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SOUTHERN
UFO
NEWS

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EDITORIAL

The Contact office is short-staffed as usual and we have already lost both secretaries since the AGM. Fortunately Virginia Wilson, a new member, has offered to help us out otherwise this newsletter would have remained in draft form. Another problem which is facing committee members these days is the restriction imposed by the high price of petrol and slow driving speeds which makes Durban so much further away for many of us who live in the outlying areas. These are some of the factors that contribute to the communication lag so please be patient if letters sometimes take a while to be answered, but please don't stop writing. We like hearing from you.

Thanks to Walter Pople our Chairman and Edna Smith our Vice-Chairman, our monthly meetings have been interesting and well attended. There was a full house for Cynthia Hind's talk which is reproduced overleaf. Cynthia, a freelance journalist is MUFON's representative for Southern Africa. She is usually soon on the scene of reported UFO landings and we were delighted when she informed us of her visit to Durban. This reminds me that we intend to fall in line with other international UFO groups and concentrate on CE 11 K and CE 111 K sightings where traces were left or occupants seen or contacted.

I'd like to end off with a few personal thoughts. Scientists are trained to be objective and not to accept any data as valid unless verified by experiment or substantial evidence. It is also part of a scientist's training to look at all the possibilities, to hypothesise, and it is part of his methodology to work within the framework of accepted facts. There are many phenomena or events in nature besides UFO's that still defy explanation. For each there may be a number of sometimes diverse and contradictory explanations until by a process of understanding, modification and elimination the correct answer or explanation emerges. And so if some people want to put an extraterrestrial tag on every unexplained UFO encounter, that's their privilege but it is certainly not the way by which knowledge has and will be advanced.

Mike Viljoen.

NEW MEMBERS

Will all those members who recently joined please forgive me if they don't get a personal letter of welcome as I'm up to my eyeballs with my studies. It is nice to see so much interest in our organisation.

Ms Megan de Beyer (Durban)

Mr Jimmy van Greunen (Johannesburg)

Mr Boyde Stafne (Durban)

Mr P J Stoffberg (Windhoek)

Ms W Fisher (Durban)

Ms A Rhead (Durban)

Ms M Reid (Durban)

Mr & Ms C Wright (Durban)

Ms Wendy Said (Durban)

Ms Virginia Wilson (Wstvl)

Mr John Raby (Pinetown)

Mr R Bernstein (Westville)

Mr H W Hoggard (Durban)

AN IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION OF RECENT SOUTH AFRICAN UFO REPORTS BY CYNTHIA HIND

TALK GIVEN BY CYNTHIA HIND OF ZIMBABWE-RHODESIA ON WEDNESDAY THE 27th JUNE 1979.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. My interest in UFO's first started when I interviewed Elizabeth Klarer and subsequently I got involved with a big UFO organisation in America called MUFON. Some of the top scientists of the world belong to this group, including Prof. Allen Hynek. It riles me a bit that many scientists and governments involved with UFO studies don't want to be named. It is usual for skeptical scientists to give four or five different explanations for a UFO report. If only they would come together and decide on a single explanation.

What is a UFO? Both CUFOS and MUFON have thousands of files and sightings are broken down into categories which most of you have heard of eg. Close Encounters of the 1st Kind (CE 1) such as lights in the sky; CE 2 are objects which leave physical evidence and CE 3 where contact is made with UFO occupants. Some reports are so peculiar and so strange that it is hard to believe that people willfully concoct them. To me this is proof that they are really faithfully reporting what they think they saw.

UFO's generally come in different size categories. An example is the sighting by Trident pilot Woods as he was flying over Portugal. This object was also seen by 2 other pilots as well as being picked up on radar. Because of the conspiracy to suppress UFO sightings these guys never spoke about it for 8 months. Although I've met Dennis Woods I'm not sure what decided them to report their sighting. Immediately the British Met. Office said it was a large met. balloon used to monitor sunspots. Most pilots therefore prefer to keep quiet for fear of being made a fool of.

