid-1969 and demonstrated a different distribution from that found by Keel. Vallee in his review commented on the lack of discussion about data selection in Keel's and Saunders' papers, and after presenting comparative data from his own sources (4) (5), suggested that a better mode of analysis would be by night-of-the-week because the majority of sightings have been found to occur between 16h and 8h on the next day, a phenomenon first identified by Vallee (6). Vallee's own analysis by night-of-the-week seemed to support Saunders' "newspaper editors' selection effect" which causes a low number of events from Saturday or the night of Sat./Sun. to be reported. The other by-night percentages were not significantly different from chance expectation. This paper reports the results of further work on the articles mentioned above and on catalogues for 1964 and 1965 covering sightings reported in the United Kingdom and on more recent data from Ballester Olmos (7) for the Iberian Peninsular.

Table A gives the number of reports by-day and by-night in each of two classes for the two years 1964 and 1965 catalogued by myself. All sightings have been collected by direct abstraction from newspaper reports or by indirect abstraction from the privately circulated newsletter known as UFOLOG. Only those cases where the time is definitely known are included. The report class labelled A.B consists of the very few reports of close encounters and landings (A) and other reports of detailed objects seen at moderate distances (B). Class (C) covers all other reports. No armchair analysis has been attempted and undoubtedly class (C) includes reports of one object from several independent witnesses as well as reports of natural phenomena not immediately deducible as such.

The tabulations by-day suggest a bias in both years for events to fall on a Sunday. There is no clear minimum day, but the most probable appears to be Saturday.

The tabulations by-night show a similar distribution with a bias to the night of Wed./Thur. The change in bias from the day of Sunday to the night of Wed./Thur. only underlines the lack of a definite peak event time during the week. Indeed as indicated in Table B none of the tabulations save that for 1965 type A.B by-night show anything other than a random distribution.

Vallee's article (1) supports this lack of a definite peak as the data presented from different sources in his table 1 show four different "peak" days. A greater degree of concord but by no means unanimity is found for the minimum day with half the same tabulations indicating Sunday.

Ballester Olmos (7) has now improved and augmented his catalogue of Iberian landings first presented in Flying Saucer Review (4) and it now includes 150 cases of which the day of the week is known in 101 cases. The by-day distribution indicates a deep minimum on Tuesday but no other significant departure from a random distribution, and it does not alter substantially the pattern seen in the original 81 cases tabulated by Vallee (1). Ballester Olmos' distribution agrees with Keel's but with no one else in respect of a Tuesday minimum. This minimum, according to Dr. Claude Poher (7), could be due to the selective effect of the 49 dateless cases out of the original 150 (32.7%) collected by Ballester Olmos. Dr. Poher's own results (8) do not show any departure from random for Tuesday, or for any other day. This same selective effect could have caused Keel's Tuesday minimum and Wednesday maximum through the lack of information on sources, availability of data, and gathering techniques for Keel's "Trojan Horse" sample is a bar to further meaningful discussion on this point.

Bearing in mind that the lack of compilation information will defeat any sophisticated cross analysis, it is possible to examine each catalogue for a non-random distribution. Table 2 lists the values of  $(\text{Chi})^2$  for each catalogue and also the percentage points of the  $(\text{Chi})^2$  distribution with 6 degrees of freedom. Only three catalogues have a  $(\text{Chi})^2$  value approaching the 1% level. These are numbers 1 and 4 (by-day) and 7 (by-night), which last we cannot compare with the other two. 1 (Keel) shows a Wednesday peak and 4 (Saunders) shows a broad Tuesday-Wednesday maximum, but here the agreement ends as 1 has its minimum on Tuesday and 4 on Saturday. Saunders considers (2) his minimum probably to be due to "the action of a (newspaper) editorial filter" but then compares his distribution with Paul J. Smith's data (9) on electrical power failures which shows a similar minimum, a comparison which tends to negate the "filter" idea.

Saunders' non-random distribution seems to rely for its result on 5 out of the last 23 years when his  $(\text{Chi})^2$  rises above 10. These are 1950, 1952, 1957, 1959 & 1967. The first three years were flap years (6-page 143) but 1959 was not one as indicated by Vallee or by Project Blue Book's 1966 report (10). Neither of these references covers 1967, but Saunders' tabulation (2) shows a massive peak in that year (1561 cases from 7025) indicating another flap year.

It appears that the non-random by-day distributions mainly arise from years containing major flaps and maximum public and media interest. It might be possible to formulate an hypothesis similar or identical to Saunders' "editorial filter" to explain this observation, but the few given facts prevent meaningful discussion at this level. We can only conclude that there is no evidence strongly supporting a "Wednesday phenomenon" for UFO events when reporting is unperturbed by mass media interest.

**Table A**

	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	Total
1964 by-day								
Type A.B	16	5	9	12	10	5	11	68
Type C	17	11	17	16	8	9	20	98
1965 by-day								
Type A.B	11	6	12	10	4	5	13	61
Type C	21	21	20	21	16	30	22	151

	M/T	T/W	W/T	T/F	F/S	S/S	S/M	Total
1964 by-night								
Type A.B	16	5	12	10	10	5	10	68
Type C	16	13	17	14	10	11	17	98
1965 by-night								
Type A.B	12	4	16	5	4	9	11	61
Type C	18	25	14	23	20	32	19	151

**Table B**

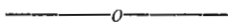
Catalogue	Sample size	Day-of-week (Chi) <sup>2</sup>	Night-of-week (Chi) <sup>2</sup>
1 Keel, Trojan Horse 1966	730	59.0	—
2 Vallee, Magonia, Type 1	858	12.6	—
3 Vallee, Magonia, USA only	300	6.4	—
4 Saunders, UFOCAT-70	7025	22.9	—
5 Ballester Olmos, Iberian sightings	81	2.9	—
6 Vallee, all landings	746	3.3	6.0
7 Smith, 1965, A.B	61	9.1	14.6
8 Smith, 1965, C	151	4.9	9.3
9 Smith, 1964, A.B	68	9.4	9.2
10 Smith, 1964, C	98	9.1	3.4
11 Ballester Olmos, Iberia, 5 updated	101	10.6	—
% point (Chi) <sup>2</sup>			
	10	5	1
	10.64	12.59	16.81
			0.1
			22.46

References:—

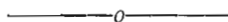
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## FROM HERE . . .

BUFORA member and investigator, James Jeffrey writes from Exeter to say there have been a number of sightings in the Dartmoor-Tavistock area of Devon about which he is trying to obtain more details. They include the following:— A car stalling incident on the Tavistock Road when a massive cigar-shaped object appeared—two witnesses: a couple in the Hay Tor car park who saw two red flashing lights moving towards them seemingly almost at ground level, then the “object” passed just overhead: a Westward TV report that 500 people had seen a UFO over Exeter: and an egg-shaped object seen by James and others during a skywatch on Hay Tor.



The Exmouth Journal dated 13.4.74 (which also carried a report of Miss Parry's sighting mentioned elsewhere in this issue) referred to a daylight sighting by a Royal Marine cook of a bright light hovering over Woodbury. He apparently alerted other Marines and the object was watched for half-an-hour before it moved off at high speed. The Journal also stated that similar accounts had been received in the previous 24 hours from people in a broad area between Topsham and Sidmouth.

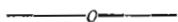


The Farnham Herald of 8.2.74 carried an article headed “Sky Object Mystery” referring to many U.H.O.—Unidentified Hovering Object—reports in Surrey and Hampshire during January where the object sighted hovered at around 200 to 300 feet.

In mid-January, Mr. T. F. Davies of Haslemere saw an object “about three times as bright as a star with a torch beam in front” hover over Town Meadow for several minutes. The following evening Mr. Tim Duell of Liphook and others sighted a stationary rectangular object above Stag Hill, Guildford: it was silent and emitted two torch-like beams for about 10 minutes before swinging round slowly and moving off northwards.

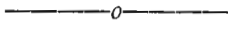
On 23rd January, Mr. & Mrs. Fisher, of Headley sighted the object about 8 p.m. and to quote Mrs. Fisher, “. . . a very bright star-like object . . . it separated into two bright lights like a car's headlights,” and “. . . as it moved towards us I saw coloured lights flashing, it seemed too low and silent for a plane.”

Other sightings have been reported from Farncombe, near Godalming, from Guildford again, and from the Devil's Punchbowl near Hindhead.

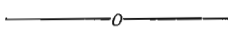
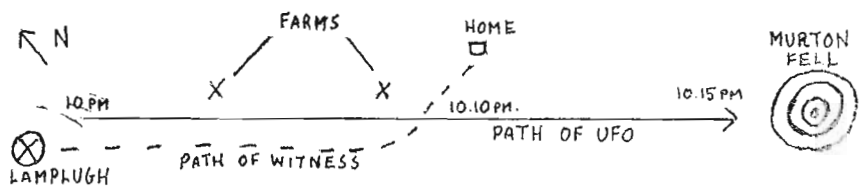


THE SUNDAY MIRROR of 1.3.74 reported the case of three Redhill schoolboys who saw a flashing red light approaching from the east, but instead of following a steady course it started to zig-zag, unlike an aircraft. The mystery object showed a green light on either side of the flashing red light, and then suddenly all the lights went out. When they came on again the object was moving off to the north—then it disappeared.

