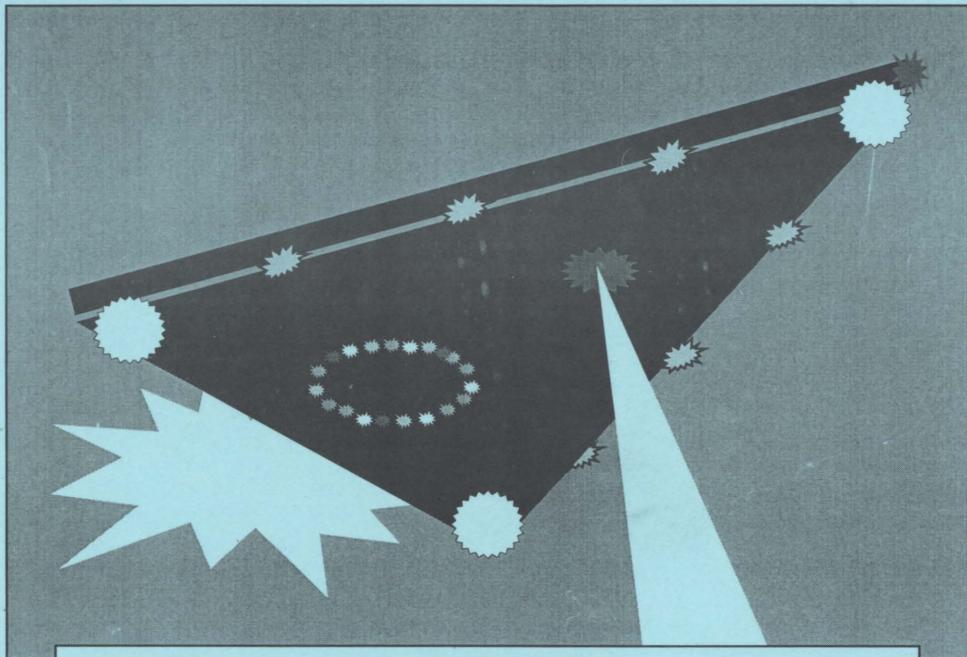


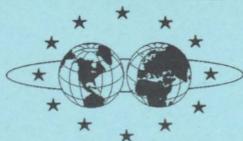
AWARENESS

22:3



- Spring 1998 -
Sighting Reports
News & Views
Astronomy
Encounters...

The Journal Of



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INTERNATIONAL
UFO RESEARCH

AWARENESS

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HOTLINE 01869 320989EDITORIAL

1

BIG BROTHER IS DEFINITELY WATCHING US!

A nightmare world was envisaged by George Orwell in his classic novel "1984", wherein the populace was dominated by "Big Brother", the all seeing and controlling dictator who had access to every movement and word spoken by his minions via spy cameras and sound link ups. Orwell's concept was no doubt based, at the time of writing, on the Communist system where the state controlled all aspects of life under a ruling committee which usually boiled down to dictatorship by one repressive individual in most countries (think of the "great leader" and "dear leader" in North Korea!) After 1989 and the release of the Soviet grip on East Europe, there are now only a handful of states under communist control - mainly China, Cuba, Vietnam and North Korea - all their peoples living below the standards of the western nations.

The "reds" may well be gone and forgotten but the technological revolution means that intrusion into an individual's private life is now at an all time high with vast computers storing up the minutest details about YOU. Your spending habits, interests and no doubt much more sensitive matters about your level of debt, health problems etc will all be on file at various commercial bodies unless you are extremely careful. Having your name in a business telephone directory means you are bombarded by unwanted callers offering to reduce your rates, enrol you in the "order of buffaloes", advertise on the Internet, and almost anything other than get you the business you wanted! If you send for mail-order goods or invest in unit trusts, even on a very small scale, you are then and forever bombarded with mountains of "junk mail" which is almost impossible to get rid of.

I was shocked into writing this, when a few days ago some smooth sounding operator rang my home phone number from the USA claiming to have me down as an "adventurous" investor even though I am unaware of giving consent to enter my name on any register. Recently offers of socio-class A-B doctors lists have been offered to me, presumably implying these were likely to be big spenders.

You can be named through your post code or car registration within seconds. Do those readers who have taken out subscriptions to mass circulation UFO magazines have your name on a security department file? It was often rumoured long before any of these magazines came out, that prominent ufologists were on file at the MOD. Many of these innocent titles belong to larger publishing groups who could be crunching your name and address for unspecified purposes at the present time. (Of course your membership of CIUFOR remains, and always has been confidential). Scare talk you may think, but if all these computer files fell into the hands of invading aliens or a new form of Nazi tyranny, those thought undesirable to the new regime could be traced and apprehended very quickly indeed. The signs of "Big Brother" are definitely all around us.....

In the previous editorial, it was regretted that the number of UFO events had fallen away during the second half of 1997, and in fact the position has remained uninspiring during the Winter months, although the signs are now improving. Latest magazines and bulletins reaching us from around the world all indicate numbers are down.

This may mean nothing but changing social trends - that witnesses may be more reluctant to come forward or that more and more people are staying in watching videos etc. We would therefore like to take the opportunity of this quiet time to invite all readers to fill in the

attached questionnaire, (a similar one was last presented 2 years ago). In particular if you think UFOs are still plentiful in your area, we need to know about it. Our recent experiences have indicated stronger links to the metaphysical side, rather than 500 ton, mile long spaceships landing on the local football pitch! Your thoughts on our looking into a more wider range of linked phenomena should be included in the questionnaire. Thankyou in advance for returning it.

The Editor.

NEWS IN BRIEF

UFO DISPLAY OR METEORITE: Yet again a massive display of fast moving UFOs created a series of panics over Devon and neighbouring counties on Sunday March 15th 1998 around 7pm. The reported details are almost identical in detail to recent cases in Scotland and north east England. Witnesses reported red distress flares, explosions and smoke trails, but the official explanation quoted in the press is that the display marked the return of the "Virginid" meteor shower - an almost unheard of grouping that had never made headlines in previous years.

It is almost exactly 5 years since the great UFO display of March 30-31 1993 over the very same area, with the explanation then that it was a spent satellite or rocket re-entry. All one can say is we are getting some incredible meteors or shooting stars which the astronomers and scientists are glibly promoting as routine events. We will endeavour to follow up this latest case and report more fully in the next magazine.

MOON LANDING TRICKERY: Mentioned in this column last time, there is a movement attempting to claim the American Moon landings of the "Apollo" project were faked. Several of the classic photographs of the Apollo 11 crew and Moon features have been shown to have excessively bright areas which could emanate from spotlights in a studio.

The detractors state the surface of the Moon should appear evenly lit in the background. A chance purchase of a souvenir cover postmarked Sept 1969 shows the classic Buzz Aldrin full frontal pose on the surface of the Moon with the background features all evenly illuminated, but the identical pose proffered by the debunkers contains bright spots on part of the spacesuit and background. **COULD THIS IMPLY THAT THE NASA PICTURE ORIGINALLY USED HAD BEEN TAMPERED WITH TO SUPPORT A FALSE HYPOTHESIS?** (Items available for inspection).

Further input from a reader suggests that the whole thing could be a double bluff - that the astronauts found evidence of extraterrestrial life on the Lunar surface and NASA may wish to throw a smokescreen around it. Apparently many years ago at a press conference, the "no go" issue was raised with the Apollo 11 team: Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins. Armstrong answered that to pull off such a stunt involving all those space employees and to be able to keep it a secret would be so difficult that it would be easier to do the real thing!

Our correspondent also confirms that NASA released simulated material in advance of the real missions in order to give Joe Public some idea what it would be like on the lunar surface. This particular magazine came out even before the Apollo crew left Earth!

ASTEROID DOOMSDAY: Once again the Earth is threatened from space. A mile wide asteroid has been projected to come very close to the planet on Oct 28th 2028, a mere 30 years away. The body, code number 1997 XF11, was originally projected to come within 30,000 miles of Earth, but this has now been revised to more like 500,000 miles. A collision is rated at 1000-1. Last year's great arrival, the Hale-Bopp comet approached no closer than 100 million miles in spite of at one time being considered collision material!

It is clear that the faintest whiff of an astronomical event sets the panic button off in the press and probably increases sales of newspapers for a day or two. Yes a cosmic collision could occur at some stage, but in terms of millions of years between successive ones. If 30 years is the amount of notice given of such impending disaster, then with modern technology available it should not be too difficult to nudge the menace on to a slightly corrected course to miss Earth. The consequences of the collision of a mile wide missile at re-entry speed would be totally devastating to all eco-systems.

Just how large the object was that came to ground in Tunguska, Siberia in 1908 has never been established, and it seems surprising that no astronomers gave any advance warning of a collision, so it is likely a fairly small rock was involved which even so caused 1000s of fir trees to collapse.

ROSWELL ROCK ANALYSIS: A mysterious sample of rock claimed to have been extracted from the desert at the time of the purported Roswell crash in 1947 was handed over to Dr Derrel Sims (of inplant fame). On July 4th 1997, Sims informed an audience that Dr Russell Vernon Clark of the University of California in San Diego had spent a year analysing the rock and found it contained isotopes of the elements NICKEL, ZINC, SILVER, SILICON, and GERMANIUM.

Michael Soper informs us: "when in 1996, the purported "Martian" rock was shown to contain fossils of early life, some may have been puzzled by the fact that the rock though found in Antarctica was known to come from Mars. The reason for that concerns the versions of chemical elements called isotopes, heavier or lighter versions of the same chemical elements we are used to. For example, heavy water is denser than ordinary water because the hydrogen nuclei contain two particles instead of the one in ordinary water. Similarly there are two types of silver called AG107 and AG109; on Earth these invariably have the ratio 51 to 49 and this is constant for all terrestrial silver.

THE SILVER FOUND AT ROSWELL HAD THE RATIO 33:67 - not TERRESTRIAL."

Similar irregular ratios were found for the other elements by analysis on a mass spectrometer. Michael Soper has found profound relationships linking these isotopes with classic geometry, star constellations and even the famous Barbury Castle crop circle. These must be considered speculative unless the rock proves to possess some unique practical features. Caution must be observed over an artifact handed in 50 years after it was first picked up.

"BLOBSTER" DISCOVERY: In early January a 4 ton, 6 tentacled carcass was found on a Tasmanian beach. Obviously we might assume it had been washed up by the sea, but nobody could confirm that. The remains look similar to others found in Scotland, Russia, South Africa and New Zealand. The smell of decomposition probably means the blobster is of animal origin, but the sheer size only tallies with the whale. Just in case aliens should be 4 ton tentacled hulks we include it in these notes!

