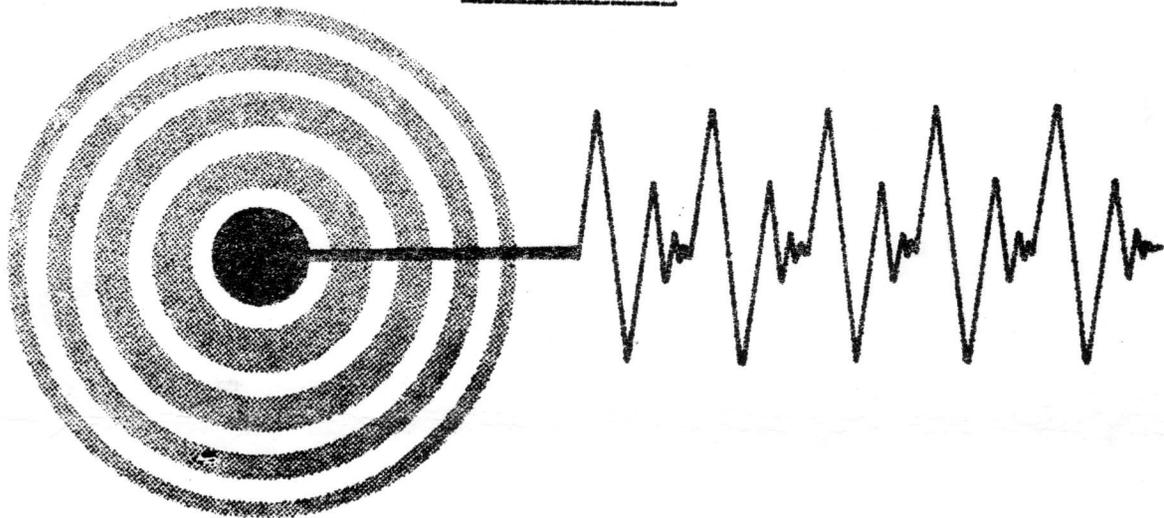


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AUSTRALIAN CO-ORDINATION SECTION,
CENTRE FOR UFO STUDIES

P.O. BOX 546, GOSFORD NSW., 2250

AUSTRALIA

DEFINITION

We define the UFO as the reported perception of an object or light, seen in the sky or upon the land, the appearance, trajectory, and general dynamic and luminescent behaviour of which do not suggest a logical, conventional explanation and which is not only mystifying to the original percipients but remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all available evidence by persons who are technically capable of making a common sense identification if one is possible.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

EDITORIAL

by Dr. J. Allen Hynek (IUR- Feb 77)

The Reluctance Barrier: the barrier a witness to a UFO experience has to overcome before he reports his experience. This barrier is severe and its existence annually robs science of much valuable raw material for study. What is worse, the barrier is not constant, but is itself a function of the strangeness of the UFO experience. A person may not be reluctant to report to friends or even to the police a strangely behaving light, but he has quite a different attitude when it comes to admitting to his friends or to the world that he had a close encounter with a UFO, especially if "humanoids" were involved.

We know of one case of an "abduction" experience (which came to our attention through the thinnest of grapevines) in which the witness is still, after months, debating with himself whether to "go on record". The witness is a college-educated man, and the idea of any possible publicity is extremely frightening to him. He blanches at the thought of his name appearing in print (especially in the tabloid press) and having to bear the taunts of his "well-meaning" friends and having to defend his sanity to all comers.

Responsible UFO fact-gathering organizations in this and other countries recognize their responsibility in protecting the privacy of witnesses and maintain high ethical standards. We are all distressed when the media seek from us leads for a sensational story. Frequently the ploy is that "they are going to do a documentary". Now a GOOD documentary is a fine educational project, but all too often "documentaries" are a ruse to entertain the audience in off-prime time periods. And, in a serious documentary, names of persons and places can be sufficiently altered to protect the witnesses without detracting from the story.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

by Bryan Hartley (NUFON) England.

It is now being worked out by NUFON (Northern UFO Network) as to who are the most active groups and individual investigators in the Network, and we are currently placing them into two groups: Associate and Affiliate members.

Also, NUFON has now set up Scientific Research Departments, and reference facilities for its members in Great Britain, so that whenever they need material that is on file, the members can borrow this material for a small charge which is to cover costs of postage.

The work I am doing for NUFON is to research into any of their UFO cases that have Electronic Equipment involved. Being their Electronics co-ordinator I have managed to get people with expertise in the field of electronics and so, if any problems do arise, then they have these people to call on for their advice. I am at this time also taking the matter of asking the experts in electronics further than the shores of Great Britain. I am contacting groups in other countries for their help whenever the need arises that NUFON needs the help of UFO groups overseas with their work in electronics. As well as doing this work for NUFON, I also work on the same for BUFORA Ltd.

I am also running the foreign data reference library for NUFON & BUFORA, and am therefore always seeking material to build this reference library up, so the members of the Network will have a decent reference library to consult for any material they seek for research work. This one task of finding material to build up the reference library is a major one, as there are so many people involved who have material concerning UFOs in their files, and which has been put in these files, and sometimes forgotten. Then comes the task of trying to get these people to remember what they did with this valuable material and to see if we can obtain copies for our files.

