

U.F.O.I.C. NEWSLETTER

BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION

P.O. BOX E170, ST. JAMES, SYDNEY. 2000

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. SYDNEY FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A PERIODICAL

Price 20c.

No. 34

March/April, 1972

DETAILS OF NEW LIBRARY: SEE PAGE 2

Because we are limited for space in this issue of the Newsletter the List of Books in the Library is not being included. Should you require a list of the books would you contact the Gen. Secretary when a copy of the list will be sent to you. The list should appear in the next Newsletter.

Please look amongst your papers for a copy of Newsletter No. 26 for the Gen. Secretary. The file copy has been mislaid and he badly needs a copy of Number 26. Thank you for looking.

PRESIDENT:

Senior Vice-President :

Vice-President & Sightings Officer:

Vice-President & Hon. Gen. Secretary:

Treasurer:

Asst. Secretaries & Membership

Secretaries:

Programme Director & Projectionist:

Scientific Adviser:

Photographic Adviser:

Director of Research:

Assistant to Research Director:

Scientific Adviser:

Editorial Translator:

Editor:

Editorial Committee:

Investigator and Field Officer:

Editorial Committee:

Librarian:

Mr. F.J. Phillips, FCAIA, VK2ZQ,

Mr. T.W. Dutton, M.S.MEC.E., M.I.D.E.

Mr. T.V. Homan.

Mr. W.E. Moser, JP, Pres. B.A.A.,

F.R.A.S.

Mr. H. O'Brien.

Messrs. J. Blattman, N. Shewchenko.

Mr. N. Wheeler.

Dr. D. Herbison-Evans, F.R.A.S.

Mr. R. De Cusack.

Mr. F.W.H. Wilkes.

Mr. K. McGuffin.

Mr. J. M. Prytz.

Mr. N. Shewchenko.

Mrs. V. Exley.

Mr. T. Martusewicz.

Mr. T. Gomme

Mr. J. Hunt

Mr. K. McGuffin.

OFFICE BEARERS

WOULD YOU BELIEVE UFOLOGISTS?

By J. Graham COWELL, Ormington, Kent, U.K.

Ufologists are probably the greatest sceptics of all time. Not only do they question the validity of many previously accepted beliefs in their never-ending search for Truth — the dedicated Ufologist is invariably also in disagreement with his fellow-researchers.

At present, many theories abound on the origin and nature of U.F.O.'s, simply as very few (if any) people know the final answers.

So we are continually kept guessing; a new theory is drawn up to fit the observable "facts"; another equally convincing argument appears when someone else gleans some more information and so on. All this is excellent in keeping us on our mental toes, and should teach us all a lesson, namely that open minds are essential to all who study the U.F.O. phenomenon.

I think most Ufologists reach a stage in their investigations when they ask themselves "Can I be sure of anything in this subject?". The answer, to me is a plain and simple "No". How can you be, unless you possess proof to back up your convictions?

This may sound highly negative, but surely it's best to keep our feet firmly on good old Mother Earth.

Ufologists are blessed with lively imaginations, and usually give rein to their abundant enthusiasms given half the chance.

'Truths' Let us not forget that in the history of science, many great truths were originally laughed at, then as time progressed they gradually became woven into our imagination in the form of science fiction stories then eventually proved to be 'real'.

PIONEER 10

Pioneer 10, the Jupiter-bound spacecraft, has completed two critical manoeuvres — testing thrusters and turning on the "earth pointing system". The thrust rockets will be used to-morrow to correct the course of the 570lb craft, which will become the first man-made object to leave the solar system. The earth pointing system will keep its radio signals pointing towards earth when Pioneer 10 is a million miles into space. (The Australian 7.3.72 copied from United Press, New York, Monday 6.3.72).

