THE COMPUTER

UFO NEWSLETTER

THE COMPUTER UFO NEWSLETTER

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"The Computer UFO Newsletter" is an aperiodical indipendent newsletter published from four to six times per year, entirely devoted to presentation of works and discussions about the use of computer in ufology.

Contributions are open to all researchers with personal experience in the field.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the Editor.

The newsletter is avaiable in computerized version on floppy disk / cassette for Commodore-64 microcomputer.

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"The Computer UFO Newsletter" is linked with the
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EDITORIAL

This second issue of "The Computer UFO Newsletter" comes by a heavy delay as to the scheduled date. The reason is simple : I had to prepare an important UFO congress and my spare time was totally engrossed by its organization. Now the situation is normal and I hope to prepare the third issue just within the end of the current year (don't laugh !).

The Newsletter is now sent only to paying subscriptors : printing and posting costs don't allow to supply free of charge copies. Otherwise, CUFON should suspend its publication just after a couple of issues. I prefer to have a restricted number of readers for many volumes of the newsletter than a momentaneous wide audience. Your own publicity for new subscriptors is really fundamental.

Please note elsewhere in this issue the NEW subscription rates due to recent strong increase of postal charges. All remittances must be sent by an International Postal Money Order or banknotes. Cheques will not be accepted, as their collection involve a 3 US $ charge.

Beyond to publish articles and news, CUFON has other projects. One of them just started in the very first issue under the form of the "Offer of software" section. Another more ambitious one is still at the idea stage, but I wish to propose it briefly.
You know there is at least one wide working UFO network today : it is COMPUFON (Computer UFO Network) directed by Michael Hart (*). It is founded on a PC IBM and in the very near future it will work together with a 20Mbyte hard disc, so that avaiable information will be really a lot. COMPUFON system has many command files, among which :

-    "Announcements" (a section set aside for any item of interest to ufologists)
-    "Acronyms" (ufology related acronyms)
-    "A/SP Review" (full pages of the monthly newsletter "Aerial/Space Phenomena Review", edited by Raymond Keller & Steve Firmani, 11 Richardson Street, Leominster, MA 01453, U.S.A.)
-    "F.O.I.A. papers" (list of names/items mentioned in the F.O.I.A. documents)
-    "Public Mail" (the mailbox section)
-    "Read Report" (the file to access to leave a UFO sighting or to access the private mail section)
-    "Video" (list of any videotapes, movies, tapes, etc.... that are avaiable through the network)

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(*) Michael Hart, P.O. Box 954, Duvall, WA 98019, U.S.A.

In September 1985 COMPUFON had about 85 members, each of which with a personal password to access the system. The network is more than a year and a half old, thanks to the diffusion of modems and alleged Bulletin Boards in the United States. Here in Europe the situation is fairly different : I think we have a delay of at least a couple of years towards our US friends. Only very few people (beyond ufologists) have a modem and the first rough attempts of Bulletin Boards are starting now. Moreover there is the basic problem of the phone lines, which - at least in Italy - are in a very bad status, not allowing exchange of data at medium/high baud rate. Obviously (I hope!) it is only a question of time.

In such a perspective I am projecting to prepare an European UFO Bulletin Board : if the related software will arrive soon from U.S., it could be operative within January 1986. Yes, I will start it even though none will be able to connect the system : certainly someone is thinking Maurizio Verga is stupid (but maybe he is right !) in making this at present, as it is too early. The Bulletin Board will be only an experiment to know in what ways such a service could be useful to ufology. I need experience about such new (our US friends will be laughing in reading this !) application of computer to start a valuable regular service when there will be a wide diffusion of modem among European ufologists. I hope to employ the time between the experimental stage and the operative one in preparing UFO documents and material to be made avaiable through the Bulletin Board.

Such a service will have serious limitations related to its own hardware : a Commodore 64 has a limited power, even though I think to expand the system on a Commodore 128. So, don't wait for giant amounts of avaiable information. The Board will be a new interesting tool for researchers and I'll need help from all of you. Please remember the European UFO Bulletin Board is only in the idea stage at moment : CUFON readers' opinions and suggestions about the matter will be welcome.

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According to my own forecasts (yes, I am a clairvoyant : ufologists have numberless resources !) the third issue of "The Computer UFO Newsletter" should be released just around the very first days of January 1986. But remember CUFON is edited by a sole poor person.

