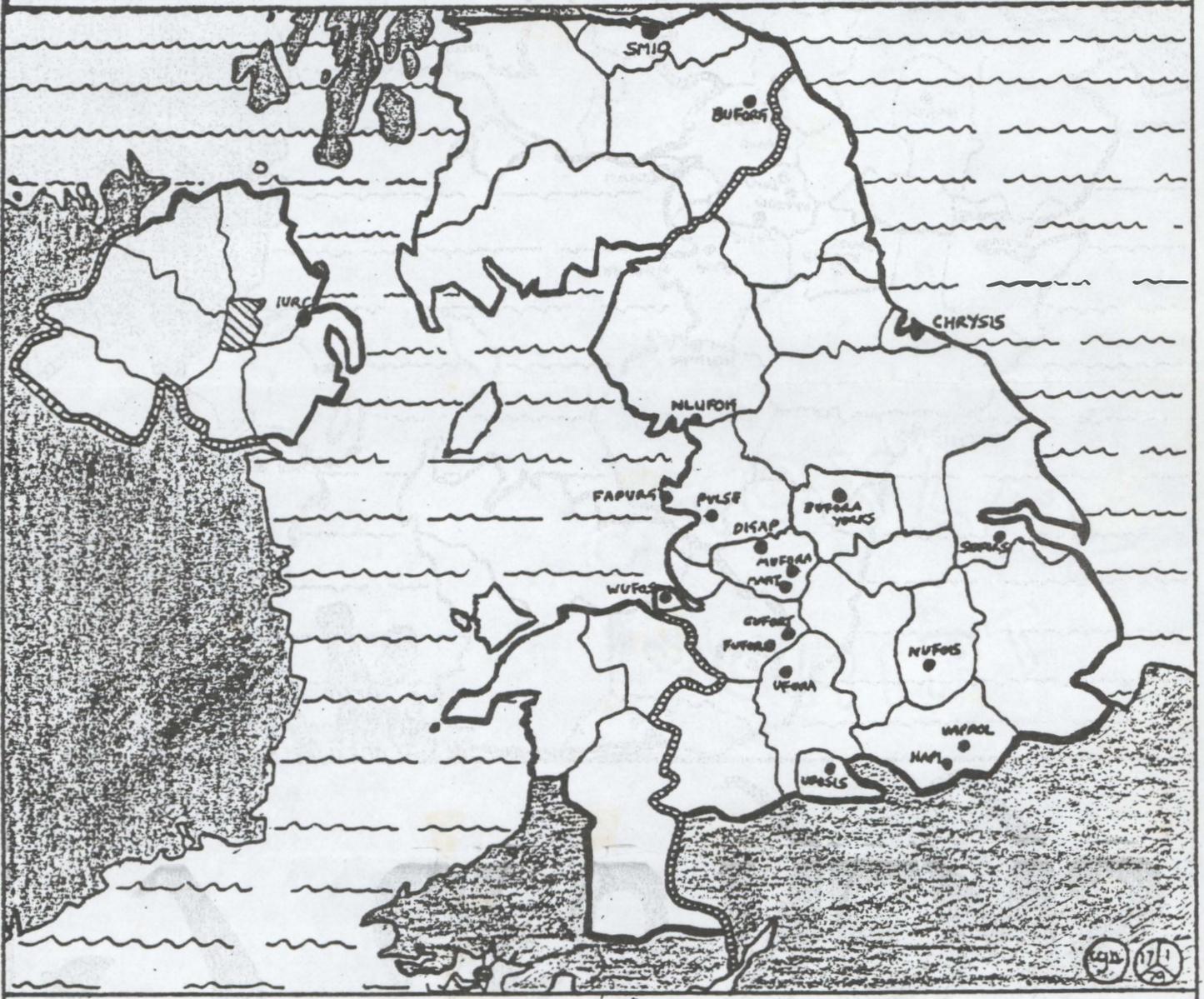


# NORTHERN UFO NEWS



NORTHERN UFO NEWS: Monthly newsletter of the Northern UFO Network (NUFON)  
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 Thanks to: CUFORO, MIGAP, MUFORA, PARASEARCH, UFOISIS, BUFORA Yorks  
 Andrew Ewan, Paul Larkin, Brian Leach & Nigel Watson

EDITORIAL: "A Friendly Ultimatum"

This editorial may well surprise a few people, since it summarises reasons why I think it necessary to resign as NUFON Secretary, as of Nov 24.

