

TASMANIAN UFO REPORT

1992

TUFOIC

Tasmanian Unidentified Flying Object Investigation Centre

TASMANIAN UFO REPORT - 1992

T. U. F. O. I. C. Executive 1992	TASMANIAN STATISTICS																																																																																																																																				
<p>-----</p> <p>PRESIDENT: Ron Jolly</p> <p>SECRETARY/TREASURER: Paul Jackson</p> <p>INVESTIGATION/FILES: Keith Roberts</p> <p>LIAISON OFFICER: Brian Webberley</p> <p>LIBRARY: Douglas Lockhart</p> <p>COMMITTEE: Janine Hunt</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All Correspondence to:</p> <p>T. U. F. O. I. C., P. O. Box 99, NORTH HOBART TASMANIA, 7002, AUSTRALIA</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sightings Telephone Numbers:</p> <p>-----</p> <p>23 6009 or 25 4054 (area code 002)</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Area Representatives:</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Launceston ... Don MacSween (003) 39 2410</p> <p>Swansea Jenny Lyne</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meetings held in Hobart</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of the following months:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">March June September</p> <p style="text-align: center;">At the GLENORCHY LIBRARY Meeting rooms, Terry Street, Glenorchy. Starting at 7.30 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The end of year Function is usually held in December.</p> <p>Dates to be advised by mail to members.</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">UFO TASMANIA - Issn 0158-0590</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Publication Number - 65</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Items may be quoted from this magazine provided that T. U. F. O. I. C. is credited.</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Published and Printed by TUFOIC</p>	<p>-----</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">YEAR:</th> <th style="text-align: right;">REPORTS:</th> <th style="text-align: right;">UFOs:</th> <th style="text-align: right;">IDENTIFIED:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Pre 1965</td><td style="text-align: right;">130</td><td style="text-align: right;">29</td><td style="text-align: right;">101</td></tr> <tr><td>1965</td><td style="text-align: right;">23</td><td style="text-align: right;">12</td><td style="text-align: right;">11</td></tr> <tr><td>1966</td><td style="text-align: right;">34</td><td style="text-align: right;">15</td><td style="text-align: right;">19</td></tr> <tr><td>1967</td><td style="text-align: right;">16</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td><td style="text-align: right;">12</td></tr> <tr><td>1968</td><td style="text-align: right;">29</td><td style="text-align: right;">6</td><td style="text-align: right;">23</td></tr> <tr><td>1969</td><td style="text-align: right;">61</td><td style="text-align: right;">14</td><td style="text-align: right;">47</td></tr> <tr><td>1970</td><td style="text-align: right;">45</td><td style="text-align: right;">8</td><td style="text-align: right;">37</td></tr> <tr><td>1971</td><td style="text-align: right;">97</td><td style="text-align: right;">23</td><td style="text-align: right;">74</td></tr> <tr><td>1972</td><td style="text-align: right;">68</td><td style="text-align: right;">14</td><td style="text-align: right;">64</td></tr> <tr><td>1973</td><td style="text-align: right;">136</td><td style="text-align: right;">26</td><td style="text-align: right;">110</td></tr> <tr><td>1974</td><td style="text-align: right;">160</td><td style="text-align: right;">57</td><td style="text-align: right;">103</td></tr> <tr><td>1975</td><td style="text-align: right;">182</td><td style="text-align: right;">50</td><td style="text-align: right;">132</td></tr> <tr><td>1976</td><td style="text-align: right;">192</td><td style="text-align: right;">43</td><td style="text-align: right;">149</td></tr> <tr><td>1977</td><td style="text-align: right;">156</td><td style="text-align: right;">39</td><td style="text-align: right;">117</td></tr> <tr><td>1978</td><td style="text-align: right;">178</td><td style="text-align: right;">32</td><td style="text-align: right;">146</td></tr> <tr><td>1979</td><td style="text-align: right;">152</td><td style="text-align: right;">19</td><td style="text-align: right;">133</td></tr> <tr><td>1980</td><td style="text-align: right;">61</td><td style="text-align: right;">9</td><td style="text-align: right;">52</td></tr> <tr><td>1981</td><td style="text-align: right;">87</td><td style="text-align: right;">10</td><td style="text-align: right;">77</td></tr> <tr><td>1982</td><td style="text-align: right;">60</td><td style="text-align: right;">16</td><td style="text-align: right;">44</td></tr> <tr><td>1983</td><td style="text-align: right;">63</td><td style="text-align: right;">8</td><td style="text-align: right;">55</td></tr> <tr><td>1984</td><td style="text-align: right;">44</td><td style="text-align: right;">7</td><td style="text-align: right;">37</td></tr> <tr><td>1985</td><td style="text-align: right;">84</td><td style="text-align: right;">9</td><td style="text-align: right;">75</td></tr> <tr><td>1986</td><td style="text-align: right;">81</td><td style="text-align: right;">7</td><td style="text-align: right;">74</td></tr> <tr><td>1987</td><td style="text-align: right;">70</td><td style="text-align: right;">9</td><td style="text-align: right;">61</td></tr> <tr><td>1988</td><td style="text-align: right;">108</td><td style="text-align: right;">19</td><td style="text-align: right;">89</td></tr> <tr><td>1989</td><td style="text-align: right;">89</td><td style="text-align: right;">9</td><td style="text-align: right;">80</td></tr> <tr><td>1990</td><td style="text-align: right;">43</td><td style="text-align: right;">6</td><td style="text-align: right;">37</td></tr> <tr><td>1991</td><td style="text-align: right;">42</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td><td style="text-align: right;">38</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Investigations in 1991</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr><td>Unidentified -----</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>Insuff. 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THE PRINCIPAL AIMS OF TUFOIC: To conduct investigations into Tasmanian UFO reports. To collect and examine information on the UFO Phenomena, and to distribute that which we consider authentic to members, fellow UFO organisations engaged in similar research, both in Australia, and Overseas, and to the general public, Via our Annual report, Publications and Newsletters.

