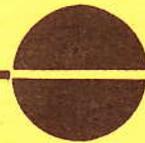


BUFORA

BULLETIN

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British UFO Research Association

January 1987 No. 24

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MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

c/o Arnold West,
16 Southway,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex,
RH15 9ST
Tel. (044 46) 6783

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Post to be filled

LIBRARIAN

Robin Lindsey,
87 Station Road,
Whittlesey,
Peterborough, PE7 1UE
Tel. (0733) 203414

RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONSDIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Stephen Gamble,
FIMLS, FRAS, AFBIS
c/o 16 Southway,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex, RH15 9ST

DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS

Miss Jenny Randles,
8 Whitethroat Walk,
Birchwood, Warrington,
Cheshire, WA3 6PQ
Tel. (0925) 824036

ASSOCIATION HISTORIAN

Lionel E. Beer

TRAINING OFFICER

Kenneth Phillips,
BEd., BA(OU).,
16 Wedgewood Walk,
Lymington Road,
West Hampstead,
London, NW6
Tel. (01) 435 0349

BUFORA BULLETIN

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THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH
ASSOCIATION BUFORA Ltd
(by guarantee)

Founded 1964. Registered office,
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London 1234924.

Incorporating the London UFO
Research Association (founded
1959) and the British UFO
Association (founded 1962).

AIMS

1. To Encourage, promote and
conduct unbiased scientific
research of unidentified flying
object (UFO) phenomena
throughout the United Kingdom.

2. To collect and disseminate
evidence and data relating to
unidentified flying objects
(UFOs).

3. To co-ordinate UFO research
throughout the United Kingdom
and to co-operate with others
engaged in such research
throughout the world.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who
support the aims of the
association and whose
application is approved by the
Executive Committee.
Applications, forms and general
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Avon, BS17 2NZ

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contributor.

Editorial

As you will remember from the last issue of the Bulletin, John Barrett had decided to retire from editing the magazine. This is totally understandable. Especially when you consider that John not only edited every issue, he also produced every issue, (involving type setting and layout). This is extremely time consuming and is a commitment not to be taken lightly.

With limited resources and limited help, John has always produced a very well balanced Bulletin and I hope that successors will be able to emulate his standards. Thanks again John for giving your time to BUFORA.

For me, editing a magazine is a completely new ball game and after this, I may never edit a magazine again (or be asked ever to again)! But seriously, to produce a magazine like the Bulletin is, as I have said, time consuming and is really too much for one person to be responsible for. So if there is anyone out there still reading this maiden editorial and is interested in magazine production (art work, layout and typesetting etc), then please let me know, SOON!

1987 will be an important year for BUFORA and Ufology as a whole.

For Ufology, it will be the fortieth anniversary of Kenneth Arnold's famous (or infamous) sighting of nine discs in the Cascade mountain range, Washington State.

June 24th 1947 is the date when Ufology hit the headlines in a really big way. We can thank the American press for

for inventing the rather unfortunate term, "Flying Saucer", which has been a bane of serious UFO research ever since.

In those forty years there have been many changes in the theoretical and practical approaches to UFO research. In the fifties, the only theory that was popular was the Extra Terrestrial Hypothesis, and reports were 'believed' and taken at face value. Today new approaches are being adopted to try and look 'behind the eyes' of the witness. Psychology and Sociology are now the order of the day. Many short sighted researchers reject this aspect, and stick to good old nuts and bolts and alien spacecraft. These alchemists of Ufology will never get to grips with the subject by stating what they think UFOs actually are and then trying to prove it. I maintain that we should look at all the evidence that has been collected over the years with a total open mind and then evaluate all the possible hypotheses that could account for phenomena that has baffled mankind a lot longer than 1947.

BUFORA will also be celebrating an anniversary. Twenty five years as an association, which is something to write home about. Some people have enjoyed discussing 'the flagging fortunes' of BUFORA as if we were in competition with each other for members or magazine scoops and exclusives. This is a misguided attitude and is not what Ufology should be about. Co-operation and free open debate on case reports and theories is what UFO groups should be striving for.

Continued on page 6

Viewpoint

THE CRACOE PHOTOGRAPHIC CASE

Jenny Randles

Jenny Randles, BUFORA's Director of Investigations, introduces this interesting case, which may, with further investigation, prove to have a mundane explanation.

In March 1982 an off duty police officer saw a strange glow astride a cliff face at Cracoe Fell, North Yorkshire. It was broad daylight and the glow was neither seen to arrive or fly. However, as the area was one well noted for UFO sightings and the police officer believed in the presence of a UFO base in the area, took the glow very seriously, and photographed it several times. It appears on film as patches of light in a rough formation.

In August 1983, at the time of the BUFORA Congress at High Wycombe, the group YUFOS (Yorkshire UFO Society) released the story to the National Press. It is not clear why they held on to it for so long, as the officer concerned was a member of the group. In their magazine QUEST they have since referred to this as a classic case which is of a genuine unknown, and using superlatives in describing its status. It features prominently in all their public presentations, and they consider two evaluations of the pictures to have endorsed their opinion that the glow came from the underside of a craft of some sort, hovering beside the cliff.

A small press item in the Craven Herald at the time of the August 1983 release of the story, reached BUFORA, through their press cutting agency. YUFOS were not to release their file on the case for some time yet. BUFORA's

Director of Investigations requested Nigel Mortimer AI, to investigate the cutting. He did so, along with WYUFORG (West Yorkshire UFO Research Group), who are an associate member of BUFORA.

The item referred to a farmer who claimed that he was an eye witness to the events that were photographed. He was certain there was a natural explanation for the phenomenon in terms of light reflecting from the cliff face. He had seen it before and since, it was alleged. It would be possible for WYUFORG to photograph the same thing given the necessary conditions.

For a number of reasons, this information was not published by either WYUFORG, Nigel Mortimer or BUFORA (although a brief comment to the above effect was included in WYUFORG's affiliated Northern UFO News at the time - Sept/Oct 1983 issue). The primary reason was to allow YUFOS time to investigate the case, and produce these conclusions themselves. They had access to the photographs, BUFORA did not. However, YUFOS have continued to refrain from mentioning this negative testimony and indorse the importance of the case.

Whilst there may well be reasons why the farmer is incorrect and YUFOS are right to hold the photographs in high esteem, it is considered contrary to serious UFO research that this side of the story is only known to the few. WYUFORG, therefore, decided to

produce a report on their own investigations. Unhappily YUFOS were not willing to support them in this, according to Nigel Mortimer. He was, in fact denied a copy of the YUFOS official report on the case - even though YUFOS were advertising it for open sale in their magazine QUEST.

The reason cited was that the report was only available to bona fide, serious researchers, which the BUFORA AI was apparently not considered to be. YUFOS are, of course, quite entitled to refuse to sell their report to Nigel Mortimer. However, He succeeded in obtaining a copy by another route - by asking a member of the general public to send for it on his behalf.

In the July/August 1986 issue of QUEST, YUFOS (without warning) advised that they were about to publish in their next issue a devastating expose of a BUFORA investigator (which turned out to be Nigel Mortimer, although this was not stated) and the credibility of BUFORA itself. No justification of this was offered and as of this date (2nd December 1986), the September/October issue of QUEST has not yet appeared. Nor, it must be said, has any BUFORA officer or council member been advised by anyone at YUFOS about the nature of the supposed complaints. We are left to draw inferences.

At a special meeting on 9th November 1986, WYUFORG and Nigel Mortimer drew up the following statement in anticipation of what YUFOS evidently intend to say. They asked BUFORA to publish it, owing to their affiliated status. At a BUFORA council meeting on 4th October 1986,

the issue was discussed and full support, based on the details known at the time, was offered to WYUFORG. BUFORA, as of this date has seen no evidence whatsoever of anything other than good investigation and concern that the true nature of a genuinely interesting case can be fully explored. We support the right to make reasoned open comment on any UFO sighting, be it investigated by BUFORA or anyone else. To do anything else - in the opinion of BUFORA - is contrary to the interests of serious UFO research.

BUFORA has no quarrel with anyone over this matter - although council do feel YUFOS ought to have conveyed their complaints officially before making statements in QUEST. No personal attacks or doubts appertaining to credibility or competence are being implied. We are merely in support of the right of any individual or group to bring to public attention facts about a case it believes to be necessary to a full evaluation of that case.

WYUFORG STATEMENT

Our intention is solely to continue a line of research commenced by N Mortimer in 1983 into a case still classified as unknown. We wish to bring to everyones attention (and will do so via our report when published), the evidence given by a prime witness to the event which has hitherto been unpublished anywhere. We wish to cast no aspersions on the abilities of the investigatory body of YUFOS. Nor to 'steal' their case. But we do intend to exercise our right to comment on any UFO report, publish any information we obtain on that case and offer full right of reply.

Continued on page 6

Research

RESEARCH GRANTS

S J Gamble

BUFORA's Director of Research expands on his plans for the research department, and invites applications for funding to assist in setting up and operating viable research projects into the UFO enigma.

As stated in an early Bulletin (1), part of my plans for future research within BUFORA include the provision of grants towards the costs of members research projects.

