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N O R T H E R N

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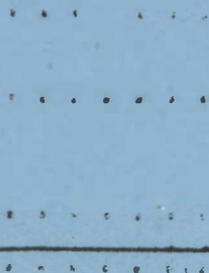
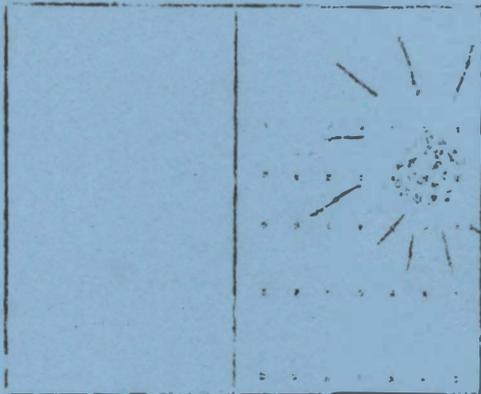
U F O

N E W S

SEPTEMBER 1975

LIGHT BALL IN BEDROOM

See Page 9



Monthly publication of the Northern UFO Network

The Northern UFO Network (NUFON) is a communications network of groups who investigate and research the UFO phenomena in the north of Britain. The Northern UFO News is an open forum for their news, viewpoints and information. Any opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the groups as a whole.

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EDITORIAL ADDRESS & GENERAL ENQUIRIES 48 Park Drive Manchester M16

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EDITORIAL:

After last months delayed, but professional journal we are forced to return, hopefully for only a temporary spell, to our own resources. This is because we must await the financial success, or otherwise, of last months issue before planning further such efforts. From comments received to date it would seem that a bi-monthly open sale magazine interspersed with a newsletter such as this would be the ideal solution. It would ease our financial worries and would please shops, who would consequently have a longer period to sell their copies. In such an event the open sale journal will differ to the extent of featuring in-depth studies. This newsletter will not be of vastly differing emphasis but will serve as an information media for UFO groups also. With fingers crossed we are planning the October issue to be printed, and announce some of its features elsewhere in this issue. We should certainly wish to have this ready in time for our escapade onto the TV Screens on October 11th. Meantime we hope this will suffice. With new equipment and materials, plus a slightly new format, we are striving to make it of good quality. Your suggestions, and contributions of course, are not only welcome at this point but are in fact very essential. Remember NUFON News is YOUR publication - use it!

Jenny Randles: EDITOR

NB:: In the last issue of the News it was erroneously stated that Contact (UK) publications were only available to members. This is not so. Their journals 'Awareness' and 'UFO Register' are available on exchange to groups or purchase. Address on Page 11

Two new names to mention this month, IAPRO (Leicester Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation) will bring much needed coverage of this part of the country. A very go-ahead set up, with their own office buildings and phone number for reports. A report on the official opening of these (Aug 30) will be featured next month. Welcome also to the Wigan UFO Research Organisation who are just setting out on their work. I hope both will find mutual communication through NUFON beneficial. BUFORA (Yorks) cite an example of how inter-group cooperation can work. Recently MUFORA after receiving a sighting report of an object heading east telephoned them to put them on the lookout. Nothing was observed but the validity of this liaison is undoubted. RIGAP are working on a research project correlating UFO sightings with weather conditions. Any suggestions to them please. Finally SUFORS are busily working on the soundtrack for the projected NUFON documentary film. A circular will be sent round regarding this at a later stage.

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In the Post!!

Dave Gittens of NAPRA comments on the case described in last month's issue (UFO Landing at Rainhill). He points out that no normal explanation was forthcoming. The prints pointed towards the pond and suggest that whoever made them arrived and left the scene VERTICALLY. Finally the mud was conducive to other prints but there were none - suggesting nobody (human) had been there.

With the Summer and school examinations many of our younger members have been heavily involved and obviously UFO work has had to take second place. We hope everyone was successful, although it may mean we shall lose some valuable faces to other parts. Notably Mike Dean, respected WUFOS member, who hopes to depart these shores for a foreign university. Even your editor may be on the move shortly (though not out of the north) but interest in Ufology and NUFON will not die and it is hoped we shall all benefit from a widening of contact.