When I first became involved in the creation of a network in 1974 I did so because British Ufology lacked cohesion. It was a mess - and, sad to say, it is little better today. NUFON does have its merits, and it has filled a gap, but nevertheless I find it hard not to accept the words of John Rimmer of MUFOB, with his excellent article in UFO INSIGHT 3..... "The UFO group system is all very well for people who like the social atmosphere found in some organisations... There are people who like to be a big fish in a small pond, and there are few ponds smaller than a local UFO group..." One might say it is like organising a meeting of classical artists with Rembrandt expected to sit next to a chimpanzee with a paint pot and produce results!

Yes I am being hard, I know - and obviously I do not deny the validity of some UFO group system. However, more and more I have been putting my faith into UFOIN (formed in 1977) - which may be seen as elitist, but then again a meeting with Rembrandt, Van Gogh and Constable must surely carry some hope of success. As a none-organised team of active and intelligent investigators working on the interesting cases UFOIN has to be a step forward for Ufology.

My continued involvement with NUFON (and several active ufologists have chastised me for it) is based on the belief that despite its limitations some liaison is better than none. Its data collation function (despite the poor quality of much of that data) is also not inconsequential. However, ufology's number one enemy - APATHY - rears its head and those active within NUFON are those represented in UFOIN anyway. But there is more.

Since taking on the official role of NUFON Secretary in January 1975 it has been JENNY RANGLES who has been regarded as running it (despite background help from several important people), and it is JENNY RANGLES who suffers the consequences. It is argued that I am not allowed to develop personal interests or research as this might bring NUFON into disrepute because of my 'position'. So far as I am concerned I have never had any other motive but to help Ufology progress. Yet I have been accused - more than once - of being an egotist (and that hurts deeply). More recently I have, on different occasions, been told that I 'look down on smaller groups', that I spoke publicly in a language I would never use, and (now) that I have deliberately lied to a group. One expects such assaults when in the front-line of ufology, but it is not easy when one's personal life suffers (especially when, like I, one has a reluctant ufologist for a fiance!!)

I feel that when being 'top of the tree' starts to have consequences as above, and restrict one in doing real ufology then the limit is reached. I believe that a way must be found to share the burden of work within NUFON and create no false leaders. I have never wanted this dubious honour. Let me stress that I am as concerned, as ever, about NUFON and will be making suggestions (along with others) at the vital Nov 24 meeting. I also enjoy editing NORTHERN UFO NEWS, and am happy to continue to do so. I simply want NUFON not to be seen to be a dictatorship. I hope it is no dream.

IMPORTANT NUFON MEETING

The announced NUFON meeting will take place on Saturday, NOVEMBER 24 (1.30 to 6pm). Venue is the HQ at 443, Meadow Lane, Nottingham NG2 3GB (Home of NUFOIS). This is about 20 mins walk from Nottingham Station (there are buses). Specific directions (by any mode of transport) are available from NUFOIS (SAE please) or phone Bob Morrell (0602-860010) or Les Hall (0602-250316).

THIS MEETING IS IMPORTANT, AND IT IS HOPED THAT ALL GROUPS WILL TRY TO BE REPRESENTED

Details: As can be seen there has been an excellent response to the call for papers 1.30 - 3.30 (Approx) Three specific papers presented (will last about 20 mins). Participants are asked to make notes on these as we go along. At the conclusion of hearing these we will debate the specific proposals (about 6) arising from them:-

IMPORTANT NUFON MEETING Cont...