15-year-old Nicholas Wells, of London Road, Reigate, said he and his friends estimated the lights were at about 2,000 feet. They were all convinced it was no ordinary aircraft.



An interesting case was reported in the FSIT bulletin of October 1973. This occurred at Lamplugh in Cumberland. The area consists of open country dotted with a few farms, and the witness, a 20-year-old forestry worker was walking home at dusk (around 10 p.m.) across the fields from Lamplugh Cross (app. 1 mile). The weather was fine. He heard a droning noise which seemed to penetrate and cause a pounding sensation: it did not sound like a helicopter or aircraft. It slowly caught up with the witness and a visual sighting was made at 10.10 p.m. with the object overhead. Dogs in nearby fields were disturbed and howled. The object was a large cylinder with rounded ends: it was metallic, reflecting the setting sun and had no markings or exhaust. It moved slowly, estimated at 10 mph., and just cleared a hill to the south (Murton Fell, 1500 feet). A very accurate assessment can be made of the dimensions of the craft since the object was in view for so long (at least 15 minutes) and distances and heights are known. A size of 330 feet is consistent with the witnesses' description.



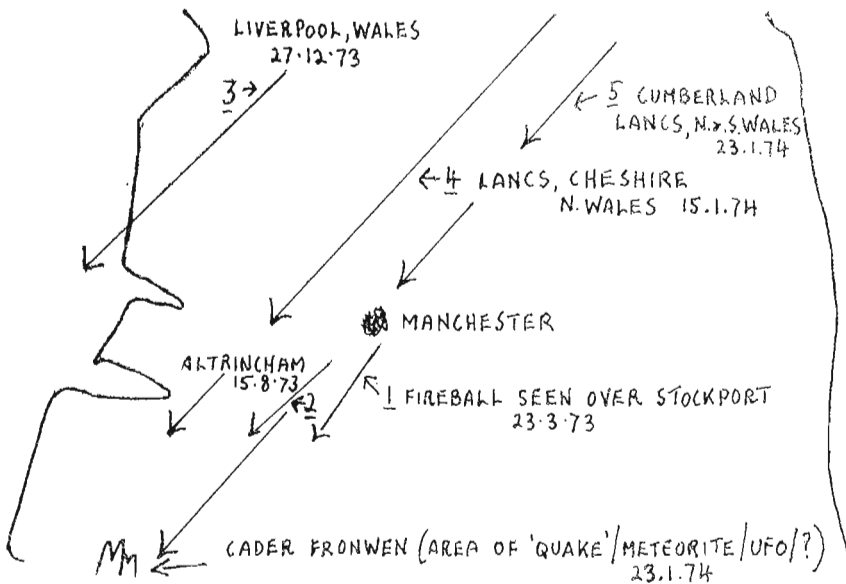
MAPIT, the Manchester Aerial Phenomena Investigation Team, has investigated a number of local reports, and Chris Randles of MAPIT writes re the "mystery helicopter" referred to in our last issue:—"The first hint came in newspaper reports of October 27th, 1973 which indicated red and green lights, dark shapes and in one case a cigar-shaped object, over various parts of Cheshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire. Police and newspapers were not very co-operative in giving full addresses of witnesses but certainly the reports did not hint at the "explanation" which was quickly to follow. Immediately we were told it was a helicopter—although nobody knew where it was from. Buxton police confirmed this to MAPIT, but admitted nobody had positively identified it as one. Of course it couldn't be a UFO so a helicopter was as good an explanation as any! Over the following months the reports spread to Lancashire and MAPIT was able to talk with pilots who had sighted the "object" whilst landing at Manchester Airport. In their opinion no pilot could have flown a helicopter under conditions prevalent on certain occasions—or fly so low over such uneven terrain. Even the police commented, "Whoever he is he must be a marvellous pilot." Certainly there are characteristics in common with UFOs. It performs hazardous manoeuvres, follows a random pattern, lands in

open fields and leaves no marks, displays bright searchlights and even has been reported as noiseless. It may well turn out to be a helicopter performing some devious mission, but if it is, it doesn't say much for our police who are unable to track down such a vehicle which, to say the least, has not been secretive."

Chris continues:—"The other major theme is by no means restricted to the Manchester area. Several reports of fuzzy green balls have been recorded in the national press during the winter. With these, we have five cases over a period of nine months (three within the December-January period), all of which show remarkable similarities.

The description is always the same: a fuzzy green fireball, silent and very fast. On the face of it they sound very much like meteorites—but not a lot are green and very few penetrate far enough into the earth's atmosphere to form a bright fireball (if they did our cities would be in constant danger of being hit by one). Can we seriously advance the theory that all five were meteorites? This is not all. A glance at the map will show that their flight paths are all very closely aligned.

Another coincidence?"



\*\*\*\*\*

Mark Stenhoff tells me that on March 17th, last he wrote to Patrick Moore and asked (a) his current opinion on UFOs and (b) whether he intended to publish anything more on the subject. The reply: "(a) Rot. (b) No, I've better things to do!! Best wishes, Patrick Moore." Mark also wrote to Donald Menzel about his current involvement. He said: "I am no longer involved in the field in any way."

Ed.

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## . . . AND FROM THERE!

### **BATON ROUGE (Louisiana) 21st October, 1973.**

A multi-coloured UFO flashing blue and red lights hovered over 67,000 people at the Louisiana State University football stadium last night, then flew away to the south-west with a police helicopter in pursuit. "It appeared to be round, flat on the bottom and with a dome-like structure, and through binoculars appeared to be transparent," one of the policeman aboard the helicopter said later. "It emitted no noise, and from the time it was first sighted until it disappeared it was visible for 20 to 30 minutes."

The UFO apparently appeared at half-time moving fast, and a television reporter said: "The 'copter was right over it. It was definitely solid. Unfortunately it was dark and they had no infra red ray equipment."

The helicopter chased the object 20 miles to the south-west from Baton Rouge, but lost it over the community of Plaquemine.

A spectator, Mr. Donnie Bergeron said: "The object just passed over with a bunch of lights. Suddenly six to eight thousand people were hollering 'U.F.O.', then everybody looked up and saw it."

From an item in the New Zealand "PRESS" of 22.10.73 headed "67,000 see UFO."

### **BANGKOK, 1st September, 1973.**

A UFO was reported seen in downtown Bangkok on Thursday night. Christina Leow Rakwong, 13, told the press she saw the UFO in a half-wing shape with lights going on and off above it, passing behind two modern buildings located in Sukhumvit Avenue.

Lisnette Hansen, who was with Christina, also said she saw the same UFO with small square windows and lights inside. Christina, who saw it first, said the UFO went very slowly and smoothly without making any noise behind the buildings, and disappeared heading towards the port of Bangkok. They both believed they had seen a flying saucer.

From the Mainichi Daily News, Saturday, 1st September, 1973.

### **TOKYO, 29th October, 1973.**

The Japanese paper SANKEI SHIMBUN of 29th October carried the headline "Flying Saucers Seen Over Tokyo Too." A schoolboy, Yoshiaki Kato took three photographs of the Tokyo Tower, each of 30 seconds exposure showing saucer-like objects beside and above the Tower. His mother and neighbours also saw the objects and notified the police.

Report received via CBA INTERNATIONAL. Two photographs show one saucer and the other two saucers, all clearly defined.

### **AFRICA, June, 1973.**

Both the GUARDIAN and the DAILY MIRROR carried items on 1st February, 1974 to the effect that a "saucer" had been photographed from Concorde at 56,000 feet whilst on a mission to observe a total eclipse of the sun over Africa. The "UFO," a "bright mushroom-shaped phenomenon" was estimated to be 650 feet in diameter.

### ITALY, September, 1973.

The newspaper IL MESSAGERO of 22nd September, 1973 printed three photos of "An object gliding down. What is it?" taken by a professional photographer Franco de Leo, over the Appian Way. Duration of the sighting was about 20 minutes. The object shed an intense and very white light with bluish borders. Leo says, "It passed three times above me, flying low, the speed of a jet fighter. It flew in circles, going away, coming back, and then going away again. The last time the speed was reduced, as if it was going to land, but then it made off towards the south." Cars stopped and many people watched the object.

*Credit:* Brinsley Le Poer Trench.

### JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, November, 1972.

The following report was sent in by BUFORA member C. H. J. Brownings of B.H.C., Saudi Arabia, who writes:— "This is an account of a sighting 18 months ago which has just been brought to my attention. I was able to interview the principal witness and am satisfied with the authenticity of the report.

*Location:* Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

*Date of sighting:* November, 1972.

*Time:* 1845 hrs., Local Time.

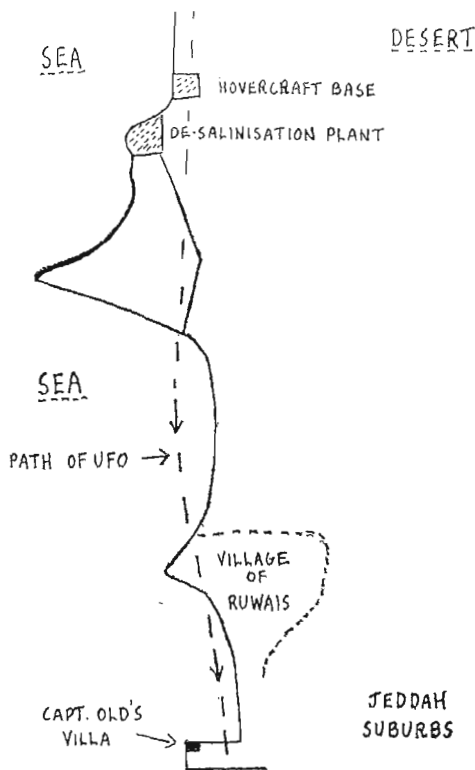
*Sky:* Dark and cloudless. No Moon.

