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Editorial

Welcome to the launch issue of the European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies [EJUFOAS]. We are hoping to be around for quite a while! This publication aims to introduce high quality papers and discussion about ufology. As a field, ufology is still ostracized from many academic institutions and one of the key aims of this publication is to erode this by producing a peer reviewed journal along similar lines to the Journal of UFO Studies - JUFOS [published by the J.Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Illinois, Chicago]. The key difference between the EJUFOAS and JUFOS publications is that we wish to promote a European perspective on ufology, after all we are supposed to be a union. However, this does not mean that non-Europeans cannot enjoy the contents, or be published here.

Background to EJUFOAS and TRUTH.

It would seem appropriate to introduce who we are at TRUTH [Totton Researchers of Ufology Theory and History] and how and why EJUFOAS was created. TRUTH was initiated after student demand for an objective UFO research in the Southampton area of the UK (South Coast). The students were completing Open College Network units in ufology that I had created back in 1997. This qualification was the first to be recognized within the UK educational establishment on the subject of ufology. Students can complete up to six units covering all angles of ufology objectively. These units are Historical Perspectives on UFOs, Theoretical Perspectives on UFOs, Research Methods in Ufology, Alien Abduction, The Media and Ufology and Primary Research in Ufology. This last unit allows the student to indulge into an area of interest and competently research it. It is hoped that this work will appear in subsequent editions of EJUFOAS. Any student who completes a unit is entitled to membership of TRUTH. This means that our organization is made up of people who have studied ufology and are qualified in it! This could well be unique among UFO organizations (unless you can tell us otherwise) as a student with six units has a wide knowledge base and a superb skills based qualification. I hope that other nations will follow us and offer such recognized qualifications. And as I have previously stated, TRUTH has been created from this. Our membership is fast approaching 100 and is expanding at a phenomenal rate. We are an objective group who not only investigate sightings but also research into all angles of ufology, many never tackled before TRUTH decided to do so (and hopefully pieces will be published in EJUFOAS).

EJUFOAS was created after myself and a qualified TRUTH member Derek Pavely had just given a successful talk to a local young farmers group who wanted to know more about ufology. Conversing on the way home about what we had read recently we became increasingly annoyed at the biased publications out there and how the term UFO had virtually become synonymous with flying saucer or alien spacecraft. Also, many UK publications at least, were treading the same old ground and not tackling contemporary issues and theoretical perspectives on ufology and 'alien abduction.' EJUFOAS was born. We hope that the publication will be at the cutting edge not just of European ufology but World ufology. We

can only wait and see.

Finally, I must thank everyone who has been instrumental in the creation of EJUFOS, namely Derek, Helen, Heidi, Spencer, Linda, Tanya, Lindsey, my family, my department at Totton College, the editorial board, the submitting authors without these this publication would never exist, the students who have taken part in my course and all the members of TRUTH. Long may EJUFOS publish!

In the launch issue we have a variety of intriguing papers for your pleasure. Albert Budden introduces you to the theoretical perspective of electromagnetism on its potential involvement in the alien abduction phenomena. Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos writes about how he was instrumental in the release of previously classified UFO documentation in Spain. We can learn a great deal from the second Albert Budden paper, a Forum Debate Article, that examines how 'ufologists' research. There is an intriguing news item courtesy of Fundacion Anomalia of Spain on the Canary Islands UFO pictures from 1974.

Introduction to the Editorial Board.

Marcus Allen has been the United Kingdom Editor of **Nexus Magazine** since 1994 and has been researching the crop circle phenomenon since 1992. Nexus is published six times per year and features many articles on ufology and related topics.

Vicente Juan Ballester Olmos is **Research Director** and **2nd Vice President** of **Fundacion Anomalia** based in Spain. He has researched ufological matters for over 30 years and in this time has authored five books and many papers, working with the likes of Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Dr. Jacques Vallee and Richard Haines. He has written for many journals and organisations including Flying Saucer Review, Mutual UFO Network, International UFO Reporter and the Center for UFO Studies.

Antonio Carvalha is part of the **SIFOL** group based in Portugal. He has experience in field observation and field research within ufology. He is interested in the computer analysis of sightings alongside theoretical aspects of UFO activity and the progression of ufology through history.

Dan Farcas Ph.D received his doctorate in mathematics in 1978 and is a member of the Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences. He is also Vice-President of the Romanian Association for Medical Informatics and the Romanian UFO group ASFAN. He has authored several books in Romanian including Extraterrestrials Among Us (1992), Close Encounters of the 4th Kind (1996) and the current **UFOs From the Other Realm** (1999). His main area of expertise is abductions and religion.

Joaquim Fernandes MA [Ph.D candidate] is the co-founder of the National Committee on Aerial Phenomenon (CNIFO) formed in Porto, Portugal in 1982. He is also the co-founder of the Portuguese Society for Scientific Exploration (SPEC) also formed in Porto, Portugal, in 1997. Joaquim researches into the historical and religious components of the so-called 'anomalous phenomena' through Portuguese history, for example the Fatima Apparitions of 1917 as reported in his book **The Fatima Apparitions and the UFO Phenomena (Lisboa, Editorial Estampa, 1995)**. Joaquim currently works at the University Fernando Pessoa in Porto, Portugal.

David Kingston SRSW has been investigating the UFO phenomena since 1957 whilst serving in the military. He has written many articles for magazines & journals both in the

UK and around the world. He has appeared on numerous TV and radio documentaries. He has lectured on the subject of ufology for many years too. He has also been training CSETI field teams in Dorset and Devon, United Kingdom since 1997. He also runs **Remote Viewing Courses** based on techniques taught in the military.

Pyotr Kutniuk Ph.D currently works on the problem of population genetics of poultry in the Ukraine. His interests include cosmology, archaeology, and quantum mechanisms. He has researched into diverse areas such as the Shroud of Turin, Tunguska and UFO 'contact' with extraterrestrial civilizations. He is part of the **RIAP** group in the Ukraine.

Yuri E Lozotsev Ph.D has researched ufological matters since 1970, being a member of the **Voronezh Joint Anomalous Phenomena Research Committee**, Russia from 1984 and then Head of Scientific Research of the same Committee until 1992. His areas of interest and expertise include theoretical aspects of phenomena defying the laws of mainstream science, physical evidence related to ufological-type sightings (mostly mechanical) plus telepathy.

Perry Petrakis has 25 years of research experience of ufology. He is a professional journalist and has conducted many investigations on varying aspects of ufology. He is the current editor of the journal **Phenomena** and has an interest psycho-social aspects of the abduction phenomenon and the early days of ufology. He is part of the **SOS-OVNI** group based in France.

Joao Paulo Lima da Silva Rocha is also part of the **SIFOL** group based in Portugal. His main research angle is into the social impact of UFO cases and extraterrestrial life. He is also interested in the computer analysis of UFO cases, image analysis and the use of hypnosis in abduction cases.

Edoardo Russo M.A. was editor-in-chief of the pioneering Italian Journal 'Clypeus - UFO and Fortean Phenomena' (later 'Ufologica') from 1977-1984. He also co-edited 'UFO Phenomena International Annual Review' and 'UPIAR Research in Progress.' He has been an active member for Centro Ufologico Nazionale (CUN) but currently is **President of the Centro Italiano Studi Ufologico (CISU)** a group he helped co-found in 1985. He has written many influential papers including investigators handbooks for both CUN and CISU and ones published in International UFO Reporter, MUFON UFO Journal, FSR, Phenomena and the BUFORA Journal.

The editor-in-chief Craig Roberts B.Sc (Hons) is part of the TRUTH organization based in the United Kingdom. He completed a degree in Psychology in 1995 and his dissertation examined the role of psychology in ufology. This was published as a book: **Der Mensch als Teil des UFO-Phanomens** (GEP, Germany - 1997). He has had articles published in *Awareness* and the *New UFOlogist*. He has created the only educationally recognized course in ufology in the United Kingdom where students can study six modules up to the standard of Advanced Level. The course takes two years to complete and is comprehensive, looking at all angles of ufology. This success has led him to lecture at the Association for the Teaching of Psychology and British Psychological Society Conferences on the psychological aspects of ufology. He is co-founder of TRUTH and EJUFOAS alongside students from the ufology course. His interests lie in the psychology of ufology especially hypnosis and abduction recall, theoretical aspects of psychological-ufology equation, research methods in ufology and many other aspects of this fascinating subject. He is currently studying for his Ph.D in Anthrozoology. He is extremely thankful to the editorial board for their support of EJUFOAS and especially the students who have kept his dream alive of teaching ufology.

PROJECT FOR A DATABASE OF BALL LIGHTNING OBSERVATIONS IN ITALY

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Abstract: Ball lightning sightings by casual eyewitnesses are often neglected by researchers. Yet any theoretical model has to consider and account for those described features. The present difficulty is that such sightings are rarely reported to scientific researchers. An effort to build a catalogue of alleged ball lightning reports in Italy has recently been launched by a small group of BL researchers stimulated by the Italian Centre for UFO Studies, which offered to open its files to interested scientists to look for pertinent data. A first survey of more than 12,000 Italian reports of unusual aerial phenomena brought a sample of 40 possible ball lightning phenomena in the last 50 years. A more thorough search is presently being conducted, that will yield an expected total of 100 reports. A second important source is the impressive collection of ball lightning cases published by Ignazio Galli in the early years of this century. All such reports are presently being filed into an "Italian Ball Lightning Archive" and a computer database is also being implemented, containing space-time coordinates (date, time, latitude, longitude, altitude) as well as descriptive (colour, size, shape, behaviour) and environment (meteorological, topographical) data. Similar projects have already been attempted in Austria and Hungary, and some more national catalogues have also been produced for countries (Russia, Japan) with very different ecology/geography/climate. A second planned step will thus be a comparison between the Italian database and those other ones.

1. Introduction

The study of ball lightning (BL) has been receiving a great deal of attention by a more and more increasing community of scientists, recently. That is clear from a number of very good contributions on this subject given in literature [1-7]. On the basis of these investigations a very large body of both BL sightings and experimental BL manifestations have been carefully documented and classified in scientific reports and catalogues [8-27]. These important works now constitute a sort of "model of sample" to be used to compare new sightings of BL collected by other researchers.

A catalogue and file of ball lightning reports in Italy has been recently proposed by some researchers and sponsored by CISU (the Italian Centre for UFO Studies), as both of financial support and of a large database and bibliography.

In this paper, a project for a database of BL observations in Italy (BLITA), organised with the material of the above file, is presented and compared with the most important existing projects on this subject. BLITA is the first project devoted to BL ever proposed in Italy, and it is the result of both a pre-existing collection of BL sightings by some members of CISU and a collaboration with some Italian physicists that have been stimulated in participating

in such investigation.

In the next Section, the description of the preliminary BLITA database is given in terms of some physical parameters, such as space-time coordinates environment data, etc. Special attention is given to "observational parameters", such as month of BL observations, daytime, place of observations, colours, dimensions, decay of BL, etc. Furthermore, the description of the sources of BL sightings chosen for the database is given as well. The project will be carried out in three main steps, with different time scales. Section 3 describes the first two steps, the first one being a check of the database internal consistency and the second step a comparison between preliminary BLITA reports and BL reports from different sources. In Section 4, preliminary conclusions and remarks are given, and future perspectives, which represent the third step, are advanced. Beside comparison with similar catalogues of other unusual aerial phenomena, it will mainly consist of the selection, among the preliminary set of BL reports, of those that will constitute the actual database for deeper analysis.

2. The preliminary BLITA database.

The preliminary catalogue of alleged BL reports in Italy is presently collecting 125 reports.

2.1 Sources and database structure

Our initial sources used to build BLITA were the following:

- a first survey of CISU case files, presently comprising more than 12,000 Italian reports of unusual aerial phenomena brought 30% of cases;
- , - a search of scientific articles, literature and newspaper stories from CISU archives took to another 10% of our sample;
- the impressive collection of BL cases published by Ignazio Galli [28] in the early years of this century (see Appendix) contributed 60% of the preliminary database.

All the above reports are presently being filed into an "Italian Ball Lightning Archive".

A computer database is also being implemented, containing space-time coordinates (date, time, latitude, longitude, altitude) as well as descriptive (colour, size, shape, dimension, behaviour) and environment (meteorological, topographical) data, plus some information about witnesses, sources and a short summary of the described event.

