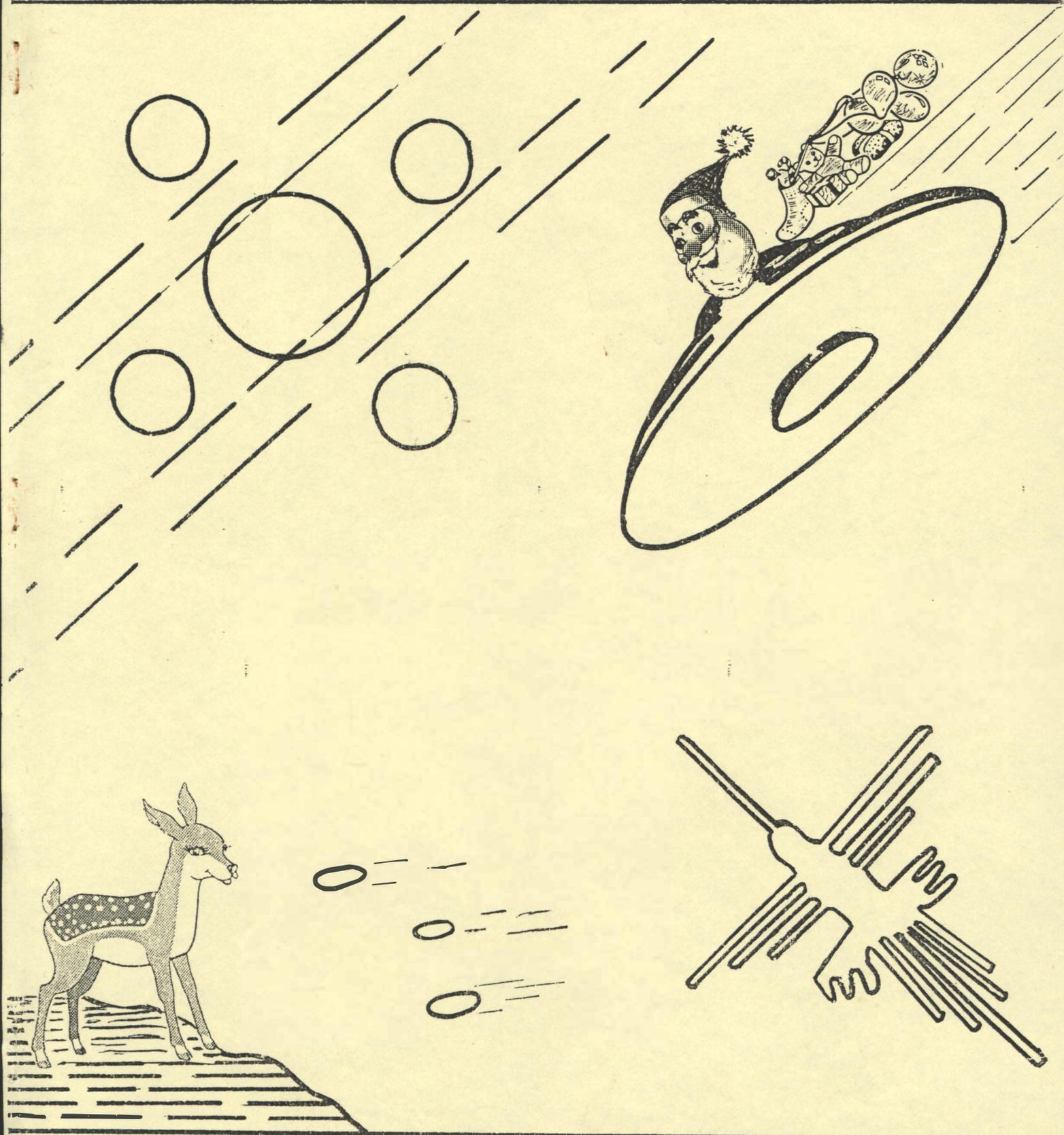


December

<OVNI>

1994



PHENOMENON RESEARCH ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER: DECEMBER 1994

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UFO'S AND THE TELEVISION MEDIA

The recent BBC "Horizon" television programme and ITV's "Strange But True?" series, have started to explore both the abduction and UFO mystery.

The "Horizon" programme (28th November 94) had as its 'unbiased' investigator none other than Dr Susan Blackmore a psychologist from the University of the West of England. We understand that Dr Susan Blackmore is associated with an American skeptics group who are unbelievers of anything that is not 'true science'. During the programme she mentioned that she had been investigating psychic phenomenon claims for over twenty years and had not found anything to convince her that there was anything in it!

