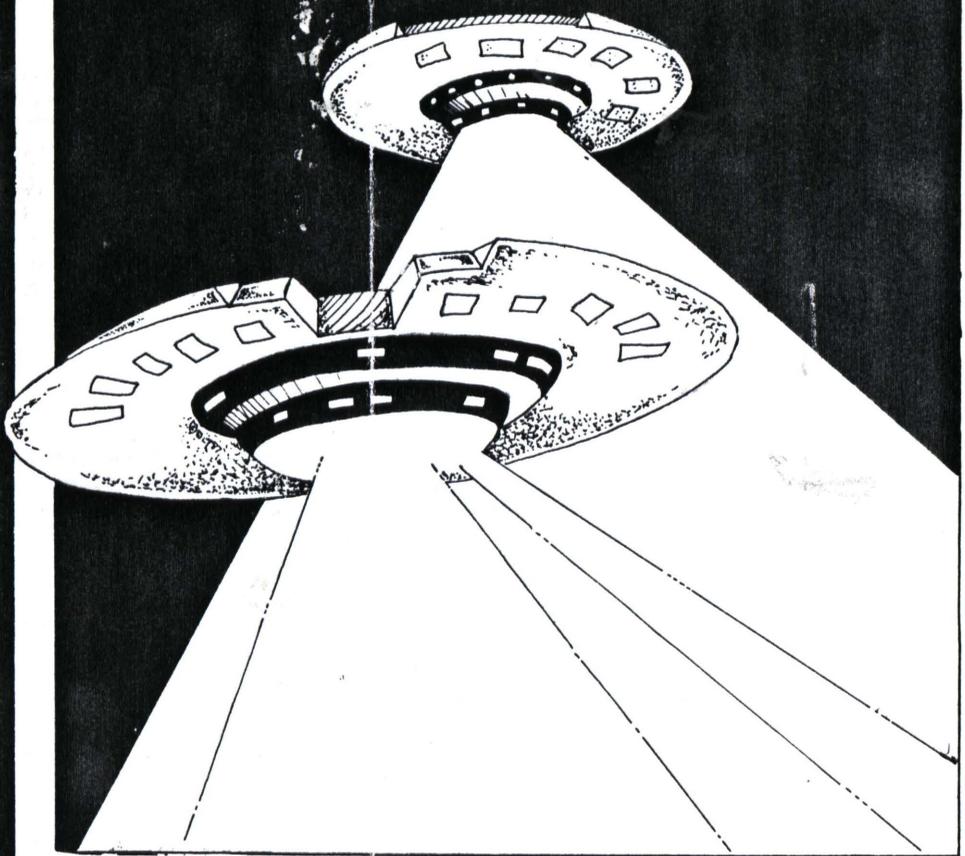


AMSKAYA



Newsletter of the STAR Fellowship



A CONFERENCE IN WALES

The Open University Graduates' Research into Anomalous Phenomena is interested in all mysterious happenings, but its first conference, held in the pleasant surroundings of the Grand Hotel, Port Talbot, had UFOs as its theme.

Gordon Millington, the organiser of OUGRAP, first gave us an outline of the UFO story as far as is known. He described the kinds of encounter known as CE1, 2, 3 and 4 (Light in the sky, physical trace (sometimes also "cone of silence" or "oz effect"), UFOs seen and abduction (presumably contact would come under this last heading).

He gave the scenario of a typical abduction - a person sees a light in the sky, then finds his/her journey has taken longer than expected, and later, sometimes by hypnosis, a story of the events of the missing minutes comes out, involving being taken into a craft and often being given a medical examination of some kind.

A tape by researcher Tim Good was then played, describing his apparent findings regarding secrecy in government circles, and the various theories about UFOs were discussed.

Finally, Gordon played a tape describing a very interesting case, that of Alfred Burtoo. He had been fishing near an army barracks when he saw a vivid light travel from south to north. Shortly afterwards he was approached by figures in green coveralls and helmets. One beckoned, and he followed them to where a large object stood, measuring about 45 feet across. It had portholes and stood on ski-type runners. He went into it and found himself in an octagonal room with no seams or nuts or rivets. A shaft ran from the floor to the ceiling. He was invited to stand under an amber light and then asked his age. On saying seventy-four, he was told he could go, as he was too old and infirm for their purpose.