Fields in the database structure are similar to those used by Smirnov [26] and Smirnov and Strizhev [27] concerning data bank of BL observations in USSR, as composed by A. Ju. Strizhev. Such a choice on our part is meant to allow a better comparison between those two files.

Since we are dealing with casual sightings of unexpected phenomena, descriptions of some parameters may indeed be affected by subjectivity. But the more reports are collected, the greater is the probability that we get a detailed and accurate image of the physical phenomena behind the testimonies.

2.2 Description of preliminary data

The following data are to be considered as preliminary and provisional, right because the project has just begun.

Sightings are dated from 1672 through 1999, and the distribution by century is the following:

XVII century 1 case
 XVIII century 10 cases
 XIX century 29 cases
 XX century 85 cases

Data on observational parameters of ball lightning are given in Tables 1-6. Environment data are given in Tables 7-10.

Table 1 shows the monthly distribution of Italian BL observations. The largest number takes place in summer, but the peak usually found in other studies of Northern hemisphere reports seems more in September than in July, possibly because of local climate differences.

Table 2 shows the distribution of Italian BL observations by times of the day. Beside the peak around noon, a great concentration of reports in the afternoon and evening hours may be noted.

Table 1. BL observations by month (118 cases)

January	4	July	10
February	1	August	16
March	10	September	24
April	9	October	9
May	9	November	5
June	14	December	7

Table 2. BL observations by daytime (95 cases)

0 - 3h	4	12 - 15h	23
3 - 6h	3	15 - 18h	19
6 - 9h	5	18 - 21h	19
9 - 12h	10	21 - 24h	12

Table 3 shows the distribution of BL by diameter. Unfortunately, diameter is only reported in 50% of cases. In 79% of reports BL diameter is between 10 and 50 centimetres.

Table 4 shows the distribution of BL by shape. The spherical shape is decidedly prevailing, though other shapes do amount to 18% of the database.

Table 3. BL observations by diameter (62 cases) D=diameter in cm

2<D≤5	5
5<D≤10	6
10<D≤20	15
20<D≤30	16
30<D≤50	11
50<D≤70	2
70<D≤100	5
100<D≤150	1
150<D≤200	1

Table 4. BL observations by shape (115 cases)

Sphere	95
Sphere-ellipse	7
Ellipse	5
Pear-shaped	3
Ring	1
Tape	3
Stretched	1

Table 5 shows the colours of BL. Red is the dominant one, in its different shades, followed by white and orange. Witness subjectivity should always be kept in mind, as of such data. Table 6 shows the ways ball lightning may decay. An explosion takes place in approximately 58% of Italian cases, a percentage similar to the international reports.

Table 5. BL observations by colour (84 cases)

Red	38	Green	3
White	17	Blue	2
Orange	11	Variable	2
Bluish	5	Pink	1
Yellow	4	Black	1

Table 6. BL disappearance (67 cases)

Explosion	39
Extinction	15
Decay on parts	6
Disapp. in conductor	3
Disapp. in dielectric	4

Table 7 shows weather conditions at the time of BL observation. Italian data seemingly agrees with Grigor'ev data from the USSR [13].

Tables 8-10 shows BL distributions by place. Contrary to other databases (eg Grigor'ev), Italian BL are more likely observed outdoors than inside rooms.

Table 7. Contemporarity BL-thunderstorm (78 cases)

Same Time	48
Before	3
After	6
Thundery Condition	4
No Thunderstorm	17

Table 8. Object Location (120 cases)

In the Sky	34
Near Ground	66
Near Floor	30

Table 9. Object in Geography (122 cases)

In Nature	28
In Built Environment	94

Table 10. Object in Space (120 cases)

Outside Room	81
Inside Room	39

2.3 Effects and damages

A special attention is to be given to quite "odd" effects reported in some Italian BL observations. Space prevents us a more complete discussion, so that we only offer three examples in brief.

- 13 October 1878, at 12, Casarano (Lecce): all the water (more than 15 litres) in a boiling pot was sucked away, as well as all salt, pepper, oil and vinegar disappeared from a dinner table, with no damage to containers.
- August 1896, at 14.30, Frascati (Roma): a ring was extracted from a woman's finger and was found in another room.
- 1 September 1979, at 21.35, Torre del Lago (Lucca): gardening scissors were extracted from a woman's pocket, hovered for a few seconds in mid-air, then fell to the ground.

An interesting fact, rarely reported by other authors, is also emerging from the Italian database: damages to things or to people, though usually of low intensity, are reported in 38% of cases.

Ignazio Galli (1914, p. 286) wrote the following about BL damages [28]:

"It would be of supreme importance the question about the probability of danger that may come from lightning globes to health and life of man and beasts. In my [international] catalogue of more than 720 observations, most of them reporting news about the place and effects, I find 351 instances of one or more globes, and other rare forms, skimming along, touching or assaulting one or more people, one or more animals, or also exploding amidst of or near to them. Well, in only 71 cases, i.e. for one fifth of the total, we are reported immediate killings or subsequent deaths or very serious wounds or other durable lesions (paralysis, imbecility, organic infections, blindness, deafness). The other 280 cases were either totally innocuous or caused minimal surface damages (burnings, scratches, darkening, hair destruction, brief fainting, wearing laceration or kidnapping). It must be stressed that 186 of such non-damaging globes, i.e. more than three out of five, took place in interiors."

Only six cases are known of people killed by ball lightning in Italy, the most recent took place at Alpignano (Torino) on March 3, 1969. At 11.45' a.m., two workers were planting wood signs for a new road. Nine metres above them ran 6 high tension (220 kV) cables. Surveyor Franco Ghignone was 200 metres away: "I was coming away from them when I heard a loud explosion. I turned back at once: two fire globes seemed wobbling between the ground and the cables. I was blinded and I closed my eyes. When I opened them again, where there had been the workers now was only burning grass. The two men had been launched several metres away, and they were screaming and writhing". Local hotel owner Lorenzo Cerutti was another witness: "I was on the door when I heard two detonations and I saw the fire globes coming down from the high tension. They were very bright, of an intense blue colour. After touching the ground they got up back to the cables and followed them for about ten metres, finally exploding into sparks." The victims were lying on the ground, their flesh smoking, the wearing in flames. One died instantly, the other was severely burned.

3. Preliminary data processing

As we complete the collection of raw data (reports), its filing, cataloguing and database input, we are planning some preliminary statistical work.

3.1. Internal consistency.

In order to assess possible errors from data processing (eg. authors' bias in the choice of cases), a first step of the project will be to apply a control of accuracy of the above-described observational parameters, according to what has been done in Refs [26] and [27].

Data accuracy will be checked as the correlation between parts of the total database, i.e. we will apply Pearson correlation index to specific parameters (season, daytime, diameter, colour, decay) in two BLITA subsets: cases from Galli [28] (77 reports) vs. other sources (48 reports, by now).

3.2. Comparison with other catalogues.

A second step will be a comparison between BLITA and the summarised data given by Stakhanov [11-12], Keul [17-18] and Bychkov-Amirov [20]. Correlation analysis will be carried out in terms of the same parameters described above (month, daytime, places of observation, colour and diameter, decay). This way, all the material will be ready for further analysis.

4. Conclusions, remarks, and future perspectives.

The project is presently in the preliminary stage of collecting and cataloguing reports of Italian BL observations, so no properly called conclusion can be drawn as yet.

Such a stage is to be continued in the next months, and we are sure that new data will be added to the 125 cases collected up to now.

The most promising source is a more thorough search of the CISU case files, that will yield an expected doubling of the total of possible BL phenomena, probably erroneously reported as UFO sightings in Italy (at least 100 in the last 50 years).

A questionnaire is also to be distributed to meteorological observatories and amateur astronomer associations (more than 170 in Italy), in order to get yet unpublished testimonies. In Section 3, we have described the first two steps of the project concerning some preliminary statistical analysis to be done for "internal" and "external" comparison purposes.

For the sake of completeness, a similar comparison will be also extended to existing catalogues of different aerial phenomena, such as meteors, bolides, fire-balls, etc. Additionally, a study of geographic localisation will be carried out for the selected reports, in order to correlate BL sightings with location features like geological and geomagnetic ones, or with other phenomena (for instance, Lightning strikes).

The next project step will be the selection, among the preliminary set of Italian BL reports, of those cases that will constitute the actual database for deeper analyses: those reports showing the greatest resemblance with the existing BL models or definitions, while at the same time containing more descriptive data, both quantitative and qualitative, to rely upon. A collaboration with other researchers working on similar projects is also expected, with a hopefully useful information and experience exchange.

Feedback is also expected from our project by its initial sponsor, Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici: we are planning to try some explanations for the set of UFO reports exhibiting some similarities with BL, also by involving scientists either working in atmospheric and

plasma physics, or having already done theoretical and/or experimental works in the physics of ball lightning. Our database will be made available to those researchers.

Acknowledgments

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APPENDIX

Ignazio Galli was born at Velletri (Roma), in 1841. He was a priest, graduated in Natural Sciences and was appointed professor at the town high school. He was also director of the Physical and Meteorological Observatory.

We know of no less than 62 published papers by him, spanning over 54 years (between 1866 and 1920). A part of his writings was about seismology and geophysics, with papers on earthquake lights and unexplained air-blasts or underground noises.

His second area of interest was meteorology and atmospheric optics. He collected a very great number of quantitative data at the Observatory and published a lot about such unusual phenomena as sun halos, raining and or meteors, though he also wrote about botany.

The largest number of his publications (30 of them) was about ball lightning and atmospheric electricity forms. Between 1908 and 1919 Galli wrote several papers on that subject, accurately describing ball lightning features, as well as mechanical, physical, chemical, human, animal and plant effects. He had collected an abundant collection of case histories from all over Italy, through his intense correspondence with priests and students who kept on sending him detailed local reports.

In 1895 he was appointed ordinary member of the Pontificia Accademia dei Nuovi Lincei, so that his writings about BL were mostly published in the Proceedings ("Atti") and Memories ("Memorie") of that prestigious scientific institution [28]. Some of his papers were also published in German and Belgian scientific journals [29].

Only through a painstaking bibliographic search by CISU members in the last years, it's been possible to recover copy of all Galli's writings about ball lightning and connected subjects, for a total of more than 500 pages.

It's a remarkable fact that his very first paper about BL, as early as 1910, Galli reported a collection of as many as 355 ball lightning observations, more than ten times larger than the only previous existing catalogue (by Arago, in 1859: 30 cases). His archives did not only include Italian testimonies but also the collections by Dr. F. Sestier, by Angelo Secchi, Camille Flammarion, the Belgian C. de Jans, several scientific journals, as well as Francois Arago.

PRELIMINARY IDENTIFICATIONS OF ALIEN CONTACT / ABDUCTION EXPERIENCES AS HALLUCINATORY STATES INDUCED BY PROLONGED EXPOSURES TO ELECTROMAGNETIC POLLUTION IN THE ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract - Case studies of subjects reporting consistent accounts of apparent abduction by aliens have shown that such experiencers have developed an environmental sensitivities syndrome (ESS) including electrical hypersensitivity (EH), induced by synergistic conditions in their environment, including major electrical event exposure (e.g. lightning strike proximity) and subsequent on-going electromagnetic hot spot irradiation. It is this sensitivity to environmental electromagnetic energies which produces as an acute end-state, hallucinatory / visionary perceptions on an on-going episodic basis, such episodes previously identified as psychic experiences, and latterly, interactions with extraterrestrials. Furthermore, examples of minor physical trauma discovered after such apparent interactions have also been identified as the dermal reactions of the subjects who in effect have developed an "electrical allergy." Note that previous studies using ELF milligauss magnetic fields specifically on the temporal lobes, contributes to the electromagnetic pollution approach, but differs from it in that this latter approach identifies generalised bodily irradiation from multiple artificial sources, the identification of the clinical condition - electrical hypersensitivity as being primarily instrumental in alien abduction experiences and its fundamental connections to the ethos of holistic medicine.

Introduction.

In May 1994, a modest book entitled *ALLERGIES AND ALIENS: The Visitation Experience - An Environmental Health Issue* (ISBN:1- 899071-008) was produced by a community publishing group on my behalf. It represented the iceberg-tip of a 'submerged' research initiative which had been proceeding more or less covertly for two years. This investigative project itself, was the end result of a fourteen year involvement with the study of the alien contact / abduction phenomenon in its various forms.