Many spiritualists are gullible people and your average spiritualist believes that anything that goes 'bump' in the night is either Uncle George or Auntie Mabel. For many years they could not agree that there was anything in the 'unseen' world that was not of human origin. However it appears that change is on the way! 'Psychic News' has a new Editor called Tim Haig. Tim recently had the opportunity to see a preview of the 'Horizon' programme and he has stated that it would not convince anybody that there was nothing in it and he wouldn't 'buy it'.

The "Strange But True?" series on ITV (9th December 94) showed an episode devoted to the 'Rendlesham Forest' incident. The events that took place over the 26/27/28th December 1980 were skilfully reproduced (up to a point), using American actors taking the part of the USAF Police who were involved in the operation.

A tape recording made at the time, was used to give authenticity to the documentary and the use of computer graphics added to the realism of the production. Although there was a mention of "beams of light" being directed to the ground, there was no reference to the UFO landing and the subsequent 'face to face' meeting between USAF officers and three Aliens from the craft, but it's a beginning.....preparing the way, one might say.....

FLYING TRIANGLE ACTIVITY INCREASES

During the month of November there have been numerous reports of Flying Triangle activity in the Nottinghamshire area, particularly north of Nottingham near Mansfield. There have been reports of slow moving lights in an "L" shape on the 17th of November near Mansfield in the area of the Centre Parks complex on the Doncaster Road. There was further activity reported again near Mansfield in the Kingsmill area on the night of the 8th December at 2250 when two bright lights were seen slowly moving in the direction of BAKEWELL...(what is the great attraction in this area?)

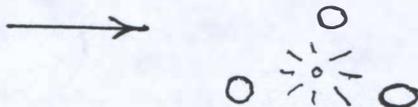
We have now received the full report from Mr David Probert of Fareham, Hants. concerning his sighting a a Flying Triangle on the night of the 12th September this year.

It was about 9pm on the evening of the 12th of September, I was climbing the stairs at home, when my attention was attracted by a light out of the side window of the house. I walked back down the stairs and went outside to get a better look. It appeared to be a commercial aircraft heading for Gatwick, on it's approach run at a height of about 8,000ft. It was travelling at approx. 4/500mph. It went overhead at what would have been a normal speed for an aircraft. It was only afterwards that I thought the light pattern it was showing might not be that of a normal aircraft.

There was a triangle of bright white lights with a less bright 'strobe' light in the centre. If it was an aircraft, then the leading light would have been on the nose and the other two lights on each wingtip. The craft went from East to West a mile or two north of Fareham, but I heard no sound that I could hear and I could not see any red or green navigation lights. The 'strobe' light appeared to be flashing at a normal speed for an aircraft, there were also no landing lights visible.

Although at first sight it appeared to be an aircraft, the strange thing was that there was no noise and the craft had a strange lighting configuration in the shape of a triangle.

Mr Probert watched the object for about twenty seconds before it was lost from sight behind some nearby rooftops.



WINGERWORTH, CHESTERFIELD SIGHTING 21-4-94

PRA Investigator Andy Mott.

It was 9.05pm on the night of the 21st April 94 and Mrs Jenny Stacey and her husband were sitting in their living room when they noticed two lights drifting across the window at their home in Swathwick Farm. near Chesterfield.

It was a clear night and the couple were able to make out a shape between the two orange lights as it moved slowly over the nearby trees. The couple estimated the objects height as being only 80ft. from the ground. The object was viewed for what is believed to have been several minutes, although this cannot be confirmed.

Jenny said that she had no idea what she had seen, but she presumed that it could have been a saucer shape viewed from the side. It made no noise that could be heard and it appeared black against the evening sky. The couple had the impression that it was 'very large'.

The object drifted slowly away towards a gap in the nearby hills, seeming to fill the gap as it passed through and then finally disappeared.

An artists impression drawn by Andy Mott is shown below and gives some impression of what may have been seen.



The shape of this object is consistent with that of many observations made world-wide. This area was also the scene of UFO activity during the 'Flap' of September 1993 when farm hands reported a glowing ball of light flying silently across farmland in the early hours of the morning. ED.

The Evening Sky

PO Box 4002 - Milton Keynes - MK13 7ER - U.K.

Last year, many parents bought telescopes for their children at Christmas. In January 1994, I received dozens of letters from parents complaining about the instruments they had bought and asking me for guidance on how to use them. Neither the children nor the parents could operate the telescopes. Apart from parents wasting £100 or more, many children were totally frustrated and baffled at not being able to use their new telescopes.