Unfortunately, with the present financial situation an organisation such as BUFORA has very little money which it can devote to this kind of activity. However, over the past year, we have been able to make three small grants towards projects. Two have been made towards the computer index of case reports, one for software (computer programs) and the other for sundry materials. The third grant has been made for a control study of Keul's anamnesis technique. We are more likely to be able to be able to support projects which only require a small amount of funding. However, There is nothing to stop a researcher initially asking for a small amount of assistance and then asking for further help at a later stage.

In addition to financial help, BUFORA may be able to help in other ways, such as making other resources available or by placing a member in touch with other members who might be able to help. An example of the other help we could offer would be that if you wanted to research cases in a given area, we could extract a list of these from the computer index.

Each request for help needs to be referred to Council with

my recommendation. This would normally be at the next available meeting. Applicants should write to me at the Research Headquarters describing the proposed project in as much detail as possible. This should include the name(s) of the principle researcher(s) and any other people involved, the objective of the project, the duration, the exact support and as much background information as possible. Due to our limited budget it may not be possible to support all projects or to give the full amount requested.

Whilst we may wish to attach other conditions on any particular grant, we would normally ask for the following:

- 1, That we receive regular progress reports on any project, at least at a frequency agreed with me at the start.

- 2, We have the option of publishing a full account of the results of any project we support, whilst not preventing publication elsewhere.

- 3, Publication of the results of a project supported by a grant from BUFORA in any publication should acknowledge this fact.

- 4 BUFORA is given full access to all the results and other relevant information of any supported project.

Continued on page 8

No serious UFO group should encourage or hope for the demise of another. This only weakens the foundations of Ufology as a whole.

BUFORA has indeed a bright future. Financially, we are in a position where we will be funding real research projects, and strengthen current projects.

We shall be part sponsors of a major three day international congress to be held in London in the summer (see congress report by Bob Digby in this issue). This event will involve papers presented by delegates from all over the world and is an event not to be missed.

We now have the resources, all we need is the manpower. The BUFORA Council and NIC are willing to involve anyone who is interested in real, serious UFO research or Association administration. So...GET ACTIVE

Our future policy will be to publish all the facts of the case known to us, without speculation. To allow time for comment. If new information comes to light that contradicts our discoveries we will say so in an open and fair manner but we feel that any witness has a right to be heard. If new and conclusive evidence opposed to our line of enquiry does not come to light we intend to continue explorations for a possible solution to this case.

The declaration was indorsed by all members of WYUFORG present at their 9th November 1986 meeting.

The JOURNAL OF TRANSIENT AERIAL PHENOMENA intends to publish a lengthy article on this intriguing case by a member of WYUFORG who is closely involved in the investigation. Ed.

Editorial address: 4 Ivy Rd, Leyton, London, E17 8HX

BUFORA News

BUFORA AT HADLEIGH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Mike Wootten

BUFORA was very fortunate to be invited by Hadleigh, Essex, Womens Institute to give them an introductory lecture on UFOs.

So Leslie Duncan (East Region Probationary AI based in Basildon) and I were dispatched, equiped BUFORA's new projector and a set of slides kindly loaned to us by Bob Digby.

On arrival, we were welcomed by 20 or so members. I opened up the meeting by asking who was sceptical about the existance of UFOs. Only three put their hands up. I thought to myself that it shouldn't be to hard a night after all! We was able to skim the surface of the subject, outlining the history, discribing classic close enclounter cases, misidentifications and hoaxes, current theoretical thinking etc. We were allotted 45 minutes, but end up talking for two hours! In conclusion I asked the same question as asked in the introduction, only one person put her hand up. Not bad going. We were to sell quite a few Bulletins as well. So, an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Anamnesis Update

THE COUNSELLING ASPECT OF INVESTIGATION.

Dr Alexander Keul (1986).

It has not escaped the attention of investigators of paranormal phenomena, that when carrying out a field investigation, it is not merely a case of taking down some notes, and doing some measurements, but also involves a certain amount of counselling with the witness. As most authorities to whom witnesses first make their report do not, in general, offer any form of counselling whatsoever, and that talking to neighbours - or worse - the press, will be of no psychotherapeutic help to either the field investigator or the private group, who eventually visits the alleged witness. The investigator automatically has to take (consciously or unconsciously) the counsellor and helper role. In other words he has to listen to what has happened, what role it played in the overall life context of the witness and his/her family and other factors pertinent to the witnesses social dynamics. More often than not, the investigator arrives at a time when he is able to calm down a disturbed and helpless person, who is looking for meaning behind the experience, and thinking about it over and over again.

What I am about to suggest is nothing new or spectacular, but certainly makes a difference when compared to natural scientific attitudes to research. In the event of your investigating a sighting where emotional problems have been created, or have expressed themselves by a strange experience of what is generally labelled 'paranormal' in Western

society, try to do a good investigation by taking down the persons life history (eg using the 'Witness Anamnesis', developed by Seymour, Phillips, Keul and Fischer, 1985); But do not forget that you are NOT examining a piece of film or a broken down car, but a human being who has a right to receive counselling, if only in a self help group style. If you cannot understand the problems the witness is telling you, or that the emotional pressure created by the case is too much for you to bear personally, seek the help of a more experienced investigator or - even better - ring up a person who has undergone a similar event and has coped with the factor involved (remember to consider anonymity a first priority Ed.).

Some investigators might cry out: "This sort of activity will influence the original account!". But I think that after having taken down the case details and details about the witness and his/her life history, this should not create a problem. We have no right to isolate or separate our informant just because this might be emotionally adverse for the investigator. Rather, we must let the witnesses in your area 'network' sharing their experiences, coping with strategies and insights that ultimately were of help in intergrating their perceptions psychically.

Merely doing a 'clean', cold study and letting the witness feel that he/she is most interesting, but the only living creature on earth with such an experience, is not being scientifically-minded,

but acting in an absurd and sadistic way towards the witness . Therefore, in a decade where neighbourhood help, social support networks and the like, mushroom - think and behave in a modern way.

NOTE

BUFORA policy is that an investigator should NOT become involved in counselling activities, but may of course suggest a witness consults is/her doctor, priest or other professional adviser in appropriate cases. Ed.

I would be very interested to hear from any investigaor or researcher who has any views on this delicate side of investigation work. Ed

RESEARCH GRANTSContinued

These conditions are necessary as the council is accountable to the membership in general where their resources have been used.

If you feel you have a project with which we could help you, please apply to me at the research headquarters.**

Reference

1) Gamble S J, The future of research B Bulletin No 14 Aug 1984. pp24-27

** Please note all communications should be addressed to

BUFORA (Research)
16 Southway, Burgess Hill,
Sussex, RH15 9ST,
United Kingdom.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

BUFORA MEMBER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

As you maybe aware, the membership records of the association are now maintained by computer. Whilst establishing the database, and entering the records, it became apparent that the records were in many cases either out of date or imcomplete.

The Council has decided that it would be a worthwhile exercise to bring our records up-to-date and with this in mind I enclose a pro-forma which I ask you to complete and return to me at the Registered Office of the Association.

I would emphasize that any information (other than name and address) you supply is

done on a purely voluntary basis, but obviously we need at least your name and address to maintain the Register of Members, a requirement under the laws governing registered companies, and also to maintain our members mailing list.

I must emphasize that any information supplied is maintained under the strictist confidence and with the requirements of the Data Protection Act fully in mind.

Let me thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Arnold West
Chairman

Dec 86

Feature

THE MYSTERY OF THE CIRCLES Part 1

Paul Fuller.

This paper is published in two parts. Here Paul describes the events that took place at Winchester, Hants in the summer of 1986, and the build up of media interest in the affair. Part two will review the BUFORA special meeting held in London on Monday 14th July 1986, and includes important correspondence, maps and photographs.

Sunday, 6th July 1986 must go down as one of the most exciting days of my life. It was the day the circles arrived - only three miles from my own doorstep - and as the 'Southern Evening Echo' reported, they were "right on time".

It all began the previous evening, when a friend casually remarked "Oh, did you know that the circles have appeared again? they were on TV". Well, actually, I didn't. Where were they this year? Not Cheesefoot Head again! In fact, it turned out that this year's circles were perhaps a little disappointing after the excesses of 1985. Where were the sets of five, arranged in perfect geometrical fashion? Why only one circle this year? However, any disappointment was soon forgotten on Sunday morning when I rang Patrick ('Pat') Delgado, the retired design engineer from nearby Alresford, who had been studying the circles for several years. He told me an incredible story.

Like BUFORA, Pat expected circles to appear this summer, since formations had been reported in each of the preceding six years. During four of those years, circles had appeared either in Cheesefoot Head punchbowl, or on nearby land. Consequently, every morning for nearly four weeks, Pat and a friend Don Tuersley had parked at a small

layby at the top of the punchbowl next to the A272, waiting from 2am to sunrise, waiting for the inexplicable to happen. On Friday, 4th July, the punchbowl was untouched; just a great expanse of green spring wheat flanked by a major road on one side and wooded slopes on two others.

No signs of extra terrestrials 'day tripping'!

Friday night was typical British weather. It rained constantly. With no moon or artificial lighting, the punchbowl was pitch dark. Pat and Don waited in the layby with a pair of binoculars, constantly searching for something, anything that might indicate the sudden arrival of a new circle. Unfortunately, despite their wait, at the first signs of dawn it was Pat who first noticed the circle, precisely cut and set right in the middle of the punchbowl about four hundred feet from the southeastern edge of the field. Unlike all the previous reported circles, this one had a distinctive outer ring, some four feet across, the inner ring was about 68 feet across and separated from the outer ring by about five feet of (untouched) standing wheat.

