



T.U.F.O.I.C.



TASMANIAN UFO INVESTIGATION CENTRE October 1990 - NEWSLETTER Edition 61

WORLD WIDE ROUND UP

In our last Newsletter we had a clipping on UFO cases from Belgium, this it seems was only the tip of the iceberg. Local media coverage on TV mentioned there had been UFO sightings in Belgium over the Easter break and that aircraft had been sent up to track the UFOs. We briefly saw a group of lights on our screens but are still not aware if this was the "real" thing or meant to represent what was seen.

As with many overseas cases they rate a brief mention and we never hear about them again, this time, however, we can thank UFO Research Queensland who have an article in their Newsletter with detail on the Belgium affair. (by Keith & May Flicroft). The sightings commenced we are told as long ago as October last (1989), sightings flowing in for the following seven months. almost all the sightings were nocturnal, silent, but often dramatic. The Minister for Defence, the Belgian Air Force, Defence Radar, Scientists and Gendarmes have all become involved.

In October an object was spotted at low level near Verviers, then on November 7th two Gendarmes watched a UFO larger than an aircraft that was seen twice on the same night, on the 26th a twenty meter diameter ball emitting light was seen by ten to twelve witnesses to be floating at a height of 300 meters. Many Gendarmes made long and repeated observations from their barracks at Eupen. Typical of the sightings were low altitudes, slow speeds, and long durations.

Other witnesses near Eupen sighted UFOs, a man and his wife driving near Eupen saw a large black object with a number of accompanying lights passing over them. Another witness reported an object with moving blue lights on its side, and then it showed three white lights, a black spot in the centre and a red light moving in between.

Numerous headlines appeared in the Belgian newspapers. The Minister for Defence asked for an enquiry in December, and in May ordered the Air Force and Defence Radar at Glons to cooperate with those wishing to research the matter. There had been teams of civilians holding watches at night with cameras. After ninety days of UFO activity over 600 reports and 3000 witnesses has accumulated.

One type of UFO often reported was an isosceles triangle with a light at each point. They were generally rather flat and some displayed "portholes". A machine which was seen landing on a road looked like two plates joined together. It made a hissing sound like a turbine.

On December 16th after many reports from the South-East, two F16's were scrambled, but no sighting by the jets were made. Another chase was reported by two F16s on March 30th (see clipping). Fifteen Gendarmes in the Brabant had watched an aerial object for 1¹/₂ hours. The Defence Radar at Glons reported a sufficiently precise return and the jets were scrambled. After their third pass the pilots sighted large circles at the centre of a great triangle. Immediately all but the brightest of three lights vanished, and this climbed, emitting a short burst of red before disappearing.

The Belgian Air Force readied a Hawker Siddeley aircraft with a large array of instruments. This was ready by mid April and presumably is the aircraft mentioned in the Easter TV news items. Joining in the aircraft search we see was a Professor Brening of the Free University of Brussels, he had seen one of the triangles for himself as it moved slowly over Leige on March 18th. As if this is not enough Colonel de Brauwere (see clipping for another mention of the Colonel) had initiated a programme of four days and nights of observation in April at the civil airport of Bierset. Organised by the Air Force, with scientist, private investigators and the press participating.

Will we hear the outcome of all these goings on... we certainly hope so as we appear to have the Air Force, scientists, and investigators all attempting to solve the mystery sightings. As the months passed explanations such as meteors, bolides, secret aircraft, lasers, all fell by the wayside.

Another TV mystery item from last year was the Russian Martian spacecraft, Phobos 1 which went off the air when it was turned towards Phobos in March 1989. Then in April while taking infra-red pictures of the Martian surface that also showed up a lens shaped shadow the Russian spacecraft lost communication. The last picture showed an object coming towards it, an object the Russians say should not have been there, why has this last picture not been released??

Still more controversy from Gulf Breeze the little town in Florida allegedly haunted by UFOs which only Ed Walters could manage to take pictures of, although it seems other residents did report independant UFO sightings. Now, however, a model found in Walters' former Gulf Breeze home in March has raised new questions about the sightings. The model found in the attic looks remarkably like the UFO in many of the pictures. Walters claims someone has planted the model in his previous home which was unoccupied for some time, others say he used the model to fake the photographs... it just seems to go on and on! Maybe we should stick to the less spectacular but hopefully more authentic Belgium Flap for proof that the UFO still exists.

