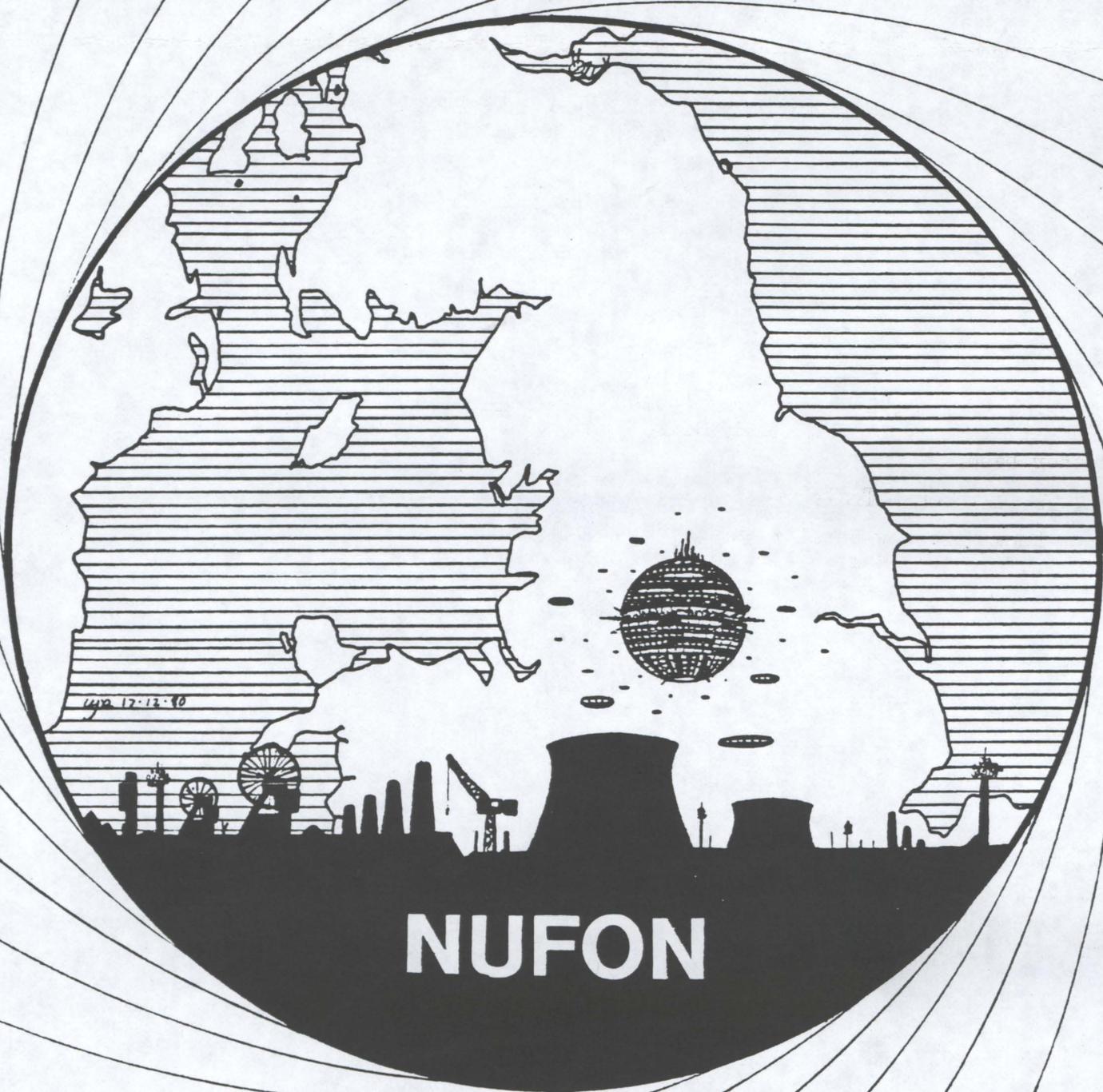


# NORTHERN UFO NEWS



NORTHERN UFO NEWS is published monthly (in series with NUFON CASE HISTORIES) by the Northern UFO Network (NUFON) Editorial Address :-  
 8 Whitethroat Walk Birchwood Warrington Cheshire WA3 6PQ  
 Editor: JENNY RANGLES (MUEORA) Cover Design: JOHN WATSON (CHRYSIS)  
 1982 Subscription rate £2.80 (£4.20 with CASE HISTORIES)

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EDITORIAL: Flotsam on the shores of consciousness?