This is one of the reasons I have set up the exchange program with other

The following article, which first appeared in PERCEPTUAL AND MOTOR SKILLS, 1976, 43, 215-221, has been re-produced with the kind permission of the editor Dr. C. H. Ammons, and the author, Dr. Michael Persinger of the Laurentian University in Canada. Please note that this article is COPYRIGHT.

TRANSIENT GEOPHYSICAL BASES FOR OSTENSIBLE UFO-RELATED PHENOMENA AND ASSOCIATED VERBAL BEHAVIOUR ?

by Dr. Michael A. Persinger.

Summary. - Repeated relationships between certain spatial regions and the report of ostensible UFO-like luminosities have suggested the role of as yet unspecified geophysical processes in the production of these events. Since intense, diffuse or spheroid light displays have been reported for centuries either before or during earthquakes and seem to involve piezoelectric-like effects, a model was developed to suggest that similar ionization/luminosities could occur in areas of tectonic stress, without gross seismicity, by the transient, extremely fine localization of otherwise normal geophysical forces. By using known principles of geophysics, electromagnetism, and behaviour, predictions from the model can be generated to accommodate the apparent effects of some UFO-related episodes upon non-living and living electromagnetic systems. The testability of the model is emphasized.

Perhaps one of the most common forms of verbal reports concerning unusual experiences involves ostensible column-like or spheroid-like luminous displays which seem to employ mechanisms not known at present. Such luminous displays have been reported by many cultures in time and space. However, due to culture-specific language and perceptual transform differences, many detailed similarities among reports may have been masked. Whereas one culture may label the phenomenon a "dragon", another may identify it as a religious event, while still another may call it a "flying saucer". The recall of such events would be contaminated at least in part by the implicit associations with such labels. Thus the pairing of the verbal label "UFO" with the initially neutral observation of a luminous glow could result in the recall of the event confounded by other previous verbal associations, e.g. "extraterrestrial aliens", of that label.

A major limitation to the analyses of these phenomena, in addition to the reliability of report, involves the failure clearly to specify the relevant stimuli controlling the verbal behaviour about unusual experiences. In part, this limitation has been a consequence of an implicit assumption among many theorists that homogeneity of verbal label implies similarity of mechanism and stimulus source. Such an approach does not realize that the same verbal label e.g., "UFO", may be emitted by a human population in the presence of many different types of stimuli with markedly dissimilar sources or mechanisms.

Recently, more than 7,000 reports of unusual events, including putative occurrences of UFOs, physical parapsychological events, e.g., "psychokinesis," and other so-called "fortean" phenomena, e.g., falls of rocks, frogs, fish etc. from the sky, were classified and sorted by computer (Persinger and Lafreniere, 1976). The data were collected from orthodox scientific journals as well as esoteric magazines and involved a 160-year period. After spatial and temporal analyses had been completed, conspicuous and statistically significant space-time patterns became apparent. It was noted (controlling for population change) that clusters of unusual events reports seemed to occur within the same spatial locations over 20-year increments, with strong trends for global patterns during peak periods of reporting.

The data strongly implied the involvement of as yet unspecified geophysical processes in the display of unusual verbal behaviour in the localities. By combining the data patterns with known and theoretical physical mechanisms, a model was generated in order to facilitate accommodation and prediction of some unusual report forms. Selected ramifications of this theory will be discussed.

Rationale. It is often forgotten or unrealized that the human species exists upon an extremely thin semi-stable surface beneath which mammoth reactions and forces are constantly in progress. Some of these forces are represented upon the earth's surface; an example would be the geomagnetic field. Still other forces are maintained within the crustal-mantle matrix and become apparent only during abrupt tectonic modifications, e.g., seismic activities. Although the latter phenomena are primarily associated with mechanical movements, other electromagnetic-like transients have been occasionally reported. These events may be the clue to help unravel the mechanisms associated with some UFO-related reports.

Luminous phenomena observed on the ground or in the sky before, during or after earthquakes have been reported for centuries (Derr, 1973). During the last decade unusual lights or "thunderless" lightning were verified before or during the 1966 Taskent, 1971 San Fernando, and 1971 Groznoy earthquakes; recently, Yasui (1974, 1971) published photographs of earthquake lightning taken during the Matsushiro swarm of 1965-1967. According to the classification scheme derived by I. Galli and translated by Terada (1931), earthquake-associated luminous phenomena involve: (1) indefinite instantaneous illuminations, (2) bright flames and emanations, (3) phosphorescent-like sky or clouds, and (4) well defined mobile luminous "masses".

The latter classification involving defined luminous "masses" is most germane to the present study. Over the centuries a multitude of forms have been described for these events. Not surprisingly, the descriptor or metaphor reflects the language and culture. Instances of "flying luminous shields," "paper-lantern-like fireballs," "luminous wheels," "columns of whirling fire on mountains," "pillars of fire" over houses, "football-like luminosities" in the sky, "chains of spheroid glows moving in the same direction," and funnel-or trumpet-like glows have been reported in association with some earthquakes.