The evergreen "Crop Circles" continue on their merry way in England with even more complex patterns emerging during the British summer months. A 10 day 24 hour monitoring of a field that has had a circle in it every year for the past twelve years has been set up. Infra-red cameras, films, the lot, if anything happens in the field during those ten days it will be recorded.

Of course with all the publicity the inevitable hoax occured right under the camera's scrutiny but at least it proved that human hoaxers just can't duplicate the "genuine" circles.

Just noted from recent overseas cuttings is UFO activity elsewhere. Whilst we have been complaining about zero activity other countries in the Northern Hemisphere have had an increase in sightings. Canada during 1989 had a flap of sightings including their own traces report. South East England seems to have hundreds of UFO cases running into 1990, whilst Hungary has had its own UFO flaps with all the 'standard' events.

Recent reports indicate that the Russian UFOs are still active with one encounter similar to the Belgian case when a Russian Air Force plane made visual contact with a UFO following a number of sightings. The obvious question is will the sightings spread to the bottom half of the world, in particular Australia (including Tasmania)?

AUSTRALIAN UFO ACTIVITY - 1989

compiled by Mark Moravec
(Australian Centre for UFO Studies)

To help ACUFOS compile a national picture of UFO activity over the last year, a two-page questionnaire was sent to all groups and investigators. The following information is

compiled from the returned questionnaires and general correspondence. Thanks to all groups and investigators who contributed information, for the benefit of all researchers.

| <u>Group</u> | <u>Identifieds</u> | <u>Possible Identifieds</u> | <u>Insufficient Information</u> | <u>Still Under Investigation</u> | <u>Unidentifieds</u> | <u>Total Reports</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| PUFORG | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| TUFOIC | 79 | - | 1 | - | 8 | 88 |
| UFO Research (FNQ) | 6 | 6 | - | - | 6 | 18 |
| UFO Research (NSW) | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| UFORA (NSW) | - | - | - | - | - | 8 |
| UFO Research (QLD) | 10 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 26 | 48 |
| UFO Research (SA) | - | - | - | - | - | 32 |
| Total: | 95 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 40 | 198 |

THE ULTIMATE IN JUNK MAIL?

JUNK

By David Mussared, AAP National Science Correspondent
CANBERRA, May 11 AAP - A CSIRO scientist believes a mysterious fireball which damaged an elderly Sydney man's letterbox late last year might have been caused by falling space junk from a defunct Soviet satellite.

Mineralogist Dr Ray Binns has been studying the strange case since the man, living at Kingsgrove, first contacted the CSIRO saying he believed his letterbox had been hit by a meteorite. Dr Binns told AAP the letterbox's lid was buckled, and two of several copper globules attached to it had melted their way completely through the sheet steel.

TASMANIA.

The Tasmanian scene continues with its complete lack of action, calls to the Centre in recent months have been few and far between, and all have been explainable except maybe one from the East Coast on June 26th. This particular case featured in the **Sunday** Tasmanian of July 8th.

The witness tells of seeing a flattened cup like shape with a square top. His dogs had been carrying on for some time so he finally went out and saw the object near ground level some 200/300mts distant. It looked to be following the fence line and at this point the witness went back inside. Looking out again he could see the same or similar object some 3kmts away over a hilltop. It now had a red/orange flame effect below as it dropped out of sight behind the hill. The sighting had lasted some 5 minutes. The Hobart Mercury's Launceston representative called on the witness whilst Jenny Lyne our East Coast Rep did the same as soon as we heard about the case. One of the neighbours had a previous sighting which we hope to obtain information on.

Correspondence to TUFOIC, PO Box 99, North Hobart, 7002. TAS. Sightings Ph002 236009.

Increase in UFO claims in Hungary

From DAVID LEWIS
in Hungary

EXAMINER 10-8-90

Judith Vas, who has collected reports of unidentified flying objects and other bizarre phenomena in Hungary since January says she feels they do exist even if science wants to deny it.

