

SUFOG

NUMBER 137 & 138

MARCH / APRIL 2002

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Well folks. our Web counter has now hit the 4,000 hits since I started it in 1999. On average 1,300 hits every year ! That's good news for the group as it shows we are being visited from all around the world.

Also. I can announce in this edition of the newsletter (although you have probably already read it in the March edition of UFO Magazine), that Steve Rider and I are talking at the 21st Leeds conference this year !!! (Must see if my suit fits me !!). More inside, but, we will be talking alongside no other than a hero for both Steve Rider and I Stanton T. Friedman !!!

The last 2 months has seen a SUFOG giving two lectures, a joint BUFORA/SPI lecture given by yours truly and Steve Rider gave a talk to the Holistic Experience group on UFO's with a little help from me (Taxi !!!). These were two great success and you read about the BUFORA/SPI lecture in this issue of the newsletter. Also, by the time that you receive this newsletter, we will be at the Dorchester Conference (7th), where we will have our own table and a chance not only to raise money for the group, but also try and get more members for the group. Its all go at present, but if you know of any groups that would like us to give a talk to, then please let me know.

The last two months has seen no less than 3 TV groups wanting us to take part in documentaries on UFO's and Crop Circles. I hope that something comes of them, but, hey, if we get one of the three, then that's better than a kick in the teeth.

SUFOG also featured on TV on Sunday the 10th March with Ernie Sears and my long awaited item (filmed on 11th January) that went out on Meridian News. Somewhat late and to my view somewhat past the point. The program concerned the documents released in January by the Public Relations Office concerning questions asked by Winston Churchill back in the 1950's about UFO's. Why did they not show it January !!! I don't know and to be honest, by showing it in March, people are going to think yet mere documents have been released !!!

You will see an advert in the Newsletter concerning the music of Janus. I am biased here, but his music is excellent, and even my wife said that it was good !! Support Janus by purchasing his CD's and who knows, I may have some information in the next newsletter regarding SUFOG's very own Video of our very own exploits over the past 10 years !!

I hope you all read your last copy of UFO Magazine, but Steve Rider

and Myself are talking at Leeds this year in front of possibly 700 people !!! We are starting to put our talk together to present a couple of our SUFOG sightings. And on that subject, we recently sent the MoD a copy of our UFO footage shot in May 2000 and May 2001, of UFO activity over the River Solent. Well, they said that the video was viewed in White Hall and the Ministry of Defence consider the footage of N O D E F E N C E SIGNIFICANCE and does not consider spending any money to further any more investigations into the footage !!! What a load of CRAP !! We are forwarding copies of the letter to our local MP and also to former Admiral of the fleet Admiral Hill-Norton.

Phew..... got there eventually...

CIA's Role in the Study of UFO's , 1947 - 90 (Pt 2)

CIA's U-2 and OXCART as UFOs

In November 1954, CIA had entered into the world of high technology with its U-2 overhead reconnaissance project. Working with Lockheed's Advanced Development facility in Burbank, California, known as the Skunk Works, and Kelly Johnson, an eminent aeronautical engineer, the Agency by August 1955 was testing a high-altitude experimental aircraft--the U-2. It could fly at 60,000 feet; in the mid-1950s, most commercial airliners flew between 10,000 feet and 20,000 feet. Consequently, once the U-2 started test flights, commercial pilots and air traffic controllers began reporting a large increase in UFO sightings. (44) (U)

The early U-2s were silver (they were later painted black) and reflected the rays from the sun, especially at sunrise and sunset. They often appeared as fiery objects to observers below. Air Force BLUE BOOK investigators aware of the secret U-2 flights tried to explain away such sightings by linking them to natural phenomena such as ice crystals and temperature inversions. By checking with the Agency's U-2 Project Staff in Washington, BLUE BOOK investigators were able to attribute many UFO sightings to U-2 flights. They were careful, however, not to reveal the true cause of the sighting to the public.

According to later estimates from CIA officials who worked on the U-2 project and the OXCART (SR-71, or Blackbird) project, over half of all UFO reports from the late 1950s through the 1960s were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights (namely the U-2) over the United States. (45) This led the Air Force to make misleading and deceptive statements to the public in order to allay public fears and to protect an extraordinarily sensitive national security project. While perhaps justified, this deception added fuel to the later conspiracy theories and the cover-up controversy of the 1970s. The percentage of what the Air Force considered unexplained UFO sightings fell to 5.9 percent in 1955 and to 4 percent in 1956. (46)

At the same time, pressure was building for the

release of the Robertson panel report on UFOs. In 1956, Edward Ruppelt, former head of the Air Force BLUE BOOK project, publicly revealed the existence of the panel. A best-selling book by UFOlogist Donald Keyhoe, a retired Marine Corps major, advocated release of all government information relating to UFOs. Civilian UFO groups such as the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) and the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) immediately pushed for release of the Robertson panel report. (47) Under pressure, the Air Force approached CIA for permission to declassify and release the report. Despite such pressure, Philip Strong, Deputy Assistant Director of OSI, refused to declassify the report and declined to disclose CIA sponsorship of the panel. As an alternative, the Agency prepared a sanitized version of the report which deleted any reference to CIA and avoided mention of any psychological warfare potential in the UFO controversy. (48)

The demands, however, for more government information about UFOs did not let up. On 8 March 1958, Keyhoe, in an interview with Mike Wallace of CBS, claimed deep CIA involvement with UFOs and Agency sponsorship of the Robertson panel. This prompted a series of letters to the Agency from Keyhoe and Dr. Leon Davidson, a chemical engineer and UFOlogist. They demanded the release of the full Robertson panel report and confirmation of CIA involvement in the UFO issue. Davidson had convinced himself that the Agency, not the Air Force, carried most of the responsibility for UFO analysis and that "the activities of the US Government are responsible for the flying saucer sightings of the last decade. "Indeed, because of the undisclosed U-2 and OXCART flights, Davidson was closer to the truth than he suspected. CI, nevertheless held firm to its policy of not revealing its role in UFO investigations and refused to declassify the full Robertson panel report. (49)

In a meeting with Air Force representatives to discuss how to handle future inquiries such as Keyhoe's and Davidson's, Agency

officials confirmed their opposition to the declassification of the full report and worried that Keyhoe had the ear of former DCI VAdm. Roscoe Hillenkoetter, who served on the board of governors of NICAP. They debated whether to have CIA General Counsel Lawrence R. Houston show Hillenkoetter the report as a possible way to defuse the situation. CIA officer Frank Chapin also hinted that Davidson might have ulterior motives, "some of them perhaps not in the best interest of this country," and suggested bringing in the FBI to investigate. (50) Although the record is unclear whether the FBI ever instituted an investigation of Davidson or Keyhoe, or whether Houston ever saw Hillenkoetter about the Robertson report, Hillenkoetter did resign from the NICAP in 1962. (51)

The Agency was also involved with Davidson and Keyhoe in two rather famous UFO cases in the 1950s, which helped contribute to a growing sense of public distrust of CIA with regard to UFOs. One focused on what was reported to have been a tape recording of a radio signal from a flying saucer; the other on reported photographs of a flying saucer. The "radio code" incident began innocently enough in 1955, when two elderly sisters in Chicago, Mildred and Marie Maier, reported in the *Journal of Space Flight* their experiences with UFOs, including the recording of a radio program in which an unidentified code was reportedly heard. The sisters taped the program and other ham radio operators also claimed to have heard the "space message." OSI became interested and asked the Scientific Contact Branch to obtain a copy of the recording. (52)

Field officers from the Contact Division (CD), one of whom was Dewelt Walker, made contact with the Maier sisters, who were "thrilled that the government was interested," and set up a time to meet with them. (53) In trying to secure the tape recording, the Agency officers reported that they had stumbled upon a scene from *Arsenic and Old Lace*. "The only thing lacking was the elderberry wine." Walker cabled Headquarters. After reviewing the sisters' scrapbook of clippings from their days on the stage, the officers secured a copy of the recording. (54) OSI analyzed the tape and found it was nothing more than Morse code from a US radio station.

The matter rested there until UFOlogist Leon Davidson talked with the Maier sisters in 1957. The sisters remembered they had talked with a Mr. Walker who said he was from the US Air Force. Davidson then wrote to a Mr. Walker, believing him to be a US Air Force Intelligence Officer from Wright-Patterson, to ask if the tape had been analyzed at ATIC. Dewelt Walker replied to Davidson that the tape had been forwarded to proper authorities for evaluation, and no information was available concerning the results. Not satisfied, and suspecting that Walker was really a CIA officer, Davidson next wrote DCI Allen Dulles demanding to learn what the coded message revealed and who Mr. Walker was. (55) The Agency, wanting to keep Walker's identity as a CIA employee secret, replied that another agency of the government had analyzed the tape in question and that Davidson would be hearing from the Air Force. (56) On 5 August, the Air Force wrote Davidson saying that Walker "was and is an Air Force Officer" and that the tape "was analyzed by another government organization." The Air Force letter confirmed that the recording contained only identifiable Morse code which came from a known US-licensed radio station. (57)

Davidson wrote Dulles again. This time he wanted to know the identity of the Morse operator and of the agency that had conducted the analysis. CIA and the Air Force were now in a quandary. The Agency had previously denied that it had actually analyzed the tape. The Air Force had also denied analyzing the tape and claimed that Walker was an Air Force officer. CIA officers, under cover, contacted Davidson in Chicago and promised to get the code translation and the identification of the transmitter, if possible. (58)

In another attempt to pacify Davidson, a CIA officer, again under cover and wearing his Air Force uniform, contacted Davidson in New York City. The CIA officer explained that there was no super agency involved and that Air Force policy was not to disclose who was doing what. While seeming to accept this argument, Davidson nevertheless pressed for disclosure of the recording message and the source. The officer agreed to see what he could

do. (59) After checking with Headquarters, the CIA officer phoned Davidson to report that a thorough check had been made and, because the signal was of known US origin, the tape and the notes made at the time had been destroyed to conserve file space. (60)

Incensed over what he perceived was a runaround, Davidson told the CIA officer that "he and his agency, whichever it was, were acting like Jimmy Hoffa and the Teamster Union in destroying records which might indict them." (61) Believing that any more contact with Davidson would only encourage more speculation, the Contact Division washed its hands of the issue by reporting to the DCI and to ATIC that it would not respond to or try to contact Davidson again. (62) Thus, a minor, rather bizarre incident, handled poorly by both CIA and the Air Force, turned into a major flap that added fuel to the growing mystery surrounding UFOs and CIA's role in their investigation.