Scientists were set to explode a rocket over Alaska tonight to release billions of bariumions that will paint a reddish and white strip from there to New Zealand. The experiment is part of a project to analyse the phenomenon of the "northern lights" of the Aurora Borealis. The results will also be studied to see how nuclear fallout might travel after a nuclear explosion. After the two-stage rocket is exploded about 300 miles above the earth with a brilliant green flash, the visible strip will quickly travel to New Zealand. It will be between 10 and 20 miles wide and would be visible to amateur astronomers equipped with small telescopes, but it would not be seen by the naked eye. (New York. Sat. Sun. Herald. 5.3.72.).

* * * * *

Any member or friend speaking a foreign language is asked to contact the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Moser immediately.

* * * * *

FEES:

Members who have not yet paid their 1972 fees are reminded to do so now.
Please forward your fees to the Hon. Sec. Mr. Moser, Box E170, St. James, Sydney. 2000.
Full Membership: \$5.00 Senior Citizens and Students: \$2.00.

EDITORIAL

Our first Public Meeting in Adyar Hall in 1972 was held on 1st February. There were about 120 people present. They found much interest in the different array of books and pamphlets which are put out on the table for sale. The meeting was opened by our President Mr. Phillips. He outlined the progress of the UFO's since before the War. He commented on the fact that there was much evidence of sightings by reputable people. There had been books and books written on the subject. There are write-ups in the newspapers. There have been reportings not always in favour of the belief. Sometimes people who seem to have had a remarkable experience disappear - and this seems strange. There are reports of the varieties of shapes and sizes of UFO's. There are a variety of types of people in the crafts. With all these reports many people keep asking "Are these things real? Where do they come from?" and this is what makes our association such an interesting one because we are all asking the same question. But we must remember to "Keep an open mind" and to continue to probe all reports. If you have some friends who ask you - "You don't believe in that - do you?" bring them along to some of the meetings. Even if they don't believe it at first they cannot fail to be mystified, and this is intriguing.

Mr. John M. Prytz spoke to us at the last meeting and said that while he was in the United States Air Force he wrote about UFO's and talked about them openly and he did not get into any trouble. He talked about the Mars Probes recently and how disappointed everyone is that the dust storm on Mars prevented close up photographs. He said that in the future the United States hoped to probe Jupiter next year.

We usually ask the audience if there is anyone who wishes to report a sighting, and one gentleman from the Parramatta area (outside Sydney) said he had seen a bright light moving across the sky 9 nights in succession. He was looking through his telescope at the time each night.

Mr. Moser then showed some slides of Moon Rocks, some UFO's (real and fake). The next meeting is on the 4th April in the Adyar Hall, and the speaker will be Mr. Minnette of the C.S.I.R.O. We hope to see many old faces and many new ones, so bring along a friend. (Editor.)

NEW MEMBERS

Anyone wishing to join the U.F.O.I.C. can do so by contacting Mr. Moser, the Secretary, at P.O. Box E170 St. James, Sydney, 2000 - or by coming to the next meeting in the Adyar Hall on 4th April.

OLD MEMBERS

Why not encourage other people to join, too. Don't keep U.F.O.'s to yourself.

* * * * *

More helpers are needed to go on our Committee, so anyone who is interested in U.F.O.I.C. and would care to give us a hand would you be so kind as to let Mr. Moser know. There are lots of little ways you might be able to help, so come along and make yourself known to us.

* * * * *

Apologies for no World Scene this time but my translator has let me down. Ed.

MEETING DATES

- APRIL 4th** Public Meeting in Adyar Hall.
Speaker, Mr. Minette of C.S.I.R.O.
Subject, "150 inch Telescope."
- MAY 6th** Members Meeting in the Commonweal Club
120 Castlereagh Street. Speaker will be
Mrs. Anne Spanswick who will talk on
"Mind Dynamics". Refreshments provided for a small charge.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Social meeting - Commonweal Club, 120 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Saturday May 6th at 3p.m.

Saturday July 1st at 3p.m.

Public meetings - Adyar Hall, 25 Bligh Street, Sydney.

Tuesday June 6th at 8p.m.

Tuesday August 1st at 8p.m.

* * * * *

The 11th Australian Science Fiction Convention will be held on 11th to 13th August, and information and progress reports are available from Box 4593 G.P.O., Sydney.