Once again, there were no suspicious markings in the circle that might have indicated a hoax. The wheat itself was simply laid flat in a swirled pattern, none of the

stems were broken or removed from the ground. All the heads were fully intact. There was no hole near the centre of the circle to indicate that a pole had been pushed into the soil and a chain used to flatten the wheat. No footprints were found at the site, although it would have been possible to reach the circle by walking down the tramlines. Non of the surrounding wheat displayed signs of interference, and yet anyone walking through a saturated wheat field would have been certain to leave a tell tale track.

However, what was significant about this particular circle - unlike all it's predecessors - was the direction in which the wheat had been laid down. Previous circles were thought to consist entirely of clockwise swirl patterns, with the swirl centre often slightly displaced from the geometrical centre. This circle displayed both clockwise and anticlockwise patterns, with the inner sixty feet made up of a clockwise swirl, and the outer eight feet and ring consisting of an anticlockwise pattern. What force could produce a pattern as complex as this without drawing attention to itself?

Within hours of its appearance, 'Daily Express' photographer, Chris Wood was at the scene, taking precise measurements and closeup photographs to add to his growing collection of circles data. It was Chris Wood who had donated to BUFORA the photographs that appear in 'Mystery of the Circles'; the culmination of five years investigation began by Terry Chivers and Ian Mrzyglod back in 1981. The report itself was prepared during January and

February, in anticipation of another season of mystery circles and media speculation. My own involvement began during October 1985, when Pat Delgado invited me to attend an open meeting to discuss the circles. Little did I know that this meeting was the start of the most exciting and important work BUFORA has been involved with for years, and that it would culminate in national publicity, radio and TV interviews and a mad rush to London to tell the world what I knew about circles!

My first job after contacting Pat was to tell Jenny Randles - BUFORA's Director of Investigations - about the appearance of the new formation. To launch 'Mystery of the Circles' we had to arrange a public meeting within ten days, invite acknowledged experts to discuss their findings and deal with all the attended publicity. The first thing we had to do was find a venue! This was arranged by Arnold West on Wednesday. Council member Mike Wooten was put in charge of the video presentation and slide show. In addition Mike also wrote a press release and personally took it to every Fleet Street newspaper on Tuesday. Jenny Randles contacted Dr Terence Meaden, editor of the 'Journal of Meteorology', to let him know about the new circle formation. Having worked with BUFORA in the past, Terence Meaden soon rang me to confirm the measurements and appearance of the new circle. That afternoon, we both visited Cheesefoot Head punchbowl and viewed the circle through my 60mm refractor. Next we clambered down the hillside to the edge of the field, and mindful of the reputation of the landowner Cmdr Bruce, we estimated measurements by lining up the tramlines with

the surrounding fence. It was important to do this before sight-seers visited the circle and damaged it. During the afternoon, scores of passers by stopped their cars and crossed the road to look down on the new circle; and a light aircraft flew overhead to take a closer look. Whatever caused these circles, they were certainly a fascination to the average man in the street.

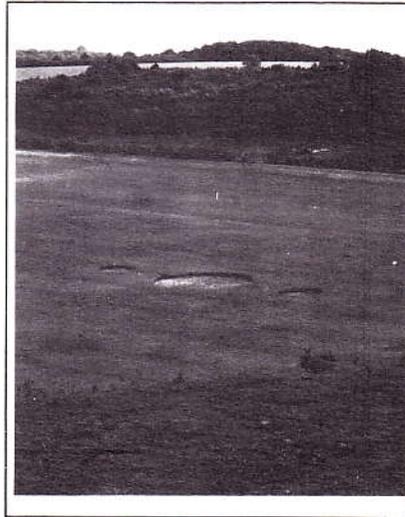
Terence and I left the punchbowl at about 5pm, I returned home to report back to Jenny whilst Terence left at 5.40pm after taking photographs from the northwestern edge of the wheatfield. At 8.05pm I returned to the punchbowl with three friends to show them the eighth wonder of the world. Imagine my surprise to discover that in the intervening three hours a second slightly smaller circle and ring had appeared nearer to the hillside - and I was the first to realise there were now two!

My first thought was to take photographs, despite the failing light, but unfortunately, I had used all my film up on the first circle that same afternoon (how often do UFO witnesses report this). However, this was one almighty coincidence, missing a circle by less than three hours, could it be that a practical joker was parked further up the road admiring his handiwork? But how could a hoaxer create a circle in broad daylight on a sunny Sunday afternoon next to a major road without alerting all the bystanders that were overlooking the field? Surely he would be noticed and the alarm would be raised?

Next it was back home to ring

Jenny. What, another one? You're kidding. Are you sure there isn't a car further up the road? Then Terence was on the line. What pattern is it? How large? Are you sure you're eyes aren't deceiving you? Now I know what its like to be quizzed by 'investigators'!). Then I rang Pat Delgado. What, another circle? In the same field? I'll be there in five minutes!

I took my friends back to watch the punchbowl in case any further circles appeared. During the next 90 minutes nearly two dozen cars stopped in the layby to disgorge circles enthusiasts, members of SIGAP and ordinary members of the public. How news travels fast. By the time I got home that night, I'd visited Cheesefoot head four times, spent over two hours making long distant phone calls, and had more excitement than Winchester normally produces in a month of Sundays.



Part 2 will appear in BUFORA Bulletin Number 25.

Thesis

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

B Taylor

Before going on to discuss the various theories put forward by investigators, who investigate what is called "The flying saucer phenomemon", two questions will be asked and answered, these are as follows:

- 1). Is anything strange going on?
- 2). Is there any evidence to show that something strange is going on?

Going on to answer the former, the answer is 'yes'. Going to answer the latter the answer is also 'yes'. As far as solid evidence is concerned there is none, the reason being that most people in society are a disbelieving lot. When one looks at this it is understandable, but despite that there is a lot of evidence which comes in the form of photographs and radar sightings.

Going on to discuss the various theories, these theories are as follows:

- 1). The experience that the person/s had, originated in the mind of the person/s concerned.
- 2). The objects that are seen are man-made.
- 3). The objects and their occupants come from outer space.
- 4). The objects and their occupants come from another dimension.

The first three theories will be discussed in this article. the last will be

discussed in another article. Going onto the first one. This theory is favoured by the psychologists. The theory works on the principle that if you want to see a spacecraft and it's occupants, you will. After close examination of contact reports, it was found that some of the beings that were seen, resembled human foetuses at birth. This is true when you look at the types that are seen, which are as follows:

- 1). Human
- 2). Humanoid
- 3). Animal
- 4). Robot
- 5). Exotic (reptile like)

Now psychologists think that when the person/s see these beings that resemble foetuses, the person/s are reliving their pre birth trauma personally I support this theory.

Going onto the man-made theory. This is an interesting one, because there are several ways of looking at it Looking from the point of view of how fast the objects that are seen travelling, then no, they are not man made. But, could the objects belong to the defence authorities? The answer to that is also no.

Going onto the third theory, some investigators have called this the ETH (extra terrestrial hypothesis). Some investigators tend to dismiss ETH because of the distance the objects would have to travel. Investigators also dismiss ETH because of the

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BUFORA News

PHILLIP TAYLOR ON LBC

Mike Wootten.

London independant radio listeners were given the chance to air their views on the subject of UFOs on 19th August 1986. Phillip Taylor (Regional Investigation Co-ordinator for Kent and Sussex) was in the hot seat.

Pete Murrey, disc jockey of old put the question at the beginning of the hour long phone-in programme, "Are UFO believers giving us a warning about the presence of aliens from another Galaxy, or do they merely have a vivid imagination". Hard hitting stuff, and typical of the media attitude to the UFO phenomenon.

Phillip Taylor was asked about the activities of BUFORA and its historical background, and why did a "level headed lecturer in computer software at a College of Technology become involved in, ha ha, UFOs". Phil was able to explain that there is nothing very unusual in investigating UFO reports. Pete Murrey then asked whether Phil had come in contact with 'little green men'. This was also a typical flippant question and Phil laughed it off quite easily and highlighted details of an alleged contact case that he had dealt with and was not impressed with at all. Phillip, being a healthily sceptical researcher made a very good point that claims of sightings of 'extra terrestrials' had generally the same scenario reported, but when the specifics of the case were looked at more closely, no single description of an 'alien' would mirror another.

Claims of international 'cover ups' were discussed. Phil stated that he did not

accept the claims of any kind of cover up. The possibility that hoaxes do occur were discussed, but on the whole, they were considered to be a rarity.

The Callers

Ted in Mitcham told us that he had gone to a lecture given by Mike Quinsey on the 'Astar Galactic Command' and 'Glacticom' who have, "Twenty mile across space ships and are waiting to save the inhabitants of earth when the big war start and Jesus is their leader (of course, silly me). Phil had not heard of Mike Quinsey (and neither have I). Leaving the main thread of the programme for a moment, I seem to remember back in 1978 that there was an incident where 'News at Ten' was interrupted in the South of England by 'Gillon' of the 'Astar Galactic Command' who wanted to spread peace and wisdom around the world and at the time the Aetherius Society were claiming that it was to be the 'first of many interruptions by 'them''. It was proved later to be a hoax. I am wondering if there is a connection between Mike Quinsey and the 1978 hoax. If any reader knows of either Mike Quinsey or the mysterious 'Gillon' and the gang at the 'Astar Galactic Command', then please let me know.