Another minor flap a few months later added to the growing questions surrounding the Agency's true role with regard to flying saucers. CIA's concern over secrecy again made matters worse. In 1958, Major Keyhoe charged that the Agency was deliberately asking eyewitnesses of UFOs not to make their sightings public. (63)

The incident stemmed from a November 1957 request from OSI to the CD to obtain from Ralph C. Mayher, a photographer for KYW-TV in Cleveland, Ohio, certain photographs he took in 1952 of an unidentified flying object. Harry Real, a CD officer, contacted Mayher and obtained copies of the photographs for analysis. On 12 December 1957, John Hazen, another CD officer, returned the five photographs of the alleged UFO to Mayher without comment. Mayher asked Hazen for the Agency's evaluation of the photos, explaining that he was trying to organize a TV program to brief the public on UFOs. He wanted to mention on the show that a US intelligence organization had viewed the photographs and thought them of interest. Although he advised Mayher not to take this approach, Hazen stated that Mayher was a US citizen and would have to make his own decision as to what to do. (64)

Keyhoe later contacted Mayher, who told him his story of CIA and the photographs. Keyhoe then asked the Agency to confirm Hazen's employment in writing, in an effort to expose CIA's role in UFO investigations. The Agency refused, despite the fact

that CD field representatives were normally overt and carried credentials identifying their Agency association. DCI Dulles's aide, John S. Earman, merely sent Keyhoe a noncommittal letter noting that, because UFOs were of primary concern to the Department of the Air Force, the Agency had referred his letter to the Air Force for an appropriate response. Like the response to Davidson, the Agency reply to Keyhoe only fueled the speculation that the Agency was deeply involved in UFO sightings. Pressure for release of CIA information on UFOs continued to grow. (65)

Although CIA had a declining interest in UFO cases, it continued to monitor UFO sightings. Agency officials felt the need to keep informed on UFOs if only to alert the DCI to the more sensational UFO reports and flaps. (66)

The 1960s: Declining CIA Involvement and Mounting Controversy

In the early 1960s, Keyhoe, Davidson, and other UFOlogists maintained their assault on the Agency for release of UFO information. Davidson now claimed that CIA "was solely responsible for creating the Flying Saucer furor as a tool for cold war psychological warfare since 1951." Despite calls for Congressional hearings and the release of all materials relating to UFOs, little changed. (67)

In 1964, however, following high-level White House discussions on what to do if an alien intelligence was discovered in space and a new outbreak of UFO reports and sightings, DCI John McCone asked for an updated CIA evaluation of UFOs. Responding to McCone's request, OSI asked the CD to obtain various recent samples and reports of UFO sightings from NICAP. With Keyhoe, one of the founders, no longer active in the organization, CIA officers met with Richard H. Hall, the acting director. Hall gave the officers samples from the NICAP database on the most recent sightings. (68)

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THE LEEDS 21st INTERNATIONAL UFO
CONFERENCE - UFO MAGAZINE.

Well folks. I can reveal the speakers for this forthcoming
event in September 2002. The speakers are as follow :

Stanton T. Friedman
Paul Laviolette
Dr. Roger Leir
Dr. Tom Van Flandern
Philip Mantle
Graham W. Birdsall
Alan Alford
Michael Hesemann
Nick Pope
Georgina Bruni

Plus !

Russel Callaghan
Gary Heseltine
STEVE RIDER
STEVE GERRARD
Gary Baker.

More details to follow on the May / June edition of the
SUFOG Newsletter with details of how some members of
the group can join us for an exciting weekend.

The Next SUFOG Newsletter Edition.

In the next edition of the newsletter group secretary
Steve Rider tells it how it is and why more members
should lend a helping hand and support the group.

Steve feels it is about time that someone says something
and he puts his head on the chopping block. I whole
heartedly stand behind him and support his every word. It
is about time SUFOG members pull together and helps,
because it will be too late after the group folds to stand up
and say anything.

So, be prepared to stand by, and read Steve's '**Time for
Change**', because it is certainly time for change, and the
sooner the better.

Steve Gerrard (SUFOG Chairman/Founder)

After OSI officers had reviewed the material, Donald F. Chamberlain, OSI Assistant Director, assured McCone that little had changed since the early 1950s. There was still no evidence that UFOs were a threat to the security of the United States or that they were of "foreign origin." Chamberlain told McCone that OSI still monitored UFO reports, including the official Air Force investigation, Project BLUE BOOK. (69)

At the same time that CIA was conducting this latest internal review of UFOs, public pressure forced the Air Force to establish a special ad hoc committee to review BLUE BOOK. Chaired by Dr. Brian O'Brien, a member of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, the panel included Carl Sagan, the famous astronomer from Cornell University. Its report offered nothing new. It declared that UFOs did not threaten the national security and that it could find "no UFO case which represented technological or scientific advances outside of a terrestrial framework." The committee did recommend that UFOs be studied intensively, with a leading university acting as a coordinator for the project, to settle the issue conclusively. (70)

The House Armed Services Committee also held brief hearings on UFOs in 1966 that produced similar results. Secretary of the Air Force Harold Brown assured the committee that most sightings were easily explained and that there was no evidence that "strangers from outer space" had been visiting Earth. He told the committee members, however, that the Air Force would keep an open mind and continue to investigate all UFO reports. (71)

Following the report of its O'Brien Committee, the House hearings on UFOs, and Dr. Robertson's disclosure on a *CBS Reports* program that CIA indeed had been involved in UFO analysis, the Air Force in July 1966 again approached the Agency for declassification of the entire Robertson panel report of 1953 and the full Durant report on the Robertson panel deliberations and findings. The Agency again refused to budge. Karl H. Weber, Deputy Director of OSI, wrote the Air Force that "We are most anxious that further publicity not be given to the information that the panel was sponsored by the CIA." Weber noted that there was already a sanitized version available to the public. (72) Weber's response was rather shortsighted and ill considered. It only drew more attention to the 13-year-old Robertson panel report and CIA's role in the investigation of UFOs. The science editor of *The Saturday Review* drew

nationwide attention to the CIA's role in investigating UFOs when he published an article criticizing the "sanitized version" of the 1953 Robertson panel report and called for release of the entire document. (73)

Unknown to CIA officials, Dr. James E. McDonald, a noted atmospheric physicist from the University of Arizona, had already seen the Durant report on the Robertson panel proceedings at Wright-Patterson on 6 June 1966. When McDonald returned to Wright-Patterson on 30 June to copy the report, however, the Air Force refused to let him see it again, stating that it was a CIA classified document. Emerging as a UFO authority, McDonald publicly claimed that the CIA was behind the Air Force secrecy policies and cover-up. He demanded the release of the full Robertson panel report and the Durant report. (74)

Bowing to public pressure and the recommendation of its own O'Brien Committee, the Air Force announced in August 1966 that it was seeking a contract with a leading university to undertake a program of intensive investigations of UFO sightings. The new program was designed to blunt continuing charges that the US Government had concealed what it knew about UFOs. On 7 October, the University of Colorado accepted a \$325,000 contract with the Air Force for an 18-month study of flying saucers. Dr. Edward U. Condon, a physicist at Colorado and a former Director of the National Bureau of Standards, agreed to head the program. Pronouncing himself an "agnostic" on the subject of UFOs, Condon observed that he had an open mind on the question and thought that possible extraterritorial origins were "improbable but not impossible." (75) Brig. Gen. Edward Giller, USAF, and Dr. Thomas Ratchford from the Air Force Research and Development Office became the Air Force coordinators for the project.

In February 1967, Giller contacted Arthur C. Lundahl, Director of CIA's National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC), and proposed an informal liaison through

which NPIC could provide the Condon Committee with technical advice and services in examining photographs of alleged UFOs. Lundahl and DDI R. Jack Smith approved the arrangement as a way of "preserving a window" on the new effort. They wanted the CIA and NPIC to maintain a low profile, however, and to take no part in writing any conclusions for the committee. No work done for the committee by NPIC was to be formally acknowledged. (76)

Ratchford next requested that Condon and his committee be allowed to visit NPIC to discuss the technical aspects of the problem and to view the special equipment NPIC had for photo analysis. On 20 February 1967, Condon and four members of his committee visited NPIC. Lundahl emphasized to the group that any NPIC work to assist the committee must not be identified as CIA work. Moreover, work performed by NPIC would be strictly of a technical nature. After receiving these guidelines, the group heard a series of briefings on the services and equipment not available elsewhere that CIA had used in its analysis of some UFO photography furnished by Ratchford. Condon and his committee were impressed. (77)

Condon and the same group met again in May 1967 at NPIC to hear an analysis of UFO photographs taken at Zanesville, Ohio. The analysis debunked that sighting. The committee was again impressed with the technical work performed, and Condon remarked that for the first time a scientific analysis of a UFO would stand up to investigation. (78) The group also discussed the committee's plans to call on US citizens for additional photographs and to issue guidelines for taking useful UFO photographs. In addition, CIA officials agreed that the Condon Committee could release the full Durant report with only minor deletions.