=====

SIGHTING SUMMARIES

by Data Research

18 November 1996; Whitley Bay, Tyneside

The male witness was outside with his dog at 5.30pm, and was watching an aircraft, when his attention was taken by an almost stationary group of lights to the north. At first he thought this was a helicopter, but as they moved closer he thought they were more unusual, and seemed to be a triangle as they came overhead. The object was described as "enormous", and seemed to be only half a mile high, and moving at less than under 30mph. The witness reported what appeared to be huge underbelly thrusters. Local investigators have established that there were military exercises under way at the time, with air-to-air refuelling, and think that this, and another similar sighting two weeks alter were tankers and other aircraft refuelling.

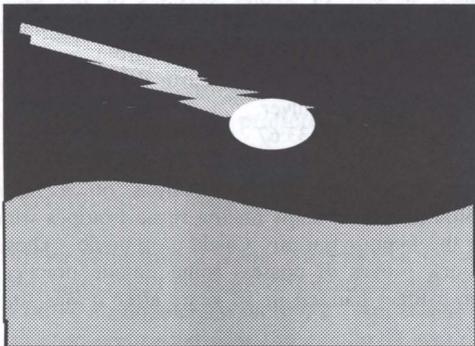
** The RAF's nearest refuelling zone is some 30 miles out to sea from the witnesses location, so this explanation may not be entirely relevant.*

[Source & Investigation - NUFORI, BUFORA]

24 April 1997; 9.30pm; Seaton, Cornwall

Former CI chairman and chief researcher, Derek Mansell witnessed an unusual event while taking his dog out for a walk. In this case it may be difficult to call this a 'UFO' as we usually associate this term with something that has been seen. Derek didn't see anything, but spent over 45 minutes intently listening to a most unusual series of 'bangs', not unlike that of a small aircraft with its engine misfiring when throttling back, but this was obviously not an aircraft, as there was no engine noise, or any other evidence of an aircraft. The banging noises were almost over Derek's house, and the source of the bangs seemed to be circling repeatedly over the 45 minutes that it was heard.

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]



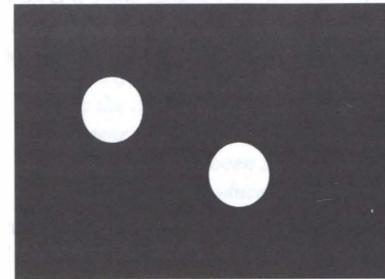
24 May 97; 5.25am; Gravesend

Two police officers were on motorised patrol on the A2, near Gravesend in Kent, travelling westwards. They were near the Swanscombe cutting when they both noticed a bright green meteor-like object shoot across ahead of them, travelling south to north. Initially this sounds like another of the bright sporadic meteor-like objects that have been seen increasingly for the past couple of years. However, in this case the sky was overcast with very low cloud,

the two witnesses suggest that the cloud was at only 500', yet the flying green object was seen below the cloudbase, and was possibly as close as 200' in front of their car, and it was seen to go below the hill to their right. The two officers were convinced they had seen a small aircraft in trouble, and they initiated a search and rescue mission.

** As has been the case with so many of these believed 'crashing aircraft' reports, nothing was ever found on the ground, and no aircraft was reported as missing.*

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]



24 September 1996; Bath, Avon

At just after 5.30am in the morning, the witness, who is an amateur astronomer, noticed 2 bright lights coming from the south-west, heading north-east. The two lights, keeping the same distance apart all of the time, were seen to go overhead by three other people, who confirmed that there was no noise to suggest an aircraft. The witness contacted Bristol airport, who put her through to the CAA, who in turn passed her on to the MOD, who took details of the report.

Unsurprisingly, the witness did not receive a satisfactory explanation from the MOD.

**The sighting initially seems to be of conventional aircraft, but the witness is experienced, and is convinced that the lights were something else. Certain aspects of the sighting are reminiscent of the well known 31 March 1993 countrywide sightings.*

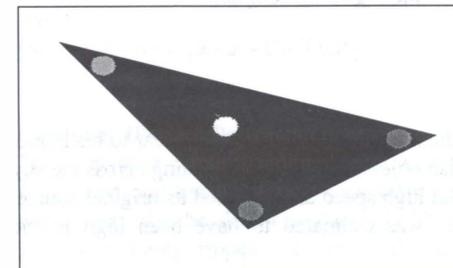
[Source - Contact Int.; Investigator - H Jones]

25 May 1997; 2.20am; Torquay, Devon

The witness was up during the night, in his kitchen, and looking out of the south-facing window at the near-full moon. He also saw a bright object above and to the left of the moon. This light was watched for 17 minutes as it moved towards the horizon. At this point the witness indicates that two aircraft came from opposite directions towards where the light has first been seen, and they apparently slowed down as they passed where it had been.

**No astronomical object could account for this light. The two aircraft that were seen may not be significant o this sighting, as commercial transatlantic flights would be seen very often from here.*

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]



4 December 1996; 8.45pm; M54, nr Wolverhampton

Two witnesses were in their car on the M54 at 8.45pm, when they noticed six or seven star-like objects moving very fast, and with a zigzag movement. They also noticed a vertical "pencil-like" object above RAF Cosford. The witnesses then noticed a third object moving across the motorway, and this was a triangle, with two green lights and one

blue light at its corners, and a single bright light in its centre. The witnesses pulled their car to the hard shoulder and watched this object go overhead at 50ft above them. On returning home, both men became ill with nausea, and being tired and drained, these symptoms lasted for a couple of weeks. The morning after the sighting, one of the men phoned RAF Cosford. Nothing more occurred until 17 December, when one of the witnesses was phoned by unidentified callers, though he assumed that they were from RAF Cosford, who wanted to know

about the sighting. The "pencil-like" object is reminiscent of the "amber bar" seen near Birmingham International Airport in 1995.

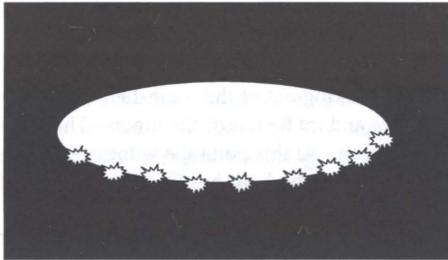
** The continued implications of a major importance of RAF Cosford are curious, since it is now only a minor operational base, and is only home to the Birmingham University Air Squadron, with its Bulldog and Vigilant trainer aircraft. The base is now best known for its aerospace museum.*

[Source & Investigation - NUFORI, BUFORA]

5 October 1996; Swindon

At 4.30pm the male witness went outside his recording studio for some fresh air. As a keen aviation enthusiast, he normally studies the skies carefully, and this time noticed two parallel lines in the sky, one on top of the other at about 8000ft, and some 8 - 10 miles distant. These lines remained motionless against the moving clouds, but as an aircraft approached, they ascended, and the aircraft passed underneath.

[Source & Investigation - Gloucestershire UFO Group]



8 Jan 1996; 8.45pm; Loughborough

The witness, a retired lady, was at her porch window. Her attention was grabbed by a very bright object moving low across the sky. It was a bright green colour, almost fluorescent, and there were sparkling white lights on its underside. The witness states that its shape was "...not dissimilar to an airship..", and its sound was "... like an aeroplane..". The witness estimated its height as that what an

airship would fly at. There was another unconfirmed witness.

**The witness lives close to an airport. By her own description, she was almost certainly watching an airship, and there is little doubt that one of the Virgin lightships was responsible for this sighting, though this was never confirmed by the Lightship company.*

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]

February 1997; 4.45am, Seaton, Cornwall

Derek Mansell was outside with his dog early in the morning, on high ground near to his home. He was looking eastwards when he noticed a largish object, with a trail, shooting across the sky from north to south. The object then did a U-turn at high speed and reversed its original course, and was lost to sight very quickly. The object was estimated to have been high in the atmosphere.

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]

October 1995; Eynsham, Oxon

The witness, already known to reader's as 'Viv', who has been having curious experiences along with his family in Australia, was witness to many odd UFO-like events before he moved away from the Oxford area. On a night in October, while driving home towards Oxford from

Eynsham on the A420, he saw an 'aircraft', with no lights, hovering over the town of Witney. Viv was convinced it was going to crash, though it remained motionless as Viv travelled some 2 miles further along the road, and it remained hovering over Witney as it was lost to sight as Viv continued his journey.

**This is another case where it is difficult to appreciate how a dark and unlit object could be seen clearly, yet be interpreted as an aircraft. It is worth noting that RAF Brize Norton is very close to the A420, and VC-10 and Tristar aircraft are often seen while in circuit, but while they may appear to be moving slowly, they would not have been seen to 'hover' for a period of time, and would not have been seen at night without very obvious lights. In fact both types of aircraft are more likely to produce black triangle reports than anything else.*

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]

27 October 1997; 7.45pm; West Moors, Dorset

Two schoolboys were out for an evening's stargazing when they saw something a little more unusual. An orangey-red light came across from their right, flying faster than an aircraft. To the two witnesses surprise, the light stopped for about 30 seconds, then resumed its course a total of four times before the light vanished from sight in a big flash. The two boys knew that they had not seen any satellite, let alone Mir, which they were also hoping to see.

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]

22 July 1996; 12.15am; Bicester, Oxon

The witness, who was unable to sleep, was at her window, overlooking the western horizon. Her attention was taken by a bright star-like light to the left of the constellation of The Plough. After a few moments, another light was seen close to the first, but this was pulsing, and then a red pulsing light was noticed. At this point the witness described seeing a very close bright flash of light move from right to left, which quite startled her. The original lights were still manoeuvring and seemed to perform a small loop before disappearing.

** It is felt that the witness originally saw a normal aircraft on commercial flightpaths, the type of which she has reported as UFOs before. The bright flash is more interesting, though it could have been one of these now fairly common 'skyflashes' that are seen over the Thames Valley area.*

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]

5 October 1996; 4.40am; Bicester, Oxon

This is another case of an unidentified sound, rather than observed flying object. The witness was in bed, and became aware of a sudden noise like a strong wind, then thunder-like rumbling which seemed to be almost on the roof. There were four distinct bumps, then noises as if roof tiles were being ripped off before the noise seemed to move down the road slightly, accompanied by cracking noises. As these noises seemed to move away slightly, a loud humming was then heard, then total silence, as sudden as the roaring noise had arrived. Similar, but quieter sounds were heard again at 6.17am.

