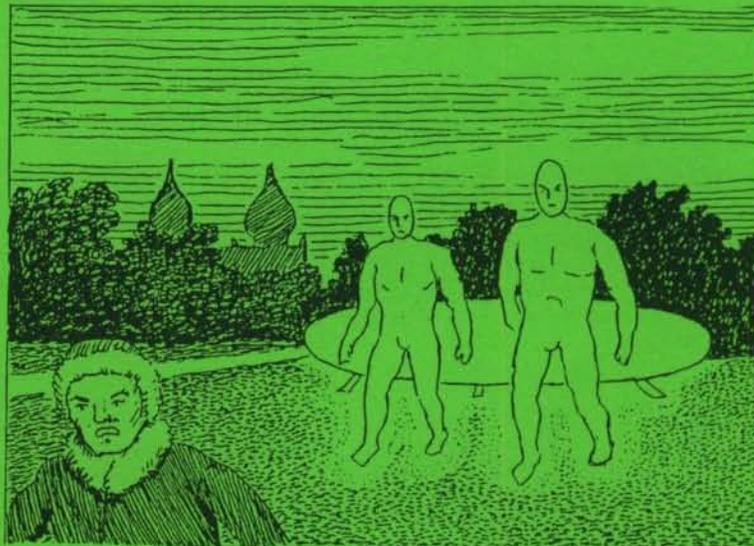


NORTHERN UFO NEWS

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J R Comments:

The aliens are coming -well maybe!

On 13 June a startling announcement was made by Dr Steven Greer on US radio. Greer runs the research group CSETI, noted in the past for using large arc lights at crop circle sites seeking to establish alien contact. He calls such attempts at engineered communications -close encounters of the fifth kind.

In his shock revelation - although details are still scanty as I write - we are told that the cover up may soon end. No longer will the world be kept in doubt as to the reality of aliens on earth. Instead a vast funded project is underway to bring about the momentous press conference and the truth will be told

The so-called DNP (Disclosure News Programming) is being coordinated by big wigs - including 'one of the most senior aerospace executives in US history'. A team of 200 high calibre witnesses with credentials that will offer conclusive proof has also been put together. They come from all over the world (including the UK) and their revelations will set the scene for the alien reality to follow.

As part of the project multimedia ventures will be set in motion - major books and TV documentaries, briefing packages and a web site.

The whole purpose is to expose the world to 'definitive proof in a way that nobody can deny. All of this sounds terribly exciting -although only when you read the information carefully do you begin to wonder if this is all that it might seem. For a start DNP, is really an 'investigative reporting news agency' and to contact it you get Greer's phone, fax and e mail. Moreover, DNP wants you to refer 'credible government and corporate witnesses who have first hand knowledge of these covert programs, as well as other evidence and materials.'

In other words, this is not it seems any sort of government decision to tell all. It's a new venture by the UFO community to put a spin onto the belief that there is a massive conspiracy to hide the truth about alien contact - one that needs your witnesses and hard evidence to bring about this dramatic world event.

We have seen promises before about the world changing overnight when a dramatic truth is finally revealed. From past experience - whilst anything is possible - you do not expect this to actually happen. Something always goes wrong.

Usually at the last minute things ensure that the powers that be stay ominously quiet because the world is 'not yet ready'. Of course, it is always possible that aliens *are* here and that there *is* a cover up to that effect. I don't actually think so. but nobody who has wrestled with the complexities of this evidence could ever honestly express certainty. So such a disclosure - were it to happen - would surprise but not startle me. I think I would be less shocked by the event itself than by the fact that a promise of this coming event had actually proven to be true!

Here, though, it seems clear that this is less a promised official disclosure and more a revamped campaign by the US UFO community to press witnesses and evidence into the open. Dr Greer is no doubt completely sincere and believes that he can bring about this rapid programme of disclosure, but I wonder if this is more in hope than expectation - unless he knows something that most of us do not.

So will the world look very different in a year? We shall see. But I wonder to what extent this new venture is tied to the remarkable down turn in UFO interest that has suddenly struck the world. Publishers have rapidly lost all faith in the topic and books on it are likely to be few and far between in the near future. You will struggle to find them amidst the best sellers about Atlantis and astrology. UFO book sales have dwindled and UFO groups and magazines both seem to be in some sort of a serious lull.

What has caused this bursting of the bubble? Has the arrival of the millennium minus the promised great upheavals or revelations so long anticipated led to a massive sense of anticlimax? Have we just had way too much of a good thing for far too long? It was inevitable that one day the thirst for UFO data would be slaked

This may be a short-term hiatus. Perhaps in a year or two levels of interest will rise once more. Several publishers have told me how they intend to look again in 2002. Or is it really the end of the road for the great public fascination with all things alien? It could be.

Either way UFOlogy will have to consider its future carefully (just as I am going to have to find new things to write about if I want to pay the mortgage!) So this news about the DNP may not be the last attempt to try to find a new initiative. In its own very different way it like of the creation of UFOIN (reported last issue) that sees a need for complete overhaul because UFOlogy is now getting rather tired.

One thought - what would a disclosure web site be called? *www dot they have landed*

NEWS NEWS NEWS

BITZ...

Yes, I know - late again! What excuse this time? Simply trying to earn enough money to keep afloat I'm afraid. The huge downturn in sales of books about UFOs and the paranormal has left me with a lot of work to do to pay the bills. Peter Hough and I spent months writing a book about paranormally induced deaths called 'Supernatural Causes?' This was written, accepted, the cover created, and we edited the page proofs ready for its release. Then six weeks from May publication the publisher's parent company pulled the plug on all its new non fiction titles - leaving our book without a home, Peter and I with no income for 2000, and a long wait until we can even get free to seek a new publisher.

With the dramatic fall off in interest from publishing houses this will not be that easy we fear. So it's been nose to the grindstone to try to earn a living.

At least 'The UFOs that Never Were' - published by the same company - got into print by the skin of its teeth (if scheduled a month later it would also have been cancelled at the last minute). Of course, this will probably now be a one off edition with no other rights ever sold. But at least it made it into a few shops, which is little short of a miracle in today's climate. It was also great to see it get top billing and maximum stars from Fortean Times (July 2000). The book will not make any money or sell many copies but we do feel reassured it was worth the effort putting it together.

Northern UFO News, is intending to battle on as long as you want to read it I do hope to bring out a couple of more issues before the end of the year, and to publish the five issues in each subscription period in about 18 months. But as you know we follow no schedule and you pay for issues and not a time period so you will not lose out in the long run.

Although we have had to increase prices due to large cost rises - I've done that by reducing the copies per subscription to five and by keeping the same price, so the actual cost of the subscription is still at 10 year old levels. Moreover, I will still offer all those who choose to renew the reduced £5 rate - making, I think, Northern UFO News is still one of the cheapest UFO journals in the world and one that rewards its loyal and patient readers - i.e. you!