It does no harm to explore radical theories. Indeed, one might say, in the subject matter of the paranormal virtually any theory has to be radical. Even the one which states that such-and-such a phenomenon does not exist approaches the borders of being heretical with enough folk, to make it relatively radical! The trouble with this necessary (and amusing) past-time is that it generates too much heat. Too many people take it too seriously. True theories will be born of facts, not visions in the mind. But often what eventually proves to be a scientific theory based on fact emerges from the womb of imagination. Even stoic scientists might give us that one!

In recent years the "UFOs emerge from the consciousness" school of theoretics has won many converts. It has its dire opponents, too; both from outright sceptics and believers with polarised views. But it has been throwing onto the growing pile of ideas some of the best and most imaginative concepts to attempt to solve the riddles which we confront. And when traditional theories have manifestly failed to give us much in the way of working hypotheses (those which we can test, at least, and these are the only kind!) then I think such steps must be considered forward ones even if they do not take us to the doorway of the ultimate answer. At least we are moving and not standing around shuffling our feet.

Jung probably set everybody onto this footpath with his thoughts on synchronicity (a concept I personally believe will one day be seen as the equivalent of Einstein's work in the field of consciousness... the science of tomorrow, I have little doubt.) That coincidence is relevant to most things (including ufology) is I think well suggested by the experience of those willing to keep their eyes open (never mind their mind!) Things group together too often for my liking. CLOSE ENCOUNTERS as a movie correlated alarmingly with too much reality (reality which was reported before it appeared, but was certainly not used in the creation of Spielberg's film) Some of these points will be made apparant in my next book (UFO REALITY). I think it is of enormous significance. I guess a few of you will have seen some of this on your own. It only needs to look back over the 1977 & early 1978 issues of this news-letter, and you will get some clues about what I mean.

Since 1979 Lyall Watson (in LIFETIDE) and Ian Watson (in his extremely important book MIRACLE VISITORS, neglected by almost everybody because, no doubt, it is labeled fiction) have both taken Jung to new extremes and suggested exciting new theories which at least bear a hearing. In a (very small) nutshell Watson suggests that we might actually create reality, almost as if we collectively will it into existence. And Watson Mk Two (the fiction writer!... synchronicity yet again note) proposes that the earth as a whole has planetary consciousness (contributed to by all forms of life) and the UFOs, if you like, are dreams floating off this ocean... real to us because they are creations of a symbiotic whole that is superior to us, but is us!

Why these ideas have received almost no mention in UFO publications (save two reviews I have written on these books) is surprising to me. The events of late last year, for example, only seem to enhance their probability. What events... I hear you ask, almost as one? I refer to the amazing wave of synchronous alien animal sightings (see 1930 book of that name by Janet & Colin Bord). In the Essex area, early December, two bears were found surgically decapitated. So when reports of a bear on Hackney Marshes were received just after Christmas police took them very seriously. Footprints were even found. Someone did later claim (anonymously) that it was a hoax. But this confession was treated with more scepticism than the sightings. The bear of course vanished as mysteriously as it came. At the same time (as Ken Phillips has discovered on chasing it up for us) a fire officer not far from Banbury in Oxon saw a giant pig wandering across the main road! It too vanished without trace. (You may not need reminding of the great 1971 Bambury UFO wave, including the ATV film case which was on the doorstep of Mr Piggie). Meanwhile, over in Clwyd (near where UFOs have been having fun with the Sunderland family since 1976... see my book ALIEN CONTACT) Marion Sunderland was keeping me informed of sightings of a Puma in the vicinity. And in Rossendale, where UFOs have been a full-time occupation for three BUFORA investigators since 1978 (probably to form the basis of yet another book!) guess what happened at the turn of the year? 25 sheep were found mutilated and decapitated atop a hillside. Police with guns searched for the mystery killer beast.

Odd is it not? Coincidence? I doubt it. And I trust you have noticed that these waves of mystery animals all occurred in recently active ufocals! What about that then?