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Change of minimum fee

Due to a recent increase of Italian postal charges it is absolutely necessary to increase the amount of the minimum fee for receiving six issue of the Newsletter. Moreover, according to the new currency situation, the US dollar change has been modified.
Here is the new rates :

Surface Mail : 14,500 Italian lire (8 US $)

Air Mail : 20,000 Italian lire (11.5 US $)

UFODOC :

a system for Dutch/Belgian cases

by Henry Kampherbeek

H.Kampherbeek is a Dutch researcher currently
studying and working on mainframes.
He has already developed two aplications on his
own Commodore 64 : the first one is a database
named "Index" colelcting bibliographical references
from UFO books and magazines. His second effort was
"UFODOC", about which Henry prepared the following
article. To contact him, please write to this
address :
Markveldebrink 20 # 7544 VG Enschede # the
Netherlands.

UFODOC is a system designed to create, handle and consult a catalogue
about dutch/belgian UFO cases with the aid of a computer. The present
version is implemented on a Commodore 64, the system just became
operational at an experimental level and it may take some time before
the first catalogue was ready to made avaiable. A presentation of some
basic ideas of this system can be found in this paper.

- HOW IT ALL STARTED.

Being frustrated by the way in which casuistry was scattered through
UFO-literature I started to make notes of all the reports I encountered
in literature,preparing on small (10 x 15 cm) cards a private
UFO-catalogue. I made colour-markings at the edges of the cards, in
order to facilitate searches for specific characteristics. When this
system consisted of about 1000 or 1100 cards it became very difficult
to handle, so I decided to buy a Commodore 64 computer (there were also
other applications I wanted a computer for). In may 1984 I contacted
the SVL (Group for study of Strange Aerial Phenomena) in Belgium about
this and I got several useful suggestions : these resulted in several
changes in the project and now the final concept has been chosen, so
that this article can be written. I have chosen to discuss:

1- the selection of material
2- the record-format
3- the coding-system
4- consequences of the limited storage capacity
5- availability of UFODOC.
6- some possible applications.

- THE MATERIAL TO BE CODED.

It is my intention to catalogue the UFO-like cases from the Netherlands
and Belgium that come to my attention.
By "UFO-like cases" I want to make it clear that also IFO cases will be
included as I believe that also IFO-studies are of vital importance to
ufology : this is clearly illustrated by the IFO-studies of A. Hendry
in his "The UFO handbook" (New York, 1979).
It is always possible to exclude recognized IFO's from
catalogue-listings etc.
In this system 22 evaluations can be coded, I will write more about
coding later in this article.
By "that come to my attention" i want to make it clear that the
material on which I base my catalogue-descriptions can be found in
various sources (such as books, magazines etc.), even though I prefer
material from original reports. When one case is described more than
once it is very well possible that one case will be coded more than
once : the advantage is that by mentioning more than 1 source it will
be easier to find material on a case. The disadvantage is that
statistical studies on the material will be hindered, so I have decided
to add in the near future a facility that will distinguish primary from
secondary records, every case will have one description (from the best
source) and this will be the primary description : other descriptions
of the same case will be treated as secondary records. For special
applications it will be possible to work with primary records only : a
more or less similar concept is also used in the CUFOS system "UFOCAT".
This facility is not ready yet, although the record-format is already
prepared for this.

- THE RECORD-FORMAT.

In a UFO-catalogue it is nearly necessary to give some information
about the characteristics of a case. This information can be presented
as a well-readable description in plain english : Ballester Olmos,
Basterfield, Moravec, Phillips and Rodeghier are some names of people
who edited such catalogues well-known in ufology. These catalogues are
interesting and easy to use, but they are not suited for
computer-processing. One should look for a standarized format : for
UFODOC i choose (roughly) this format:

DATE (8 positions)
GEOGRAPHICAL CODE (3 positions)
FREE TEXT (<80 positions)
CODED DESCRIPTION (<91 positions)
EVALUATION (3 positions)
SOURCE REFERENCE (<80 positions)

I expect that the mean record-length will be about 60 or 70 positions,
while the maximum size is 174 positions (including pointers).
The coded descriptions are more or less the system "heart". Information
is not presented in keywords but in codes of 3 positions. The first
position represents the subject of this code, e.g. i = identification.
All identification codes must begin with an 'i'.