My thinking had evolved from the popularist extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH) in the early years, through ideas involving intelligences from other dimensions, and past concepts which assumed that the phenomena I had tracked across populations with an eerie consistency, were due to psychosocial processes, as an authorized myth. Whilst there was no doubt that such an approach could explain many accounts, objections arose which stemmed from the fact that I was finding consistent clinical parameters in cases which came to my attention randomly. Reports of these signs and symptoms would not have been passed on via psycho-social processes mainly because both the individuals and the investigators concerned were unaware of their significance and connection with their experiences.

I found that contactees or abductees as they have come to be known, develop an *environmental sensitivity syndrome* which includes food allergies, chemical sensitivities, electrical hypersensitivity (EH) and symptoms of epileptiform conditions. Many of them were quite unaware of their nutritional maladaptations in particular although I had learned to tell from physical appearances of the incidence of masked food allergies.(1) Apart from their bizarre experiences, most knew that there was something unusual about them by the way that electrical equipment regularly malfunctioned in their presence, and casually recognised

this when my tape-recorder ground to a halt during interviews.(2) This is something that many investigators have noticed. Most "abductees" had been encouraged by UFO study groups to regard such phenomena as part of the covert attentions bestowed upon them by alien civilizations living on other planets. As I worked through the cases which arose, I soon learned to smother my reactions to this, and leave what I regarded as an adolescent fantasy in place, in order not to initiate rejection or obtain biased information. Also, it soon became clear to me that the phenomenon itself creates belief as an intrinsic part of a *psycho-spiritual* function, which acts for the welfare of the health of the individual. This statement of course, needs an explanation, which will be given later, and it is sufficient to mention at this stage that I was reminded of scientist Jacques Vallee's comments in *Passport to Magonia*, which quite correctly noted that the phenomenon acts as a mechanism to create and control belief.(3)

However, the intriguing conclusion that was emerging, was that these experiences were set within the context of a consistent cluster of physical signs and symptoms, which were indicative of clinically recognisable effects and conditions. This was an exciting finding, as I had realised at this early stage of my investigations, that if it were true, the identification of such conditions could become a method by which genuine cases could be distinguished from hoax or fantasy. In fact, one of the quite legitimate criticisms that science could level at those who study these experiences, was that there was no reliable way that investigators could tell the difference between a genuine case and a fictionalised one. Without the possibility of this distinction, all data could become suspect. Was this medical approach a way of overcoming this fundamental obstacle?

In fact, the more I pursued this environmental health approach, the more I discovered predictable and tangible parameters to these experiences which had been dubbed "close encounters of the third and fourth kind" by UFO study groups, which were abbreviated to CE3s and CE4s. As the reader will see in the description of the approach which follows, I have developed a radical alternative to what was previously a collection of anecdotal accounts, albeit fairly consistent ones, supported by dubious physical after-effects in terms of marks on the body, and questionable results from sessions of regressive hypnosis carried out by individuals with vested interests and no clinical experience.

Alternatively, I found that a recognisable and eventually predictable set of physiological and perceptual phenomena began to unfold before me, many of which had been routinely identified in clinical settings, and some of which had been actually reproduced under controlled conditions. In addition, predictable environmental features were associated with these clinical parameters, which were the sources of the electromagnetic pollution which precipitates these strange consciousness effects. These will of course be given subsequently, but they include power lines, microwave /radio frequency transmitters and geological fault lines.

The following outline summarises the Electromagnetic Pollution Approach developed.

EXTRACT

Case file studies have indicated that there exists in the population the propensity to undergo realistic and vivid hallucinatory / visionary experiences associated with specific clinical parameters *primarily* as a result of exposure to fields from a variety of sources of electrical

and electromagnetic pollution in the environment. These consciousness effects, which are intrinsically associated with a range of physiological dysfunctions and are an indicator that the body has failed to adapt to electromagnetic stressors in the environment, leading to a breakdown of the regulatory systems of the body,(4) have come to be known as *alien contact* or *abduction experiences* (CE3s and CE4s respectively) Man-made environmental fields classified as electronic and electrical pollution are emitted from communication and power line systems. These produce raised ambient field levels at geographically located *electromagnetic hot spots* (5).e.g. calculated pylon and / or radio transmitter proximity. It is in these *hot spot* locations that individuals subject to prolonged irradiation develop *hypersensitivities* to EM fields.

MAJOR ELECTRICAL EVENTS

It has been found that this *electromagnetic hypersensitivity* (EH) is especially enhanced in individuals who, earlier in their lives, have been in close proximity to such events as a lightning strike, ball lightning, earth lights, corona discharges, aerial light phenomena etc., or suffered major electrocution. Such extreme and sudden exposure to massive electromagnetic field strengths or currents is known as a *major electrical event* (MEE) (6) and it is this *electrical initiation* which kick-starts the body into field sensitivity. Individuals so affected frequently become highly sensitive to noise, light and vibration generally, (hyperaesthesia) and become prone to psychic experiences where they are able to detect minute electrical ambiances in the environment and from the physiology of others.(7) This appears to facilitate a type of ESP faculty,(8) although research into this is in its infancy. However, researchers such as Dr C.W. Smith and Dr Jean Monro of the Breakspear Hospital, Hertfordshire where EH is treated, regard the perceptions of ghosts as "*place memories*", where the EH individual is able to scan their immediate environment (rather like an electric fish detects prey) and perceive "recordings" of past events and people retained in the fabric of buildings, roads etc.(i.e. in latent environmental water)(9). In fact, this is consistent with my own findings where EH contactees / abductees almost invariably *have a history of apparitional encounters*, and other visionary experiences.

However, it must be clarified that EH subjects sometimes have the dual ability to detect such "*place memories*" which can be regarded as objective phenomena, *as well as hallucinate* in response to EM radiation, perceiving imagery which is endogenous in origin i.e. from their own unconscious "image bank".

THE LOAD PHENOMENON

The condition of electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EH) consists of a range of clinically detectable signs and symptoms (10) and is frequently linked to other sensitivities such as food allergies and chemical intolerances (e.g. aerosols, perfume, cigarette smoke, domestic gas, etc.) Frequently *in combination with psychological stress*, which also induces adverse chemical changes in the body, it is instrumental in producing a breakdown of the body's regulatory systems.(11) This physiological dysfunction may lead to an intolerance threshold in nutritional, chemical and electromagnetic terms which is known as *the load phenomenon*. (12)

The author concludes that it is during such high physiological load levels that hallucinatory states are precipitated when the hypersensitive individual is then exposed to environmental fields as stressors which cause the body's systems to exceed tolerance thresholds.

Such hypersensitive field-triggered individuals perceive hallucinations as formed figures, altered environments, out-of-body experiences, alien contact / abduction experiences and other perceptual anomalies.

EPILEPTIFORM STATES.

The mechanisms instrumental in precipitating such hallucinatory states are consistent with epileptiform seizures / syncopes, where an electrical destabilisation of the brain occurs due to frequent and prolonged irradiation by EM fields from the environmental sources mentioned, (13) the skull being entirely transparent to this irradiation.(14) Therefore, EH percipients in addition to experiencing hallucinations as visual seizures, also display signs and symptoms typical of general epileptiform states, although grand mal seizures have not been found.

These are:

1. **AUTOMATISMS** where an individual has periods of time for which they cannot account i.e. "missing time".(15) During these periods they carry out routine behaviour such as walking or even driving, and have no memory of their actions. (amnesiac periods e.g. transient global amnesia) Subjects may return with minor physical injuries or other evidence of automatic behaviour e.g. one subject awoke to find that they were the wrong way round in bed and had dirty feet due to their amnesiac "walkabout". They may experience participation in hallucinatory realities whilst acting out normal activities e.g. one subject experienced a major military expedition overseas when in reality he made a short visit locally.
2. **TRANCE STATES OR "BLANKOUTS"**.(16) During such disassociated periods subjects become "zombie"-like and may be mute. Vivid visual hallucinatory realities may be experienced of a fantastic / symbolic nature.
3. **PERIODS OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS** or blackouts.(17) These frequently occur during nocturnal hours and individuals have been reported as "deeply asleep" or "in a coma", by family members. During waking activities they may exhibit as *drop attacks*.
4. **PARALYSIS** (akinesia) (18) Individuals experience transient periods of immobility, frequently although not exclusively on awakening.
5. **TINGLING AND NUMBNESS** (somaesthesia and paraesthesia) (19) Bodily tingling and painful electrical sensations rippling in the muscles below the skin (fasciculation) may occur on exposure to ambient fields. Also neuralgia-like sensations in the face. Sensations typical in extremities and eye-lids.
6. **VISUAL SEIZURES / HALLUCINATIONS** as balls of light, formed figures e.g. apparitions / "aliens", altered / distorted environments, nonexistent objects etc.(20)
7. **SENSE OF PRESENCE**. Individuals feel that someone or something is in the room with them although they cannot see anything. May be accompanied with a strong feeling of "being watched" (21).
8. **DEJA VU**. This common sensation is distinguished in EH subjects by its frequency

and intensity.(22)

9. **JAMAIS VU.** Experiences of familiar surroundings as strange.(23)

10. **MAGNETOPHOSPHENES.** Stimulation and seizures in the temporal lobes produce this visual effect as swarms of light-flecks, dancing lights or sparkling aspects in the environment. (24)

11. **HYPERGRAPHIA.**(25) Subjects may exhibit profuse writing activity on an episodic basis, frequently depicting cosmological / philosophical / religious themes.

12. **SUDDEN AND INTENSE FEAR.** Subjects may experience this emotional response as a physical state, with no apparent stimulus. Induced by EM / electrical stimulation of the amygdala.(26)

It is no coincidence that EH has developed as a relatively recent environmentally produced condition and the incidence of the alien abduction experience has manifested as a contemporaneous phenomenon i.e. as EH is centrally instrumental in the production of this consciousness effect in the population, both reflect the dramatic and relatively sudden advance and proliferation of electronic communication systems using radio-frequency (RF) and microwave fields, and a corresponding increase in sources of EM pollution in the environment. These include:

Radio-frequency transmitters; radio and TV stations; police stations; hospitals; fire-services; transport control centres; taxi-cab offices; diplomatic wave bands; radio hams; CB radio enthusiasts; university science departments; telecommunication towers; telephone exchanges; mobile phone systems; airports; aircraft homing beacons; military and civilian radar; military networks; microwave repeaters etc.

Also: power lines / pylon systems; high tension cables; transformer systems; electrical substations; junction boxes etc.

In addition to these man-made sources of EM fields, *geomagnetic and geoelectrical* fields produced during tectonic activity from faults in geological strata (27) have always irradiated the interiors, and therefore occupants of dwellings built over them.(28) It is these natural sources of EM fields in the environment which have, *in pre-electrical eras*, been actively instrumental in the production of such historical and culture-bound antecedents to alien forms as demonic, angelic and other "visitations" by entities from non-corporeal realms.(29)

Today, these natural fields interact with their artificial counterparts, and add to the total EM environment, producing unusual *intermodulation effects*. (29A) In fact, it is these severely modulated fields which appear to be more disorganizational to the human biological system than "pure" unmodulated, uniform fields, and it is thought by the author that it is this unique disruption which triggers imagery of aliens as a thematic response, as the human physiology apprehends such EM intrusion *as alien to its system*.

CONTENT OF ALIEN CONTACT / ABDUCTION EXPERIENCES

Analysis of the content of these experiences *as an internal drama* involving the captive

examination of percipients, or confrontation by a variety of "aliens", frequently reveals the expression of their systemic dysfunction i.e. illness in symbolic form. These have been termed "*welfare messages*" e.g. aliens advising the percipient to only eat "pure food" without additives as the environment is contaminated etc. This imagery is actually highly personal in that it reflects their physiological dysfunction, and is a comment on their state of health fashioned into an ideology involving contact with alien intelligences. This aspect will become more apparent when actual examples are considered, and it is sufficient at this stage to say that the content of these experiences can be traced to the background and state of health of the experimenter.