:: No doubt most of you will be aware of the CENTRAL TV UFO fiasco. As a publicity launch for the new station this misguided bunch decided to play on the vague similarity between their logo and a spherical UFO. They took up full page adverts in the likes of the SUNDAY TIMES...leaving the whole page blank but for a tiny column which told of a spherical UFO being seen. Not even the advertisers knew what they were playing at, but as one paper told a UFOIN investigator "they are paying us thousands of pounds a day for these adverts...what do we care what the heck they mean!" The final bill ran into a small fortune, and those who thought anything at all about it imagined it was an advert for the ITV showing of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS. CENTRAL even got in legal trouble when one of their invented witnesses turned out to be a local magistrate, who was not exactly pleased at seeing her name attached to a sighting she never made! The day before CENTRAL TV was launched they still didn't give the game away (after baffling the nation for over a week). They headed an article (which in the cutting I was sent was not labelled an advert) "ITV Investigation into 'White Sphere' tomorrow night". Alongside this latest cheap joke was a fake UFO photo. I imagine a few people watched out for this programme (if by now they had not given up on the campaign altogether) Of course if they did not live in CENTRAL's small part of the country they would not have been told the punchline. All I can say is that if CENTRAL ever do make a UFO programme...God Help Us!

:: Phil Taylor (1 Hornby Place Walton Liverpool L9 3DB) is a radio ham into UFOs and would like to hear from any other's who might fancy a chat over the air.

:: Derek Kendall (48 Humber Cres, Gate Pa, Tauranga, New Zealand) has invented a UFO board game and is interested in a UFO backer to help market it. Whilst it does not sound too original to me ("based on a cross between 'Snakes & Ladders' and 'Ludo') if anyone has any contacts who might help (market between £2 & £4) then let him know. Sounds a good idea for any commercially minded group to get in on!

:: Vicente Ballester Olmos (guardia civil, 9, D-16, Valencia - 20, SPAIN) would like to hear from anyone who can supply a copy of "Investigation Standards" from NUN issue 56. Anyone got this to spare?

:: Tom Lind (Box 711 Hobe Sound FL 33455 USA) is selling off some rare old UFO books and US periodicals cheap. Some good stuff worth going after. SAE to Tom.

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 BUFORA CONFERENCE 1982... Your last chance to book for this event. Only a one-day affair this year (although convening on the Friday and breaking up on the Sunday) with events focused on Saturday MARCH 13 at the George Hotel, Edinburgh. There should still be lots of interesting folk there to meet. Main items are a three-way symposium (including investigator and witness) on the classic 1979 Livingston CE 2 (landing, time loss, traces and attack by metal spheroids). Also Allan Hynek is there to talk on ufology and the scientist. I shall be discussing investigation methods. And a visiting scientist (unnamed so far) will round off the symposium with a talk on landings and trace evidence. Cost is £10 (£8 BUFORA members) More from:  
 Peter Hill 47A Easter Bankton Livingston East Lothian EH54 9BD (SAE)

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 ELSEWHERE OF NOTE...As I am assisting Kevin McClure to do journal abstracts for the quarterly publication COMMON GROUND (14 Northfold Rd Knighton Leicester) - which if you are not getting then you should be! In future I will only mention the most urgent things here (but this column there is a review of 1981's UK UFO books)..... For those interested in UFOs & the government SCOTTISH UFO BULLETIN 4 has two pieces on this, plus news of a massive UFO/Space/Sci-fi conference at the Wembley arena in August....1984!!! SIGAPs PEGASUS has begun (with the Sept/Oct 81 issue) a copy of the paper given by Joaquim Fernandes at the 1981 BUFORACON...excellent stuff which links the FATIMA miracle with UFOs..PROBE continue with their super magazine with more exposes on UFOs, including an important piece on UFO landing nests as wind vortex effects..... 1981 UFO Books were thin in comparison with previous years (a trend to be continued in 1982, I'm afraid, as publishers are not now buying them) Hardbacks: Berlitz & Moore's latest semi-factual "epic" THE ROSWELL INCIDENT hit us from Granada in Jan (now in paperback), strung out, dubious but interesting. Ron Story had a good idea in UFOs & THE LIMITS OF SCIENCE, NEL, Feb. He took some of the best cases, one by one, as evidence. Sadly it didn't really work...probably because his cases were pretty thin. Then came ARE WE BEING WATCHED?, an entertaining book of sightings by children for children. By Janet & Colin Bord, Angus & Robertson, Mar. Hodder & Stoughton published KAIKOURA UFOs by pilot Bill Startup, May. An interesting (if short) personal account of the New Zealand radar/visuals. But there was too little on the analysis of the films. A book by Dr Bruce Maccabee would be interesting. Same month came my UFO STUDY from Hales, a teach-yourself course for investigation and research. Paperbacks: Coronet issued the Pugh & Holliday book on the Welsh wave, THE

•DYFED ENIGMA, certainly the best of the three published accounts. Whilst Corgi went mad, finally issuing John Fuller's INTERRUPTED JOURNEY (a years old book on the now suspect Hill abduction); a book by Bill Barry (THE ULTIMATE ENCOUNTER), from the even more dubious Walton abduction. Margaret Sachs produced a useful (if out of date) UFO ENCYCLOPEDIA. But the best was certainly a Corgi US import! D. Scott Rogo's book on contact cases... UFO ABDUCTIONS... An important review of the problem.