The second and third position can give the actual information. Some
examples:

BWE, the b at position 1 stands for 'beings', 'w' at 2 stands for 'at
Work', 'e' at 3 stands for 'investigating Environs', so there are 3
levels of information: 1 beings are observed, 2 they were doing
something, 3 they were investigating the environs.
By such a system it is possible to ask questions at various levels of
accuracy. It is possible to select every case with beings involved (the
computer will look for a 'b' at position 1) or every case with beings
performing some sort of activity (the computer will look for bw at the
2 first positions of the code : the "left$ (code$,2)") or every case
where beings were engaged in investigating the environs (the computer
will look for every 'bwe' code).
The current UFODOC code-system contains about 150 codes dealing with
object-characteristics and behaviour, evaluations, interference with
surroundings,   beings,   witness characteristics,   environment   of
observation, tools used during observation, etc.

- THE LIMITED STORAGE-CAPACITY OF A COMMODORE 64 AND THE BLOCK-CONCEPT.

UFODOC is implemented on a Commodore 64 : as you know, this is a tiny
computer with only 38K free for use in BASIC and a Commodore 1541
floppy disk-drive can store only 170K. I expect that UFODOC once will
be too large to be kept in about 170k, so I refrainted from a direct
access concept. Files are sequential and divided into blocks (not to be
confused with the 256 byte blocks of the Commodore 1541 format). Each
of these blocks will cover one period (eg. until 1945 and 1946-1955 and
1956-1963 etc.) and simultaneous access to more than 1 block is not
possible, so one must process block 1, then block 2, etc.
The program that has been used to create the UFODOC-catalogue (the
first release will be "ufodoc1") must support creation and handling of
these blocks and so it does. The file-handling methods used   in
"ufodoc1" are thoroughly tested in another application of 7000 records
that i also developed.
I expect that the blocks will have a size of 10 or 15 kilobytes and
approx. 200 records each : an average record will contain approx. 60 or
70 characters.

- AVAIABILITY OF UFODOC.

When UFODOC is available the package will consist of a description, a
catalogue, and a program. One can choose between tape or disk (CBM 1541
format) or print-out (for people who don't own a CBM-64).
The package will be avaiable by exchange or at cost-price.
There will be more than one release : it is my intention to add new
(new found) material regularly, so version one will probably consist of
aprrox. 300 or 400 cases, but version 2 could contain 700 cases and
version 3 ... who knows. Casuistry of the area involved is estimated in
1800 events.
As a matter of fact each new master-file will be avaiable, but also
sub-files will be avaiable in certain cases, so people seriously

interested in (e.g.) interference cases can ask for a catalogue of such
cases. I will be happy to prepare one, even if people with a C-64 will
be able to create such a catalogue themselves. "Ufodoc1" supports
several procedures (and even the creation of disk/tape-based
sub-catalogues) : for instance, catalogues with entities from Dutch
cases only or entity cases from one district.
When people wish to create a UFO-catalogue and consider the use of the
program "ufodoc1" they are kindly invited to contact me : it will be a
pleasure to support this.

- SOME POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS.

I want to discuss some possible applications of UFODOC, as some of them
are perhaps also relevant for other systems.

1. A catalogue can bring together several descriptions of an
observation : in this way it will be possible to compare these
descriptions so that a more thorough insight in a case may result, and
uncritical sensational descriptions can be compared with more critical
approaches or identifications.
Also the possibilities to find material on a case will thus be
enhanced.

2. The possibility to create catalogues having comparable cases is of
great value to studies about UFO-characteristics, traces, interference,
abductions and so on. If you ask for case-descriptions, UFODOC can sort
these out.
This can also be important for field-research : it will be of great
value to have access to recognized meteor-cases reported as UFO, so
that comparisons can be made for facilitating identification.

3. The catalogue itself makes casuistry avaiable (in coded form) to
people who can't read the original descriptions because of language
problems.

- CONCLUSION.

This description deals with UFODOC as it now is, the program is ready,
except for some minor changes and I can start editing the catalogue.
There will certainly be problems in finding proper material, especially
when older cases are involved, but I hope to locate most of the
material by intensive search for old Dutch and Belgian UFO-material. I
fear however that older cases will be underrepresented in the catalogue
: this is a problem that more people who want to create a catalogue
will encounter, but I think that this only stresses the need for
collecting material still avaiable.

I hope that this description has given the reader an impression of
UFODOC. Remarks, questions and suggestions are invited.

                         Henry Kampherbeek

SUGGESTIONS FOR A METHODOLOGY IN COMPUTERIZATION OF CASES AND REPORTS

(part two)

by Piergiovanni D'Orazio and
Gianfranco Lollino

FILE OF REPORTS.