In April 1969, Condon and his committee released their report on UFOs. The report concluded that little, if anything, had come from the study of UFOs in the past 21 years and that further extensive study of UFO sightings was unwarranted. It also recommended that the Air Force special unit, Project BLUE BOOK, be discontinued. It did not mention CIA participation in the Condon committee's

investigation. (79) A special panel established by the National Academy of Sciences reviewed the Condon report and concurred with its conclusion that "no high priority in UFO investigations is warranted by data of the past two decades." It concluded its review by declaring, "On the basis of present knowledge, the least likely explanation of UFOs is the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitations by intelligent beings. "Following the recommendations of the Condon Committee and the National Academy of Sciences, the Secretary of the Air Force, Robert C. Seamans, Jr., announced on 17 December 1969 the termination of BLUE BOOK. (80)

The 1970s and 1980s: The UFO Issue Refuses To Die

The Condon report did not satisfy many UFOlogists, who considered it a cover-up for CIA activities in UFO research. Additional sightings in the early 1970s fueled beliefs that the CIA was somehow involved in a vast conspiracy. On 7 June 1975, William Spaulding, head of a small UFO group, Ground Saucer Watch (GSW), wrote to CIA requesting a copy of the Robertson panel report and all records relating to UFOs. (81) Spaulding was convinced that the Agency was withholding major files on UFOs. Agency officials provided Spaulding with a copy of the Robertson panel report and of the Durant report. (82)

On 14 July 1975, Spaulding again wrote the Agency questioning the authenticity of the reports he had received and alleging a CIA cover-up of its UFO activities. Gene Wilson, CIA's Information and Privacy Coordinator, replied in an attempt to satisfy Spaulding, "At no time prior to the formation of the Robertson Panel and subsequent to the issuance of the panel's report has CIA engaged in the study of the UFO phenomena." The Robertson panel report, according to Wilson, was "the summation of Agency interest and involvement in UFOs." Wilson also inferred that there were no additional documents in CIA's possession that related to UFOs. Wilson was ill informed. (83)

In September 1977, Spaulding and GSW, unconvinced by Wilson's response, filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Agency that specifically requested all

UFO documents in CIA's possession. Deluged by similar FOIA requests for Agency information on UFOs, CIA officials agreed, after much legal maneuvering, to conduct a "reasonable search" of CIA files for UFO materials. (84) Despite an Agency-wide unsympathetic attitude toward the suit, Agency officials, led by Launie Ziebell from the Office of General Counsel, conducted a thorough search for records pertaining to UFOs. Persistent, demanding, and even threatening at times, Ziebell and his group scoured the Agency. They even turned up an old UFO file under a secretary's desk. The search finally produced 355 documents totaling approximately 900 pages. On 14 December 1978, the Agency released all but 57 documents of about 100 pages to GSW. It withheld these 57 documents on national security grounds and to protect sources and methods. (85)

Although the released documents produced no smoking gun and revealed only a low-level Agency interest in the UFO phenomena after the Robertson panel report of 1953, the press treated the release in a sensational manner. *The New York Times*, for example, claimed that the declassified documents confirmed intensive government concern over UFOs and that the Agency was secretly involved in the surveillance of UFOs. (86) GSW then sued for the release of the withheld documents, claiming that the Agency was still holding out key information. (87) It was much like the John F. Kennedy assassination issue. No matter how much material the Agency released and no matter how dull and prosaic the information, people continued to believe in a Agency cover-up and conspiracy.

DCI Stansfield Turner was so upset when he read *The New York Times* article that he asked his senior officers, "Are we in UFOs?" After reviewing the records, Don Wortman, Deputy Director for Administration, reported to Turner that there was "no organized Agency effort to do research in connection with UFO phenomena nor has there been an organized effort to collect intelligence on UFOs since the 1950s." Wortman assured Turner that the Agency records held only "sporadic instances of correspondence dealing with the subject," including various kinds of reports of UFO sightings. There was no Agency program to collect actively information on UFOs, and the material released to GSW had few deletions. (88) Thus assured, Turner had the General Counsel press for a summary judgment against the new lawsuit by GSW. In May 1980, the courts dismissed the lawsuit, finding that the Agency had conducted a thorough and adequate search in good faith. (89)

During the late 1970s and 1980s, the Agency continued its low-key interest in UFOs and UFO sightings. While most scientists now dismissed flying saucers reports as a quaint

SUF0G DIARY - 2002..

We meet at :

**The CIU Club, Victoria Road,
Netley Abbey, Southampton.
7 30 p.m. - 10 p.m.**

May 16th : Group Meeting :
Video Evening (£3.00)

June 20th : Group Meeting :
1 hr lecture (8 p.m. - 9 p.m.) &
Open Discussion.

July 18th : Group Meeting :
Open Discussion.

August 3rd/4th Avebury trip :
(£20 per person to cover transport,
fuel, and food)

August 15th : Group Meeting :
Video Evening (£3.00)

September 19th : Group Meeting :
1 hr lecture (8 p.m. - 9 p.m.)
Open Discussion

October 17th : Group Meeting :
Open Discussion

November 21st : Group Meeting :
Video Evening (£3.00)

December 19th : Group Meeting :
Xmas Party

(Bring nibbles along to share)
1 hr lecture or Video
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Open Discussion.

Please contact the Editor before the above dates to confirm that the Sky Watch / Meeting are still going ahead. This is because Sky Watch's are likely to be cancelled / changed due to weather conditions, and other commitments that the editor is not aware of at the time of publication of the newsletter..

part of the 1950s and 1960s, some in the Agency and in the Intelligence Community shifted their interest to studying parapsychology and psychic phenomena associated with UFO sightings. CIA officials also looked at the UFO problem to determine what UFO sightings might tell them about Soviet progress in rockets and missiles and reviewed its counterintelligence aspects. Agency analysts from the Life Science Division of OSI and OSWR officially devoted a small amount of their time to issues relating to UFOs. These included counterintelligence concerns that the Soviets and the KGB were using US citizens and UFO groups to obtain information on sensitive US weapons development programs (such as the Stealth aircraft), the vulnerability of the US air-defense network to penetration by foreign missiles mimicking UFOs, and evidence of Soviet advanced technology associated with UFO sightings.

CIA also maintained Intelligence Community coordination with other agencies regarding their work in parapsychology, psychic phenomena, and "remote viewing" experiments. In general, the Agency took a conservative scientific view of these unconventional scientific issues. There was no formal or official UFO project within the Agency in the 1980s, and Agency officials purposely kept files on UFOs to a minimum to avoid creating records that might mislead the public if released. (90)

The 1980s also produced renewed charges that the Agency was still withholding documents relating to the 1947 Roswell incident, in which a flying saucer supposedly crashed in New Mexico, and the surfacing of documents which purportedly revealed the existence of a top secret

US research and development intelligence operation responsible only to the President on UFOs in the late 1940s and early 1950s. UFOlogists had long argued that, following a flying saucer crash in New Mexico in 1947, the government not only recovered debris from the crashed saucer but also four or five alien bodies. According to some UFOlogists, the government clamped tight security around the project and has refused to divulge its investigation results and research ever since. (91) In September 1994, the US Air Force released a new report on the Roswell incident that concluded that the debris found in New Mexico in 1947 probably came from a once top secret balloon operation, Project MOGUL, designed to monitor the atmosphere for evidence of Soviet nuclear tests. (92)

Circa 1984, a series of documents surfaced which some UFOlogists said proved that President Truman created a top secret committee in 1947, Majestic-12, to secure the recovery of UFO wreckage from Roswell and any other UFO crash sight for scientific study and to examine any alien bodies recovered from such sites. Most if not all of these documents have proved to be fabrications. Yet the controversy persists. (93)

Like the JFK assassination conspiracy theories, the UFO issue probably will not go away soon, no matter what the Agency does or says. The belief that we are not alone in the universe is too emotionally appealing and the distrust of our government is too pervasive to make the issue amenable to traditional scientific studies of rational explanation and evidence.

(The numbers in the article refer to references to sources. A full list is available if required, as the notes take up over 5 pages).

Boscovich's Theory connection to UFO

Physics.

Abstract: 18th century theory lost in History, has a connection to UFO Physics.

There has been a genius of the same caliber as Newton, who has been forgotten from the Popular History of Physics. When this genius is reintroduced into the picture, then the 'mess' in physics becomes a lot clearer to understand.

Roger Boscovich was a Jesuit mathematician that promoted the ideas of Newton's theory in Europe in the 18th century. He met many famous people of his day, and greatly impressed them - not only with Newton's theory, but with his work on that theory, extending Newton's ideas. At the time, Boscovich's theory which was a follow-on to Newton's theory, was seen as so natural that it was viewed as being Newton's theory.

Many scientists were working from Newton- Boscovich theory, such as Faraday and Maxwell, who used part of Boscovich's ideas to develop their own theories.