Apparent physical properties of such luminosities display a wide range of variability. Spheroid lights have been reported more than 12 hours before to several minutes after earthquakes. During their occurrence, the luminosities can maintain stable spatial positions on the ground or in the sky for considerable periods of time or "suddenly move upwards and vanish". The movements are by no means smooth and can display marked "right-angle" variations. Color displays have been usually whitish to bluish-purple, although reddish hues are not infrequent.

Several mechanisms have been postulated over the centuries to explain the luminosities. However, it is only recently that Finkelstein and Powell (1970; personal communication) and Finkelstein, Hill, and Powell (1973) have suggested a model with strong theoretical and empirical support. According to their model, tectonic pressures in subsurface areas, e.g., faults, during or just before fracturing (seismic activity) could generate, in appropriate localities, piezoelectric effects. The electric fields associated with such mechanical distortion of prone crystal lattices would generate values of more than 100,000 V/m and be capable of ionizing the local air over large areas. That transient anomalous electric fields can be generated for at least one hour prior to the primary seismic shock was apparent before the Hilo earthquake in 1973, when major modifications in the earth-ionospheric gradients were observed.

The Model;

Usually assumptions are made that the representations of deep

geophysical forces upon the earth are relatively constant and homogeneous over large spatial areas or at most subject to mild distortions from local crustal architectures. The possibility of geophysical-processes transiently (minutes to hours) displayed within extremely localized geometries (less than 100m diameter) and with marked greater intensity, is usually not considered. However, the existence of highly focused or intensified geophysical forces within a small spatial context for short periods of time still remains a real theoretical probability. This probability is the primary basis for the following model. Essentially, it demands that otherwise normal forces are abnormally enhanced by their brief and highly localized gradients of manifestation.

It is hypothesized that areas prone to tectonic stress and strain release, generally typified by long histories of seismic activity, may be susceptible to the formation of highly localized, transient column-like electric field formations. A possible representation of such a column is presented in Fig.1 and is intended to reflect a non-fracture-associated miniature of the more vigorous events related to earthquakes. As sub-surface pressures approached criterion values, intense electric fields would be generated within the column and result in transient ionization of the air; the shape of the luminosity, although predominantly spheroid or ellipsoid/cylindrical due to normal parameters, would depend upon the column geometry which would in turn be determined by the local geophysical structures.

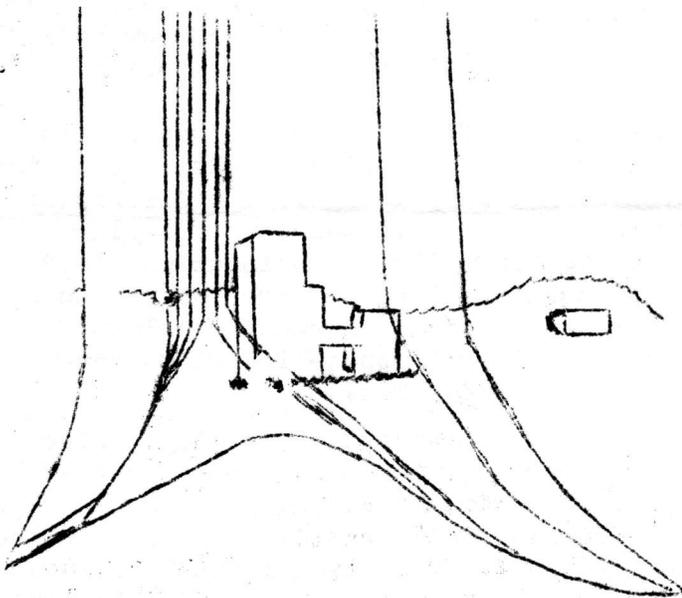


Fig.1. Pictorial representation of a hypothetical "electric field column" that might be produced by accumulating sub-surface tectonic stresses.

At least two sources of sub-surface structural deformations could exist: (1) tectonic strains associated with stress release due to internal "seismic-related" forces but without concomitant fracturing and (2) adjustment in local crustal plates following unusually intense and sudden changes in air (pressure) masses. The former source is considered primary.

Predictions: Physical Effects.

Since the mechanisms of luminosity production employs known principles of electric/magnetic phenomena but only applied to rather unusual geometries, a number of predictions can be derived; a few of these will be presented here. In areas prone to these activities, the luminosity should appear on the edges of cliffs or apexes of hills or tops of buildings, where coronal-like discharges would be most optimal. Other areas with electrically attractive features, e.g., buried pipe lines, power lines and stations, would also be involved. The shape of the luminosity may be quite variable depending upon the geometrical form attained by the electric field column. Although stationary objects may appear relatively uniform in shape (except for occasional "discharges")

moving objects (associated with changing sub-surface forces) would be expected to change in both shape and perceived color as localized geological (and perhaps man-made) structures modify the column's geometry and direction.