1 - REPORT NUMBER - S
2 - CASE NUMBER (to which the report is related) - S
3 - CLASSIFICATION (the same as for the case file) - C
4 - DATE (in the form: MM/DD/YY) - S
5 - TIME (in the form: HH/MM/SS) - S
6 - PLACE (Sighting spot) - S
7 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SPOT (referred to the witness. Even though we could resort to a schedule here, coding the various options as hilly, swampy, forest, coast, island and so forth, the witness's words would be more suitable to describing the spot more accurately) - S
8 - ALTITUDE A.S.L. (referred to the witness) - S
9 - LONGITUDE (referred to the witness - S
10 - LATITUDE (referred to the witness) - S
11 - GEOGRAPHIC ASPECT (as for 7 but referred to the UFO) - S
12 - GEOLOGICAL ASPECT - S
13 - PLANTS AND INSTALLATIONS - S
14 - SIGHTING CONDITIONS (coded as follows:
        -1.aboard a moving vehicle with windows
        -2.aboard a moving vehicle without windows
        -3.in a room or aboard a stationary vehicle with windows
        -4.in the open air, in a room or aboard a stationary vehicle without windows
        -5.aboard an aircraft
        -6.aboard a spaceship - C
15 - WEATHER CONDITIONS - S
16 - TEMPERATURE OF THE PLACE - S
17 - CONCURRING EVENTS - S
18 - MINIMUM DISTANCE - S
19 - DURATION - S
20 - NUMBER OF OBJECTS - S
21 - SHAPE (description of objects in the witness's words + the corresponding codes from the UFO appearance recognition and identification test procedure - S+C
22 - CONSISTENCY - S
23 - MAXIMUM ANGULAR SIZE - S
24 - MAXIMUM LINEAR SIZE - S
25 - COLOR - S
26 - LUMINOSITY - S

27 - INTENSITY - S
28 - BEAMS, HALOS AND TRAILS - S
29 - ELEVATION - S
30 - ALTITUDE (in meters) - S
31 - PROCEEDING DIRECTION
32 - DISAPPEARING DIRECTION (both coded as follows:
      -1.north
      -2.north-northeast
      -3.northeast
      -4.east-northeast
      -5.east
      -6.east-southeast
      -7.southeast
      -8.south-southeast
      -9.south
      -10.south-southwest
      -11.southwest
      -12.west-southwest
      -13.west
      -14.west-northwest
      -15.northwest
      -15.north-northwest - C
33 - ANGULAR SPEED (in degrees per second) - S
34 - LINEAR SPEED (in kilometers per second) - S
35 - TRAJECTORY - S
36 - MANOEUVERS - S
37 - START OF SIGHTING (how it appeared) - S
38 - END OF SIGHTING (how it disappeared) - S
39 - CAUSE OF START OF SIGHTING - S
40 - OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS (coded as follows:
      -1.naked eye
      -2.contact lenses
      -3.glasses
      -4.binoculars
      -5.telescope
      -6.camera or cine-camera
      -7.none or by radar - C
41 - SOUNDS - S
42 - ODORS - S
43 - THERMAL EFFECTS ON MEN - S
44 - PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS ON MEN - S
45 - PSYCHIC EFFECTS ON MEN - S
46 - PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS ON ANIMALS - S
47 - PSYCHIC EFFECTS ON ANIMALS - S
48 - EFFECTS ON VEGETATION - S
49 - ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS - S
50 - LIGHT EFFECTS - S
51 - TIME EFFECTS - S
52 - MECHANICAL EFFECTS - S
53 - TRACES AND RESIDUAL MATERIALS - S
54 - INSTRUMENTAL SURVEYS - S
55 - NAME (witness's surname and name) - S
56 - AGE - S
57 - CONJUGAL STATE (coded as follows:

        -1.single
        -2.married
        -3.divorced
        -4.widow - C
58 - TYPE OF EDUCATION - S
59 - OCCUPATION - S
60 - HEALTH - S
61 - NUMBER OF PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES - S
62 - DEGREE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE UFO PHENOMENON (coded as follows:
        -1.never heard about UFOs
        -2.heard something about UFOs
        -3.informed about the UFO casuistry
        -4.well documented about UFOs - C
63 - ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE UFO PHENOMENON (coded as follows:
        -1.refusal
        -2.skepticism
        -3.indifference
        -4.curiosity
        -5.availability
        -6.interest
        -7.passion
        -8.study
        -9.contactism
        -10.cultural
        -11.philosophical or mystical - C
64 - INTERPRETATION OF THE UFO PHENOMENON (coded as follows:
        -1.none
        -2.extraterrestrial
        -3.psychic
        -4.natural (known)
        -5.natural (unknown)
        -6.conventional craft
        -7.secret craft
        -8.other dimensions
        -9.parapsychological
        -10.mystical
        -11.optical illusion
        -12.mystification - C
65 - ACTIVITY AT THE MOMENT OF SIGHTING - S
66- NUMBER OF WITNESSES - S
67 - RELATIONS BETWEEN THE WITNESSES (coded as follows:
        -1.relatives
        -2.friends or mates
        -3.office-colleagues
        -4.neighbors
        -5.occasional acquaintance
        -6.indirect acquaintance
        -7.no relation - C
68 - FIRST SOURCE OF INFORMATION (referred to the investigator) - S
69 - INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP INFORMED FIRST (individual, group or mass
medium informed first) - S
70 - MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS - S
71 - CLASSIFICATION OF ENTITIES (coded as follows:
        -1.human