Now there are three links to consider:

1. There is a link from Boscovich's ideas to Maxwell's theory of electromagnetism.
2. There is also a link from Boscovich to Modern Atomic Physics: Thomson based his ideas of the structure of the atom (Thomson's Atom) on looking at Boscovich's theory. Thomson did not adopt all the ideas of Boscovich into his theorising. Thomson was working from making experimental data agree with theory, and only needed the minimum part of the theory to agree with the experiments he was looking at. When more experiments were taken into account, more of Boscovich's theory was needed to explain what was going on. This advance from Thomson's atomic description was made by Niels Bohr in what was called Bohr's Atom. This was part of the foundation for modern Quantum Mechanics.
3. Boscovich considered the question of the nature of light, and from this arose the mathematicians interest in non Euclidean geometry. The mathematician Riemann made a lot of research into this area, and was looking for a description of gravity theory using non-Euclidean geometry. Einstein used the mathematics of Riemann to construct his Theory of General Relativity.

So, we have these three links from Boscovich's theory : Electromagnetic Theory, Quantum Mechanics and General Relativity. The most significant theories are Quantum Mechanics and General Relativity; these two theories cannot be

combined because their assumptions are inconsistent with one another. But the roots of these two theories come from Boscovich, and Boscovich's theory is a unified theory that combines Quantum ideas with Relativistic ideas. Something was lost on the way from Boscovich's theory to Modern Physics. What was 'lost' in theory was due to complicated human interactions.

In 1919 Einstein was said to have revolutionized physics, overturning Newtonian Physics when astronomer Eddington observed the bending of starlight in the sun's gravity. The Media apparently wanted something to divert attention from WWI that had just ended, and made Einstein into a national celebrity. They did not pay attention to Einstein when he said that his theory was evolution of Newton's theory, and not revolution of Newton's theory.

The Media's disregard of what Einstein actually said gives us the popular account of Physics History as being that there was a Physics Revolution in 1919 made by Einstein's General Relativity.

In the 1920s there then came the Quantum Revolution, where Quantum Mechanics was created based in part on Boscovich's theory and other factors. This theory was inconsistent with General Relativity, and Einstein said that Quantum Mechanics was wrong, or at best incomplete. He was ignored by the Physics Community who embraced Quantum Mechanics, and because it was not in agreement with General Relativity, 'they' looked upon that theory with distrust.

Modern Physics became defined as General Relativity and Quantum Mechanics; as both being a revolution against Newton's theory. What then happened was Boscovichian ideas were dropped from Newton's theory when it was taught to students. i.e. the Newton-Boscovich theory was no longer taught, instead the Boscovichian ideas were

expelled and the Newtonian part clearly defined making it solely Newton's theory that was taught. In this way, it was clear how Modern Physics (GR and QM) were distinct from Newton's theory.

The Physics Community ignored General Relativity and worked only on Quantum Mechanics until the 1960s after Einstein had died, and then became interested in that theory again. The new generation of physicists in the 1960s who were looking at General Relativity for the first time after a long gap, viewed that theory through their belief in Quantum Mechanics and proceeded to try to adjust General Relativity as much as possible to agree with that theory.

This is the wrong approach to take. Einstein said that Quantum Mechanics was wrong, so in altering General Relativity in this way, it means (given Einstein's point of view that) General Relativity is being corrupted.

Einstein's approach to physics after General Relativity was to have been to construct a Unified Theory which combined gravity with electromagnetism. Because Einstein was not believed in the 1920s, this approach of Einstein has been mostly abandoned by the Mainstream Physics Community.

But if you investigate the method of Einstein, it was that of a mathematician prepared to look at assumptions and deduce their consequences. And not only that, if the assumptions did not lead to results that he deemed desirable, then he tried another set of assumptions.

It is recognized that when gravity is negligible then General Relativity approximates to Special Relativity. But the assumptions in both theories as Einstein presented them are different! There is no commonality in some of the assumptions of Special Relativity and the assumptions in Einstein's original version of General Relativity (before it was amended by the Quantum theorists). i.e. Special Relativity is

mathematically inconsistent with General Relativity. Although both theories can describe adequately certain sets of observations, they are not part of a single mathematically consistent theory.

It was Einstein's approach to abandon assumptions when he found them not desirable. Thus he abandoned certain parts of Special Relativity when he constructed General Relativity. His next step from General Relativity would have been to do the same again when he constructed Unified Field Theory. It is by this method that one works from approximate theories to a 'final' theory.

This is not the approach that Modern Physicists take, rather they stick rigidly to a set of assumptions, when those assumptions have proven themselves adequate with dealing with describing physical phenomena. In order to change assumptions, they demand proof that there is a need from experiment to change those assumptions.

Thus we can see the vast difference between Einstein's approach to physics and Modern Physicists' approach to physics. Einstein was more willing to abandon assumptions as he sought mathematical consistency in his theorizing. While a Modern Physicist would demand experimental proof that there was a need to change assumptions, and sticks rigidly to following the consequences of the assumptions of Quantum Mechanics.

If one looks at the theoretical approach of Einstein, one can see that the next step would have been to adopt assumptions very similar to those that Boscovich used in his unified theory.

So, the approach that Einstein uses leads to the unification of Physics. But Modern Physicists do not take that approach; their approach leads to no such unification, because instead 'they' demand that one takes the Quantum Mechanics approach, where one sticks rigidly to experimental proof rather than mathematical consistency in theory.

This is what has been 'lost.' Before the

1920s there was a Unified Theory of Physics (from Boscovich) that led to the disjointed theories of Modern Physics. There was never any proof that this Unified Theory was wrong, but pursuing it was abandoned as the Physicists took part of that theory's development Quantum Mechanics, and refused to pay any attention to the larger context that Quantum Mechanics existed within.

If one pursues the part of physics that has been abandoned by Physicists as they pursue Quantum Mechanics, then one comes across another neglected genius Nikola Tesla, who had a lot of things to say which are connected to UFOs. He was a Radio pioneer who claimed contact with ETs and talked of plans for aircraft that could operate by antigravity. Tesla was also aware of Boscovich's theory. And there are a great many sources on the Internet etc., where Tesla is mentioned in connection with UFO Physics. Boscovich's theory provides part of an understanding of how Tesla's physics connects with Mainstream Physics.

My web site: www.einsteinconspiracy.co.uk gives references for how the physics of Einstein, Tesla and Boscovich with WWII are connected to UFOs.

(Article written by SUFOG group member Roger Anderton).

on old times. It was 5 years since we had seen each other in the skin. Not much of a change Roy, bit more gray hair, less teeth, and that was just me !! Roy kicked off with 90 Mins of slides and some dubious ones at that and he got the audience on the edge of their seats.. Then it was the buffet and then me !!! I showed the program 'Hooked on Hobbies', followed by 2 cases that I have personally investigated. Roy and I were well received by the audience and sat down to a panel type of Q&A. We said our good byes around 6.30 p.m. to Roy Lake, Lionel Beer and Brian James (BUFORA Chairman) and I headed back with Judith and Malc's back to their pad !!

There is one thing I can say, that their hospitality is overwhelming. We drank a few beers and had a wonderful evening meal. Unlike a recent talk, at Malcolm's I had a double bed and on suit bathroom. At a previous lecture I had a sofa (with sleeping bag) and on suit kitchen !!! Need I say more.

On the Sunday morning, Malcolm and I had a bit of breakfast and carried on the UFO conversation. Malcolm escorted me back to Victoria Coach Station, and I caught the 11 am coach back to Southampton.

What a great weekend.. With over 40 people at the lecture, it was a thoroughly good weekend, with great company. Thanks again BUFORA and SPI and especially Judith and Malcolm.

Steve Gerrard (SUFOG Chairman)

BUFORA/SPI LECTURE 16th MARCH 2002.

Will I make the coach I thought as I ran through Southampton shopping center.. Yes, by the skin of my teeth.. Some 2 hrs later I arrived in London.. I don't remember any of the journey, because my eyes went to sleep. Jumped on the underground and three stops later arrived at the venue. As I was about to get my mobile out to ring Malcolm, I saw Judith through the pub window. I was welcomed by Judith and then Malcolm and the news that one of the speakers was not turning up. Oh well, more time for me and Roy Lake. I helped Malcolm and Judith erect the seating, fought with the radiators and sat down to lunch.

By now, Roy Lake had arrived and we caught up

FIRST CROP CIRCLE OF 2002

As I type this newsletter, information just in that Hampshire has seen the first crop circle formation of 2002, near Soberton April 12th). Funny thing is, again, Hampshire sees the first crop circle and this seems to have moved away from Wiltshire. So who or what has decided to start creating crop circles in Oil Seed Rape in Hampshire? Hopefully, pictures will be in the next edition of the SUFOG newsletter along with a listing of any further formations. Also, I will be hunting down the Hampshire formations and obtaining photographs wherever possible.