The spatial movement of the luminosity would reflect the vectorial changes in three-dimensional sub-surface pressures and strain release. Consequently, the position of the luminosity could display marked mobility, from almost perfect horizontal or lateral movement to sudden alterations in altitude in either vertical directions (into the sky or into the ground). Curved or angular movements and quick or slow accelerations would again represent the displacement pattern of the tectonic pressures. Spatial directions should, however, follow normal local pathways of stress release, e.g., fault lines.

Areas prone to seismic activity should, consequently, demonstrate statistical increases in UFO reports. UFO cluster areas in the U.S.A. should include western California, western Washington, a strip from western Montana to Arizona, a lozenge-shaped area from Arkansas through Illinois-Indiana-Ohio-Michigan, a cluster around the Tennessee-North Carolina-South Carolina-Alabama interface, a strip from central Virginia through eastern Pennsylvania and the New England states, and a cluster in central New York state. Historical accounts of luminous lights should be evident in these areas but may be masked by the labels, e.g., "moving moons," of older cultures. Frequency changes in seismic activity or structural strain should be reflected in the number of UFO reports, although close contiguity (within days) would not be expected. Since the phenomena are predominantly electric expressions, their movement through space would induce a number of electromagnetic disturbances. Changes in or failures of radio transmission/reception, electrical appliances, lighting systems or compasses would be reported proximal to the phenomenon. At sufficient field intensities, movements of dielectrics or orientations of conductors should result. If the fields were time-varying, then frequency-related inductions in telephone lines (sounds like "whistles," "gasps", etc.) and communication circuits would be expected.

Predictions: Behavioral-Biological Effects.

The human being is a biological system characterized by a complex of weak electric and magnetic fields. Consequently, the approach of a highly intense electric field column would have both direct and indirect effects. Indirect influences would involve primarily visual and emotional features. For example, as field values fell beneath local ionization potentials, the "UFO" might "suddenly disappear" only to "reappear" somewhere else once the field potentials again achieved criterion levels. The effects of such unusual stimulus presentations upon emotional behaviour would be significant. No doubt the kinetics of the phenomenon would be interpreted within an anthropomorphic format. Approach of the luminosity might be interpreted as an "attack" while stable discharge over a given area might be described as "Surveillance activity."

Direct effects could be more severe. Close proximity ("encounters") to the field (even below luminogenic potentials) could evoke "tingling/prickly sensations," "apprehension," piloerection, and other unusual subjective behaviours associated with electrostatic fields of high intensity. Movement of the field toward the observer or of the human observer toward the column could induce currents sufficient to produce paralysis or unconsciousness; such experiences have been reported in the laboratory situation with direct current induction (Persinger, 1975; Beal, 1974; Herin, 1968). The stimulation of the electrically unstable portions of the brain, such as the hippocampal formation, could allow the person access to imaginary or epileptic, aura-like form. Such imagery would be intense and indistinguishable from "reality".

Pre-event amnesia associated with the electric shock-induced alteration in consciousness could allow confabulation characterized by the person's beliefs and fantasies. Direct exposure to intense ionizing radiation associated with the discharge periods should be followed hours to days later by symptoms of erythema/edema ("Skin burns"), temporary blindness eye swelling, nausea, sleep difficulties, and endocrine (especially testicular and thyroidal) disturbances.

CONCLUSIONS --

Survey of human reports (Flying Saucer Review 1968-1975) concerning intense UFO episodes and ostensible "encounters" suggests a close relationship between the types of experiences often described and the predictions of the present model. However, this model is NOT intended to explain all cases of so-called UFO episodes. No doubt there are many psychological and routine physical manifestations that have been frequently associated with the same verbal label: UFO. Instead, this model has been presented to emphasize the real possibility that unusual displays of normal geophysical forces and concomitant transient displays of locally intensified electric and magnetic phenomena are responsible for some of the more physical and persistent luminous displays in the environment. Such displays, although infrequent, have been persistent in time and demonstrate repeatable patterns. Their unusual quality seems only a consequence of the context within which they are perceived (reported) and the unusual geometric form in which they are displayed. Perhaps by orienting more towards the abnormal kinetics of the geophysical environment, we can use those principles to understand and Predict the occurrence of these events and the human behaviour associated with them.

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The CE II Experience in Australia.

by W. Chalcker B.Sc.

In the UFO Experience, Dr. Hynek defined his close encounter type 2 (CE2) category as a sighting in which the reported UFO, generally a brightly illuminated 'craft', leaves a visible record of its visit or encounter with human observers. "The physical effects reportedly include tangible marks on the ground, the scorching or blighting of growing things, discomfort to animals as evidenced by their behaviour, and such physical effects on the human observer as temporary paralysis, numbness a feeling of heat, and other discomfort." Other effects include inertial variations and vehicle interference.