It would be useful to mention in the run up to Christmas that the cheap, nasty, little telescopes advertised and displayed in many department stores and costing over £100 are totally unsuitable for astronomical observation. If any parents are thinking of buying a telescope for their children at Christmas (their child may just have a passing fancy in astronomy) they are better advised to buy a decent pair of binoculars.

Binoculars will reveal many fascinating astro-objects of great interest, are relatively inexpensive (compared with a proper astronomical telescope), are easy to store and carry, and can be used for other activities.

When manufacturers/stores promote 'magnifying power' of telescopes, it is meaningless in that 'aperture' and 'light gathering ability' are far more important than 'magnification'.

I list below several pairs of binoculars as examples of what I would recommend. However, there are many other excellent makes of binoculars with the same specification which are equally as good.

The ideal size would be 10 X 50 so anything between 8 - 10 X 40 - 60 would do. Any larger binoculars would require steadying with a stand or tripod.

Binocular Sizes

Example 10 X 50: 10 X = Magnification 50 = Size of lens (mm)

Brightness factor: = $\frac{\text{Objective lens diameter}}{\text{Magnification}}$ $\frac{50}{10} = 5$ (The higher the number, the brighter the image.)

Cobra	10 X 50 PF	£70
Ranger	10 X 40 ZWCF	£95
Minolta	10 X 50 EZ	£110
Hanimex	10 X 50 Classic	£120
Minolta	10 X 50 XL	£160
Docter	10 X 50 Dekaren	£190
Pentax	8 X 50 DCF	£230
Zeiss	8 X 40 BGA Octarem	£280
Pentax	10 X 40 DCf	£300
Nikon	10 X 35 ECF	£380
Rollei	10 X 40 B HFT	£446

Barry Parkinson

Binocular information kindly supplied by:

Simon Photographic (MK) Ltd. 83 Silbury Arcade, Secklow Gate West. Central Milton Keynes. MK9 3AG
Tel: 0908 677175

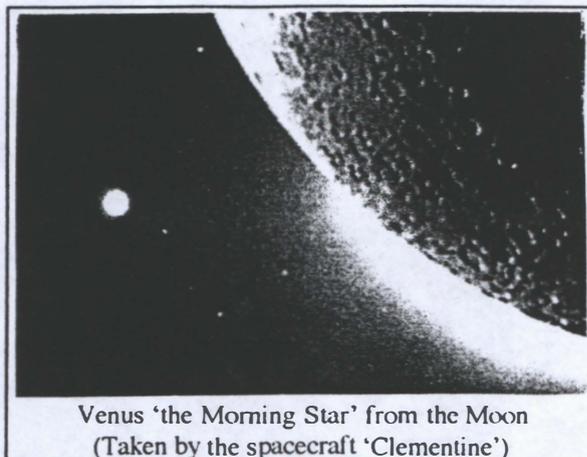
THE EVENING SKY

December 1994

You may be thinking of buying a telescope for yourself or for a loved one at Christmas. Before you do so, there are several points to be considered. If you are simply interested or just getting starting in astronomy, remember, there is much pleasure to be gained with naked eye observation of the sky. It is important that you are not tempted into buying a cheap, flimsy telescope from the local department store. Last Christmas countless citizens wrote to me complaining they had bought cheap telescopes and were very disappointed in their performance.

My advice is to buy a good pair of binoculars. Binoculars are relatively cheap compared with telescopes, are portable, convenient to use and can be a source of enjoyment for non-astronomical pursuits as well. You can resolve much astronomical detail with binoculars if you know where to look. The secret of knowing your way around the heavens is best achieved with the unaided eye and a pair of binoculars. Should you become a serious astronomer, then is the time to buy a good telescope.

As the month progresses, the red planet Mars become brighter. The Earth is actually moving closer towards Mars. Look northeastwards at midnight and you will see a star shining with a steady red glow. This is Mars. Do not waste your time going to bed because the planet Venus rises about three hours before the first light of dawn. Look eastward to see 'the Morning Star'.



On the 3rd of the month, pan the western horizon with a pair of binoculars and spot the ultra-slender, hairline, waxing crescent Moon.

The constellation of Orion heralds the arrival of the bright winter stars. Go out into the night at around 10 o'clock and face southeast. Orion, in all its magnificence, is there. Glance to the west of Orion's belt (three bright stars in a row) and you will see a blue star - this is the blue giant, Rigel. Look up and eastward from Orion's belt and you will encounter a red star - this is Betelgeuse a massive red giant. Indeed, the Great Pyramids of Egypt were built in honour of and geographically representative of Orion.