*Weather conditions:* Nil wind, humidity 90%, temp. 85° F.

*Course of UFO:* 180° (T), thence 160° (T).

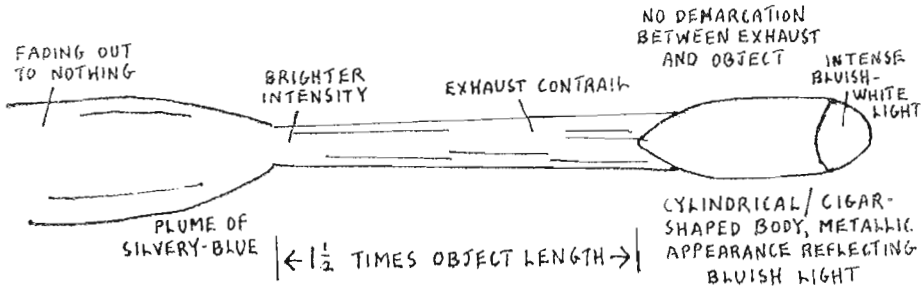
*Description:*

Capt. Ray Old, a former Mariner, Aviator, and now Hovercraft Commander, was relaxing with his wife Connie on the veranda of their villa (see diagram) one evening in November 1972, when their attention was directed to what appeared to be a firework shoot up somewhere behind the village of Ruwais finishing in a bright yellowish bomb-burst. They were waiting for an encore when they observed a bright white light suddenly form from approximately the same location. It approached rapidly at an estimated altitude of 1000-1500 feet without any sound whatsoever. As it passed overhead at an estimated speed of 700-900 m.p.h. it appeared to be cigar/cylindrical in shape, with a vapour contrail (see diagram).





The front of the UFO was an intense bluish white light, whilst the body seemed to be silvery metallic in construction and reflected the bluish light. Capt. Old said it reminded him of a blip moving across an oscilloscope. Mrs. Old told her husband afterwards that she had seen exactly the same thing a week previously, but had hesitated mentioning the fact for fear of ridicule.



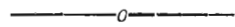
Another hovercraft pilot, Capt. Bray-Smith said his wife had also witnessed the phenomena, which disappeared from view behind the town.

**ROSEBUD, TEXAS, November, 1973.**

SKYLOOK No. 77 carries a report from the ROSEBUD NEWS of 22.11.73 of an object, "sort of round having a point on the top and two on the bottom," witnessed by Mrs. Fay Seeley, Mrs. Seeley's sons Richard and Russell, Mrs. Fay Hileman and her son Richard.

They first saw the object as a bright, then dimming light low in the sky as they were driving on Highway 14 near Bremond. Later it appeared first on one side of their car, then on the other, "quicker than the eye could see." It followed them, and as they kept driving, it dimmed, then got brighter and seemed to disappear. Then it reappeared as they reached the Brazos River Bridge and they slowed down.

Mrs. Seeley said, "I saw the thing about to land in front of us . . . it never did land, but was about treetop high and blocking my way . . . I whirled that car around and got out of there as fast as I could, but it was still right there all the time. But when we reached Reagan we were behind another car and the thing just seemed to lift and disappear."



Sorry SKYLOOK—I mentioned your sub.—\$6 p.a. in our last issue, but omitted the address—26 Edgewood Drive, Quincey, Illinois 62301, USA—Ed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sorry again! Pressure of space has once more necessitated holding over a number of items to the next issue. Our book reviewers are having a particularly lean time in this connection and book reviews will accordingly form a feature in our Autumn issue. Ed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many articles and books have been written with a view to explaining the properties and origin of UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) which have appeared in the sky during daylight and at night. The existence of such objects is now beyond dispute, but their substance and structure remain the subject of considerable speculation, while a large proportion of such conjectures seem to have been evolved in the realms of fantasy.

The writers' experience with the characteristics of an electrical discharge in a partial vacuum leads him to believe that the nature and behaviour of UFOs can be explained in terms of known physical phenomena.

Variations in temperature in the atmosphere cause the formation of "depressions" or "troughs of low pressure" round which the winds blow and the pressure falls from the outer regions towards the centre where the pressure is lowest. On a smaller scale, the whirling action of fallen leaves caused by eddies on a dry autumn day may have been noticed. These actions, in which the air rotates with angular velocity round a centre, are representative of *vortex motion* which can occur spontaneously under suitable conditions, and which can result in a cyclone, or, in extreme cases, the fall in pressure from the outer parts to the centre of the vortex. In certain cases a cylindrical hollow may form inside the vortex in which the value of the pressure may become very small, that is to say, the central cylindrical part of the vortex region may consist of a partial vacuum.

In a paper published in 1943 that described some work which the writer had undertaken, particulars were given of the effects observed when a current of electricity is passed through a gas, under reduced pressure, which is contained in a glass tube known as a discharge tube. The following extract is taken from the paper in question:—

"The terminal of the discharge tube should be connected to a source of high tension current, such as that from a trembler induction coil, providing a spark in air about  $\frac{3}{8}$ in. to  $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long. The following approximate relationships exist between the discharge as observed in a discharge tube of the type shown and the corresponding air pressure:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cm. diameter column of glow discharge	.....	10mm. of mercury
First visible striations	.....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. of mercury
Striations pitched 1cm. apart	.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ mm. of mercury
Green fluorescence on inside walls of discharge tube	.....	0.01mm. of mercury

The discharge tube also enables an estimation to be made of the kind of gas or vapour present, thus:—

<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Kind of gas</i>
Red or pink	Air
Greenish grey	Decomposed oil
Faint (transparent) blue	Water vapour

The degree of vacuum—or low pressure—as given in the above extract may be compared with normal atmospheric pressure, namely 760mm. of mercury. Under the conditions described, the ionised gas in the discharge tube acts as a conductor of electricity and also acts as a charged electrostatic body with positive and negative poles.

The processes by which a mixture of water vapour and air can give rise to an accumulation of negative electrical charges in one part of the atmosphere and positive charges in another, is believed to be due to the fact that water vapour acts as a carrier of positive electricity, while the surrounding atmosphere becomes charged with negative electricity. When these charges build up to a sufficiently high potential, the intervening atmosphere which acts as an insulator breaks down suddenly and a lightning flash occurs which neutralises the charges. The amount of water vapour present is, of course, measured by the humidity.

We are now in a position to understand how the various phenomena can be brought together to explain the formation of a UFO.

1. Initiation of a vortex motion in the atmosphere.
2. Development of an accumulation of positive and negative charges in the region of the vortex.
3. Ionisation of the gas at low pressure in the interior of the vortex, the gas under these conditions acting as a conductor.
4. Passage of current through the ionised gas under the influence of the positive and negative charges.

The appearance of the discharge will depend on the proportions of gas or vapour present, *e.g.* dry air, reddish: water vapour, bluish: decomposed organic matter, greenish.

The general behaviour of such an object as described here would conform to that of UFOs according to the accounts of observers:—

1. It would disappear suddenly when the electrical charges became exhausted.
2. It would float about in the atmosphere and be carried in the prevailing currents of air.
3. It would interfere strongly with radio receivers and motor car ignition systems, because the ionised gas would activate the emission of electro-magnetic radiation covering a wide range of frequencies.
4. It would be more likely to appear at a time of radio-active fallout because this would tend to promote ionisation.
5. It could produce “angels’-hair” because the self-cooling effect of the rapid evaporation of water-vapour in the vacuum could lead to the formation of strands of “snow” which would disappear on reaching the ground.
6. (a) It would move rapidly towards a region of electrostatic attraction because its inertial mass is negligible.  
(b) It would move rapidly away from a region of electrostatic repulsion for the same reason.
7. It would tend to hover in the vicinity of certain types of overhead electric power transmission lines because of mutual interaction of magnetic fields.

8. It could be any size from several feet to a few hundred feet in length, but more likely in the range 20 feet to 30 feet.
9. It could be cigar-shaped or saucer-shaped dependent on the relative strengths of the vortex motion and of the electrostatic charges.
10. It could be accompanied by the usual crackling sound of a continuous electrical discharge which could be heard if sufficiently near: also some increase of temperature may be present.
11. At certain pressures fluorescence may occur and this could cause a bright light to appear round the outer edge of the UFO in addition to the main characteristic colour.
12. Pieces of debris sucked into the vacuum could be mistaken for "little black men." These also could fluoresce under appropriate conditions.

It will be understood that only rarely will the appropriate conditions occur together simultaneously, and that some regions of the earth's surface are more suitable than others for the formation of UFOs. For comparison, it may be noted that examples of vortex motion, such as cyclones and tornadoes, are of greater intensity and appear more frequently in the United States than in England.