Electrical field-stimulated bodily sensations induce the recurring depiction of an intrusive bodily examination by alien forms as a direct reflection of the effects that the fields are having on the body / brain. As stated, in the language of the human biological system, the external, artificial, foreign and intrusive electromagnetic fields, is the physical alien activity, which is depicted accordingly, in symbolic form e.g. the stimulation of the language centres-Broca's and Wernicke's areas produces the "alien voice in the mind" experience, which is interpreted as telepathic communication.

CONCLUSIONS

Preliminary case-file studies indicate that a significant number of the population are adversely affected by electromagnetic pollution to a greater extent than is generally recognised. Acute end-states of such systemic dysfunction (i.e. electrical hypersensitivity) is intrinsically associated with a discrete consciousness effect which involves hallucinatory imagery triggered by exposure to fields during hypersensitive states on an episodic basis, one form of this being the alien contact / abduction experience. These subjects have a history of paranormal experiences, frequently reaching back to childhood, e.g. visual perceptions of apparitions, formed figures, surreal environments, visionary episodes, self-reported ESP etc., which have been associated with EH in clinical contexts, their alien contact / abduction experiences being a further manifestation of this psychic activity.

CASE EXAMPLES

Some researchers wedded to the ETH claim that the case examples presented are atypical percipients, and this misconception has led to the idea that there are other "genuine" alien contact / abduction cases in addition to those given. However, this is not the case, and it is predicted that all genuine examples of this phenomenon will share the primary parameters listed below. This implies that these characteristics are latent and until now have gone unrecognised, and in fact this is the case.

Having stated this however, there are researchers who *have* discovered some aspects outlined in this electromagnetic pollution approach e.g. Professor Kenneth Ring at the University of Connecticut whose surveys of "abductees" *have also revealed the central incidence of electrical hypersensitivity* (EH). (30) Also, Nicholas Reiter in the USA has conducted experiments with magnetic field detectors placed in the homes of experiencers, and has found that they have been triggered during the times of reported experiences, and not when no experience occurred.(31) Also, the author has been found that "alien contact" and "alien abduction" cases share identical parameters, and that any distinctions are

spurious. It can be stated however that the "abduction" experience depicts and extension of the "confrontation" aspects of "contact", and reflects a greater degree of intrusion in terms of field effects upon the body.

Space does not allow for a full catalogue of cases investigated, and it is hoped that the following few representative examples will provide the reader with some insights as to the correlations presented.

CASE ONE: "IAN OF PECKHAM"

Ian, a young man in his early twenties, living alone in a bed-sitter in London regularly perceives eight foot tall humanoids made of dazzling golden light emerge slowly through a wall into the room. He converses with them normally, if not casually, on some occasions, and with "voices in my mind" on others. They sometimes arrive in groups, but enter the room slowly one by one, and told him that they are from a distant galaxy and that he has been chosen to impart the message of their existence on Earth to the population. They relate that they are made of "pure energy" and move slowly through the wall to avoid creating an explosion due to the energetic impact they would create. They gave him the task to write a book about them, which had to be finished by a certain date in order to avert a nuclear war. As he was their chosen messenger, he was ordered to take care of his health, in terms of diet and exercise.

He was advised to avoid junk food and only eat fresh, pure food, and once when he ignored this advice, was severely admonished by them. He was also told to get an exercise bicycle, which he did after they showed him a vivid and disturbing vision depicting a heart attack.

These highly luminous intergalactic messengers told him, he reported, that government agents were aware of them, and he feels that he is sometimes watched by such covert agents when he is in the street. He feels that his mission is important for the destiny of mankind, and that the content of the book he has written, which he continues with, writing for over six hours a day, will create a social revolution. He approached the author for advice on publishing strategies after hearing of his imminent book. Ian was narrowly missed by a lightning strike, which he reported, hit the road several metres in front of him as he attempted to cross.

COMMENT

Ian displays the epileptiform symptom of intense hypergraphia, and has given up searching for work to have time to write, having filled several large ledgers on typical cosmological topics. He also strongly experiences a heightened sense of meaning to his life via this mission, both of which are typical of temporal lobe seizures. He is sometimes able to turn his video recorder on simply by touching it, and emits an electrical field as a whole body effect. This was detected by a field meter which registered when the probe was held a few inches from him, but gave no reading when applied to others in the room.

This personal field emission is a sign of electrical hypersensitivity, and is typical of subjects who have undergone a major electrical event e.g. lightning strike proximity. He reports that on occasion, when he has been sitting in an armchair, he experiences "jolts that go through my body like epilepsy". He also feels tingling sensations and numbness on one side of his face (somaesthesia and paraesthesia). He has periods of overwhelming fatigue unrelieved

by rest, which is also typical of EH sufferers, often reported after exposure to fluorescent lighting. His sensitivity to crowds, noise and traffic is indicative of hyperaesthesia, also typical of EH, and he leads a contemplative life-style indoors. He periodically sees small coloured oval lights darting about his room, typical of magnetophosphenes, induced by cranial exposure to a magnetic field. He hears his name called by a mysterious voice, which is a recurring auditory hallucination associated with temporal lobe stimulation. The "advice from aliens" about his diet and inducement to exercise are typical "*welfare messages*" in the content of his alien contact experience, which arise from an unconscious which monitors the stressors that the EH body is subjected to.

Space does not allow for a wider description of this biologically adaptative process, but it can be stated that from the analyses of the content of experiences, it is evident that such physiological monitoring occurs with the sensitised subject i.e. the body acts as an autonomous entity which assimilates information within the context of the belief system which the individual uses to make sense of his perceptions. In this way the subject is motivated to adapt in health, and therefore survival terms, to the aberrant effects of prolonged field exposure.

When asked which wall the "aliens" emerge from, Ian indicated one with a window which is directly behind the headboard of his bed, and almost touches it. Outside the window, about 30 metres away, are *three* RF transmitting antennae mounted on a neighbour's roof, who is a radio ham. Dosimetric readings of the wall with a field meter showed that it is electromagnetically "hot", emitting a constant electrical field of 106 W/m. This is due to exposed electrical wiring of the circuitry of the Victorian house, making contact with the water content of the plaster, and is a common feature of houses of such age. This, in combination with the almost point-blank RF transmissions from the antennae (which were not active during the survey) produces a potent hot spot which would subject Ian to considerable health-threatening irradiation.

Putting these unusual perceptions and related belief system aside, Ian is an averagely intelligent young man with a basic education, who takes his "visitations" seriously, and like so many "contactees", has no history of mental instability. He behaves and converses appropriately and rationally with some humour, and apart from his ideas of reference regarding his "alien contact", seems quite balanced. He had previously worked as a bus driver and as a postman, thereby providing essential services to the community, although he is unemployed at the time of writing.

CASE TWO: "ALLY PALLY WOMAN"

Janice awoke one night with an intense feeling that someone was present in her room, although she could see nobody. She then noticed that a small circle of shimmering light had appeared on the ceiling in a corner of the room, which began to emit luminous blue "raindrops". As these fell, they slowly coalesced into a tall humanoid figure made of blue light, with the head hovering a few inches below the ceiling. Paralysed, she watched as it slowly revolved and tilted so that its head was positioned in front of the window. She then heard a booming voice in her head which repeatedly asked "What is the power? What is the power?" Directly outside the window, about 700 metres away, was a major RF TV transmitter known as Alexander Palace. After a number of other bizarre perceptions,

including a distortion of the size of the room, where she felt as if her bed was very small, the next thing she remembers is waking up in the morning with everything looking normal. Some months later, she again awoke with a sense of presence, and saw a humanoid figure emerge from her bed and grasp her by the wrist. She floated across the room and out of the window, and she found herself resting on a table with two "greys" (entities) looming over her. One of them stuck a pronged instrument into her side and she writhed in pain. The other approached with what looked like a long silver pencil with a slim gas jet coming from the end. As the being brought it close she deflected his arm, and the flame caught her side with a glancing burn.

In the morning she awoke much later than usual, and felt a burning pain within the muscles on her side. She then decided to have a bath and when the hot water touched the skin, a row of blisters quickly developed, which were later photographed by an investigator.

COMMENT

This intelligent working class lady has a history of paranormal experiences, and when she was thirteen, was about five metres away from a man who was struck by lightning on a golf course. This was of course a *major electrical event*, and she comments that she felt a tingling pain in her neck and her hair stood on end. She has lived in the vicinity of the 70 watt Alexander Palace RF transmitter in north London all of her life, and has numerous chemical sensitivities including an intolerance to cigarette smoke, perfume, aftershave, make-up, aerosols and domestic gas etc. She also reacts adversely to the EM emissions from overhead planes, which can induce panic attacks and a pain in her head. All of these are indicative of electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EH) (32).

The sense of presence can be induced by the electrical or magnetic stimulation of the temporal lobes, and is a common epileptiform sensation, as are the dimensional distortions of space she describes.(33) The blisters on her body are typical electrical burns, induced in EH individuals as an allergy-related sensitivity when exposed to fields (such as microwaves) which have been re-radiated, and therefore concentrated by metallic objects close to them, e.g. bed springs, bra-cup stiffeners, jewellery etc.

From this, and other examples of physical trauma associated with abduction experiences, it has become evident that they are field effects induced on the skin and body of the hypersensitive individual, because in effect, EH is an "*electromagnetic allergy*". Another well documented effect deserves special identification, and that is the "nasal implant" so-called in flying saucer lore. This has been identified by those who subscribe to the concept of a physical alien race, as some type of tracking device inserted deep into the nasal cavity or sinuses, so that the "specimen" human can be monitored in the same way as biologists who implant radio transmitters into the tissues of wild animals.(34) This "insertion" can cause bleeding and physical trauma to the sinuses, and Computerised Axial Tomography (CAT) scans have actually detected minute particles in affected "abductees". However, three zoologists at the University of Manchester have found and photographed naturally occurring particles of magnetic iron (magnetite) in the sphenoid and ethmoid sinuses.(35) When subjected to a powerful magnetic field which induces gyromagnetic movements, (36) these produce physical trauma to the delicate tissues in the nasal cavity.

CASE THREE: "THE YORKSHIRE GIRL."

Jane reports that since the age of sixteen she has been contacted by aliens. This sometimes takes the form of an abduction into a "spaceship" which appears in the fields at the bottom of her garden, and at other times they appear in her bedroom at night. She describes them as tall with large eyes, and during an "abduction" episode, as she lay on a table, one of them mounted her and had sexual intercourse. During the same episode, she saw some female aliens drinking something from cups, and when she asked for a drink also, was firmly refused. She was also led to a small table on which there were a number of coloured sweets, and when she ate one, was severely admonished by an alien who told her that she should not eat them. About a week after this experience she developed an infection in her vagina which was successfully treated at a local hospital.

COMMENT

When she was sixteen, Jane watched an orange ball of light circle her house, causing interference to the radio. This is a typical example of a light phenomenon which may have been a geologically-produced earth light. Also, such aerial lights (termed electroforms) have been reported in association with power-lines, a row of which run across the bottom of her garden. It evidently irradiated the interior of the house causing the radio interference via power surges, and would have constituted a *major electrical event*. Also, a major RF antenna (overland microwave TV) is positioned on a hill overlooking her house about 800 metres away. Her vaginal infection was a fungal overgrowth of *candida*, which is fed by the presence of sugar in the body, (37) and her abduction experience included an aspect which indicated that she should not eat sweets. This is a typical "*welfare message*", as described earlier, and it is also relevant that she developed an acute and sudden allergy to sugared coffee, which actually made her vomit. This appears to have been represented by the depiction of the group of female aliens drinking from coffee cups, from which she was so firmly barred. She also has chemical sensitivities, including an intolerance to domestic gas, and watches little television despite her housebound lifestyle, as she seems to be sensitive to the fields it emits.

The sexual overtones to her experience could have been induced by the stimulation of the *septal area* of the brain.(38) This response has been induced under clinical conditions by such neurologists as Wilder Penfield and others, by electrically stimulating that part of the brain. However, with the EH subject, no contact is required and EM fields from transmitters and / or pylons can induce a variety of hallucinatory sensations depending on the part of the brain in which *focal seizures* are initiated.(39) This stimulation would cue appropriate imagery within the visionary drama, and in this case certainly appears to have induced the "alien intercourse" sequence in combination with the presence of vaginal *candida*, which in physiological terms, is also alien to the body.