[Source & Investigation - CIUFOR]

BERWYN MOUNTAIN 23RD JANUARY 1974 INCIDENTS

by Margaret Fry (Welsh Representative)

The Berwyn story ranks with Rendlesham Forest and Roswell in the duplicity of governments in covering up the UFO phenomenon at any cost. I first read of it through Eileen Buckle, when her article appeared in Flying Saucer Review, February 1974. She was one of the first BUFORA investigators. Titled "Welsh Mountain Explosion" she had found a number of witnesses for that night who saw strange objects in the sky from Holyhead, Betws-y-Coed, to Gobowen near Shropshire. Apparently there were newspaper reports about people seeing strange things in the sky, but explained these away as a meteorite etc. I have only in this month, February 1998, seen copies of these reports, one or two lead further credence to what I had independently gathered over the years.

I had received in Dulwich, London, several reports of a mile long cigar shaped object, with numerous port holes flying low over houses about an hour before a UFO landed on Berwyn. Wales was a remote little country to me and I did not know its place names. It was not until 1979 that my daughter's family shifted to North Wales, that I started to meet local people and farmers who told me of seeing a large orange globe on the 23rd January 1974 either over Berwyn or other parts of North Wales. These were my first reports of it.

Welsh names were unpronounceable and soon forgotten by me. By the time I came to live in North Wales in 1983 I just assumed these places were near my area of Llandudno; many of these village names being repeated in the county. My friend David Clayton had written to the Bala newspapers about an earthquake, explosion and meteor crash at Berwyn. David had a hunch that there was more to this than the official explanation, so asked people to contact him if they remembered the incident. Mrs Pat Evans and Mrs Rees-Pritchard wrote to him. In October 1991 we drove down to Bala and all the reports I previously had clicked together, as I now knew where Berwyn was. Berwyn is quite a remote and desolate area of high mountains just outside the surrounds of Bala town and lake.

Mrs Rees-Pritchard had written that in 1974 she worked in the bar of a hotel in Bala, and when the earthquake came all the glasses in the bar had fallen, and there was an explosion. I had checked with the Edinburgh British Geological Survey, Seismology Dept, and they told me the earthquake was on January 23rd 1974, at 8.31pm and registered 3.5 magnitude on the Richter Scale. The curious thing about it being that some people reported an explosion immediately after it, and others did not hear it.

The morning after "suited strangers were booked into the hotel" and they went out to the mountain daily for a whole week. They had tried to find out the reason why without success. I was unable to contact this lady at the time, and when I did, she I had moved away. What she wrote proved a valuable piece of information. It was not until October 1995 that I was able to go to Bala again and interviewed Mrs Pat Evans.

Mrs Pat Evans, a nurse, and her two teenage daughters also felt the earthquake at Llandefereel village and heard the explosion at about 8.30pm simultaneously. She rang Police Headquarters at Colwyn Bay offering her services as a nurse; her girls were in the St Johns Ambulance Brigade and also wanted to help. They thought a plane had crashed on the Berwyns, as there had been crashes there before.

When they parked their car opposite the mountain they thought at first there was a fire,

then realised it was a huge egg shaped craft sitting pulsating on the ridge just below the mountainside, glowing pinky red. They stayed there 20 minutes during which time small white lights zig-zagged up to the object. Thinking these were police or military, they decided they could do nothing, so turned around by a small, roughly hewn car park on the Berwyns to go home. This took 15 minutes, and during all the time there and back, they saw not another soul.

The area was so windswept, bleak in muted shades of brown; grey-green with approaching winter, and Cader Berwyn and Cader Bronwen standing out treeless in shades of deep and light browns. It is not difficult to imagine the eerie sensations they must have felt, as we all stood up there in October 1995 on the high mountains, two miles approximately as the crow flies from where the UFO had landed.

Two years previously, Miss Catherine Wynn's family and another witness in Wrexham had told me of that night also. They had felt the earthquake and heard the explosion, and saw a red glow in the sky over Berwyn. They headed in their cars from Corwen through Llandrillo village to the council forestry road. They went on the narrow dirt track through the woods, which is often impassable in winter due to ice and fallen trees. It peters out a short way up the mountain. It was at this point the police turned back all the many cars that went up there. On that narrow track it took the cars awhile to be turned back, so everyone saw the huge pinky red pulsating object through the trees up on the Berwyn mountain side.

I then began to receive numerous reports from people all over North Wales which seemed to back up these accounts. A particularly interesting one was from a family who had stood on Bangor station at 6.30pm on the 23/1/74 when a round pinky/red object came and stood a few hundred feet above the platform and swayed silently from side to side. They watched this until their train came in and they had to depart. An abduction took place the same night at Bala involving two long distance lorry drivers who lost 4 hours of time. Clearly none of these people had been seeing the reported meteor.

In May 1996, Tony Dodd of Quest International asked me if he may use all the material I had collected for an article in his magazine, and I agreed. He was quite careful and consulted me all the way, but unfortunately UFO Magazine left all the important times out, and inadvertently two whole paragraphs, thereby making the article inaccurate.

However, surprisingly this did bring me in astonishing information both from a couple of military informants, and local farmers and people living in the area at the time. Tony Dodd had been informed by a high ranking army retired officer with the pseudonym of James Prescott, that the military authorities had known for 3 days previously that a UFO would land on the Berwyn range of mountains. They were shifted from south England through Birmingham to Chester on the border; then on to Llangollen/Corwen to await orders to proceed to the mountains on that night of 23rd January 1974.

From Llangollen this officer had been told to proceed with his unit of 4 men in their military lorry to Llandefereel, presumably then they had to take the road cutting through the mountains (B4391) and wait there. Presumably again they waited in the small hidden car park on the mountain side. It was well past 11 pm when soldiers brought two long boxes down to them, which they were ordered to leave with and proceed to Porton Down in Wiltshire without stopping. When they arrived at this underground establishment, the boxes were opened in front of them and to their horror and astonishment they contained 5 to 6ft tall, thin, almost skeleton like beings. There was no mistaking they were aliens. At Berwyn

they had seen no UFO, although they had heard later that some of the units had taken live aliens to Porton Down and also retrieved pieces of a craft.

The first military man to contact me told from his recollections all the foregoing had to be correct. He had discussed it with a mate of his from that unit. They recalled getting a North Wales police phone call saying "It's big, orange, pulsating, and we don't know what it is". An officer came into the room, took over the phone saying he knew all about it, and ordered them to leave the room immediately. Nobody below the rank of NCO went to Berwyn, and none of the people who apparently took part in it talked about it afterwards. The two men now felt it must have been a deliberate operation to destroy the UFO.

I asked how it was some of the farmers and the locals heard no explosion but heard the craft descend to the mountain slowly. I was assured they had the technology then to destroy such a craft without causing any sound or outward explosion.

What puzzled these military men was that the officer commanding their particular unit, Staff Sergeant James Prescott was later killed in the Falklands War of 1982. Why had Tony Dodd's high ranking military informant used his name? Was he a government stooge, or just someone so desperate to share this information now, that he deliberately chose a name that would draw the attention of the military men who had been in the same unit to come forward?

Nick Redfern, a well known fellow UFO investigator was also contacted by a military informant who told him that, on their way out to the Falklands, there were some 50-60 men in his unit, that James Prescott was one of these men, and he was killed. They had discussed the Berwyn incident and its rumours, but none of them had believed it. It seemed too horrifying. He had recently seen a programme on Sky TV and then remembered this, and wondered if it was true. That is why he was contacting Redfern.

One of the earliest UFO investigators, Terry Hooper, also contacted me. He too was told the same story about oblong boxes being taken to Porton Down, and that some units had taken dead and alive aliens there. He was told this as far back as 1990. Not knowing the area of Wales, he had put his notes aside hoping to do something about it at a later date, until he heard I was investigating the incident, and posted me his notes. One point made was that the unit that went up the mountain wore night goggles. These had just been developed in America, and had been requested by their military authorities to try them out in Britain.

A gentleman from the village of Glyndyfrdwy and his mother gave supportive evidence for the military involvement. At 9.30pm to past midnight, they had watched closed military vehicles rumble through the village to Corwen.

Another lady had a most bizarre experience. In mid-January 1974, leaving work at 3am she was detained in an electric sub-station at Bethel/Pentir, further up the A5 arterial road, which also services Bala. Twenty minutes later, 3 armed military lorries came into the sub-station. Two of these vehicles contained armed soldiers and the other two stone oblong boxes. When they left, she was escorted home by military police, given no explanations, and a month later a MIB visited her, asking very strange questions.

Mark Saville was living outside Llandefereel village on a mountain opposite Berwyn in 1974. There were two other farms there. The night of the earthquake they all rushed out and

joined each other. They heard no explosion but saw the pinky red egg shaped craft slowly silently descend to the Berwyn mountain side to sit there pulsating for three quarters of an hour. It defused no light at all, when it then just blacked out! Everything had been deadly quiet - no sounds at all. This account and their experience was verified in 1997 by the family of his neighbours.

Huw Lloyd, his sister and family in a farm then near to Berwyn, felt the severe earthquake and heard an explosion. Their animals were terrified. He and his neighbour Enoch decided to go up the mountain to find out the cause of this, just as policemen came into the yard, and asked him to drive them up into the council forestry road. They did this in pitch dark with a car load of strangers following them. When they reached the spot where the road peters out and where there is a gate on the mountain side, they got out. No one ventured past the gate to his knowledge. It was winter, freezing cold, though a clear dry night. Suddenly a blue arc of light appeared from ground level, which spread across the mountain range lighting up the whole area like daylight. This was not seen by the farmers on Llandefereel mountain, or indeed by the Evans family on the opposite side of the mountains standing on the B4391.

Huw and Enoch stayed about 15 minutes leaving the police and strangers there. "The police later came down and were given cups of tea by Mr William's mother. The Chief Constable wrote thanking her for her consideration. They have kept the letter, which I was shown in the summer of 1997. Yet the Colwyn Bay police headquarters today deny any knowledge of the incident or the police involvement" said Huw. His family felt there was a definite cover-up.

Huw told me the Berwyns are impossible to cross at night particularly in Winter. It is exceedingly rough terrain with pot holes and rocks covered in ice. He also said there were other tracks through the forested area from the Corwen side, apart from the council forestry track which military men could have gone on. They would not have been seen from Llandrillo village. To their knowledge NO villagers had seen military personnel that night. So the military involvement does seem a mystery, whilst they may have got to the lower slopes of the mountain range from Corwen, how did they cross the tops of the mountains and the rocky ridge in those adverse night conditions?