The earliest case of this type, on record so far in Australia, are the events behind a central NSW anecdote which allegedly took place in 1893. In this incident, a farmer claimed that a saucer-shaped aerial object landed in a paddock on his property. As he approached the object, a man in strange clothing emerged from it. The farmer walked towards the being - perhaps making some threatening gestures. The stranger shone some kind of "torch" at him. The farmer was thrown to the ground and was stunned. When he regained conscious, the stranger and the object had gone. His hand, where the "torch" beam had hit him, was allegedly paralysed for life. I have only recently heard a similar unconfirmed anecdote which apparently occurred back in 1919, in rural NSW. In this case, a man travelling down a country-road, came upon a peculiar artifact resting near the roadside. He saw that a man was apparently working on it. He went over towards the man and the strange object, to offer his assistance. The stranger, turned as if surprised and pointed something at the witness. He was knocked senseless, and when he regained consciousness, the man and object were gone. Subsequent to this experience, the man allegedly found that his memory was "never the same". On November 13th, 1902, a Mr. Bruggmann was in his garden at Harris Park Sydney, "during the dust and heat" of a widespread dust-storm. "He was about to hasten indoors, when a fireball, apparently close overhead, suddenly exploded. Mr. Bruggmann, who was rendered temporarily unconscious by the shock, was carried into his house, when it was found that he was partially paralysed. In relating the occurrence, he states that after the explosion sparks of fire fell all around him ----."

During the "airship" wave over New Zealand in 1909, yet another "occupant" case gave rise to yet another variation of a "trace" - a visible record of the visit of a UFO. On July 30th, at about 5 a.m., two men working on the Syndicate No.2 dredge on a river in the Waikaka Valley, a few miles north of Gore, observed strange lights approaching through the mist. The men could make out a narrow boat-shaped aerial craft, with two figures sitting in it. The object circled the dredge several times, making "curious and seemingly impossible manoeuvres". It would travel at speed, then suddenly decelerate. Eventually it disappeared into the mist, leaving a yellow glare behind. The latter phenomena or afterglow, or luminescent effects, are fairly common and have been pertinent in many attempts to interpolate possible mechanisms to explain these and other effects associated with UFOs. The 1969 Flinder's Park entity case featured "a strange glow ... like the moon was shining" after the alleged UFO left. The extraordinary Lake Sorell sighting of 1975 also exhibited "a bluey white fluorescent glow over the water "after the main UFO switched off its brilliant 'beam' ".

Perhaps it was a type of luminous phenomena associated with phosphorescence, in which a substance emits light of one wave length after having absorbed electromagnetic radiation of a shorter wavelength. The luminescence may continue for a considerable time after the initial excitation phase. The UFO experience in Australia abounds with similar cases.

For example the Bowna-Hume weir "entity" case of 1961 had associated observations of peculiar fine "pink rain" etc., which may have been produced by a mechanism similar to that postulated for the "polar lights" (aurora borealis & aurora australis). It is widely accepted, that the polar fluorescent light results from collisions between the atoms and molecules of the upper atmosphere and energetic charge particles from the sun that enter the atmosphere after being accelerated in the earth's magnetosphere. The incoming particles are guided downwards by the geomagnetic lines of force which terminate in the earth's polar regions. In 1969, at Casino, after a most peculiar object had rested in a home yard, during a rain shower, "a faint luminous patch where the object had been", persisted for up to 1 1/2 hours. This case is similar to the significant Delphos landing case of 1971.

Back in 1925, two young men came upon a strange object resting in a paddock, on a farm near Moora, Western Australia. It was like 2 saucers on edge, with oval-shaped "windows" and 4 "legs". The object seemed to be shimmering, and was not of "any" colour of the spectrum". The object appeared to be deserted. The men made a hasty retreat and several days later, the 2 returned. The object was gone, but where it had rested the earth had been scuffed about. Only 6 years earlier in 1919 at Greendale, New Zealand, a farmer was returning from a rabbit hunt with his dog, when he came upon a dull grey object "sitting" in a river-bed, shielded by tall scrub. When he started to approach the object it shot up into the air very quickly, making a whirring sound and soon vanished.

In 1932 and 1933, near Nambour Queensland, a young boy strayed from other children at play and approached a small hill, which had tall growths of grass surrounding swampy pools which lay around its base. Parting the grass, he heard a low humming noise and saw a peculiar disc-shaped object only 12 inches in diameter, about 4 feet away. The boy bent forward for a closer look, at which point, the humming sound intensified, and a "whitish mist" began to form around the object. At the same time, the boy felt a "tight feeling in the head". He moved back, feeling stunned and then rejoined the other children and afterwards, some of them observed "something" fly between the trees. That night the boy developed large white blisters on his hands and he "felt out of sorts". Most of the blisters burst during the night and a clear fluid like water came out. Within a day, they had all burst and he felt better.

Apart from a few isolated reports, ground traces were apparently not a common occurrence until late 1965. Then we had the remarkable Eton Range case, followed in January 1966 with the complex of events in the Tully QLD. area. The rest of 1966 turned out to be an extraordinary year particularly for Victoria with the Bourkes Flat and Westall accounts. Up until 1969, the only highlights were the Heyfield and Hill River events of 1968. In early 1969, an extraordinary complex of "nests" cases emanated from the north coast of NSW. The most significant cases took place at Bungawalban, Harwood Island and Parkview/Casino. Further cases in 1969 were centred in South Australia and Queensland. The most significant case of 1970, proved to be the landing case at Emerald Beach N.S.W.. 1971 saw widely dispersed trace cases from such places as Colombatti, Johnstone, Tooligie Hill and Atkinson's Dam. Trace reports for 1972 include events from Tooraweenah, Wellington, Murray Bridge and Camden. Several interesting trace cases occurred in the Tyringham-Bostobrick area during 1973. After a few reports in 1974, 1975 saw interesting cases occurring at Fingal, Nebo and Narrogin.