He went back to his fishing spot, and after drinking his tea(!) saw the object take off at high speed. He carried on with his fishing, and made no report at the time.

Jenny Randles, director of investigations for BUFORA, then spoke on abductions, saying that these bring us closest to the answer of whether UFOs are alien intelligences. Unfortunately, the slide projector proved inadequate to its task as it overheated badly, so we were not able to see all the slides she had brought.

She dismissed contact claims rather cursorily, and said that the abduction story really begins with the Betty and Barney Hill case, which seemed to set a pattern. They had had a sighting, then afterwards had strange dreams and realised their journey had taken longer than they thought. Hypnosis seemed to reveal that they had been forcibly taken on board a craft and given a medical examination.

Another frightening case mentioned was that which had occurred at

Frodsham. Some lads fishing in a river saw figures in suits and helmets apparently measuring a cow with some kind of cage. The boys tried to run, but felt a tug and burning sensation and physical marks were left on their body. At Machynlleth in 1975 was an even more unpleasant case reported, in which jelly-like beings apparently caused a witness to become blind, traumatised and unable to speak. Doctors were satisfied the condition was due to some external trauma.

In October 1974 was a case of a husband and wife who, in their car, encountered a bank of green mist. The car was driven through it, and the radio electricians sparked, causing the man to pull it from its housing to prevent a fire. They drove home (which was nearby) and switched on the TV for a programme they wanted, and found it was over - they had lost about two hours. There were similar nightmares later but hypnosis revealed two divergent stories.

A similar "medical examination" case occurred to policeman Alan Godfrey in Todmorden, Yorkshire, who likewise only remembered the incident (apart from the sighting) when hypnotised. Miss Randles said the entities involved in these cases all seem to vary, though the common denominator is that the witnesses seem to be mostly creative in a visual sense. But if these things all originate in their minds, what of the physical traces left, both on the ground and on people's bodies?

She postulated that there could be an unidentified aerial natural phenomenon with some kind of radiation field involving a broad range of radiation. In close proximity, people would feel physical effects.

If the field is strong and the person is creatively visual, hallucinations could occur, but the stories would differ in detail just as ten different film-makers making a film of a novel would produce ten different films. Miss Randles believes that the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena manifestation is something that is capable of being proved and tested.

After lunch, there was a panel discussion, and then Miss Randles spoke again on the past, present and future of UFOlogy. By this time we had found that the slide projector could be used with difficulty, if each slide was only shown for a few seconds and the projector was constantly switched off in between slides.

We first saw a picture which we were told was of part of one of the moons of Uranus, then that it was in fact a magnified view of the surface of water. This was to show that our perception can alter our view of things. The popularly-used term "flying saucer" was based on a mistake, she said - the Kenneth Arnold objects were not saucer-shaped but "moved like a saucer skipping over a pond". However, this was misinterpreted and people began seeing disc-shaped objects.

At first, she said, in the wake of World War II, people thought UFOs were Russian devices, probably using hardware obtained from the Nazis; when this was found not to be so, they had to be someone else's technology, so the extra-terrestrial hypothesis originated. Everyone started seeing UFOs - including a future President, Jimmy Carter. Miss Randles assured us that his sighting had been explained.

We then saw the famous Trinidade Island UFO photograph, which passed the test of an analyst - but which has recently been disproved by a BUFORA member! Some pictures of lenticular clouds and lens flare "UFOs" were then shown, and a lady who believed photographic defects caused by faults in her camera were UFOs was rather unkindly mentioned.

Next we saw the famous Alex Birch photograph, which greatly interested the Ministry of Defence at the time it was taken in the early sixties. Some years later, Alex said this had been a hoax picture, and this admission was accepted without question by the speaker. I happen to know a little about this case as it was investigated by Philip Rodgers, a now deceased friend of mine. There was a big UFO flap at the time in Sheffield, and Alex and his family reported other sightings subsequent to the taking of the photograph. One was of a landed cigar-shaped object in a field, seen by Alex, his mother and brother. So if he was hoaxing, the whole family was in on it. Why did he say the story was a hoax? Possibly some pressure was put on him from some quarter.