The launching of satellites would cause considerable air turbulence locally with accompanying vortex motion.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) investigated the properties of atmospheric electricity by flying a kite using a metal wire, and invented the lightning conductor as a protection for buildings (c. 1750). If a corresponding series of systematic tests by qualified physicists were carried out on UFOs, using modern electronic measuring equipment, the results could be published in scientific journals, such as the Journal of the Franklin Institute and the Journal of Applied Physics in the U.S.A., and the Proceedings of the Royal Society in England.

By this means a firm qualitative and quantitative foundation could be established on which a theoretical treatment could be based.

*Copyright: G. Burrows, 22nd May, 1974.*

*The above article may serve to remind us that some UFOs could have more prosaic explanations than those frequently ascribed—readers' comments please—Ed.*

\* \* \* \* \*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1974

In accordance with the provisions of Article 8 (d) of the Constitution of BUFORA, preliminary notification is given herewith that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, October 5th, 1974, at 6 p.m., at the Kensington Central Library.

Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, also for the eight elective remaining seats on the National Executive Committee, should reach the Hon. Secretary in writing not later than Saturday, August 24th, 1974. Resolutions to be debated at the A.G.M. should reach the Hon. Secretary by that date.

Only members of the Association in good standing, *i.e.* in possession of a valid membership card, are entitled to be present and vote at the A.G.M.

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## **VICE-CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN**

**Lionel Beer**

### **MORE LOCAL UFO GROUPS**

Peter Wilson wrote earlier in the year to say he had started to form a local group (with a little help from his friends), and he would like to contact any former members of MUFORA, with a view to locating the MUFORA files and records. Please write to: Peter Wilson, 18 Moss Street, Garston, Liverpool, L19 2NA.

Small but not forgotten are the Channel Islands, and I am pleased to report we have some keen ufologists keeping tabs on UFOs reported over the islands from time to time. Geoffrey Falla writes to say that the Guernsey UFO Club is growing steadily in support, with additional members helping to swell their stock of books and magazines. They would be interested in exchanging books with any BUFORA members who have spare copies, as they have some duplicates. Write to: Geoffrey Falla, St. Grendans, Kings Road, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, C.Is.

According to David Gittens, the Northern Aerial Phenomena Research Association (NAPRA) covers, Runcorn, Widnes, part of Liverpool, Crosby and the Wirral. He also claims they can lay their hands on a substantial amount of equipment including a 6-seater aircraft and a 15-seater helicopter. For details of NAPRA write to: David Gittens, 60 Tildesley Grescent, Weston Village, Runcorn, Cheshire.

I was reminded by our member Stephen Gamble, that he has talked the Hampstead Scientific Society (owners of Hampstead's astronomical observatory) into letting him form a UFO section within the society. Details of the society meetings from: H. Stark (Gen. Secretary), 5a Belsize Park Gardens, London NW3, or phone Steve Gamble at 965 1190.

Newly formed is SIAP—the Society for the Investigation of Astrophysical Phenomena, whose president, Rowland Evans, says is interested in both astronomy and UFOs. Details from Rowland Evans, 4 Needwood Drive, Lansfield, Wolverhampton.

### **LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD!**

Over the years I have been interviewed on radio, and on one occasion the BBC sent a chauffeur-driven car to take me to and from the studio. I have written numerous articles, lectured and done much to promote interest in ufology, even becoming FATE magazine's "personality of the month" in December 1965. But perhaps the most poignant moment came last January, when the editor of my hometown paper, THE PAIGNTON NEWS, put a call through to London and asked for a story. Naturally a mention in ones local paper is hardly a big deal, except for the fact that I left Paignton over 15 years ago!

### **IT HAD TO HAPPEN?**

A letter addressed to the Secretary of BUFORA in April this year goes like this: "My daughter . . . used your flight service to come home at Christmas with the children. She says that we could use the service to visit her. Could you give me details of flights and fares and do they go to . . . as well, as she wants her father and I to visit her." Do you think they know something?

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir,

In reply to the Letter to the Editor (Vol. 4, No. 1, Winter '73) dealing with Black Holes in space and the notion of the existence of other dimensions parallel to our own, I feel that the extraterrestrial explanation does not fall down as stated.

The first weakness in the ETH was listed as being: "... what possible interest an obviously advanced civilization would have in us." In answer to this I wish to state that beings of one or more advanced cultures would logically and naturally engage in a scientific exploration of the cosmos. In said exploration, they would inevitably encounter other civilizations some of which would be more advanced in varying degrees. From the standpoint of acquisition of more knowledge about the universe and all that it contains, the study of a world such as ours would be of interest. Do not anthropologists of all the more advanced nations on this earth go and observe those of the more primitive tribes on the Amazon, etc.? Do they not do this to further add to the total accumulation of knowledge available to their peoples?

The second weakness in the ETH was listed as being: "reports of UFOs go way back down the centuries, surely they would have contacted us by now, with such an advanced technology they would have little to fear from us." In answer to this, I wish to state that this contact between cultures of so vastly different evolutionary stages could not possibly take place until those of the less advanced world were psychologically ready for such an occurrence. The existence of a "prime directive" limiting the degree of contact permitted to take place between members of such differing cultures would explain the lack of open contact over the centuries. It has been shown scientifically that when individuals of two vastly different civilizations come together, when the group is hundreds, if not thousands, of years more advanced than the other, (Example: contact between the Old World and the New World of recent centuries) those of the less advanced group court destruction of their way of life. Contact between "us" and "them" could only take place after the people of planet Earth had been conditioned to the fact of the existence of beings not of this earth. To this would have to be added a study of the facts of the situation, such as they are, which tend to give some indication of the motive(s) behind the visitations.

A detailed study of the UFO situation, particularly of the past 25 years or so, will show beyond the shadow of a doubt that occurrences involving close range contact between "us" and "them" have been steadily on the increase. In reports made world wide, it is learned that witnesses have sighted alien craft which hovered overhead thus permitting the individual to obtain a detailed description of the craft. In numerous other instances, the craft has hovered to permit the viewing of the occupants through the portholes of a transparent dome. In other cases, the witness has obtained a description of alien entities who, while they maintained their distance, stood still long enough for him to obtain his description before they re-entered their ship and departed.

What purpose can all of this serve if not to convince us of the reality of beings not of this earth, to provide us with enough facts to discern something of the motive(s) involved, and thus to prepare us for that inevitable day when contact between the two respective groups becomes a reality?

MISS BEATRICE ZIMMER, La Posta Caravan Park, Sierra Vista, Arizona.

Dear Norman,

. . . . My interest in UFOs comes from a study of the Will-o-the-Wisp in which I have collected all the sightings I could find; none later than about 1900 and mostly 19th Century. Trying to see some common factors, I found that there were several records for the Salisbury Plain area which sounded more like UFOs than teeny little wisps of marsh-gas. This was in the days when the fastest thing on wheels was a pony-and-trap, and headlights hadn't been thought of.

One area was very active; Mere Down, Mere, near Bath, and 9 miles South of Warminster. This Down is so riddled with prehistoric sites that it has been used to illustrate the need for archaeological conservation. This and several other facts makes me think there may be something in the idea of UFO activity being somehow connected with ancient sites.

I wonder if someone among your members might come up with more data?

Best wishes,

SID BIRCHBY,

Didsbury, Manchester M20 0ND.

Dear Norman Oliver,

I have just received the latest edition of the "Journal" and have read it as I do with all UFO magazines from cover to cover. One article caught my eye:—the Book Review of Colin Bord (BIGFOOT). I see he has classed the famous "Surrey Puma" alongside the Yeti, the Loch Ness Monster, and the Sasquatch. This seems quite amazing to me.

For those members who have forgotten, or may never have heard of the Surrey Puma let me explain—This was about 7, 8 or 9 years ago, when a reputedly escaped puma was roaming the Surrey countryside in the Woking and Guildford districts. If I remember correctly, the explanation offered was one of an average Alsatian dog!

I was a witness to the "Puma" once, and the sight of it has remained on my mind since. As I was only 9 or 10 years old it really frightened me, and I couldn't get into the house quickly enough. The "puma" was walking across the fields at the bottom of our garden (we were living in Kingfield, Woking, at the time), about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile away from me. The shape of it was definitely that of a puma, and not of a dog; it was very large and it had a *long*, cat-like tail.

Although it is obviously classed as "a monster," I think the difference between this and the other "normal run-of-the-mill" monsters should be drawn.

Although BUFORA has come in for a lot of stick recently, I still feel it has an important job to do. Keep up the good work on the Journal.

All the best,

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL DEAN,

Great Sutton,

Wirral, Cheshire.

At the time of the PUMA sightings (and they seem to be recurring again this year) I remember a puma or cheetah being reported by police as it jumped over their car of Shooters Hill, Nr. Woolwich, S. London!—*Ed.*

Dear Sir,

I am an Animal Technician and would like to compile a file on animal behaviour during UFO activity. Would any members with any information on this subject please write to me.

RICHARD HAWKE,  
249 Queens Drive, Putnoe,  
Bedford MK41 9HN. (Area Investigator).

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Dear Norman,

I feel that I must bring to readers' attention something that may shed light on the subject of Skylab and the Merioneth Sighting, as evaluated by our esteemed colleague Tony Pace, in the winter issue.