This potted survey of historical reports demonstrates the variety of effects - or "visible records" - reported in association with UFO events. Hynek's definition of his CE III category has been qualified amply. While the cases suggest a wide variety of physical and physiological effects,

the main thrust of this area of research has been centred mainly around the physical trace events. It has been generally thought that in particular the ground trace effects, found in association with UFO landings, would be most amenable to scientific analysis. A large body of evidence has been amassed in this direction, and patterns and possible mechanisms have only recently been considered with any degree of confidence.

But it is only with the consideration of all the data, particularly the physical effect cases, that such hypothesising can be regarded with some validity. Luminescent effects, sounds, electrical interference (of radios, vehicles, lighting, power transmission etc.), flight behaviour physiological effects, the observed entities and their activity, must all be considered for this purpose. Australia has an extra-ordinary body of evidence available in this area of study, but most of it is little publicised and relatively inaccessible. Thus a concerted attempt should be made to remedy this position. The situation with respect to the UFO entity reports is already being attended to, and it is now high time the same consideration should be given to the body of data, which really is potentially more fruitful for information amenable to current scientific analytic methods - the physical trace cases.

Allen Hynek succinctly defined the prohibitive attitude that has developed with the study of the UFO entity cases, when he wrote:

"Is it the confrontation on the animate level that disturbs and repulses us? Perhaps as long as it is our own intelligence that contemplates the report of a machine, albeit strange, we still somehow feel superior in such contemplation."

This situation is not so apparent with the study of CE II-type cases. All are amenable to scientific analysis to some extent in one form or another, and thus it is worth this body of data, that we can best hope to win recognition in "the court of science". This might, on first inspection seem like a form of censorship, in that I'm suggesting that we give preference to the CE II reports, when we present the UFO problem to scientists, but I would think it best to present at first, cases which do fall within the bounds of their areas of study. As I think you are all aware, the entity reports manifest almost as a complex paradox. They represent a fraction of the totality of UFO reports and yet have significantly large information content. This situation may at first seem attractive, but there is incredible variety in the reports, which reflects a certain degree of absurdity.

By presenting a body of evidence - based on data amenable to direct scientific inspection - i.e. the physical trace cases - we can best win a degree of respect the subject so urgently needs. The thoughts of Charles Fort best sum up this situation:

"A procession of the damned.
By the damned, I mean the excluded.
We shall have a procession of data that Science has excluded.
Battalions of the accused, captained by pallidara that I
have exhumed, will march.
You'll read them - or they'll march."

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Preliminary Catalogue of UFO Trace Cases - compiled by B. Chalker.
Historical Reports Compiled From Diversed Sources - by B. Chalker.
See also Supplement to CE3 catalogue compiled by K. Basterfield.
Center for UFO Studies Trace Catalogue - compiled by T. Phillips.
Ufology - by J. McCampbell (1973,1976)
UFO Physics - by Jan Heering, FSR (1974)
The Book Of The Damned - by Charles Fort.

CE II Study Group.

The publication of the last paper, "The CE II Experience in Australia", announces the formation of a CEII study group, whose primary aim will be to study and document UFO trace cases. All interested individuals should direct their enquiries to:

BILL CHALKER - P.O. BOX 1094 NORTH SYDNEY N.S.W. 2060.

The group will be independent of any organisation and information will be made freely available upon qualified requests. The following categories have been suggested as preliminary areas of study:

1. Ground trace marks directly related to UFO events.
2. Natural ground effects which may lead to misinterpretations.
3. Physical effects on witnesses & animals.
4. Physiological effects on witnesses & and animals.
5. Luminous phenomena (afterglow, flourescence etc.)
6. Interference with cars, instrumentation & appliances.
7. Inertial variations & anomalies (levitation, "car-control" etc., may be relevant here.)
8. Miscellaneous anomolous effects.

Further papers will be presented in the Bulletin and in other group publications, to disseminate information about the areas of study.

Name changes.

Firstly, we would like to announce the change in name of two of our member organisations. Following discussions at UFOCON ONE in 1975, where we discussed the possibility of eventually all groups adopting the name of UFO Research, the following organisations have changed their names:

1. Queensland UFO Research Bureau will from now on be known as UFO RESEARCH - QLD. (QUFORB to UFOR-QLD)
2. UFO Investigation Centre will from now on be known as UFO RESEARCH - N.S.W. (UFOIC to UFOR-NSW)

Please alter your organisation's records accordingly.

UFOs and animal reaction.

An initial look has been taken at references to Australian cases where animal reactions have been reported. A small number of such cases have been preliminarily identified as follows. The list is probably inaccurate at this stage and is intended only as somewhere to start. Comments are invited directed to Keith Basterfield 3 Park Lake Drive Wynn Vale S.A. 5127.