Getting back to the callers. Ivy of Norbury asked whether phil believed that UFOs had any connection with the Bible. Ivy carried on to say that she

that Adam and Eve were space people, and that was how we got here, on earth (she's obviously never heard of Darwin). Phil said that he did not consider there to be any obvious connection with the Bible and UFOs, quite rightly too!

Pete Murrey asked Phil his views on Von Daniken. Phil, true to form, dismissed the claims of this rather colourful writer. Poor old Pete Murrey was not getting any 'way-out' views from Phil, that came from another source.

Paul in Sidcup came up with the same old argument that if we have advanced in powered flight in fifty years (eighty would be more like it), then an older civilisation would have the means to travel the stars. Phil stated that, "Yes, this is all very true, but there is no concrete evidence to say that they have come here. I could not have answered that better myself.

Pete went on to the question of mystery corn circles. Phil explained that the circles patterns change every year, so, this points to the fact that they are indeed probable hoaxes.

The highlight of the debate had to be when Rex Dutta, editor of Viewpoint Aquarius, spoke at some length about the circles mystery. Rex dismissed all the mundane explanations, including the hoax theory. He claimed that they had experimented using a chain and spring balance, and found that by moving 12 inches, an indication of twenty pounds was registered. He went on to say that it was calculated by them that it would need a force of ninety pounds to produce a circle. These

figures quoted by Rex Dutta are the exact figures quoted in BUFORA's own definitive report on the circles mystery, with the figures calculated by Pat Delgado.

So according to Mr Dutta all the mundane explanations are ruled out, so what's left? Well, he claims that where previous circles have appeared in previous years, the corn grows lusher (laboratory tests showed that there were no chemical changes in the ground where circles have appeared). "Infrared photography has proved that 'Occult Heat' was used in the production process". Yet another unsubstantiated claim by Mr Dutta. Phillip asked why there is such a diversity in circle patterns over the years, according to Dutta it is all to do with telepathic symbolism. "They talk to us in mathematics and symbols, circles being one of them". Although Rex argued that the hoax theory was not valid, he still said that some circles were hoaxes because they did not fit into his telepathic symbolic patterns. Phil's best comment to Rex was, "I find the symbology very difficult to understand. It seem you can interpret almost any formation as having some message". Rex replied, "Yes, I think you can"(!). You can usually trip these people up sooner, or later, and the beauty of it was that I do not think he even realised he had been caught.

Dutta further stated that there was a cover up to conceal the truth from the public. He claimed that the Daily Telegraph had included material to discredit the true identity of the circles. The FACTS are that our own Paul Fuller had given the Telegraph the information for their

article and I do not think Paul works for MI5!

(apparently a 'D notice' had been ordered on the event).

Another caller related an event that occurred in Barrowchalk, just outside Salisbury about ten years ago, on a Bank Holiday evening. Local villagers were startled by bright lights in the sky, and a local farmer reported that there were large circular burn marks in his field and that his cows had ceased producing milk for three days. This sounds like a very interesting case, except for the fact that the events described could possibly be military manoeuvres

Chris Hutchings of the daily Mirror put great effort into explaining that the well documented circles hoax that they perpetrated in 1983 was only a bit of harmless fun. Slightly dodgy what!

Our last caller was Susam of Norbury, who phoned to congratulate Rex Dutta for being the only knowledgeable gentleman on the programme. Good heavens, what ever next! She went on to say that Phil was too sceptical. Phil, was in my opinion, just right.

BUFORA PRESENT TWO PUBLICATIONS

THE UFO WORLD '86

Compiled by Jenny Randles, THE UFO WORLD '86 highlights all the major cases, investigations and research that has occurred in the last twelve months.

MYSTERY OF THE CIRCLES

After previously selling out of this publication, BUFORA, due to public demand has reprinted this excellent report.

By Paul Fuller and Jenny Randles, MYSTERY OF THE CIRCLES is a highly detailed report relating to BUFORA's intensive study of a phenomena that has been reported regularly over the last six years

Both publications are a must for the serious researcher and are reasonably priced at £1.50 each £1.75 overseas (inc p&p).

Order your copies NOW! From BUFORA (Pubs), 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST

THE WARMINSTER PHENOMENA: A RE-EVALUATION

A R Terthis and Robert Moore

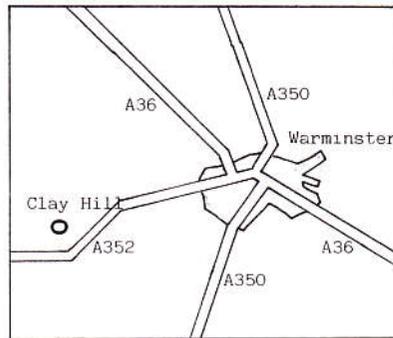
Mr A R Terthis actively investigated UFO sighting reports for thirty years from the early 1950's into the present decade, in the Somerset, Wiltshire and Avon areas. He has now retired from the area of Ufology in order to pursue other lines of research.

Robert Moore is an independant UFO investigator and a BUFORA member based in the Somerset levels. He subscribes to a rationalistic explanation of the UFO problem.

The following article is NOT a vilification of individuals or organisations. If they appear in less than favourable light then this is due to the events as they actually happend. It is possible that their motive changed with the course of the phenomena. Only they know the truth of the matter. What is contained herein is a cronicle of events as recorded by one who was there. A succession of events which actually transpired to be rather different to what they had been purported to be.

Introduction

The following has been inspired by published works on Ufology which have re-examined current myths and legends, and presented them in different light (such as the 'Welsh Triangle/Dyfed Enigma' articles in THE UNEXPLAINED and COMMON GROUND (1)). Although some people were unhappy at having the trimmings removed from these stories, it is felt that this kind of approach is vital if Ufology is to gain any respect from scientific and other quarters. Warminster has been a constant thorn in the side of Ufologists based in the West Country and some aspects of certain events that took place there show that there is a vital need to re-examine its claim of being a 'UFO Mecca'. A festival held there some time ago shows very clearly what has happend, as well as the nature of the press's reaction. It may have been good fun to some people, but who counts the cost of the damage down to serious Ufology.



Warminster has aquired - not earned - th reputation of being a 'UFO centre' or 'Ufocal', the place to see UFOs flitting in the night sky, but how is this jutified? Any group operating close to (and within) the 'danger zone' often suffers the backlash from the more informed people in Ufology who quite naturally qestion any report emanating from the area. Unfortunately, this attitude rubs off onto 'genuine' sightings, for Warminster does have 'real' UFO sightings just like any other place in the United Kingdom. The 'pollution' (from 'true believers' etc) is a source of constant annoyance

and embarrassment. Sensible people were sent reeling at a festival, held there by those who insisted that Warminster was special because they had read books that said so! Not wanting to listen to those who had been skywatching there for years, they still believe that they would see something wonderful in the heavens above them!

Despite never having been there beforehand, and having no first hand knowledge of this place, they were convinced that Warminster was important, with a capital "I". So, after some heart searching, it has been decided to attempt to put the Warminster phenomena into perspective, and to set the record straight, even though there will probably be a strong reaction from certain sections of the ufological community towards the contents and aims (some will say sinister) of this article!

The Birth of the Thing

If the subject of UFOs is mentioned by the media, the town of Warminster is nearly always quoted. A UFO exhibition held at Melksham caused the remark from a radio Bristol presenter, "That's near Warminster isn't it?". Which as you can see, typifies the general attitude that Warminster and UFOs go hand in hand, well, in this part of the country at least.

Why is this so? Why has Warminster been selected as the UFO town? Warminster is a pleasant little Wiltshire town with a population of approximately 15,500 people and covers an area of around 500 or so acres. It has several small firms and industries with the usual

retail and commercial facilities. However, the biggest source of employment is the army, who's large encampment takes up a major portion of the view from Cradle Hill. The lights of the now famous tank hangers, illuminate the sky with their orange glow; making them the most noticeable feature from the now legendary skywatch point.

So what is so unusual about this place? Like all parts of England, it has its fair share of tales of witches, demons and ghosts. It is said that executed highwaymen were suspended in an iron framework, known as a Gibbet, or Cradle, as an example and warning to any local lads who might have got any funny ideas! Thus the origin of Cradle Hill, the mount where this grisly business took place.

There is nothing which distinguishes Warminster from any other town in Britain, except the Thing. The Thing is a cute name, coined from the phenomena which manifested on Christmas day, 1964 at Heytesbury, near Warminster. Early that morning, troops of the 1st Welsh regiment heard a thunder clapping noise. There was no sign of any damage, despite the sound being likened to, "A huge chimney stack being ripped from the rooftop, then scattered in solid chunks across the whole camp area"(2). Its cause was unknown. Sounds were also heard by locals, descriptions of which were varied. Some stated that this aural phenomena resembled a crackling sound. From then on, things (literally!) started to happen. Observations of aerial forms, such as discs, cigars and spheres etc, were reported frequently in the local paper The Warminster Journal. It was some nine months after the

first incident when the paper's features editor, Arthur Shuttlewood, claimed that he had observed a large cigar shaped UFO over the town. Just prior to that, Gordon Faulkener presented his now well known photograph of a 'daylight disc' that he had claimed to have taken on August 29th, 1965.