        -2.fable figure
        -3.robot
        -4.beast
        -5.shapeless - C
72 - HEAD - S
73 - CHEST - S
74 - LIMBS - S
75 - DRESSING - S
76 - GAIT - S
77 - INSTRUMENTS, TOOLS AND DEVICES - S
78 - ARMS - S
79 - OUTSIDE ACTIVITY - S
80 - SAMPLING AND SOUNDING - S
81 - INSIDE ACTIVITY - S
82 - ATTITUDE TOWARDS WITNESS/ES - S
83 - COMMUNICATION FORMS - S
84 - VEHICLES - S
85 - TYPE OF LOCOMOTION - S
86 - INSIDE DESCRIPTION OF UFO - S
87 - INSCRIPTIONS - S
88 - TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT - S
89 - ODORS PERCEIVED - S
90 - SOUNDS PERCEIVED - S
91 - CHECK-UPS - S
92 - WITNESS'S PHYSICAL REACTIONS - S
93 - WITNESS'S PSYCHIC REACTIONS - S
94 - INVESTIGATOR'S NAME (in the form: SURNAME AND NAME) - S
95 - DATE OF COMPILATION (in the form: MM/DD/YY) - S

- Should any information be missing, the code '0' is to be used, meaning 'missing data'.
- In case doubts of any kind should persist, regarding the correctness of data, a question mark (?) will be postponed to the datum (string or code).
- Cases and reports should be coded with progressive numbers.

CONCLUSION -

     We would like to point out that the data composing the two files have been the result of a meditated and accurate selection of the various possible interpretations, trying to uniform, where possible, the polyhedricity of this phenomenon.

     By this writing we intended to give our modest "Italian" contribution to solve a problem which is troubling researchers all over the world.

     We inform you that the software concerning the two files will be avaiable in the near future. One program runs the two files at a time. Its main menu would appear like this:

-1.CONSULT DIRECTORY
-2.CONSULT CASE
-3.CONSULT REPORT
-4.UPDATE DIRECTORY
-5.INSERT CASE
-6.INSERT REPORT
-7.PRINT DIRECTORY
-8.PRINT CASE
-9.PRINT REPORT

Next necessary step would be of course the realization of a data network. Every researcher, using his small microcomputer as a terminal, could connect with the data store and have access to the same data as any other individual or group in the country.

Even though a data network is actually feasible in the United States, where such advanced technologies have already been properly developed, in Italy the situation is slightly different. For this reason we conceived a kind of 'indirect' network, i.e. every researcher or group of researchers with their low-cost computers could organize their own data files and so possess the same data as any other all over Italy through a widespread circulation of data on tapes or floppy diskettes, obtaining in this way almost the same results as a real data network.

We firmly hope to be informed of your considerations, suggestions or possible solutions to this serious problem, maintaining that only from a close international collaboration it is possible to get useful and durable benefits in the interest of UFO research.

PierGiovanni D'Orazio & Gianfranco Lollino

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EXCHANGE OF SOFTWARE

I have nearly 1600 programs for Commodore 64 and I am always interested in the exchange of them, also with readers' friends. I am desperately looking for software able to run on the new Commodore 128 I have ! Please inform me at once if you have something.
Write to Maurizio Verga

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Offer of Software

— New Items —

As mentioned in the last issue, this section will be continuously
up-to-dated by new titles. Of course all readers are invited to supply
software about ufology or matters related to it : their support is
really fundamental for the completeness of this special section. It
doesn't matter the kind of hardware on which programs run . We need any
avaiable software for any computer : cassettes and floppy discs are
always welcome.
The "prices" of each item includes postage and packing : it represents
a sort of very small "financing" to the newsletter too !
We hope that this will become a comprehensive bank of most avaiable UFO
software for different kind of computers where any researcher can find
the program for his own interest.
Beyond real programs we offer files - working on some databases/word
processors - relating to papers, articles, research works and so on. A
classic example is the ITACAT files to be used through the popular
"Easy Script" program for Commodore 64. It represents the whole huge
450-page manuscript about the Italian catalogue of Type-1 events.