In June of last year (1973), friends told me about the high number of LITS sightings being made so I went on a skywatch in Warminster, (purely for convenience as I had heard of these LITS being seen in other parts of Southern England), and soon saw them for myself. What I saw was a succession of satellite-like lights travelling West to East across the sky. This happened almost nightly for several weeks and then stopped as suddenly as it first started. Neil Pike of Warminster tabulated the times of the sightings so that he was able to predict the appearance of the lights to within less than a minute, which he demonstrated to my own satisfaction.

There were at the time of the sightings numerous suggestions that these lights were Skylab but many who saw them have reservations about this. These lights followed each other with such regularity *i.e.* five minute intervals, that it would seem unlikely that they were mere debris. After watching these lights during the course of an evening it became clear that whilst most followed the same trajectory some were above and some below a very high layer of "herring-bone" cloud, as some were obscured by certain pieces of cloud that did not conceal others.

What finally convinced me that these were not orbiting objects was when I saw one execute a slow turn and depart over the southern horizon.

I am not denying the possibility that Skylab debris was responsible for the Merioneth (and possibly other) sightings but these numerous LITS that I mention could equally be the cause. I have no fixed ideas about what these lights were but the only logical explanation that comes to mind is: high-flying aircraft. Perhaps in conjunction with the Skylab project?

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD COLBORNE,  
Woking, Surrey.

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Dear Mr. Oliver,

I understand that in a recent newsletter received from Brazil it was suggested that "alien satisfaction" rather than "cross-breeding" was the purpose of the A.V.B. "Contact." I cannot agree with this explanation at all! If "satisfaction" were really the case, then why have there not been more "Contacts" of this type reported in which "alien males" seduce our females? There are quite a lot of reasons:—



(1) That "alien males" are a great deal wiser than our own in that they want to avoid the (unwanted) "pattering of tiny feet."

(2) That "they" are sterile—or near sterile, but if this were the case then surely they wouldn't have to worry about reason No. 1—(perhaps they don't have the urge!), but seriously.

(3) That it is more important for the "alien females" to achieve such a "contact" for the purpose of "cross" or "out-breeding" or "back-breeding."

Consider my "Modified Humans" theory\* with which I find tie-ups with either the "Time Travel Theory" and/or the "We are property" theory. Why the "cross" or "out-breeding"? Because these so-called "aliens" have developed some deficiency—due to "in-breeding" which they wish to erase by "out-breeding"? This would appear to be the case, but on the other hand in some U.F.O. cases I feel that there could well be some sort of time factor involved. In which case "Back-breeding" could be the purpose of these "contacts." "Back-breeding" has sometimes been done quite successfully with species of animals that have either lost their "original true native form" or with animals thought to have been extinct. A recent equivalent of "back-breeding" is that of domestic farm-yard stock. An experimental farm has succeeded in "re-breeding" extinct breeds of cattle, sheep and pigs, but would it be possible for these "Aliens" to "back-breed" through time? I don't see how this would be possible, but then we "Earthlings" are rather ignorant of such things at present! But if we *are* "property" it could well be possible.

I think most people are aware that with each new generation the human form is VERY slowly changing—perhaps the "Extra-terrestrials" who planted us here (if they did!) were aware of this fact and took precautions to stave off any disadvantages that their changing form may present. In other words are we on this planet their "out/cross/back-breeding stock"?

Why is it that it is always our males who are seduced? Well apart from the fact that it is probably more important for the "alien" females to produce any product of such "unions" on their "home planets," I think in most cases of "out/cross/back-breeding" it is nearly always the stallion that is used! And what of those reports where humans are abducted and medically examined? Are the "aliens" just giving us medical checks to see if we are still in good working order?

But supposing these humanoids are not "modified" humans at all but a completely different race of "extra-terrestrials"—in which case the reason why they are examining and cross breeding experimentally with us just now is because they want to find out if it would be possible for them to live harmoniously side by side with us—which perhaps they are planning to do at some future date!

Yours sincerely,

MARGARET WILSON, Renfrewshire.

P.S. I have just noticed that in the Winter journal a Mr. R. Moore of Wilmington, Sussex, writes that he doesn't think that UFOs are "extra-terrestrial" because (a) he can't see what possible interest such an advanced civilisation could have in us, and (b) that since UFO reports stretch way back in time—surely they would have contacted us by now, and as they are such an advanced technology they would have very little to fear from us anyway!—Perhaps the answer to these questions are contained in this letter.

\* See Vol. 4, No. 1.

# THE MIMI GORZELLE CONTACT

This report, by Mimi Gorzelle of Illinois, was referred to briefly in Vol. 3, No. 11 of the Journal. Since then, Lucius Farish has been in touch with the lady concerned and has kindly forwarded me copies of further detailed information on the occurrence. Mimi Gorzelle claims two previous sightings—one apparently quite soon before her contact. She has “psychic” abilities, amongst them telepathy and astral projection, and believes that the “men” from the UFO could have used hypnotic suggestion, both in bringing them all to the craft, and to produce a subsequent “mental block,” though more details of her experience were recalled as time went by: she wonders too, if any of the other three taken aboard have also recalled any details. The second of her two previous sightings is first given as it may well have a bearing on the contact experience which would seem to have taken place quite soon afterwards. Mimi lives in Illinois, but there is no exact reference to the location of the occurrence, the nearest being that she considered the other three involved must have come from around Chicago or the suburban area to have met at that point. So, firstly the sighting, followed by full details of the later contact.

## 1. The Sighting.

“Over a weekend in July or August, 1967, I travelled to the Wisconsin lakeside cottage. The house has a roof garden or a sun roof if you prefer. Often I would go up there to sunbathe and doze for an hour or so, studying the clouds and watching planes as they flew past—some at high speed and altitude, and others of smaller type low flying and sight-seeing the Wisconsin scenery from the Dells.

On one of these times I had the unusual experience of seeing a Round Flying Object: it came into view so swiftly it surprised me, I could do nothing but stare at it. It seemed to be coming closer and finally hovered some distance away, possibly one or two hundred feet from the ground over a prairie at the lake. It was so close that I could see two men at the window of it; they must have been quite small because the windows were not high—or so it seemed to me. The lower part of the disc was silent and stationary whilst a disc in the centre of the craft seemed to whirl around in motion: the top with the windows was also stationary.

The occupants seemed to have spotted me and just looked while I stared back. After a few seconds—or more like a minute—they seemed to be talking to each other, motioning to each other and to me too. I wondered what they were saying and even wished they would land, but they did not: I really wanted to go to talk with them. We stared at one another for a good 15 minutes although they also looked all around the area.

Soon they took off and drifted into the west at such a speed they were very quickly lost in the setting sun. No one was around and I could tell no one, but when my family came back I began to wonder if I may have imagined this so I kept quiet. But I did take some paper and drew a picture of the craft: I wish I could have gone inside, but it was my secret and I felt too foolish to tell anyone of it.”

## 2. The Contact.

“Sometime in the August of 1967, I came to realization in the middle of the night and found myself driving on a very dark and lonely road. Looking around me I tried to remember how I got here and where I was going: I just did not know. Continuing to drive to determine my whereabouts, and hoping to find some lights of a highway somewhere I was completely at a loss as to how I got here.

A brief light in front of me surprised me, but I was happy to see it, then I noticed the light was swinging from side to side beckoning me to stop: this I did of course expecting to find an accident of some sort. Not until I got out of the car did I realize who was holding the light or the reason for it. I saw three other cars parked to within 20 or 30 feet of each and a man got out of his car just in front of mine, and again my impression was of an accident. Another man came to me wearing a white coverall type of suit like an orderly from a hospital: he smiled, took my arm and led me across the street and a little distance into the prairie: then a very bright light came on from within what I could definitely see was a spaceship.

In this bright light I could see three men who were also being escorted into this space craft as I was, each being led by a man in a white suit. I was amazed and frightened, no-one seemed to say a word, it was so quiet; the man escorting me smiled and urged me to go forward, assuring me of safety. The staircase leading to the craft was about 14 steps up and we were led into it: looking around I could see a group of stainless steel or perhaps chrome cabinets: some appeared just plain tops, others had many controls and gauges. My attention now fell on the men around me; the three men who were escorted with me wore ordinary suits with white shirts and appeared to be business or professional men. The men in white suits all looked alike, very tall, over six feet all of them, and all bald-headed with very high domed heads: they appeared to be in the age bracket of the 30s. Only one of these men was shorter and he seemed to be in command of the operation. By now I assumed these were not earth people and that I may have been brought here with the other three gentlemen through some hypnotic means: I wondered if they also wanted to ask questions as I did, but no-one said a word and I couldn't. Then a few words were spoken in a language not known to me and I wondered if they planned on taking us into space or to another planet and I was more curious than fearful of danger. I was deep in thought trying to determine what was going on, my mind racing.

The next thing I knew or was aware of was that one of the spacemen was holding his hand on my shoulder saying: “You will have no memory of anything you saw or experienced here—you will awaken with no memory of this experience.” The three men were also awakened the same way without any conversation of any kind, and I wanted to ask so many questions: but we were now led out again, down the steps from the space craft and escorted to our cars. At the car I looked around and saw the other men one by one driving away: I seemed to be the last, still hoping I could ask questions, but I could utter none. As my car lights came on and I started down the road the bright light was extinguished and again the road was very dark and lonely, and once again I did not know where I was or how I got there, so I just drove hoping to come to an intersection to give me bearings.