David Sydeserff (UFOIN Scotland)...A British Group Network system  
Jenny Randles (MUFORA, Manchester)...Proposals for NUFON liaison and a research team  
Martin Keatman (UFOR, Stafford)...Group system inadequacies, need for training

3.30 - 5.00 (Approx) Three further papers on general themes. Debate format as before.  
Peter Hogben (UFOSIS, Birmingham)...data & equipment sharing, the new MAUFOG network  
Bob Morrell (NUFOIS, Nottingham)...poor standards of investigation reporting  
Kevin McClure (UAPROL, Leicester)...proposals from Society for Psychic Research.

5.00 - 6.00 (Approx) To close on a lighter note an illustrated talk by Stephen Banks (Analytical Chemist from Parasearch) on "The Hingley Contact Case" (A CE3/4 with entities, physical traces and contact!) Promises to be most interesting.

Apart from all the above you can actually see the HQ and all the files. Don't miss it!

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NEWS ROUND-UP

:: As can be seen above Peter Hogben will be giving us a report on developments in this new network (see past few issues of NUN) He attended both planning meetings. I have been advised that the intention is not to create a competitor to NUFON.

:: Changes at NUFOIS. John Cree, Secretary for many years, has resigned and taking over is: LES HALL (C/o of the Meadow Lane address...phone 0602-250316) They have also struck it rich with Radio Trent. With their help they are feeding the past three months sightings, and the next three months, into a computer to search for correlations. The group have been busy redecorating the HQ too - so it should look smart on Nov 24

:: A new group to note in the Midlands is PARASEARCH (c/o 190aks Crescent, Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton WV3 9SA. It covers most of the old UFORA team, and investigates phenomena of any paranormal nature in that area. It is connected with STRANGE PHENOMENA

:: Nigel Watson (SUFORS) and Granville Oldroyd (NUFOIG) are working on a booklet to detail completed research into the 1909 and 1913 UK Airship waves. If anyone has information on these, or wishes to help by researching local newspaper files, contact Nigel at 1 Angerstein Rd, Scunthorpe, Sth Humberside DN17 2LZ. Copy costs will be met.

:: Geoffrey Grundill (Silvretta, Richmond Close, Workington, Cumbria) would like to hear ideas from anyone interested in research he is doing. He feels it possible that UFO abductions and CE3Bs are dreams or astral travels and are not physically real in any sense (hence their customary retrieval from the subconscious by hypnosis)

:: A massive (550 page) book "The Encyclopedia of UFOs" is published by NEL in June 1980. By American writer Ronald Story it is an A to Z of Ufologists, top cases and subjects within ufology (with contributions from 100 of the worlds top ufologists...including me! (?) ) Will retail at around £12 (hardback) and £6 (paperback)

:: Readers are reminded that the NUFON 1980 subscriptions are now due at £3.60 (to cover all issues of NUN and Northern Ufology) Cheques and P.O.s to NUFON please.

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MAGAZINE REVIEWS

FSR Vol 25 No 3 is just out with Part 1 of the Gaynor Sunderland CE3 included (see preview in earlier NUNs) STRANGE PHENOMENA No 2 is also out with Psygenics, poltergeist phenomena, UFO/Psychic overlap and an article by me on 'Aliens' to tie in with the film 'Alien' (I seem to be about the only one who felt sorry for the Alien at the end, so I guess I was qualified!) MUFOB Summer 79 has a UFOIN case from the NE, a review of Valles new book ('Messengers of Deception') and an excellent piece by Allen Greenfield 'Confessions of a Ufologist' (?) JOURNAL OF TRANSIENT AERIAL PHENOMENA has made its first appearance from BUFORA. Some interesting research articles (eg reprints of talks given at conferences) MAGIC UFO Aug/Sep 1979 is out. This excellent junior UFO magazine is highly recommended for young ufologists. NORTHERN EARTH MYSTERIES NEWSLETTER (61 Clumber St, Hull, HU5 3RH) is a new magazine to note - leylines and earth mysteries in the region. UFO INSIGHT Oct 79 from FUFOR has the excellent article by John Rimmer (quoted in the editorial), plus space news. CUFORO and UAPROL have both published newsletters with reports on latest cases. SCAN in Bournemouth have published a new issue at last, with some strange encounters. PEGASUS (Sept 79) is back from SIGAP with Allen Hynek on the cover and part of his London Conference speech included. Finally LANTERN Autumn 79 has news on leylines and such things in East Anglia.