Mike Orton, my fellow UFO investigator, Had belonged to the Rhinog mountains Rescuc Team in 1974. He said there were numerous rumours at the time, when they were not called out to the supposed crash. Yet again the Lloyd family told me they had gone up to the mountain the following day and numbers of people were there. This contradicted other witnesses, who told me over the years that the area was sealed off for a week and nobody was allowed in the vicinity!

The other puzzling factor is that so many people saw different shapes and types of UFO that evening and night in the area. A man from Cynwyd village near Llandrillo told me he saw a purple egg shaped object from the Corwen road about 8.30 to 9.00pm bouncing across the tops of the mountain peaks. It then settled on the mountain side, and a short while after took off into the sky again.

A good report given me in November 1997 was from farmers - father and son - who had their farm opposite the Berwyn mountain range. They were out tending their sheep when, what the son described as a very well defined cake tin, and the father drew as a square! passed less than 100ft over their heads. It went very slowly and silently, and they watched it

fly directly to Cader Berwyn. I asked what happened then, and what was the time? They did not know whether it went over the mountain top or landed, for they then turned away to tend their sheep. The time they knew exactly, as animals have a set routine - it was 11pm exactly. They had experienced an earth tremor earlier in the evening, and this was reported in the local paper, so they knew the date was the 23rd January 1974. They had not talked about it ever to anyone, save amongst themselves. Then they saw a recent very good UFO report for the 8th November 1997, and as the reporter had mentioned the Welsh Federation of Ufologists and given my phone number, they decided to ring me.

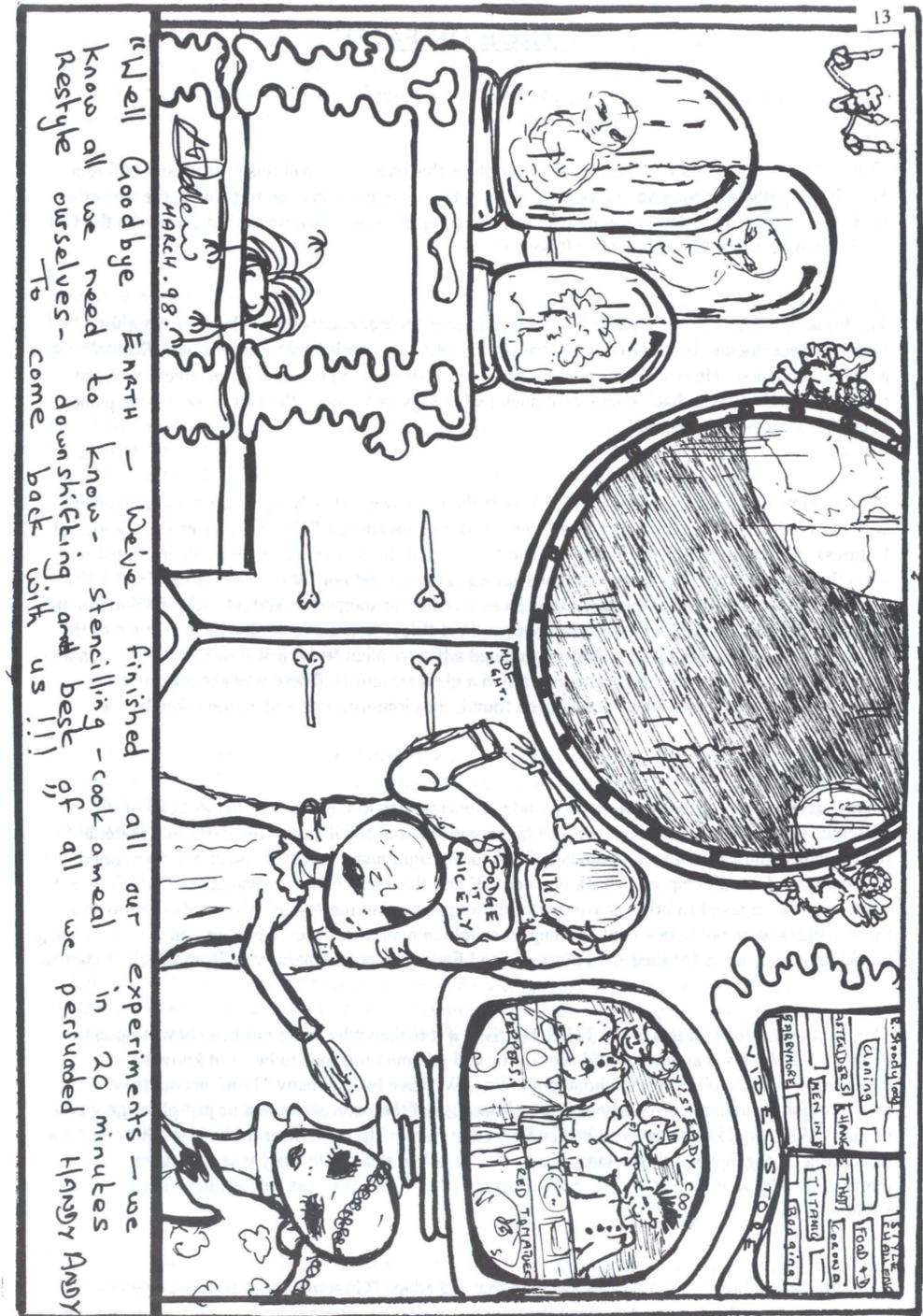
In the summer of 1997 two military men contacted us. One said he was in the unit that took dead aliens to Porton Down. The other, who claimed to be a high ranking officer, asked if we would ask our military contacts if they knew about the Ashford connection or Cambridge unit, or of Aberystwyth. If they knew what this meant, they would be genuine. We Ufologists in Wales know of the Aberystwyth incident of 1984 - it is very similar to what occurred in Berwyn in 1974. I personally never heard of anything happening at Ashford(Kent) or Cambridge, so do not know if this person is genuine, but as the other ex-soldier is coming to me via my farming community, we are hoping to meet later in the Spring, and I shall meet him with an open mind.

Today we are told USA and Russian orbiting satellites can monitor such things as meteors (and UFOs?) coming into the Earth's atmosphere, and can accurately predict where they will fall. Did this happen to an already stricken UFO that landed on the Berwyn mountain? Or did the authorities deliberately destroy it on arrival? Were the aliens dead on impact or were they destroyed? It seems to me from all the reports I received, that if what we have been told is correct, this military operation was very successful in being covered up from the local people. Now 23 years later, it is still a cover-up mystery. Despite all our combined efforts it will continue to be I think.

I have had various young researchers newly into the field, and very often just armchair critics! They say we should have hard evidence. I have been a field research worker for 33 years, and as far as I am concerned, the only evidence and tools we have to work with is the word of our fellow men. As a good investigator you carefully ascertain from various sources that your witnesses are genuine people, who are telling you the truth as they saw it. There the moral obligation ends - there has to be a point when you start trusting your fellow men.

My other concern in this investigation, is that since Tony Dodd's article in UFO Magazine appeared, there has been a rush of UFO buffs wishing to investigate on their own. Welsh rural communities are very insular; they distrust strangers. It is only through Welsh farming friends, and my connections through family marriages within this community that I have been accepted. If too many of these youngsters with little or no investigative experience barge in on these mountain villagers they are never going to give me any more reports. They will feel I have sent them, even though I have never seen or approved of such investigators. I consider the investigation of the Berwyn incidents ongoing, and I do not want them to dry up.

Maybe if there was a government cover-up we will never learn the whole truth, but to date I would suggest Berwyn is as important a case as Roswell or Brentwater, and similar ones in other countries that we do not always get to hear of.



TRUE OR FALSE*by Frances Copeland*

Well we've certainly had our share of false prophets this past year - will this year be any different? Hale Bopp with its accompanying starship was quite a whopper and even to proving the Moon landing as being a hoax has certainly taken up some typist's time. Are we seeing another in the Col. Philip J Corso Book "The Day After Roswell".

The book written by Corso a retired Army intelligence Officer claims that, whilst working for National Security and being advisor to Dwight Eisenhower, emphatically declares that *Roswell* actually happened. He reveals the truth behind the cover-up and his actual involvement with the scientific fraternity who back engineered alien technology and how in the end it "saved our planet from these malevolent beings".

Corso claims that after the end of World War II the USA was not only fighting on the home front with the cold war with Russia, it was also engaged with invading EBEs (Extraterrestrial Biological Entities). Corso reveals that Roswell was no fantasy and the military were doing their utmost to keep the whole thing under wraps so that widespread panic did not set in. Whilst on duty in 1947 he claimed that shortly after the crash the pieces were being shipped to Wright Field in Ohio (sounds familiar) and en route where he was stationed in Fort Riley, Kansas, he took a look at some of the debris. There was a shipping crate that contained a bizarre alien body, just four feet long, humanoid, suspended in a gel-like substance and secured in a glass structure. There was accompanying documentation explaining where it had been found, the circumstances and action taken by the military.

As his career advanced he began service under General Arthur Trudeau in 1961 as head of the "foreign" technology department. Part of his mission was to see if any of the harvested material from the crashes could be used technologically for future programmes especially in advance weapons. The integrated circuit chip was "back engineered" and this enabled laser advancement which in turn subsequently managed to bring down one of the ships carrying the Aliens. Corso also claims that these visitors were not benevolent, coming to enlighten mankind, - they were here on a mission using mankind as specimens for their own purposes and finding an abundant harvest from which to choose.

The main question in all this is "IS THIS TRUE" - if it is then why has it not been blown open for debate? Surely this is another world scoop - or will this man turn out to be - not known/a nut case/not on the payroll/or in the phone book etc., We have had so many "True" accounts which could be quite genuine but have been ignored because of the fantasy element or just plain ignorance of man. Why would this man who had an important role in life, an Officer in the US military put his reputation on the line and throw himself open to ridicule if the whole story was a complete fabrication. Could it be that we wouldn't recognise the "truth" if it was laid out in front of us anyway!

I find it amazing how many times I have read that old adage "Government to be more open on UFOs", no matter how many American Presidents are elected - there is always the current one who

during his time in office - "Is definitely out to find the real truth behind the UFO mystery". I don't think there has been one President who at some stage hasn't made this as part of his mission as president and then suddenly nothing is mentioned. Do they find out anything? is the truth so appalling that they dare not say or is it defiance or deny the rule of play.