I awakened in the morning as usual, very much aware of what I have related, but no knowledge of how I drove to the spacecraft or how I got back home, nor do I have any idea of what kind of questioning we went through in the spacecraft. Then I remembered the dress I wore on this occasion hoping to give me some clue to the experience, but I found it just hanging there as always, but I did wear it that day with the thought that I might come up with some information or perhaps remember what I was told NOT to remember . . . .”

An abridged form of the contact report was later published in the American edition of FATE magazine. Subsequently Mimi Gorzelle has recalled a number of details regarding what happened inside the craft and these are now given. It should be emphasised, however, that these did not come to her “all at once” but at various times and she by no means considers they cover the whole of the experience.

“The spaceman with me had an instrument, a type of stethoscope, but he did not use it in the conventional manner in his ears: he placed it on the back of his neck. The long cord was brought forward under his arm and it was used or placed in various positions on my head, neck, throat, heart and solar plexus. What he was listening to I can't imagine, but this was certainly a test of the psychic centres. When he placed the instrument on my throat it was so cold I winced: but I knew he was testing all psychic centres and he seemed most interested in many parts of the brain.

You know, the odd thing about this was that I could see through the complete instrument and analyze it. It was quite small and the part he placed on his neck was composed of three pieces, each fitted into the other. The first was the size of a nickel and  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” thick: the inside was constructed to serve as a suction cup which held onto the skin of the neck. The second piece was the size of a quarter and it was a ring with a piece of filament in it: this filament was treated with a chemical—I could tell by the colour of it. This was then placed into the third piece which was smaller again, the size of a nickel, but the inside was constructed to resemble the inside of an ear—for better reception, I guess. These three pieces fitted firmly together were attached to the the long cord, flexible, black and hollow tube type, and at the end was this piece of metal about the size of a half dollar, flat on both sides, and this is the piece that was placed on the many parts of my body in the examination. The whole instrument couldn't weigh more than a couple of ounces: these people certainly know a whole lot more than we do. The large piece was a receiver of impulses whilst the other end was used to hear them—more likely to “feel” them, because he used this on his neck, which also must contain a gland very sensitive in reception which we know nothing about, since I have studied the psychic centres and I know of none on the back of the neck.

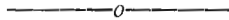
You know, the fact that I could see through the intricate construction of this instrument amazes me. I had the feeling that the spaceman was putting these thoughts into my head, like a doctor might talk during an operation. So this is phase two of the experience: I'm getting more anxious to see into this some more. This seems to occupy my mind often now and may be the reason I'm getting through to relive the experience: there must be more and I'll keep trying. I believe that

psychic persons are chosen for experiences with the spacemen and also that they can make themselves invisible, do their work among us and contact those who can receive their communication. It can be possible that *invisibility is their true nature* and the adoption of the physical life is just to contact us or to be with us for their purposes.

In a further "insight" I also felt that within the steel cabinets were two tables which could be brought for examination purposes.

Once in an effort to break through the hypnosis of my experience I had the following "insight" into it . . . . One of the spacemen gave me four envelopes and asked me to tell him the contents of each without looking at them. It seemed like a psychic test—and I knew the contents:—

- 1—was a thesis on war and peace I could almost read, but it was not necessary.
- 2—was a picture or drawing of a two masted sloop or boat.
- 3—was a mathematical problem which I knew nothing of—but the answer was not necessary—just to know the picture of it.
- 4—contained seeds: Corn, barley, oats and rice, I could see them clearly through the closed envelope."



The above presentation has been possible because of the co-operation received from Lucius Farish in providing copies of original correspondence relating to the sighting and contact. My thanks to Lucius and also to Mimi Gorzelle herself for permission to publish. . . . . NORMAN OLIVER.

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### UFO QUIZ

Here are the answers to the questions which appeared in our last Journal, Vol. 4, No. 2, Spring 1974.

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. 1957.                 | 11. Colorado University.               |
| 2. The Sun.              | 12. (Major) Donald Keyhoe.             |
| 3. Colonel Yuri Gagarin. | 13. 1967.                              |
| 4. Galileo Galilei.      | 14. Mars.                              |
| 5. Nine.                 | 15. Distorted refraction of tailplane. |
| 6. Brazil.               | 16. George Adamski lived there.        |
| 7. Yes.                  | 17. Barney and Betty Hill.             |
| 8. Dover.                | 18. 25 seconds of 16mm. cine-film.     |
| 9. Four.                 | 19. Orthoteny.                         |
| 10. Lakenheath.          | 20. Gaseous Plasma.                    |

If you scored more than 16, without cheating, then you did better than the participants at our Kensington meeting last February. If you got the whole lot correct, then you might find yourself co-opted as a consultant. But if you got 2 or less right then we reckon that astronomy and ufology are not for you. 12 correct answers can be taken as a fair average. LIONEL BEER.

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## BRITISH SIGHTING REPORTS

*The method of referencing sighting reports in the Journal has now been changed so that the same reference is quoted as that used by Investigation and Research Sections.*  
Ed.

Report: 73—064. Shorwell, Isle of Wight. 7 p.m. December 30th, 1973.

As an artist, the chief witness of this report is well qualified for observation. Whilst standing in his front garden along with his wife, their daughter, their son and his wife, they sighted a circular light travelling silently and constantly in a north-easterly direction. It first appeared golden with blurred edges, but after it had been in view for about a minute it began to change colour to orange/red as it moved away in the distance.

Report: 73—065. Nr. Newport, Salop. 2.30 p.m., December 15th, 1973.

(Names omitted). On Saturday, December 15th, at 2.30 p.m., whilst we were motoring back from Shrewsbury along minor roads north of Wellington to Newport, our youngest child drew our attention to a "helicopter" in the sky. The day was bright with the sun behind us. We observed the object for five minutes in front of us: it was shining and at first I took it to be a glider fighting the headwinds. I pulled the car over to the side of the road, and as we opened the windows, the object suddenly made off at tremendous speed in a northerly direction; in about six seconds flat it disappeared over the horizon, astonishing us all with its incredible speed from a standing start.

Report: 73—70. Caister, Norfolk. 1.15 p.m., December 4th, 1973.

Whilst walking eastwards along Beresford Road, witness looked up at the sky: it was a bright day with a few cirrus clouds about. He saw a large whitish object glinting silver over the sea at an estimated distance of about two miles and height of 1500 feet. The object remained stationary, but appeared to be revolving as there were changes in its overall shape. Duration of observation was 15 to 20 seconds: object was lost sight of as witness turned round to look at a helicopter taking off: when he turned back barely a second later it was gone. Though used to observing aircraft, witness had never seen an object like this before.

Report: 73—071. Crick, N. Rugby. 8 p.m., September 24th, 1973.

Whilst talking to his father-in-law, Mr. Peter Woodfield saw a bright hazy light appear in the north-east. This then travelled in a northerly direction at a very high speed. Mr. Woodfield described the object as "like a shooting star, but on a much larger scale."

Report: 73—072. Sale, Cheshire. 10.30 p.m., August 15th, 1973.

Four witnesses saw a very bright elliptical shaped object which was a vivid green in colour, with streaks. It made no sound at all as it travelled at low altitude heading seawards in a south-westerly direction.

Report: 73—073. Sale, Cheshire. 7.45 p.m., September ?, 1973.

One morning whilst looking out of the window, Mr. Hunt saw a small bright bullet-shaped object appear in the north: the colour then changed to a flaring red. The object travelled south for nearly 2 minutes at fairly high speed, then disappeared behind a clump of trees.

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Report 73—074. Altrincham, Cheshire. 10.25 p.m., August 15th, 1973.:

A sixteen-year-old apprentice joiner observed a UFO whilst waiting for a bus in Altrincham. It was described as bright green with light green streaks, ellipse-shaped, with a tail: it moved very fast and disappeared in a westerly direction behind some shops. The witness reported that he felt "very strange" after sighting the object and his parents said that his eyes were "staring" when he arrived home. Several other witnesses from Rhyl, North Wales reported an identical object travelling westwards out to sea at about 10.30 p.m.

*This would appear to tie in with Report 73—072: Altrincham is only a few miles from Sale* Ed.

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Report: 73—075. Lostock Gralam, Cheshire. 9 p.m., July 2nd, 1973.

The witness, a housewife aged 52, was returning from a day trip with her husband, son and his fiancée. They stopped at a lay-by and she was alone by the car. She observed a jewel-shaped object shining a clear fluorescent white which seemed to descend behind some trees in a steady controlled manner. It was visible for several minutes and the road behind her was very busy. During the sighting she was oblivious to this and was almost "possessed" by the object: she wanted to call to the others, but couldn't. On their return they made a brief search of the farmland behind the trees but could find no trace. They could, however, attest to the effect the sighting had had on the witness. Her husband and son both work at Manchester Airport and she is consequently very familiar with observing aircraft under different conditions.

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Report: 73—076. Offerton, Stockport. 8.25 a.m., March 23rd, 1973.

The witness who is an engineer, had arrived home from work at breakfast time and was watching his dog in the garden. His attention was drawn to a bright green ball with a tail which moved very fast from directly overhead to the horizon where it vanished suddenly as if switched off.