She then spoke of "genuine UFOs" which she believed were natural phenomena, in the Pennine and Dyfed "window areas". She believes the secrecy surrounding UFOs is due to the possible uses of such phenomena. These energy effects could cause the commonly-reported effect of cars stalling in the presence of UFOs, and cause marks on the skin on close approach. One person this applied to was found to have an abnormally low blood count. We were shown a photograph of two "real UFOs". There is apparently a valley in Scandinavia where they are often seen, especially in winter.

In the discussion that followed, people were asked if they had seen anything. One couple mentioned the sighting of a cross-shaped object over their home, and Paul Fuller, who was to speak the following day, rather undiplomatically asked them if they were church believers. I heard later that others who might have brought forward their stories were put off from doing so by this.

One, however, did later tell Mr. Fuller of his sighting, which he had kept to himself (except for telling his wife) since October 1972. He was driving through Swansea when a UFO came over his car and the now familiar "cone of silence" or "Oz effect" came into action. He seemed to see three shadowy "entities" within the object who he felt sure were observing him. Though the road was busy, it was deserted while the UFO was there, but immediately it went things returned to normal and two cars came round the corner. It was suggested that some time-warping effect might have come into play here and in previous "Oz" happenings. The person concerned took Mr. Fuller to the place he had seen the object.

The following morning, Paul Fuller, a BUFORA colleague of Jenny Randles, and of similar but seemingly much more vehemently held views on the nature of UFOs, spoke on the enigmatic corn circles which have appeared in fields over the past few years (and, according to Mr. Fuller's research, even earlier, even back to the seventeenth century).

With the aid of photographs (some of which were unfortunately

rather dim) and a printed handout he described the nature of the circles. They are usually slightly egg-shaped rather than circular, and the centre is swirled with the corn laid gently flat without breaking (it continues to grow). Sometimes the swirl is clockwise, sometimes anticlockwise, and it is often layered. There are single circles, ringed circles and circles with various arrangements of outliers. Each year the patterns seem to change. Some circles are hoaxed, but they are easy to tell as they do not have the swirling and layering of genuine circles, and the hoaxers cannot hide the path of damaged corn by which they gained access to the site. He claimed that the Daily Mirror had once hoaxed a circle to fool the Daily Express!

Dr. Terence Mead has brought out research seeming to show that the circles are caused by previously unrecognised plasma vortices, which hover in the atmosphere most of the time, but which can come down to earth and form these circles in various crops or even in soil.

There are eye-witness accounts of them, and hills are often associated. They appear like a spinning column of vapour, and are very short-lived. They are normally invisible, but can glow on some occasions producing a "UFO" and can even stall car engines. We were told that even waterspouts glow at night, as they are electrically charged. The outer circles are caused by induction currents, but are only found in the larger circles, where there has been enough charge to produce sub-vortices. In the handout was a picture of a waterspout showing accompanying vortices, which if they came down on the land would have produced a ringed circle. He concluded by saying that he thought the similarity of some prehistoric sites to the circles indicated the possibility that the ancient people worshipped the circles.

Before Mr. Fuller's talk, I had asked him about the similar circles associated with the Meier contact case in Switzerland, in which the grass (as it was in this case) was swirled and flattened without breaking as in the recent circles, but before they had come into the public eye. He seemed to suggest that the circles had been genuine, but said the photographs had been exposed as models on strings. The scenario is rather difficult to imagine - did Meier find the unusual circles and build his story round them? But I believe they occurred more than once. Of course, having established that the well-formed swirled circles could not be hoaxed, he could not claim the Meier ones had been fabricated. On asking why the investigators mentioned in the book "Light Years" had been unable to find evidence of faking of the photographs, and demonstrated its impossibility because of the terrain and the fact that Meier only had one arm, it was suggested that they had ignored the evidence for financial reasons. It occurred to me to wonder why the exposé should be considered less susceptible to bias.