The winter solstice occurs at 2.23am on the 22nd of the month. This marks the beginning of winter in the Northern Hemisphere. When you are walking home late at night from the festivities, take a moment to look up at the heavens and to wonder at the splendour before your eyes. Christmas should be a time for sharing and for reflection. Spend a quiet moment with friends in thoughtful meditation under the starry, starry night.

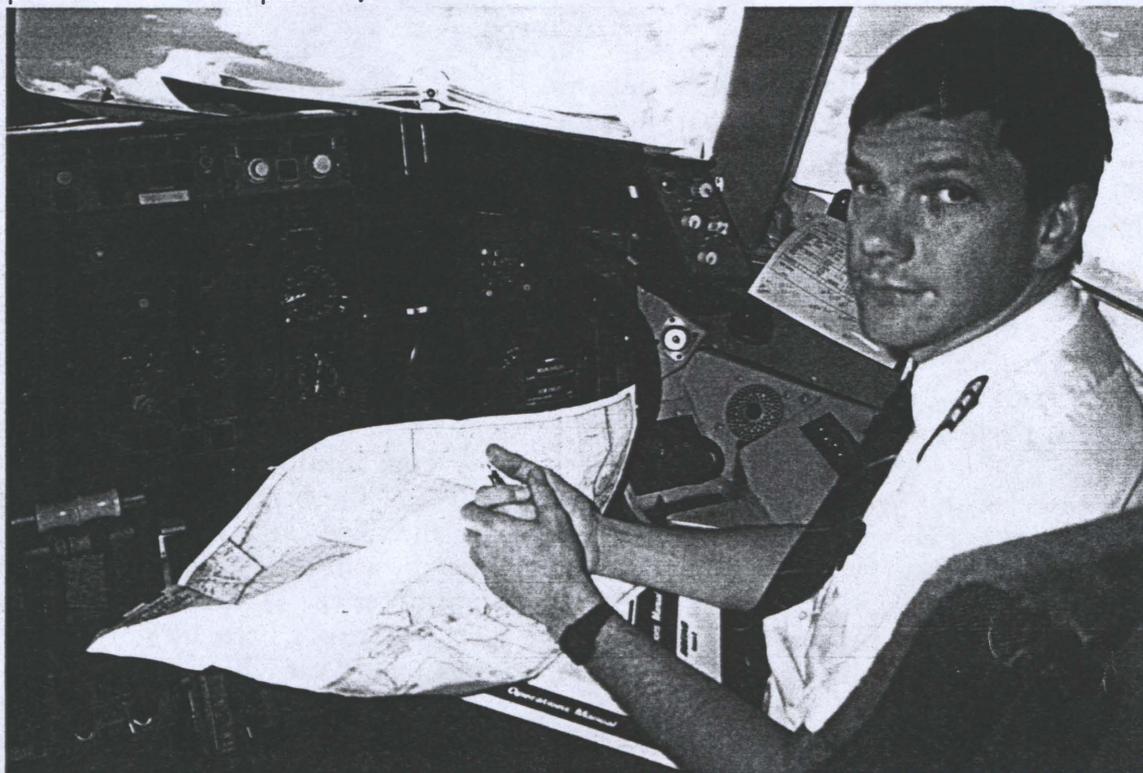
Enjoy Your Evening Sky!

Barry Parkinson - (Milton Keynes College)

'The Evening Sky' - P.O. Box 4002 - Milton Keynes - MK13 7ER - U.K.

A TRAVELLERS TALE

Your Editor took a short break during last October and flew out to the Dominican Republic in the West Indies. He had hoped to take the opportunity to meet Jorge Martin in Puerto Rico, which is only a matter of some 70 miles away. However Jorge could not be contacted as he had recently moved and his whereabouts were unknown. (Puerto Rico has been the source of countless UFO reports in the past.)



On route to the Dominican Republic the aircraft passed through the "Bermuda Triangle" and the second Pilot Brian McKay can be seen checking the position of the 'Britannia' Boeing 737.

When the aircraft landed we found that we had "lost" 6 hours! But it was explained that we had not disappeared en-route, it was purely due to the time zone difference.....!

----- SWEDISH UFO REPORTS

Eileen Fletcher has often contributed translated articles for the OVNI and frequently has access to UFO reports from Sweden.

The reports are published in the "Aktuellt" and one such report is included in this issue.

If you would like further information on the exchange of Swedish UFO reports or longer articles, please contact Eileen Fletcher at Derwent Cottage, Derwent Dam, Bamford, Sheffield S30 2AQ or by telephone on 0433 651130.