We suggest you book early. Included are films, panels, discussions, art displays, writers, readers and overseas fans interested in seeing Australia have an even more successful Worldcon in 1975.

The program can be booked whole, or in part.

* * * * *

THE LIBRARY

**THE LIBRARY IS NOW LOCATED AT A NEW ADDRESS.
2 IREDALE STREET, NEWTOWN. N.S.W. 2042.
LIBRARIAN: MR. KEN MCGUFFIN.**

Members are allowed to borrow two books for a period of one month. An extension loan may be gained by writing to the librarian before the borrowed books are due to be returned, and if the books have not been requested by anyone, a one month extension will be granted from the due date of the books.

POSTAGE RATES

Postage rates are as follows within 30 miles of the G.P.O. (Sydney), 35 cents; elsewhere in N.S.W. 45 cents, adjoining States 65 cents, these rates apply for parcels of one or two books. When return books, please remit stamps to cover cost.

The U.F.O.I.C. Library is divided into two sections - one containing books dealing directly with the U.F.O. SUBJECT, the other with associated subjects such as astronomy, history, archaeology and science in general.

It is hoped that in the not too distant future the Library will be open to visitors for a few hours on a Sunday afternoon, as yet this is not possible.

A request is made to any member who has any old book-shelves that he may not want, do not throw them out as the U.F.O.I.C. library may be able to use them. If you have any such item please ring 51-4140 on any weekend and ask for KEN.

Please watch your newsletter for information on any new books which the library may obtain.

NOTE: When returning books by post please pack them SECURELY.

KEN McGuffin,
Librarian.

SIGHTING REPORTS.

Sighting reports of any unusual thing seen in the sky should be reported to Mr. T. V. Homan, telephone 660-2729 or write in to the Gen. Secretary, at the P.O. Box E170, St. James, Sydney. The UFOIC is interested in all unusual sightings, and each will be investigated. No matter how small — let us know about it.

From MERSEYSIDE UFO BULLETIN, Vol. 4/4
September/October 1971,

Report in Nature of October 1st 1971.

The report concerns the International Conference on Communication with Extraterrestrial Intelligence which was held at the Byurakan Observatory in Soviet Armenia from September 5th-11th 1971. It was a joint project of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. Academies of Science and was attended by 56 official delegates, including one from the United Kingdom.

There was apparently a remarkably strong feeling among the delegates that the subject is of potentially very great importance, and it seems likely that large sums will be spent on projects aiming to search for signs of alien intelligence in the near future. The general consensus was that search of the radio-wavelengths must still be regarded as the most promising line of approach.

Excerpt from report from Mr. D. of Surry Hills. N.S.W. 7.2.72.....I will describe two objects I saw this weekend while I was Camping. It was about 6.0'clock when two bright objects caught my eye, they were about 2000 feet up and moving across the sky. They then stopped and one began to come down until it was about 200 feet up. It was about 100 feet wide and 95 feet high, it was pulsing red as it hovered, then it turned into brilliant orange and returned to the other object, they then went up and out of sight, It had red lights on the bottom and one on a turret on top.....

Report received from Mr. D. of Grafton, N.S.W. 9.12.71

On Wednesday 6th October, 1971 a University friend of mine saw a yellow U.F.O. traverse the sky over the University, travelling North to South at about 9.30 p.m. It was not flashing and instead of disappearing low on the horizon, it went up and disappeared high in the sky. Now it could not have been a satellite because it's direction of travel was orthogonal to the direction taken by Earth orbiting satellites to maintain their orbits, It certainly was not a plane because of the colour involved, because the light was not flashing and also the object disappeared high in the sky.