COMPUTER	SOFTWARE	KIND	STORAGE	CHARGE
C-64	Whole ITACAT manuscript to be loaded via "Easy Script" w.p. Three full floppy discs. Ital.	F	C/D	25,000
C-64	ITACAT Release 1.1 Improved version in graphic & utilities in English language.	P/F	C/D	13,000
C-64	ITACAT N Release 1.1	P/F	C/D	13,000
C-64	TRACAT Release 1.1	P/F	C/D	13,000
C-64	E.D.A. (S.D.P. - Sighting Data Processing). English.	P	C/D	12,000
C-64	Some temporal/geographical analyses with display of bar graphs about Italian Type-1 events. To be loaded through the "Stat 64" package.	F	C/D	12,000

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*            *                              *       *       *       *
* C-64       * Record of 1985 Italian UFO   *   F   *   D   * 12,000 *
*            * newsclippings. To be loaded  *       *       *       *
*            * via "Superbase" program.     *       *       *       *
*            *                              *       *       *       *
* IBM/36     * Various files from Swedish   *  P/F  *   D   * 16,000 *
*            * group A.F.U., including 1946 *       *       *       *
*            * "ghost rockets" preliminary  *       *       *       *
*            * catalogue, full mail list,   *       *       *       *
*            * coded index of UFO matters.  *       *       *       *
*            *                              *       *       *       *
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Computer & Ufologists

An up-to-dated census

In CUFON 1 we presented a preliminary list of researchers having or
working on computers. Now such a list is more than doubled, especially
thanks to the help of Michael Hart. He kindly supplied us names,
addresses and type of machine - when known - of members (98 at the end
of October '85) of his COMPUFON.
Please note that not all the reported people are active researchers :
many of them are simple "amateurs", even though they could be
interested in developing UFO software or provinding technical support.
Entries have been sorted according to the kind of machine, so that one
is able to see what computers ufologists have at once. Commodore and
Apple are obviously the most common models.
In the next issues of the Newsletter will be presented only new names,
not the full list.
Addresses of people mentioned in the list can be requested directly to
the Editor.

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NEWS

Wanted :

Publications about methods to obtain some corrections for digitalised
photos. Please write to :
Yves Chosson # 35 rue de Bonsecours # F-54000 Nancy # FRANCE

CUFON 2

Nome	Nazione	Computer
Per Andersen	DENMARK	various
Stefano Innocenti	ITALY	Apple
Renzo Cabassi	ITALY	Apple II
Donald Johnson	U.S.A.	Apple II+
Marco Bottaini	ITALY	Apple IIc
Paolo Toselli	ITALY	Apple IIc
Roberto Farabone	ITALY	Apple IIe
Randy Biggs	U.S.A.	Apple IIe
Gordon Wells	U.S.A.	Apple IIe
Hiroshi Kitajima	JAPAN	Apple IIe
William Sharp	U.S.A.	Apple IIe
Craig Hendrick	U.S.A.	Apple IIe
Massimo Nebbia	ITALY	Apple IIe
Ronny Blomme	BELGIUM	Apple IIe
Massimo Greco	ITALY	Apple+C-64
GianPaolo Grassino	ITALY	Apple+C-64
Walt Andrus	U.S.A.	Atari 1200
Mark Hullin	U.S.A.	Atari 1200
Roger McGhee	U.S.A.	Atari 130
Dale D. Goudie	U.S.A.	Atari 800
Albert Oh	U.S.A.	Atari 800
Shawn McDowell	U.S.A.	Atari 800
Andrew Cole	AUSTRALIA	AM-100
Brad Bartol	U.S.A.	ATARI
Eyal Askenazi	U.S.A.	ATARI
Gerald Mosbleck	WEST GERMANY	C-64
Christian Petit	LUXEMBOURG	C-64
Pascal Deboodt	BELGIUM	C-64
Ringsaker UFO Foren.	NORWAY	C-64
Antonio Sorlini	ITALY	C-64
Maurizio Verga	ITALY	C-64
Gianfranco Lollino	ITALY	C-64
Raymond A. Keller	U.S.A.	C-64
Paul Jackson	AUSTRALIA	C-64
Mark Uriarte	U.S.A.	C-64
Robert Kassouf	U.S.A.	C-64
Ken Wisnefski	U.S.A.	C-64
Roger Herres	U.S.A.	C-64
Leonard W. Sturm	U.S.A.	C-64
John Cromwell	U.S.A.	C-64
Eric Martin	U.S.A.	C-64
Will Browne	U.S.A.	C-64
Roy Burton	U.S.A.	C-64
Donald Bechard	U.S.A.	C-64
Edio Gada-Barenco	SWITZERLAND	C-64
Michael H. Landwehr	U.S.A.	C-64
Francesco Alfieri	ITALY	C-64
Pietro Gallo	ITALY	C-64
Francesco Sortino	ITALY	C-64
Emilio Milazzo	ITALY	C-64
Alberto Fulgoni	ITALY	C-64
Luigi Di Ruzza	ITALY	C-64
Giuseppe Verdi	ITALY	C-64
Mike J. Hough	AUSTRALIA	C-64