Reports of flying shapes, weird noises and numerous photographs filled the Journal. All these events were later used in Mr Shuttlewood's book, The Warminster Mystery (Neville Spearman 1967). The information being gained via his role as reporter, checking on these observations and then writing them up in a way that attracted the eye of the buying public. Which is the business of a newspaper reporter. The Warminster Mystery sold well and wide. The legend of the Thing was thus born!



Cradle Hill

Where Things Went Wrong

Due to The Warminster Mystery and the other books that followed, the reputation of Warminster as a UFO hot spot was widely circulated, not only in the UK, but across the world. People travelled from far and wide to this country town to see what was going on for themselves. In the late 1960's, the crowds were immense and on Bank Holidays tents littered the hillsides. The crowds, however, were tainted with the presence of the pseudo-religious, who were there to "spread the message", and worship the celestial visitors. An interesting paradox was that if a tall man wearing anorak and balclava was seen walking down the street, he was just that, and nothing more. Place him on Cradle Hill and he became an alien! It is this syndrome which perverted many reports of mundane lights in the night sky (almost certainly aircraft, satellites and meteors etc), transforming them in to extra terrestrial scoutcraft and motherships. An example of this appeared in Shuttlewood's fifth book, More UFOs Over Warminster (Barker, London, 1979). Journalistic licence transformed a bright light into a 'shallow silvery bowl', which is said to have shot from the top of the Copse towards a group of skywatchers, who were "aghast" over the appearance of the celestial wonder!(3) It is true that a light passed over the Copse, but no way did it appear as a silvery bowl, neither did it approach the skywatchers. A reliable witness states that the light, perhaps from a plane, diminished in brightness while carrying on it's flight overhead, now as a small pinpoint. Admittedly, the light was a little strange, but it did not exhibit the features attributed to it by the book.

It cannot be denied that strange lights and objects were being reported. It is a fact that the Warminster police have several files of these witness reports. But were these proportionally larger than any other area, especially given that people's attention were drawn to such matters? It is an interesting question and difficult to answer. The way in which these reports were published gave the impression that almost everyone was seeing UFOs and that everyone was climbing a local hill at night, had a 50/50 chance of observing one, given a clear sky! Well, that's how the books and magazines read, anyway.

The Warminster Mystery was a very 'good read', full of witness reports and correspondence, brief narratives of 'astounding encounters', but, contains no on site investigations. It also suffers by being plagued by paranoid "cover up" material, some credited to Mr Gordon W. Creighton, now editor of Flying Saucer Review, who is said to have wrote, "You are being well and truly brainedwashed by powerful vested interests, for whom the situation now developing is very embarrassing indeed.... the public here are being grossly hoodwinked, bamboozled, by authorities who know very well what is happening...."

Many people were forming their own opinions on what they read and not the true facts, as these were virtually impossible to come by. The constant references to space ships made it all too clear how Shuttlewood chose to see the phenomenon. The emphasis on aliens from outer space meant a loss of objectivity.

All unidentified lights seen above Warminster were spaceships carrying intelligent occupants, thus people looked for spaceships and spacemen, especially Shuttlewood and his team, who mounted watches from the hilltops. The scene was set, the aliens moved in (or seemed to!) with dozens of reports of landings of flying saucers. It was firmly established what they were, the problem now was to find out where they had come from. The skywatchers manned the vantage points on the hillsides awaiting the inevitable answer through contact.

The Photographic Evidence

At the end of the Warminster Mystery, Shuttlewood stated that the skywatching team, consisting of himself, Bob Strong and Sybil Champion, had, at the close of 1966, logged 972 UFOs, with almost 70 photographs. As time went on, the sightings increased, as did the photographs, the latter leaping into the hundreds, the majority being retained in Mr Strong's album: yet only a few 'lits' type blobs found their way into Mr Shuttlewood's books; hardly convincing at that stage. Their credibility lessened when rumours spread that the published photographs were, in fact, no more than the dot that appears on a television screen when the set is switched off!

The Shuttlewood skywatch team split up not long after the start of the Thing stories, and by all accounts the parting of the ways was somewhat less than amicable! It was this situation that was said to have lead Mr Strong to supply Shuttlewood with fake photographs for his books: the reason given was that the

praise and publicity was being lavished on the latter person. Meanwhile, detailed daylight pictures of discs in their full splendour allegedly remain in Mr Strong's albums for selected eyes only. There is said to exist, some motion film of a disc buzzing a line of tanks during an army exercise and then shooting out of sight. This, according to speculation, is in Mr Strong's hands. A handful of people claim to have seen these photographs and fewer the film footage. All these people seemed suitably impressed; convinced of their authenticity and also amazed at the clarity, in many cases showing minute detail. Arrangements were made for a responsible group to examine the pictures at Mr Strong's home. However, literally, all came to nothing, the door being slammed into their faces. Such conduct may well suggest that the material in question would not stand upto scientific scrutiny.

The only known photograph that shows any definition is that taken by Gordon Faulkner, which is that of a typical domed disc. Unfortunately, this has been used so many times in books, newspapers and magazines, that it has become something of an eyesore! Yet, even this picture lacks any background information, ie, trees, buildings etc, and it is shot against a dull greyish sky making it's scientific value almost nil. Sadly, this is the same as most other UFO photos. Very few, if any, could be vouched as genuine that originated from Warminster.

It is no surprise that the photographs generate

Controversy and they are central to a discrepancy in the Warminster Mystery. Even given that one cannot believe all one reads, a minor error such as the following does cast doubts on larger issues. The mater referred to, is a passage in the Warminster Mystery (p.176), where it "talks" about attempts to photograph UFOs, only resulting in two negatives and prints with the impressions of strange images upon them.

On one a series of triangular shapes and on the other "stone columns or pillars" were visible. It is clearly stated that both the negatives and destroyed previously. But for some reason they managed to appear in the books!

Preceding page 161 in the Warminster Mystery, the triangular shapes can be seen and an even better print of this photograph appears, following page 60 in Warnings from Flying Fiends (Portway Press, 1966). It is true that the effect was only reproduced as explained half way down page 176, but there was only one negative which produced the "pillars" and this sole negative and print was destroyed, according to what we are told. How the pillar photograph comes to appear in the book (p. 189) is therefore a mystery. Therefore, we have a relatively simple matter: either the negatives and prints were destroyed, or they were not. Mr Shuttlewood claims that they were, despite their appearance in two books! If there are inaccuracies and/or untruths at this level, doubts must be cast on other material.

There have been very few recent Warminster UFO photos. For instance, a small item appeared in the erstwhile Magic Saucer, under the heading of

elaborate equipment is used to detect aerial phenomena. Project Hessdalen personnel use Spectrum analysers, Magnetometers and radar amongst other equipment. Some of the results are very interesting.

Magnetometer readings showed correlations between changes in magnetic field variations and the activity of the phenomena. The firing of lasers at the phenomenon produced definite responses, which are very interesting indeed (1).

The main reason for the writing of this article is that I am rather interested in

your experiences with UFO detectors. Have you had any positive results from such devices? Do you still use them? Or have you had any amusing anecdotes associated with UFO detectors? Please write to me at the editorial address given on page 6 and I shall publish your responses in a future Bulletin.

Reference

- (1). Project Hessdalen, Final Technical Report, Part 1. Erling Strand, UFO Norge (1984).

REVIEW OF CODE OF PRACTICE FOR INVESTIGATORS

A West

The code of practice has been in operation for four years and has been adopted (or adapted) by various UFO organisations throughout the world.

Most have commented favourably, some have raised criticism. Thus, the time is ripe to bring together representatives of those bodies supporting the code to review the past application of, and consider possible improvements to, the code of practice.

A workshop will be held at the forthcoming International UFO Congress to be held in London in July 1987, to consider these points and to set up a panel whose recommendations shall lead to the adoption of a harmonised Code of Practice.

Constructive criticism and suggestions are welcomed from all groups and associations involved in active research of the UFO and related phenomena, to BUFORA (CP), at the registered office.

AGM Notice

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BUFORA LTD

The TWELFTH Annual General Meeting of BUFORA Ltd will be held at THE LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, REGENTS PARK, LONDON, NW1. In the LECTURE THEATRE at 6.30pm on SATURDAY, 7th MARCH 1987, to receive the Chairmans Report, the Interim Report of the Council of Management, the Accounts of the Treasurer carried forward from the 1986 AGM and to appoint the Auditor according to the Articles of the Association.

Signed on behalf of the council of Management.



Chairman. 10th December 1986.

NOTE

Please note that a member entitled to attend and vote at this meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy who need not be a member of the Company to attend and vote in his or her stead. Instruments of proxy must be lodged at the Company's registered address, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST, not less than forty-eight before the time appointed for the meeting. Members wishing to nominate persons for election to the Council of Management shall give to the Secretary such nominations in writing, signed by the person proposed, stating his or her willingness to be elected, not less than four, nor more than twenty-eight clear days before the time appointed for the Meeting in accordance with section 52 of the Articles of Association.

TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 7th March 1987

AGENDA

1. Notice convening the meeting.
2. Minutes of the ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
3. Chairmans report.
4. Adoption of the Interim report of the Council of Management and of the Report of the Auditor and Accounts carried forward from the 1986 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
5. Appointment of the Auditor and leave for Council to fix his remuneration.
6. Ammendment to Item 18 of the Articles of Association, which presently reads:

"No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quoram is present when the Meeting proceeds with business. Save as herein otherwise provided TWENTY members shall be a quoram".

To be ammended to FIFTEEN MEMBERS.

MINUTES OF THE 10TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Saturday, 6th December 1986 at the London Business School, Sussex Place, Regents Park, London, NW1.

The meeting commenced at 7pm with 22 voting members present. Mr R Digby was appointed as secretary to the meeting.

1. Mr West read the notice convening the meeting and no votes of proxy were received.

2. The minutes of the previous AGM were taken and read.

3. The President's Address was dropped from the Agenda in the absence of this office.

4. The Chairman, Mr West drew attention to his published report, closing with his regrets at the resignation of Les Sallis through ill health and also that Pam Kennedy was also unwell. The Chairman thanked all those who helped through the year.

5. The Treasurers Report was also published. Mr West commented on the declining membership noting that 50 people had not renewed since August. Mr West closed with an appeal for new members.

6. Mr Gamble as head of Research presented his report as published and commented that progress was being made with newly acquired computer equipment.

7. Mr Gamble also presented the Director of Investigations' Report as published, as Mis Randles was unable to be present.

8. Mr West presented the Report of the Council of Management as published. He added that in recognition of the services of Pam Kennedy, he would present her with a rosebowl on behalf of the Association.

Whilst it was normal practice to adopt both the report and accounts this was not fully possible. The accounts reflected a fair and proper state of finances but had not been audited.

It was proposed by Ken Phillips and seconded by Frank Wood with a unanimous vote that the report be adopted and the accounts be re-presented for an AGM in March 1987.

9. Carried forward to AGM.

10. The retiring Council Members all offered themselves for re-election. This was proposed by Miss Farquhason and seconded by Manfred Cassirer with members voting unanimously.

Mr Gamble commented on the need for additional manpower on the Council and proposed the cooption of Manfred Cassirer. This was seconded by Mr Danby and voted unanimously.

11. Mr West addressed the problems of having an AGM in December. He proposed the regular holding of such future meetings be in the new year and pointed out the constitutional requirements for this. A date for the twelfth AGM for the year 1987 was fixed for

at 7th March 1987 although the accounts would continue to reflect a financial year ending 31st August.

12. Under Any Other Business, Mr Cassirer raised the question of Quorum numbers and it was agreed that an ammended would be presented at the next AGM.

Mr West closed the meeting at 7.25pm.

INTERIM REPORT of the COUNCIL of MANAGEMENT

1). The date of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of BUFORA Ltd has been changed to allow a longer period from the end of the financial year, for the preperation and production of AGM reports and audited accounts, thus enabling us to more easily meet editor's a printer's deadlines. The simplistic way of achieving this would have been to re-schedule the AGM from December 1987 to March 1988. This solution is impossible owing to a requirement of Company Law that limited companies shall hold an AGM in each calender year. Hence this meeting at only THREE months interval from the 1986 AGM. We take advantage of this occasion to present the accounts for year ending 31st August 1986, held over from the previous meeting

This Interim Report is intended to keep members informed concerning the affairs of the Association up to this point in time., but in no way pre-empts the REPORT of the COUNCIL of MANAGEMENT for YEAR ENDING 31st August 1987, which will be presented at the THIRTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in 1988.

2). PUBLIC MEETINGS continue to be held on the first Saturday of each month (unless a public holiday), except during the summer recess of July and August. Ken Phillips has resigned from the post of Lecture Organiser. We thank for his work in this field and are actively seeking a siutable successor.

3). BUFORA PUBLICATIONS Since 31st August, two magazines have been mailed to Members of the Company, the September Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena and the November BUFORA Bulletin. We express our gratitude to John Barrett, who has resigned after five years in the editorial chair, for his work in producing the Bulletin and as Director of Publications. We also thank Mike Wootten, who has undertaken the production of this issue of Bulletin at very short notice.

The Investigation Department plan to continue their highly successful experiment of 1986 with the production of th UFO World '87, and a special publication to mark the 4th INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS, to be held July 1987.

4). BUFORA LTD are Joint Sponsors of the 4th INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS to be held at the LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, REGENTS PARK, LONDON, NW1. On Friday 10th - Sunday 12th July 1987.

5). RESEARCH & INVESTIGATIONS are continuing under the able leadership of Jenny Randles and Steve Gamble.

Continued on Page 29

BUFORA LIMITED

INCOME AND EXPENDATURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST AUGUST 1986

31st Aug 1985		31st Aug 1986	
£	£	£	£
INCOME			
3265	Subscriptions	3251	
583	Donations	292	
152	Publications	162	
20	Advertisements	-	
8	Training	20	
-	Building Society Interest (net)	86	
----		----	
	4028		3811
EXPENDATURE			
1701	Publications	2311	
449	Stationary and Administration	431	
281	Research and Investigation	565	
610	Lecture costs	461	
(845)	Lecture income	(532)	(71)

20	Registration	20	
57	Audit fee	57	
27	Computer Project	-	
-	Training	23	
----		----	
	2300		3336
----		----	
£ 1728	EXCESS OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR	£ 475	
----		----	

NOTE

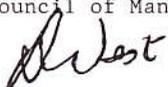
The company is limited by guarantee and in the event of winding up, the liability of each member would be limited to £1.00.

BUFORA LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST AUGUST 1986

31st Aug 1985			31st Aug 1986	
£	£		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
2400		Bank	243	
-		Deposit Account	3086	
60		Debtors	-	
----			----	
	2460			3329
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
102		Sundry creditors	77	
-		Subscriptions in advance	419	
----			----	
	(102)			(496)
	-----		-----	
£ 2358			£ 2833	
	-----		-----	
represented by:				
GENERAL FUND				
630		Balance brought forward	2358	
1728		Excess of Income for the year	475	
----			----	
	-----		-----	
£ 2358			£ 2833	
	-----		-----	

Approved by the Council of Management:

A West  Chairman.

J L Spencer A.C.A. Director.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There are two things which I should mention at this time, Firstly the change of date for holding the AGM, which will enormously facilitate the preparation and publication of the mandatory AGM reports and notices, and secondly to express my satisfaction that BUFORA are joint sponsors of CONGRESS '87, THE FORTH INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS, to be held in London on 10th - 12th July 1987.

Since 31st August, John Barrett, our hard working editor, and Les Sallis, the recently elected Hon Secretary resigned from Council, the latter for reasons of Poor health. Our appreciation to them both, and best wishes for the future. We welcome Manfred Cassirer to Council, he is a well known writer and researcher of the paranormal, and a member of the Council of the SPR.

I must mention the mammoth task recently completed by Jim Danby, who has set up the membership database. This operation has streamlined our membership records, facilitated mailing to members and will assist in the participation of members in the work of the Association.

In closing, I wish to thank all members of Council for their work during the past months, Jim Danby the membership Secretary, Mary Corr who tirelessly mails the magazines and Pam Kennedy, who after many years as Membership Secretary, continues as the Association's information officer. My thanks also go to the team of Accredited Investigators who continue to produce case reports of a very high standard.



Chairman 10th December 1986.

BUFORA Ltd

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR THE MEMBERS YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31ST 1986.

I have audited the financial statements as published in the official BUFORA Annual Report 1986. The audit was conducted in accordance with approved auditing standards having regard to the matters referred to in the following paragraph.

In common with many businesses of similar size and organisation the company's system of control is dependant upon the close involvement of the Directors. Where independent confirmation of the completeness of the accounting records was not available we have accepted assurances from the directors that all the company's transactions have been reflected in the records.

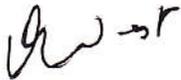
Subject to the foregoing, in my opinion, the financial statements which have been prepared under the historical cost convention give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at August 31st 1986 and of its profit for the year then ended and comply with the Companies Act, 1985.

N. O'Brien, FCA
Chartered accountant.

MANAGEMENT REPORT...Continued

6). TRAINING A Training seminar was held by Ken Phillips at Manchester on 29th November 1986. Analysis of feedback from this and previous training seminars indicates a growing interest in interactive training sessions, with a greater degree of student participation than has been usual in the past

7). COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT There have been three changes in the council of management since 31st August 1986. The Hon. Secretary Les Sallis resigned (Nov 86) from Council and John Barrett resigned (Dec 86) from both Council and as editor of the BUFORA Bulletin, also Manfred Cassirer was elected to Council at the 1986 AGM. Ken Phillips has relinquished his post as Lecture Organiser, but continues as the Association's Training Officer.



Chairman 10th December 1986.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS..Continued

evidence brought back from recent space missions concerning traces of life on other planets.

I (the writer) believe that we are being visited by beings from outer space, but that this is only part of the flying saucer jigsaw, the other part will be covered in future articles.

OBITUARY

Harold H. Fulton, founder of the Civilian Saucer Investigation (New Zealand), has sadly passed away, aged 65.

Mr Fulton served 24 years in the Technical Division of the Royal New Zealand Air Force. He had been involved with UFO investigations and research since 1947, founding CSI in 1952. In 1973 He became National Director For MUFON.