MEMBERSHIP OF TUFOIC: Shall be open to all who support the aims of the Centre, and have a serious interest in the UFO phenomena.

Further information about TUFOIC may be obtained from the secretary, or by attending meetings

TUFOIC meetings are open to Members, Friends and to the general public

SIGHTINGS IN 1991

As mentioned earlier sighting activity is currently at a low ebb with only 4 unidentified cases so far this year. The first report was from King Island on January 13th when several witnesses reported an erratic white light that went east at first, then back towards the west before disappearing in the south west. The sighting lasted about 10 minutes. Another large light was reported by two witnesses whilst travelling to Lefroy on March 19th at 11pm, a round orange to yellow light appeared ahead of their car, went out, only to reappear some kilometres further on. The round light disappeared behind a nearby hill leaving a brief glow in the sky.

A more complex series of reports came from two Bruny Island witnesses on May 21st. Over a period of a couple of hours that evening they watched a number of orange lights that moved back and forth in their northern sky. The lights seemed to appear in pairs and would be visible moving in a level path across the sky for a minute or so before they went out. One pair of lights came south and looked to be just north of the witnesses viewing point. Checks by the Centre showed there was no aircraft movements in the area. Investigation included a visit to the witnesses home but no obvious explanation was found for the lights.

What was it that visited one of Hobart's Eastern Shore ovals in the early hours of Tuesday September 17th. To date the case remains unexplained but we have only one witness despite the fact that the report occurred in a built up area only a few kilometres from the city centre. The sighting location is in parkland alongside one of Hobart's major sporting ovals. The event taking place over the parking area for service vehicles at the ground. This area is laid with honeycombed concrete which allows grass to grow through the gaps to give a lawn like appearance.

Our witness who lives nearby had been up about 4am as his mother had to be taken to hospital, it was as the ambulance was leaving that he noticed a flash of light by the sports oval. After going inside his house he looked out and noticed flashing lights near ground level alongside the oval. He was not sure if the lights were at ground level or at the height of the bushes of 2 to 3 mts.

The witness could see a line of flashing green, red, and orange lights, in the centre above these lights was a larger bright round red light. Added to this was a beam of light that came from somewhere in between the line of lights and the red light, this beam was going back and forth across the parkland showing up the bushes and trees clearly.

The witness tried to find an explanation for the lights, thinking they may be a council rubbish truck. However after maybe a minute all the lights went out except the top red light. The red light started to spin faster and faster then moved gradually up vertically, it then angled out to the right over the Derwent River. In a second or two the rapidly spinning red light had disappeared, the witness could not determine if it went off into the distance or just switched off.

The sighting area was visited 3 days after sighting but nothing to readily explain the case was noted. A number of dark curved marks were found on the honeycomb concrete but investigators suspect this was from motorists doing "Wheelies". Samples of the marks were taken for later analysis.

1991 in Review

Once again UFO reports in Tasmania have remained at low level, four unexplained cases so far, equal with the previously recorded low of four back in 1967. At the time of completing our 1990 Review we also had a similar number of unexplained reports but this crept up to six with a few late cases coming to our attention early in 1991. The drop in UFO sightings also reflects the fall in calls to the Centre with only 40 for the year, this time being the lowest number since 1968.

No local sightings were mentioned in the media during 1991, some overseas UFO content was covered with the now almost compulsory mention of "crop circles". The crop circle phenomena like its UFO counterpart runs the gauntlet of hoaxers, not surprisingly at the close of the crop season two claimants appeared in England saying they were responsible for the circles. Not only this they had inspired others to do likewise elsewhere in the world. From subsequent comments it appears that the crop circles will still be there next year and are not the result of the hoaxers actions.

Our sightings list for Australia is well down on other years although there seems to be a fairly even spread of cases across the country. We believe that New South Wales has had an increase in reports during 1991 but we do not have any details to hand at the present.

UFO Research Australia and ACUFOS have continued at the front of Australian UFOlogy, however, under the surface all has not been smooth sailing as groups adopt differing directions in their approach to answer the UFO problem. Despite many claims regarding the source of the UFO phenomena the U in UFO still stands for unidentified, and regrettably the phenomena tends to get lumped in with a variety of other dubious subjects or studies. Probably the main event of the year in Australia was the UFO Seminar held in Sydney in September, a number of overseas speakers were attracted to the Seminar and this in turn created a deal of media interest on the UFO subject.

Like crop circles in the United Kingdom the "Gulf Breeze" events continue to make news in the United States. Further sightings occurred during 1991, which included various lights being recorded on video. Well known UFO photography analyst Bruce Maccabee was numbered among the witnesses at one event. In view of the controversial beginnings to the events at Gulf Breeze one wonders just what the real story is? The Belgian wave which made headlines in 1989/1990 seem to have simmered on into 1991 but we assume that the sightings have now faded away.

