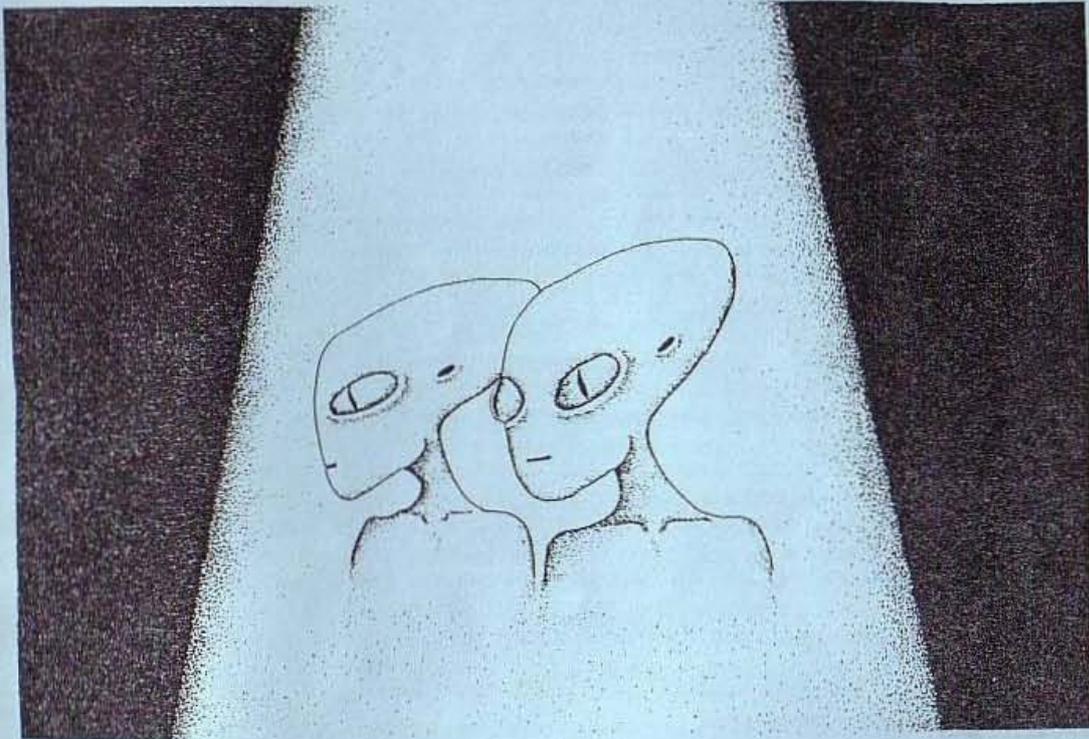


NORTHERN NEWS

UFO

144
AUGUST
1990



NORTHERN UFO NEWS SUBS: £6 for 6

EDITOR: Jenny Randles

COVER: Johnny Waudby

CONTENT: Usual features plus... p.2...Circle updates .. p.4 A revelation?...P. 8...overseas cases from Australia, Canada, Eire and t he USA ...p.9 -14 ...Brief cases from Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Durham, Derbyshire, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Merseyside Scotland , South Yorks, West Yorks, Tyne & Wear...including UFO that scared a cat, petal-like light beams case and Rochdale cloud abduction...P.15 Case History... Close encounter from Todmorden .

37 HEATHBANK ROAD CHEADLE HEATH STOCKPORT CHESHIRE ENGLAND SK3 0UP

J. R. Comments. . . Apologies are due once more for the continued problems which have brought major delays to this magazine. I will not reiterate the main difficulty, which is still outstanding and has grave implications, but the month of August was then effectively wiped out following a serious car accident whilst investigating a Cheshire crop circle. Fortunately, things are improving on all fronts and perhaps future issues will not be so late. Fingers crossed anyway. Thanks for your patience.

I promised an update on the crop circle mystery. Of course, those of you familiar with UFO CALL (0898-12 18 86) (available on any BT phone in the country for 25p per minute off peak - each message lasts around 3 minutes) will have been able to follow the astonishing events from week to week.

What events? 650 press cuttings featured crop circles between July and September. That is 4 times as many as the amazing summer of 1989 and over 10 times as many as we normally get for the period. UFOs pure and simple almost vanished during the spell. There was virtually no newspaper in Britain that did not do something on what has easily become THE subject of the moment.

Predictably there were new formations here there and everywhere. No sooner had we reported on a few pseudo-circles in our region last issue than real ones started popping up with as much regularity as down south.

There was major publicity (both TV channels did two features each) for a ring at Lower Peover (pronounced Pee-ver). However, this was the least interesting of them all, despite claims by some UFOlogists in the north-west that an alien survey mission was underway and heading slowly north! Cases followed from nearly every county in the north - right up to Northumbria and down to Shropshire. Of course, a lot of these are suspicious - some proven - hoaxes (two cases brought police prosecutions). All the early ones in Lancashire and Cheshire were rings (like the heavily publicised Peover case) even though rings are quite rare in the overall scheme of things.

It is hopeless attempting to review even just the northern and midlands circle events in these pages; although next issue we may bring news of the more interesting (and we have detailed reports submitted by NUN readers on cases from Pilling, Lancashire, Wolverhampton, Staffs and Preston Brook, Cheshire.) What is worth mentioning is that these were generally simple, straightforward circles and rings. The amazingly complex formations - with a couple of minor exceptions - were missing from outside the south.

However, in Wessex the summer was typified by the arrival of pictograms - key shaped formations of extraordinary complexity. A dozen or so really complicated formations appeared, of which by far the best promoted was that near Alton Barnes in Wiltshire which was plugged all over the world. The farmer made thousands of pounds by charging visitors to walk round and flogging T-shirts with the nine-circle, arms, legs and spurs formation depicted saying 'I had a close encounter'.

What must be remembered is that - strange and exciting as these patterns were - they form a small part of the phenomenon. The vast majority of the 600 + circles this summer were simple ones and we can easily be lead astray by the lure of the pictograms. Some quite ridiculous claims have been made that they totally destroy the meteorological theory. One leading UFO investigator wrote to say he sympathised with Paul Fuller and myself for having supported Terrence Meaden's ionized vortex in our new book 'Crop Circles: A Mystery Solved' - only to have it made redundant by these cases.