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Report: 73—077. Thornton Heath, Surrey. June 14th, 1973.

The witness was taking her dog for a walk at dusk when she sighted a flat red triangle which descended out of view behind some houses. There was no noise, and the witness is certain it was not an aircraft. The sighting lasted about five minutes.

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Report: 73—078. Old Sodbury, Glos. 5.30 a.m., November 20th, 1973.

On the B4040, just outside Old Sodbury, two local waterworks employees glanced up from their work and observed a bright blue and white light directly overhead. As it travelled in an ESE direction the light blinked at one-second intervals.

The object performed a "zig-zag" movement as it travelled along and also, after covering a considerable distance, made a tight loop. Watching for a time, the men stopped their van's engine to hear if there was any sound from the object, but there was not. By this time the light had stopped moving and was beginning to fade slowly.

Continuing with their work, the men caught glimpses of the object as they travelled, but when they next stopped, the light had completely disappeared.

*The following item appeared in Airway, the staff newspaper of the Civil Aviation Authority. It was headed INNOCENTS ABROAD, and could, we feel, be equally if not more applicable to Ufologists and skywatchers* Ed.

"The case of Robert Curtis, an ATCA 11 at Heathrow Airport, now serving a prison sentence in Yugoslavia for alleged spying offences, serves to remind everyone how dangerous it can be for visitors to Communist and some other countries to carry out activities which at home may be perfectly innocent.

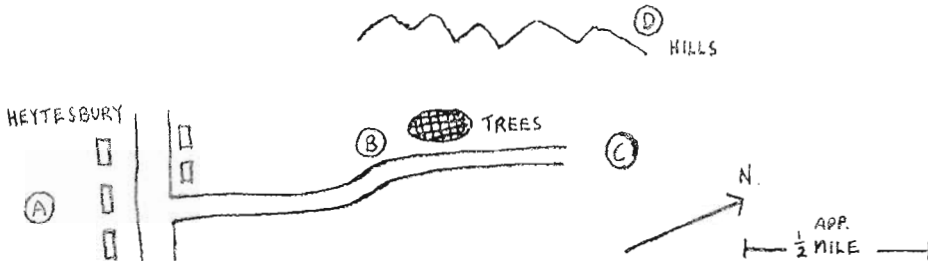
... It is pointed out that Authorities are likely to misinterpret any interest taken, particularly with the aid of binoculars or cameras, in anything to do with defence... Public officials are in more danger than other people of being compromised by breaking the laws of a communist country. It is also important to bear in mind the current issues of international controversy, and avoid getting into arguments or doing anything which may be provocative. The best course of action staff are advised, is to enjoy the tourist attractions and activities offered and attempt nothing unusual."

Report: 74-013. Sale, Cheshire. 10.30 p.m., January 25th, 1974.

Mr. David Rees, whilst walking north along Mersey Road, saw two bright star-like objects directly ahead. As he watched, they separated, one going west, the other east, passing a star formation; the objects travelled very slowly and came to a standstill after about five minutes. Mr. Rees watched them for a while and when he went inside the objects were still in view.

Report: 74-007. Heytesbury, Nr. Warminster. 8.40 p.m., January 5th, 1974.

This report is from a BUFORA member who went to Warminster for the purpose of a skywatch. He is, however, an Air Traffic Control Telecommunications Engineer and a familiar night observer. He parked his car at (A) which was near a



field and gave an unobstructed view to the north. He sighted a shimmering orange ball at an estimated distance of 1½ miles which rose steadily and was visible for about



fifteen seconds before disappearing down behind a hill. After three seconds it reappeared and did the same thing: several photographs were taken during this part of the sighting. The witness noticed an orange light behind a hill at (D) which reduced in brilliance and decided to track it down. The time was now 20.47 and at 20.55, before arriving at his destination an orange light appeared from behind some trees (B). Thinking that this was coming towards him he left the spot quickly and drove to (C) where he remained taking more photographs. Blue flashes were occasionally visible from behind the trees at (B). During the whole sighting no sound at all was heard. The witness reported the incident to the local police who thought that it might have been an army exercise from the local camp.

*Result of photographs not at present to hand—Ed.*

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Report: 74—008. Portsmouth, Hants. 5.15-5.30 p.m., February 8th, 1974.

The witness was walking along Braintree Road, Paulsgrove, towards his home when he sighted a bright orange-red object. It was cylinder-shaped with a fuzzy outline which seemed to be made up of three lights very close together. It was travelling north but appeared to stop for about ten seconds and then move east. It then stopped again for a similar period before moving north again, then becoming obscured by some houses. The witness went to a local park but could not see the object again.

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Report: 74—009. Albion Hill, Blackheath, S.E. London. 9.15-9.25 a.m., January 18th, 1974.

Five schoolchildren, aged 9-10 reported sighting a UFO from Morden Mount Primary School. It was described as a bright orange football with a hazy outline and a yellow and brownish grey tail. It was observed for five minutes moving very slowly and steadily and then seemed to descend behind some trees. All reports were very consistent and noted a faint "wooshing" sound. One boy said he could see the tail even when the main object disappeared and another, who stayed outside when the others went indoors to report the incident to their teacher, said that a helicopter seemed to follow the same path soon after.

*This report did in fact make the headlines in my local paper and, by a coincidence, the teacher concerned is a friend of my daughter!—ED.*

—————o—————

Report: 74—014. Exmouth, Devon. 9.45 p.m., April 7th, 1974.

Miss K. M. Parry went into her garden, looked up at the sky—it was a beautiful moonlight night—and saw almost overhead a long straight line of light, with short alternate "branches" sticking out from each side. It was sharply defined, and "like a neon light" in brightness, "shining aluminium." As she watched the light was suddenly extinguished, the duration of the sighting being about three seconds. There had been no movement, and no sound of its arrival, but within a few minutes of its disappearance, Miss Parry heard a very faint hum; she had seen nothing like it before and had been sufficiently impressed to notify the local press.

Report: 74—015. Cambridge. 12.10 a.m., May 15th, 1974.

When sending in this report, Mr. Edwards, a BUFORA member, wrote: "It's basically a low-rate LITS event, but it puzzled me enough to call out other members of the College to look" and continued "On the night of 14th/15th May, at about 12.10 a.m. I was walking through the College Gardens to my room in St. Peter's Terrace, Trumpington Street, when I stopped for a few minutes to look up at the sky. It was a perfectly clear night and as the lights in the Gardens had been switched off the stars appeared to be much brighter than usual. After about 30 seconds my attention was drawn to a pulsating light travelling on a north-south line across the sky from the direction of Trumpington to that of Impington. I first became aware of it when it cleared some trees, at a guess, at an angle of 40 degrees to the horizon. At first I thought it was a satellite of some sort, but the pulsations of the light were like no satellite that I have ever seen on numerous evening walks. They were irregular, keeping to no pattern that I could discern, varied in brightness and, although not on each pulse, lit up some sort of solid structure above the light. It was apparently too high to allow even a most general outline of the structure to be gained. The other alternative was that it was a plane. The pulses of light were, however, irregular, and for navigation lights to show that brightly from personal experience gained from living near Southend Airport out of Term I know that the plane has to be low enough for its engines to be heard on even a quite noisy night. The night of the 14th/15th was particularly still and the College Garden is well away from all roads and yet I could hear no noise.

After watching the light for two or three minutes, I went back into the College to dig out some witnesses. After a little trouble, I found one of my supervisors and two of my friends and persuaded them to watch. By this time, the light was well past the zenith and only about 10 degrees above the College roof. My friends were able to see the light quite clearly, but my supervisor was unable to do so. After a few seconds, the light was below the roofline and that was that."

Report: 74—011. Chingford, Essex. May 11th, 1974, (a) 8.45-9.15 p.m.  
(b) 9.35-10.10 p.m.

Barry King and Ian Vinten are both BUFORA investigators—and were in fact returning from investigating a sighting report.  
Report (a).

"After returning from Leighton Buzzard with Mr. Ian Vinten, he suggested that I should see the spot where two Enfield children had been found dead. We pulled up in the car, got out and both walked across the road with our binoculars, mine are 10x50 and Ian's 8x30. When Ian pointed to the spot where the kids were found, I started to scan my binoculars over the area. After a few minutes I said, "There's someone standing over there." Easily visible through my binoculars stood a solitary being near some trees. Ian focussed onto the figure and described it in the same way I did: we swapped binoculars to make sure we both had a good look. Dusk was approaching, but it was still light enough to see the figure with the naked eye. The figure we saw looked like a woman or girl, long blonde or white hair, wearing a full length black dress affair. The figure was sharply defined except for the face which was featureless. This figure stood completely still for a period of at least 10 minutes without moving a muscle. A second figure dressed the same as the first one was spotted moving amongst some trees 50yds. away from the first

figure. When I trained my binoculars back to the first figure it had gone, when scanning over the the second figure that also had vanished. Then we saw the first figure again, but this time it had moved position; it was now standing completely still some 50yds. from its first position. The figure was seen by both of us for a further 10 minutes, completely still, devoid of any movement. Ian once again said it was the very same location where the two Enfield kids were found dead: I put forward a suggestion that perhaps the two figures are indeed the "spirits" of the two kids. Just to make sure we both trained our binoculars on to the area. We were astonished to find both figures had gone. At this point we got back in the car and sped off to the nearest public house to make use of its toilet facilities. Total duration of this sighting was in the region of approx. half-an-hour.