"Perhaps there is a way that we don't know about to travel between galaxies in a fourth, fifth or sixth dimension."

The UFO Data Collection Centre was set up at the beginning of the year by the Urania Observatory, in the historic city of Eger, north-east Hungary, after reports of UFOs began flooding in last autumn.

Rather than allow his staff to be distracted, the observatory's director Andras Horvath charged Vas, a 35-year-old mother-of-two and freelance lecturer on astronomy, with collating and studying the reports.

"I am a collector and I am very sceptical," Vas said at her modest home, a service flat for her army officer husband who teaches at the local military academy.

"I never simply believe what people say. I go and talk to them. In my heart I would like to meet extraterrestrials. But I must not listen to my heart. My job is to look at the proof."

Vas waves some of the 60 to 70 letters received by the Centre describing events and phenomena, including mysterious balls of light, strange flying objects and cars going out of control after intervention from outer space.

The surge of UFO sightings in Hungary began in November, a month after children in the central Soviet city of Voronezh reported seeing giant three-eyed aliens landing from a shining ball-like spacecraft.

On November 13, air force pilots in southern Hungary, said they were followed on training flights by an orange sphere which did not show up on radar.

Days later, two soldiers at the Kecskemet's military airport reported seeing a fluorescent green figure about 1.2 metres tall who beamed himself up into space.

Most recently — on July 24 — bus-driver Imre Herczeg reported a "close encounter" in the village of Kisbajes near to the north-western city of Győr.

Driving his bus home after work, he saw two strong red lights and a strange figure about 1.2 metres tall, Herczeg told the Nepszabadsag newspaper.

"Its pear-shaped head had two slanted eyes. Its entire body was steel blue. Its hands seemed disproportionately long, and I seem to remember he had four fingers."

Since the incident, Herczeg has been plagued by headaches and blood-shot eyes.

Hole in field prompts French UFO inquiry

Paris

MERCURY 13-7-90

POLICE and scientists are examining a strange dish-like hole in a cornfield in western France amid suggestions it could have been caused by an Unidentified Flying Object.

Police said they had called in government-paid UFO experts to look at a 10-metre wide conically shaped hole that appeared in a field last weekend after farmers reported hearing a loud thud.

There was no trace of fire but part of the field appeared to have been flattened by a blast.

In Brussels, Belgium's air force said yesterday its radar stations picked up a UFO on March 30 which accelerated from 280kmh to more than 1800kmh and altered height by more than

three kilometres in 15 seconds.

Colonel Wilfried De Brouwer said the UFO performed movements which no existing aeroplane was capable of making.

Two F-16 fighter jets were sent to investigate after several policemen reported seeing a huge dark triangle covered in lights in the sky about 40 kilometres south-east of Brussels.

The planes chased the object for about 45 minutes and made several radar contacts before losing it.

Colonel De Brouwer said the object could not have been a plane, a balloon, a laser beam or a thermic inversion, a meteorological phenomenon which disturbs radio waves.

Reuter

TRUTH, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1990

Bush pilot chases UFO

A SUNBIRD Airlines pilot recently followed a mysterious, globe-shaped UFO for 30 minutes through the skies of far north Queensland.

The pilot abandoned the chase when the object accelerated at immense speed towards the west.

The mirror-surfaced sphere, which dazzlingly reflected sun and clouds, was also clearly visible from the ground.

Dozens of residents of Kowanyama, 450km north-

west of Cairns, stood in the streets staring up at the object, which remained visible for two hours.

A second pilot, who flies for the Cape York Aerial Service, observed the UFO through binoculars from the ground.

"It seemed to defy all the laws of physics," he said. "If it had been a balloon, it would have been taken up by the airflow associated with cloud build-up. But this thing kept standing still,

before making sharp turns."

The Bureau of Meteorology said no weather balloons were in the area at the time and the Civil Aviation Authority confirmed that an aircraft had investigated the sighting.

"The sphere left everyone confused," a council spokesman said. "The oddest thing was the way it reflected the sunlight. It was so bright it made my eyes smart and gave me a headache."