The Airship wave of this time released an older report from an interested reader. It seems that in about 1903 he was walking with a friend to Hayburn Wyke (near Robin Hoods Bay on the East Coast) It was dusk and they were facing a valley about a mile from Thorpe when they saw a point of light swing across the valley and then swing back. They watched for 30 minutes as the object continued regular swings (in each case covering 2-3 miles) There was speculation that it was an effect of the shifting mist, although the witness doubted it. An indication of what lurks in yesterdays newspapers still?

LOW DEFINITION ACTIVITY

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>(Time)</u>	<u>Investigation</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
77-321	Nov 25	Blackpool, Lancs	(17.30)	Brian Leach	D	Prob A/Cft (Red pulsating light seen crossing sky very high for 15 minutes) Wit: 3M
78-242	Apr 23	Blackpool, Lancs	(21.55)	Brian Leach	D	Prob A/Cft (Steady white light seen crossing sky medium height for 3 minutes) Wit: 4M, 3F
78-244	Sep 2	Quarry Bank, W. Mid	(23.30)	UFOSIS (Horton)	C	Prob Star (White LITS stationary 1 1/2 hrs. Colour change. Slight wavering) Wit: 2M, 2F
78-245	Dec 26	Whiston, Msy side	(23.00)	MIGAP (Fishwick)	C	Insufficient (Glow of light changing red/green/yellow. Above clouds for 30 secs) Wit: 1F
78-246	Dec ??	Blackburn, Lancs	(19.50)	NIUFOIG	B	Insufficient (White LITS seen to cross town on steady flight for 1 minute) Wit: 1M

Honest, Officer, we did see a UFO! Aug 7 1979. MIGAP Inv. (Brian Fishwick & John Griffiths). Level B

This is an unusually interesting LITS observation, which appears to be unexplained. Angela and Gary (both aged 19), a young couple, had been for a ride to Southport and were returning at 21.20 along country roads just west of Burscough (Lancashire) their destination was Angelas home in Skelmersdale. They had not had much to drink. Angela noticed a bright star, and Gary said it must just be 'the first star' as dusk was fast approaching. As they rode on Angela saw it change location. Gary slowed down for a quick look, and it brightened and grew larger momentarily. He sped on and it returned to its former size. It was now directly ahead. They stopped by a bridge and got out. It came closer and they heard a faint sound as it grew to an apparant size of a 3 inch plate at arms length! They were terrified and rushed to get away (Gary at this point recalled seeing the film of the Betty and Barney Hill case) A coach passed by, and the light receded to its former distance. They drove to Ormskirk, where it vanished, and filled out a form for the police. They left at 22.10 and the object followed them again. They turned round and sped back to the station in Ormskirk. On the way they were stopped by a traffic patrol. They told him the story, but the 'UFO' had gone again. He gave them a ticket and said, 'Now I've heard everything!' They reached the station again at about 23.00. An officer was ordered to follow them home but the LITS was not seen again. On return Angela's parents attest that they both looked very pale. Next night they followed the same route (taking a camera) They did not see the object at all.

Skywatch sighting of unusual LITS Sep 15-16 1979 MIGAP

A group of MIGAP members went to Rawtenstall in the early hours of Sep 15 to see if they could see the mystery object that has been the source of multiple reports for the past year (MUFORA has been investigating and has concluded that the vast majority are attributable to a Swissair DC-9 cargo plane that travels from Glasgow to Manchester at about 02.30 every day.) MIGAP observed this aircraft plus one further similar red LITS moving northwards. For the Sep 16 watch they moved over the border to Heptonstall in West Yorkshire. Between 00.15 and 02.00 they observed 6 LITS (red and blue mainly) which looked like bright stars and moved some distance in jerky motions side to side. Overall they remained in view as if they were stars. Discussion of the case at a MUFORA evaluation meeting led to the proposal that this was probably an effect of stars and a temperature inversion layer over the hills.