The Centre received some coverage in the Centre for UFO Studies (USA) Journal during 1991. The article was a coverage of Australian UFO history and it was pointed out that only TUFOIC in Australia has a complete record of reports from 1965 through to the present.

Once again we look forward to the year ahead and trust that we and fellow groups around the country can concentrate more on sightings and sharing the subsequent information gathered.

Peeping-tom UFO

A UFO escorted a truck driver to his home in north-east Hungary and "peeped" through the curtains. Zoltan Bartus and a companion claimed the saucer-shaped object as big as a full moon followed their truck early Saturday. They climbed into Bartus's house through the back window, hoping to shake off the UFO, which shone a green beam into the room. Dogs howled and the UFO turned into a cigar-shaped object escorted by two smaller lights and disappeared.

A LOOK AT THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL HYPOTHESIS

by Gordon Keyworth

Explanations for the UFO phenomena range from the exotic to the mundane and it is probable that no single hypothesis is sufficient enough to explain every single case on the phenomena. However the most popular and historically significant theory in UFOlogy is the extra-terrestrial (ETH) hypothesis. There are valid reasons for this, one of which is a good probability for explaining a substantial portion of the UFO phenomena. Also the ETH testable scientifically and time will tell if it has veracity.

It is unlikely that we are alone in the universe. The universe is a big place. For every star seen in the night sky with the naked eye, there are another thirty million stars you can't see in our galaxy alone and there are a least that many times in the number of galaxies. Probability alone when taking into account the chances of finding suitable stars, planetary systems, habitats and other such conditions which would be expected to foster the evolution of life; estimates a range of thousands to millions of space forming civilisations in our galaxy alone. When considering that some of the parameters are quite arbitrary, then this figure could be multiplied again (and even more so if inter-dimensional entities also make regular visitations) The chance of finding ET life then becomes a certainly although not all would have evolved to space-faring

Alien encounter cases only account for 2.5% of UFO reports and abduction scenarios even less. In most cases particularly the later, there is a lack of substantial hard-core or physical evidence, and in some there is an overlap with what we would consider as paranormal. Allowing for misinterpretation illusion faulty memory or perception and the like; aliens come in assorted shapes and sizes (although the former may explain why so varied in appearance.)

Generally though all are variations on a humanoid theme (but even no two humans are exactly alike.). Some are doll-sized miniature types with many affinities with creature from folklore. The majority however are shorter-humanoid types which range from bellicose hairy dwarfs to the hairless grey humanoids with large slanted eyes to be found in 'crashed saucer fame' (why not other types though). Long haired Venusian types often appear with cosmic messages of brotherhood while other humanoid types are quite weird looking. A Minority consists of what is best described as phantasmagoria.

Are there too many types of alien visiting the earth to justify ETH? We may have only seen the 'tip of the iceberg' of types visiting earth now and in the future if there are thousands of space-faring civilisations and there may be more than one space-faring species from each planet or system (imagine the bewildering array of appearances there would be if each culture or race of man on earth should launch into space.) Some of the aliens may not be the actual entity at all but rather robots, cyborgs, pets, etc and spacesuits might distort the true appearance (imagine the thoughts of moonmen in 1969 seeing spacesuit clad aliens from earth.) A range of breathing apparatus is reported which is expected if aliens come from various habitats, different, similar or identical to earth and the range of clothing and dress would be expected in space-farers if not all the incursions were military (after all compare the different fashions on earth). Considering the antics of the high-jumping astronauts on the moon it is not surprising that aliens, float, glide, etc on earth (especially if they had mastered anti-gravity). Even a humanoid body plan is not surprising considering its practicalities for space-travel and it can be predicted they are carbon and water based life (the reader is referred because of lack of space to textbooks to find out why).

So why visit earth? Perhaps aliens are already here in disguise and may have visited and interacted with us throughout history. Earth might be a great tourist destination and the object of scientific study and observation which also explains why so many reports tell of aliens collecting samples of investigating automobiles late at night. After all a naturalist here on earth observes wildlife without trying to interface with it. Earth may be an oasis/supply base on the interstellar trade routes or at a military cross roads.

But aren't they too far away to get here? One would expect that an advanced technology would have solved the distance relativistic barrier maybe by the use of hyperspace or interdimensional travel. It was said that it was impossible to break the sound barrier because propellers did not have enough power to do it. Even the paranormal aspects of some reports could simply be future technology at work. It would also be a trite point whether UFOs were extra-terrestrial or interdimensional because space-time travel or manipulation would make no distinction.

Then why not communicate? Perhaps them communicating with us is like us trying to have an intelligent conversation with a cow it may be a deliberate choice because we couldn't handle it yet sociologically; after all were not exactly friendly, we shoot first and ask questions later and some religions fundamentalists would no doubt burn any alien at the stake for being heretics, their theology does not allow ET life.

Are aliens hostile or friendly? Certainly their behaviour is mostly escape, avoidance, or defensive and harm to humans is accidental or unintentional. The accounts of UFOs harming people sound suspiciously like the effects of ball-lighting and the like which will indeed chase you around the paddock and through the house. If aliens were hostile they should have attacked us long ago and not leave it whilst we build better weapons (maybe we have only drawn attention to ourselves this century because of our electromagnetic transmissions). One should be wary of aliens claiming concern over a nuclear weapons and their effect. After all every star and supernova has a greater nuclear threat than us (come to think of it why don't these concerned aliens give us practical solutions to our woes such as the common cold etc:) Perhaps aliens are concerned with the potential threat we might have if we ever became space travellers, but on the other hand this warlike and barbaric nature of humans might be our salvation in any interstellar conflict of the future.