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COMMENT ON EDITORIAL 90.... "Separating Weetabix from Shreddies"

"...(this) made me think about my own attitude towards investigation... I have found that unconsciously I have been looking (in reports) for similarities with my own sighting (Close encounter in Otley, Nov 1980)... trying to see if any fit in. I am also interested in finding out the witness's own personal feelings toward the sighting.. Within a month I received three separate UFO reports (or what the witness claimed to be UFOs) of a large glowing object in W Yorks. Apart from the object being star-like in each case there was also the 'fact' that each time 'it' was spotted it was from a stationary car, by three out of four witnesses travelling in it, the fourth person failing to see anything at all!..." (Nigel Mortimer, W Yorks) (Synchronicity again!)

"...I have been trying to produce a usable classification system for some time. Unfortunately, having got a system which is fairly comprehensive, over the last few months I have been wondering if it is really a great deal of use. The first and most important point is that coding a UFO report will reduce the information quanta available to anyone who uses it... since the phenomena underlying the reports are unknown, are we justified in ignoring anything?... An ideal approach to the problem would be a half-dozen different classification systems applied independantly to each report... Then trends and groupings which might otherwise be hidden could become visible..." (Paul Wilson, N Yorks) (Any ideas on this??)

"Who knows most about you: the surgeon who cuts up your body or the analyst who evaluates your thoughts; the sociologist who studies how you interact with your fellows or the artist who expresses your soul on canvas?... Each sees only a part... So let us not delude ourselves into thinking that any one way of looking at UFOs is going to give us the total picture... Far be it from me to suggest that any aspect of UFOs can safely be disregarded, but I do feel that JR's concept of breaking the phenomenon down is the one least likely to tell us anything helpful about their nature... True, the question 'What's orange and oval and loves power-lines?' may lead us to a UFO sub-species. But there are an immense number (of reports) that are totally different. What we need are the largest common factors, and I suggest we are more likely to find them in UFO behaviour... My own feeling is that associative factors are likely to be more fruitful (power-line connections, geological fault connections and so on). Each (or all) may be a false trail, but they're worth exploring... I would like to see all reliable sightings put onto a computerable data base (such as the one Paul Wilson has elaborated - in many respects superior to the URD system, in my opinion). Then a computer could pick out the most frequently recurring patterns. These too may prove delusory, but not half so much as visual features, which are so dependant on those most easily misled of instruments, the seeing eye and the interpreting brain." (Hilary Evans, London) (I agree, actually, both approaches are very important! JR)

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LOW DEFINITION INVESTIGATIONS (Yr - Ref no - Date - time - location - investigator)  
81 - 44 JUNE 21 22.20 Shaw, Gtr Manchester British UFO Society Lev: C  
2 teenagers observed golden yellow star-like LITS in W where sun had just set. Moved errstically but slowly. In view 25 mins then went below horizon. Could be a bird reflecting the light of the sunset?? No follow up deemed of value.

81 - 49 DEC 5 17.30 Mottram, Derbyshire MUFORA (J Randles) Lev: B  
Woman, husband & brother observed large W twinkling LITS low in sky. Stationary for 30 mins, but "too bright for star". VENUS... witness accepts explanation.

81 - 50 DEC 6 00.29 Washington, Tyne & Wear No followup Lev: D  
Man going to bed on frosty night saw 2 bright green LITS side by side. In view 4/5 secs going v. fast. Lost due to distance. Bigger than even low level a/c lights. Man pointed compass immediately after. Direction: from S to bearing 021. Insuff Data. Ties in with other reports of "green fireballs".