LOW DEFINITION SUMMARY: Reports 7 ; Stars 2, Aircraft 2, Insufficient 2  
Unknown 1 (14.3%)

MEDIUM DEFINITION ACTIVITY

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>(Time)</u>	<u>Investigation</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
6508	Nov ??	Prescot, Msyside	PM	NAPRA *	C	Insufficient (Chinese lantern stationary in West. Rocking from side to side for about one minute. Glowed like hot coal. 75 degree elevation. Size of football) Wit: 2F
6724	Aug ??	Congleton, Cheshire	(22.00)	MIGAP	C	Insufficient (An interesting case as it ties in with major wave at time. Pity about timelag in discovery. Teacher plus others saw fuzzy green oval above low thin cloud beaming down like headlights. Stationary 8-9 mins in South then moved away West, at first slowly and then accelerating to terrific speed. No sound) Wit: 1M +
7132	Jun 23	Runcorn, Cheshire	(16.30)	NAPRA *	C	Insufficient (18 yr old zoo-keeper saw pale egg shaped object with row of lights on rim. Moved on steady course NW to SE) Wit: 1F
7231	Summer	Poulton, Lancs	(18.30)	Brian Leach	D	Mirage (Huge object seen low over field - like hotel with turrets on roof and two rows of 5/6 windows. Deep pink/red. Stationary few seconds. Lost behind trees. Seems to be a mirage effect of a building some distance away) Wit: 2F
77-320	Sep 14	Longridge, W. Mid	(06.50)	UFOSIS	C	Balloon (Triangular object with shiny top drifting sideways slowly. Vanished twice, poss due to bright reflection. Observed 2 mins. Seems like a balloon) Wit: 3M
7973	Mid Feb	Halesowen, W. Mid	(07.15)	UFOSIS	C	Prob Star (Bright White oval in W, performing zig-zags, but remaining in view for 30 minutes until witness left. Probably star or planet... Venus?) Wit: 2M, 1F
7974	Jun 18	Markfield, Leics	(21.30)	CUFORO (S. Wilson)	A	Insufficient (Black cigar-like rocket with short front fins seen trailing orange/red tail. Moved slowly to a stop over quarry and, via binoculars, seem to reverse and to descend into quarry. Visible 8 minutes. Checks of the quarry revealed no evidence of a landing, and nothing not attributable to local grass fires) Wit: 3F
7976	July 3	Preston, Lancashire	(20.00)	Brian Leach	C	Poss A/Cft (Senior Scientific Officer with British Nuclear Fuels saw silver rugby ball in distance, not far from BAC Warton, where they build the Tornado jet. Climbed in ever widening circles for 3 mins and then shot away at an angle and was lost to sight within a further ten seconds. No sound.) Wit: 1M, 1F
7978	Aug 28	Rainhill, Msyside	(09.15)	MIGAP	C	Balloon (Silver cone shaped object seem to slowly drift SE for 15 minutes on a steady course. Probably weather balloon launched from nearby Aughton) Wit: 2M
7979	Sep 9	Blurton, Staffs	(16.00)	PARASEARCH	A	Insufficient (Five members of one family observed an object described variously as a 'kite', a 'manta-ray' and a classoc 'domed disc'. It was dark on the underside and shiny on top. It moved with the wind for 2 mins and wobbled from side to side 'as if drunk'. Four of the five witnesses were interviewed independantly by four separate PARASEARCH investigators. Despite an 18pp joint report no conclusion) Wit: 3M, 2F
7982	Sep 27	Irlam, Gt Manchester	(19.50)	MUFORA (J. Randles)	A	Helicopter (This is one of 3 local reports for this night. The other two are more interesting including an animal disturbance/solid light case. They will be reported in due course. There appears no connection. This case involves a group of boys who saw a White searchlight dimming to a dark oval which moved at low height in zag-zig until climbing away with flashing navigation lights. Two adults saw it also, and agree with evaluation as helicopter in use by a local farm) Wit: 3+M, 1F
7983	Oct 12	Galgate, Lancs	(23.15)	NLUFOIG	C	Insufficient (Red sphere, half size of full moon, seen moving NNE. In view 20 seconds. Said to be very bright. One witness a repeater) Wit: 1M, 1F +