Approx. distance of figures from our position:  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile."

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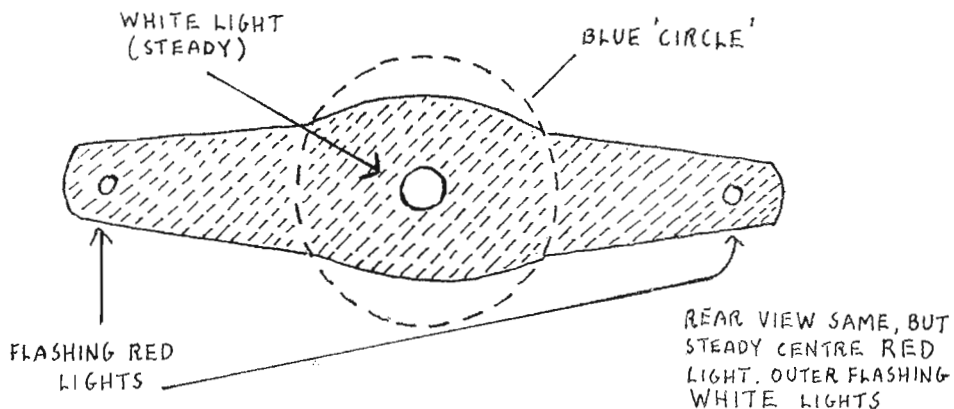
Report (b).

"After making use of the toilet facilities of the nearby public house, I said to Ian, "Let's go back to the sighting location," and this we did. Upon arriving at the scene, we got out of the car with our binoculars and started to scan the area again. I could not see the two previous figures but Ian shouted, "Look." True enough, upon focussing on to the area two figures appeared, only this time dressed completely in white. One figure remained stationary whilst the second one was darting about making very quick movements and appeared at one time to be heading in our direction. This running figure was humanoid in shape and size, but when it was darting about no leg movements could be seen and it occurred to me that perhaps it was moving about not on the ground but just above it. I lowered my binoculars to see if the figures were visible with the naked eye: they were. It was during this that I noticed a single red light above the tree tops and called Ian's attention to it. The object began to move: it rose up vertically and remained stationary for approx. 5 minutes. Then it slowly moved off towards and to the left of us, almost passing directly overhead. We both had our binoculars on it and its shape was fairly clear. It was making a weird noise, throbbing, very similar to the sound a ship's sonar makes. As it was approaching, Ian grabbed for his camera, luckily loaded with film and flash attachment: he snapped the object squarely in the viewfinder. The object continued on its course, and within a minute or so travelled out of sight. Coming towards us the object had a central whitish light. On either side of this was a red light situated near the edge of the object. These two red lights flashed on and off in unison. There was also a bluish light near the central white light which seemed to be circling the centre of the object. When the object passed over we could see the lighting arrangement of its other side. This time it had a central red light and a white light on either side. These lights also flashed on and off in unison. Also the same bluish light was still circling the craft. Before the object went out of view it moved into lighter coloured sky where its shape was clearly defined. Total duration of this sighting was approx. 25 to 30 minutes.

During the sighting no aircraft or helicopter noises were heard, only the weird noise of the UFO."

BARRY KING.

APPEARANCE OF CHINGFORD UFO



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*The film was found on developing to be faulty, but this applied to other "non-UFO" photos also and it is not suggested at this stage that the UFO was responsible.—Ed.*

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## DR. JOACHIM P. KUETTNER

Interviewed by Omar Fowler and Graham Raine of BUFORA and SIGAP.

Dr. Kuettner became Chairman of the AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) UFO sub-committee in December 1968. As a result of their investigations the "Journal of Astronautics and Aeronautics" published "UFO: An Appraisal of the Problem" in 1971.

The AIAA UFO sub-committee became one of the first major bodies to criticise the "Condon Report" and details of their report are itemised in Allen Hynek's "The UFO Experience: A Scientific Enquiry" on pages 220 and 221.

Dr. Kuettner met Omar Fowler and Graham Raine at a quiet hotel near Bracknell, Berks. Although associated with the ESSA Research Laboratories in Boulder, Colorado, Dr. Kuettner has been working at the Bracknell Weather Centre recently.

During the discussion the questions naturally turned to the work that had been carried out by the UFO sub-committee to establish if UFO's presented a 'scientific problem.' Dr. Kuettner said that much to his surprise, he found that there was a problem to answer and the conclusion of his committee was 'YES.'

This reply contradicted the findings of the Condon Report and although the latter had found explanations for 95% of the UFO reports investigated by them, they made the mistake of ASSUMING that the remaining 5% could also be explained if further information could be found.

The Condon Committee had been made up of open minded people but, at the same time people without any experience in the study of UFO's.



DR. JOACHIM P. KUETTNER (right) WITH OMAR FOWLER

The findings of the Condon Committee caused many problems. Condon was a well known scientist and a man of stature in his field. As a result of this his report will only be neutralised by an investigation by scientists of greater repute. Dr. Condon had been one of the few men to stand up to McCarthy during the great 'witch hunting' days and as a result, had gained quite a reputation. This in turn had made it very difficult in seeking grants for UFO research and in gaining scientific support in the USA. Too many scientists were reluctant to jeopardise their reputations by committing themselves on UFO's.

Dr. Kuettner then gave his opinion on the difficulties associated with the investigation of UFO's.

There was the question of the investigation of physical evidence, if there had ever been any evidence, where was it? One could try and analyse the problem in a theoretical way and try and form a hypothesis, but it appeared that the right path to take, would be the detailed study of *statistical* research, this was the way to go.

At this stage in the conversation we discussed SIGAP's plans for returning to UFO witnesses after a period of two years and questioning them again about their experiences: what would their answers reveal, had they seen more? Were they still as distinct in their recollections or had they been put away? Dr. Kuettner thought that the idea was a good one and could reveal some very interesting facts about witness behaviour. He had his own comments to make on the difficulty of accepting the evidence of a single witness. He had experienced the difficulty of describing a UFO. He had seen one while flying at night in an aircraft en route from Denver and still remembers the amazement at seeing a strange light pass by close to the aircraft. The sudden shock had made him incapable of reacting with a proper assessment of the situation, the aircraft had swerved to miss the lights and in the darkness, there a distinct problem of orientation.

On the subject of UFO watches Dr. Kuettner had a number of comments to make. What instruments could you take on a UFO watch? For instance, a magnetometer was useless unless there was a close encounter and cameras were always inadequate. In short, direct skywatching had not yielded anything important, we must concentrate on statistical analysis.

Finally, we discussed the study of UFO's in Britain, the apparent lack of interest by government bodies. Were there many groups like BUFORA and SIGAP in the UK and were they all run on a voluntary basis? What happened to the reports? Did we know of Hynek's aim to form a major centre for UFO investigation, with a field investigation team and computer back up? There were so many questions to be asked about UFO's and so few answers. . . .

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*With acknowledgements to SIGAP (The Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena) and its Chairman, Omar Fowler.*

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The Sun is setting.  
Red,  
Orange,  
Blue and purple  
Rainbows spread the eerie light around  
But there is not a sound

The trees are still  
Green,  
Gold,  
Brown and yellow  
Leaves rustle under foot,  
Falling around like soot.

The birds no longer sing,  
They are all asleep.  
The children no longer bring  
Their laughter to the countryside.

Gone is the wind, the sun, the laughter.  
Only the dust that comes after  
Everything that once was life.  
There will be no more strife.

Gone is the land, the world I loved.  
Gone are the beautiful sounds and scenes.  
Now all that is, is dust.  
Everywhere is covered in rust.  
Putrefaction and decay are Lords.

Poor, gentle Earth who never meant  
Even in her angriest hour,  
To harm a single child or man.  
Into the darkness she has crept.  
Once again to wander relentlessly  
Through the interstellar gas.  
She will no longer radiate her light.  
The Moon has gone away.

She cares not for her children.  
For they have gone to bed.  
Where they may sleep  
Undisturbed through aeons;  
And wake into the morning  
And the Dawn of yet another age.

Though life has passed  
Somewhere in this Universe of ours,  
Lurking in some distant corner,  
A hidden galaxy will burst forth,  
And seek once more to conquer.  
The stars *will* shine again.  
And when they do,  
The whole of infinity will rejoice,  
And with a single voice  
Will cry:  
Why are we born, if, alas, we must die.

CAROL GODSELL.

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## OBITUARY

We regret to record the death, at the age of 72, of Dr. Edward U. Condon, the U.S. physicist who headed and lent his name to the Enquiry on UFOs which the American Government sponsored in the late '60's.

Dr. Condon incurred the criticism of many, including some of his immediate colleagues on the UFO panel, by concentrating his personal enquiries into the UFO phenomenon on the activities of "contactees." Perhaps he understood vaguely that the UFO enigma is susceptible of treatment as a psychological as well as a physical manifestation. There seems little doubt that he took his UFO assignment seriously at the beginning, even to the extent of joining BUFORA. The U.S. Scientific Establishment will be the poorer for his passing.

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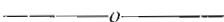
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