That is very much a premature comment. The theory might accomodate them, but more significantly they may well turn out to be yet more hoaxes.

I certainly have no doubts about my support for the ionized vortex. I am 100% convinced it exists and does create the basic crop circle mystery as well as having a great deal to say about unexplained UFO sightings. We have added much new evidence since the writing of the book - including a number of very exciting further eyewitness accounts; people who have SEEN a crop circle under formation. They have arrived via a variety of sources (none so far from readers of the book - as this was only published on 31 August). Yet each of them strongly supports the view that they observed an atmospheric vortex - not some other exotic or intelligently controlled forcefield. Nobody has yet witnessed a circle caused by any sort of aliens.

The metamorphosis of the circle phenomenon this summer is, as you have seen, rather misleading - since most people's views are forged by the cases the media hype - which are, in turn, not the overwhelming mass of simple circles but the rarer 'odd' formations. As copycat hoaxers are bound to copy the circles they SEE getting into the media, inevitably this raises the possibility that the change into pictograms may be more apparant than real.

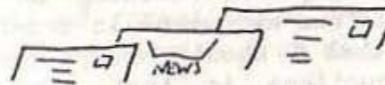
The summer was also punctuated by the fiasco during the huge media hype 'Operation Blackbird' (when Andrews and Delgado, the BBC 'Daytime Live' team and Nippon TV from Japan set up watch on a field for 3 weeks only to think they had filmed circles appearing overnight, get the world's press flocking to Wiltshire and then discover the circles were merely a crude hoax and the 'lights in the sky' that were videoed as hovering over the circles now presumed to be the body heat of the hoaxers on the ground!) This set back circle research in the eyes of many media commentators.

Much else took place and the growth of crop circle research is amazing (it now has at least four active rival groups and will soon have four rival circle books in print). A lecture on the events of 1990 will feature in Birmingham next month (see page 16) and a new crop circle magazine is about to launch (which is NOT tied to any group, UFO or meteorological).

Titled 'The Crop Watcher' it will follow the scientific line and be edited by Paul Fuller. The intention is to be 'the Private Eye of crop circle research' (Paul tells me). It will be a no holds barred look at the facts, fictions, rumours and evidence AS it happens. The first issue is available now and coming issues will carry a full region by region review of the what, when, where and how of crop circles this summer and in future.

Single issue is £1.25 - a six issue (one year) subscription is £7 - and cheques should be payable to 'The Crop Watcher' c/o 3 Selborne Court Tavistock Close Romsey Hants SO51 7TY.

NEWS ROUND UP:



:: The new catalogue from Midnight Books is out with a massive list of rare second hand UFO titles plus many other subjects. Mind you odd to to see how 'Fire in the Sky' is available second hand at £3 when a brand new copy of this 1989 booklet is available direct from me or BUFORA for half that sum! But there are some genuine bargains however. Send an SAE for list to: - Myrtle Cottage, Fore St, Sidbury Devon EX10 OSD T: 03957-694

:: Another new magazine coming in October is 'The Wild Places', new baby by the team behind the the marvellous 'Common Ground' for some years until its demise. If this is half as good it will be worth seeing. It will doubtless review all that is new and contentious in a critical but fair way. Box number awaited, but letters (plus a stamp) will be forwarded by NUN.

:: Does anyone recall the album Rigel 9 (music by David Bedford, story by Ursula Le Guin) first reviewed in NUN soon after release in late 1985? This marvellous musical account of an alien contact includes one first thing sensed by the humans as (quote); "the air smells of cinnamon." Any other cinnamon smell data from the past? Peter Hough and Colleen Innes report that in horror writer Stephen King's novel 'It' this crops up as well.

:: Interesting moments on British TV of late. In the fine TV drama 'The Paradise Club' with Don Henderson his brother infiltrates a Nazi-style group of weirdos who run a secret organisation (sound familiar?) Its name was PEN (not APEN!) (Pan European Network). Also apt was the new Channel 4 comedy drama set in a TV news room 'Drop the Dead Donkey'. Recorded the week of transmission to give topicality the 9 August edition featured this exchange: Editor: - 'I am very tough on irresponsibility'... Leading reporter walking in 'There's a farmer on the phone - he says how big do you want the corn circles? Out of the mouths of babes and innocents?

:: Speaking of which I was shocked during the recent PR tour for 'Crop Circles' to hear my publicity agent say on the phone; 'You are wanted by the FBI'. I thought about going into hiding. Fortunately this turns out to be a Frank Bough chat show (FBI - Frank Bough Interview - get it?) for SKY Television (appearing on which was much the same as going into hiding).

A REVELATION? From Ben Obina

When I was 5 I had a dream - a dream so real, I remember it as if it happened yesterday. I was in a bright white room lying on a table. I recall 2 beings examining me with a device resembling a large microscope aimed at my forehead. The tip was illuminated and it also emitted a high pitched tone. I really thought nothing of my experience until I reached the end of my teens. Then (I wondered) was I crazy?

(The writer was then 'compelled' to read many UFO and abduction stories and seek answers by placing an ad in Toronto newspapers in order to find others with 'pieces missing')... The response was tremendous, but I really didn't find what I was looking for - until I received one letter...

I knew I had found what I was looking for... I contacted (this man) once a month (by phone) for about a year and a half. He gradually told me what was going on. The pieces of the puzzle slipped into place...

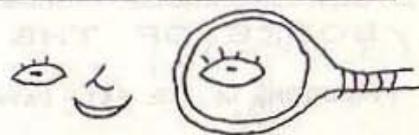
He has revealed to me that there are several types of 'alien races' currently visiting and residing on earth. He belongs to the race which recreate themselves as humans in order to study and assist (us)...

He said that I should accept the fact that I was chosen... The reason for many abductions is that these beings are basically 'implanting' individuals who are systematically chosen by them for a 'definite' purpose in the near future. This implant is basically a storehouse of knowledge containing a vast array of information; for example formulas for food processing and growing, medicine, space travel, etc... The main purpose is for the implantees to educate the people by gradually spreading the knowledge. The event that will release the information is called the 'formation'... it will occur within the next two years.

It is not important that you believe this now, but file it away for future reference.