<u>Ref. No.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Source.</u>
1.	31-07-09	Greendale N.Z.	UFOCAT
2.	21-07-53	N.Z.	UFOCAT
3.	02-54	Todd River N.T.	FSR 16-3-28
4.	18-04-54	U/K	UFOCAT
5.	29-05-55	Smithfield QLD	FSR 16-4-35
6.	13-07-59	Blenheim NZ	FSR 18-3-26
7.	15-02-63	Moe VIC	FSR 16-5-29, FSR 20-4
8.	03-02-65	Sth. Brighton NZ	FSR 16-6-27
9.	19-07-65	Vaucluse NSW	FSR 16-6-27
10.	30-07-65	Goonumba NSW	FSR 16-6-27
11.	10-08-65	Parkes NSW	FSR 16-6-27
12.	01-66	Tully QLD	FSR 17-1-28
13.	10-67	Boyup Brook WA	FSR 17-3-29
14.	02-03-68	Tully QLD	UFOCAT
15.	17-01-69	Childers QLD	FSR 18-1-26
16.	10-69	Puketutu NZ	UFOCAT
17.	30-10-69	Waipukurau NZ	UFOCAT
18.	22-04-71	Temagog NSW	UFOCAT
19.	16-12-72	Garah NSW	UFOCAT
20.	27-05-74	Boobyalla TAS	UFOCAT
21.	12-06-74	Mayfield Flat TAS	UFOCAT
22.	30-08-74	Scamander TAS	UFOCAT
23.	21-07-75	Kempsey NSW	UFOCAT

Number of UFO reports in S.A.

UFO Research Inc., recorded the following numbers of incoming UFO reports during the years indicated.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%unknowns</u>	
1972	200	20%	40
1973	97	22%	22
1974	113	9%	11
1975	117	9%	11
1976	68	12%	8
	<u>595</u>		<u>96</u>

We would be interested to see anyone else's totals and percentages for these years as a comparison.

Records of UFO reports in S.A.

UFO Research Inc., has accumulated records of UFO reports from almost all old South Australian Sources and at present three systems are available for researchers to check such reports.

(1) INDEX CARD SYSTEM.

A card system provides brief details of reports from 1955 to 1974. A total of about 700 cards are held and there are special sections on the Clare area (75 cards mainly 1969-1972) and "Unidentifieds" (50 reports - all years)

(2) REPORTS LOG SYSTEM.

A chronological record of all incoming phone calls reporting objects- from 1974 to date. Takes over from card system.

(3) FILES.

Copies of reports forms and investigation notes from 1955 onwards.

For further information contact UFO Research Inc.

UFO Photographs.

Any group or individual possessing photographs of alleged UFOs, please contact Jeff Bell of UFO Research W.A. 84 Acton Ave Rivervale W.A. 6103, giving details such as date, time, location etc. DO NOT SEND PHOTOGRAPH. This information is required by an american UFO Researcher who Jeff knows, who is currently compiling a UFO PHOTO CATALOGUE - WORLDWIDE. Jeff will appreciate your co-operation.

Addition to December 1976 ACOS BULLETIN.

Please add the following item to the bottom of page 16 of the December 1976 issue of the Bulletin:

- "Investigation by - W.Chalker & M. Smyth (UFOIC)
- H. Griesberg & D. Seargent (ACOS)
- A. Tasker (UFOR-CC)

We apologise for this omission, and hope you will add it on.

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THE VICTORIAN FLYING SAUCER INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE OF 1953.

Recently, we were fortunate enough, with the help of Ray Fischer, of the Victorian UFO Research Society, to track down a member of the above mentioned committee and find out some details about it, and we thought it was very interesting to note these details. Our sincere thanks to Ray Fischer for his part in the investigations.

The organisation was formed in 1953, and named "The Victorian Flying Saucer Investigation Committee". It had no connection with the Astronomical Society of Victoria, although 6 out of 10 of its members were also members of that latter body, to that body's deep disgust. The members limited by the constitution to 12, were in the following professions. Journalist and author - Bank Accountant - Works Clerk - Civil Engineer - Electronics Engineer - Horticulturalist and author - Production manager- and a physics master. (ACOS has their names but these had to be withheld) These professions were mentioned to illustrate that these people were a serious minded cross section of the community intent upon satisfying their own curiosity as to the nature of the FS mystery, not in any sense a movement seeking popular support except to report to them, sightings of unexplained objects.

A professor and another authority, both of Sydney University were invited to join the committee to assist in evaluation of reports. They declined with thanks.

Of 55 reported sightings, 47 were considered to be genuine and inexplicable. After careful assessment, the committee considered probably 5% and certainly not more than 10% could be accounted for by orthodox naturalistic explanations.

The classifications were grouped as follows:

1. Saucer shaped objects (similar to those drawn by Adamski)
2. Long Cigar shaped objects.
3. Triangular shaped objects.
4. Small circular objects often appearing as moving lights at night.

These conclusions were reached before reading Donald Keyhoe's book "Flying Saucers from outer space" in which he quotes a similar classification given by Project Bluebook.

After about two years' activity, the committee issued a statement to the press to the effect that they considered the "flying saucers" as they were then known, were real, material objects of a nature and origin not as yet known.