Abductions are a fuzzy area in deciphering what is subjective and what is objectively real, using hypnosis only compounds the issue because such subjects tell what they consider the truth but what may not be the actual truth and so hypnosis is an unreliable tool. Modern-day abduction scenarios such as in 'Communion' contrast in many ways with more classic types such as the Hill case. The latter types occurred away from crowds and had a more 'objective ring' to the abduction whereas more recent claims have the person often waking up in bed with many dream like images in the experience. Often occurring in crowded areas and often emphasizing the paranormal. It is claimed that mostly those of an artistic or sensitive temperament are more prone to abduction but apart from the obvious psychological reasons of an over imaginative personality, this would be simply a statistical error because those of a more objective irationalist mind simply dismiss such an experience as if it did not happen to them and don't bother to report it. Perhaps abductions are actually psychic kidnapping by entities masquerading as aliens but if this is so its not really the phenomena we are talking about here and is a whole new 'kettle of fish'.

The medical techniques of the abductions seem particularly inept, you only need a simple skin sample to obtain enough genetic material to recreate the whole organism, sperm and eggs aren't necessary, neither are human incubators because artificial ones are more controllable and safer. If they are good enough molecular biologists they would be able to (and one would expect them to be, given their advanced knowledge) create genetic material in the lab anyway and not have to steal samples from man so as to improve their own genetic stock (it would be akin to us stealing the sperm and egg from a cow so as to make better humans). They do a poor job also at eradicating memory. Certainly simple hypnosis shouldn't be able to reveal the abduction.

However, there are reasons to believe in the objective validity of the abduction experience. After all, we do the same study on animals here on earth by tagging and recapture of them (corresponding to multiple abductions). Technology should in future make a biologically undetectable tag or implant as well. Paralysis under examination would be expected (try examining a tiger without first tranquilising it) as would fear and panic under capture (just like any cornered animal).

The nature of UFOs has many schools of thought, the popular "nuts and bolts" approach being the ETH, the paranormal aspect in some cases being peripheral to the case and most likely high technology mistaken for magic. Other authors put much aspect on the paranormal but the more exotic hypothesis although sounding wonderful, usually have little proof besides the writer's conviction and often dubious sources of information. The trouble with the phenomena is that you can find in it whatever you fancy and show examples in point. The whole field is often perplexing and confusing but it is doubtful if this is some sort of nefarious plot by the aliens, rather it is due to our perceptual models at the time. It is difficult to formulate definitive explanations when hardware and other evidence is lacking besides other than anecdote, circumstantial or personal testimony. It is difficult to believe the ETH will explain the entire phenomena, no doubt the phenomenon is electric and covers a multiple or occurrences lumped together for convenience but not necessarily related.

HAPPY RESEARCHING.

Examiner - 10/9/91

Mysterious corn circles conceded to be hoax

LONDON — A leading authority on the mysterious circles in cornfields which have baffled the world admitted yesterday it looked as though he and countless other scientists had been duped by a pair of hoaxers.

The vast circles and geometric patterns, which had been the subject of worldwide research, had been "a great con and a great dirty trick," Patrick Delgado said.

Mr Delgado was speaking after inspecting new patterns in a field near Sevenoaks, in Kent, and had declared that the patterns could not have been created by human hand.

He then was introduced to "two jovial comen in their 60s, Doug Bower and David Chorley" who made the circles.

"I was taken for a ride like many other people," Mr Delgado said.

Examiner - 28/7/91

'Space signs' all a student prank

KIEL, Germany — Four law students said yesterday that they had trampled huge circles which appeared overnight in north German cornfields, shattering the mystery for people who believed the symbols were signs from outer space.

North German television said the four admitted making the circles in 10 fields, similar to mysterious circles that have appeared in England.

"We only wanted to show that what the English can do we can do here," the television quoted one of the unidentified students as saying.

It showed film of the four using wooden planks to flatten the corn into circles and other shapes.

INVISIBLE FORCES

By Keith Roberts

There is a wealth of information on electromagnetic effects, on motor vehicles, during encounters with the UFO phenomena. (1) However, little has been written about yet another strange effect that surfaces in some cases where an invisible force seems to affect the car, witness, or environment. This force swirls trees (2), water (3), moves vehicles without control from the motorist (4). Some events of this nature are on file with the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre (TUFOIC) in their catalogue. Other cases, with no UFO apparent, are in the "too hard" basket.

CASE 1: JULY 27, 1974, AT 1900HRS. TWO WITNESSES. BRIDGEWATER TO CAMPANIA.

Two witnesses were travelling home, to Tasmania's east coast, when they first noticed a bright white light in the northern sky which was moving across their field of vision. The light dropped near a quarry then shot up again. The witnesses felt there was something odd about it, but they continued on their way. The light kept pace with them and seemed to come very close as the road wound through a narrow valley. It had, by this stage, resolved itself into a triangular shape - a cloudy grey with a white light in the centre and a red light in front and just outside the triangle. The witnesses were by now rather disturbed as they estimated the object was, at times, only 50 metres away. It had been keeping company with them for about 20 kilometres.