:: Sad news from France of the death on 2 January of long time UFO author Jimmy Guieu.

:: The TV series "Roswell" (airing in the UK as 'Roswell High on Sky One) was given a last minute reprieve the day after its final episode was transmitted in the US in mid May (shown on Sky two weeks later). Widely expected to be cancelled due to poor ratings (as indeed were paranormally inspired long running series - 'PSI Factor', 'The Outer Limits' and 'Early Edition') a massive campaign by fans did the trick. They paid for big ads in national newspapers to rescue the (actually very enjoyable) light SF romance set in modern day Roswell and produced by Jonathan Frakes (Riker out of Star Trek). A half year run (13 episodes) has been commissioned to try to boost ratings. No news yet as to whether Sky will continue to show it in the UK. Sky is reported to be moving away from its current SF obsession to try to compete with ITV (!!!)

MUSIC OF THE SPHERES (AND DISCS, TRIANGLES AND SAUCERS)

The UFO music scene has been busy this summer. The Festival Hall in London staged the premier of a classical piece by US composer Michael Dougherty on 22 June. The Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Leonard Slatkin played the concert with noted percussionist Evelyn Glennie arriving like an alien amidst a cacophony of noise. 'UFO' - part inspired by the Roswell case - featured a performance on several pieces of 'unidentified metal' with the intent to recreate the sound of a 'finely tuned alien craft'. I found this comment by the orchestras press office unintentionally funny - since wasn't the Roswell UFO so 'finely tuned' it supposedly crashed?

In Roswell itself, the inevitable also happened in June & July with the staging of 'Roswell: The Musical'. This open air run was alongside the annual town festival where UFO fans dress up as aliens and take over the town for days on end. A Star Trek actor usually presides (this year it is Tim Russ - Tuvok from 'Voyager'). This madness was wonderfully portrayed in a hilarious episode of 'Roswell High' in which Jonathan Frakes played himself complaining bitterly at how 'Shatner' got better treatment from the UFO nuts. No news on the songs in 'Roswell', but I bet 'Would you like to fly in my beautiful balloon' *isn't* one of them!

UFO NUMBERS ON THE DECLINE

Gloria Dixon (BUFORAs Director of Investigations) advises the tally for 1999 UK case reports. This is 217 (although only about 185 relate to 1999 - others being older cases newly reported). That figure is well below some totals in the 70s and 80s (when numbers went as high as 600 +) and substantially below the 293 logged for 1998. Gloria rates 28 of the 1999 cases as 'high strangeness' - which at 12.7 % is actually an *increase* on previous years.

Interestingly, a similar problem emerges in the US where NIDS (National Institute for Discovery Science) has operated a rapid response team for UFO sightings for several years but has too few cases to use it properly. NIDS is funded by Las Vegas millionaire UFO enthusiast Robert Bigelow and uses scientists to chase important sightings as they happen.

By 1999 NIDS were getting 100 calls a month to their well promoted 24 hour hotline but it was not until 5 January 2000 that a case occurred that NIDS considered worthy of immediate action. This followed calls by the local police in Illinois who had responded to reports of a huge well lit triangle and gone out and seen it for themselves around 04.20.

NIDS sent two of their full time paid investigators (ex FBI agents!) on the first flight to the Dupo area and spent 4 days on site collecting evidence and (as per NIDS policy) put all witnesses transcripts straight onto the internet. Although NIDS rejected various options such as airships and aircraft sceptic Philip Klass claims that they did not sufficiently consider astronomical options such as venus. NIDS disagree and say it was not then visible.

However, the reported UFO was evidently seen over a 9 hour period (basically right through the night and from various parts of Illinois). I would have to say that, full time paid investigator or not, such a long duration sighting would make me regard this case as almost certainly having an astronomical resolution. Any serious UFO investigator would know this from experience but

its probably not taught by the Mulder and Scully school of FBI investigating.

More worryingly - if this is the only case worthy of NIDS follow up in all that time - where *have* all the decent UFOs gone?

Aiming to find out are a Japanese TV company who this summer are filming the skies over Gullane, Scotland with a 24 hour automatic camera hoping to catch proof of UFOs reported to from here by some holidaying oriental golfers!

MOD UFO POLICY DISCOVERIES

Thanks to Nick Redfern who reports finding records at the PRO (Public Record Office) that indicate an earlier than expected interest by the MOD into UFOs. Official UK interest is supposed to have begun in 1952 with the famous Churchill memo. This requested an Air Ministry report, producing a denial of anything to worry about but followed within days by the Operation Mainbrace sightings in which a NATO exercise over Eastern Britain was involved in several close encounters.

Now Nick has uncovered DSTI (Directorate of Scientific and Technical Intelligence) files from 1948 to 1952 that show a study of evidence by these intelligence officers and scientists. This included reporting on the May 1950 McMinville case and Major Donald Keyhoe, author of the first ever UFO book in early 1950. Nick will set out more detail in the summer 2000 issue of UFO magazine.

Meantime Dave Clarke and Andy Roberts have unearthed a fascinating 1967 discussion paper on UFO investigation by DI 55 (the defence intelligence agency chasing UFOs). Dr David reports that this shows the remarkably sophisticated awareness of UFOlogy and how to seek out IFOs as well as problems of witness perception. DI 55 debate the chances of new atmospheric phenomena triggering sightings and explain why they reject the ETH.

It is a spectacular piece of logic that most serious UFOlogists today will sympathise with and that seems to give lie to the MOD cover up of hot information. If we can accept this then they sussed out the truth very rapidly and argued the MOD out of more than a monitor operation -on the basis that there simply was no evidence for a defence threat behind UFOs.

Of course some will still see this as part of an ongoing cover up of still secret data. I do not and think there is much that today's UFOlogists can gain from this objective report. Dave and Andy intend to publish this information in due course, including a report into the 1967 UK wave.

According to a US internet vote top UFO story of 1999 was the French military 'Cometa' report on UFOs, followed by UFO videos taken in Florida and Mexico and the supposedly relevant sudden loss of two mars space missions (??)

ABDUCTIONS - AN AIM TO STRIVE FOR

There has been one hot topic of debate on both sides of the Atlantic during the first few months of the new millennium - the alien abduction. In the US arguments have raged over findings reported by UFOlogist Dr Kevin Randle and others that many abductees are gay! I have to say such an idea has never occurred to me from the witnesses that I have met who are overwhelmingly heterosexual so far as I can tell.

One problem here may be that of interpretation. There is very good evidence of an 'abduction prone personality' and one clear sign of this is high level visual creativity. It may be that artistic witnesses who tend to follow careers in music or caring professions such as nursing might sometimes get misperceived as being gay.

Whatever the truth, this highlights the need for data beyond the anecdotal - and generally speaking within abduction research we do not have it. This matter was raised by Kevin McClure in a swinging attack on my 'Complete book of aliens and abductions' - which he seemed to consider as overly accepting of possible reality. I stand by the book (which was reviewed as too sceptical by some sources!) But the real issue comes with Kevin's request that I turn over to him details of all the 87 UK cases in my brief comparison between total reports from different countries. He felt that this should be the basis for a retrospective study setting out to disprove their physical objectivity.