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NB: INVESTIGATION LEVELS: A (On site follow up) B (Interviews with witness) C (standard report form completed) D (witness letter only) E (Press cutting only)  
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## MEDIUM DEFINITION INVESTIGATIONS

81 - 45 AUG 9 21.25 Rhyl, Clwyd MIGAP (L.Barlow) Lev: B

Woman & 20 yr old daughter on holiday on seafront. Evening bright & clear. 50 + people were looking to the N at very strange object. Witness reactions most interesting. One woman dragged her husband away, saying, "Don't get involved". Others hurried off in apparent fear. Of these 50+ only these two women reported it (a good indication of the volume of unreported sightings). Object was size of the whole left hand held at arms length. Described as like a "jellyfish". Charcoal grey with internal multicoloured LITS (flashing) in the amorphous shape-changing body. Moved in Z pattern, stopping few moments then rushing on. Then disappeared suddenly and reappeared at its first position.

Stayed here for 3 mins then went "invisible". Total duration 5 mins. No sound was heard at any point, though witnesses were all in the open of course. I (JR) really don't have a clue about this case - though it is very like the "amoeba-like UFO" at Oxfordshire (see FSR Vol 24 No 4). Some kind of aerial bioluminescence? Any ideas? A detailed comparison of these two unusual cases would be illuminating.

TWO MORE UFOs GUARD A MOTORWAY.... In FSR recently an interesting "Guardian of the Motorway" case from the Wirral was discussed. Here's're two more recent cases that continue the trend. 81-46 is dated OCTOBER 10 and comes from W Alcock of MIGAP. It involves two men who at 23.00 went to collect some supper for workmates. But on a quiet road by the sliproad to the M62 near Huyton, Merseyside they observed the following: "a large luminous object... elongated cigar or sausage with lights or windows on the side. Moved in their direction after initially being still.

The size of a double-decker bus. It seemed to ascend the bank of the motorway as it left." Object was in view 35 mins (which seems a very long time but is verified by the time of their return to work). They say they were "transfixed" & returned in severe shock (without the supper!). They refuse

to discuss the incident. Possibility here of a time lapse, I wonder? The next case (81-48 NOVEMBER 20) I can absolutely vouch for. The witness was my mother and I (JR) investigated it within an hour of its occurrence. It took place also on the M62 (about 15-20 miles east). At 16.55 Mrs R was returning home (with Mr R who did not see the object and was unaccountably never alerted to it by Mrs R... "for reasons I don't really understand"). Object seen high in the S and stationary. First seen at Barton, Gtr Manchester and followed for 3 mins until turn off for Warrington East at Birchwood, Cheshire. At last sight was immediately above car but Mrs R, again unaccountably, did not look back. Nor did she tell me immediately on arrival home (just 2 mins after last seeing it!) She says she "forgot"; but knows this is silly. When I was told 1 hr later no object was present in the sky. Object was initially like a "fish-finger" between yellow and orange in colour with sharp edges. Size of finger length at arms length. After 1 min suddenly became star-like and then sprayed flames from right hand edge, as it was when last seen. Extensive attempts were made to identify this but all suggestions seem to be ruled out. Mrs R saw Venus (in another part of southern sky). It was not a cloud reflection. It was seen both in between patches of cloud, and also shining through cloud (as the moon does) when the cloud moved past. The moon was not visible. The curious effects on the witnesses in these cases seems to suggest a connection (apart from the fact that both were over the M62),

81- 51 DEC 6 02.30 Stranraer, Scotland SUFON (B.Gibbons) Lev: B  
Man in hospital and staff member saw UFO through ward window. In view for 1 hr plus. First seen by man as large oval descending from low cloud. Then displayed multi-coloured lights on perimeter... changing from red to green to blue to yellow to orange to white. After about 30 mins it moved around in circular motion and eventually was lost by climbing into low cloud. At 6.10 pm same day a local housewife saw a very similar object hover and sway for 10 mins, surrounded by a blue halo.

81- 47 NOV 4 22.00 Scammenden Dam, W Yorks N. Mortimer Lev: B CE 1 PSYCH  
Man & wife drove up to site of dam, near Huddersfield, for some quiet. They sat in total darkness and saw very bright white ball of light approach from a distance of 3-5 miles. After about 2 mins it was a quarter mile away and it stopped suddenly. It hung there pulsating, before shooting off very fast in the opposite direction. Car window was down and traffic on the distant M62 (!!!) was audible... but the "UFO" (estimated as closer) made no sound at any point. Witness tried to explain it away to himself (eg as helicopter) but without success. Both witnesses report they felt... "calm and very peaceful... as if hypnotised by the object". Where have we heard that before!

ON THEIR WAY (possibly for CASE HISTORIES 2)... Nigel Mortimer on the "Woodside Encounters" (Bradford flap) & an EM, policemen case from TODMORDEN.