Once again just over 2 weeks later, this same friend saw another cigar-shaped U.F.O. passing, this time over Earle Page College, which lies just south of the actual University complex, this was Thursday 21st October. This time he was accompanied by his girlfriend and another male friend. He came up to me in the Earle Page Dining Hall during tea and said "I just saw that thing again — just a few minutes ago!". He said that the object had passed over the college travelling North to South again about 6.10 p.m. just before sunset. Once again it disappeared high in the sky and he added

that it was definitely metallic because it glinted in the sunlight and that it could'nt have been a plane. Well, just two hours later I was walking from Earle Page College across to St. Alberts College, about 200 yards, I had looked back to check if I had left any light on and then I saw a light move from obscurity by the college over it, apparently so, travel relatively quickly dip down, apparently over Robb College, which is adjacent to Earle Page, immediately west of it, then it vanished, Somehow it seemed to me that the object was relatively small and quite alone but there was no way of telling this since it did not pass between me and another object. A car just pulled out of the Page Carpark approximately 8 p.m. so I was'nt really able to ascertain whether the object was making any noise. It was white and appeared to be spherical. If the object was close to the ground, i.e. 50 to 100 feet, it would have been travelling around 40 — 60 m.p.h., but this may be grossly inaccurate, if it was further away to the West. It was travelling approx. NNE to WSW.

Extract from "The Scandinavian Newsletter:
No. 1—2, April 1971.

"I met a 'flying saucer' by Reidar Salvesen.
(Condensed Ed.)

He was driving with the parking lights on. Suddenly he saw a dazzling light. It hurt his eyes so he stopped short. He opened the door and looked out..... 10 meters up, a circular object, smooth and bright as if it was nickel-plated. It was there, noiseless and without light. He got out of the car Then the object was gliding forward, seven or eight meters and stopped 5—6 meters in front of the car. He quickly got his sketch book and drew what he saw The body had neither doors nor windows or hatches. Joints or grooves were not to be seen, No distinguishing marks or flags. The object was bright and shining all over except for a gilt edge round the body with vertical grooves, like those on a sheet of corrugated iron. He does not remember how many seconds had passed — perhaps fifty — when suddenly the saucer mounted, without any noise, straight up in the air at a violent speed. He was knocked backwards and landed on the ground, and at the same time the front pane of his car was smashed. About one km up in the air, the saucer changed into a fireball and in a few seconds the fire-ball disappeared too.

(The report is a long one, with drawings, and the authenticity of this story has been proved beyond doubt, because of space this is short Ed.)

Would COUNTRY MEMBERS please send in their newspaper clippings, and reports of sightings to our General Secretary. We are always interested to know what's going on and unless you report to us we cannot let anyone else know.

Our Secretary, Mr. Moser, has been asked if he can acquire a copy of NEWSLETTER No.26. Would you all be so kind as to hunt amongst your back copies and if you have a copy to send it to Mr. Moser, or even a photocopy of it. Many thanks for looking. DO IT NOW !!

URS

by Thomas House, VE7BHN

I wish to say something about a potential facet of the UFO phenomenon to which little attention has been given hitherto - what I shall call Unidentified Radio Signals, or URS.

Several incidents of URS have already been documented.

In 1953, for instance, television viewers throughout a large portion of England were surprised to have their BBC pictures blotted out one evening by the identification sign of KLEE, a television station in Texas, U.S.A. The interference recurred several times during the following weeks. Thereafter, nothing was ever seen again of the strange picture. Many viewers of course complained to BBC offices, but the Corporation was unable to offer any explanation or remedy.

There are three things that are most remarkable about this event.

First, while propagation of Very High Frequency TV signals via the ionosphere is by no means impossible, it is rare, especially over a distance of some 6000 miles. Second, TV reception is essentially line-of-sight, and to blanket a large section of a country from a single TV transmitter a satellite would be needed. (In 1953, of course, no Man-made satellites were yet orbiting.) Third, and most significant, the Texas station's licence had expired two years earlier.

Was some reconnoitring alien satellite attempting, by rebroadcasting the transmissions of a long defunct Earth station, to attract Man's attention.

In another, more recent case a UFO hovered for a time near the home of an engineer in eastern Canada. On a sudden impulse, the engineer rushed to his communications receiver to see what he could hear. Aside from a peculiar static, all bands were dead. Except - on one frequency was a broad, immensely strong radio carrier signal, being rapidly modulated by seemingly intelligent but undecipherable pulses. A short while later, the UFO disappeared and along with it the strange radio signal.