The more common size for UFO's is from 7 to 15 m. An example is the one seen by Danie van Graan of Loxton as he was walking over his land one morning. At first he thought it was a caravan and the beings he saw were prospectors. But when he got close enough to distinguish their features - slanting eyes, high cheekbones, small ears and mouths, he became frightened as he thought they were Russians that were going to capture him and take him away. Then Danie was hit by a beam that knocked him out, but quite frankly, I think it was a type of field - a magnetic field around the craft. At the end of the talk I'll show you some slides of the marks that were left in the ground.

Shapewise the most common is the disc or saucer shape. I gave a talk at a UFO conference at Dayton, Ohio, last year and there I saw about 230 pictures of discs. They are generally labelled as fakes but it is very funny that photographs of these things come in from all over the world - eg. from Brazil, Iceland, Denmark. If they are fakes, how come they all look so similar? There are cigar shapes, triangular shapes, round shapes and many more. Egg-shaped objects seem to be dominating the scene at the moment from the reports that I've seen. It looks like an egg with the bottom cut off, from which legs protrude. In the Mindalore case, near Krugersdorp, which I am going to discuss presently, Megan Quezet saw such an object. The most famous of the egg-shaped objects was reported by Lonnie Zamora near Socorro, New Mexico some time ago. The FBI came in and the place was cordoned off. Strangely enough, marks were left not dissimilar to those found at Loxton.

Their colours vary and they often appear with bright lights, probably because of some type of field around them. They make various sounds eg. a humming sound like a swarm of bees; explosive sounds or a tremendous noise as they take off, but on the whole they are silent - you don't hear them at all.

Data fed through a computer by Hynek indicates that UFO's are seen more regularly on Wednesday and Saturday nights and also in certain months of the year - I know October is a very good month..... and between 8 and 10 o'clock at night.

They are also supposed to occur in the regions of magnetic faults. A Rhodesian group I belong to chose the right date, day and time, but sat up all night without seeing anything, so it doesn't always mean that this information will bring results.

At the end of last year there was a tremendous flap all over the world, in Australia, New Zealand, Italy, South America, where 2 fishermen were badly burnt and one died. But at the moment everything is very quiet. We have been looking out over the Bay every night but nothing has happened.

Who are these aliens or beings that have been frequently reported. In America there is something called 'Big Foot' which I've not come across here. What Danie van Graan saw is fairly typical. The reason for the small mouth and ears I think, is because communication is generally by telepathy. Some are tall, 2m and over and others are short, about 1½ m and under. But they still are humanoid. A biologist has said that we have developed in the best way, eg. the balance of the body by its having 2 arms and legs etc, and beings on another planet similar to earth would develop in the same way. There are reports from around the world where radio messages are received in an 'earth' language - so there is language development. There is a case in Brazil where a woman went to a door of a hostel with a glass in one hand and a beautiful ornamental jug in the other, and used the word "rempowa". They assumed she wanted water which they gave her, and off she went. As she looked rather strange they followed her and saw her climb into a space craft. I think, however, that language is generally telepathic.

That should give you an outline of what is happening and now I shall discuss some SA cases that I have personally investigated.

Firstly there is the 'Groendal' case near PE of October last year. I was investigating the 'Rosmead' (near Middelburg) tennis-court case at the time. Col. van Heerden of Middelburg drew my attention to a newspaper report. Four boys had seen entities. I went down immediately and was very lucky to interview Mrs Simpson, the mother of the eldest boy involved. She had dropped the boys at the Groendal reserve for an overnight hike and was to pick them up at noon the following day, Monday, at a stone monument. While the boys were waiting for Mrs Simpson they looked across a valley covered with thick bush when they saw what looked like an unusual domed stone. About 200 m away from the object they saw 2 men dressed in what looked like aluminium foil, whom they thought were fire-fighters. Only when a third appeared did they get a little suspicious. The third man had a little suitcase. Sgt Powell and I got the boys into different rooms and asked them to draw what they saw. They all drew the figures without any arms, and when I asked how it was possible that one was holding a suitcase, they didn't know. Peter Simpson did draw the little suitcase sticking out of the body. Beings have often been noticed taking samples just as our astronauts took samples from the moon - which I have seen.