I could not help - mostly because I only have full data on a few cases and to provide this would bias the sample. Besides - there are grave ethical questions about challenging the integrity of abductees, that in my experience rarely claim alien kidnap - only that something odd has happened to them. I feel we have a responsibility to help them through a traumatic experience and whilst we do have some duty to probe the case, our real concern should be to act as wise council.

We are dealing with psychologically scarred witnesses. I seriously doubt they went for a ride on a spaceship - but most witnesses never profess this. It is an idea usually foisted onto the case by ETH minded UFOlogists. So setting out to disprove the literal reality of a sighting achieves nothing (as it only establishes what we know already - that abductions occur as altered states of

consciousness and not as physically real events). It fails to take us towards die real truth about what is taking place, whilst alienating witnesses by making them feel they cannot trust us because we consider them to be liars.

That may well not be our intent but it will certainly be the consequence of staking out their homes and grilling their neighbours about what the abductee was doing during a sighting.

Since this research is full of problems but Kevin's basic argument about the need for gathering more than anecdotal material is totally valid I propose a new approach. I call this initiative *AIM (Abduction Investigation Monitor)* and here is an outline. Whilst I propose it for the UK, it is, of course, equally possible to bring AIM into operation all over the world

The idea is simple. We get all the major UK groups and investigators together and agree to a protocol whereby we each report all new abduction cases and supply ongoing details during their study to an agreed format

AIM would collate the data as a monitor panel comprising some investigators and some relevant independent outside people (e.g. sceptics and clinical psychologists). It should have two primary functions, as follows:

1: The collection of ongoing information that monitors the levels, types of investigation method used, basic outcome and agreed statistical data on the witnesses involved with all abduction cases. This will create a country wide data base of all new and ongoing cases that will allow any number of research cross checks and study ventures to be done. This data to be freely made available to all by AIM (e.g. via a monthly updated web site).

2: To act as an ombudsman for witnesses, offering an independent place to go if they have grievances against a group or investigator or fears about methodology or the effects on their lives and need balanced advice.

AIM, as you can see, will at a stroke unite researchers, provide a common data base that will be invaluable to the whole UFO community, bring out signs of any trends that emerge and protect the rights of witnesses.

As an incentive to ensure that as many groups and researchers as possible will support AIM I suggest a covenant whereby the monitor panel agree to *guarantee* all investigators, groups and witnesses right of first publication. This will prevent any suspicion that AIM is 'stealing' their data for use in books, or whatever. A similar covenant offering anonymity and protection against release of any identifying details should be

provided to witnesses so that they need not fear the outcome of cooperation. After all the information being collected seeks general trends and witness names and addresses are not needed to isolate the kind of patterns being sought.

I believe AIM is long overdue and easy to put together. By designing with care it will not infringe rights of witness or investigator. All serious minded people who are concerned about finding the truth behind the abduction mystery should support this plan.

Lets try to work together to get AIM off the ground as soon as possible. It's a scheme that can only benefit everyone.

So - if you belong to a local group or are an investigator, please discuss the AIM concept and let me know if you believe that you could support it in principle. Or if not, why not.

MAJOR ARTICLES ELSEWHERE

On the news stands The X Factor rather surprisingly continues. I have only received two issues in recent months, mostly because I have articles in them (79 - looking at how window areas come into being through both real and social factors and 83 - mid air encounters). Other articles of note in these issues are 79 (Ken Webster on the Dodleston, Cheshire poltergeist/time slip case). 83 (the effects of EM energy on humans and Steven Greer - see page 2/3 - in an interview sets out his position on the ETH and back engineering).

Fortean Times is as regular as clockwork and easy to get (£2.70 per month) in any big newsagents. Recent highlights include much less on the UFO mystery than of late (it also featured little this time at the annual FT Unconvention - possibly another sign of the massive downturn of interest in this subject). But the May and June 2000 issues do have a very interesting double article by Peter Brookesmith attempting to update the ETH debate by setting the quest for alien life in context of modern science. He uses this to argue that the UFO community has a somewhat dated view on what life may be out there (and so might come here).

Its one treat worth saving up for as FT is never without something to fascinate in this weird world.

BUFORA Bulletin With subs

The tragic death just before Christmas of long term chairman Arnold West (a true gentleman, someone I really admired and one of the nicest men in UFOlogy) is taking its toll. But a new team leader (Brian James, on a free transfer) and a revitalised council brought on as subs and including the new strike force of Mike Hudson and

Gloria Dixon are promising a brighter future. They have even appointed biking vicar Lionel Fanthorpe as a high profile President. I expect my call up as team mascot any day. Seriously -BUFORA should be worth watching.

Awareness (CONTACT UK)

Britain's other long running national group have produced a quarterly to standard order for years. More ET tolerant than BUFORA you will also find a weird range of articles such as much on crop circles (since losing Paul Fuller BUFORA seems to have forgotten they still exist) and oddities like is earth contaminated?, did Christ meet aliens?, are we an ET biology experiment? And a look at megaliths in the Check republic!

IUR (CUFOS, USA)

Winter: Folklore perspectives on UFO entities, a mid air encounter over Germany unearthed and why did Blue Books Ed Ruppelt become so sceptical that he disowned and rewrote his classic 1956 UFO book shortly before his sudden death (aged 40) four years later?

MUFON Journal (USA)

Jan: Magnetic particles found in US crop circle
Feb: Massive multi-witness case in the Yukon Mar:
Using computer technology to try to read the letter in the USAF hands in Roswell photos Apr
Detailed update on the important Dandenongs observed abduction case from Oz

MAGONIA (editor John Rimmer)

Psychologist Christopher French (token sceptic on many TV features about the paranormal) argues for a sober approach to media coverage.

Abduction Watch (editor Kevin McClure)

Good to hear (22) that Kevin will continue this invaluable commentary on abduction excesses. Whilst he seems to oddly feel I write for commercial reasons (ha), think I am 'alien' and use 'moral fig leaves' such as isolated sceptical remarks to hide my true belief in ET. His words are a necessary cold shower. For the record, as clearly as I can:- I have *never* seen an alien or been abducted, *do not* think I am anything but human, consider abductions to occur as *altered states* that arguably *might* involve data obtained from some other intelligence but *most likely* may have a yet unfound cause within human consciousness. I hope that sets the record straight for those still in doubt. Even so it is, of course, just my opinion and I reserve the

right to change it if persuasive evidence appears. To Kevin that is 'fence sitting'. I call it being open minded

Armchair UFOlogist (editor *Andy Roberts*)

Comes as often as Halley's Comet. Is full of sarcastic wit and dissolves much of UFOlogy like a bath of Sulphuric Acid. Welcome back to Andy Roberts irreverent (but never irrelevant) demolition act. Identifiable by garish coloured paper and the smell of semtex in the envelope.