As they approached the small town of Campania, the object moved higher into the sky before descending onto the new road they would take at the next intersection. At this point, the witness felt a pulling force from the object. "I felt as if I was in its power, as if it was going to take over the controls of the car." The car was hard to steer and wandered over to the right-hand side of the road, nearest the object. Pulling the car back to the correct side of the road was quite an effort.

After the object disappeared, the witnesses' shoulders and arms ached. It was an effort to keep the car on course for the last 8 kilometres. They were so shaken that they diverted to a relative's house for a cup of tea and a chance to regain their composure.

CASE 2: SEPTEMBER 1974. 0400HRS. TWO WITNESSES. LAKE ECHO.

Unlike our first case, when the witness thought the presence of an object affected the car's handling, the Lake Echo report involves an observed effect on the lake.

Our witness tells how he and a friend were visiting the lake on a fishing trip. They were up before dawn with their rods fixed onto sticks which were positioned some 3 metres back from the shore.

A yellow dome-shaped object was observed above a hill to their north. Although it was luminous and bright, it did not reflect onto anything or make any noise. The moon-sized object floated down in front of the hill and came to rest either on or just above the surface of the water which was placid - the stars could be seen reflected in the lake. As it sat there for 7 minutes, the object faded in brightness a bit but did not appear to cause any disturbance on the water.

At this stage the dome shape was about 400-500 metres distant.

The witness now made a strange observation, which was assumed to be due to the presence of the object. The level of the water had risen sufficiently to cover the sticks 3 metres in from the shore.

The lake had advanced horizontally for 3 metres although this only required a small vertical rise. The water itself was as still as a millpond. The object now moved up and off to the east. Accelerating rapidly, it vanished in a matter of seconds.

With daybreak, it could be seen that a number of 20-25 metre logs had floated up from the bottom and were lying on the shore. Others were floating in the shallow water. The witness had been out the previous evening and encountered no logs, otherwise he would not have been able to use a boat. The lake had fallen to its original level by 6a.m. and the logs on the water sank back out of sight.

The witness said that the Hydro-Electric Commission do alter the lake level but this takes a number of days, not a matter of minutes. Interestingly, a spate of sightings occurred about the area in early 1975.

CASE 3: JULY 1975. 0320HRS.
ONE WITNESS. POATINA HIGHWAY.

It was a cold winter's night as our witness headed home from Tasmania's south-west. He was travelling on a highland road. Something seemed to happen to the car's steering. The vehicle went sharply to the right-hand side of the road, barely missing two guideposts. As the witness slowed down, he noticed a bright orange light to the right. He continued on for a few more kilometres, but again had trouble with the steering. He decided to pull up and see what was wrong. Once more, the witness saw an object near the road, but this time he had a better look as he got out of his car. It was helicopter-like in shape, blue on top and orange below. It had a narrow yellow tail to the right. The witness thought it looked the same size as a car. The object was low, at tree-top level, and in front of the nearby mountain. After about two minutes, the object seemed to slide away sideways, over the hills, and out of sight.

The witness checked his steering, found nothing wrong, and continued on home without further incident.

CASE 4: AUGUST 20, 1979 2128HRS.
ONE WITNESS. MURCHISON HIGHWAY.

The witness was travelling from Tasmania's west coast, to the north-west of the state, on the Murchison Highway - a trip she had made many times. Before leaving, the car was functioning correctly and the petrol level was full. Roughly halfway on her trip, the interior of the car was suddenly lit up by a green light, about the same intensity as the car's interior light. At the same time she noticed a green light, low over the tree tops, to the rear of her car. There was no illumination outside of the car except for the car headlights. The VW station wagon now lost speed, decelerating to about 50km/h. The witness pressed the accelerator but nothing happened. The engine failed to increase revs and ran on at the same speed. The witness also tried changing gears and braking, but nothing had any effect on the vehicle's progress. Due to the slowing down of the car, the witness was able to check the time at 9.28p.m. and also to observe that the Venus-sized light seemed to stay in the same relative position to the car. This was despite curves and sharp dips in the road.

The light continued behind her car for some 8 to 10 kilometres, with the car just going on at the same speed.

Suddenly, the light was gone and the car at once picked up speed and everything returned to normal. She checked the time and was surprised to find it was now 9.29p.m., her watch apparently having stopped during the sighting (manual wind). The car clock had also stopped during the event. Another surprise, for the witness, was that the petrol gauge showed empty on the completion of her 230 kilometre trip. It usually uses half a tank of petrol.

CASE 5: NOVEMBER 1983. 2100HRS
ONE WITNESS. STANLEY RIVER ROAD

A more recent report involving an invisible force has come to the Centre's attention. Like Case 4, it occurred on Tasmania's west coast, about 50 kilometres to the south. The witness was driving home, on a trip of about 33 kilometres, when the area about his car was lit up, apparently from a brilliant circle of blue-white light that had appeared above his car. The witness decided to stop and have a look at the lights, but he found that he could not stop the car with the brakes.

In desperation, he tried to turn off the engine, but this also failed as the engine kept up a constant revving. He then pulled the ignition keys out, but the engine went on. He also tried switching off the headlights, but nothing happened. He says he seemed to have no control over the car which sped on at about 80km/h along a rather twisty and hilly road. He does not recall actually steering the car, but he thinks he must have as a couple of cars went past in the opposite direction, although he is not sure if they saw him.