FOR YOUR PERUSAL:

Major articles elsewhere



Snips... A new edition of UFO Afrinews - the irregular output from Cynthia Hind - has been received. As usual it is cracking stuff, packed with cases and commentary on this little known part of the world (all in English). For details write: - Box MP 49 Mount Pleasant Harare Zimbabwe ... Canada launches Stellar Search (75c US from Stef Productions 101-1184 Denman St Suite 110 Vancouver BC V6G 2M9). Issue 1 is bitty, newsy and ET orientated, but may improve... I see UFO Universe is still appearing in the USA, but seems to have vanished from UK shops. Best bet is to get it on subscription (\$2.50, US, per copy, from Condor Books 351 West 54th St, New York NY 10019). The July issue is typical with the occasional good piece interspersed with some pretty awful rubbish (the piece on Circles is best regarded as funny, eg, illustrative quote - "all the evidence points to one thing - UFOs!" (later called spaceships!!!)) - also a long interview with Tony Dodd on the, yawn, South African UFO crash... Finally, Rattler's Tales has the occasional fiction and non-fiction piece on UFOlogy (£5 for 6 from Anthony North Enterprises BCM Keyhole London WC1N 3XX)

UFO Times July (6 issues inc BUFORA sub £16.50; 103 Hove Ave London E17 7NG) Headed 'Circle Mania' this has review pieces by Paul Fuller and John Spencer, plus Thomas Bullard giving his views on the Hill abduction case

SPI Enigmas Aug (5 issues, £6 from 5 Tullibody Rd Alloa Scotland FK10 2LL) Ghosts, lake monsters, UFOs, the latest happenings at Gulf Breeze, a report on the Congo dinosaur hunt and much more... smashing Scotts stuff, well worth £6

EARTH July (6 issues, £5 from 20 Stonegate Rd Thorpe Edge Bradford BD10 0HF) Weird stuff about UFOs, monsters, consciousness, earth powers - the lot. Easily the least normal magazine on offer but always original and fascinating.

UFO DEBATE (6 issues, £8.50 from 40 Stubbing Way Shipley W. Yorks BD18 2EZ) The latest in Yorkshire's burgeoning magazine trade in the field. Shaping up into its own character nicely. Carries a lot of good critical stuff from Robert Moore, lots of more esoteric theories plus case analysis by Nigel Mortimer and others. It's found a niche and if its your taste you'll love it

IUR July (\$30 for 6, from 2547 W Peterson Ave Chicago IL 60659 USA) Price reduction but same good content and format. Major article a detailed review of the 1989 Canada wave with full statistics from Chris Rutkowski

JUST CAUSE June (\$15 for 4 from PO Box 218 Coventry CT 06238 USA) Cover-up orientated documents and criticism of MJ-12. Dangerous stuff.

ORBITER June (Unknown price, bi-monthly, 43 Harrison St Reading MA 01867) THE place to find all the news on the dramatic events in Gulf Breeze this summer - with all the 'it was a fake' and 'oh no it wasn't' data reviewed. As usual Oribiter maintains its rating as the best US news commentator.

CAVEAT EMPTOR Summer (\$19, for 4, Box 4533 Metuchen NJ 08840-4533 USA) Another magazine that bucks the trend in the US. A bit like Magonia in its heyday, laced with a touch of UFO Brigantia. Daring, critical, thoughtful, great

BOOKS OF THE MOMENT



PHANTOMS OF THE SKY Dave Clarke & Andy Roberts Hale £12.95 204pp Ills 1990

A bit unfair to review this book as I wrote the foreword. But I would not have done that if I did not believe the book was worthwhile.

Many people will not like what Clarke and Roberts have to say because they term UFOlogy a 'modern myth'. They then proceed to hack away at all the dead wood in the UFO forest and show how what remains is frighteningly bare.

However, this form of self deprecation (which British authors do so well) is a necessary and useful aspect of our subject - since if we do not do it ourselves then the debunkers will. They will tend to be more ruthless and much less fair, since they are out to show that UFOlogy is a crock. Phantoms is not aimed at doing that - only that it is a sadly misunderstood, misrepresented and mismanaged area of study, for which the blame must be shared (very largely) by BOTH the media and the myth-making variety of UFO investigators (of which there is a disturbing surfeit).

Not that this book is consistently negative. If UFOs were a waste of time, the product of deluded witnesses and gullible looney tune researchers, then neither NUN or UFO Brigantia (of which Andy Roberts is editor of course) nor this book would exist. They do exist because there are nuggets of real gold amidst the outcrops of iron pyrites. If you are prepared not to sigh the ultimate sigh of disillusionment because the 'real' UFOs tell us far more about ourselves, our consciousness, sociology, psychology, atmospheric physics and geophysics than they do about aliens from space, then you will love this book. It is well written, lucid, full of hard evidence based on actual case investigations (often from the north) and with lots of interesting speculation and commentary thrown in.

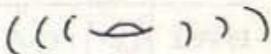
Of course, if you are one of those UFOlogists whom I meet a lot these days who tell me that I 'no longer believe in UFOs' (by which they actually mean spaceships) because I have become convinced that the message of this book is largely true - then you will hate it. You may regard its authors as either stupid critics who are unimaginative or disinformation agents in the pay of the MIBs.

We would have to beg to differ on that. In my view this book is a well crafted honest attempt to lay bare the problems faced by real UFOlogy. Of course I do not agree with it 100%. It also is bound to attract minimal public interest because unless you write about 'exciting' things (and stuff whether they are true or not) you are considered less important and the readers perceived by bookshops who buy 'such works' - as they tell me 'just do not like scepticism. It doesn't really sell.'

Perhaps not, but the book will appear in libraries and educate tomorrows generation of UFOlogists. That in itself is an achievement.

ATLAS OF MAGICAL BRITAIN Janet & Colin Bord Sidgwick & Jackson 192pp 1990

Atlas style books are all the rage right now (a UFO one is due soon). At £16.95 this is not cheap, but it has the usual lovely Bord design and beautiful photos to its credit. Divided into county by county sections with maps it gives a potted summary of folklore and 'strange' events in the area. It suggests that it features UFOs but I couldn't find much trace and you don't see any reference to Warminster, Rendlesham Forest, Ilkley Moor etc. Still, nice to look at and doubtless useful for the odd Sunday drive.