Yves Chosson	FRANCE	CANON X-07
Norbert Unger	WEST GERMANY	CBM 2001
Thomas E. Bearden	U.S.A.	CBM 2001
Eckhard Gerland	WEST GERMANY	CBM 2001
Justin Sound	U.S.A.	COMPAQ
King Doug	U.S.A.	CORONA
Denys Breysse	FRANCE	CPC 464

- COMPUTER CENSUS on November 20, 1985
File cufon

Nome	Nazione	Computer
Jochen Ickinger	WEST GERMANY	CPC-464
Felix Ares de Blas	SPAIN	Dragon 32
Bertil Kuhlemann	SWEDEN	IBM 370
Guillermo Roncoroni	ARGENTINE	IBM/36
Dan Todorovich	U.S.A.	Kaypro 4
Kenneth Smith	U.S.A.	KAYPRO 286
Tom Cox	U.S.A.	NEC PC8801
John Sargent	U.S.A.	PC ALPHATR
Willy Smith	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Michael Hart	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Marcel Delaval	ITALY	PC IBM
Bob Rickard	ENGLAND	PC IBM
Mark Holland	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Dwight Huffman	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Ken Westby	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Kyle Levine	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Brian P. Myers	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Harold Klein	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Richard Haines	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Jack Reilly	U.S.A.	PC IBM
Nick Wiley	U.S.A.	PC IBMjr.
Julio Arcas Gilardi	SPAIN	Spectrum
Mike Wootten	ENGLAND	Spectrum
Mike Lewis	ENGLAND	Spectrum
Daniel Mavrakis	FRANCE	Superbrain
Scott Palm	U.S.A.	T.I. 99/4A
Edoardo Russo	ITALY	T.I. 990/I
Jim Weydman	U.S.A.	TRS
Bruce Maccabee	U.S.A.	TRS 100
Ron Villareal	U.S.A.	TRS 100
Alan Jay Silver	U.S.A.	TRS 4
Paul Sowiak-Rudej	NEW GUINEA	TRS 80
Marge Christensen	U.S.A.	TRS 80
Bruce M. Forrester	U.S.A.	TRS 80
Stan Gordon	U.S.A.	TRS 80
Thomas Ora	U.S.A.	TRS 80
Eric Epstein	U.S.A.	TRS 80
Ron Woertz	U.S.A.	VIC 20
Loren Killion	U.S.A.	VIC 20

CUFON 2

TASMANIAN UFO CATALOGUE PROGRAMME NOTES

by Paul Jackson

P.Jackson is the Directo of T.U.F.O.I.C., the
biggest private UFO group based in Tasmania,
the famous Australian island. This is a brief
description about how to use the database for
UFO events he prepared. His own address is :

P.O. Box 99, North Hobart, Tasmania,AUSTRALIA

- BACKGROUND :

TASCAT was initially programmed on a Commodore VIC-20 Micro-computer, with
16K of Memory expansion and Cassette storage. The programme was Written during
1983 by Paul Jackson.
The Catalogue was based on a listing of Tasmanian UFO Cases by Keith Roberts
of the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre.
In 1984, the Computer was updated to a Commodore 64. Later that year the
Cassette was replaced by a Disk drive.
The programme is written in BASIC, and is a modified version of a programme
called UNIFILE by David Lawrence (The WORKING COMMODORE 64 - Sunshine Books -
1983).
Although the programme is currently working very well, it is still being
modified, so as to improve its operation. The programme that operates TASCAT
is called 'UFOCAT'
The TASCAT Files are stored on disk, in Sequential files of about 60 cases
each. This is enough to fill a standard A4 size sheet of paper, and breaks the
file into a workable size, if the entire file were to be loaded into the
Computer at one time, the Memory of the Commodore 64 would be exausted, and the
time taken to search,sort & order the file would be so much greater.