ELECTROMAGNETIC POLLUTION: CONSCIOUSNESS EFFECTS

From these few examples the reader may gain an inkling of the robust and practical pattern involved in this many faceted and highly consistent approach to the study of these strange consciousness effects and their associated physiological aspects. Basically, it states that the experiences of visitation by a variety of other-worldly beings, which have been

documented and researched by so many over the past few decades, are the mental and physiological products of a range of environmentally induced illnesses, shared by and coped with, in their commonest form, by about 20% of the population e.g. electrical hypersensitivity, multiple food allergies, chemical sensitivity. Space does not allow for the full description of how these seemingly separate conditions interrelate,(40) and induce *cumulative stressors* in the body in combination, known as *the load phenomenon*. (41) It is this physiological load threshold which is instrumental in triggering sensitised individuals to undergo consciousness effects known as the alien contact / abduction experience. (42) And further, it is argued that the precipitation of these experiences is an adaptive strategy initiated by the overloaded body in its attempt to cope with the effects of electromagnetic pollution, which it apprehends as alien to its organic systems i.e. *xenobiotic*.

SELECTION OF SUBJECTS FOR STUDY

These arose completely randomly through the author's informal contacts with individuals working in the fields of psychical research, unidentified atmospheric phenomena (i.e. UFOs) and health related epidemiology. Preliminary descriptions of self reported phenomena / experiences were forwarded to the author who then initiated detailed investigations. Selection was completely open and based on independently reported perceptions of anomalous realities e.g. UFOs, formed figures, alien contact / abduction experiences.

DEFINITION OF HOT SPOTS

As defined by the World Health Organisation publication: *Environmental Health Criteria 137: Electromagnetic Fields (300 Hz to 300 GHz)* Geneva 1993. Thus:

"A RF (radio frequency) hot spot may be defined as a point or small area in which the local values of electric and / or magnetic field strengths are significantly elevated above the typical ambient field levels and are confined near the surface of a conductive object." (pp 188-189)

RF GROUND REFLECTIONS: NEAR FIELDS

In this study, RF hot spot locations which correspond with the geographical position of the ground-reflected component of space-wave propagation from transmitting antennae are identified. These are known as near-fields.(48) (see diagram) The WHO report comments:

"The region close to a source antenna is called the near-field...the near-field can be divided into sub-regions: the reactive near-field region and the radiating near-field region." (p.53)

It has been found, as a working approximation, that distances between 500 metres and 750 metres from transmitting antennae is the point at which the ground-reflection occurs.(see table) This range is due to a number of variables, including the contours of the land, height of the antenna, its setting for specific transmission purposes etc. High ambient field strengths are induced at locations at the point of reflection due to an *unintended electrical earthing effect* where some of the signal strength is lost (attenuation) (49) due to this. Some RF hot spots of this type can be of very high field strengths (amplitudes)

indeed *where two or more* microwave antennae in close proximity produce attenuated ground reflections at the same location, creating a point where they overlap.

High ambient field levels were assumed with proximity to electrical systems in the environment already the subject of extensive studies (e.g. the New York Power Lines Project 1987) (50) and well-publicised community protest (e.g. Fishpond, Dorset, England. 1997) (51).

CASE STUDIES

Primary source information was gathered for nineteen cases, none of which involved hypnosis, and some of which were presented in outline in *ALLERGIES AND ALIENS*. Secondary data from the case files of others was considerable, and it was found that the occurrence of primary parameters was widespread. Tertiary data, as case descriptions in the literature also provided confirmatory testimony. (43)

PRIMARY PARAMETERS

1. Subjects reported a history of psychic experiences e.g., apparitions, formed figures, self-reported ESP, out-of-body experiences etc.
2. Subjects live in electromagnetic hot spots e.g. in near-fields from nearby RF transmitters, close to pylons (i.e. within 300 metres) transformers, substations etc. Raised EM fields were detected by instrumentation in most cases. Also, the incidence of the anomalous behaviour of household electrical appliances was taken as indicative of raised field levels e.g. lights coming on and off, spontaneous activation of electronic equipment, abnormally short life of light bulbs. All of these are due to *power surges*.
3. Subjects have been exposed to a *major electrical event*, often in formative years e.g. proximity to a lightning strike, ball lightning, anomalous light phenomena, major electrocution etc.
4. Subjects suffer from food allergies and / or chemical sensitivities, often at subclinical levels i.e. masked allergies.

ELECTRICAL HYPERSENSITIVITY

5. Subjects are sensitive to fluorescent lighting, often causing headaches or overwhelming fatigue.(44)
6. Subjects often report that electrical equipment malfunctions in their presence e.g. computers, tape recorders, cash-tills, photocopiers etc.(45)
7. Subjects report a metallic taste on occasion due to an electrolysis effect of the action of electrical fields on saliva and metal amalgam tooth fillings.
8. Subjects have the overwhelming feeling that someone is in the room with them although nothing can be seen. This is the sense of presence phenomenon due to temporal lobe stimulation.
9. Subjects report photophobia i.e. hypersensitivity to light.
10. Subjects report that electrical equipment behaves oddly in their home (due to power surges and their own field emissions as a whole body effect)
11. Subjects find that watches malfunction when they wear them.(46)
12. Subjects find that time seems to slow down or pass in a flash (desynchronisation)

13. Subjects display profuse writing activity (hypergraphia)
14. Subjects experience painful electric shocks on contact with metal bodies e.g. door handles, car bodywork etc.
15. Subjects experience painful electrical rippling sensations in the muscles under the skin (fasciculation) (47)
16. Subjects experience tingling and "pins and needles" (somaesthesia and paraesthesia)
17. Subjects find that they are sensitive to noise, vibration and general activity in their immediate environment (hyperaesthesia)

CONTROLS

Control samples were selected on the basis of the *exclusion* of identified hot spot locations i.e. were not subject to electromagnetic pollution and did not live in locations with raised levels of ambient fields. Also, absence of major electrical events, food allergies and chemical sensitivities. Subjects were chosen for comparison with study group. Preliminary results showed that subjects who had not undergone a *major electrical event* did not develop electrical hypersensitivity or subsequently perceive formed figures, alien contact / abduction experiences etc. Also, they did not exhibit primary parameters to any significant extent.

FURTHER RESEARCH

This preliminary study has pointed the way towards an understanding of alien contact / abduction experiences, *and their apparitional equivalents* (i.e. formed figures) although many of those involved in the marketable ETH are unwilling to accept any alternative explanation for the phenomena under study. However, it must be stated that these correlations *indicate an extremely robust effect* which soon becomes self evident when investigated openly according to the parameters outlined. Also, there is understandable caution from neutral standpoints due to the absence of established epidemiological and statistical correlations, which have not been confirmed at this stage. It must also be stated that there exists a powerful mythology based on a widespread belief-system which embraces extraterrestrial activity, (especially in the USA) and it has become evident that the absence of a neutral scientific context for these findings has hindered their acceptance. However, as a closing comment: the author is confident that this approach will eventually be accepted as the standard, although this may take many years, because it is testable by conventional means and places the phenomena under study in known and recognisable contexts.

Table of Experiencers Showing Recurrent Pattern of Hot Spot and Major Electrical Event.

Name	Location	Experience/Symptoms	Hot Spot	Major Event
RH	Dulwich	Bright light, "greys", OBE, vestibular disturbance. "CE4", migraine, allergy	Radio mast. 750m cab control	Electrical storm / tornado. Age: 22yrs
JG	Hornsey	Sense of presence, formed figure, OBE, "CE4", allergies	BBC TV 750m	Proximity to lightning strike. Age: 13yrs

JB	Coventry	Formed figures, fasciculation, allergies	Sub station	Sheet lightning. Age: 17yrs
RR	Thorp-le-Soken	Formed figures, "CE4", allergies	Sub station.	Ball lightning Age: 13yrs
MW	Greenhithe	Formed figures, OBE, "CE4"	Pylons, telecom masts x3. 2 milers	Incubator? Electroforms in house (photos)
LC	WGC	UFOs, poltergeist cluster phenomena, diabetes	Radio mast 650m	Severe electrocution Age: 13yrs
JM	Batley	"CE4", desynchronisation, "Visitation", allergies, candida	Radio antenna. Pylons 500m	Power surges from UAP Age: 16yrs
MG	London W4	Formed figures, multiple allergies.	Radio cab control. 50m	?

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UFO Declassification - The Spanish Model

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Abstract - Since 1992 to 1999, all UFO records held by the Spanish Air Force which were withheld from public consultation have been declassified. Now, documents formerly classified as secret are part of the public domain: 84 files containing near 2,000 pages of text which describe 122 different UFO events occurred in the period 1962-1995. The author's intervention proved instrumental in the generation of this historical declassification process. A collaboration offer from the author was accepted by the Intelligence unit in charge. It allowed the author to stay very close to the development of the process. From this unique position, the author was basically able to (a) confirm that full contents of the archives were totally released, (b) accelerate the speed of the file processing in various times, (c) manage the liberation of several confidential papers and protocols related to past military handling of UFO information, and (d) successfully achieve through timely proposals that the Air Force produced a search for missing UFO data, which took place in three different occasions, giving rise to an improvement in quantity and quality of the files. After a background introduction, the most representative dates in the official UFO declassification process are reviewed, the major achievements from the civilian cooperation are exposed, and a basic statistical overview of released UFO sightings is presented.

Keywords: declassification - civilian cooperation with the military - history - Spanish Air Force - case statistics - UFO archives - UFOs *versus* IFOs

Introduction

As Spanish ufologists know well, the outstanding topic in local ufology in the nineties has a distinct name: the UFO declassification process 1992-1999. It was the decision made by the Joint Chiefs of the Staffs, April 14, 1992 to green-light the access of UFO documents for the public. Those documents, a series of case files dating back to 1962, had been resting in peace in the archives of the Air Staff, Air Force Headquarters in Madrid, under the custody of the Flight Safety/Air Space sections (Operations Division) over the years. No follow-up analysis was ever performed on the case material, no statistics were carried out, not even a simple record list was typed until 1991. Nothing beyond the mere filing of the original investigation reports prepared by the military judges appointed to review the UFO sightings.

A number of recent literature references explain different steps in the process and the history of the involvement of Spanish Air Force in the UFO affair (Ballester Olmos, 1993, 1995a, 1995b, 1997a, 1997b). This paper is concerned with presenting a chronological summary of the declassification process -from its official memoranda-, highlighting the main by-products of the civilian cooperation with the Spanish Air Force, and contributing an updated statistical picture of the UFO documentation disclosed by the military. This paper intends to compliment prior reports prepared by the author. In the cited references, the reader will find case histories, facsimiles of official reports and plenty of additional details on

the process. The aim of the current article is to offer the final balance of a process which has lasted eight years.

The Official UFO Declassification in Spain: Magical Dates

May 22, 1991. Flight Safety Section's *Informative Note* to Chief, Air Force Staff. It recounts the author's contacts with officers of the Air Force during 1990-1991 requesting the liberalization of UFO data. Such contacts prompted the start of the declassification process in Spain. It contains the first catalogue of actual UFO files on record in the Air Staff (55). This memorandum proposes that UFO files are declassified.

July 26, 1991. Second Chief of the Staff's letter No.8690 to the existing Air Commands communicating that all available UFO archives should be submitted to the Madrid Air Force Headquarters for centralization purposes.

December 4, 1991. Air Force Cabinet to Ministry of Defense. At the request of Defense, a report informs the Minister on the classification level of UFO files, the research procedures in force, and the present-day volume of files (60).

January 15, 1992. General Chief of Air Staff (JEMA)'s letter No.061 to General Commander-in-Chief of the Air Operative Command (MOA), assigning MOA the management of all UFO information, including past archives and instructing the development of routines for classifying/declassifying UFO files. (Acronyms in Spanish).

March 9, 1992. General Commander-in-Chief of MOA (CJMOA)'s letter No.164-C enclosing an *Informative Note* on the management of matters concerning UFOs. It includes 3 attachments: (a) documents articulating the Air Force regulations on UFO reports, 1968 to 1985, (b) information requests to the Air Force on UFOs, 1967 to 1991, and (c) draft of IG-40-5, a General Instruction for compulsory fulfilment within the Air Force, representing new operating procedures for the investigation and handling of UFO observations, when officially reported to air authorities. On March 31, 1992 JEMA approved the IG-40-5. On June, this new IG was distributed to all units through official channels.