 MEDIA MATTERS
 

 A look at UFOs in the public eye
 

It is easy to see how the Cosmic Ecology of the crop circles is beginning to blend into UFology. In the Lowestoft Journal (13 July) we find a fascinating interview with Derek Longman, founder of the East Anglia UFO Research Group - which seems to have its head screwed on. Of UFOs he says they are; "from an intelligent energy on the earth...but they can take on the material form of a spaceship depending on who's observing them at the time...What people visualise when they 'see' a UFO is therefore tied up with their personality." It was all very interesting stuff.

UFOs seem to be crashing with abandon these days. The Russians have now been at it. Today (25 June) claims that in 1983 two MIGs intercepted a UFO over Azerbaijan and fired two rockets down its throat. The UFO changed colour (wouldn't you?) falling to earth, where peasants found wreckage only to have it confiscated by the KGB. Well - if Roswell and Rendlesham can have them who would begrudge the new liberalised Soviets their own pet case?

The Times (5 Jul) had an interesting aside on the Soviets and UFOs noting that since Voronezh last October "hardly a week goes by without another claim". Wryly the author says; "The UFO crews, who normally speak perfect Russian... appear recently to have become more aggressive." It seems that Soviet women have been warned they are twice as likely as men to be kidnapped by aliens and subjected to a VERY close encounter.

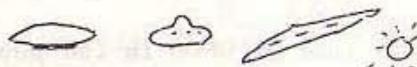
In Scotland the talking point has been the wonderful decision by Livingston New Town to erect a plaque in the forest to demark where Bob Taylor has his famous CE2 encounter back in 1979. The idea came originally from local group SPI, would you believe, and for once councillors actually responded to public requests. According to the West Lothian Courier (3 Aug) it is the "suspicious goings-on in English cornfields" which have led to the council to "persuade tourists to boldly go where few have gone before". Unfortunately it will be the words of UFO expert Arthur C Clarke about the case that will be carried. The Livingston Courier (same date) say that there are claims Bob saw a Soviet 'thing' and MI 5 investigated! A week later - rather hopefully - they claimed that "flying saucer enthusiasts from all over the world" would flock to see the plaque. One local group (not SPI) said that people have already been voyaging from around the world "to see where the spaceship apparently landed". Its a nice idea, but don't blow it by overkill and persuading some that the whole thing was a publicity ploy.

Meanwhile a wretched piece appeared in The Indy (???) (5 Jul). Philip Mantle of BUFORA (allegedly now "in charge of investigations") has some reasonable comments, but they are swamped by 'Dr Richard Lawrence' wittering on about aliens in and out of our solar system and saying; "UFO spotters (yes you!) are like train spotters. They just deal with sightings and take down recordings of these, like taking down serial numbers. We actually meet the train and see who gets off." We also had crumby photos, case histories credited to an ancient childrens picture book and a strange UFO glossary included. (Alien - any creature unknown on earth... UFO-naut - alien creature)

In contrast The Sport has gone ominously quiet. We did hear of the school bus hijacked by aliens for 3 days (10 Aug) and how Portsmouth Poly were allegedly considering going easy on three students who may have flunked exams after seeing a UFO (1 Jul). Their photograph of this blob over a clothes line is being 'studied'. Let us hope the Poly make a fair and guarded decision. We may find this excuse surfacing repeatedly in future.

BRIEF CASES

Some current investigations



Further to case 8660 last issue Colleen Innes reports a likely solution from one B. Frisbee (real name apparently). He and friends claim to have designed and flown experimental balloons taking up amateur radio payloads. A polythene 'balloon' is 'marked' by a pyrotechnic that is triggered to fire once the balloon is some distance in the air. This then illuminates the 'bag' and drops a shower of sparks and melting plastic to the ground in a manner very akin to the 'stepladder' effect reported in this Marton case. Mr Frisbee's records only show that a balloon of this type WAS launched on one weekend in the same month as the sighting and other factors (eg location) basically fit. If this IS the answer then one must wonder if the other 'stepladder' in recent years cases (at Golborne, Wigan and over the Rossendale Valley) might not have similar resolutions.

Astronomer Gary Anthony warns that any 'two light' sightings around mid August could be caused by the spectacular close conjunction in the sky of the planets Venus and Jupiter when bright.

OVERSEAS CONNECTIONS

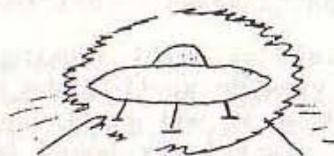
A few cases from our international mailbag

(1) Mr S was on a remote cattle station in Western Australia employed as a kangaroo shooter (quite the most exotic witness occupation I've heard). In late 1989, or early 1990 (not clear) he was with an employee in a vehicle on a clear starry night after an earlier storm. From a clay pan area two bright lights appeared low to the ground which rose slowly upward bringing two more with them. It then became clear the lights were on a near invisible dark craft, which banked some 60 degrees in majestic silence and flew away. Mr S tried to attract its attention with the vehicle lights. Another shooter arrived during the sighting. He said that he took shots at the thing but it did not respond. In later discussions Mr S heard that some miners 50 km away had witnessed the events as well.

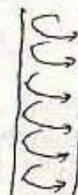
(2) Mr P was a former German paratrooper who had many prophetic dreams (including those of the death of Hitler). After moving to Canada in Winter 1969 he had a close encounter. On an icy night he was driving from Midland to Windsor, Ontario, when near London he had to route onto a back road as the main highway was blocked by an accident. Suddenly his car engine, lights and radio began to fail and he crawled to a stop. About 100 feet ahead ON the road was a domed object with tripod legs surrounded by an aura of multicoloured light (prism like?). Then he heard a humming noise and the object rose slowly, then accelerated away like a bullet. The car now worked perfectly again. He drove on but even allowing for the detour was an hour late reaching Windsor. Mr P has since died but his daughter has shared a UFO sighting with him and seems to have grown up with ESP. She reports frequent dreams of UFOs, out of body experiences and premonitions (eg of the San Francisco earthquake last year). In addition she has had a recent interesting experience with her boyfriend on 31 December 1989 at 6am when they both saw a vertical tube of light appear over rooftops opposite in Mississauga. Spirals of energy were running through this; although the couple did not see this in exactly the same way they both saw a tube and spiral.