After coffee, we were divided into groups for seminar discussions. We were each given four handout sheets and were asked to discuss them. One was about sightings in the "Welsh Triangle", another (published later in this issue) was about the apparent two separate types of UFOs - the tall blond and noble and the ugly and dwarfish - with each having behaviour matching their appearance! There was an extract from "Dimensions" by Jacques Vallee which suggested that then phenomenon is so bizarre sometimes that it cannot represent material vehicles. Finally, there was one about the

"Majestic Twelve" secret group mentioned by Timothy Good in his book and in the tape recording we heard during the conference.

The session was interesting and enjoyable, and when it was finished we had lunch. After this I spoke on earth mysteries and tried to redress the anti-extraterrestrial tone of the previous talks by telling how Tony Wedd's ideas on the nature of UFOs and leys had led to the founding of the earth mysteries movement.

The conference then ended, but had had interesting outcomes not only in the discovery of the Swansea UFO case, but in the founding of a new UFO group in this area of Wales. The accomodation and service offered by the hotel during the conference were excellent and helped to make it a very enjoyable weekend for all concerned.

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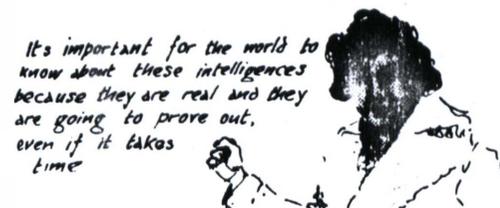
Note: After the conference, on request, Gordon Millington sent me a brief description of the various accounts of the "tall blond type" of UFO-naut. What struck me was that their appearance and even dress were much more similar to each other than are the "ugly dwarfish" type. This suggests that while Miss Randles may very well be right in her evaluation of the latter as hallucinations caused by UAPs, the former seem to be a different matter. This does not seem to have occurred to her, however, despite the fact that all the blond-type occurrences sent me by Gordon were derived from her book "Abductions". The difference in behaviour is striking too - while it is realised that some hallucinations could be pleasant and some unpleasant, it is unusual that all the more pleasant ones are concerned with a strikingly different UFO-naut appearance, and the appearance of which is much more consistent than would be expected from Miss Randles' theory.

Gordon's handout is reprinted later in this issue.

At one point during my recent trip in a hot air balloon we rose above the overcast cloud into the brilliant sunshine above - a breathtaking experience! Later, on looking at one of the photographs I took, there was a tiny circle of white against the cloud (a slightly shadowed part) resembling the UFO I saw the morning after the 1987 hurricane. It could be a defect of course - but no others occur on any other pictures in the set, and "Kodacolor Gold fillum" is not prone to them. The binocular microscope did not reveal any further detail. Full details of the balloon trip are in the current issue of Touchstone.

But for all that, was Dr Puharich right in his advice? When Stephen Darbishire came home to Coniston with a photo of a ufo in his camera, his father recognised the problem of being discredited too, and putting off his patients by identifying himself as a flying saucer freak. But for all that, he stood by his son, and no one has ever faulted the story or the photo. Indeed, it showed sufficient detail to strongly validate the photos taken at much the same time by George Adamski. And these were superlativ in detail.

Puharich was a new chapter in Uri's life. He took an interest in him from an early date, from about a year after he had begun his professional appearances. He came to Tel Aviv when war was imminent.



Dr Puharich was a hypnotist. Uri wasn't too happy about that, but thought he was resistant. However, he was game to have a go. With Puharich doing the talk-down, he went out like a light. He went back - regressed - to an early incident in his childhood. The story was all recorded on magnetic tape: good concrete evidence! But when he surfaced after an hour-long session, from that state of altered consciousness, he could remember nothing. When the others present told him what had happened, he entered a state of shock. He picked up the tape and "vanished" it! The message had to be reconstructed from memory. The next day he vanished a steel ring from inside a wooden box: this bit of magic was recorded on film. It was then that he asked for a camera: Puharich had money; Uri was still needy. Puharich bought him one.

That evening, the question arose as to whether Uri should do another hypnotic session, and it was agreed that the company should seek a "sign" before proceeding. They asked for the return of the steel ring. It took a quarter of an hour to finally materialise, but eventually it came. So for a second time, Uri was put under a spell, and again the voice was recorded.