MEDIUM DEFINITION SUMMARY: Reports 15; Insufficient 6, Balloon 2, Aircraft 2  
 \* Old NAPRA files kindly supplied by Mirage 1, Star 1  
 Paul Larkin of MIGAP Unknown 3 (20%)..... see over page

REPEATER PHENOMENA IN STAFFORDSHIRE VILLAGE

Inv: Stephen Banks (PARASEARCH)

This complex case involves a family from the village of Great Haywood in Staffs. Mr W works for the RAF as a driver (hence anonymity) Mrs W is very psychic (with numerous past encounters including poltergeist phenomena and a classic multi-witness ghost sighting of a rotted corpse) There are two young children who also claim a UFO sighting in Summer 1978 which was an oval object with fibrous 'angel hair' attachments claimed by one (memory is unfortunately impaired and scanty details are available) Several other UFO sightings seem potentially identifiable. The most interesting occurred in January 1979 and involves both Mr and Mrs W. It was about 22.00 when Mr W noticed, and called his wife out side to see, a huge and brilliant white glow behind the nearby church (silhouetting it) The glow then faded and two white lights, side by side, rose from behind the church and climbed away fast in a 'rising leaf' motion. Despite close proximity (few hundred metres) there was no sound. No publicity was given this case, but on investigation in the village three teenage boys were found who, without prompting, described the same thing. They saw a large white disc approach the church and hover low over it for 30 seconds, discharging a terrific glow. This then switched off and instantly it rose and moved away, visible only as two white lights now. The correlation is most intriguing, although no accurate date for either sighting is available. RGM= 35 MPS

FIREY DALLOON OVER YORKSHIRE

Inv: Trevor Whitaker (BUFORA Yorkshire)

July 3 1979 17.30 Goldthorpe, Sth Yorkshire MED Level C 7975

A retired miner reports seeing from his yard a saucer shaped object glowing bright red. It moved east in a drifting manner. At first he thought it was a balloon, but he soon realised it was not. After failing to attract his neighbours (they were watching TV) he went to the front and saw it stop over a club and hover. Here it turned on and lost some of its glow. A rim of fibre-glass was seen and five, small, square windows (with the red glow coming out of them). It then went back to its original orientation and moved away. It was in view 3 minutes. Two other old people in the street saw it, and asked him what it was.



ANOTHER UFO PLUS LIGHTBEAMS

Inv: Brian Fishwick & Andy Kelly (MIGAP)

September 10 1979 21.30 Widnes, Cheshire MED Level A 7980

Marie is a 19yr old, intelligent girl. On this night she decided to walk home the few hundred yards with a friend (36 yr old Noreen Marshall) who had been in her house talking. When close to the local school they stopped to hear a strange noise -- like a whirring. Looking up they saw a silvery plate with a red light spinning continuously around the underside. It hovered for a moment and then moved to the school, where it hovered again. Suddenly two very distinctive lightbeams were emitted by the front portion of the object, which was only a hundred feet or so above the school. They fanned out and reached the ground. It seemed as if the object was searching for something on the ground. A brilliant white light also came on at the rear lighting up the whole object so it was clearly visible. The oval base was seen to be flat with a shallow dome on top. At the rear was a 'fin'. The overall colour was silver. The whirring and the circling red light continued all the time. The object moved to the other side of the school and hovered again. Then the beams went out instantaneously and the object moved away westwards. Duration a few mins. The witnesses rushed to Mrs Marshall's home with some excitement and discussed the affair until 23.00 when Marie went home. Mrs Marshall's teenage daughter Tracy walked with Marie in the hope of seeing it. When they reached the school it was there - hovering just as before and beaming the lights to the ground. Then it moved away slowly, but an aircraft started to approach in the distance and, at this, the UFO accelerated out of view in seconds. The girls separated but at home Marie could not sleep. Twice more she saw it, after being alerted by the whirring. It was seen only in the distance - without lightbeams. Paul Larkin obtained statements from the girls four days later, before we could interview them. Liverpool ATC said that after 23.00 they were very busy with aircraft diverted from Manchester. They had no explanation for this report - and said, "The only thing we haven't had land lately is a UFO!"