As the boys were watching the men it occurred to them that they were gliding above the bush - which they thought was rather low. They appeared to use 'flipper-action'. By this time the boys were quite startled. One of the men turned around and Peter said he knew they had been seen. The suit he wore was close-fitting around his head, but the face was exposed although no features could be distinguished because of the distance. The men then started going uphill, and before they got to the top, they disappeared. The boys were by now very excited and decided they would not stay there any longer. Instead they decided to wait at Mr Zelig, the Warden's house. When Mrs Simpson arrived soon after, they excitedly told her what had happened, but she was rather skeptical initially. The unusual features were that they glided; they covered a large distance in a short period of time; and the peculiar upright way they went up the hill without bending their bodies. Dr Simpson wanted no publicity but Peter persisted with the story and after 3 days Mrs Simpson phoned Keith Ross, a reporter she knew on 'The Weekend Post'. He contacted Sgt Powell and he and Maj Belamy went back to the area. It was then that they realised how thick and high the bush was - almost 3 m high fynbos. There were no paths. When they got to the area where the dome-shaped object was seen they found a depressed section, 7 x 20 m. On the perimeter there were 9 equidistant pad marks.

I phoned MUFON in America and they asked me to check for radiation. I phoned Prof Rust of the Geology Dept at PE University, but he laughed and said I must be joking. I begged him for 5 mins of his time. He agreed and after speaking to him for $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour he gave me 2 of his lecturers, Dave and Russell. By now a number of days had passed and rain had fallen. Nothing was picked up on the Geiger counter. But the two surveyed the area and in writing admitted that they didn't know how it happened or what it was, but it was nothing natural. The 4 boys were put under hypnosis by Dr Bernard Levinson and nothing was revealed to contradict their story. The Army categorically denied that one of their helicopters might have been involved.

Now we'll come to the Mindalore case where there is less evidence. Megan Quezet lived in Mindalore, just outside Krugersdorp. On the night of the 3rd January of this year, she was reading when their dog started barking. Her 12 year-old son woke up and asked for a cup of tea. They went outside to call their dog which had run up the road. Not far from them is a road that joins 2 industrial areas and is seldom used at night. By this time all the dogs in the neighbourhood were barking. They saw a bright light on the industrial road where it sloped, and wondered what it was. Megan thought it was recently-installed street lighting but André disagreed. Then she thought it might be a light aircraft that had come down. She did train as a nurse and hurried towards the light in case help was needed. I timed the distance she walked and it took about 5 mins.

When they reached the place she saw it was an egg-shaped craft with 4 spider-legs, and a brilliant light shone through an open doorway. Five or six men jumped out, some went around the side of the craft, two stood at the doorway and two came walking towards her. These men were unaware of Megan and André and were talking in a very high-pitched sing-song language. One did most of the talking, when the other became aware of the woman and child. He communicated this to the other and then advanced to within $1\frac{1}{2}$ m from Megan and bowed without taking his eyes off her. Even at this stage she was not afraid as one would be afraid if confronted by something completely unnatural. Then she looked into his eyes and saw that these were transparent. I think that she could not see his pupil, and this is a factor which crops up again and again with UFO aliens. He then said something to her which sounded like a greeting which André said was in 3 syllables. I asked Megan what she answered. She said "hello". She was obviously overwhelmed. When she said "hello" she realized that there was something peculiar about the whole thing and shouted to André to go and fetch his father. I forgot to tell you that these aliens wore white overalls which also covered their heads, with the exception of the one who had bowed - his was thrown back off his head. He had black curly hair and like the others, was dark-featured. As Megan shouted the men turned and entered their craft - they did not jump even though it was $1\frac{1}{2}$ m off the ground. Megan does not know how they did it.

(At this point there is some uncertainty in the events as André did not run back to call his father. Cynthia Hind realized that there was a time-lapse. They left their house at about 2400, took about 5 mins to get to the site. The events described could not have taken more than a few minutes and yet they arrived back home after 0100. Megan was hypnotised by Dr Bernard Levinson, a Johannesburg psychiatrist, who subsequently sent a tape-recording of the interview to Cynthia. Under hypnosis Megan told that she and André were invited aboard the craft. She found the lighting inside particularly peculiar. They asked her to go with them but she did not want to and said that her children needed her. Then follows a period of amnesia. She and André left the craft and went home together. Dr Levinson regards this as a case of hysterical hallucination which involved them both simultaneously. This is not as strange as it might seem. I know of documented cases in medical literature where mass hysteria caused clinical symptoms of illness to appear in a number of persons. Hysteria in this sense is, in effect, a dissociation from reality. - MHV)

The craft straddled the road and we calculated that it must have been about 4 m wide x 5 m high, but this is just a rough estimation. As the craft took off there was a buzzing sound, like bees. The legs telescoped into the craft which then shot up into the low cloud which was lit for a while by a brilliant pink light.