Anonymity plays a large role in true or false - for instance how about this from the Internet:-
(This has been reproduced directly from the Internet and has not been changed in content)

Peter A Bostrom, in his article "A Deadly Close Encounter in Cambodia" (Issue 1, 1993, Unsolved UFO Sightings magazine) refers to an Officer of a Special Forces team who was interrogated by a representative of "Majestic 12" after stumbling upon a landed UFO in a jungle clearing in Cambodia.

The Officer and "others" recalled they came across a couple of dozen grey, non-human like alien beings near the craft and in the excitement of the moment there was a short exchange of fire in which one grey was killed. The beings then fled the scene and that was presumed to be the end of the incident.

There were however, certain indications suggesting that there was much more to the incident than the surviving soldiers were allowed to remember, (the representative of Majestic 12 had the information extracted and then memory suppression was used).... If not for the fact that the incident was reported to have actually occurred the following account might have been mistaken for a scene right out of the film PREDATOR.

The story thus continues: "We hadn't been back to camp more than an hour. We usually took a shower, got cleaned up and then rested before we were debriefed - because that could sometimes take many hours. We were sequestered in our quarters, told not to have any outside activities at all and meals would be brought to us. We were not to talk to any unauthorised personnel then we spent the next 3½ weeks talking to various people, some of which I didn't know who the heck they were several were psychologists.

It was very obvious by the kind of questions we were being asked - that they started dragging out background stuff. If you are familiar with the military when they generally bring in all sorts of strange questions, nothing to do with the actual event - they are searching for quirks in your behavioural pattern. We went on with this for 2½ weeks then they started using Narco-Hypnosis.

Essentially you sit in a chair, make sure your nice and comfy, then you receive an injection of basically what is called a hypnotic drug. Usually a drug which has a tendency to lower your psychic resistance. You get your body relaxed as possible and then you lose your will. They actually hypnotise you at that point.

It is my understanding that during training we had to go through tortures and things like that. There wasn't one of us that couldn't pass a polygraph test and lie about his age, the colour of his mother or

the colour of the sky. So the military knew we were covered in case we were captured - we knew how to respond under pressure.

The only thing I can say was, that during this stage in one way or another, *they could have altered our memories* or that whether we saw something else far worse and they altered our memories to tone the incident down. The only thing I will say is that every one of us still have occasional nightmares about it, and we get flashes of things that are just an incredible Blood-bath.

(Note: One separate source, a researcher, confided to one of the tabloids that he had interviewed some military men involved in a confrontation or in actuality an all out firefight between US forces and wiry-built Greys in the jungles of Southeast Asia. According to what he was told, several hundred American soldiers were killed in a bloodbath - the same as mentioned above- along with a little under a dozen of the Aliens themselves. All of the dead were reportedly buried in a mass grave and a security clamp down prevailed.)

A soldier called "George" was reassigned from our unit after we had all cleared through the medical and psychological grilling. I was called into the Captain's office about 6-8 weeks after the incident to identify a body they told me was George. I had actually seen the man a few days before on the base and the body I was shown was far, far decomposed. Even in the jungle where you have rapid decomposition I couldn't possibly have identified it as George. The flesh was all liquefied, all I can say is his tissue had seemed to suffer from some kind of extreme disruption like in a cold sore. I was called in just to sign the papers and identify the body but the only way I could identify him was through his dog-tags."

When Bostram asked if that was all he could remember of the incident the officer replied "If I try to remember real hard then I become confused, I have spoken to a couple of other guys who went through the same process as I did and they tell the same story. Slowly things start to return but I really don't feel I want to talk about it".

"The Greys had a smooth gait, almost unerring and they covered a lot of ground in a little bit of time. When I try to go through the details I end up almost with an anxiety attack. Whatever it was that they did to us to bury those things is pretty permanent. Over the years, I still occasionally have nightmares about it, I wake up in a cold sweat and I'd remember for a while. It's frustrating, I find myself angry because I don't know what the heck they did to us. I have five or six buddies that I can get hold of most of them refuse still to talk about it at all. One man still suffers from delayed stress syndrome and when he came home he was never the same".

The Officer was interviewed on several occasions, his story never changed and it is sincerely believed that the man was telling the truth, or the truth as he knew it to be.

An interesting footnote to this story was that in 1995 a Predator Incident was confirmed in Southeast Asia. The source came from an active CIA agent who was also subject to the "mind control" syndrome but he did state that over 200 elite special forces were killed during one of the three Predator incidents, and it ended with the withdrawal of the Alien Forces.

True or False - an interesting tale!

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ENCOUNTERS AT AVEBURY

The following account involves two members of CIUFOR's data research team, whose names will not be revealed at the moment for reasons of confidentiality, although research is still ongoing.

The village, and henge monument of Avebury in Wiltshire is a very atmospheric place in the Wessex landscape, notwithstanding its older associations with the Celts and Druids, right through to the new-age religions. In recent years, the Avebury area has been the 'recipient' of many of the most intriguing and inspiring crop formation events, and of course many UFO sightings, including CE3K events.

One of the data research members, 'Peter', has been going to Avebury on a regular basis for the past few years, and has increasingly become aware of the natural 'earth forces' that flow around the whole area. On several occasions he has also been aware of ethereal forms around him, virtually on the periphery of conscious awareness, and at times has likened the presence to that of 'Q' in *Star Trek*. He has also been more aware recently of astral worlds, and has had increasing memories of experiences with other beings, both in astral and physical worlds. The other person, 'John', has been involved in various aspects of spiritual development for several years, having had many paranormal experiences in his adult life, and has recently been drawn to the UFO aspect of the very wide spectrum of paranormal and anomalous phenomena.

During the festive period of 1997, on 29th December to be precise, while both were on holiday, the two men travelled down to Avebury for the day. As one of them hadn't seen many of the prime crop-event sites near to Avebury, the other took him on a brief tour of the area, and both spent a while up on Walker's Hill, overlooking the famous Vale of Pewsey, and the Alton Barnes area in particular.

Once the two had arrived at Avebury, and after a pleasant lunch at the Red Lion, they set off for a slow stroll around the entire monument, both determined to take in all the atmosphere of the place, which was very still strong after the winter solstice. Both had camcorders, and were hopeful of capturing something on tape that was unseen to the eye, but as it turned out, the anomalies were not so much visual as aural.

The first anomaly occurred relatively early in the walk, but wasn't revealed until the video footage was played when back at home later in the week. While walking from the Obelisk, and past the Ringstone, John was filming as Peter described the Druid wedding ceremony that he had been a witness to at the solstice ceremonies eight days earlier. However, on playing the tape back, in the background there is a curious Indian-like chanting, heard for only a few seconds, but distinct nevertheless. Both are certain that there was no-one near them at the time, and no-one was engaged in any sort of ritual that involved chanting. The tape was brand new, so would have been very unlikely to have had a previous soundtrack on it that could have corrupted the recording done that day. This chanting was heard when the overall background noise, of the increasingly intrusive traffic going though the village had lulled for a few moments.

While walking from the Ringstone towards the large stone known as the Devil's Chair, Peter fleetingly noticed a bar of amber light in the sky to his right, in the direction of Silbury Hill, but as soon as he turned his head to bring it out of his periphery vision, he lost sight of it. John carried on filming the stones as Peter rested by sitting in the small hollow in the Devil's Chair. Peter's attention was grabbed by a yellow zig-zag of light that went down towards Waden Hill, it looked like a lightning fork, but was too feint in its yellow colour, and besides, the weather

conditions at the time were not capable of producing an electrical discharge. Unfortunately, Peter was not videotaping at that time, and John didn't have his camera pointed in that direction.

The walk became rather less eventful as Peter and John walked down to the Overton end of the West Kennett Avenue, while filming and noting the odd face-like patterns in some of the stones, which curiously enough seemed more prominent through the mono viewfinders of the camcorders - how much do human eyes miss by seeing in colour during daylight?

The next odd, and possibly the most pleasing occurrence, happened as the two started walking back towards the village of Avebury itself. As they were between the fourth and fifth stones by the roadside, they both heard "Hello!", and stopped to try and see the source of the male-sounding voice, which was not shouted from a distance, but was spoken softly from very close. It was obvious that there was no-one else present, at least in a physical form. The two stood for a few minutes while still trying to see who, or what had apparently spoken, before starting to walk on. Now at this time, you might think that one, if not both of them would have switched his camcorder to 'record' - just in case, but as seems to happen so often in these cases, neither did! They had only completed a few paces when the voice came again "Hello!", seemingly this time from the stone just behind them, the fifth in the avenue. They both stopped again, and Peter even went and walked round the stone, while asking for 'Q' to make himself known again, though he, or whoever it was, didn't. While you are reading this, you will have difficulty in appreciating the tone and inference of a simple 'hello', but this seemed somewhere between a greeting and acknowledgement, and Peter felt it had expressed satisfaction within one simple word. Despite hanging around for several minutes nothing more was seen or heard, and the unseen being had apparently gone, but to where?

A rather amusing piece of video footage was taken by both men, when a black cat was seen stalking though the longish grass towards the village, but an annoyed magpie 'bombing' the cat rather puts the cat's size into perspective, so no claims of the 'Beast of Avebury' can be made!

Nothing else unusual was experienced while at Avebury, but both John and Peter felt very relaxed yet exhilarated as they travelled home.

A further occurrence happened later that night, when Peter astrally travelled back to Avebury, as if drawn back for some reason, and even more curiously, yet another data research member was there in her astral self. Peter recalls very clearly standing within the main ring of stones in the night, looking towards the Avenue, with the banks of the henge silhouetted against the sky, the clump of trees on the bank adjacent to the West Kennett road seemed to be standing guard. A bright red ball of light appeared above the Avenue, and it moved slowly around in the sky, sometimes pulsing, occasionally flashing. After about a minute, it flashed brightly and then vanished. Peter instinctively knew that this light was an energy form, and it was the being that he and John had encountered in the physical world earlier that day. He also feels that this being is one of the 'circlemakers', and expects to encounter the being again this summer.