Strange Daze 19 (editor *Gloria Dixon*)

The sort of magazine that should be more widely available to counter the no brain fodder that more often gets into stores. Gloria's masterly free ranging coverage of the paranormal should be on every readers 'must get' list. Contributions range from Paul Devereux (imaginal realm in Persia), through John Spencer (witness experiments into belief systems and perception) to Kevin McClure (an insightful look at post modern close encounter UFOlogy) via time travel, altered states, life after death and more. You'd have to be away with the fairies to miss it.

Project Red Book (YUFOS)

Entertaining *monthly* mag from Sheffield mixing sense with lengthy fascinating interviews each issue - eg Bill Chalker (Jan, Feb & Mar), Dave Clarke (Apr), Rory Lushman (May) and Loren Coleman (Jun). My advice - subscribe to it now.

UFO Network UK (editor *P Cliffe Snr*)

Letters, clips, sightings and internet extracts etc from this West Yorks group.

OVNI

UFO sightings and news from the East Midlands compiled by noted UFOlogist Omar Fowler.

Phenomenal News (SEMR)

Explains how Ron Halliday lost his didgeridoo

SUFOG

Another long running local group (SUFOG) mag from Hants. Its best feature is a regular review of media coverage about the UFO mystery.

The Researcher Spring 2000 (MARA)

MARA study strange phenomena very rationally so this is always wide ranging and with sensible coverage. Larry Warren is outspoken in an

interview on Rendlesham, a haunted spot around Formby, Isle of Man oddities & lots more.

The Voice

Billed as 'the conspirators newsletter - diaries of a real MIB' this is compiled by Barry King, who investigated many classic cases (e.g. the Aveley abduction) in the 70s and 80s but now reports on the secret government cover up side of things apparently from first hand experience. Secret bases, MIDLAB projects, UFOlogist 'hit lists' from DIS. That's what to expect in here.

Faster Than Light (editor *Chris Even*)

An entertaining selection of many net items well packaged in colour. Gives one of the widest ranges of global UFO news stories on offer.

GPM Issue 1 (editor *Jonathan Slater*)

New magazine exploring paranormal goings on

UFO Afrinews 21

The size of a small book, lucidly written in English and the full low down on the otherwise unseen world of African UFO sightings. This labour of love by Cynthia Hind is a must have for armchair UFO globetrotters.

IUFOPRA Newsletter

Strange events, UFOs etc from Ireland as compiled by the nations top research team.

Ohio Notebook 21 (MUFON Ohio, USA).

Whitehall seems very interested in UFOs (in *three* countries now!) This from the MUFON group in Ohio has local cases, a new look at the Delphos landing with traces and a look back by UFOlogist Jennie Zeidman.

Folklore Frontiers 37 (editor *J P Screeton*)

Folk tales and urban myths galore culled from the media by journalist Raul Screeton.

The Circular Autumn 99 (CCCS)

Yes, you can still keep up to date with the world of the crop circle hunters - as indefatigable as ever.

This magazine has glossy pictures and all the news, research and theories for a subject I never thought would outlast UFOlogy (the way things are going it may!). I assumed about 8 years ago it had been well resolved and it was all done and crop dusted. But never underestimate the persistence of the human spirit

Coming soon.... Although there is a marked lull in publishers committing to new UFO projects (in the UK at least) in the US great news is that Richard Hall has finally succeeded in finding an outlet this autumn. This is for the enormous 'UFO Evidence Volume 2' - a 700 page sequel to the famous NICAP book he edited 40 years ago. Meanwhile some news from the UK is that Robert Hale are to start a new series with 'Supernatural Peak District' by David Clarke and 'Supernatural Pennines' by myself this winter.

BOOKS OF THE MOMENT

Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Ancient Earth Mysteries

By Paul Devereux Blandford £18.99 192 pages

Wow! Really that's about all you need to say regarding the superb production values of this book. Large format, glossy, colour photos throughout. It even smells sophisticated! As you might expect Paul Devereux presents the A to Z format with entries on the expected topics within the field of earth mysteries - and he does so with his usual aplomb. However, I must say that I have reservations about his views on crop circles - which like those in the recent UFO book co authored with Peter Brookesmith just don't fit the facts as I saw them unfold. But that's a quibble, and probably just means Devereux and I see this subject differently and it certainly does not detract from a book that will sit proudly on your shelf as a reference for years to come.

Randles Rating: Impress friends and buy it

Gateway to Atlantis by Andrew Collins Headline Books £18.99 436 pages

Andy is back with the latest in his popular series of mammoth books that explore in vast detail some facet of ancient mythology. He brings to bear skills that graced the UFO field 20 years ago by writing in an area that currently sells very

well. Andy's actually deserve to - something not universally true of this subject.

Here he tackles the old chestnut of 'ancient Atlantis' but does so with such enthusiasm and determination that he leaves most potboilers on this topic sunk beneath the waves. This is easily the best book on the subject I have read. It's probably the best one ever written. And it's the only one that really sets out as if this quest were a forensic detective inquiry - as it should do.

Andy takes his exploration in unexpected directions (he is not looking in all the familiar places like Crete - Andy thinks Atlantis was in Cuba!) Mix in his superb ability to write non fiction as if it were a thriller and you'll consider the money on this text a jolly good investment

This book is very visible in the shops and must be selling well. I think it's the best that Andy has written - so if you have any liking for his work or interest in Atlantis you will love this.

Randles Rating: A top author on top form

The UFO Investigators Guide

By David Coomer Blandford £8.99 224 Pages

You know buses. Wait ages then two come along at once. So it is with UFO investigator guides. Aeons ago (when the cast of Walking with Dinosaurs were still using strollers) I wrote a manual for would-be UFO investigators around the same time as Allen Hendry did something similar.

Years go by and the same thing has happened again. A US book has just appeared (not seen that one) and along comes this text from a man I do not know - although it seems he lives just t'other side of the hills from me.

So is it any good? Well... Allen Hendry should not lose too much sleep. In fact, at times this book is so delightfully eccentric that 'Plan 9 from Blandford Press' might work as a sub title. Like the section giving advice on how to offer a Man in Black a cigarette (I won't spoil your fun by explaining why but it is fiendishly thought out to be perfectly sensible). Or the chapter seeking to explain how British law makes it illegal to be abducted by a spaceship. Or how about lobbying the freemasons over UFOs. All of this is justified by the text in a sober manner.

To be fair, there are some useful sections on IFOs and interview techniques in this book and the massive list of world groups has merit. But even here the feel of a slightly worrying government leaflet can emerge from the flow charts and forms, identikit UFO shapes, examples of alien symbols and the in depth discussions about the kind of equipment you will need to take on your UFO

trek. (Err like a pen (get away) or mobile radar detectors (eh?)).