NEWSPAPER REVIEWS
BY ERNIE SEARS.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH of February 15th opens a great selection of cuttings... which may not look at first sight UFO related... but read on ! This regular Obituary section in the Telegraph features World War Two flying ace Group Captain Mike Shaw... sheer coincidence I was married to a Nellie Shaw in that same war !... but this pilot who flew continuously during WW2 became interested in spiritualism due to his narrow escapes and by 1975 when he retired a medium put him "in touch" comrades who had not survived the war. Are you reading this Gillian? He was also in touch with a range of spiritual guides and healers... and set up a cancer support group in Tunbridge Wells for alternative treatment.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH for December 29th 2001... yes, I know, but read on : Air Marshall Sir Peter Horsley in another obituary became fascinated by the paranormal after being shot down over the Channel... another wartime pilot who had some amazing escapes from death. He also became interested in Unidentified Flying Objects and began a long investigation into the more credible reports of sightings. He concluded the majority could be explained as natural occurrences but

there were some RAF and BOAC sightings which defied explanations. Horesley eventually became Deputy C in C, Strike Command until retirement in 1975. He published "Sounds from Another Room" in 1997... "planes, princes, and The Paranormal". See the connections with the first cutting... as well as the high rankings... no dumb flyer, those two. As our own Steve G. commented.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH for February 16th has a good half page "Reach For the Stars on a beam of Light"... literally. Speaking English on the way... but leaving the men behind ! a NASA spokesman says we can leave behind the unnecessary portion of the human race... reducing the chance of conflict on the journey. Can't argue with that... I wouldn't want to go away ! The article also has details of a "solar sail", made of a diamond film, would take "only" forty years to reach the nearest star, Alpha Centauri. Hmm... of course, no mention of UFO's or species already visiting us!

DAILY MAIL for February 16th bases an article on a prediction in an American laboratory of an attack on the World Trade Center three hours before it happened. Colin Wilson's paranormal involvement argues that we have to reconsider all our medias about time. Where has he been ? Space/Time is very much in our remit as UFOlogists. Experiments at Princetown (New Jersey) University with a MACHINE did the prediction !

THE DAILY MAIL continued with Colin Wilson's article on Einstein's Guide to Time Travel... and the astonishing stories that prove it can happen to us all. Well... stone me... don't these clever clogs LISTEN to the increasing clamor out here from actual experiencers? Well, Colin says they DO listen but eggheads retort 'illusions'. The article gives examples of "time slips" where people found themselves in past surroundings for seconds or minutes... one pleasant passerby actually SPOKE to a lady in this situation. Incidents seem mostly to be in the past. Colin Wilson believes, in conclusion, that not only can we catch glimpses of the future but we can change it... for the better.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH of February 20th has an almost full page on the latest discoveries and such on Silbury Hill... tying in with the news item and subsequent documentary on TV. The spiral path discovered (!) is surely the only real way one could get to the top in earlier times. A sacred monument for prehistoric ceremonies... nothing new ? Again... "experts" ignore psychic and spiritual experiences. Bill Smith can tell you of his first such at the Avebury stones when I "introduced" him to it. Same goes for Silbury. I have thought, hitherto, that a previous explanation of Silbury Hill's construction was it a "dry accumulator" thus giving "power" mistaken for spiritual energy.

THE DAILY MAIL for February 20th... what a busy month !... had the obligatory film still of "ET" and an article by science Correspondent James Chapman... gosh, he's been around for a tidy few years !.. On signals from earth will be picked up by other civilizations and the scary heading says : 'don't tell the kids, but ET's got his eye on us' ! I reckon from current TV adverts and my local sweetshop that "kids" are being brainwashed into actual ET's... have you noticed the upsurge campaign? Not forgetting the updated ET film going the rounds... and other such in the pipeline.

THE DAILY MAIL "Night and Day" magazine for February 24th features "ALIEN RESURRECTION" and yes, 'tis about that ET film going the rounds as you read this, since the 29th March. Tom Parker Bowles (!) recalls the original film that became the magical part of this childhood. No doubt adults to... 'twas just that for me in my mid fifties and will maybe be so again. Clever changes... no FBI guns, mobile phones... a more "smiley" ET... more "fog" obscuring that landing spaceship... now WHY ? What are they trying to hide ? Like most experiencers I shall be looking for the hidden 'message'.

THE SUNDAY TIMES... wow! ... also features the ET aspect with an oh so slightly tongue in cheek approach of Tony Barrell as he travels back 25 years to the day when a UFO changed his life... an article in a series of events that changed the lives of Sunday Times writers. Tony even visited Roswell in his search for "answers"... 'packed with nutters in alien suits' he says ! It figures ! Although Tony actually managed to get in a chat with Whitley Strieber... who was of the opinion that the Roswell craft came from the future ! Tony concludes the three page illustrated with the big-eyed grey and various saucer shaped craft by confessing his sighting was, in the end, probably an airplane and he was really sorry !

THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH for March 17th has the usual Fortean Times half page series... by Paul Sieveking, it's editor. These are always interesting, sometimes humorous... "One Eyed Giants", this time, stories of a skull... 'one-eyed giant found in Philippines cave' with the usual accompanying cartoon characters presentation alongside the article. Other such anomalies were

discovered in, variously. Bulgaria (1973), Corinth (Greece) where a temple dedicated to such species stood, etc, etc.

THE DAILY MAIL of March 11th an "Eye of Evil" full page that caught up on the film of THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES that was scheduled for UK showing end of March... as someone who read the original John Keel book in the mid-sixties or early seventies I dropped into the UCG cinema one afternoon and sat stunned... mostly from the Sound Volume !.. and intrigued by how the film-makers dealt with an eight foot human with wings who allegedly sometimes pursued terrified couples in their car at about 60 mph ! Among other weird things ! They didn't... but made a good job of the other anomalies that ended with the "prophesized" lethal collapse of the bridge at Mount Pleasant, West Virginia. Richard Gere played the part of John Keel believably. Event to the point of having to deal with "Communications" etc from his "dead" wife. Worth seeing the film twice if only to clarify the bits that suffered from that volume overkill ! Doubted whether mass audiences would flock to cinemas being mostly ignorant of the original book etc... FOUR people sat in the darkened cinema that late afternoon... including myself and my friend ! Well, in all honesty 'twas a bad time of day. The book... or a successor to it... is again in print but not by John Keel who must have passed on by now ? There was, by the way, a seemingly definite UFO link to Mothman... at least, sightings in the area were reported.

THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH's regular "Close Encounters" section (March 10th) by Fortean Times editor Paul Sieveking had 'rugby footballs' with legs to attract us ! 'This year, there has been a rash of Unidentified Flying Objects in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Colombia and Chile, amounting to what investigators call a UFO flap... so the article begins. Accompanied by a number of encounters with surreal and frightening entities... from distant worlds or parallel universes... or whatever ? Nightmare descriptions too weird to describe here... touches of that chucabara here ! I'd much sooner stick to my "greys" thank you !

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH of March 20th kind of takes that up from there with a coverage of the re-issued and updated ET THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL also doing the cinematic rounds here... fortunately just before April 1st ! "FILM OF THE WEEK" says David Gritten... no jokes about 'Gritten Your Teeth' please ! An extra three minutes on the original and easing off on those FBI guns but substituting mobile phones ! The script is 'not perfect' says David... and not a scene is superfluous... so I shall be going myself to the Odeon at Ocean Village to check it out, musing, as I do so, WHY are we getting an increase on ET, UFO's, Mothman, etc etc in cinemas and X-Files and such on the box ? There are other such a coming ! Note the "new" Mars bar on TV commercials... with a very accurate "alien" and the words "Zero Gravity" prominent for one example. Look in your sweetshop at kiddies stuff... again ! Hmm.

THE DAILY MAIL WEEKEND MAGAZINE (March 23rd) might have the clincher... unless something else pops up ! In a full page article on the ET film, Iain Johnstone relates the ups and downs of the updated epic with Columbia Pictures originally turned down only to have Spielberg and a co-producer at Universal who originally "discovered" Spielberg do it on a deal with Spielberg raising the money and Sid Sheinberg distributing it. President Ronald Reagan is reputed to have watched the original at the White House and looked Spielberg in the face afterwards, saying 'There are about seven people in this room who know that everything in this movie is absolutely true' ! Spielberg comments that he has often wondered what he was on about. NASA astronauts were invited guests there by the way ! One awaits the public reaction to this updated version of a very emotional film. Will people... kids... bawl their eyes out again at the "death" of ET scene ? I have to admit it's a tear jerker... but then I found the "mothership" landing and takeoff moving as well... stirring deep memories for many of us ? YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN !

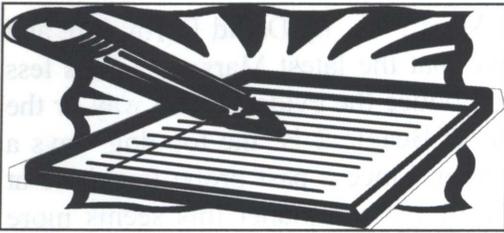
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH of Wednesday 3rd April ran a full page article entitled "Is

There Life on Mars ?" ... by David Derbyshire and set out to prove that the latest Mars probe has less than a year to produce the evidence one way or the other. The British Beagle 2 is 'the top dog' says a NASA spokesman. Since a past probe found ice at the South Pole of the red planet this seems more odd than you know, back in the fifties my home made but very powerful telescope (up to 300 magnification) looked inside the moon craters and the rings of Saturn and seven of the 13 moons of Jupiter plus the white areas at top and bottom of Mars confirmed past theories that this was ice ! Hmm !

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THE DAILY MAIL of April 6th then provoked more questions... even anger... when Fortean Times Editor Bob Rickard told us that "**UFOLOGY IS DEAD**" and "**Convincing UFO footage would have been obtained by camcorders if Earth was being visited**" and... to conclude this small but nasty item, said "**The space around us is dead**" ! My instant e.mail to the Mail accompanied a phone call to Graham Birdsall of UFO Magazine who was very interested... well, he would be.... And he rushed out to get a Mail. Oddly, my e.mail failed to be seen in Monday's Mail two days later (8th April) since the normal Letters section was taken up with opinions on the death of the Queen Mother. So... watch this space ! The same Mail issue however ran a whole page article by the Astronomer Royal Sir Martin Rees provocatively headed "We May Not Be Alone". Knowing how astronomer Royals have the unfortunate (for them) habit of being completely wrong...