Western Australia



London, Ontario



Mississauga, Ontario

(3) Mark (now in the USAF) believes he may have been abducted. Things started when he was 10 (around 1976) when living at home in Kentucky, USA. A bright elongated light was seen moving over Jefferson Town. Numerous residents came out to watch as this object like a dark streamlined aircraft flew over. Mark reported the incident to Standaford Field airbase in nearby Louisville. Returning to his house he found his cat running from room to room in panic and had a fuzzy image of seeing an ALF (alien life form!). But he cannot say whether this was a dream or memory and cannot recall the rest of the night, hence the suspicion he has that he was abducted. Afterwards he began to develop ESP and now 'knows' when people are watching him. In 1987 he went on a camping trip with his father and awoke with his body paralysed and a wave of fear soaking over him. His hair stood on end but was too scared to open his eyes. A few minutes later he went back to sleep. Although he wants to be hypnotised he did not leave an address to be contacted.

UFO FORMATION OVER DUBLIN Report by Anne Griffin and Pat Delaney BUFORA

The sighting occurred on 30 July 1989, a Sunday at 22.00. The two witnesses were an elderly couple who are considered sincere and credible by the investigators. Mrs D was resting in her bedroom in the Navan Road area of Dublin, Eire, when she looked out of the window (as was her custom). By the power station towers generating electricity she saw a rising orange ball the size of the sun, followed by a second. She called her husband and they observed as many more (usually in twos) emerged from a single larger object and drifted across the sky. They seemed to move from the sea and disappeared towards Clontarf. Over the next 90 minutes about 100 UFOs flew past! Finally they all glided away silently over the horizon. The investigators checked things like aircraft and balloon launches without any successful tie-ins. They are baffled by this - especially as no other witnesses appear to have seen anything. Not a clue what this was - have you got any ideas?

CASE 5606 MUFORA July 1956 Oughtibridge, Sheffield, South Yorks C3-5

Mr F was then aged 29 and working at the Silica brickworks on a hillside in to the east of the village in a deep valley. His exact location was at the railway sidings filling trucks with bricks. The time was 14.00 on a fine summers day with only a few wisps of high cloud and little breeze. Suddenly he saw two objects approaching from the hills in the west at fast pace. He joked with the other men in the gang that they were flying saucers. They were in fact grey ovals that shot across the valley at a speed 'unheard of then or since' (taking 15 seconds to cross). Much discussion followed and the event changed Mr F from a 'sceptic into a believer' who now reads a lot about UFOs. There seems no face value reason why these could not have been two RAF jets reflecting the sunlight - maybe the first jets the men had seen, especially on a low level ground hugging flight when speed can seem to be exaggerated. However, Mr F rejects the idea as these were 'too fast'.

CASE 8344 MUFORA June 1983 Houghton-Le-Spring, Tyne & Wear

C3-5

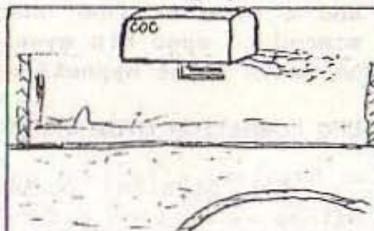
Mr W was in his bedroom late at night looking at the sky as he lives on a hill and has a panoramic view. He spotted the object over a tree, apparently hovering. He contemplated that it was a helicopter sometimes used to inspect power lines by the local electricity board but the silence convinced him otherwise. It moved a short distance, stopped, after a few minutes moved again and then returned to its position over the tree. After a couple of minutes it just 'disappeared'. Mr W kept looking for several nights hoping to see it again but did not, suggesting it was not a star or planet.

CATTLE TRUCK OVER GLASGOW

Case 8345 MUFORA 15 December 1983 Kiuss Park, Glasgow, Scotland

C7-5

Mr C (unfortunately unwell and unable to be properly interviewed) was on the day in question setting off for work by bus. It was 06.40 on a clear frosty morning. In the north eastern sky he saw what he took to be a plane in trouble, as sparks were emerging from its side. Instinctively the witness began to run in its direction and it slowed to a walking pace, almost hovering above some bungalows. The thing was quite low down and illuminated by streetlamps. Drifting across his field of vision Mr C could see that it was shaped like a cattle or freight wagon from a railway train. It was relatively small (18 feet at widest point) with a curved roof and metal runner panels like 'skids' at one end of the base. Sparks were coming out from close to this point. Overall it was grey in colour and the side was broken by three round windows or portholes at the top edge from which a misty yellow light emerged. It continued to drift making a quiet humming noise at what seemed like rooftop height. It came to a railway bridge and seemed to pause, rise slightly and pass over the electric cables. After a few minutes it disappeared behind the bridge. All of the time it was visible Mr C was desperate for another witness but the area was deathly quiet - not even a milkman as are normally around. He thought about pursuing it but moments after it vanished his bus arrived. Mr C seems a sincere and baffled witness who says his family have just laughed. What he describes is so odd that it defies any previous UFO description. Has anybody got any thoughts about this case?



CASE 8940 MUFORA 7 September 1989 Glusburn, West Yorks

C4-7

At 20.45 Miss A, her mother and their dog met her brother from a football match to go home to watch MASH. After dropping a friend off at his house they continued walking. Darkness was near. Mrs A then saw a yellow light stationary above a mill. As she and Miss A tried to rationalise this silent object the brother started cracking jokes about the sun blowing up. Then they realised it was climbing slowly and 'splitting' into two, before, in an instant it was suddenly above their heads as a 'large dark mass' with a many coloured lights (yellow, blue and red) on the base. Mrs A calls them 'disco lights'. As it passed over for a moment they heard a faint 'whine'. A while later a mutual contact put them in touch with another local woman who saw it about the same time. She said it just 'flipped away'. As Miss A's father is a leading Yorkshire journalist publicity would have been easy, but they want none. Only an explanation. The family now read NUN - seeking one.