A bit of a concern is the reliance on dubious sources. A section about looking out for robot aliens is based on the (notorious and self admitted) William Looseley hoax! And a detailed examination of spaceship physics is based on quotes from the Allingham tale. These hardly inspired me with confidence.

Whilst I cannot truly recommend this book as a guide to investigators its actually pretty good fun to read. The techniques to check an MIB's social security details made me chuckle - at least partly because I saw that we might all really consider this. Yet here you spot just how barmy it sounds. I don't think that this book is intended to be funny but is a nice attempt to set out work proposals to the would-be ET hunter.

Randles Rating: Read on a rainy skywatch

Visitation: The certainty of alien activity
By Peter Hough
London House £6.99 144pages

This book has already kicked up a storm from some UFOlogists and there have been calls to excommunicate my long-term friend and frequent co-author as a result. It's rather over the top to suggest that. But this is a book that probably never should have been written. Yet to be fair to Peter it was commissioned from him by an editor who has since 'moved on' The book was (I gather) conceived by that editor as an 'experiment' to see if readers of 'lifestyle' texts like 'DIY Feng Shui' and 'Do your own horoscope' would take to a UFO title. I think we all could have told said editor this was not a great idea. The markets are barely compatible.

As such Peter wrote the book he was asked to write - a primer for new age thinkers about aliens. The daft title was imposed onto him and I doubt Peter is 'certain' aliens are coming here. Indeed after an inoffensive rehash of UFO history (as befits a primer) the book takes off half way through as an attempt to argue that aliens are from a parallel reality - perhaps another dimension - and have long been interacting with mankind Indeed it sets out to develop the Charles Fort 'We are Property' theory by arguing our fate is in the hands of not always friendly entities that may rule the earth.

Of course this is *not* certain, and as you know I am opposed to regression hypnosis (by which a lot of the data appears). Yet the idea is undeniably interesting to see well set out and this

provides a modicum of originality to a book that may otherwise have been fairly dull

The revolt against it is based on its 'bad influence' on terrified witnesses, and it's true that Peter offers a pretty morbid view of our fate that could be harmful. But it is easy to overstate the impact of one book that only sets out what Peter truly believes. I get criticised for 'sitting on the fence' in my writing. Now Peter is attacked for writing what he honestly thinks. You cannot win.

I doubt any reader will base their Life around Visitation or not read further to gain a broader view. And are they not far more likely to come upon the many US books that share a dark mood of abduction? In any case the target market here is people who *enjoy* odd ideas. I would personally have preferred a more balanced view but its hard to blame Peter for speaking his mind.

Randles Rating: You may not believe what the author says but support his right to say it.

Journal of UFO Studies 7 - Year 2000 Edited by
Stuart Appelle 120 pp \$26 US CUFOS

Welcome back after five years to this once regular treat - the book length refereed science publication of serious UFOlogy. Put together by a panel of (mostly US) scientists these tomes are always important with in depth pieces that would never be publishable as a commercial book -hence the unfortunately not cheap price tag.

So what is in the 2000 edition? Two radiation physicists seek to compare UFO sightings with cosmic ray strength to test the theory that when atmospheric radiation is strong UFOs might fly lower. In a similar vein there's a geomagnetic study comparing major UFO sightings with fluctuations within the ionosphere to seek statistical patterns.

The biggest paper is by Professor Michael Swords, assessing the very first (1947) USAF project from detailed records and searching the cases they reviewed to find the origin of their infamous 'Estimate of Situation' report. This allegedly suggested that UFOs were alien craft.

Finally there are two abduction papers. A psychologist conducted tests on 20 witnesses seeking levels of expressed anxiety via standard protocols. And Dr Thomas Bullard digs deep into a number of recent critical abduction books (including some by UFOlogists) and seeks to address the questions that these pose for researchers who still contend that alien contact is happening. There are clear signs in his thorough analysis that he might suspect that all is not well in alien kidnap land. Indeed, he uses terms like 'crisis' and 'a reasonable person cannot help but find this

argument plausible'. All of which suggests that a real sea change may be underway in all of US UFOlogy. Well, okay, maybe not...

As usual there is much to respect in this very worthy venture. All six previous volumes are also available from CUFOS and most of these are even bigger (Volume 6 has twice the pagination of volume 7 but costs the same). Serious UFOlogists who can afford it should be supporting this important set of books that comes closer than anything to setting the ongoing research into a proper scientific context

Let's hope we don't have another five years to wait for the next edition of a product in which the CUFOS pioneer - Dr J Allen Hynek - would have been justifiably proud.

Randles Rating: Science and the UFOs -for real

INVESTIGATION Latest UFO sightings

Crop Circle reported in 1880

The phenomenon of crop circles is thought by many to be the result of trickery - and to a huge extent it surely is. I don't go looking for circles these days because the chances are so high that you will be wasting your time on the result of human engineering. But in my view there is a small core of real cases - simple, swirled circular effects that result from some atmospheric vortex. One of the key reasons I keep arguing for this is the existence of cases reported long before the media (and the hoaxers) invented a cute name for the whole mess and encouraged vandals by the truck load to become folk heroes and TV stars by wrecking farmers fields. Via Paul Fuller and Dr Terence Meaden here is the latest 'oldie' to surface - as found in an impeccable source (Nature, 29 July 1880).

The original reporter was Rand Capron, a Surrey based spectroscopist and meteorologist who was looking at perceived storm damage at Guildown on 21 July when he found circular patches in a field of wheat. These were defined as featuring a few standing stalks as a centre, some prostrate stalks with their heads arranged pretty evenly in a direction forming a circle round the centre, and outside these a circular wall of stalks which had not suffered.'

This will sound familiar to all who have studied modern day crop circles. Indeed the suggestion in Nature 120 years ago that 'they were to me suggestive of some cyclonic wind action' that 'may perhaps have been noticed elsewhere by some of your readers' will bring an ironic cheer. Long suffering (and much rebuked) supporters of the vortex theory will smile after

earlier this year it was again shot at by Paul Devereux in his new earth mysteries book.

Paul Fuller, Terence Meaden and myself have long claimed that such historic circles prove a small scale natural phenomenon on top of which the modern day madness has been created. Sadly this nonsense has swamped all objectivity. And this new case is by no means unique - dozens are on record well before the circles mystery began. Indeed a 1963 case in Wiltshire was reported by Patrick Moore no less!

What delightful irony that a major UFO sceptic and a magazine long critical of all strange phenomena should provide key evidence for the sort of thing that they so often abhor!

Putting a rocket up Stockport

The oh so up to date UK media have solved a UFO case that we put to bed 21 years ago! It is often cited as a good example of an UFO and I have published very detailed reports in my books (see UFO Reality for example).

The news comes from reader Ann Chamley who sends the 'Nostalgia' column from the Stockport Express. Sadly Nostalgia's standards are not what they used to be. With a headline 'Flying Saucer Mystery Solved!' and a silly opening that reads 'New Years Eve 1978 will bring shivers down the spine of thousands of Stockport folk' the reporting is absolute tosh.