NUFON Meeting:

..... Plans are underway for the next general, informal group meeting. It is hoped to consider methods of investigation and produce some useful ideas and agreements on coordination. It is hoped to secure a venue in Warrington at a date next month, after the holiday period and our TV feature.

Open Door TV:

..... As most of you know NUFON has been given a ten minute feature spot on the BBC 2 Open Door show. We have a totally free rein in production and the time will be well spent in clearing Ufologies name and securing sighting reports for you to investigate. Several planning meetings have been held with the BBC already. It is hoped some good publicity in the press will be forthcoming and you are asked to use your local contacts for this. Transmission is expected for OCTOBER 11th (before the Midnight Movie) with a repeat the following Saturday earlier in the evening.

Skywatch 75:

..... This BUFORA coordinated event was held on July 5/6 and was a moderate success. The only positive report from the north came from the MUFORA site on Winter Hill. Between 03-45 and 04-30, over the Warrington area, 8 unidentified white lights were seen to ascend, hover and descend. No explanation was found and security guards in the area reported seeing the lights at close quarters. They appeared yellowish, were silent, and one was described as the size of a football at arms length.

Research Projects:

..... Groups are reminded to discuss the three BUFORA research schemes and comment on these to NUFON at their earliest convenience. It is hoped to coordinate work on these between NUFON groups and BUFORA. Any group requiring data on these projects request from NUFON at the administration address.

Special Issues:

..... The latest special issue 75/4 is now available at 15p + post. It is a report on SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF UFO REPORTS, written by the north and featuring graphs

The reports which comprise the NUFON files are, to say the least, poor. I have found myself in the position of the keeper of these files (I prefer keeper to official because of NUFON's unofficial definition). I am appalled at the standard of investigation and intend doing something, even if I get struck off a few Christmas card lists in the process.

To cite examples, what does 'Cold for time of year' mean? Investigator enter OS Ref: 'Salisbury Playing Fields'. Now I have a vague idea where that is - do you? Such is the type of report sent to NUFON for filing. That is to say when such details are included, all too often they are not even mentioned. Even fewer reports are accompanied with an opinion of the root cause of the sighting.

Let us not kid ourselves the standard is pretty dismal. Investigations lack depth and relevant information. How many can honestly say they have given their best to follow ups? Don't get me wrong, I am not saying groups do not follow up reports but that the data presented is of the wrong calibre. It's like trying to keep water in a bath with the wrong size plug - all the important stuff is getting away. Fair enough temperature is mentioned, but it's a measurement we want NOT an opinion that it was cold.

Let us assume that a report has come to light from a newspaper, and that we have name, address and phone number of the witness. You will realise that newspapers seldom carry the full address, let alone phone number, but with the aid of the electoral role, street directory and telephone directory these are easy to obtain. On first contact with the witness you should endeavour to arrange a time when you can call for a full interview. It is vital to make the initial contact as soon as possible and evaluate whether the case needs immediate attention. If you have no alternative but to postpone the interview a while ask the witness to make a written account of the incident. Many people think their memory is first class but it rarely is. It may be necessary to forcibly impress a written statement.

The following is not intended as a recipe for perfect investigation. It is just a few guidelines. The only ones who can ensure a reasonable level of investigation are those doing it! It is vital that two or more should go to an interview. Not only will this help avoid the pitfalls of a male

interviewer interviewing a female witness but a second investigator can assist in note making.

Try not to arrive with a preconceived idea of the outcome. Many significant cases have seemed relatively unimportant on first approach. Leave an open ended timetable so you do not have to rush off before the interview is properly conducted. Remember the UFO experience is probably unique in the witnesses life. If they have difficulty putting it into words bear with them.