The object was 20-25 metres across and seemed to be a very bright circle of blue-white lights that were shining down and lighting up the area of his car. (One wonders how the other motorists could miss him.)

When the percipient reached the turnoff, for his parking area, the light rapidly disappeared to the north. It was seen by his wife also, at this point, as she came outside to see if her husband was home yet. The witness says the car just stopped, so he put the keys back in and started it up and it ran okay. He then noticed, on going into his home, that it was only 16 minutes since he had left Tullah. He estimates it took him 6 or 7 minutes to cover the 8 kilometres, until his encounter with the lights, so that the last 25 kilometres had taken only 11 minutes - an impossibility on the road he had covered.

This case, on the details available, seems to be the opposite of most classical encounters between motor vehicles and UFOs.

CASE 6, 7 AND 8

Two reports in the files, Cases 6 and 7, are of similar events, but no light/object etc. was involved. Case 6 is a report from early 1975 by a motorist, in the high country at Steppes, who went to accelerate and found that the car seemed to lose power, even though the engine was still turning over and the gauges all read normal. The motorist was able to pull up but found nothing wrong and so continued on with no further trouble. Was it a temporary malfunction?

Case 7 is stranger and occurred on December 23, 1979, at the time of a power blackout on the east coast. A woman, driving home, found she had run out of petrol. As she sat wondering what to do, the car rolled uphill, without the engine going, at 30-35km/h. All she had to do for the next 10 kilometres was steer the car. Even though the final run was downhill, the car stayed on the same speed. When the only cars she saw came up behind her, her vehicle's lights dimmed and the car rolled to a stop. When they had gone, her vehicle moved on. The car finally stopped 2 kilometres from her home. She says it was very dark walking home with all the dogs, in the area, barking.

Case 8 is also from the Centre's files and again no light/object was seen. This occurred about the end of 1983 in the Huon Valley. The area had been plagued by a series of noises, dark shapes, and generally paranormal phenomena. One of the witnesses told how they were having lunch in their car during the berry picking season. Their dog had leapt into the car in a state of fright. Then the car had been pulled backwards up a slight incline by an unseen force. The witnesses had got away as fast as they could.

CASE 9: DECEMBER 14, 1987. 2130HRS ONE WITNESS. Near LAUNCESTON

A lone witness was going home when he says that he noticed some lights were following his car, then something passed overhead and landed on the road. At this point the car lights, and motor failed but he managed to stop the car some 15mts from a grey elliptical object with very bright lights. The frightened witness left the car to hide behind some roadside bushes. He said, "Despite the hand brake being on, the car was somehow pulled 10mts up the road towards the landed object."

A Second vehicle now arrived at the scene, the driver thinking at first there had been an accident. However, the witness approached the second vehicle and together they heard a high pitched whine as the object took off and curved away to the south.

Both motorists were able to continue on, the original witness had to have electrical repairs to his car, and was sick the following day.

NOTES

(1) "A Review of Research to date into Vehicle Interference Effects." K. Basterfield, UFORAN Vol.5 No.2.

(2) July 1968, River Turvo, Brazil. Orange spinning light causes wind that breaks branches off trees. FSR may/June 1969.

January 11, 1967, Aveyron, France. Saucer and occupants approach vehicle, car stops, roadside sign seen to be vibrating. FSR.

June 28, 1973, Columbia USA. Trees move back and forth during close approach of silvery white elliptical object. FSR Nov/Dec 1973.

November 28, 1980, Todmorden, England. Dome object rotating above road, leaves on nearby trees shaking. FSR.

January 20, 1984, Midland, West Australia. Light phenomena observed. Trees nearby blowing about as if in gale. PUFORG Feb 1984 Newsletter.

(3) June 12, 1958, LeBrusc, France. Orange/red globe moves across sea making wave ahead of it. FSR Case Histories - April 1973.

March 29, 1974, Togo, West Africa. UFO hovers over sea, causing surges of water up beach. FSR Vol.22/6 1976.

(4) March 31, 1966, Peoria, Illinois, USA. Large blue object hovers over car and takes control, said driver. Brakes and steering are ineffective. Object seemed to direct car's course for several miles before driver regained control. Vehicle Interference Project - BUFORA 1979.

April 15, 1967, Jonestown, Penn., USA. Car seems to be pulled towards approaching UFO Functions properly after UFO has departed. BUFORA 1979. December 12, 1967, Ithaca, New York, USA. Round dome-object extends beam onto car and takes control, moving car 15 feet off highway. BUFORA 1979.

1971, Cuers, France. Motorist's car is lifted off the road when an orange ball appears ahead of the car. Light goes out and the vehicle is damaged in the fall to the road. FSR Vol.32/3 1987.

May 14, 1971, Alberta, Canada. Bright light near car. Car motor keeps going as driver finds car moving forward, just above the ground, for a quarter of a mile. FSR Case Histories - August 1972.

September 20, 1971, Ojebyn, Sweden. Motorist surrounded by beams of light. Car pushed forward, even though brakes on. FSR Case Histories - June 1972.

October 3, 1971, Anapolis, Brazil. Motorist claims car speeds up to 160km/h as ball of light paces car - no control over speed. BUFORA.

October 15, 1973, Allentown, Penn., USA. Rotating object, with bands, seen by motorist. Car turns right. Witness unable to steer as car comes to rest, facing opposite direction. BUFORA 1979.

May 30, 1974, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). UFO paces car, Witness unable to control car - no braking or steering. Car travels 160 kilometres even with no accelerator. FSR Vol.21/2 1975.