Had the Canadian tuned in on an alien communications system?

During my many perambulations about the short-wave spectrum, both as a listener and ham operator, I have heard one or two mysterious signals myself. No strange voices speaking in unknown tongues, mind you, but . . .

Throughout much of 1966 and 1967, when I operated a station in Denver, Colorado, I was mystified by periodic interference whose source was untraceable.

The interference consisted of unevenly spaced pulses one to two hundred milliseconds apart which could be on the band. It sounded very like the hash produced by an erratic petrol-driven generator. It could be detected, when reception conditions were good, on all bands between 31 metres down to 13 metres. The interference did not have a local origin, for when I moved 30 miles away to university I could still hear it. It was obviously being propagated by short-wave from some other part of the world. Particularly irritated by the noise one day while operating on the 15-metre band, I resolved upon a direction-finding test. Rotating my "yagi" beam aerial through all points of the compass, I pin-pointed the interference as emanating from the direction of North Africa.

The interference finally ceased, and I have never heard it again. Unfortunately, because I was more preoccupied with other things, I never approached the relevant U.S. government authority about the strange phenomenon. Hence, I have no sure answers for it.

Was the interference in fact noise generated by some powerful electrical refuelling plant of extraterrestrial origins located in the middle of the bleak Sahara?

Between the amateur and international broadcast bands one can cross tracks with a host of enigmatic radio transmissions. But one can often be misled. In these days of highly sophisticated radio communications systems, there are some very queer signals indeed which are in fact Man-made. For instance, a loud, raucous buzz is in actuality super-speed facsimile. Or, what sounds like Donald Duck is no more than that relatively new mode of voice transmission called Single Side-Band. Only a professional radio communications expert - and I am not one - could distinguish an apparent from an authentic URS.

Somewhere among all those rasps, squeaks, whistles and clicks, somewhere I'm sure there always lies waiting to be discovered a real URS.

— end —

(Tom House, a past writer for CANADIAN UFO REPORT, is a British-born Canadian, now living in Sydney.)

Report received from Mr. A. of Coff's Harbour

On the night of Nov. 19th last, my brother and a friend observed a fast moving object (the speed of an ordinary plane up a few thousand feet) about as bright as an ordinary star or a bit dimmer moving in directions stated below, estimated to be very high. Moving from South-East to North-West, first in straight line, seen a few miles inland, turned in an angle of about 45 degrees, made a curve over the sea, came back practically West-East and made, after coming inland again for about a mile another curve, going straight East and kept going till out of sight across the Pacific. First curve was a few miles out to sea. The altitude remained a constant one all the time, no sound was observed, it was a clear night sky. A plane at that height should have made some audible noise.

Sighting reported by school boy A.B. from Wahroonga.

On 26.12.71 while outside saying goodbye to friends he saw a disc with star pointed coming out in all directions. It appeared metallic and solid. It had no wings or portholes. It had bluish grey smoke trailing it. No noise was heard. It went up and down, then up and down again. It was lost in the distance. He with witnesses watched for about 3 minutes.

UFO SYMPOSIUM BOOKLET AVAILABLE:

The Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation (APRO) of 3910 East Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A. is offering for sale printed transcripts of the Eastern and Western UFO Symposium which were recently sponsored by APRO.

These publications contain important and up-to-date information on UFO's, and the price is stated to be 'minimal'.

All enquiries can be made to APRO at the above address. (with compliments to the Victorian UFO Research Society).

Report received from Mr. D. of North Sydney. N.S.W. 16.12.71.

While having a bar-b-q on a night with a clear sky, and looking over the back fence at the sea noticed a very bright light which seemed to be the size of average star but changed to brilliant after 2-3 minutes. It was moving North to South. Then an aircraft appeared and the light made off with a sudden acceleration. It seemed to shoot away with trailing flames. Date of sighting 11.12.71 approx. 9 p.m. Witnesses were present.