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Congress '87

THE FORTH INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS.

Bob Digby.

Bob Digby is a former chairman of BUFORA and founder member of the INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR UFO RESEARCH (ICUR).

Preparation is underway for yet another International Congress and I would not disguise my ambition that this should be the best yet.

I have been directly involved in the running of conferences of this sort since 1976 when BUFORA, in conjunction with the Birmingham group UFOSIS, ran a National Conference. This was not the first conference either, but I have certainly felt that they have all been progressively better on each occasion.

The first National Conference was at Stoke on Trent, over the 10th - 11th May 1975. By August 1979, the First International Congress was run - notice subtle change to the word Congress. I blame Lionel Beer for that, although in checking the dictionary I find I prefer 'A meeting of diplomats; the act of meeting together' as opposed to 'The act of conferring'.

Whatever you want to call it, I feel very strongly that it is imperative we create an International Forum or social market place whereby an exchange of dialogue can take place.

The one thing that has always upset me is the fragmentation of effort coupled with a realisation that is in the nature of things for there to be inter-group rivalries and self interest. I learnt this lesson in 1977 when efforts to unify

the various interest groups were openly 'torpedoed' and at a time when UFO reports were pouring in, attitudes became polarised.

The one oasis, despite the rights and wrongs of what was happening was the opportunity to come together, exchange views and find out what was happening. I find it particularly fitting that whereas every country probably has similar problems amongst it's UFO groups, the opportunity for dialogue should be spread over a wide international field.

CONGRESS '87 promises to be a very exciting event. Coming a staggering four years after the last Congress at Lane End. It is really too long to go and yet BUFORA has borne quite a burden in the staging of these events, using very limited limited and precious resources in time, money and manpower.

This year there is a change in strategy and BUFORA, although a sponsor, has handed the organising to an outside company which has acted as a funding broker as well, raising funds from six different sources. This allows the burden of responsibility to be shared and emphasises the desire for a non partisan approach to creating the event.

Enquiries should be sent to:

The CONGRESS '87 Secretary,
c/o 16 Southway, Burgess Hill,
Sussex,
RH15 9ST
Enclosing SAE for reply.

Details will be sent out shortly but those interested should note that places are limited and this will be a ticket only event. I look forward to meeting you at CONGRESS '87!

NOTICE TO PROSECTIVE SPEAKERS.. Offers of papers are invited on topics of international interest of relevance to the study of the UFO enigma. Please write to the CONGRESS '87 SECRETARY.

Booklook..... Reviews

THE WORLD'S GREATEST UFO MYSTERIES

Nigel Blundell and Roger Boar

Octopus books, London, 1984. Paperback, 192pp, @ fl.99.

One Hundred and ninety-two pages of junk reading! This ill disguised attempt to exploit the UFO myth deserves your inattention; it gathers together what the authors (not to me) evidently think are the most mind boggling rumours about, not only UFOs, but the Burmuda Triangle, the Tunguska explosion, Spring-heeled Jack, missing persons (even a missing village), falls of animals and the Nasca lines. The cover blurb samples its contents as follows:-

'Devon Housewife Kidnapped by Aliens / Salesman travels Back in Time / The Green Suited Superman / UFO Beam Paralysed Patient / Aliens Spotted Over Russia / UFOs Terrorise Australian Town'

In fact, the book is useless as a source of reference; it contains no criticism and no data that would enable one to check its wild claims. There are no references and there is no index. The authors knowledge of UFO reports appears to be limited to what they have gleaned from the

popular journals and some newspaper accounts. The account of the livingston incident bears little relation to the facts, and appears to have been rearranged for maximum sensation.

There are nine 'UFO photographs', all seeming fakes, and one may wonder what pictures of Buzz Aldrin standing on the moon, Francis Chichester in his yacht, Concorde, Glastonbury Tor and bomb-torn Hiroshima are doing in this book! I wonder what it is doing on my bookshelf.

Steuart Campbell.

STRANGE BERKSHIRE

Alan Cleaver, Chris and Amanda Cowley.

Strange Folklore Society in association with the Slough Observer 1986. Booklet, 57pp @ £2.00.

Like the previous book, Strange Berkshire has nothing to do with UFOs! But it is a richly and beautifully illustrated 'Wander through the mysteries of Winsor, Slough, Datchett Cookham, Bisham Maidenhead, Crazies Hill and surrounding areas'.

Continued on Page 33

Research

PRE 1947 UFO BULLETIN NUMBER 47

Nigel Watson

In 1946 people throughout Sweden began seeing mystery rockets in the sky. Some people thought such observations were caused by mis-identifications of meteors or similar natural phenomena.

However, the increasing number of sightings and the fear that the Russians were testing some kind of new missile, meant that the Swedish authorities were forced to establish a committee to investigate the validity of this hypothesis. In his article, 'The Ghost Rockets of Sweden' (Official UFO, October 1976, PP61), Don Berliner noted that; 'Within the Defence Staff, all reports regarding this matter were summarised and forwarded to the Air Administration and Air Defence Sections. Personnel were sent out both from the Defence Staff and Air Administration sections to evaluate. In addition the Defence Staff directed special investigations by military units upon receipt of impact reports. Liaison with civilian authorities -including the Custom Authorities- and the Iotta Kar, as well as the Stockholm Observatory, was established. In connection with a communique of 10th July the populaion was requested to send reports of their observations to the Defence Staff'.

Along with other national defence agencies, British Intelligence took an interest in the ghostrocket mystery, in particular they were interested in what had been termed the 'Swedish Lake Mjosa Case'. From the following report on the incident it can be seen that this sighting, like many others at that time,

fits the 'Russian secret weapon Hypothesis'; '...on 18th July 1946, at Lake Mjosa, near Feiring, when two missiles were seen to fall into the Lake with a splash which rose to a height of several metres. Witnesses who saw the missiles from a distance of 50 yards state: a). the missiles bearily cleared the woods; b). they were similar to pictures of the German flying bomb; c). the length was approximately eight feet and wing span 6.5 feet; d). wings were set aproximately 3 feet from the nose; e). a fluttering suggested the wings were made of fabric, f). wings and centre section of fuselage were black, nose and tail were silver; g). there seemed to be a kind of steering apperatus towards the tail; h). there was no flame; i). noise resembled a strong whistle or sough; j). no explosion when they hit the water; k). the two missiles were flying fairly close together. This report describes a winged object in such detail that it can scarcely be put down to imagination'.

It is intriguing to note that these ghost rockets were rumoured to have caused aerial blasts and were blamed for burning down a lumber mill, a few barns and even a hen house.

A frustrating factor for those seeking physical evidence was that the ghost rockets either plunged into a lake where it was impossible to dredge anything u, or they exploded leaving nothing but slag and coal like substances. To explain these bizarre remains, 'The Swedes had the idea that an unusual explosive was being used in an extremely efficient self-distruct system which fragmented the ghost

rocket into particles as small as dust', according to Loren E Gross in his book, 'The Mystery of Ghost Rockets' (privately published, California, USA 1974, second edition 1982).

As Loren Gross explains in his excellent book, the ghost rockets were tracked on radar, photographed, left traces, and were seen by trained witnesses and extensive investigations were made into their possible origin, yet in the end, authorities such as the British Air Ministry had to admit that; 'Insufficient facts are as yet available to permit any definite conclusion to be reached at this stage. Yet it is difficult to believe that all, or even the majority, of such observations as those given above are imaginary, and it must be accepted that at least on two days 9th July and 11th August 1946, something was seen by 200 - 300 observers on each day. It is difficult to account for all these incidents as natural events, especially as many were seen in daylight.

Send any comments to:

Nigel Watson,
Westfield cottage,
Crowle Bank Road,
Althorpe,
South Humberside,

JOIN BUFORA
AND HELP SOLVE
THE UFO ENIGMA

BOOK REVIEWS.....CONTINUED

If you like reading interesting anecdotal stories about witchcraft, ghosts, Herne the Hunter and other folklore myths and legends then this is the publication for you.

The other reason you should purchase this publication is that all the proceeds go to The Observer Mobile Screening unit which is an exceedingly worthwhile cause. So really you can support a worthy appeal and have a jolly good read as well!

STRANGE BERKSHIRE is available from: Strange Publications, 65 Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP13 5AA.

DATA BASE Vol 1 No 1

Publication of the British Association for Strange Encounters (Inc. BUFOS), 18pp.

The British Association for Strange Encounters (BASE) has published its first issue, a mixed bag of UFO sightings, Astral projection and an interesting chronology of Stigmata events. Despite some interesting contents, the presentation and layout will have to improve to make the publication a more enjoyable read. But of course this is the first issue and improvement will probably come with time.

BASE also incorporates the much troubled British UFO Society which has had many ups and downs over the last few years. The Chairman of BASE is Larry Dale FRAS, once BUFORA's Director of Investigations, with Maureen Hall as Membership secretary (Also once D of I for BUFORA). Details of membership from: 19 Hall Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 5HB

Mike Wootten

Reader's Write -- Letters to the Editor

ANTIPODES

Sir

Are you short of material that you must borrow articles from other UFO journals, and is it necessary to publish reports from Australia (should we not be concentrating on British reports)?