The space people returned to the dangers of a war with Egypt. They were concerned to avert a global conflict among the atom powers.

After the one replay, this cassette also vanished. "Concrete evidence" had a most distressing way of becoming evanescent: a nightmare for a scientist!

As a result of these two messages, a contact was established with Israeli high command, where Uri's warnings were taken very seriously. Puharich named the point where an invasion was to be expected.

A little while after that, Uri vanished the cartridge from inside a ball-point pen which itself lay inside a cigar box. Three days later he had a close encounter with a ufo, from which he returned bearing in his hand the missing cartridge. Soon the tape recordings had identified the space craft by name: it was called Spectra.

A permanent record of these messages was always thwarted by vanishing the tape after one replay. However, psychic power was sometimes put to good use: Puharich had expressed regret that the carrying case for his cine camera had been left behind in New York to reduce air freight; he was afraid the desert sand would get into the mechanism: the case mysteriously appeared in Israel, the same evening, while Uri was taking a shower. On board the SS Spectra, nothing seemed to be impossible.

Two years later, Uri found himself being apported. One moment he was jogging along in New York, not far from 1st Avenue, East Side, when he felt a sensation of being sucked upwards, and instantly felt himself falling towards the porch screen of Puharich's home in Ossining, 30 miles away. He landed on a glass table which he broke in his fall. The event was well testified by friends, two of whom drove him back to his apartment.

An almost equally fantastic apport took place several years earlier, during Uri's training as a paratrooper in the Israeli army. To reduce the weight of a heavy Browning machine gun he had to take on a jump, he left parts of the inside barrel behind in his kit bag. A surprise call, after the drop, to put on some target practice had him in a spot. Still, he went through the motions and, miraculously, the machine gun opened fire.

To be continued.

THE PHENOMENON PRESENTS....

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UFONAUTS TYPE 1 - TALL, BLOND & NOBLE WHO.....

(1) Claim to select their victims by screening for 'worthiness'. (2) Lure them to the contact point by 'hunches' and often invite them aboard UFO. (3) Are tall, blond, fine featured, athletic and generally 'angelic'. (4) Claim to come from a confederation of space civilisations, and make the victim feel welcome and among friends. (5) Patiently answer questions about ship, crew and mission. (6) Give out uplifting messages of hope, encouragement and spirituality. Warn that humanity must reform to avoid catastrophe. (7) Give earthmen trips to known places such as moon and parts of earth. (8) Reaffirm friendly intent, part with fond farewells and encouragement of victim to speak of experience. (9) Abduct often for hours, even days. (10) Return victim comfortably to pick up point or home. (11) Inflict no ill after-effects, often even beneficial ones such as increased psi ability. (12) Promise and often perform follow-up contacts.

UFONAUTS TYPE 2 - BUG-EYED & DWARFISH WHO

(1) Select subjects apparently at random. (2) Attack victim at night on dark roads, prevent escape, often by paralysis, prior to abduction. (3) Are dwarfish, ugly and terrifying to unprepared abductee. (4) Are cold and methodical in attitude, offering neither comfort nor friendliness. (5) Restrain or tranquillize victim during usually painful experiments, offering no explanation and ignoring questions. (6) Give vague, cryptic information, inconsistent with that given in similar cases. (7) Give occasional voyages, often to bizarre or frightening places. (8) Erase memory of abduction and often implant messages deep in subconscious of powerless victim. (9) Make duration of experience usually minutes, seldom hours and rarely days. (10) Often dump victim anywhere that suits them, maybe far from home. (11) Leave their victim often traumatized, physically and emotionally distressed. Radiation sickness, nightmares, and neurosis common after-effects. (12) Promise follow-up contacts, which are sometimes made, sometimes not, regardless of victim's wishes.

SEVERAL OTHER TYPES have made occasional appearances, but may since have been discarded. America seems to get mainly the bug-eyed ones, while the others are more commonly reported from Europe.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS to Robert C. Girard for the foregoing list of ambiguities in Ufonaut behaviour.

(OUGRAP - GM/21/10/89)

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