STRANGE EFFECTS DOWN ON THE FARM

Inv: Andrew Ewan (Scottish Network)

April 25 1978 Dunlop, Ayrshire, Scotland

CE1 (L) An

Level B

Willie McNair and his son were returning to Merrymouth, their farm, by car. As he turned onto the tracks leading up to the farmhouse a bright red glow filled the lane ahead. As he drove along the light kept a constant distance. The car was stopped and they got out. About a hundred yards away in a field was a rugby ball shaped object, quite stationary, and throwing light out all around it. After 30 seconds it just 'blinked out'. They waited a while and then drove back to the farmhouse. About 30 mins later they went out to tend to their cows when a squeeling noise filled the air. It seemed to come from the top of the hill behind them. Willie called his dogs but they adamantly refused to move. This was most uncharacteristic behaviour. Willie and his son walked towards the small hill, but the sound suddenly 'jumped' and then faded. Only then did the dogs set off to follow, still appearing very 'on edge'. At first light he examined the fields and the hill but found no trace of anything strange. He then discovered that people in Burnhouse (a mile or so west) had seen a red light in the sky that previous night. Speculation that it was a helicopter is ruled out by the close proximity, lack of sound and the fact that Billy (his son) says it was only about a foot across. Could it be ball lightning?

Anyone interested in Animal interference cases is strongly recommended to read the book "THE DYFED ENIGMA" by UFOIN member Randall Jones-Pugh and the late FW Holliday. This concentrates on this aspect of the South Wales flap of 1977 (Randall is well qualified as a retired veteran surgeon) Published by Faber & Faber in hardback it has 186 pages and retails at £5.95.

LUMINOUS ENTITIES SEEN AT STONE

Inv: Martin Keatman (with Tony Pace)

September 1971 (approx) 23,40

Oulton, Stone, Staffs CE3 a

Level A

A sighting of two entities with no UFO in association. Made more interesting by duration and multiple witnesses. Mrs Wood is a housewife and her two sons (now in their 20's) are a civil engineer and an electrical engineer (with many qualifications) Mrs Wood was retiring to bed and had not switched on the bedroom light. The village is tiny and dark (no streetlights). A few hundred feet away in a field she instantly saw two human figures. Both were heavy set and wearing diving suits. Despite the darkness they were luminous, one glowing more brightly than the other. The dimmer one was stationary throughout most of the sighting but the other moved about in long strides, somewhat awkwardly, stopping on occasions to stoop down as if looking for something on the ground. He had to squat to do this. In height the figures were 6 feet + To prevent the belief that she was seeing things she shook her head and closed her eyes. They were still there. After five minutes she shouted her sons up. Ian came and instantly saw the same thing. He says they moved



about like astronauts on the moon. He watched for a further four minutes until Wayne, the other son, came up. As he arrived the figures started to disappear. The dimmer one just 'went out', but the other started fading in and out, dwindling to just a light. Within a minute it too was gone. Ian visited the field next day but found no traces. Correlation with UFO phenomena is obviously dubious, although the description does have similarities with UFO entities. It should also be noted that this small village was the scene of an unconnected CE case (see NUN at time) which involved a disembodied voice and a solid tube of light standing in a garden. This occurred on June 16 1978. Tony Pace evaluates the case as a patch of mist, but the investigator believes that the details negate this. The figures were seen instantly by two independent witnesses as the same thing. It is most unlikely mist would take on such a characteristic luminous shape. The witnesses claim no paranormal experiences and do not themselves connect this with UFOs. They are just puzzled.

LATE NEWS: Paul Larkin of MIGAP (who was a member of the now defunct NAPRA) is to reform this North Cheshire society. NAPRA was one of the five original founder groups of NUFON in 1974... only MUFORA and MAPIT remain in existence. Good luck Paul.