(Cont. on page 17)



MAGAZINE REVIEWS
BY ERNIE SEARS.

RAPPORT opens this issues magazine reviews... the London based Witness Support Group mouthpiece... and the news is that it has a new editor, one Mike Rutter, with longtime editor James Millen observing from the touchline. I think... his health not being one hundred per cent although apparently responding to "absent healing" he says. So issue 14 January/February is James's last. Those Chilton Down "Crop pattern's" feature with the question we are all asking... why has no one claimed them ? Witness member Elsie Oakenson on Sky TV's "Where it's At" on her 1978 abduction. James Millen writes an interesting article on "Free Masonry Societies" in extremely captivating detail and the connections with Queen Elizabeth 2nd with England the undisputed supreme Lodge of The World etc. Westminster Abbey holds much of this hidden power. Bill Betts writes a thoughtful article on crop formations and the "message" from possible "outside agencies". A one day "science exhibition" at London's Science Museum features pictures from Mars by a Russian Phobos probe... dead silence from the Museum since and only a short News Item on Channel 4 TV afternoon. A British scientist speaking at the exhibition describes the feature as "like looking at Los Angeles from the air", but the infra red. Chris Robinson's role as a "dream detective" has got him an invitation to be "tested" at The Arizona University of Human Energies Laboratory.

Rapport comes bi-monthly at a suggested price of £1.50. The WSG is only open to non-skeptics and witnesses. No membership fee. Try Mike Rutter on 01296 489 295.

UFO MAGAZINE chock full of very interesting information in the April issue as was the March ditto. Archetypical UFO's going back centuries. Underwater cities pre-dating pyramids ? 2001 crop formations. Japanese films of UFO's. The disappearance of the Lunar rovers. BBC blockage of crop documentaries. Lunar artifacts. Police Officer's UFO evidence gathers support. Those "secret" papers recently released... or not ! Recent meteors... and the one that zigzagged! Still only £2.50 from good shops or subs £24.50 annually for 12 issues or two years at £45.00. QPIL, Valley Farm Way, Wakefield Road, Stourton, Leeds, LS10 1SE, West Yorks. One notes the often suggested alliance with UK groups seemingly coming about... the grass roots of UFOlogy!

OVNI... Omar Fowler's great Phenomena Research Association of Derbyshire publication... bi-monthly at a quid a time ! "At the Cutting Edge" it says and so it is ! Omar's regular phone-in broadcasts on Radio Derby brings in many UFO cases... Those flying triangles in particular. A mysterious "white van" with dish aerial that arrived at a triangle sighting three days later. More than ONE coincidence. That near-miss asteroid of March 8th, recorded four days later ! Bet Blair and co knew about it though ! Larger than that 1908 Tunguska one that exploded. Major flying triangle in East Sussex February 15th during a stunning ten minutes. Almost a SUFOG meeting night again ! Classic Adamski era saucer near Birmingham Airport 5th January. Flying triangle seen over Belgium 1968/69 ! UFO Museum opens in Turkey 18th January 2002 ! 1870 "CIGAR" photo over Mount Washington up for auction ! A very good magazine, long running, from 94 The Circle, Sinfen, Derby, DE24 9H.

THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN ... published by the VICTORIAN U.F.O RESEARCH SOCIETY... March 2002... and packed full of sightings of some significance from not only "Down Under" but world-wide, along with other interesting articles etc. Even a July 7th extra meeting at Moorabbin Airport, Mentone. Air museum nearby. Flight learning available ! Etc. Can't imagine THAT in the UK... as yet ! Crop circles, landings, leaving traces, etc. listed. Implants article via MUFON USA organization and printed in THE UFO ENIGMA issue October 2001 in St. Louis, MO 63131. Coverage of that Mothman movie. George Filer's Files from the United States, Brazil, Mexico, Hawaii, Turkey and even Richmond, Yorkshire... the latter concerning the disappearance of a sheep from a flock... my reading at the

last SUFOG meeting causing much hilarity unprintable in a family magazine ! A 1941 "crashed" saucer WITH DEAD ENTITIES, Missouri, details by a Reverend Huffman, "called in" by authorities to the scene ! "Blacked out" document segment and photo of "dead alien" on a "Majestic Document" website. Another article by our own Gordon Creighton of FSR magazine tells of a huge UFO filmed in Argentina June 23rd 2001. At least 31 other incidents from Down Under regions follow. Try Victorian U.F.O Research Society, Po Box 1043, Moorabbin, Victoria, 3189, Australia... a worthwhile addition to YOUR knowledge of this ongoing world-wide enigma.

UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE can be called "magazine" types as it is so thick and full of sightings and edited by none other than Lucius Farish... a name reckoned with over many years. The stapled together 20 pager is a collection of cuttings on crop circles, bigfoot, aliens, UFO's etc etc. An item on the new Mel Gibson film "Signs" is intriguing because it features crop circles and one in particular ! The actual formation was filmed in 1993 at Kennewick, WA, and was both huge and unique in design... who ever designed it ! Strange effects on people and farm machinery were reported by farmer Bateman subsequently although he doesn't think "aliens" did it. A Disclosure Project enthusiast is also touring the States with books, lectures, films etc, with the stunning evidence by believable witnesses which was largely ignored by the world media. The Visitors, Aliens, whatever your choice, are still much in the United States new judging from these cuttings. Area 51 also features. Also a long article from the CITY PAPER Washington with cartoon style illustrations. "Who's out there?" asks one cutting followed by "Aliens are out there" in another. Bonnybridge and Wrexham in the UK are newsworthy items here and world-wide it seems. West Yorkshire, Vancouver, Las Vegas, crop formations, cattle mutilations back, Mothman... THE TRUTH... Nikola Tesla, Bigfoot in Texas, Atlantis... it's all here in the UFO CUTTINGS collection... and why not ? Our own Steve G, Timothy Good, etc, all send in cuttings... where my own probably end up via Steve ! Surely proof, if proof is still needed, that UFO's and the PARANORMAL is being increasingly experienced world-wide and, in the end, THE TRUTH WILL OUT !

(Cont. from page 15)

Or even nuts... I approached this one with caution. Just as well since Rees has published a book on alien life... title "Our Cosmic Habitat"... (Weidenfeld and Nicolson) Studied with gems such as 'we haven't been visited doesn't mean that aliens don't exist' and he is open minded about the existence of aliens even though he doesn't believe we've found them yet'.

I rest my case... for now ! Although... here we go again !... THE DAILY MAIL didn't print MY provocative and to the point letter on the Fortean Times and the subsequent unsatisfactory Channel 4 TV spot. The Daily Mail however, printed a letter from a Mrs. J. Hilliard of Skegness on the 12th April, rebutting the Fortean Times and the Astronomer Royal's views on UFO's, quoting her family's sightings over their home during the 2001 lunar eclipse. 'one of many sightings' in an area of 'high RAF activity' but 'none can be attributed to the military, to quote. Certainly the 2001 object sounds very much a "UFO" whatever that might be. Silent, abrupt change of direction, orange heart shaped etc.

SUFOG EXPENSES.

Dear members,

Due to my PC dying and costing £200 to repair and my 2nd video recorder dying and costing £150 to replace, I have decided to take some money from group funds to pay towards the repairs/new equipment. I never take money from the group in the past (Only for our web site), and as I use the PC for approx. 80% of the time, and the video recorder some 70% of the time for the group, why should I have to dig in my own very empty pockets all the time to supplement the group. If the computer is not repaired, then the newsletter will have to be put to bed. This still leaves approx. £115.00 in the SUFOG bank account as of the end of April 2002.

Steve Gerrard (SUFOG Chairman)

BOOK REVIEW.

TITLE: Borley PostScript. **AUTHOR:** Peter Underwood **PUBLISHER:** White House Publications, P.O. Box 65, Haslemere, GU27 1XT, England. **PRICE:** £10:00. **ISBN:** 0-9537721-1-x

When we talk about who's who in the world of ghostly Investigations, one name that always springs to mind is that of seasoned researcher Peter Underwood. Peter is a long standing member of the Society for Psychical Research, Patron of the Ghost Research Foundation, and President of the Ghost Club Society. He has spent over half a century researching the paranormal and this, his 46th book features unpublished material and never before seen illustrations pertaining to the most haunted house in England. Borley Rectory.

Much has been said about Borley Rectory some of it complete and utter nonsense, one things for sure, just like the Roswell Incident the Borley haunting's have their own fair share of many witnesses to testify to the oft scary occurrences. The actual Rectory burned down in a mysterious fire back in 1939 (predicted by an ouija board session) but Borley Church still stands and it too can testify to lots of paranormal occurrences which in point of fact continue to this day. So, does this book tell us anything new, has it anything more to offer than the many other books of the same ilk ! 'You betcha it does' !