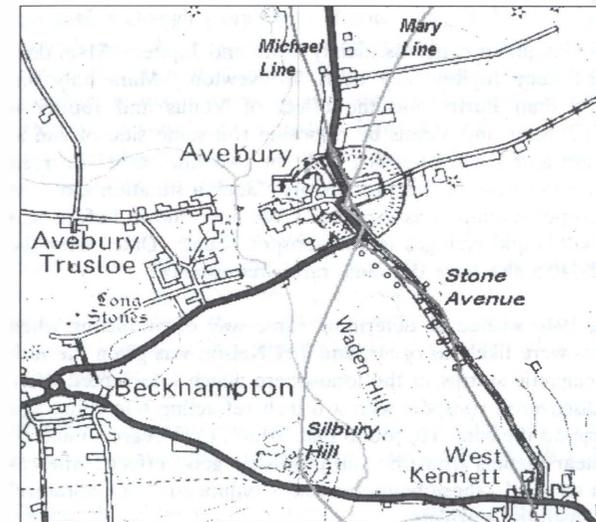
John experienced a rather different occurrence, this time with the mischievous nature of 'Q' being apparent. While he was at Avebury, John bought some magazines, crystals and other items at the Henge Shop. When he returned home, he put the bag containing items down next to a cabinet in his living room, from where they promptly vanished, never to be seen again!

Two weeks after the event, John and Peter were able to have aspects of the encounter confirmed at a channelling session, and details of this, and other information, will hopefully be revealed at a later date.

It is well worth reminding ourselves of some of the earth energies that run through the Avebury complex, which may well be very significant for many experiences within the henge monument.

Those of you who know of the St Michael alignment from Cornwall right through to Norfolk will have some idea of the energies involved. You will also know of the two positive and negative, or male and female energy lines, known as 'Michael' and 'Mary', that are intrinsically linked with the St Michael alignment, though are quite separate entities in their own right - perhaps it is a question of which came first, the energy line or the sacred place.

For those of you who do not know the details of the earth currents, the two energy lines, *Michael* and *Mary* flow, and that is the right word in this context, through the very centre of Avebury, though they make their own course independently until they meet, and partly converge at the Obelisk, they then flow together under the Ringstone, and across to another



nodal point between the Devil's Chair and its unnamed adjacent stone. These two large stones seem to form a portal, and indeed they do, as the *Michael* and *Mary* currents split. *Mary* breaks away here, and heads towards Silbury Hill itself. *Michael* continues across the earthen banks, then crosses the road, and follows the West Kennet Avenue. Indeed, as the two respected earth energy researchers, Hamish Miller and Paul Broadhurst, note in their wonderful book *The Sun and The Serpent*, it is the stones of the Avenue itself that mark the boundaries of the energy current. It is clear

that both Peter and John were well tuned into the frequency of the natural energies.

It is also worth noting that Peter is fortunate to have the *Michael* current flow very close to his home in south Oxfordshire, as it flows within 100m of where he lives, and it runs through the hillfort that he uses for many of his skywatches.

Parts of this encounter, or encounters, do raise some interesting questions within aspects of paranormal and UFO research. An unseen being was encountered, but one who had an interest in the humans present. Odd lights and sounds were seen, heard, and recorded, as if a parallel dimension was very close to our world. What are we to make of an UFO-like sighting while in the astral world? Is a sighting 'there' any more or less legitimate or believable than one while 'here' in this realm? I suspect that much more will become apparent in the next few weeks and months...

GYRONOMATRIC RELATIONS OF PLANETS

(Could some UFOs be space animals?)

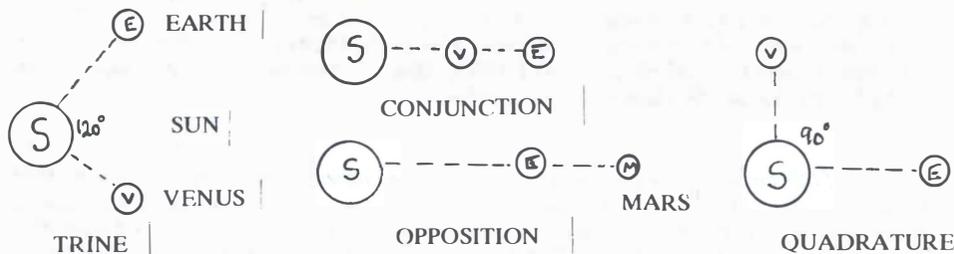
by Michael Soper

I do not believe in stellar astrology, except to the extent discovered by J.H. Nelson - that the angles subtended by pairs of planets from the sun do seem to cause solar flares and spots, and this solar weather affects the ionisation of the Earth and also the tendency to see UFOs.

The reason that the constellational side does not appeal relates to the association of the spring point with Aries, not what currently occurs - the world having moved on since the founding of this science long ago. One notable exception to this rejection of Astrology is the work of C.G. Jung and the work of Michel Gauquelin which has been endorsed by Professor Hans Eysenck, the behaviourist, and indeed does demonstrate a link between planetary position and success as a specialist.

Now the excellent work of Michel Gauquelin concerns mainly Mars and Jupiter. Mars does not materially affect tides on the sun; Jupiter may exert 78 Newtons, Mars only 0.9. Mercury is more important tidally than Earth, and the effect of Venus and Jupiter is approximately the same. Thus let Jupiter and Venus be opposing (on same side of sun at closest distance apart), and Mercury and Earth opposing with the two lines at 45 degrees, then the sun should be quiescent on the basis of this tidal theory. Such a situation arose on August 23rd 1954, which was a sunspot minimum as expected. We have shown before that UFO waves are most correlated with rapid changes in the sunspot count. Dates near the sunspot minimum of 8/12/55 and 22/4/55 also have the same rare circumstance.

The recording company, RCA, in 1946 wished to determine some way of predicting when difficult long range communications were likely to occur, and J.H. Nelson was given the task of determining what caused the magnetic storms in the ionosphere which interrupted these communications. First of all he discovered sunspots with a 6 inch refracting telescope, and then the position of the planets around the sun. He found that "trine", (120 degrees) and 60 degree angles subtended by two near planets from the sun produced good effects, whereas the angles 0, 90, and 180 were not so good - these being termed "Conjunction", "Quadrature" and "Opposition". The following illustrations explain:



What he looked for in predicting storms were conjunctions and quadratures of inner planets with two other planets in a significant relationship with the first pair, that being one of these special angles. For example Jupiter and Venus might share quadrature and Earth and Mercury be trine with these two. Evidence reveals the Nelson methods worked out with 93% accuracy out of 1460 forecasts of the "radio weather".

Now we may consider the implications of this. Using only a computer programme and no

up-to-date information, the behaviour of the ionosphere could be predicted to 3050, to choose an arbitrary date, since the precession of the perihelion of Mercury (nearest point to the sun) is not normally included, although it has a slight effect. Now for those watching the skies our hypothesis is that visibility depends on the ionospheric weather, which may or may not be true and should be checked. For example a year of mostly cloudy weather (these have occurred) should have fewer sightings. The ionic weather depends on the sun, and the weather on the sun depends on the inner and a few outer planets. The planetary positions and therefore the probability of solar flares can be computed for any time; therefore we have another trend to try to correlate with UFO reports the subject of this current article, which compares the frequency of UFO reports with the heliocentric angles of the planets at the time. We can do this because a flare takes only about one hour to reach the Earth from the sun at any time; hot plasma from coronal holes takes a few days.

Now from our earlier work we should expect that the UFO cases occur when the number of sunspots is changing rapidly, and note there is the clear possibility that the sunspot minima coincide with the time of minimum solar tides, and for this to happen Jupiter must oppose Venus and Earth must oppose Mercury is one arrangement. Note that according to Playfair and Hill the major sunspot periodicity of 11.1 years occurs when Mercury has completed 46 orbits of the sun; Venus 18 orbits; Earth 11 orbits; and Mars 6 orbits. Jupiter and Uranus as seen from Earth oppose 13 times every 179.56 years, and 11.1 and 179 years are the major periodicities in the sun spot cycle.

Thus there is very little doubt that the sunspot and solar flare cycle which we have discussed has far more effect on the Earth than suspected, is actually related to solar tides; these tides being caused by the planets. The real problem is Uranus, which does seem to effect the picture, yet which should have a very insignificant effect on the sun being so far away. Uranus is unusual in rotating daily about an axis almost in the plane of the orbits of the other planets.

The intriguing idea that the surface of the mighty sun is affected by the dwarf planets raising luminous tides in the chromosphere, is not too difficult to believe after a few calculations.

During the phase of the sunspot cycle which corresponds to the decrease in the number of sunspots (from 100 down to 10 or less), holes appear in the corona of the sun and far more energetic plasma is released into space which a few days later affects short wave propagation on Earth causing a magnetic storm. This reduces the maximum usable frequency drastically, and is one reason for the development of satellite communications, because at any time a magnetic storm could affect vital military link-ups and thus threaten lives. During the Cold War secure communications were vital for the maintenance of peace during threatening changes.

Now consider the following fact - out of 46 UFO waves from 1896 to 1994, 22 occurred during the decrease phase of the sunspot cycle and of the remainder, 2/3rds were during the increase phase. Only 8 were at plateau or minimum phase. Even when weighted according to the general direction of the phases, the descent phase contains 23.5, the ascent 14.5, and the maximum and minimum the same number. Now this might be some indicator that the human race is more responsive; yet the possibility is that magnetic storm conditions favour the phenomenon, and a hot sun blasting plasma through coronal holes causes more sightings **BECAUSE SOMETHING IS TAKING REFUGE IN THE ATMOSPHERE.** Why the Earth you may say - because Earth is not too close to the sun, yet it is warm, has a useful ionosphere and non-corrosive clouds. Thus we may be seeing a form of interplanetary life

which naturally lives in space much as some birds live mainly in the air, dipping down only to catch fish. Now following on from the Lifecloud Hypothesis successfully argued by Professors Hoyle and Wickramasinghe (especially after the purported finding of life on the Martian rock discovered in Antarctica) that life could exist in space and the asteroids, is not too far fetched, since we have found signs of life on Earth and possibly Mars, and just consider that comets have been shown to be biologically active. Also the anomalous features in the infra red spectrum of oxygen-rich, supergiant stars can ALL BE EXPLAINED BY CELLULOSE. (Lifecloud p90)

All this material can be found in the peerReviewed serials (Nature, the Journal of Astro physics). Also in the Observatory for Summer 1995, Duncan Steele argues that object VG 1991 could be a SETI craft because the orbit is (for a natural object) almost impossible.

Now consider that some form of life inhabits the space between the planets (and has a natural resistance to radiation as insects do for most of their lives), at a distance from the sun which is optimal. Given the solar wind, navigation is possible. This life may be advanced and inhabit what appears to be machines of extreme light weight.

Recent results from NASA reveal that for very large electric storms, bolts also connect from the ionosphere to the cloud tops. In other words storms are replenished from space. The discharges in the upward direction are often RED in colour (thus are these positive?). This is one of those discoveries which would not be believed without film proof, and reinforces how active space is (this was also told to Adamski). He was told long before the modern space era, and they laughed it off of course.

