

# ENGLISH ABSTRACTS FOR UFO - RIVISTA DI INFORMAZIONE UFOLOGICA

by the Italian Center for UFO Studies (Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici, CISU)

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Our international exchange fellows may be interested in getting longer English versions of some articles published in Italian in our magazine, *UFO - Rivista di informazione ufologica*, as we've been able to prepare in the past.

Unfortunately, time commitments are not allowing us to do so, inasmuch as our magazine is changing its periodicity from two (sometime one) times per year to the new schedule of four issues per year, beginning with 2002. This resulted from the merging of our newsletter *Ufo Notizie* and of our technical journal, *Ufo Forum*, into the main magazine (with Giuseppe Stilo joining the editorial board).

We hope that some short abstracts will be of help, anyhow, if included with the magazine itself, and here they are.

Also included is the paper edition of a dozen issues of the *Italian UFO Newsflash*, which we've been able to keep on issuing on a weekly schedule for the last year, as a translation of our phone/Internet news service *UFOTEL*, thanks to the effort of our American reader, Gary Presto, who is a professional Italian/English translator.

## *Editorial*

### **An Education school for ufologists**

*Giuseppe Stilo* argues that we need to become (also) a sort of school for educating new generations of ufologists about the real meaning of our activity, which does not consist in "chasing the aliens". In a box, *Gian Paolo Grassino* explains the new format and schedule of our publication(s), as detailed above.

## *News*

### **Unidentified Flying Iridiums**

*Francesco D'Agostino* reports on the history, features and IFO implications of the Motorola network of 77 telecommunication satellites, which have been causing sudden light flashes in the sky (and not a few false UFO sightings) since 1997.

*Edoardo Russo* adds some short reports on the UFO wave over Italy in 2001 (more than 630 reports filed), plus some international items (the hitherto unknown British UFO working group of 1951, Bill Cooper's death and the discovery of the first UFO publication dating back from 1947).

## *Research Projects*

### **Hessdalen Phenomena: a Ufology for the XXI Century?**

*Renzo Cabassi* traces the will to build a scientific-oriented ufology back to the early '70s, up to the present-day project aimed to monitor the recurrent luminous apparitions in the Norwegian valley of Hessdalen. A detailed summary of the Hessdalen Project since 1984 is also offered, as well as a report on the 2001 expedition of the Embla mission, funded for the second year by the Italian Committee for the Hessdalen Project (CIPH, on the Internet at: [www.itacomm.net](http://www.itacomm.net)) for optical, photographic, radio and radar monitoring.

## *Cinema*

### **E.T., twenty years later**

*Gian Paolo Grassino* offers some reflections on the re-issuing of the classical UFO-inspired movie by Steven Spielberg.

## *History*

### **The Sad End of the Aluminium Man**

*Giuseppe Stilo* reports on the now completely cleared hoax story of the little alien allegedly photographed in Arizona, 1950, based upon the latest booklets by Loren Gross.

## *Research Projects*

### **Earthquake Lights for a Better Understanding of UFOs?**

*Massimo Silvestri* explains what the relevance may be of earthquake lights and seismic precursors for ufology, as presented in his recently published monograph with a large bibliography, within a specific sub-project of the CISU committee on Luminous Phenomena in Atmosphere.

## **Case Histories**

*Federico Rosati* investigated on a humanoid sighting in the first decade of August, 1931, at Coniale di Fiorenzuola (Firenze), while *Massimiliano Grandi* gives a long report on a recurrent series of bedroom visitor experiences by a teenage

girl in Arezzo and other two towns, between 1985 and the early '90s, also commenting on the difficulties of this kind of cases for the UFO investigator; a box by *Paolo Toselli* gives the proper reference to hypnagogic and hypnopompic images.

#### *Research Projects*

### **AIRCAT 2001**

*Marco Orlandi* updates the state-of-the-art of his archive/catalogue of 330 UFO sightings by pilots over Italy, presenting the publication of it as a monograph by CISU, with some comments on the results of these seven years of project's activity.

#### *Obituary*

### **Michel Figuet, the Man of the Close Encounters**

*Perry Petrakis'* last interview with the French ufologist (who died on October 18, 2000), about his monmouth work at investigating, filing and cataloguing all close encounter reports in France; *Edoardo Russo* gives a personal appreciation of an old friend and his role in ufology; *Michel Figuet's* own introduction of his proposal for a criteria grid for selecting solid cases is re-published as a box.

#### *Research Projects*

### **EFCAT, the "physical effects" catalogue**

*Stefano Innocenti* gives an overview of CISU project on UFO encounters with (so-called) "electro-magnetic" effects, of its peculiarities and how it has evolved since 1988.

#### *Forum*

### **- On the Side of the Witness**

*Jan Aldrich* and *Brad Sparks* discuss the vexed issue of eyewitness testimony value.

### **- A Search for the Non-existent**

*Luis Alfonso Gamez* and *Manuel Borraz* debates con and pro the usefulness of even a serious ufology.

### **- The Moon/UFO and Trans-en-Provence**

*Eric Maillot* answers Giorgio Abraini's critics of Maillot's study on the Moon as a cause for UFO sightings (with a counter-answer by *Giorgio Abraini* himself, in a box), and also takes occasion to criticise the CISU investigation report on the Trans-en-Provence 1981 trace-landing case (so that *Paolo Fiorino* and *Matteo Leone* choose to answer in another box on some technical data and some methodology issues).

#### *Primordia*

### **Adamski, Leslie and Williamson in Italy, in the '50s**

*Giuseppe Stilo* collects all know information on those early age visitors and their influence on the mass media and on the first Italian ufologists.

### **CISU News**

*Edoardo Russo* gives a short overview of CISU 16th national congress, held at the Astronomy Observatory in San Giovanni in Persiceto (Bologna) on October 13, 2001. This year's theme was "*Luminous Phenomena in the Atmosphere and Instrumentation-assisted Ufology: New Avenues for the Research?*", with papers by *Renzo Cabassi* (Instrumentation-assisted Ufology), *Massimo Silvestri* (Earthquake Lights and Tectonic Strain Theory), *Paolo Toselli* (BLITA: the Italian catalogue of Ball Lightning case reports), *Giuseppe Stilo* (The Ghost-Lights Wave of the late XIX Century in Italy), *Massimo Teodorani* (EMBLA 2001 Mission in Hessdalen), *Albino Carbognani* (The Physics of Ball Lightnings), and short communications by Stefano Innocenti, Gianfranco Lollino and Goffredo Pierpaoli on each one's automatic monitoring projects.

Also in brief: the CISU new elected council of directors for the year 2001-2002 is the following: Gian Paolo Grassino, Edoardo Russo (president), Giuseppe Stilo, Paolo Toselli and Maurizio Verga; the 20 years of the UPIAR Cooperative (and a new online UFO store at [www.upiar.com](http://www.upiar.com)); CISU adoption of the UFOIN code of ethics; the Alberto Lazzaro Award for 2000 went to Daniele Parisi for his university thesis in sociology of knowledge on *UFO Phenomenon as a Social Construction - From Flying Saucers to the ET Cult*; CISU headquarters move to a new office; CISU award to the best UFO movie presented at the Trash Cinema Festival.

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