Briefly for those readers who are new to the subject of this major British case. Borley Rectory was situated on the borders of Essex and Suffolk and was built in 1863 (on the site of an earlier building). Various people occupied it notably the Reverend Harry Bull and his family and it was during the Bull's residency at Borley that strange and quite frightening things occurred. Footsteps were heard walking along the dark corridors yet nothing or nobody was seen. Strange smells, the sound of kitchen bells ringing, a phantom coach and horses would race at an alarming rate near the Rectory, a ghostly nun was seen many times walking outside in the Rectory grounds. Scrawled messages would appear

inside on the walls of the Rectory and on scraps of paper. Cold spots and ghostly voices were but some of the many reported strange things that occurred in this gloomy Victorian mansion house. It was the paranormal Investigator's dream case, but for those who lived in the Rectory it was certainly nothing of the kind and caused many a sleepless night. O.K. let's take a look at why this book shines above the other books that I've read about Borley. The first chapter of the book is made up from the author's lecture notes from lectures given to the Royal Photographic Society, the Ghost Club Society, and the Society for Psychical Research.

The author tells us that the Rectory was built around a courtyard and a great bell was hung high up in the courtyard to get the attention of household members, however, this bell didn't always wait to be rung naturally and would often ring very loudly of it's own accord. The author was given this bell and it now hangs in his home, although he tells his readers that as yet, it hasn't mysteriously rang of it's own accord, he's still waiting ! The Reverend Harry Bull was quoted as saying that spirits always seemed to do mundane things and that when he died and if there was a life after death, he would come back and throw moth balls around, 'something different on would say'. Many years later after the death of Harry Bull, some researchers were entering Borley Rectory and were astonished to be met and hit by mothballs !! The early part of the book gives us numerous eye-witness testimonies from people who have seen what was termed 'The Blue Nun'. The three Bull sisters first saw the nun back on the 28th of July 1900. Even after Borley Rectory was destroyed by fire, many people still claim to see this sad woman walking along the grounds near the site of the old Rectory. The author continues with incident after incident of strange phenomena, eventually the 'goings on' in the Rectory reached the ears of one of Britain's foremost psychical researchers at that time, one Harry Price. Harry first came to Borley Rectory in 1929 thinking that this would be a short lived case, how wrong he was !! One of the things that Harry Price did was to excavate the cellars, and during the excavation he found human remains of which a dental surgeon confirmed were that of a young woman. The skull showed a deep-seated abscess which would have given anyone considerable pain. The sightings of the nun were always of a sad young woman who appeared to have been crying. Could this skull have belonged to her !

The author also tells that many people who have visited Borely Rectory found much to their surprise that their camera equipment malfunctioned, or that on development of their photographs, they found, much to their surprise 'extra images' on their photographs!! Part 2 of the book details a 1947 BBC radio broadcast entitled, 'The Haunted Rectory'. This details testimony from witnesses and also those who lived in the Rectory plus the testimony of researcher Harry Price. This is a fascinating script to read more so because it's coming back into the public domain for the first time in many years, and it really shows how strong the emotions were at that time. Something else which is also seeing the light of day for the first time is the so called 'Anonymous Letter'! This concerns a letter written by someone and sent into the Editor of the Suffolk Free Press. The letter was eventually given over to Harry Price who believed it to be genuine. Basically it concerns the vision by two men, of the by now infamous 'coach and horses'. Both men not only witnessed this coach and horses race by them almost knocking them to the ground, but were astonished at it's final departure, and what makes this departure so special! Read the book and find out it's certainly different!! Lucie Meeker, formally the secretary and librarian of Harry Price's National laboratory of psychical research tells of the night they both spent at Borley Rectory in which Harry occupied the famous and very haunted 'Blue Room'. Both Lucie and Harry were not to be disappointed and quite an incredible paranormal night was nervously enjoyed by both of which the events are described in full, (how I wish I had have been there !!)

There is so many incredible events that the author relates in this book all from witnesses who were there who experienced things first hand, that you begin to think "*Surely nothing can top all this*" ! But I found there were even more incredible occurrences, and again the following is probably the first time this has been told, certainly in book form. We are told that the late Montague Elleman a former journalist visited the ruins of Borley Rectory in 1946, whilst there, he picked up a 17 inch charred piece of oak beam. O.K. nothing the matter with that so far, but this is where it gets interesting. He visited his married sister in London and placed the piece of oak beam in his bedroom and went downstairs to dinner. Suddenly from upstairs came the sound of intense shrieking, his sister came downstairs and said that she had seen what looked like a black garbed nun standing motionless in his room ! he hadn't told his

sister anything about this piece of wood. ! Mr Elelman's brother Mike was also a witness to strange phenomenon whilst he was in a room which harboured this very select piece of Borley history. Mr Elelman also took this piece of wood to his fiancée's parent's house in Surrey, and once more the supernatural intervened. Shuffling and footsteps were heard in the home, which they couldn't account for. Mr Elelman was quoted as saying at the time, "*It looked as if moving the wood was like shaking up ginger beer, which became all fuss and activity until it settled down again*". And what became of this amazing artefact! Again read the book to find out.

The author then relates his first ever visit to Borley Rectory in 1947 and his account makes for very interesting reading. However it's the chapter on Louis Mayerling, who's book, 'We Faked The Ghosts Of Borley Rectory' (published in 2000) that truly shows the reader that this chap was 'barking mad'. His book is full of so many inaccuracies and falsities that a prize should be given to him for the tallest tale this side of Jupiter!!! Louis maintains that the Borley case was the biggest hoax in history, yet when researcher Alan Roper looked into Louis's background and checked his facts how he reached his conclusions, he found Louis's Pinocchio lies were everywhere, even his birth certificate was false in the respect that it did not state what he was claiming. Louis did admit in a BBC TV programme in December 2000, that he had exaggerated 'here and there' (I'll say!)

The author then presents numerous eye witness testimonies, many of which are given over for the first time. We also learn of the attacks by fellow researches on the credibility of Harry Price, again totally unwarranted and they waited until he was dead to say these things. The final segment of the book relates to Peter Underwood's visit to Harry Price's home on the river Arun at Pulborough in Sussex where he met up with Harry's widow Constance Mary Price, and Peter's wonderful style of writing makes you feel that you too are inside the home of Harry Price. This is a wonderful book and a joy to read, much of the information in this book is being presented for the very first time and the never before

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mentioned witnesses who tell graphically what they have seen, well if you don't get shivers running up and down your spine after reading this, then you never will. Borley Rectory will always be remembered as the biggest case in the annals of the supernatural and quite rightly too. On this evidence, it deserves it.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson, SPI (England)/
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Still Crying After 20 Years !!!

I must admit, I cried my eyes out at the age of 39 yrs old... !!! Why you may ask. Well, it is the 20th Anniversary of E.T (The Extraterrestrial) and the new edition has hit the large screen. I took my youngest son philip (aged 11 yrs old) along to hold my hand. I remember, when I saw it when I was around 19 yrs old, I cried my eyes out.. Nothing has changed in the last 20 years then !!

The anniversary edition includes scenes that were not shown when it hit the screens

in 1982, and the film has not changed at all. E.T takes a swim in Elliott's bath and we see more when E.T. is dying, when the house is taken over by the authorities and they are trying to save E.T's life. The sound track and the film quality is as good as ever and has been digitally enhanced with Dolby surround. So, I am a big baby, but I am proud of it. E.T. is just good family fun, and okay, this may not be the way we eventually are introduced to E.T. but, what the heck, it is nice to dream. Go and see E.T. if you can and live a dream and slip into the imaginary world of E.T., because, one day, it won't be imaginary, it may just, come true....

STAR WARS EPISODE 2.

The trailers for Star Wars : Episode 2 at the pictures are stunning and look as if it lives up to the reputation of the previous Star Wars movies. The fighting scenes and battles, are breath taking and this again, is another film to lose yourself in and just slip into an imaginary world. Although not on general release until the 16th May 2002 in the United Kingdom, my son and I have already booked our seats for what looks to be yet another Star Wars epic..

MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU.. !!!!
COMING TO A CINEMA SCREEN NEAR YOU...
MAY 16TH 2002...

A WONDERFUL DAY IN DORCHESTER..

Or: It shouldn't have happened to a SUFOG Chairman !!!

Well, it was when I set out on the 60 minute drive to Dorchester on my lonesome. Over the years, I have attended a number of conferences with the SUFOG table with great success. So it was I traveled with a feeling that SUFOG would walk away with a few more pennies. Little did I know what lay ahead!

I always ask if members can lend a hand and well in advance (12 months!!!), but it was not to be. So, I packed the car at 7 a.m. on Sunday the 7th April and headed off into the bright morning sunlight and I arrived at around 8.10 a.m. I parked the car outside, unpacked the car and set up the table. I met Chris Martin and had a good chat and the doors opened at 9.30 a.m. People came in and looked around the tables but no sales. Chris Martin opposite me seemed to be doing a brisk trade in videotapes. Break, followed by lunch and then the afternoon break. By 2 p.m. I had sold £14's worth of goods. Chris Martin said that he had sold over £350 worth of videotapes and was heading home at 4 p.m. By around 5 p.m. two people had subscribed to SUFOG and our total takings/sales had reached a staggering £30!! I packed up and headed home at around 7 p.m. and arrived home at 8.30 p.m..

So, what had I achieved in 12 hrs... a soar ass to start with, as I had to sit with the SUFOG table all day!!! From the £30, I took £10 petrol, and we had to give something towards the draw (David Kingston does not charge for tables), and that was another £7 (Double video). Also, I did a SUFOG draw, and from this we made £5 (included in the £30), and the prize was a book (£10) and 2 yrs SUFOG membership (£14). So, what did SUFOG make from this venture: A stinking total loss of - £ 11.00.

This was partly because, doing the draw (which we do very successfully normally), was that I was unable to go around selling the tickets. Also, even selling magazines at 10p each, people were not even interested. So, I have to re-think what we are selling at such ventures. I have binned all the old magazines / books I had and I intend to do a review of such ventures in the future.