March 13, 1992. MOA Staff Intelligence's *Informative Note* entitled Proposal for Declassification of Files Concerning Sightings of Strange Phenomena in the National Air Space. It was signed off by MOA's General Commander-in-Chief on April 13, 1992 and by JEMA on April 28, 1992. It included 2 attachments: (a) Spanish military UFO regulations, 1968 to 1985, and (b) a listing of all UFO files arrived and collected by MOA (62).

April 14, 1992. JEMA presents to the Joint Chiefs of the Staffs (JUJEM) a formal proposal to declassify UFO files, based on MOA's prior memo. The JUJEM agrees to downgrade the secrecy level attained by UFO information since 1979 from "classified" to simply "internal reserve". In practice, it provides JEMA the ultimate authority to handle UFO-related information, including the power to declassify.

September 1, 1992. MOA Staff Intelligence's *Informative Note* delivering a proposal of scientific cooperation by the present author on behalf of CEI, the oldest UFO organization in Spain, acting as Director of Investigations. (Author to supervise and coordinate a group of consultants with university qualifications who had agreed to analyze declassified UFO case materials and provide research reports). On November 2, 1992 CJMOA informs JEMA that the best design to materialize the proposed cooperation offer will take the form of a loose agreement (i.e. an informal relationship), as opposed to an official, formal protocol initially suggested by the Air Force legal department.

September 25, 1992. JEMA's signature on declassified file dated August 1962 marks the end of secrecy over UFO files and the commencement of a new era in the treatment of UFO information by the Spanish Ministry of Defense. Declassified files are kept in the General Library, Air Force Headquarters in Madrid where the public may obtain copies.

November 17, 1992. CJMOA's letters No.1251-C to 1255-C are dispatched to Air Commands requiring those further information on UFO sightings. Some responses arrive during this month.

December 23, 1992. CJMOA's letter No. 1355-C to JEMA requesting that papers covering the policy directives on UFOs followed by the Air Force from 1968 to 1992 are revised from "classified" to "limited circulation". JEMA's approval was issued on January 12, 1993. On February 26, 1993, MOA's Commander-in-Chief now proposes to JEMA a full disclosure of all such regulation records when aged 10 years. JEMA agrees on March 23, 1993. The pertinent file was released on December 1996.

July 11, 1994. MOA's teletypes No.705-C to 708-C are submitted to Air Commands as well as to multiple air bases, radar sites, airfields and other Air Force units requesting the search for dozens of specific UFO cases potentially on file at the local level. Replies are collected during July and August. As a consequence of this action, MOA catalogue of files increase from 62 to 78.

May 31, 1998. The two last UFO files are declassified. Absolutely all information known to exist on UFOs in the Spanish Air Force environment is now public domain.

September 14, 1998. As an academic requirement for the 57th course for promotion to General, the declassification responsible officer Staff Lieutenant Colonel Enrique Rocamora presents his paper "El proceso de desclasificación de la documentación acerca de OVNIs en el EA" (The Process of Declassification of Documentation Related to UFOs in the Air Force). It is formed of 20 pages of main text plus 16 attachments. In addition to showing history, precedents and the current declassification process in detail, it also includes position papers on a number of public reactions to the declassification, major UFO cases, etc. This extremely valuable document - containing 296 pages - is classified Confidential, as every other materials generated in the Escuela Superior del Aire (Air Superior College).

April 21, 1999. An ultimate declassified file gathers together four catalogues of the UFO records actually in the possession of the Spanish Air Force which were prepared during 1991 and 1992.

Major Accomplishments of Civilian Cooperation with MOA

The bottom line to the achievement of various modes of informal contribution by the author to the process is trust, confidence, discretion, reputation, and friendship. Any relationship built on that basis allows certain inspiration or influence. From mid-1992 to early 1999 the author developed over 50 face-to-face meetings with the two Intelligence officers charged with the "UFO project", in the course of which dozens of research reports were facilitated in order to complete and complement the official files. Some 200 hours of direct, sincere conversation with the people responsible for sorting out, analyzing and releasing the UFO secret files provided ample room and possibilities for discussing and implementing ideas and initiatives that would have not arisen otherwise. All in all, what was accomplished exceeded what could have been made only through officialdom and bureaucracy.

This section will necessarily overlap partially with the preceding one, yet it aspires to clearly point out in what phases and how the author influenced, assisted or monitor the declassification process from a non-official level. Firstly, the civilian action or initiative is introduced, then the resulting reaction is described and it appears into parenthesis.

* 1990-1991: Placement of declassification concept in the Air Force decision-making pipeline, through numerous visits to the Air Force Public Relations and Flight Safety sections. (As a result, declassification of official UFO archives started September 1992.)

* 1991: Suggestion that UFO archives were consolidated into one unique clearinghouse. (As a result, reports from the various Air Commands were concentrated in the Air Force Staff offices on July 1991- files increased from 55 to 60).

* 1991: Facilitation of samples of UFO questionnaires (USAF and CEI.) (As a result, IG-40-5, the new Spanish Air Force protocol for UFO inquiry, reflects the familiar flavour of typical UFO data collection forms. Gullible writers have misrepresented what this UFO form really means: they have wrongly stated that mere questions devoted, for instance, to UFO occupants, crash remains, or photographs reveals an inner knowledge on UFOs by the Spanish Air Force!)

* 1992-1998: Transmission of research reports for most of actual case files to the Air Force Intelligence unit directly engaged in the declassification process. Many UFO investigators contributed analysis reports to this documentation back-up. (As a result, (a) own Air Force archives were complemented with external analytical input, and (b) occasionally, complementary data or clarifying documents were added to the files being declassified.)

* 1992: Request that certain missing files were searched by the Air Force regional centers. (As a result, MOA distributed official solicitations to all Air Force Commands on November

17, 1992. A few new reports were found and sent to MOA. All new incoming information was duly declassified thereafter.)

* 1992: Request that policy documents on the Air Force doctrine on UFOs were suspended from classification.

(As a result, a "directive" file with documents 1968 to 1985 was made public by 1996.)

* 1994: Request that Air Force bases, radar sites and other military complexes were contacted with lists of UFO events allegedly occurred at their locations or involving their personnel, to look for possible records.

(As a result, MOA sent messages to concerned units on July 11, 1994. Responses produced references to 21 sightings. Finally, MOA's count of original files increased to 78.)

* 1992-1998: Continuing surveillance over the declassification process through periodical meetings with the officers in charge, including on-the-spot inspection of original archives.

(As a result, (a) it was reached the conviction that, beyond any reasonable doubt, both historical and modern-day UFO information accumulated and managed by the Air Force under the "UFO" label has been totally released to the public (i.e., no UFO report is deliberately hidden), and (b) momentum was kept alive, delays were shortened and acceleration was pushed whenever possible, mistakes were noted and corrections were in place sometimes.)

* 1992-1998: A certain quality control was intended to be performed over the official operation of document-release. A special interest was invested in the tracing of forgotten records through the many meetings held with the two lieutenant colonels responsible of the UFO declassification.

(As a result, the author acquired an exhaustive knowledge on historical documents. Several inadvertently concealed items were found and recovered. Among others, a misplaced set of color slides from file 790305, a missing additional report from file 690225, cases from 1967 and 1968 located in the correspondence files, a few pages which had failed to be released in the early stages of the declassification process, the report for radar incident 891205 which was filed on a local unit level, satellite-decay research materials dating back 1965 including a 265-page report by the Battelle Memorial Institute [released to the author on a personal basis as records were not considered UFO information], etc.)

* 1998-1999: The idea of releasing a file containing all case catalogues prepared by the Air Staff and MOA was entered during the latest meetings held with the military.

(As a result, and not without much pressure, on April 1999 the Intelligence officer signature was stamped on such file, one that closed the declassification process. For any bona fide observer, this convincingly proves the reliability of the process and the assertion that the Spanish Air Force has declassified all its records entirely, as the lists of UFO materials historically owned by Defense 100% match with the documents finally produced.)

The Official UFO Files in Figures

The first UFO file was declassified on September 1992. The last case file was censorship-free by May 1998, the last non-case file saw the light by April 1999. It took almost seven years to release all the documentation. It was a slow process because in addition of being a part-time, one-man effort, every file had to be reviewed prior to proposing its declassification. Two Staff lieutenant colonels were in charge of the process: Angel Bastida Freijedo (1992-1993) and Enrique Rocamora Aniorte (1993-1999).

A summary of the statistical balance of the Spanish UFO declassification follows:

Case Files (originals)	78 (comprising 122 different UFO events)
Case Files (bis)	4 (files with supplementary info)
<i>Directive</i> File	1 (assortment of historical regulations)
<i>Catalogue</i> File	<u>1</u> (four Air Force UFO-case listings)
Total	84

The sequence of file releases was as follows:

Year	Files
1992	6
1993	29
1994	8
1995	15
1996	17
1997	6
1998	2
1999	<u>1</u>
Total	84

In total, these 84 files gave shape to a rich collection of 1,953 pages of officially-stamped military documents, radar overlays, witness declarations, etc.

Distribution of 122 UFO events in time

News of UFO observations arrived to the Air Force in the following annual trend:

1962	3 cases	1973	1 cases	1984	3 cases
1963	0	1974	2	1985	5
1964	0	1975	8	1986	6
1965	2	1976	3	1987	0
1966	1	1977	7	1988	1
1967	3	1978	11	1989	3
1968	23	1979	12	1990	0
1969	7	1980	7	1991	2
1970	1	1981	1	1992	1
1971	2	1982	1	1993	3
1972	0	1983	1	1994	0
				1995	2

This table is not suggestive of any special pattern, other than a general decline of UFO reporting over the years, as it becomes evident when computed by periods of 10 years:

Sixties	39 (maximum: year 1968 with 23 events)
Seventies	47 (maximum: year 1979 with 12 events)
Eighties	28 (maximum: year 1986 with 6 events)
Nineties	8 (maximum: year 1993 with 3 events)
Total	122

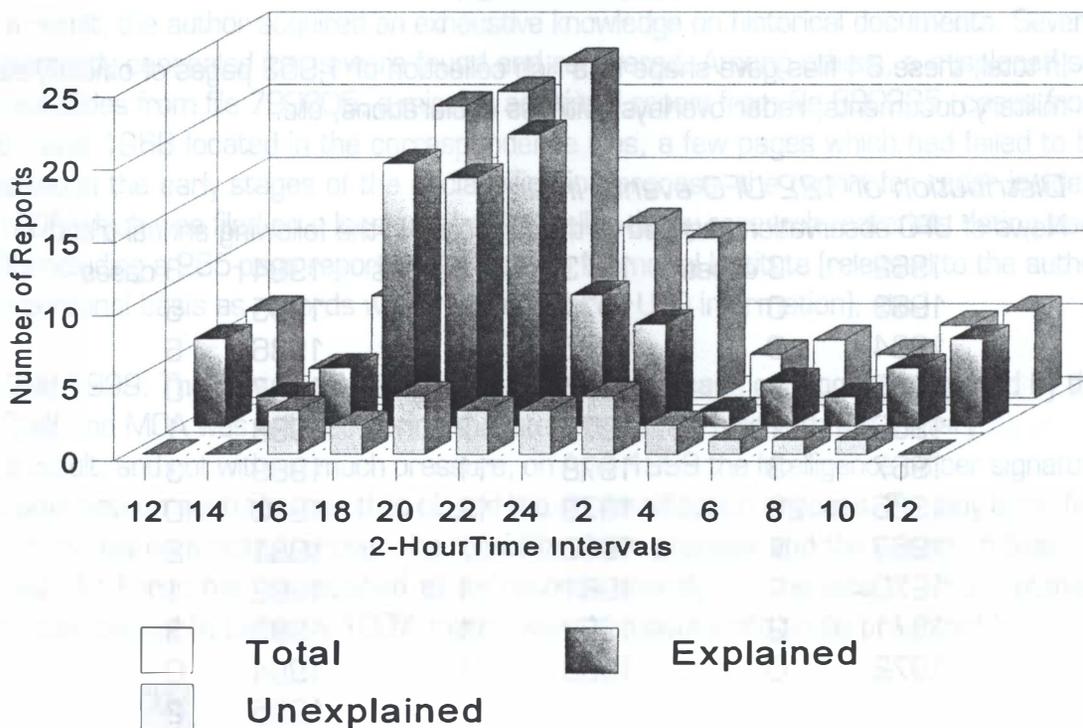
It becomes evident that the magnitude of reporting in peak years decreases exactly by 50% each decade.