Following on from the work of Nelson, we can count in 10 day intervals the incidence of STRONG (0, 90, 180 degree) subtended angles of planets from the sun, and WEAK (120 degrees). Examining these patterns, the following facts emerge: let us term a feature where the number of trines (120 degrees) rapidly ramps up a "TRINERAMP", and where the number of strong alignments decreases a "CONSLUMP".

- 1) Before the Arnold sighting of 24/6/47 there is a trineramp with conslump.
- 2) Before the Holloman AFB case of 5/4/48 there is a trineramp of 4.
- 3) In March 1950 there is the Selfridge AFB case, just after a trineramp.
- 4) The Lubbock lights of 23/8/51 (arrow formation) just after 3 trineramps.
- 5) The massive UFO wave of June 1952 followed another.
- 6) The Washington DC wave of 1952 followed another.
- 7) The French wave of 1954 was after a massive trineramp of 5.
- 8) The pickup of UFO reports at the end of 1955 corresponds with the interval after a trineramp with conslump.
- 9) Lakenheath, Suffolk, in 1956 was after a modest trineramp.
- 10) The US mini-wave of 1957 starting in July came just after a trineramp.

The Montana film of April 1960 was just after a trineramp with conslump, suggesting that what becomes affected is the ability of humans to see the objects in the sky. The UFO wave of 1966/7 followed a sequence of 5 trineramps, which was a conspicuous feature of 1966.

According to Nelson, who was asked to predict the solar weather by NASA for 1960, there was a high probability of solar flares in November 1960, and the charts indicate there was a very high trineramp and conslump at the time, and a solar storm, the worst for 20 years.

The sunspots which affect Earth, most have a pronounced penumbra, not sharp edges, and are in a specific region of the sun. Thus the sun beams out these radiations in beams which affect the ionosphere on Earth. Mercury acts as a catalyst in triggering the onset of magnetic storms on coming into a strong angle with an inner planet or Jupiter, and the argument is given weight by the fact that magnetic storms are more likely when these harmonies of the planets with the sun are in the same plane as the Earth orbit.

That the visibility of UFO events should depend on these planetary alignments seems at first far fetched; yet there could be very mundane explanations, like the changing clarity of the atmosphere, this being influenced like all tropospheric weather by the ionosphere. Widespread thunderstorms occurred after Project Ford, when copper needles were released into the ionosphere in the early 1960s. There is also the possibility that Spacelife is sheltering in the high atmosphere from the solar storms.

One interesting highlight of this is the old Orthoteny debate, (UFOs appearing on distinct lines) which some wrongly feel is discredited - that is the idea that UFO cases at or near the same date occur in straight lines on occasion. Whilst many extravagant Orthoteny proposals, like the Spanish one were knocked down by more sceptical analysis of what the chance of collineations is, the original Baronne/Vichy line remained in France, and very interestingly these events of 24/9/54 also correspond with a trineramp with conslump from the data, and this does give cause for thought, since the "illumination" of a great circle from space is not at all an event which is difficult to describe, since any orbiting craft forced to descend for shelter will have to make an approach on a great circle to prevent crashing down or bouncing off into space.

Though Fred Hoyle wrote the book "The Black Cloud" as fiction, his trio of books with Chandra Wickramasinghe: "Lifecloud", "Diseases from Space" and "Evolution from Space" clearly sketch the ways in which many of the molecules commonly associated with life as known by our system. These molecules are found in space and have been detected: ammonia, ethanol, methanol(alcohols), dimethyl ether, cyanotriacetylene, methyl formate, formic acid, cianodiacetylene, acetaldehyde, vinyl cyanide, methylacetylene, methylamine, methanimine, thioformaldehyde, formaldehyde, carbonyl sulphide, formamide and cyanomethane... There are very many others and also many compounds that happen not to radiate in bands we can detect. Some of these molecules have 9 atoms; also cellulose has been detected out there and the existence of polymers in sugars - polysaccharides. Water ice has been shown almost absent in the galactic centre, thus any lifeform requiring moisture will have to "skinnydip" on planets like Earth or the asteroids to obtain this requirement.

Now let us consider the problems that anything in space will encounter with solar weather, and will have a "sail" or equivalent which can also be used for protection from solar blasts. Because of the outer atmosphere being matter sparse, the creatures are likely to have extreme light weight, and to exist in some form almost entirely of their shell. They will be able to achieve orbits and very, very slowly come out of them without necessarily becoming overheated. They will depend on sunlight, and very likely on chitin like spacegoing insects. Chitin is largely natural cellulose.

The grains of interplanetary matter are focused by the atmosphere, because the Earth sweeps up prodigious quantities of dust from interplanetary space, and this dust does not necessarily fall, since created as secondaries. The grains consist of aluminium, aluminium oxide, sand, iron, nickel and sodium - all very useful. There are also silicates in addition to useful building blocks like nitrous oxide and ozone, and further out monatomic hydrogen.

Considering that whales can live on plankton, a space animal which might procreate in space, could have a hard and durable structure for interplanetary space which in some regions has a low a particle density as one particle per tenth of a cubic metre. The solar wind for a creature that could just "sleep" like spiders do terrestrially, is a perfect way of getting round - one entirely feasible way of getting round from planet to planet, somewhat unexpectedly.

This claim might have seemed ridiculous a few years ago before the oceanic surveys had been done. Now that living creatures have been found to live at inconceivable depths in the ocean, and even very close to volcanic vents in caves that never have any light; even once and possibly now existing on Mars. Then the claim that a yet more extreme habitat may also be the abode of life does not seem so extreme.

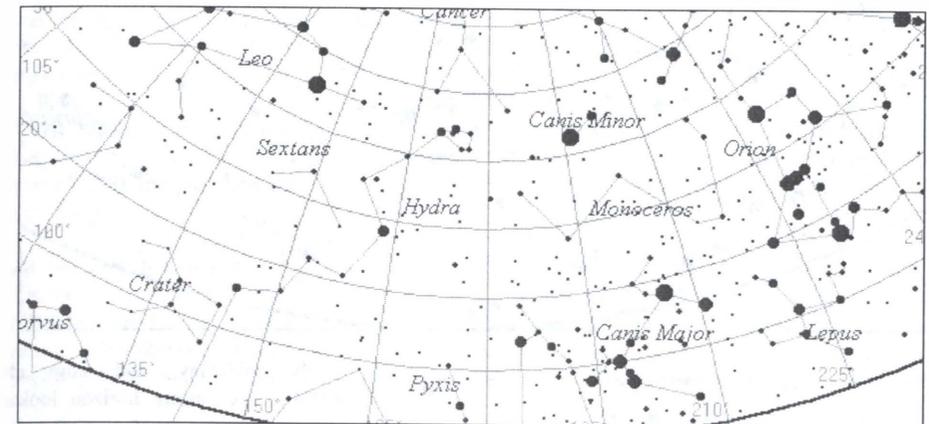
Chauvinism of various types is always present. Thus in order to offset this natural trend, the consideration of possibilities as flexibly as possible is essential. For example the ability of some life forms to achieve complete dormancy for a period and then come alive when suitable conditions arise has very much surprised biologists. Frogs found in spherical stone spaces have reanimated, though here there has been some dispute. In other cases, like the habits of some spiders there is not any dispute. In our Earthly sphere there is abundant matter though not always abundant energy. In space near the sun there is far too much energy and an increasing amount of matter as the sun is approached.

Some species on Earth migrate tens of thousands of miles for an advantage, such as the arctic tern which migrates 11,000 miles. Thus for some space animal to solar sail from near the sun to the asteroids, the possibility is not entirely out of the question. In fact given the flexibility of evolution (apparently) we should in fact EXPECT that such possibilities occur. How for example does a creature EVOLVE to live in a suboceanic thermal vent? The possibility is that men in ancient times MAY have bioengineered new species as a type of art, although fossil evidence and historical fact is quite sparse and it could be just forms of "end of evolution" states which have branched off from a very much older human stem which may in fact be spacegoing. In the case of the evolution of man there may have been long periods when a slow and logical change to anatomy took place, but then sudden branching into a mutant form which may have been highly creative but self-destructive in a much shorter period. It is not established whether the current "homo sapiens" is on the mainstream or one of the extreme mutant forms. Lack of burial evidence of ancient man other than the mummified remains of the Egyptian pharaohs might indicate more sophisticated passage. In our own time the successful portion of the human race is planning to create "ashtronauts" from Gene Roddenbury, and the torso of Marshall McLuhan - burial is a bush thing.

Any high energy part of the race will have gone into space and probably stayed. The disadvantage of lingering on the surface of the planet, could to such a race, seem quite major, especially as within their Earthbound time, surface bombardment was much more common.

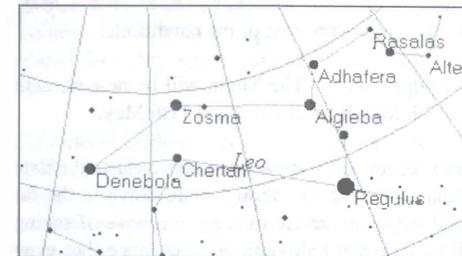
In space materials are sparse, yet with improvements in the lightness and strength of materials this need not be a problem. To give some indication, the I.S. Society has put forward very practical plans for a space habitat.

The notes and maps here are for observers in Britain and Western Europe.



As we move away from the winter skies, rich with brilliant constellations, we perhaps have less of interest to look at with the naked eye. Those of you who are keen to watch the movements of the planets will have to be early risers, as no major planets are visible in the evening sky now, as the map above, looking south at mid March, at 8.00pm shows. If you do have a low and dark western horizon, then you might just get a view of Mercury between 13th and 23rd March, indeed it is the best chance to see it this year. You will need to look due West about 30 minutes after sunset, but remember it will be only 10° above the horizon at most, on 18th March. Perhaps we might hope for a couple of days rain beforehand, to get the general pollutant muck out of the atmosphere, then a change to a polar airstream around 12th March to get some really clear skies.

Elsewhere in the sky, Orion and Canis Major are still nicely visible for most of the night, but already the lovely Pleiades star cluster in Taurus is being lost in the murk and light-pollution near the western horizon.