I recall this case very well. There were hundreds of sightings across the UK and certainly Stockport was in no way special. In fact there were less sightings here than in many places with less restricted skylines. The fact that the sighting occurred at just after 7.05 pm on 31 December, with many people travelling to New Years Eve parties, was why there were so many witnesses. But I don't recall such alleged horror.

I collated over 100 witness forms (even though we knew the answer very quickly) and the way the sighting was widely reported has proved invaluable as a means to gauge witness perception. Indeed our complete knowledge of the solution, plus film of the UFO gathered in north Lancashire, gave us a unique experiment. Which is why I collated the data- and have written about it so much in my investigation books. No investigator worth a bean in the UK has been in doubt for 20 years that the thing seen was the blazing death throes of a booster rocket from the Russian satellite Cosmos 1068.

Not so, according to the 'super sleuths' from the Stockport press. They allege that there has been mass panic (please!) and that 'the news spread right around the world and caused wide spread

alarm' (eh?). They then diabolically state that UFOlogist Roy Sandbach (who probably knew the truth years before) told them that 'people thought the world was being invaded'. I know Roy is reading this so I hope he tells these hacks the real facts about this fine case.

This feeble column then claims that BUFORA helped the Stockport paper solve this mystery back in 1986 (the selective Roy Sandbach quote comes from then). It took eight years to resolve (in fact eight minutes is more like!) because 'the Russians were so secretive in the late 70s...and did not want to admit sending mini rockets into space - but it kept UFO experts guessing and analysing for years.' Utter pap!

The case was reported accurately in the national press (presumably Express writers do not read other papers) and my first discussion in a widely available UFO book was in 1981 - *five years* before the good old Stockport paper alleged that we had learned the truth.

This is one of the most ludicrous pieces of media reporting about UFOs I have ever seen. The case is a classic of IFO study and its value rests in the way it offers a template against which to judge multi witness sightings. Mass panic, flashing round the world, supposedly secret mini rockets, etc, is bizarre tripe. Cosmos 1068 was a large military satellite, part of a well recorded series (hence the number - not 'Project X') and the re-entry of its booster rocket was known about immediately and predicted in advance.

When UFOlogists perform sloppily the media enjoy criticism. It is about time such awful standards of UFO reporting by the guardians of public knowledge were exposed. So if you come across any examples - do tell!

Mid Air Sighting over Ireland

Thanks to Doug Moffett of Australia for news of this sighting.

In 1970 or 71 witness A was a flight engineer on board a Qantas (Queensland and Northern Territories Air Services) flight. They were over Ireland bound for London in clear weather. At 33,000 feet they noticed what is described as 'an upturned funnel' about 10,000 feet above them. It was three times the size of a Jumbo Jet. The captain informed the startled passengers to take a look and said that the crew were unafraid by the presence of this battleship grey monster, even as the aircraft flew steadily towards and directly underneath the almost static thing. This took some

minutes to happen. From below the base appeared to be a flattened diamond A slow east to west drift was noticed to the object, but a weather balloon option was rejected Shannon ATC confirmed that they had a radar lock on the object at 42,000 feet and that winds were moving in the opposite direction to the drift of this UFO.

A claims that he later discovered that the crew of a British Airways flight from Heathrow to Rio witnessed the same thing. It is unknown if any passengers did secure photos. But if this is a valid sighting (as Doug Moffett seems to believe) some record of it must surely exist somewhere. MoD files from 1970 will be released next year but IUFOPRA might have better luck with Irish ATC files from Shannon.

A family and UFOs

My thanks are due to Lukas from Bodrogkeresztur in Hungary who writes to report a mini wave of sightings in the village that were experienced by himself and his family.

All the sightings occurred between October and December 1990. In the first his father was fishing on the Bodrog river when a greenish violet light appeared overhead sweeping a purple beam downwards. It paused and then moved on. Soon after, at 7.38 pm on 4 October, another brilliantly illuminated object appeared and moved across the sky. He went onto the terrace but the object had disappeared behind a hill. But a strange sensation like a whirlwind was felt in the air. The entire duration of this second phase was about 10 seconds.

Four days later, at 6.33 pm on 8 October, Lukas himself was a witness when his bedroom was illuminated by a bright glow. Going to the window he saw an oval pouring out orange light moving away silently towards the east. Although bright it did not hurt his eyes to look at this.

The flap ended on 2 December at 4.56 pm on a very cold evening. Suddenly Lukas had a feeling he should look up from reading a book and he saw a red light moving north to south near the rear of his home. His first reaction on going to the window was that he was hallucinating. Then he considered an aircraft. The next thing he knew the object had gone. On 'coming to my senses' the time was now 5.17 pm - a passage of 21 minutes that he finds very long. He says that there was a sensation of being watched throughout the encounter. During the time that he was at the window he clearly saw a structured craft floating there. This was a silvery discus shape with a row of cadmium coloured windows around its edges and a darkish yellow coloured glow coming from the base of the thing. It also seemed to emit a powerful hue. Lukas ran outside to investigate but when he got there all that he could see was the moon.

Hungary at the time was escaping from Communist rule and just discovering UFOs. I visited in 1992 and saw a nation unburdening itself of oppression via UFOs, circles and abduction cases. The country was agog.

The lights go out on Angel Street

This is a fascinating close encounter reported by Mr L from a village near Ipswich. It has many intriguing parallels to offer.

We only know that the incident occurred in mid summer (possibly July) 1982 around 1 am. This may be significant (see later). Mr L also reports the psychological importance of this year to him. At age 25 it saw the sudden death of his father, his redundancy from a career as an engineer, the break up of his marriage and an inevitable

period of depression. Is that relevant to the events that occurred? It is hard to see how it might be given their physical nature.

On the night in question L was staying with his new girlfriend at a flat on Angel Street in the small town of Hadleigh, west of Ipswich. It was a very hot night with a still, sticky feel to the air. Suddenly the bedroom lights started to flicker and accompanying this was a very loud noise directly above. This was a combination of a buzzing/humming/throbbing sound

As the couple looked up stunned by this unmistakable noise the room lights quit completely. Getting up they could also see that all the lights on Angel Street had gone out as had room lights in adjacent buildings.

Forcing themselves to go to the window (open due to the closeness of the weather) L saw a brilliant white light at about a rooftop level just across the road and the now very loud humming was coming from its direction. As they watched the object it began to accelerate away. It then split into three separate white blobs and these shot off in different directions like magnetic poles repelling one another.

Moments after the white mass had left Angel Street the house lights and the street lights came back on. They had only been off a minute or so and many people may not have noticed the disruption at that hour but several ran out into Angel Street looking at the sky and saying to each other - did you see that? Did you hear that?