As far as the monthly distribution is concerned, the tally of reports by month does not display any significant feature, as peaks show up (chance-wise) in February, March, September, November and December.

Time-of-the day

Reference is made to the following 3-D diagram which depicts the distribution of events by hour. It clearly shows the well-known preference of sightings to happen during night hours. 74% of all reports are scattered from 6 pm to 4 am, which is compatible with objects emitting or reflecting light. When non-explained and explained cases are pictured according to time, we realize that the night-time feature is a common attribute to both sets of data (70% and 75%, respectively.) Basically, UFO and IFO reports seem to follow the same hourly pattern. Because of the minute size of the sample, no further discussion appear to be relevant.

Time Curves of UFO Sightings Reported to the Spanish Air Force



Sightings by type

A generally accepted classification system of UFO sightings (Hynek, 1972) has been applied to UFO cases reported to the Spanish Air Force. A modification was introduced whereby radar cases are splitted between radar-visual (according to Hynek's denomination) and purely radar tracks, i.e. those with no witness confirmation. When comparing 25 unexplained with 97 explained cases, we observe certain unequal structures:

	<u>Unexplained</u>	<u>Explained</u>	<u>Total</u>
	(%)	(%)	(cases)
Nocturnal lights	13	87	68
Daylight discs	0	100	14
Radar-visual	35	65	20
Radar tracks	67	33	9
Close encounters	27	73	11
		Total	122

Over half of the total cases concerns to nocturnal lights, yet there is a total preponderance of such type of sights (distant lights in the night sky) in the group of solved events. This was expected considering the high rate of misperception of short-lived lights in the firmament.

On the diurnal disc class, there are no cases of typical "flying saucers" seen in plain daylight in the set of unknown reports. All such incidents had standard solutions.

Radar-visual incidents represent the highest score in terms of aeronautical strangeness, typically an uncorrelated track matching the sighting of an anomalous object in the space. Although 2 out of 3 of the reports lie in the explained category, there are a few unknown phenomena of this kind. In principle, it could be interpreted as a promise of paydirt in the Air Force UFO stories.

On the contrary, most of the absolute radar cases (i.e. no human witness intervention) are in the unexplained division. Basically it is due to the fact that most records are strictly poor as far as factual data is concerned, few lines -taken from military radar logs- with no follow-up. Being candidates for false echoes in its majority, lack of information prevents from doing a proper analysis. Close encounters score high in strangeness too, and what was said over radar-visual cases applies here as well.

Pilots and UFOs

43 reports refer to anomalous observations from aircraft cockpits, i.e. sightings from commercial airplanes or military jets. Conventional explanations were found on 35 cases (81%), which confirms a fact usually missed even by thorough researchers: pilots err as much as laymen do (Wichman, 1971; Oberg, 1994; Wright, 1995.)

Identified vs Unidentified

Historically, the level or depth of UFO inquiry by the military in Spain was superficial, with a few exceptions. Until 1968, UFO reports produced by the Air authorities had not a common format. Since December 1968, an internal norm regulated the framework for the field investigation of a UFO sighting. These were to be conducted by one Air Force officer acting as military "judge" (the last such investigation took place on 1980). Up to the apparition in 1992 of IG-40-5 (a modern UFO directive for proper UFO investigation), the two key features of most field inquiries were amateurish (i.e. there was no scientific consultancy) and briefness (i.e. lack of interest to dig deeper). Contrary to what one could think, emphasis was never placed in looking for explanations at any rate, whether or not they fitted the occurrences (yes, it happened in some cases). In reality, many crystal clear sightings of giant meteorological balloons, meteors, Venus, or missiles -to name just a few misleading stimuli-, were missed in the original conclusions by the military investigators.

As a civilian UFO researcher, the authors role has been to analyze the new outcoming information, in the perspective provided by own case files, and to attempt determining whether or not there was a raw cause to explain the sighted objects. Innumerable hours of multidisciplinary study have been spent in the review of declassified reports by several researchers who volunteered their time and expertise (with different level of involvement as consultants): engineers M. Borraz, J.A. Fernández, F. Ares de Blas, physicists M. Guasp, J. Ardanuy, W. Smith, astrophysicist J. Armentia, and other experts like J. Ruesga, C. González-Cutre or J. Plana. Specialized assistance and input from both Spanish and foreign scientists, agencies and organizations in the analysis of specific events was also enjoyed. Unless additional information appears, at this time it is considered the process as 100% completed.

It is no surprise (Hendry, 1979) to find out how military cases divide between rare and normal:

Explained events:	97 (cases solved, 80%)
Insufficient info:	16 (cases with not enough data for evaluation, 13%)
UFO:	<u>9</u> (cases with no clear-cut solution, 7%)
Total	122

In turn, explained events are distributed in five categories, as follows:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
* <i>Aerospatial</i>	37 cases	(38%)
^o aircraft - 14		
^o meteo-balloons - 13		
^o rockets/missiles - 7		
^o space reentries - 3		
* <i>Astronomical</i>	35 cases	(36%)
^o planet Venus - 19		
^o meteors/fireballs - 9		
^o other planets/stars - 6		
^o the Moon - 1		
* <i>Psychological</i>	13 cases	(14%)
^o hoaxes/fabulations - 7		
^o low witness reliability - 5		
^o hallucinations - 1		
* <i>Miscellaneous</i>	8 cases	(8%)
^o false radar echoes - 6		
^o fireworks - 1		
^o lights from refinery - 1		
* <i>Meteorological</i>	4 cases	(4%)
^o reflections - 2		
^o temperature inversions - 1		
^o lenticular clouds - 1		

The most frequent single explanations found are Venus (20%), aircraft (15%) and balloons (14%), a stereotype that seems to be global when old UFO reports are inspected. Regarding the nine unexplained cases, there seems to exist alternative, plausible and conventional scenarios for most of them, as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Alternative Hypothesis</u>
750101	Quintanaortuño	EC2	Fraud
750102	Bárdenas Reales Firing Range	EC1	Helicopter
780714	Mazarrón	EC1	?
780720	Agoncillo Airdrome	NL	Helicopter/airplane
780909	NW Mediterranean Sea	RV	?
790225	SE Gran Canaria	RV	Airplane
790313	SW Mediterranean Sea	RT	False radar echo
800522	South Gran Canaria	RV	False radar echo + Venus
851223	Las Palmas-Arrecife	NL	Airplane

In other words, in the majority of duly documented reports which we have been unable to identify a cause for, the complete sequence of events described might be compatible with the sighting of aircraft, the apparition of radar pseudoimages, or mere inventions. But there are a number of uncertainties on these possible/probable explanations (mostly due to lack of factual data to corroborate the hypotheses), and the analyst is not prepared to provide a reliable diagnosis, therefore these cases are categorized as UFOs.

The last five UFO reports refer to offshore observations, i.e. objects sighted or tracked over the Mediterranean Sea or the Atlantic Ocean (in the vicinity of the Canary Islands), zones with heavy marine and air traffic, both civilian and military.

A simple, working reliability scheme has been designed to divide cases by quality class. Basically it conveys a measurement of the weight of a case in terms of strangeness and documentation. A matrix places the cases into three categories: high, medium and low, as follows:

Strangeness:

High (2)	2	3	4	HIGH	(3-4)
Medium (1)	1	2	3	MEDIUM	(2)
Low (0)	0	1	2	LOW	(0-1)

Documentation:

Low	Medium	High
(0)	(1)	(2)

If the 25 non-explained cases are grouped by reliability, as defined above, these results are found:

	Low	Medium	High	Total
UFOs	1 11%	2 22%	6 67%	9
Insufficient info	11 69%	5 31%	0 0%	16

As expected, most of cases declared UFO are high-reliability scored (i.e. well documented and strange). Conversely, most of the reports declared poor are low-reliability scored (i.e. hardly documented and not strange).

In no case, however, the level of strangeness of the UFO events was so paramount and extraordinary that it would commit the analyst to think of an *out-of-this-world* (tongue in cheek) hypothesis.

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The following paper is the first FORUM DEBATE ARTICLE to be published in the European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies. The purpose of these articles will be to stimulate debate among ufologists in an attempt to enhance discussion between researchers. If you feel compelled to reply to this article or to comment on the content then please send these to the editor-in-chief at the address on the inside cover of this publication. It will also be useful to adhere to the guidelines printed on the inside back cover of this publication. Replies should be between 2 and 5 sides of A4 paper (including figures and references if appropriate) with a minimum size of 12 point font. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee publication as it will depend on the amount of replies and space available in future volumes of the journal, although we will try our very best to publish the debates.

SCUM, SLUDGE AND RESIDUE: REFINING UFOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ALBERT BUDDEN

INTRODUCTION.

Over the past twenty years or so, my thinking on UFOs, aliens and close encounters generally, has radically changed and evolved. I began, as most people do, by more or less accepting the stories and accounts in the UFO literature on face value, with a few exceptions. There were aspects that I never could believe in, so absurd and preposterous were they. The accounts by Adamski in the 1950s, where he claimed to have seen trees and cities on the far side of the moon from a saucer window, were always absolutely daft to me, and I was staggered that anyone took them seriously at all - but they did! After that, the accounts began to get more credible, and like so many fascinated by ufology, the Pascagoula case, the Hopkinsville events, the Sorroco saucer, the Andreasson epic, the Roswell incident, the Livingstone event and the rest of the many accounts involving physical aliens and solid craft of alien design, were all more or less given equal credibility status in my mind. However, this all changed when I became an investigator.

Back in 1981, after a year of investigating several spectacular cases and numerous lesser ones, it soon began to dawn on me that the raw data that I was getting from witnesses, just did not match up with the stories in the popular books on UFOs. It became clear that there had been generous measures of biased reporting, exaggeration and plain old fashioned fabrication in order to sell books, maintain audiences and boost the egos and statuses of self-styled UFO experts. Also, more importantly, I had discovered a mythology perpetrated and maintained by a whole population of individuals for whom, flying saucers and alien visitation acted as a kind of religion which transformed their mundane view of the world into a much more exciting place. Out of this need evolved a number of gurus or spokespeople, who wrote books and gave lectures as "evidence" of the existence of aliens on planet Earth. About the same time as I opted out of such belief systems, I saw a polarisation amongst those who could be described as the UFO study community, and various camps established themselves.

There are those who believe wholeheartedly in the physical existence of aliens and their nuts and bolts craft. Then there are those who believe that alien intelligences do intrude into our world under special circumstances, usually from "hyperspace" or another dimension. Then there are those who have decided that something strange does occur under certain special circumstances, which does deserve rational and scientific investigation, but is not any sort of exotic alien intelligence of any kind - which incidently is where I stand. Then there are those dismiss the idea that anything physical could drive the alien mythology and who think that there is nothing at all behind accounts of alien visitation but delusion, religious-like belief and urban folklore. Then there are the agnostics who keep an open undecided mind as to the real stimulus behind the many consistent accounts, who are open to explanations, as long as identifications are rational and can be tested to show whether they are correct or not. This was one of my earlier positions, which has now been superceded by what I think is the certainty of the Electromagnetic Pollution Approach.

Of course, this EM pollution approach is not directed at the wonderful stories of yesteryear, as they have been thrown out of court as it were, as exaggeration and/or fantasy long ago, in the early stages of discrimination. These are the stories which make up the main bulk of ufological mythology, which are told over and over again like some religious oral tradition, which are relayed to each successive generation of potential converts, are now quite unable to be properly investigated again due to the amount of time that has passed. Such accounts, like the Livingstone case in Scotland, or the Hopkinsville events in the USA, are preserved in amber and are untouchable.