This restrained and conservative statement, as they considered it to be, drew the attention and condemnation of the orthodox authorities such as the abovementioned Professor who dismissed the committee's findings with the usual Menzeliem eyewash. The committee continued to receive reports for a time after this, but the members became rather scattered, and their secretary became immersed in official duties and unable to deal with the committee's work, leading to suspension of its activities. However, they did achieve an important part of its aims, namely to establish that UFOs did have objective existence. Furthermore, that the mystery of their origin and nature were unlikely to be solved while science maintained its ostrich like attitude. They agreed that satisfactory investigation of the whole matter required resources far beyond those available to the committee."

(From personal correspondence between ACOS and the committees secretary.)

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UFO CONGRESS IN ACAPULCO.

From April 17th to April 24th, there will be an international congress on UFOs to be held in Acapulco, Mexico. Some of the lecturers will include the following.

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| Walter Andrus - Investigator | Jim Lorenzen - Engineer. |
| Kenneth Arnold- Pilot. | James McDivitt - astronaut. |
| Guillermo Bravo- B.B.A; B.C.; M.M.;PhD. | Aime Michel - Writer. |
| Andreas Kaiser Faber - Writer. | Hans Petersen - Major. |
| Pedro Ferriz - B.C. H.M. | Antonio Ribera - Writer. |
| Salvador Freixedo - Writer. | Carl Sagan - Professor. |
| Eric M. Gary - Prime Minister. | David Saunders - Psychologist. |
| William Dennis Hauck - Doctor. | William Spaulding - Investigator. |
| J. Allen Hynek - Astrophysisist. | Steve Spilderberg - Cinema Director. |
| John Keel - Writer | Ray Stanford - Investigator. |
| Donald Keyhoe - major. | Jacques Vallee - Astrophysisist. |
| Brinsley Le Pour Trench - Lord Clancarty. | Murray Weissman - B.B.A. |
| Colman Von Kevicsky - Investigator. | Erich Von Daniken - Writer. |
| Fabio Zerpe - Investigator. | |
| As well as several others. | |

At the time of going to Press, that is all we know at present, but we will keep you informed as to the outcome and details of the conference. Col Phillips of UFO Research-QLD will be sending a letter to the delegates on behalf of UFO Research Australia, naming all groups, wishing them every success for the conference.

U.F.O. REPORTS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA.WA77001. 9th January 1977. 2100. N.L. UFO Research-WA.

Mr. W. Gray, his family of four and his brother were having a Bar-B-Q at Sandstone Quarry Western Australia, at approximately 9 p.m. when Mrs. Gray and her son looked up and brought everyone's attention to a amber light flying north-west to south east. It was a bright amber glow, and estimated speed was faster than a meteorite, and had no tail.

WA77002. 9th January 1977. 2100. Poss. C.E.I. UFO Research-WA.

Master P. Vella (14 $\frac{1}{2}$) was sitting on the patio of his sister-in-laws house at approximately 9 p.m. when he observed a cigar-shaped object, bright white in colour, moving in a straight line from north to north-east. The object was travelling at a medium speed, compared to an aircraft. He then reported that the object just disappeared. One second it was there, then it was gone.

TA77013. 19th February 1977. 0330. N.L. TUFOIC.

Miss M. (16) came out of the house at Brighton, and stated that it was very dark, but she could just see the hills in the distance, and as she came through the front gates, she noticed a circular arrangement of orange lights. Weather conditions at the time was overcast. The arrangement of lights were approximately the size of the moon, and they moved erratically, before disappearing behind hills. There was also a beam of light either from the lights to the ground or from the ground to the lights, but after the lights had disappeared behind the hill, the beam had also vanished. When the lights were first noticed, they moved very slowly, stopping 2-3 times, then moving faster, diminishing in size, and finally disappearing. The objects (or object) seemed to be directly above the Brighton Army camp, and in particular, that side of the camp has the ACS Radio Terminal 1, any connection is of course speculative. The misty beam with well defined edges also presents a puzzle, cloud was at 4000 feet which is too high for a chance reflection of local lights.

TA77015. December 1971. Nighttime. N.L. TUFOIC.

This report was uncovered whilst investigating another case. Two police officers on patrol, see nocturnal light, and drive to scenic lookout for a better view. There were three lights, large and white/yellow, over the hills towards New Norfolk. Stationary at first, a little movement, then accelerated out of view to the East. The sighting lasted 10 to 20 minutes..

TA77016. 7th July 1976. 2330. C.E.I. TUFOIC.

The witness was returning home on a damp, overcast evening, late at night, alone on the road. Approaching a curve and rise on Midland Highway before a gully known as Crooked Billet. Suddenly sees in rear mirror that there is a light extremely close behind car, estimated 10 meters and 7 meters elevation. Had impression that light was looking down into car. Thought it strange that light did not light up car interior. Appeared round in shape, yellow centre, pale yellow edge. Rounded curve, light still following. Witness passed Crooked Billet then saw car approaching over rise ahead, then saw that light had gone. No side roads, houses etc., at this stage, Highway has Armco fences and a cutting.