- HOW TO USE :

Firstly, Load"UFOCAT",8 then run the programme.
You will be greeted by the Main MENU:
  1 - Enter Information   (entry of New cases into the File)
  2 - Search/Display/Change
  3 - Load Retrieval printout programme   (see notes on next page)
  4 - Save/Load data files
  5 - Start new file page
  6 - exit Programme

You may not use either of the first two options on the menu until a file is
loaded, once a file has been loaded you may: add new cases to it by taking
option 1, Search the file /Display the file and/or Change data by taking
option 2. To printout the entire file, or to Printout selected aspects of the
phenomena, take option 3.
select option 4 to save the file to disk, or load another file into the
computer. If you modify a file you should always re-save it before loading
another file.

- OPTIONS :

    Entry of new cases; Option 1:

    ITEM NAME   (Characters permitted)

      YEAR   (2): (enter data)
      MONTH   (2):   "   "
      DAY   (2):   "   "
      TIME   (4): etc.

    See the Abbreviations page for details of codes used in the file. This is
this is loaded via WORD WRITER Wordprocessor (Abbreviations are avaiable
together with the program from the "Offer of Software" section).

    When the entry is completed, the entry is placed in the correct location in
the file according to the Date of the Sighting.
    If you make a mistake during entry, you may abort by entering ZZZ, or you may
continue, and Amend it later (Using option 2).
    If there is nothing to enter for an item, then just enter -

    Search; Option 2:

    Search by Date, or by Reference number for a particular case, or
press Return for the first entry in the file. (This option does not permit you
to Search for the various aspects of the phenomena, for this use option 3.
    When the entry is displayed, a sub-menu will appear at the bottom of the
display.
    If you want to move quickly through the file, and not press Return after each
entry, you can type # then the number of entries you wish to jump forward.
    If you are on entry number 9, and wish to jump to number 49, you enter #40
    If you wish to move back through the file, press #- then the number of places
you wish to move back.

    Amend; Option 2:

    Amend by typing AAA, this will display, one at a time, the items in the entry
If you wish to leave the item unchanged, press Return
You may change the item by typing in the new item.
DDD will delete the whole entry.
ZZZ will leave the whole entry unchanged, and return you to the Menu.

    All other Sub-Menu Options are self evident.

    Starting a New File page; Option 5:

    CAUTION - This option will erase the file currently in memory, only use it as
your first option, or after you have re-saved an amended a file to disk.

RETRIEVAL/PRINTOUT PROGRAMME:

    This programme will not display the Entry on screen, it is intended for
Printouts only.
    Firstly, you are asked if you wish to Search through a single file page 's'
or the entire file 'A'.

 If you choose S then you will be requested to enter the file page number.
 If you wish to search all of the files, then you will be asked to input the
number of files on disk, currently there are 8 file pages.   ·

 0, Title Headline: This will print, at the top of the page in double width
characters, what you have typed in. Then it will print the Catalogue header.

 You may then select from a number of options, just what type of printout you
require. You may printout the full file page, or may select from any field
of sighting data, such as:
    All sightings on a particular Date,
      at a particular Time or Location.
       or a particular Colour, or Colours, plus many other options.

When the printout is completed, it will return you to the Menu. You may then
select another printout option, or exit the file.

 A detailed discussion about such a work will be presented in a next issue of
"The Computer UFO Newsletter".

                              Paul Jackson

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TOWARDS A COMMON DATABASE
FOR UFO EVENTS

    We wish to start a common debate about a topic of great importance :
    the use of a common database (at least for one kind of computer) in
    relation to the compilation of UFO catalogues.
    We think it could be useless to prepare many different databases to
    store similar entries. All ufologists owning the same computer   need a
    common program, so that exchanges of data were much more easy.
    Now the question is : do we have to prepare a new unique software ? Or
    can we use a commercial database avaiable on the market (for C-64 users
    it could be Superbase, Practifile, Multidata, Vizastar, etc....) ?
    Readers are invited to reply, developing opinions and suggestions :
    they will be published on next CUFON issues. A second matter worth of
    interest could be the possible use of a spreadsheet program (like
    Multiplan or Calc Result) in our own field. Any proposal ?

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    INVITE UFOLOGISTS YOU KNOW TO SUBSCRIBE "THE COMPUTER UFO NEWSLETTER !"

                              CUFON 2