CASE 8941 MUFORA 14 October 1989 Penketh, Cheshire P. Hough B4-5

Mrs C went into the rear garden to cool off at approximately 19.45 hrs. It was a cloudy night with some breaks and earlier rain had cleared. After a few minutes she saw an object appear ahead (in the north). It consisted of five burgundy coloured lights arranged like a figure '5' on a die face. She called her husband who emerged in time to see it vanish into the south. The route was similar to that adopted by aircraft travelling into Speke (Liverpool) but she is satisfied that this was neither plane nor helicopter due to the silence and the extremely strange appearance. However, she spoke to the airport just in case. They claimed not to know what it was.

CRACKLING UFO SCARED MY CAT

CASE 8931 BUFORA 24 October 1989 North Arbury, Cambridge, Cambs C4-4

Mr P aged 15 was on his doorstep at 22.05 with his friend. Two white lights appeared on top of each other. Only the lower one flashed. They discussed the possibility of aircraft but concluded it was moving too slowly. His friend had to go home so he went up to the bedroom and followed it with binoculars for another 2 minutes. It eventually just disappeared. The boys had already seen the light briefly earlier in the night and claim that their radio started to crackle during its presence. They tape recorded the crackling, which sounds like normal static. Reputedly the family cat seemed scared at this point as well. The same light was seen the next night (25 October) between 19.26 and 19.32 (by Mr P alone). Later that night whilst in bed (but awake listening to his walkman personal stereo) a shaft of white light came through the closed curtains and struck the wall opposite the bed. It flickered off to a new position on the wall and then grew larger. It then hit the ceiling and remained stationary. By this point it was 60 cm in width and was extremely bright. Mr P is short sighted but had time to put his spectacles on for a sharper view before the light vanished. He said that it was stronger and more circular than a torch beam with ruler straight edges to the shaft itself but where it struck the wall and ceiling it was 'very fuzzy'. Of course, there may be a combination of normal circumstances here all linked together (aircraft, ordinary radio static, playful antics by the cat and a car headlight beam) but Mr P is insistent they were all strange.

CASE 8942 BUFORA November 1989 Prenton, Wirral D2-4

Not much to say about this one. A 10 year old girl says that at 17.55 hrs she saw a strawberry flavoured 'ice cream cone' shape over the Tagelmusik school. Flames sprouted from the rear. Obviously it was EBE come to claim his friends from the clutches of the CIA on route to Dreamland.

CASE 8943 BUFORA 25 November 1989 Chester-le-Street, Durham C3-5

A white light twinkling red was seen in the north-eastern sky for some 35 minutes from 22.25 onward. It vanished (seemingly into cloud). Probably a star/planet. The witness (21 yr old Mr P) saw another UFO at 13.40 hrs the next day. It was a black cigar shape ambling across the sky (again in the north east). Two jet fighters travelling low and fast flew towards where it was (at right angles to the object). They flew 'straight past it'. According to Mr P 'it was the nearest miss you will ever get'. After the jets had gone the UFO vanished into the distance and he decided to contact BUFORA.

UFO WITH PETAL-LIKE LIGHT BEAMS

Case 8933 BUFORA 16 December 1989 Skegness, Lincolnshire

CG-6

This case is remarkably like the one at Salfleet (about 15 miles up the coast) reported during the April 1984 wave (see NUN 113). That case was never resolved and the most obvious explanation (air-sea rescue helicopter) had to be rejected for cogent reasons. That seems the case here as well.

Mr and Mrs G live in a coastal bungalow on the edge of the Gibraltar Point nature reserve. They have lived in Skegness for 40 years and "are used to air sea rescue and oil rig helicopters. We can hear them two or three miles away... also the military jets on the Wainfleet bombing range and the RAF Contingent Tornadoes... where we live is very quiet day or night."

After cycling home from the town at 16.50 on a dark night (there are no local streetlamps for some distance) Mr G was wheeling the machine up the path when he saw a white light which he took to be Jupiter. But he then realised it was in the wrong part of the sky (this was north - not over the sea). Getting his wife and binoculars they went to watch the light slowly drifting northward. Moving further from the house he was able to follow it through the binoculars as a pulsing red glow with a green light also. As he watched the object stopped, the red grew very vivid and a dazzling white light appeared. The object was now clearly accelerating back towards them.

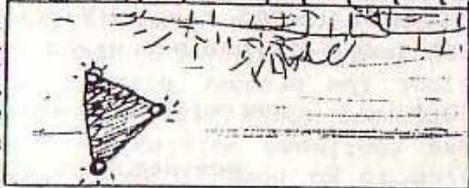
Mrs G was now scared and commented on wanting to 'run' but the object then just stopped dead in the sky and pale white light beam projected from the left of the white glow towards the ground. It then swung around and struck them for about five seconds. Although the edges were strong the centre of the beam was almost transparent and they were not dazzled. Then the beam 'switched off', the pulsing red light returned and the object drifted out to sea.

When the beam first came on, Mrs G (watching with naked eyes) said it opened up like the petals of a flower and gave a 'spiked' effect. Mr G said the only shape he saw behind the light was an outline 'aerial' that he thought was on the roof of a building, but in daylight he saw there was no aerial there so assumes this was on the base of the object.

Mr G reports that several strange lights have been reported from the Ingoldmells area nearby, including one by his wife on 19 January 1990.

CASE 9002 UFORM 7 February 1990 Wibtotf, Leicestershire R. Burton A4-7

Mr M and Miss A (a couple from Hinkley) were driving on the A5 towards Rugby at 19.30 hrs. To their right they spotted 3 strange lights in a triangular formation coming at some speed toward them. It flew over going to Claybrooke Magna but then stopped dead above fields at an estimated 200 feet. As it hovered it appeared to wobble from side to side and none of the white lights in any way flashed like normal aircraft lighting. There seemed to be a solid mass behind the lights. The couple slowed the car and wound the window down as the object began to move slowly back towards them. They pulled into a lay-by at the Wibtotf village and the thing 'glided' over completely silently. As the object drifted off it seemed to bank and the formation of the lights became straighter. They also brightened. Mr A is a director of an aeronautical engineers and after careful investigation Reg Burton cannot explain this one save to term it yet another of our unexplained triangular UFO sightings of recent years.