Frank Mortem and Tom Geary from the planetarium went to the site with a geiger counter but there was no sign of radio-activity, but perhaps the rain had washed

everything away. When they got home Megan hesitated to wake her husband. He was a heart-attack victim and was not well, and besides, the craft had gone. She let him sleep and I would have done the same. Frank Mortem feels that any woman who had a genuine experience like this would have woken her husband, but considering her husband's state of health I beg to differ and I think the women here tonight will agree with me. It is also interesting that this craft landed at the only section where the electric highwires crossed the road. In America they tell me that these craft are repeatedly seen near water or high-voltage lines and in SA they seem to land at uranium areas: there's uranium at Groendal, Loxton and Krugersdorp.

The final case I want to discuss tonight is the Rosmead Tennis-court case. Here is another example of how facts are twisted and sightings denigrated by officialdom and those with so-called authority. I take exception to Prof de Wet saying that the destruction was caused by a whirlwind. This happened on a hot night in 1972. Some blokes at the nearby military barracks saw lights on the school's tennis-court and debated whether to do anything about it. They told their sergeant but by the time he came outside the lights had gone. In Middelburg, a policeman walking along at approximately the same time, looked up in the sky and saw a very strange light. He made a note in the log book but did nothing further about it.

Harold Truter the principal of the primary school arrived back with his family from a very pleasant weekend at PE. As he went to put his car in the garage he saw a strange light in the sky. He called his wife to have a look but after remarking that it was rather strange, went back in again to put the kids to bed. The wall of his garage forms part of the tennis-court. He noticed dark patches on the tennis-court and realized that it was completely wrecked. He was absolutely dismayed. They had struggled for so long to collect the money. He immediately phoned Mr van Wyk, head of the school board - they got on to the police. They noticed that the court's gate was still wired up as Mr Truter had left it.

The following morning they inspected the court. Big chunks of tar had been ripped out. Two trees on the side of the court were withered and burnt from top to bottom on the side facing the court. There were no signs of a fire having been made under them. There was also no sign of molten tar on the court. Another significant finding was that a huge, mostly buried, stone in Harold Truter's garden had disappeared leaving a big hole in the ground. He had previously attempted to remove the stone by hand as his kids kept tripping over it, but was unable to do so. The stone was never found. On the hill (randjie) behind the court they found pieces of tar that had come from the court. It was as if something had landed on the court and on take-off the tar had stuck to it - to be deposited as it went over the hill.

And Prof de Wet says it was a whirlwind! Does a whirlwind burn trees? ("No" replied Walter Pople) There you are, there's an expert here! The other factor was lightning. It could have struck the trees but the marks on the court were definitely not caused by lightning. What about vandalism? The folks at Rosmead laughed at me when I suggested that possibility. Another suggestion was that because of the heat of the day the coal clinkers under the tarmac might have exploded. Evidence against this is that the edges of the "craters" were curved down as if there had been pressure from the top. An explosion would have left the edges curving upwards.

So there you have it. I don't know what's happening. I don't know if beings from other planets are involved but I guarantee you that something is going on which the governments of the world are not telling us about. Nobody can give me an explanation. Before I close, just one or two items of general interest. The CIA of America is hiding things from the American public. Bill Spaulding took the CIA to court alleging that they were contravening the Freedom of Secrets Act and it was discovered that the CIA were hiding 935 pgs of UFO documentation. American embassies are keeping the US government posted on UFO activity. What do they want with UFO information if there is nothing of importance about them? There is also talk that the USAF have two crashed UFO's with dead occupants which are being kept at the Wright Patterson Air-force Base. Len Stringfield told me, and I know this sounds far-fetched, that in 1952 a UFO crashed in SA, 160km from Johannesburg. What I'm trying to tell you is that we don't know because we are not being told. Why we are not being told is something I don't know. - Thank you.