Once with a witness it is necessary to chat to them before details are discussed. During this chat, and I do not mean talk, reassure the witness that he is not the only one to have seen an apparently inexplicable occurrence in the sky. Proceed from here to a full description of the incident, with the investigator or assistant making relevant notes. Now try to pinpoint the location on a large scale OS 1:50,000 map and go over the incident again referring to the map. You will now have two sets of notes and the witnesses written statement to refer to. Note any inconsistency for later consideration.

If at all possible visit the site involved with the witness so as to confirm direction and gain a better judgement of altitude and speed. If samples are to be taken they should be at the earliest opportunity. A delay is irreversible. Photograph the site and record the OS Reference for other investigators.

Notes must be accurate, explicit and concise. If a tape recorder is used watch for the witness 'playing to the mike'. If you feel this may arise revert to written notes. With young witnesses avoid at all costs leading them into false statements. Children are most observant but need careful handling to extract what could be valuable information.

It should be noted that the main purpose of these initial investigations is to record observations. In this light it is important to avoid making judgements for which you are not equipped or qualified.

(Pete is Chairman of MUFORA and would be glad to enter into correspondence on this subject - EDITOR)

The Report:
 The sighting occurred one week day just prior to Christmas 1974. The mature witness is a respected psychic, a factor which may be significant. Between 07-30 and 08-15 she was out taking the air looking towards Werneth Low, a small hill between Oldham and Stockport, from her vantage point in Denton. She describes two oval shapes reflecting the rising sun as they rose from behind the hill and hovered above it. One object descended back out of view, but the other elongated and flattened at one end before discharging seven small spherical objects. The spheres were discharged in the same fashion to soap bubbles from a hoop, slowly and then accelerating away to the south. They came out one at a time over a period of several minutes. The object then reverted to its original shape, was rejoined by the first and after both hovered for a few more minutes they jointly descended out of view behind the hill. The whole sighting lasted 20 minutes.

The generating effect

N OLDHAM Werneth Low STOCKPORT S

Conclusion:

..... No firm conclusion regarding this case has been made. The witness seems to have observed a real phenomena, but considering her alleged 'inner sight' we are left to ponder as to its objective or subjective nature. It is by no means unknown, however, for psychics to observe stranger than normal UFO events (perhaps due to a different scale of frequency awareness, cf animal reactions to UFOs) as the Stella Lansing case in recent issues of FSR reveals. Such observations as this, i.e. the generation of UFOs and the concurrent shape changing are not unique either. Considering the high density of UFO reports in this area around Oldham such a sighting as this is perhaps to be expected as part of an overall pattern. MUFORA intends to produce an in-depth study of the UFO phenomena as manifested in recent years around Oldham and would welcome comments, suggestions or reports from any readers.

The Report:
 The witness to this strange case wishes anonymity, which is hardly surprising considering its nature. He is a respectable married man with a young child living in Cheetham, North Manchester. On a date believed to be Saturday May 17 1975 he had retired to bed at 23-30 but was still wide awake. He felt an odd compulsion to get out of bed and approach the window (some 4½ feet away). He fought it with his eyes closed and he was overcome with tiredness. The magnetic pull seemed concentrated on his head and needless to say he was very frightened. After 65 seconds he had to open his eyes. About half way down in the far corner of the window was a bundle of white sparks between 9 and 12 inches in diameter. The curtains were drawn and the room was dark but he felt that the cause of the light was both inside and outside. The bundle radiated in a grey/white colour and he is positive there was no ray or beam projecting it onto the curtain. After 40-50 seconds of magnetically staring he cannot remember any more until he awoke in the morning with a clear memory of the event.

Conclusion:
 Before you are tempted to dismiss this as a dream experience automatically note these facts. The witness does not claim this as a UFO event, only a very puzzling one. He can only think of a dream as an answer but he is certain he was wide awake. The fear and the drawing power of the light do add validity to this. Also his wife and child were downstairs. He cannot understand why he did not call them since he felt there was danger. He is sure that he would not have dozed off voluntarily. There is a dilemma here. The parallels with UFO events are manifest (cf FSR 19:2 UFO INSPECTS ROOM). It is POSSIBLE that there is more to this case than readily apparent. Could the witness have been 'hypnotised' and would regressive hypnosis now provide some valuable data from his subconscious? The witness himself does not know. He only wants to know what happened to him.