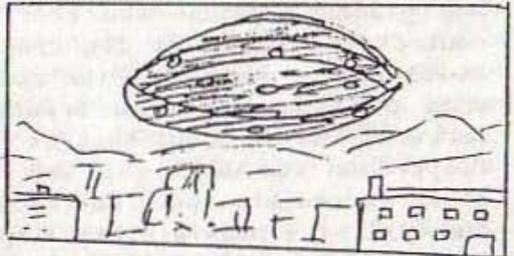


CLOUD ABDUCTS WITNESS OVER ROCHDALE TOWN CENTRE

Case 9003 MUFORA 13 March 1990 Rochdale, Lancashire

B3-4

Mrs W, a cleaner at a local mill interested in fortune telling, reports a spectacular event as she got off a train in Rochdale town centre at 15.45 on a dark day with much cloud. As she waited to cross busy traffic she became 'aware' of a "movement of air up and down above me". Then a metallic whir sound. Looking around she saw nothing. Then looking upward she confronted nothing but cloud which after a minute or so resolved into a 'circumference arc' and circles and spirals in the centre. The thing was "simply enormous" like in 'Close Encounters'. It was so big it filled half the sky. Like a hollowed out soup bowl there seemed a few dim lights on it. As to why nobody else in a busy town centre saw this, Mrs W notes that one driver did slow and look up. She is sure he saw the UFO as "I will never forget the look on his face after he saw the spacecraft". She also said passers-by were walking in "odd slow motion" at the time. She is worried because nobody else reported seeing the thing.



Reputedly she suffered an itchy rash on her scalp, severe migraine and stomach pains for several days afterwards. At age 30 she has not had them before. MUFORA suspected that an imaginative witness may have 'zeroed in' on a dark cloud and read the shape in. She agrees that at first she thought the UFO was a cloud but stared at it for some time because it looked big and odd. The object never moved very fast and took some minutes to drift across the sky. Perhaps, but we cannot know as Mrs W declined further investigation.

She says that the experience is preventing her from sleeping. "I was brought up not to believe in these things so I will forget it. You please forget it too." She has had frequent dreams of "being beamed up by these very thin skinny, sad looking human-like people... At first they don't seem to have eyes, just fuzzy, greyish dark circles. They are like Japanese people - small build, 5' 3". They have very pale skin, smooth. No blemishes, little hair - but it looks wirey, golden-blond. They were tight uniform-like clothes." They also have a black badge with a "white circular thing on".

The 'abduction' in her dreams is by a six stone female alien who pushes her into a circle of light and they are sucked up. She hates this as Mrs W fears heights. After opening her eyes she is on a ledge and sees the streets below. She feels that the aliens are hungry and might eat her. Then she is forced into a room with just lights and a chair and an object like a dart board, loses consciousness and comes out in great pain in her abdomen area. Before suddenly waking "back at the crossroads" she sees a huge hairy ape-man and a black wolf-creature in the ship being led about by aliens.

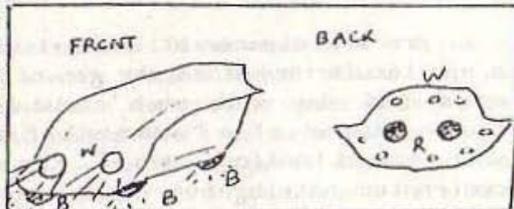
Mrs W adds; "please understand. It was just dreams." Any comments?

CLOSE ENCOUNTER AFTER A NIGHT ON THE TOWN

CASE 9004 MUFORA 17 March 1990 Skelmersdale, Lancs Colleen Innes A5-5

Mr H (described by Colleen as 'a down to earth Liverpoolian') had been out for the evening for drinks with friends, then back to one friend's house for coffee. It was about 03.15 as he walked home and "felt something was watching me". He turned round at this uneasy sensation and saw two lights side by side in the sky over a school playing field. As he watched; "it was like everything stopped. Even the grass and trees made no sound."

The object was coming from the Ormskirk direction (north west) and in the strong moonlight a shape soon became visible. This was like a super streamline car with the white lights as headlights and four blue lights studded in the base. He was so scared he stepped into shade as the thing drifted in total silence at a very sedate speed, seemingly descending and gliding over. At the rear were masses of white lights and two large central red lights. At its closest point he lost his fear to amazement and stood in the middle of the road waving at the thing, as it tilted onto its edge and seemed to hover briefly. It was matt black with no windows or other marks. He had no doubt that it could not be an aircraft. After passing him it flipped on its side again and then suddenly zoomed away towards Warrington at an incredible speed. He reached home at about 4 am but as he had no watch the hint of a possible time lapse cannot be confirmed.



He told Colleen; "This was the most fantastic sight I have ever seen. I really believe now." MUFORA cannot think of any normal object this might be - could even a Stealth flight (if sanctioned) behave or look like this? It seems we must accept that this is just "one of those UFOs".

CASE 9005 MUFORA 23 May 1990 Swadlincote, Derbys C4-3

Mr B was having a shave at 23.50 when he went to look at the stars and saw a white disc in the north west. It was studded with smaller lights and moved away to the south east taking 10 minutes to do so.

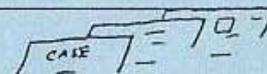
CASE 9006 MUFORA 25 May 1990 Thornton, Lancashire C. Innes B2-5

Miss D - aged 17 - and another witness observed a pink light in the sky and called Blackpool and Miss D's mother called the airport to report it. They passed her on to Colleen. As the light remained stationary then faded out the investigator suspected a flare as the cause. Liverpool coastguard confirmed that at 00.38 a flare was reported by several coastal vessels in the vicinity of Thornton and Cleveleys. The witnesses were relieved.

CASE 9007 MUFORA 1 May 1990 Higher Disley, Cheshire R. Sandbach B3-6

A report received via Jodrell Bank on the day after the event noted that two teenagers had spotted a group of red lights amidst a yellowish mist or haze whilst in the Lyme Park area (location of scenes for the TV soap 'Neighbours' up and coming when the Bishops pay a visit). Investigation revealed that the events occurred for some 10 minutes at about 23.30 from Bowstones looking south west. At first there was an arc of the red lights forming a dome on the horizon. This was like a rounded triangle but it flattened out as the central lights descended to form more of a straight line of many red twinkles. These all then descended out of sight behind the horizon which was formed by a hill. After this disappearance the hill itself began to glow with a misty yellow light. Finally one red flare like light partially re-emerged from the haze and then disappeared. There was no further activity. Given the weather conditions at the time MUFORA concluded that this may well have been a ground distorted mirage of lights beyond the horizon (possibly Woodford or Manchester airport ground lights - but more likely some other form of land-based lights, eg cars or a party of sorts).