However, years of investigations of many other cases, by those individuals who approach them with open, inquisitive and unbiased minds have put such accounts into their proper perspective. One of the really valuable outcomes of first hand investigation as opposed to armchair theorizing, is the discovery of patterns. In the 1920s in the UK, there existed a particular generation of regional groups of investigators who collected and shared material simply because they were fascinated by what they found. They were aware that certain patterns occurred repeatedly. They knew that rarely did cases of alien abduction experience involve a UFO at all. They knew that such "abductees" invariably had a history of psychic experiences, such as OBEs, ESP and encounters with apparitions. They found that many such experiencers seemed to affect electrical equipment around them. They recognised that certain landscape and geological features cropped up again and again in close association with the homes of "abductees". The ubiquitous power lines, radio mast, quarry, reservoir, underground water, hill, geological faulting etc., were well-known features that, although their significance was not always realised, were regularly recorded in their case files.

However, none of this significant patterning was recorded in association with the Livingstone case or the Hopkinsville report, as just two examples from ufological history. They were just not like any of the other cases whose authenticity was supported by such familiar and significant patterning. For investigators who recognise the hallmarks of authenticity, who are in the process of deciding if these and many other cases of uflore are true or not, such an absence of the hallmarks shared by others, is very worrying indeed, as it throws them

severely into doubt. For me personally, it merely confirms what I have felt for many years now-something that amounts to political incorrectness within many UFO groups, if not radical ufological heresy. Most of the well-known cases which make up popular ufology are fabricated nonsense, the Hopkinsville case in particular being a good example of this. For me personally, the sacred cow of the Scottish Livingstone case is vulnerable to the criticism that the lone witness Bob Taylor, for reasons of his own, looked about him in the woodland and on finding the traces in the ground, constructed a series of fantastic events to fit them. This extended to the tears in his trouser pockets, which were also offered as evidence of the event having taken place. But then, so many of the cases in the popular literature have this "take it or leave it" quality about them. Much of the documented UFO evidence purportedly from official sources is impossible to check up upon. Many have chosen to take it, and these people group together and support each other in the literature and in the UFO conferences. As described earlier, they have divided into camps, and those who accept the reality of alien craft and physical aliens, will not even consider the EM pollution approach. How could EM fields account for a physical craft which lands and leaves physical traces on the ground? Such factors however, are either the sludge or scum of ufological "information" and cannot be taken seriously.

FILTERING: THE REFINING PROCESS

It was John Spencer, Chairman of the British UFO Research Association who, with a master stroke of insight, formulated the concept of filtering UFO related information. He pointed out that in ufology, one has to set the size of our filters correctly. That is to say, those who accept almost everything as valid have their filter open too wide-they let everything in. Those who dismiss everything at the outset as being the product of delusion or urban myth, have their filter set too narrow, and are unable to recognise the significance of many aspects. Such individuals are usually armchair theorists who do no investigations because they assume at the outset that there is nothing to investigate. As mentioned, I would argue that the correct stance is to recognise that something strange and anomalous does occur, but that it is not the activity of exotic agencies. This simple viewpoint took me a year of investigation to arrive at, and a further fifteen to verify.

MIX IT UP AND MAKE IT NICE.

As an analogy, imagine taking all the information, stories, reports, photographs, documentation etc. and stirring it into a tall glass measuring cylinder of water. Some of it would immediately sink to the bottom because it is just too absurd, unlikely and generally outlandish to even consider seriously. This material would constitute sludge, and would include all of the 1950s Adamski material, the Hopkinsville case, the Gulf breeze case and Budd Hopkins' interpretation of alien abductions, including the "Manhattan Transfer". Some would float on the surface as scum because it appears quite feasible but cannot be verified, tested or used to predict anything about UFOs or the abduction phenomenon, which are very distinct phenomena. This is the "take it or leave it" material and includes all the stuff that maintains that aliens are currently visiting earth, the Livingstone case, the Sorrocco landing and the Roswell incident. What is left is the residue, which has recurring patterns, can be used to predict what characteristics future cases will have, thereby indicating its reality as

a discrete phenomenon apprehendable by scientific methods.

This is the material that the Electromagnetic Pollution Approach addresses, and includes the Rowley Regis case, earth lights and electric fireballs, alien abduction experiences and close encounters of the third kind. I recently appeared on a TV programme in the USA called "The Uninvited" made for Sky TV, (to be shown in the UK in June '99) and was frustrated to hear Budd Hopkins dismiss the EM pollution approach because it cannot account for saucers seen by crowds whilst breaking the branches of trees. He clearly had not set his filter correctly, having it gaping wide open, and either did not know nor care that he was considering completely unrefined ufological information, still containing all of its scum and sludge.

PRESS RELEASE
CANARY ISLANDS UFOs IN THE 70s:
SPACE EXPERTS CONFIRM THEY WERE MISSILES

Mystery solved! The five most important cases in the UFO history of the Canary Islands actually were ballistic missiles launched from submarines of the US Navy, under the North Atlantic waters. Ricardo Campo, press officer from the Anomaly Foundation (<http://Fast.To .anomalía>), informs that they had contacted through the notorious ufologist Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos with several of the most prominent space experts in rockets and missiles. One of the scientists consulted was Jonathan McDowell, one of the main world authorities in the field, Ph.D. in Astrophysics by the University of Cambridge (Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics). Dr. McDowell has been able to correlate dates and times of those five multiple-witness sightings of luminous phenomena over the Canarian skies with declassified records of the US Navy on intercontinental ballistic missile launchings. The data obtained identified the actual launching platforms (submarines), the type of missile (*Poseidon* in every case) and time of the launching. Other scientist consulted by Mr. Ballester Olmos on behalf of the Anomaly Foundation, an Spanish organization dedicated to the UFO study upon rigorous standards, was James Oberg, graduated *summa cum laude* in mathematics and specialist in orbital manoeuvring system rockets. Oberg explained that the launches were made from the Eastern US Test Range, a big area covering from Cape Canaveral to Ascension Island. Unfortunately, the exact position of the submarines involved is still classified.

The UFO incidents so far explained are the following:

November 22nd, 1974. A red light was seen climbing very quickly from sea level, then it created a circular halo. This phenomenon recurred three times.

June 22nd, 1976. From the horizon a point of light was seen ascending to the sky, developing until it became a big brilliant semicircular halo. A foreign tourist was able to take a photo of the phenomenon.

November 19th, 1976. A point of light began to climb in a spiral, developing and expanding up to taking a giant diameter.

March 24th, 1977. A reddish light seemed to emerge from the sea, and it was seen climbing very fast, revolving and leaving behind a big halo which lasted ten minutes.

March 5th, 1979. The most spectacular one. Multicoloured concentric rings were seen at the horizon. From them a point of light moved out leaving a luminous jet that began to expand developing a huge bright dome. Dozens of photos were obtained that were mistakenly considered as UFOs by the most sensationalist Spanish ufologists.

These luminous phenomena were observed by thousands of astonished witnesses in the Canary Islands, and were also investigated by the Spanish Air Force. Even though the military inquiry was not very profound, the opinion of the Canary Island Air Command suggested the possibility of missiles. Unfortunately, the low interest of the Spanish Ministry of Defence regarding UFOs, prevented to confirm such hypothesis then. Twenty years later, the Anomaly Foundation, has been finally able to reach the bottom of the question.

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Researchers of Ufology Theory and History
(TRUTH), and is an objective publication,
primarily for the European Ufological
Community.

Editor-in-chief.

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Aims and Scope.

The *European Journal of UFO and
Abduction Studies* [EJUFOAS] is the journal
of TRUTH [Totton Researchers of Ufology
Theory and History] based in Southampton,
United Kingdom. The purpose of EJUFOAS is to
circulate ideas and contemporary issues related
to ufology (UFOs and the alien abduction
phenomena). The primary focus is on European
Ufological issues and debate but non-European
papers may be accepted (limited to one per
issue). It hopes to foster much needed
development in the field of ufology by publishing
diverse papers on Historical Perspectives,
Theoretical Perspectives, Empirical Research
and European Issues involved in this field. Any
appropriate paper will be blind reviewed by at
least three members of the editorial board and
it is usual that the review process takes 4-6
weeks. Regular issues will include *Forum
Debate Articles* usually solicited by the
editor-in-chief covering a controversial topic in
ufology with the opportunity for peer
commentary in subsequent volumes, and
Special Editions that will focus on one area of
this diverse field. Finally, it is hoped that this
publication will be ground-breaking and bring the
European Ufological Community closer by
allowing publication of reviewed papers that will
generate debate and move the World Ufological
Community forward through innovative and
contemporary discussion.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS.

The European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies is the journal of TRUTH [The Totton Researchers of Ufology Theory and History]. The journal has been initially set up to bring the European UFO community closer and is primarily, but not exclusively aimed at these organisations. The journal is objective in nature, allowing an outlet for the broad spectrum of issues related to UFO and Abduction phenomena. This includes all academic based subjects (e.g. astronomy, biology, psychology etc.) as well as spiritual aspects, scepticism and new theoretical issues. Therefore, the European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies wants to publish ufological papers and ideas from a wide range of individuals, organisations and stand points.

Types of papers and articles we are looking for

In reality, there are no papers that we will not consider. However, to help potential contributors, below are broad areas you may wish to write about:

Theoretical issues. These articles may assess the validity of existing theories, expand on existing theories or present new theoretical ideas.

Historical issues. These articles may look at the historical progression of UFO and Abduction phenomena or describe ancient accounts and issues.

Empirical studies. These articles may be a report on primary research and data collection/analysis. Analysis of attitudes towards the UFO and Abduction phenomena may be an avenue of thought for instance.

Methodological and Investigation issues. These articles may assess the methods and investigative techniques that ufology employs. They may also suggest particular methods that could be useful in the field of ufology.

Cultural issues. These articles may look at whether particular aspects of ufology are culturally unique or non-culture bound.

Commentaries. These articles can assess the notions published by authors in the European Journal of UFO and Abduction Studies.

Case Studies / Reports of enhanced sightings (e.g. 'flaps'). These articles can give details of interesting cases or 'flaps' which may not have got a wider audience before. These will still be reviewed to ensure that the reports are ethically sound (see the notes on ethics within these submission guidelines).

Authors of papers accepted in the above categories will receive a free copy of the journal that their paper appears in (if a paper has more than one author, the lead author will get the free copy). For articles accepted in the categories below, no free copy will be sent.

Research Noticeboard. This section will allow researchers to communicate with one another in order to collaborate and discuss work. This will be an essential section for ufology researchers. Calls for help with research will be included.

Reviews. Publishers and broadcasting companies may send books and videos for review. This section will give an objective view of the items sent.

Ethical Considerations

For articles that describe research using human participants, ethical guidelines must have been adhered to or the article will be returned without review. Research, therefore, should adhere to the ethical guidelines of the British Psychological Society or the American Psychological Association (or other recognised National Guidelines in your home nation - please supply us with details). Work with individuals who you feel are 'abductees' must also meet the guidelines described in "Ethics Code for Abduction Experience Investigation and Treatment," Journal of UFO Studies, Vol 5 (1994).

Research that is seen as being ethically dubious will not be reviewed or published in this journal. If names are to be mentioned, consent for this in written form must be sent to the Editor along with the article submitted which involves the individuals in question. Pseudonyms can be used as long as it is clear that the name provided is one.

Submission of papers

Papers should be sent to the following address: Craig Roberts, Editor of EJUFOAS, UFO Studies, Totton College, Water Lane, Totton, Southampton, SO40 3ZX, England. Alternatively, authors can submit articles via electronic mail to: ejufos@totton.ac.uk

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Papers sent via electronic mail. Two electronic mails have to be sent. One must have the title of the paper along with the author(s) address(es) [postal and e-mail if applicable]. The second must contain the paper along with any images and figures as attachments that are either in text form or Microsoft Word compatible. Then, the paper will be peer reviewed (blind) by three members of the editorial board.

All papers must include a full reference section where authors of papers and books, the title of the book/article, the volume (if applicable) and year of publication are clearly visible. The following style is preferred:

For citing articles.

Hickman, J.C., McConkey III, E.D. and Barrett, M.A. (1995/6) 'Fewer Sightings in the National Press: A Content Analysis of UFO News Coverage in the New York Times, 1947-1995,' *Journal of UFO Studies*, Vol 6 (new series), p.213-226.

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Wagstaff, G.F. (1986) 'Hypnosis as Compliance and Belief: A Socio-Cognitive View,' in P.L.N. Naish (ed.) *What is Hypnosis? Current Theories and Research* Open University Press, Milton Keynes, UK, p.59-84.