Hoaxers fool the circle scientists

SCIENTISTS monitoring the strange appearance of circles in crop fields in the south of England were fooled by an elaborate hoax yesterday.

Researchers using heat-seeking and low-light cameras recorded "strange triangular orange lights" on their equipment overnight.

When dawn broke, two new sets of circles with parallel lines were found in a cornfield at Bratton in Wiltshire.

The scientific teams from Britain, Japan, Canada, the United States and Germany involved in "Operation

Blackbird" thought they had made a major breakthrough but closer examination revealed the latest circles to be a hoax. The crops had been crudely trodden down and in the middle of one circle was an ouja board with a cross on top of it.

A researcher, Mr Colin Andrews, said: "Someone has had a laugh but this is very sad. It has taken us away from the project and set our research back."

The three-week vigil in the cornfields will continue. MERCURY 26/7

TUFOIC

TASMANIAN UFO INVESTIGATION CENTRE

P O BOX 99
NORTH HOBART
TASMANIA 7002
AUSTRALIA

END OF YEAR DINNER

The final meeting of TUFOIC for 1990 will be our end of year dinner.

On
THURSDAY
6th December 1990

At the
QUEENS HEAD HOTEL
North Hobart

Starting at 6.30 PM

FAMILY AND FRIENDS WELCOME

Please notify the President: Ron Jolly, on (002) 25 4054 (Evenings) advising of your intention to come, and how many will be accompanying you, or, send the Form over the page to TUFOIC, at the above address.
By 30th November 1990.

SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE FOR 1991

Due to the recent increase in postal charges, and increased running costs of the organisation, a motion was passed at the last meeting, to increase the Annual Subscription rates as from 1/1/1991, as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| FULL MEMBERSHIP | \$5.00 Annually |
| PENSIONERS | \$4.00 |
| STUDENTS | \$4.00 |
| PUBLICATIONS ONLY \$4.00 | |
| OVERSEAS RATES: | |
| AIR MAIL | \$6.00 |
| SURFACE MAIL | \$5.00 |

Current financial members will not be effected until there subscriptions become due in the new year.

This will be the first increase in Subscription rates for 10 years, in which time we have seen postal charges (our main expense) rise quite substantially. The other main expense is subscriptions to other organisations, these have also increased over the last ten years. Most other running expenses, such as Telephone calls to witnesses, Traveling expenses, Stationary etc. are paid out of pocket by our Executive members.

Your subscription payment not only pays for the Annual report and Newsletters that you receive during the year, and their postal charges, it also goes toward the continued running of the Centre.

Without your support, TUFOIC would not be able to operate effectively.

TUFOIC LIBRARY

Beginning early in the new year, the TUFOIC members lending library will be situated at the:

Déjà vu Book Shop
77 Salamanca Place
Hobart

The Library of Journals, Magazines, Newsletters and some Books, will be available for loan, on a short time basis, to financial members.

Contact: Douglas Lockhart for details.
At the Book Shop, or Phone (002) 23 4766

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY of TASMANIA

TUFOIC is now a group member of the Astronomical Society. As such, we hope to bring you more news of Astronomical events in our Newsletters, and at Meetings. We also expect to be able to arrange a guest speaker from the AST for one of our future meetings. We also anticipate having a Telescope Observation Evening for our members some time during the year.

The AST publish a monthly Journal "The Bulletin", which will be placed in the TUFOIC library, for interested members.

For further information on the AST write to:

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA
Secretary, Miss. K. Barnes
C/o Norwood Avenue Post Office
Launceston
Tasmania, 7250

TUFOIC END OF YEAR DINNER PARTICIPATION FORM

I will be attending the TUFOIC end of year dinner.
At the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, December 6th 1990, at 6.30 PM.

NAME: _____.

PHONE (Home): _____ (Work): _____.

How many others will be coming with you: _____.

Please post this form to reach TUFOIC by 30/11/90

Or, notify the President: Ron Jolly, on (002) 25 4054 (Evenings) advising of your intention to come, and how many will be accompanying you, also by 30th November 1990.

We look forward to seeing you there.