This case is intriguing for a number of reasons. The location is one. The odd EM effect cases reported in and around Ipswich are well known as are possible links with the electronic experiments conducted in and around Orford Ness. Indeed effects on room lights of this kind are commonly reported in connection.

Moreover, there is an interesting sighting tied to the famous Rendlesham Forest case (see 'UFO Crash Landing?') in which the white object split into three parts and headed off in different directions - exactly as here.

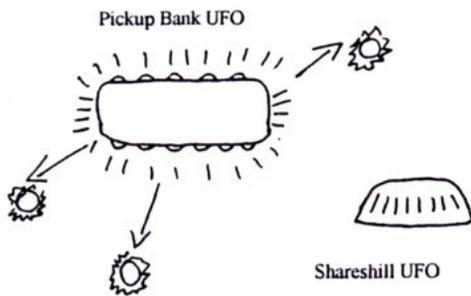
In fact such cases of light splitting are reported elsewhere too. Another concentration occurs around Todmorden, the noted window area in West Yorkshire. In the case of Jenny from the village of Walsden she was under the spell of a lens like object low overhead that disappeared by breaking into three parts shooting off in different directions once more. These clear comparisons have to be important and probably tell us significant things about the physical forces involved in these glowing atmospheric energies. For surely that is what we are dealing with here. A

phenomenon like ball lightning with properties that are consistently described through independent cases and an anomaly of nature that ought to fascinate meteorologists and physicists.

Finally, I checked my records and found a case that could be very relevant. It was a MUFORA investigation dating to 17 July 1982 at 1.30 am. The weather that night was warm and clear with fantastic reception reported by the witness who was using a CB radio. This is evidence of unusual factors in the ionosphere (ionization is clearly involved in these glowing energy field cases). As such this might well be the very same night as the Hadleigh case.

The MUFORA incident occurred on Pickup Bank near Darwen, Lancashire. A man, his wife and two children were enjoying the warm summer night as Mr H was talking on his CB radio. Suddenly there was a powerful high pitched humming/buzzing and an explosion of light that emerged from a cloud. From this came three bluish/orange balls of light that split apart and shot off in different directions - one actually rushing away towards Todmorden.

As you can see these inter-related cases point out to an interesting pattern that has to make scientific sense out of this evidence. To me that's what UFOlogy is all about. Not chasing mythical little green men.



Missing Time in Staffordshire?

Case 79-186 3 Aug 1979 Shareshill. Stajfs

Witness R was driving home with his girlfriend from an inn. It was just after 23.00 and they were on a country lane just south of Cannock. Suddenly they heard a strange noise likened to a phone dial (a sort of fast beeping). At this the inside of the car became suffocating and they had to roll the window down to be able to breathe properly. Then they heard the noise again.

Seconds later an object appeared ahead of the car. It crossed their path making a whooshing/whining sound and came to rest above a hedgerow just in front. It resembled an upturned pie dish or jelly mould and gave off an orange

glow. After a few seconds it seemed to accelerate away at great speed - rather like a stone fired from a catapult.

Driving away R was desperate to get off the isolated lanes but they could not see the object again; although he did keep looking for it Upon arrival at his girlfriends home he was in trouble for bringing her back so late as it was now well after midnight. R believes the journey back took about 40 minutes to an hour longer than it should have done.

There has been no follow up of this apparent missing time as the case occurred so long ago and R split up with his girlfriend soon afterwards and has now lost contact There have been several other close encounters in the Cannock Chase area.

The Russians are coming

Case 9908 24 Dec 1999 High Lane, Cheshire

The S family were returning along the A6 towards Buxton having visited relatives in Stepping Hill hospital (Stockport). Between High Lane and Disley on the approach to Lyme Park they saw distant lights that they did not recognise as an aircraft. The lights were flashing randomly over a large area in white, red and blue colours and seemed to be at only about twice the roof top height. A line of cars was following them on this busy road. No sound was heard

The witnesses are sure this was too large to be an aircraft. But investigation revealed that a massive Russian cargo plane (bigger than a Jumbo) was ferrying aircraft parts into Manchester for construction at the Woodford aviation factory. The final flight path into the airport passes nearby. The plane is said to be huge and slow moving. This may be an answer.

This disturbing case was reported by the primary witness to Roger Markham, the businessman creating the Bacup UFO centre, following an article in Lancashire Life about his project. I then spoke at length to the witness - R - and Rory Lushman is following up locally. There is still more work to be done.

R and his family moved to a house near Ribchester from another part of the county earlier in 2000. Since their arrival he, his wife and children claim to have been under siege.

The primary source of concern is a buzzing/crackling noise that has been heard on several occasions directly over the house and circling around it at low level. He rejects my suggestion of a microlite aircraft or an electricity pylon suggested to him by Rory. The noise clearly upsets the family. It was heard for a few seconds around 23.15 to 23.45 one night in late May and again on 20 June.

On 13 June R returned home to find his wife perturbed about a distant 'engine' noise. The dog was upset by it as well. Nothing had been obvious on his return, so, with the noise still prevalent, they went to bed at around 23.00.

Once in bed R was worried that youths might have got onto his land and be riding a motorbike so he went to the window to investigate. Here two things happened. Firstly, he traced the origin of this new strange noise. A local farmer was using a combine for all night harvesting. Secondly he saw a UFO.

The object was shaped like a spinning top with a line of blue portholes emitting light around the middle. He saw it with crystal clarity only a few feet away low over a tree. The near full moon was plainly reflecting off its metal base. The object was swaying from side to side as it slowly moved downwards. He likened this to a leaf dropping off a tree. A small light that seemed distinct from the main spinning top was milling around the perimeter of the thing as it descended.

R now went off to get the phone from downstairs to call the police. His wife went to the window. By now the object had gone (she never saw it) but a line of sheep were acting very oddly. They spend the night in this field waiting to be fed, but had flocked together and were fleeing as one - seemingly away from where R said the spinning top had descended out of sight

R returned with the phone but the bedroom light bulb then blew, plunging them into darkness and he could not get a phone signal. Going downstairs he found the dog now hiding behind the curtains in obvious fear. The haymaking noise could be responsible for both these animal

reactions, of course. Although it continued long into the night and the dog recovered normal composure within half an hour.

The police were called and two officers arrived. One searched the field with a torch but found nothing. The other officer told R he had been converted from a sceptic into a believer by the number of local sightings. These included several by trusted colleagues. Investigations into the police role in this case are continuing.

R was clearly distressed about this case. He needed some calming down when I spoke with him. He seemed afraid 'it' would return and hurt his kids and I had to reassure him this was very unlikely. He had taken a camcorder to bed with him after the sighting and chose to call Roger after seeing Lancashire Life in hopes that others were witness. He is adamant it was huge and very real and this was what most upset him. A light in the sky he could have handled. Seeing a definite metallic craft was freaking him out.