June 18 1975 Clayton, Staffs BUFORA (Staffs)

 The Phantom Jet sighting referred to last month may in fact prove to be a weather balloon. It appeared at 17-30 as a black triangular shape, changing to various ellipse states as it hung motionless for 15 minutes. It was below 2500' cloud cover and rose and fell in the wind. The jet circled it widely, never coming close, and left in the opposite direction. Several air bases are nearby.

July 14 1975 Ellesmere Port WUFOS

 Few details to hand as yet but apparently two witnesses observed the object late on at Backford Cross. Preliminary evaluation discounts weather balloon, aircraft or meteor phenomena. The only bright satellite was Salyut, moving S to E, between 22.56 & 22.59 at maximum elevation 15°.

July 28 1975 Heath Charnock, Lancs MUFORA

 This report involves a long distance car chase over 38 miles and 1 hour. The witness first saw three widely spaced lights, blue, red and orange. The blue flashed at 1/2 second intervals, the red every third blue flash, the other light was steady. A quick snap was taken with a cheap camera but hopes are not high of it showing anything. It was tracked over Chorley, Bamber Bridge and Addlington and several times hovered briefly over the M61. At one time it seemed large, low and very close over a golf course and once, when on a dark stretch of road, the witness flashed his lights at it. It responded by briefly stopping flashing. The object returned the next night at the same time, 23-10, but was soon lost from view. Investigation proceeding.

August 9 1975 Lumb, Lancs RIGAP

 A twinkling, white point of light moving W-E seems to be identifiable as Skylab, 22-15 to 22-20, elevation 45°.

August 15 1975 Blackburn RIGAP

 At 00-05 two witnesses reported an oval shape, spinning clockwise flashing red/orange/yellow. It moved NW-SE for 2-3 minutes below cloud level (3000' base in rain). Further witness appear in Darwen. RIGAP preparing full report.

BUFORA: 6 Cairn Ave LONDON W5 HX
 CONTACT (UK): 19 Cumnor Rd Wootton
 Boars Hill, Nr OXFORD Oxon.

BUFORA (Staffs): Newchapel Observatory, STOKE Staffs
 BUFORA (Yorks): 8 Central Park, Wellhead,
 HALIFAX HX 1 2 BT

BYUIG: 27 Tennison St BOOTLE Merseyside
 CUFORG: 63 Thames Rd REDCAR TS 10 1 PW
 DIGAP: 24 Bent Fold Dr Unsworth BL9 8NG
 MUFORA: 125 Berresford St MANCHESTER M14 4RY
 Midlands UFO RA: 48 Glebe Ave BROUGHTON Northants
 IAPRO: 61 Barclay St LEICESTER LE 3 0 JD
 NAPRA (Cheshire): 60 Tildsley Cres, Weston Village RUNCORN
 RIGAP: Five Ways, The Fields, HASLINGDEN BB4 4DT
 SUFORS: 1 Angerstein Rd SCUNTHORPE DN17 2LZ
 WUFOS: 760 New Chester Rd BROMBOROUGH Wirral
 162 7HD
 Wigan UFORG 21 Billinge Rd Nth Ashton WN4 ORE

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The above groups would all like to hear from anyone who wishes to become a member or from any individual who would like to report, in full confidence, any sighting of an unusual aerial phenomena.

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NUFON would like to hear from any other UFO society in the north.

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The above details are correct at AUGUST 31 1975

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Other individuals or groups : 25p per insertion.

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(If unknown time give THREE important events with
dates of occurrence) BOX 3

COMING NEXT MONTH

Reliable witness takes photo of Domed Disc in
Rochdale Area July 1975 Report & Analysis

Multiple witness case involving respected officials
over Greater Manchester August 16 1975

UFO over Alnwick, Northumberland in 1798. Report from
Bernard Delair (Contact - UK)

Suggestions on Publicity from WUFOS