1978, Union, USA. Witnesses' car shoved, out of control, along road for 300 metres, as brilliant area of light comes up behind. Int. UFO Reporter Sept 1978. 1982, Frisolino, Italy. Truck surrounded by light. Driver could not see, but truck still moved, even though he was not driving. When light went he had somehow covered several kilometres in the opposite direction. Notiziario UFO Jan/Dec 1982.

October 15, 1983. Bellwood, Ohio, USA. A Silver disc passes over car. The car is lifted up 1mt onto two wheels before the disc moves on and the car drops hard onto the road. FSR Vol.29/6 1984.

January 20, 1988. Penong, Australia. Flashing beams of light seen by driver of a camper van. Van buffeted as if by wind which bent radio antenna and removes gas bottle from van roof. TUFOIC, October 1988.

January 20, 1988. Mundrabilla, West Australia. Witnesses say that their vehicle was lifted from the road by UFO, smell, noise, and dust experienced before the car is dropped violently to the ground. UFORA, AIUFOFSR, VUFORS. Various dates.

BREAKDOWN OF RAAF UFO INVESTIGATIONS

Year	Total No. of reports	No.* "Unknowns"	% "Unknowns"	Source of Information
1960	20	0	0.0	Summary No.1
1961	14	0	0.0	Summary No.1
1962	25	0	0.0	Summary No.1
1963	17	0	0.0	Summary No.1
1964	17	1	5.9	Summary No.1
1965	52	2	3.9	Summary No.1
1966	74	1	1.4	Summary No.1
1967	95	0	0.0	Summary No.1
1968	101	0	0.0	Summary No.1
1969	94	2	2.1	Summary No.2
1970	37	4	10.8	Summary No.3
1971	52	6	11.5	Summary No.3
1972	87	11	12.6	Summary No.4
1973	193	4	2.1	Summary No.5
1974	67	2	3.0	Summary No.6
1975	39	4	10.2	Summary No.7
1976	39	4	10.2	Summary No.8
1977	25	6	24.0	Summary No.9
1978	118	30	25.4	Summary No.10
1979	45	15	33.3	Summary No.11
1980	47	10	21.3	Summary No.12
TOTAL:	1258	102	8.1%	

*Some "unknowns" are not included due to low weight status, i.e. insufficient information or possible explanation provided was probable.

■ **LONDON:** Dr Terence Meaden, a leading scientist investigating crop circles now says that all but the simple circles are the work of hoaxers. But he stands by his theory that the simple circles are made naturally by a "vortex" - a miniature whirlwind of electrically-charged matter.

Examiner - 29/10/91

'Three silent cigar-shaped' objects sweep over Coast

The Sunshine Coast has been buzzing with UFO sightings this week with four since last Friday.

A Maroochydore woman told yesterday how she watched in wonder as "three silent cigar-shaped" unidentified flying objects swept across the Sunshine Coast on Thursday night.

The woman, who asked not to be named, said it was the first time she had ever seen a UFO.

Her sighting comes after a Caloundra family watched a silver-white light for 15 minutes last Friday as it flew around near the Caloundra airport.

Sunshine Coast co-ordinator for UFO Research Queensland Jeffrey Spiro said it had been a big week for UFOs on the coast.

He said that on Saturday and Sunday a Marcus Beach woman saw a comet-like object with a long white tail in the western sky.

Then on Monday Mr Spiro said there had been a "very exciting" sighting of a UFO at Pomona.

He said a huge white star-like object settled above a house in Pomona and two women watched it for some time before it disappeared. "It had high and low beams coming out of it as it rotated. The horses and dogs were very upset, the children went hyperactive and the TV picture rolled, which are all quite normal UFO reactions," Mr Spiro said.

Also on Monday a fisherman at Buddina Beach watched a very bright orange-red UFO off the

coast.

The Maroochydore woman said yesterday that she had no explanation for the UFOs she saw, other than the fact that they were alien spacecraft.

"They were heading towards Nambour, heading inland. At first I thought they were planes, but they were silent and very quick."

Mr Spiro said the cigar-shaped craft were "motherships" and carried the smaller disc-type UFOs.

"There must be a base somewhere around here. Those cigar-shaped ones are really something," he said.

He said there were recorded sightings of similar UFOs on the Sunshine Coast in 1966, 1983 and last year.