Whether or not R had any knowledge of UFOs is an important question. He picked up on the well known falling leaf effect using the same analogy. He noted that he thought the spinning top UFO shape was an 'old fashioned' one - begging the question how he knew what types of UFO were considered old fashioned And he seemed at least vaguely aware of the alien kidnap theories - although doubtless few people are immune from that these days.

When the buzzing sound reappeared a week later R told Rory that he had finally had enough. He had been too afraid to look in the sky and had decided to sell up and move out - something he was talking about to me as a possibility even before. The house was put on the market and viewers were due to visit. So far as he and his family were concerned the siege had been too much. He was going somewhere with peace, quiet and no flying saucers.

Hopefully there may be more to report on this in the next issue.



Allen Alibi

Hammer, Sickle and Circles

On 24 June it was announced that the latest site for crop circle activity was Russia. A number of reports from the Stavropol area had brought an investigation by local security police. The major case occurred at Yuzhnoye where a farmer reported 'an act of vandalism' because he found one large circle (60 feet in diameter) surrounded by three smaller 20 feet satellites in his ripe barley crop. This had been ruined

Far from getting much help out of the security forces they investigated with surprising results. Because a local person had reported a UFO nearby thoughts quickly turned to alien intervention (like they do). Research found no traces of radiation or chemicals that might have triggered the effects and so the authorities naturally ruled out human tricksters as the cause. Instead the security chief Vasily Belchenko noted that 'There is no doubt...An unknown object definitely landed there.' Mind you I did find rather strange the fact that these thorough researchers had found a hole about five inches deep right in the centre of the largest circle. Evidently this was considered to be something inexplicable to do with 'unknown landing principles' of the spaceship involved - according to the security patrol.

Call me cynical but to me this sounds rather more likely to be connected with the very known principles of sticking a great big pole in the centre of a field. You then attach a rope and swathe the crop flat by this simple application of terrestrial geometry as opposed to extraterrestrial technology. No, that's too obvious, isn't it?

But then we have had rather a lot of experience of exposing the true origins of crop circles in the UK. Perhaps the Russian security patrol should send a fact-finding mission over here. Although, of course, they will doubtless find many just as willing to seek out alien interpretations behind a few marks on the ground because they sound a whole lot more exciting than the truth.

What is interesting though is to see how this whole story mirrors the way that the crop circle phenomenon began in Britain 20 years ago. Back then simple circles and small geometric patterns were the first to appear. The really complex wonders only came later. Russia may well have to prepare for an invasion of whales, snails and fractal graphics imagery appearing in their fields. And this farmer will not be the only one to have his barley wrecked so long as the powers that be support such twaddle.

In this issue's tip for would be criminals we reveal the story of the struggles faced by the Des Moines, Iowa PD. Police here arrested a 37 year old man for being inside a stranger's house in the dead of night. He denied the charges of attempted burglary with a deft get out clause. It seems he was really 170 miles away when this spaceship appeared aliens abducted him and dumped him inside this unfamiliar house only a mile or so from his real home.

We must presume that grays do not know how to read A to Z street directories. So - indeed next time you are spacenapped do make sure the driver takes note of where they picked you up before agreeing to those few hours of rectal probes. It can be a long walk home from Neptune.

As for the Iowa PD they say they are still sure the man did it but are willing to reconsider if any little green men show up at the station house to support his alibi. Of course, then they would have to appear in court and swear on the Betelgeuse Bible that they are 'Zzpxytzkprty from the planet Zog'. That I would like to see.

This Just In...

Joe Firmage, the computer guru who left his company last year backed by his millions to fund UFO linked science study has joined forces with Carl Sagan productions. They intend to create a new broadly based media network that will bring books, films, TV, art work and other entertainment to educate in a new way about the fringes of science. Some \$23 million is reputed to be invested in what is code named the Voyager Project. Full details of the plans are to be announced globally at the end of the year. It is not known if UFOs will figure in any of this but whispers from the US UFO Community say that Joe's interest in the subject is undiminished. The late Carl Sagan was a UFO sceptic but before his fame (via TV series such as Cosmos) he was a free thinking scientist who chaired a debate, co edited an excellent book on the mystery and pressed the USAF to release its Blue Book files for scientific scrutiny.

So who knows?

As we went to press NASA announced evidence for spring water oozing out on the surface of mars in 'geologically recent' times. To a geologist recent means in the last million years so this need not be too thrilling, but the chances of fossil life on the red planet from a time when this water was more abundant must now be high. What was even more fascinating was the internet hype of the story in the days before it broke. Everything from the discovery of a Martian city to walking bushes were being claimed as the real truth that NASA was about to reveal... err well it was not quite that exciting in the end!

Long term UFO merchandise seller Susanne Stebbing asks me to point out that she has decided to sell off all her stock. This includes many books, magazines and videos. Most of the books are old and cheap and audio tapes include lectures by the likes of Charles Berlitz, Al Bender and Frank Stranges.

A less drastic sale is the latest (Spring 2000) catalogue from Midnight Books - packed as always with new and second hand books, mags and videos across a wide range of the paranormal (UFOs included).

Coming Attractions

Some of the summer events that I know about follow. If your event is missing, then tell your-PR officer to inform NUN about it in future!

Thursday 13 July 2000 7.30 pm Gamesley Library, Glossop, Derbyshire
Jenny Randies lecturing on UFOs as part of the Derbyshire Millennium Arts Festival.

Sunday 16 July 2000 10.30 am omvard Town Hall, Crown Centre, Stourbridge

Lectures by Graham Birdsall, Bishop Michael Bourke. Chris Everard, Lionel Fanthorpe. Nick Redfern & Peter Rhodes... A debate about UFOs featuring presentations given by representatives of the church, newspapers, TV and UFOlogy (£10 on door, £7 OAP/students/unemployed)

Monday 4 September 2000 7.00 pm BUFORA London lecture (see details below)

George Wingfield offers 'new perspectives on the UFO phenomenon' - black triangle sightings

Monday 2 October 2000 7.00pm BUFORA London lecture (see details below)

Jerry Anderson will look at close encounters investigated by UFOMEK over Kent

(All BUFORA lectures are at the new venue of the Quaker International Centre, 1 Byng Place near the British Museum and Russell Square tube).

Saturday 14 October 2000 09.30 onward Alternative Egypt 2000 Questing Conference Institute of Education Bedford Way London

Annual event with lectures on ancient mysteries by Michael Baigent, Colin Wilson, Andy Collins. Graham Phillips and many others. £28 on door or via credit card hotline.

Groups in Northern Britain

SPI Scotland	Linlithgow
SEMR	Bridge of Allan
Haunted Scotland	Kilmarnock
SRUFO	East Calder
NUFORI	Newcastle
Connect	Ilkley
UFO Network	Leeds
YUFOS	Sheffield
NLUFOIG	Morecombe
LAPIS	Blackpool
MARA	Liverpool
NARO	Gatley
PRA	Derby
SUFOG	Rugdey
IUFOPRA	Dublin, Ireland