I would not mind so much if the anomomous article from 'Australian International UFO Flying Saucer Research (!) was competant. But it contains references to nineteen different reports, (not all easily distinguished from each other) of which four have no date, nine have no year (although it maybe deduced in some cases), four have no time, and those that give time do not relate it to GMT, six have no location (although it might be adelaide) and none have azimuth of the object (although the general direction is given in seven cases, but in one case only by reference to a town which I cannot locate). It is a Hotch-potch of anecdotes that cannot lead to proper investigation without much more information (not just that mentioned above).

Despite these grave deficiencies it is evident that several of the objects were stars, notably Vega, Antares, Arcturus and Alpha and Beta Centaurus. One seems to be a fireball (meteor) and one a solar halo (a well known meteorological phenomenon). Those down under had better look up.

Steuart Campbell
Edinburgh

I do feel it necessary to include articles from other Journals, especially from abroad.

Please remember Steuart that the UFO enigma is not confined to Britain, it is indeed a global phenomenon.

It is right a proper to be able to present work from abroad for correct discussion comparison and criticism, which you have done and suffice it to say I agree with some of you comments and evaluations.....ED

SPECTRE

Sir

A foul spectre is stalking Ufology. The name of that spectre is Psychic Questing! It is worrying to note that some believe that this garbage is an indication of the ufology of the 1990's. Goodness! is the dream of rational ufology to be suffocated under the black mud of the Occult?

Is this what happens when we allow PSI to tarnish the ufological landscape? I appeal to the Ufologists of the United Kingdom to turn their backs on the highly dangerous nonsense. The 'ufologists' associated withbthis fiasco have completely lost their credibility. Let us hope that others will note this. If this is the shape of ufology to come, I think that it would be best that the subject dies! But if everyone takes a strong stand against this mumbo-jumbo, this trash can be nipped in the bud, without is causing such irreparable damage.

Robert Moore
Somerset

Some hard hitting words. Psychic Qesting is controversial, stretching the bounds of credibility. I hope that someone more informed than I can respond to Roberts comments.....ED

EXISTANCE?

Sir

I have been a member of BUFORA for three years now and during this time I have received and read twelve copies of the Bulletin.

One cannot fail to notice the extraordinary contribution made by the continuing remonstrative correspondence between Jenny Randles and Steuart Campbell. Far be it from me to disparage in any way the dedication required to accomplish such keen and intensive nit-picking. Indeed the Bulletin and especially the letters section would be much depleted without the epic performance.

However the realisation of this fact does make me wonder whether Mr Campbell actually exists at all. May he be a fictional character invented solely for the purpose of avoiding the otherwise vulgar and tiresome chore of having to find some UFOs to discuss?

I am aware of course, that some longer standing members claim to have had actual encounters with a Steuart Campbell. May I respectfully suggest that they were in fact looking at Betelgeuse at the time.
Nigel Smith
London.

I have absolutely no comment to make at all.....ED

With respect to letters. If you have ANY comment to make concerning BUFORA, the Bulletin or UFOs in general then put pen to paper and send them to the editorial address on page 6 of this issue...NOW!

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WARNING TO RESEARCHERS

Statistics are like Bikinis;
What they reveal is
interesting. But what they
conceal is vital!

DON'T JUST
JOIN BUFORA
GET ACTIVE

PLANE CREW REPORT UFO

Mike Wootten

In the beginning of January, a very interesting news story was released by UPI (press agency), concerning an investigation that was currently being undertaken by the United States Federal Aviation Authority in relation to a UFO sighting by a Japanese Airlines crew.

Even the prestigious heavyweight of Fleet Street, The Times carried a lengthy column on 6th January, highlighting the FAA investigation. The Sunday Mirror also carried the story, even investing in an artist impression of a cigar shaped 'craft' with many lights illuminating the periphery of the object. Martin Brunt, reporter for the Sunday Mirror also related this latest sighting with the infamous 'Prince Charles Incident' that occurred when His Royal Highness was returning from the United States by Royal Flight. The crew reported a very bright red object that appeared to follow the aeroplane. BUFORA was able to identify the object as a brilliant fireball meteor that was tracked from Northern Ireland to the Midlands. Of course Mr Brunt is well aware of or findings in relation to this specific case, but he still chooses to perpetuate a mystery.

To the Japanese Airlines incident itself. On the 17th November 1986, Captain Kenju Terauchi, his co-pilot and engineer saw a very large 'Walnut shaped object' the size of two aircraft carriers. The flight was a routine cargo route from Iceland to Anchorage, Alaska, which takes

the Boeing 747 aircraft directly over the North Pole.

The captain reported to US air traffic control that an unknown object was 'following' his aircraft. ATC confirmed that the object was also on radar. Captain Terauchi was ordered to drop 4000 feet and make turns, but, the object still stayed and came within five miles of the aircraft. At one stage the object appeared directly in front of the cockpit with what appeared to be two smaller objects as outriders.

According to the ground flight controller who was directing the jet said that the object followed the cargo plane for 32 minutes and for a distance of 400 miles.

Captain Terauchi, a veteran pilot with 29 years experience, told FAA officials that he, "Could not explain the event" and that he had seen, "Something of extra-terrestrial origin of a more advanced technology". He went on to say that he was amazed at the speed of the object and how it could suddenly stop.

An interesting twist to the story is that Captain Terauchi has become a 'repeater witness'. He has reported a second incident over the North Pole, which involved a glowing ball of amber light that was not tracked on radar.

We will hopefully receive more details in due course. The Mutual UFO Network are currently looking into this potentially interesting case, a case that even got The Times to report the incident. Thanks go to Martin Brunt for background.

CASES IN BRIEF

REPEATER BALL LIGHTNING

May/June 1979, 18.30, Level A, SP 4-5
Redditch, Worcestershire.
Credit: Clive Potter LUFOIC, NUFON.

JL, now eighteen, was walking home with a friend, when he noticed an "Oversized ball bearing" approximately eighteen inches in diameter hovering just outside his bedroom window. After five minutes, the object manouvered through trees at the bottom of the garden. He was able to associate a strong sickly odour with the object and a high pitched whistle was also heard.

Two years later (late August or early September), JL drew back the curtains in his bedroom and saw exactly the same revolving silver sphere, only 12 inches away from him! After staring at it for about a minute, the object accelerated out of sight. JL is a loner, interested in Sci-fi and is a firm believer in ETH. So what was the object, could it be ball lightning? or was it an Earthlight?

UFOS IN KENSINGTON?

27th June 1985, 14.03, Level A
West Kensington, London
Credit: Nigel Smith, BUFORA

DC a 33 year old interior decorator from south London, was working in a back room with his associate, MC, 29, from west London, when his attention was drawn to a bright flashing light in the sky. He went over to the window and called MC to view the object with him. He describes the object as egg or lozenge shaped, moving in a straight line, moving faster than a helicopter, but slower than a plane. the object had a highly reflective surface and was catching the sun as it oscillated from side to side. The witnesses stressed that the reflections were exceedingly bright. Although the object seemed to be within a mile of the witnesses, no sound was heard to emanate from it and it appeared to be totally featureless.

view as it went beyond the terrace of adjoining houses. The total observation lasted for a total of less than twenty seconds.

DC has an art background and is visually skilled, but is technically competent as well. He related the event in an intelligent and articulate manner and has a healthily sceptical attitude to UFOs.

As this case occurred in London and especially in west London (near to Heathrow) it would be very easy to conclude that the object that was reported was an aircraft of some kind, reflecting sunlight. But the witnesses are adamant that they did not observe an aircraft. There is some possibility that a subjective stimulus was involved, that could alter the witnesses perception.

the object disappeared from

Stop Press!

CRACOE EVENT: LATEST DEVELOPEMENTS

We have just received some new information from WYUFORG concerning the controversial Cracoe Fell photographs.

The WYUFORG team have now been able to successfully photograph light sources appearing in the same location depicted in the original photographs taken by off duty police officers on 16th March 1981.

It would be unwise and unprofessional to conclude that the Cracoe case has been solved, but the photographs do

look interesting and are worthy of further analysis.

YUFOS, the primary investigative team dealing with the Cracoe case, have rejected the photographs, stating that they are not the same lights that appear on the original photos. They state further that the case still remains unexplained.

Hopefully, I will be going to Yorkshire in February to discuss the case with both YUFOS and WYUFORG. An update will appear in the May Bulletin

Diary

- Feb 27th-28th Please note that the 5th Franco-Symposium has
March 1st been deferred to later in the year and will probably be held in Brussels.
- March 7th BUFORA AGM followed by RENDLESHAM UPDATE.
Speaker: Dot Street.
- March YUFOS/Quest Conference 87 to be held in Leeds
for details contact YUFOS.
- April 4th BUFORA lecture. Speaker and title to be
announced.
- May 2nd BUFORA lecture. WE ARE DEFINITELY NOT ALONE.
Speaker: T R Dutton.
- June 6th BUFORA lecture. CIRCLES REVIEW.
Speaker: Jenny Randles et. al.
- July 10th-12th CONGRESS '87, The Forth International UFO
Congress. To be held in London.

Contact the editor two months in advance if you have an event that you would like to advertise.

All BUFORA Lectures are held at the London Business School, Sussex Place, Outer Circle, Regents Park, London, NW1. The LBS is only a short walk from Baker Street underground station. The Meetings start at 6.30pm. So see you there!