AUSTRALIAN SIGHTINGS

DATE	TIME	STATE	TYPE	LOCATION	NOTES	
OCT 16	22.25	NSW	NL	Blakehurst	Blue Disk Object at 300m follows river	1
NOV 3	20.08	QLD	NL	Edmonton	W+R lits stationary, then move off fast.	3
NOV 4	23.30	VIC	NL	Metung	Large orange lits, move slowly west.	2
NOV 6	23.30	VIC	CEL	Kerang	Diamond obj passes low over car.	2
NOV 7	23.30	NSW	CEL	Deniliquin	Triangle object moves over car.	1
DEC 5	02.00	TAS	NL	Radnor	Mass of white lits passes across sky.	4
DEC 23	03.35	WA	NL	Geraldton	Fast moving W lit, drops towards ground	5
DEC 30		NT	NL	Darwin	Lits over territory, pos meteor.	5
DEC 30	17.00	WA	NL	Waterford	Mettallic obj seen behind aircraft.	5
JAN 2	22.15	VIC	NL	Frankston	Yellow disc zig-zags fast to NE.	2
JAN 2	23.40	SA	NL	Elizabeth Pk	Erratic star like lits seen near moon.	5
JAN 8	23.45	SA	NL	Elizabeth	Oval obj zig-zagging then speeds off.	1
JAN 9	11.50	VIC	DD	Echuca	Hovering disc. Speeds away to the NW.	2
JAN 13	22.00	TAS	NL	King Island	Erratic lit moves about sky, goes SW.	4
JAN 15	23.15	SA	NL	Adelaide	Red lit changes colour & shape.	1
JAN 21	20.30	QLD	NL	Butchers Ck	3 brit hazy lits, move up at speed.	3
FEB 12	23.00	VIC	NL	Tempestowe	Objects with lits near miss with aircraft.	2
FEB 17	23.00	VIC	NL	South Yarra	Triangle of 9 lits flying north.	2
MAR 1	nite	Qld	NL	Mt Tyson	Dogs bark as brit object passes over.	6
MAR 10	22.30	QLD	CE2	Julatten	Humming obj at low level, dogs bark.	3
MAR 18	20.46	QLD	NL	Wurtulla	Well lit object below tree tops.	6
MAR 19	20.50	SA	NL	Klemzig	Pear obj with flame moving slowly in sky.	1
MAR 19	22.00	TAS	NL	Lefroy.	Orange lit appears twice alongside car.	4
MAR 20	18.00	QLD	NL	Bellenden-Kerr	Lits reported moving over mountain.	3
MAR 31	23.30	QLD	CEL	Deeral	Yellow/White lits hover above car.	3
APR 8		QLD	NL	Buderim	Bright lits seen with humming noise.	6
APR 12	nite	WA	NL	Perth	Prison guards see lit over Rottnest Isld.	7
APR 29	15.35	ACT	DD	Swinger Hill	Metallic obj going up against wind in NE.	5
MAY 18	23.40	VIC	CEL	West Newport	Red ball 20m elevation goes over house.	2
MAY 19	11.00	NSW	DD	Blacktown	Rect: prism object passes overhead.	5
MAY 19	14.00	NSW	CEL	Young	Green car obj at 20m. Goes straight up.	5
MAY 21	22.00	TAS	NL	Bruny Isld.	Series of orange lits seen moving in sky.	4
JUN 1	19.50	QLD	NL	Buderin	Silent set of lits, photo taken.	6
JUN 10	17.00	VIC	NL	Diggers Rest	Lamp shade obj going in erratic manner.	2
JUN 17	21.20	SA	NL	Peterhead	Red lit with ray, 6m above road.	1
JUN 21		QLD	NL	Caloundra	Silver light moving around airport.	7
JUN 24	nite	QLD	CE2	Pomona	W lit pos effects TV as dogs react.	7
JUN 27	nite	QLD	NL	Maroochydore	3 cigar obj seen moving inland.	7
JUN 27	19.45	SA	NL	Mitcham	Circle of lits low over hills.	1
JUL 14	21.30	VIC	NL	Bendigo	Lit going east does U turns to west.	2
JUL 16	16.50	VIC	DD	Narrewarren	Black obj made hole in clouds, sped off.	2
JUL 22	20.00	VIC	NL	Mentone	Lit shoots up then down as speeds away.	2
AUG 19	22.00	WA	CEL	Madura	White lit follows and passes over car.	2
SEP 17	04.00	TAS	CEL	Bellerive	Lits and beam near ground, then go up.	4
SEP 19	23.30	SA	NL	Adelaide	2 erratic orange lits move away to SE.	1
OCT 21	04.00	VIC	CEL	White Hills	Circle of lits at low level follows car.	2

Sources (1)AIUFOFSR. (2)VUFORS. (3)UFORFNQ. (4)TUFOIC. (5)UFORA. (6)UFORQ. (7)AUSTPOST. (8)MARYBOROUGH CHRONICLE.

'Companions' for spacecraft

MIAAMI — It will probably go down in UFO lore as the "flying bumper," but the object that snuggled up to a space shuttle on Saturday wasn't a first for NASA — US spacecraft have had mysterious companions before.

During nearly 30 years of manned space flight, sightings ranging from ice crystals to an astronaut's spare glove have become part of the lore of

spaceflight. John Glenn logged the first mystery in 1962 when he spotted what he called "fireflies" accompanying his Friendship 7 flight. Just ice, experts later decided.

Later that same year, on the edge of space, Robert Michael White said he saw a large sheet of paper tumbling alongside his X-15 space plane — at 100km above the earth and at four times the speed of sound.

That, too, was ice, officials would later decide.

The space bumper, a slightly curved 1m long by 1.2cm thick strip in the shape of a car bumper, was sighted by astronauts on Saturday.

It had also been spotted on earlier shuttle missions.

Astronauts videotaped similar objects in 1988 and 1989.

TUFOIC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

TUFOIC is a serious minded civilian organisation which attempts to investigate all UFO reports, in a scientific, objective and unbiased manner, and make reliable information available on the UFO subject.

As a group, the centre draws no conclusions from its investigations, other than the fact that a so far unexplained phenomena exists, and requires further research and rigorous investigation.

Reports that are considered authentic, after thorough investigation, are forwarded to UFO RESEARCH AUSTRALIA, where they are included in an Australian computer Database file.

TUFOIC is based in Hobart, with representatives / investigators in various areas around the state.

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