CASE HISTORIES

**CLOSE ENCOUNTER AT TODMORDEN (2)**

Case 78-289 MUFORA 30 November 1978 Todmorden, West Yorks Randles/Sandbach

J's encounter is one of the most interesting of recent years, made more important by the background to the witness herself. She was born in London and moved to Kent soon after the experience (although now back in the north). Between the ages of 5 and 8 she had regular experiences where balls of light would appear in her bedroom. They were basketball sized and she used to call her mother to say 'Theres a fire in the room'. As soon as her mother came they vanished. As soon as she left they returned. This is, of course, a pattern readers of 'Pennine UFO Mystery' or 'Abduction' will know.

She grew feeling very empathetic; always knowing people's inner selves and responding to animals. She also developed the ability to 'travel to visit friends without going there' - a form of remote viewing or out of body experience (and indeed she had one very vivid major out of body experience at age 18). When she 'travelled' she could later confirm her visits by checking facts that she 'saw'. J told us; "I have always believed that if I need to be somewhere badly enough then for a few seconds I can go." On at least one occasion her 'apparition' has been seen by a close friend in Kent even though J was physically in Yorkshire at the time.

As a child flying dreams were also very common, as were frequent 'false awakening' experiences and 'lucid dreams' (where she knew that she was dreaming and could control the story and experience of the dream). Her memory of very early childhood (ie being in her pram) is also strong - which is another emerging clue spotted again and again with close encounter witnesses.

J has also had vivid premonitions. In one case she rescued a woman from a car accident near her home when she sat up instead of going to bed 'knowing' that it would happen, the car would overturn and she would need to be there to free the stranger from the wreckage. She has also had a classic experience with a ghost on the beach at Whitstable in Kent (January 1980). At the age of about 11 she encountered a regular bedroom visitor (a female surrounded by a lovely green aura). "I quite missed her when she suddenly failed to turn up any more."

We are not certain as to whether there is a time lapse in the close encounter of 1978, but J does recall other instances where she has lost up to two hours from her memory (this was when aged 17). We have discussed the possibility of regression hypnosis with her but she has decided against this saying; "I believe that one day I shall know the truth of all this but I do not think the time is now."

J concludes; "I can't stand these hoaxers who make up stories. I am not saying I have a message to change the world. If it's real (and I use that word because I don't know what it was - but assuming it was real) then whatever it is must be so superior to us that we wouldn't have a leg to stand on. But I hope they don't land, because we are dealing with something so different the world will hurt them."

FINAL WORDS

Next years international UFO conference for Britain (the jamboree held every two years) will be back in the north after 15 years exile down south. This is thanks to the success of the IUN Sheffield two day event in July. The venue for the joint BUFIRA/MUFON/IUN venture will be the same (Sheffield Central Library) and so keep open the dates of 16, 17 & 18 August 1991 - for Europe's top UFO conference of the year.

Talking of the IUN conference the current Brigantia (July) is a special double issue developed for this. It takes the usual irreverent line covering everything from abductions, foo fighters, earthlights, cosmic consciousness, rock music, MJ-12 and the real truth behind the delays to NUN according to David Langford (he who invented the 'William Looseley UFO manuscript hoax'). Not bad for the usual price. Don't forget you can top up your subscription to include Brigantia (ie 12 issues of this and NUN - one a month) by sending just an extra £6.50

More dates for your diary are as follows:-

BUFORA lectures (London Business School, Regents Park Outer Circle, 6.30 pm)
 6 Oct Manfred Cassirer on paranormal happenings
 3 Nov Michael Green on crop circles, ancient sites, guardians and dowsing!

Regionally - there is to be a BUFORA lecture at Dr Johnsons House, Bull St in Birmingham (near Lewises) on 20 October 1990 (starts 2pm) John Spencer will report on his visit to Florida to 'investigate' the Gulf Breeze case and Jenny Randles will present an illustrated update on Crop Circles 1990

(Further details on: 0924-444049 or stay in tune with UFO CALL, 0800-121886)

MUFON Regional Groups

SPI	(W.Scotland)	5 Tullibody Rd, Alloa, Clackmannanshire	FK10 2LL
SRUFO	(E.Scotland)	129 Langton View, East Calder, Wst Lothian	EH53 0RE
NLUFOIG	(Cumbria)	89 Bare Lane, Morecambe, Lancashire	LA 4 6RN
HSWL	(Nth Lancs)	63 Devonshire Dr, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancs	BB 5 5RH
FUFOIG	(Fylde Coast)	293 Devonshire Rd, Blackpool, Lancashire	FY 2 0TW
Ghostbusters	(Lancashire)	20 Duncan Place, Pemberton, Wigan, Lancs	WN 5 6RP
MUFORA*	(Cheshire)	6 Silsden Ave, Lowton, Lancashire	WA 3 1EN
CONNECT	(Wharfedale)	33 Green Lane, Addingham, Ilkley, W.Yorks	LS29 0JH
IUN	(Yorkshire)	1 Woodhall Dr, Healey Lane, Batley, W.Yks	WF17 7SW
CUFOSC	(Shropshire)	117 Earle Street, Crewe, Cheshire	CW 1 2SG
SSPR	(Derbyshire)	17 Old Quarry Ave, Wales, Sheffield	S 31 8RW
SKYSCAN	(Staffs)	116 Repton Rd, Burton on Trent, Staffs	DE11 7AE
PARASEARCH	(W.Midlands)	79 Sandringham Rd, Stourbridge, W. Mid	DY 8 5HL
LUFOIC	(E.Midlands)	12 Unicorn C/van, Unicorn St, Thurmaston	LE 4 8AX
MUFORC	(Northants)	46 Occupation Rd, Corby, Northants	NN17 2EF

* MUFON archive files held, at University Chaplaincy, accessible c/o MUFORA T:0942-604265