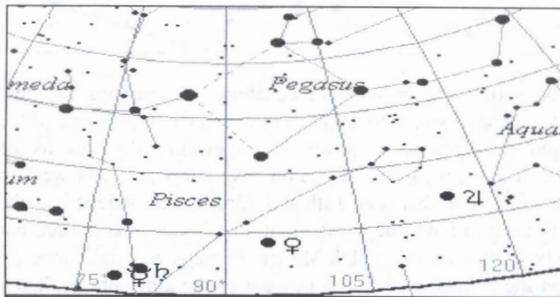
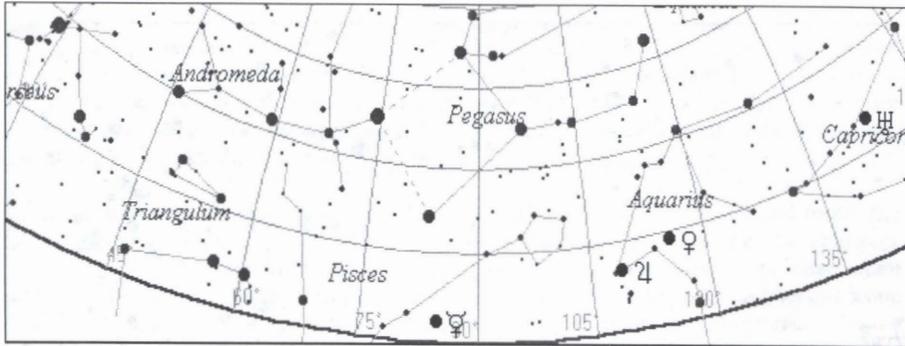


The constellation of Leo is prominent in the south-eastern sky, and it is one constellation that really does suggest its description, namely of a recumbent lion, and who else can also see an obvious similarity to the leonine Sphinx in Egypt? Leo's main star, Regulus, the 15th brightest star to be seen from Britain, is easily recognised by its blue-white colour, and in good binoculars a companion star will be seen.

Leo also contains the third nearest star to our own system, at only 7.6LY away, and this is the wonderfully named Wolf 359, though unfortunately, despite its closeness to us, it is only 13.5 magnitude, and can only be seen in a telescope with a lens over 20cm.

The next map, looking east at mid-April, shows that Venus (♀) and Jupiter (♃) will be close in the sky, but you will need to be up around 5.00am to see them before the approaching dawn. Venus will be at magnitude -4.2, and Jupiter will be around -2.1. Mercury (☿) and Uranus form an

apparent alignment with the two brighter planets. Venus has not been particularly well placed high in the skies to observers in northern Europe for some time, and again it now begins a fairly rapid swing back towards the sun, and will be visible for a decreasing time before dawn.



By mid-May, and now at 4.00am, the eastern horizon looks more interesting as Saturn (♄) is also climbing into the pre-dawn sky, though still near the horizon, below and to the left of Venus. Use good binoculars, or preferably a telescope to see its ring system, which is now opening up again from our viewpoint here on Earth.

Two meteor showers can be seen in the spring. The Lyrid shower is between 20th and 22nd April, and is the better of the two Lyrid showers (Another one falls in June), and Lyra is easily found, as it contains the brilliant blue-white star Vega. Between 1st and 8th May is the Eta Aquarid shower, and coincidentally is the most prolific of the Aquarid showers, and should give around 30 - 40 meteors per hour on 5th May. Neither of these showers will be affected by moonlight, so make the best of the conditions.

The spring equinox is on Friday 20th March, at 7.40pm GMT. The Moon will be new on 28th March, 26th April and 25th May; and will be full on 13th March, 11th April and 11th May.

A reminder for the 1999 eclipse of the Sun. Don't forget that 11th August next year is the date when a total eclipse will be visible from the UK at around 11.20am, though only down in the far West Country, and you will need to be further southwest than Torbay to stand a chance of seeing totality for more than a minute. The best line will be between Falmouth and Penzance, but even then, totality will only last for around 2 minutes and 15 seconds. Be warned, holiday accommodation and campsites are supposedly fully booked already, and travel down to the West Country will not be easy, so don't plan on making it just a day trip. One astronomy society recently asked Cornwall police where they could expect to park six coaches, and were told "Exeter" - this was a serious answer!

Charts from SkyMap shareware.

From Edward Ashpole - Science Writer and consultant.

In the current issue of AWARENESS there are a few things relating to what I said in my talk (at Kidlington conference) and what I have written in my books that are incorrect and misleading. I hope the following piece, which corrects and explains is all right for publication in your next issue:

From reading the current issue of AWARENESS I see that I have confused at least one listener to my talk at the 1997 Conference. His synopsis reports: "Given life on Earth started 350 million years ago---" If this were so, life would be at a bacterial point of evolution.

At the talk I showed bacterial fossils that are 3,500,000,000 years old, the oldest known fossils. When studied with an electron microscope we can see that bacteria are relatively advanced life forms. Therefore, a good guess from this evidence is that the origin of life was about 4,000,000,000 years ago, which gives those ancient bacteria enough time to have evolved from the first clusters of self-producing organic molecules on Earth.

The figure "350 million years ago", reported in AWARENESS relates to the time when certain freshwater fishes were coming ashore (encouraged to do so when their waterways periodically dried up) and evolving into the first amphibians. The fossils of this period of prehistory have been studied for many years, and I showed pictures of the animals involved in this key stage of evolution.

I then related this established biology to the DARWIN project of the European Space Agency. Bring the two together and you have important support for the extraterrestrial hypothesis. The connection is that DARWIN will be a complex space telescope, consisting of five dishes which will search for the SPECTRAL LINE OF OZONE. (The ozone molecule consists of three oxygen atoms.) This spectral line, plus the searches for it, show how advanced civilisations could have discovered that the Sun had a life-supporting planet.

A question often asked is how would the ETs find us on a tiny planet orbiting just one of millions of stars in our part of the galaxy? Perhaps only one star in many thousands has a planet in orbit which supports advanced lifeforms. We can now see how they could have found us.

Advanced civilisations would not have to send probes to thousands of sunlike stars just to find a few Earth-like planets. They could find the planets with highly evolved biosphere by employing astronomical systems like DARWIN. They wouldn't have to leave their own planetary systems to do so. In short, the Earth has been easy to discover during the past several hundred million years, ever since our ozone line was detectable. This obviously has significance for the hypothesis that evidence of ET could exist within the Solar System, and that some UFO reports could be providing evidence of an extraterrestrial presence in our environment.

Within 20 years, DARWIN should be searching for Earth-like planets which may orbit any one of 120 sunlike stars. The detection of the ozone line, which would be seen as an absorption band from 9.7 to 9.9 microns wide in the infrared spectrum, could only come

from a planetary atmosphere with an ozone layer.

Now this is where those fishes and first amphibians come in. We definitely know that an ozone layer was in place 350 million years ago, otherwise this stage of evolution could not have taken place. We also know that an ozone layer, as we know it today, must have remained in place since that time. The subsequent evolution of land animals would not have otherwise been possible.

Precisely when the Earth had a substantial ozone layer is not known, but judging from the fossil record and geological evidence it was probably not much beyond 500 million years ago. It took a long time for photosynthesising bacteria and microscopic plants to release enough free oxygen into the atmosphere to form enough ozone.

But that doesn't matter. That period of 350 million years to the present is long enough for those technological civilisations which preceded us to have discovered the Earth. We are only a few centuries into the telescope building business. Older civilisations in our galaxy could have been at our present technological stage many millions of years ago. Thus they could have built better systems than DARWIN, and detected the Earth as a planet with a flourishing biosphere, even before the first amphibians evolved here.

I hope this shows how a little science can support the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

It was also stated in the same AWARENESS that I regard the radio search for ET as "the only feasible method". This is completely wrong. I think I have shown in both of my recent books that if one considers the relevant science objectively, then ET could just as well be within the Solar System as, say, the other side of our galaxy. It all depends on our how common the evolution of technological intelligence is and on how difficult, or easy, interstellar travel is. We don't yet know, but we do have science and scientific methods for investigating phenomena. And we do have the UFO phenomena. The task in our subject is therefore to bring these together, to use scientific methods to investigate the UFO phenomena. Its not easy but it can be done.

Edward Ashpole, Narberth, Pembrokeshire.

TIME WITHOUT THOUGHT

A Poem by Bobby Dickins. (Ashford, Kent)

Hovering overhead
a silhouette on the morning sky
like a beacon of the unknown
radiating our immense universe.

It stood alone
as a single beam shone down
showing its wrinkled body
of a far off species.

He sat in his car
a few hours later
bewildered like many
who had lost their awareness.

Darkness overcomes the Earth
swallowing up time
in a midst of weirdness
controlling all but the will to live.

Blackened became his eyes
but the constant drilling
gave him a pause for thought
as he lay not knowing.

MR RAY HUNT

It is with deep regret that we announce the sudden death of data research member and former Vice-Chairman, Ray Hunt. It is understood that Ray suffered a heart attack whilst at home alone in late February. We have no other details.

Those who came to the 1996 conference at Exeter Hall Kidlington will remember Ray acted as MC on that occasion, after which he retired from active participation in group activities. This was unfortunate as he had great knowledge of aircraft and aviation matters which were invaluable in the assessment of UFO cases.

STOP PRESS

Giant UFOs were seen over fields near Horspath, Oxford on Saturday March 28th. We have 3 witnesses (and maybe more) who saw an estimated 100 yard wide manifestation of a RED central circle and 6 BLUE surrounding satellites all in perfect symmetry which was visible for 3minutes at 10.15pm, tilting and oscillating but totally silent. At 03.40 am another incredible yellow object was spotted by one of the witnesses who was awoken by her dogs barking. This had a large central orb, and two rings surrounding it broken into segments, which were rotating in clockwise and anti-clockwise directions. There are indications here that these may be the start of "ASTROGRAMS" a predicted successor to crop circles. Full details in next Awareness.

MEETINGS

Wed 29th April 1998 - UFO Debrief - Fleur De Lys East Hagbourne 8pm
Thu 7th May - Crop Circle intro to 1998 season and videos - Inner Bookshop, 111 Magdalen Rd, Off Cowley Rd Oxford, 8pm, (With Oxford crop circle group)

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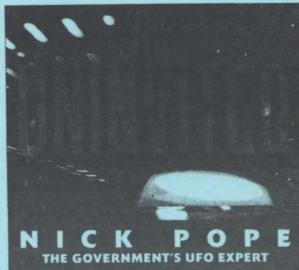
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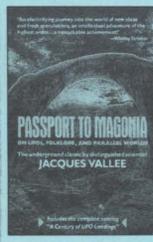
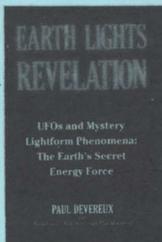
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