One final note, if SUFOG is invited to have a

table at such a venture again (and we have on the 19th October in London), and if no one offers to go along to help, then I am **NOT** going on my own again, like at Dorchester wasting 12 hrs. and also a days leave the following day ever again.

The ball is in the group member's court.

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SKY WATCH : SATURDAY 20TH APRIL 2002.

This was one of the first chances we had or carrying out a sky watch due to the weekend weather we have encountered over the previous months. A few phone calls were made between 7.30 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. and we decided to go ahead although the moon was rather hazy. We (Bill, Jean, Mark, Andy and myself) met at the local sky watch meeting point and walked towards the hill... Suddenly, we saw a very bright white light in the sky coming towards us at what appeared to be a low altitude. Suddenly, it just disappeared, like turning off a light... Was this an omen for the night to come ?

On arrival at our site, we found our usual bench and set up camp and waited expectantly... We saw a number of satellites and one or two strange lights... aircraft lights in origin... and we saw the planetary alignment... We had a very good and jovial time and by 00.30 a.m., with us all having to be up between 7 and 8 a.m. decided to call it a night.

Okay, we did not see anything worthy of noting... Maybe the first light we saw... Maybe.... Maybe not... As for the rest of the night, enjoyable and very sociable . Our next sky watch is planned for the 26th April and who knows, this maybe the night when we come face to face with E.T. and all of his friends... Oh look, a pig has just flown past my window...

More sky watches are planned and Steve Rider, SUFOG secretary and sky watch organizer has drawn up a questionnaire that we will be sending out in the very near future for your suggestions and comments. Where would you like us to hold a sky watch if you could attend on either a Friday or Saturday evening?

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“With Friends Like These... “
By Ernie Sears.

Stunned belief must have been written on my wizened face as I watched the very brief.. Seven minutes ?.. UFO spot on the Richard and Judy Show, Tuesday 9th April, after the hooah stemming from the Fortean Times putdown of the whole UFO enigma in the Daily Mail of the 6th. The chosen twosome of Georgina Bruni (“You can’t Tell the People”.. Authoress of the Rendlesham affair update) and Judith Jafaar, BUFORA “Training Officer” and other positions within BUFORA, did their best (or worst?) in the limited time against the sometimes inane comments of Richard (his known forte). Having been consulted myself by the programme’s organiser Zoe the previous day and offered the opportunity of appearing on the show... as Steve G was (he was working and unable) and others... I was quite willing to go... Seeing Judith described as the “sceptic” as almost ... but not quite, unbelievable ! Her brief but pungent attack on apparently the bulk of UFO sightings, incidents etc, condemned all witnesses... including, as it did, pilots, military and other observers et al... as being badly ‘mistake’ in ‘misidentifications’ while the mere idea of true ‘aliens’ as such banished to the realms of the impossible. One wonders... not for the first time... why she holds her position in BUFORA, and, currently, why she isn’t on the staff of Fortean Times ! Sorry to be so blunt... and apologies are well meant, since at my own BUFORA invited talk in November 2000 Judith and her partner Marc Robinson treated me well at their lovely home. However, Judith did ALL of us a dis-service, even delivering an insult to those of us who have “had the experiences”... which she patently hasn’t! Anyone thinking of confiding their very personal experiences to BUFORA will now be giving p the idea! Were I not totally committed to the TRUTH I’d be seriously rethinking my membership! Poor Georgina Bruni was lost for words and could only just shake her head although she put good points to as the suggestion that the Rendlesham affair was somehow linked to the Cash-Landrum ditto in Texas... Judith obviously has misinterpreted some of the important differences.

No no no ! The programme planners did a

poor job... trying to excuse them because of the time limitations on a sombre day of the Royal funeral... also featured on the sixty minute programme... is about all I can offer when determined and erroneous efforts were made to bury the hatchet firmly in the heads of UFOlogy ! A similar communication to this is on the way to Channel Four... and possibly to the BUFORA Bulletin Magazine....

“SCEPTICISM AS MYSTIQUE”

Is the explanatory title to the eight page screed that Colin Bennett sent me... explained modestly, considering, it’s contents and sweep, of the blow by blow talk Colin gave at that controversial Fortean Times Unconvention on the 6th April 2002 at the Commonwealth Institute London and which forms ‘Appendix One of his forthcoming new book on Charles Fort.

If the whole UFOlogical movement needs a champion... and it DOES... Colin shows his mettle in this role with some hard hitting and factual arguments that tears to shreds the individual and in total scepticism that we’ve seen in the past and very recently. The fact that he stood up against the Fortean Times clique whose tongue in the cheek sideswipes at UFO’s increasingly over the years lost them many readers... I know of six such personally, myself included ! Points from Colin’s talk... much of it a scholarly epistle indeed... show how scepticism usually allies itself with established Authority... and ‘Chronic cultural scepticism is a dangerous intellectual allergy’... what we see aimed at the paranormal or anomalous as ‘an illusion’. Whereas “local” scepticism is wholly healthy. It protects us, the actual experiencers, against the ‘statements of politicians’ to quote Colin freely... Lord knows we’re aware of that!

British born genius during the last war was suppressed, even its proponents “put down”, if they were either homosexual or even heterosexual... Colin gives exact details. He says sceptical forces can destroy lives, intellectual life, restrict knowledge, and cause national decline. Can we not see this currently? Denial of THE TRUTH? I was acquainted with Isle of Wight aerodynamicist Leonard Cramp in the seventies... he wrote the definitive “Piece for a Jigsaw” which “proved” George Adamski’s... and others... UFO encounters to be THE TRUTH. I

even stood in for Leonard... not very well !!!... on a Radio Victory (Portsmouth) broadcast when I was a BUFORA representative, when an illness overtook him! The presenter was a paid sceptic! Colin Bennett's talk claims that Cramp was, like Adamski, a UFO contactee. No surprise ! It takes one to recognise one!

In a current act of "conspiracy", "an organised attack on the icons of UFOlogy" has become evident. I personally see it as "desperation" from increasing events in my life and that of others. SFOG, the Southampton UFO Group, has films, personal and group experiences on the increase in the last few years which would, and does, send "sceptics" running in fear ! As we saw from that traitorous Richard and Judy show "inspired" by the Fortean Times 'tiny media item, "self deception", "hallucinations", and outright "fraud and hoaxing", were the weapons brought into play against THE TRUTH... in Colin Bennett's talk... which I regard as simply brilliant... we see the age old war between 'belief systems' as he calls it. Very telling is Colin's statement in a welter of such is 'whether sceptics replace UFO's with spots before the eyes, supersonic pelicans, (re Arnold!), or marsh gas, they show that the one thing Explanation does is make you go away'. 'Diverting attention from the original target'. Shakespeare's plays used a dialogue between inner and outer states... he recognised THE ALL as many of us call it. Who was it said something like 'if thou pick a flower, thou will change a star'... or such... a saying I have used in my on MSS. Thus the jokes about Adamski's "water cooler" scoutships are still in our culture... we see them used on children's sweet packets... or media cartoon's... although one notes an increase in those TV commercials of sprightly and smiling "grey's" floating about doing impossible things with the product. (one such carries the words "zero gravity"!) proving, maybe, that somewhere, and by whom, THE THRUTH IS COMING!

I have unashamedly leaned heavily on the words of Colin Bennett... 'some sort of genius' is the descriptive phrase that springs to mind... he is also a very brave man to enter the lists against the "Evil Black Knight" ! Having thoroughly enjoyed his recent Adamski book "Looking For Orthon" (Paraview Press), (also available from SUFOG's editorial address) I'm

looking forward very much to his book on Charles Fort, "Politics of the Imagination" (Publishers Critical Vision) £12.99 due out 27th May 2002.

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ODDS AND ENDS... BUT NOT ALWAYS!
BY ERNIE SEARS.

An intended collection of items that don't fit anywhere else and which may well suit the ongoing demand for more such!

"Aliens and Marketing" says it's an overview of how companies use the UFO phenomenon to market their products and comes in a neat package of pages written and produced by one Stewart Edwards, BA, ACA, SCEA. Stewart has picked up on recent SUFOG items such as alien orientated confectionary for kids... a good point, you'll agree? I recently spotted an example on TV concerning a "new flavour" Mars bar which has a really lifelike "grey" floating around... spindly legs etc and those big eyes... but it was the words "Zero Gravity" beneath which made me blink. I mean, what has that got to do with a chocolate based bar? Heard on that Disclosure Project a short while ago... largely ignored by the media... but "Zero Gravity"... hmm ! I also saw a bowl of small Easter Eggs in my local shop with an alien motif. Taking this further, what lies behind it, REALLY? Brainwashing a future generation? Preparing them? Add the current ET The Extraterrestrial updated version going the cinematic round... is it just for the money for Spielberg? Then there's THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES ... how many kids or even adults would KNOW about the goings on in the USA backwoods of Mount Pleasant in the sixties that spawned a book by investigator/ experiencer John Keel? Then there's the repeat of "Riddle of the Skies" which I saw over Easter Weekend... seemed more gripping than the original which I am sure I've got on tape. While in the USA the popular Mel Gibson stars in "Signs"... the outline plot revolves around crop circles and the real meaning behind them... should be in our cinemas in the autumn. While a Spielberg TV series of ten episodes or so plainly entitled "Sightings" will probably reach here this year too. You'll have added your own examples. (Funny, I thought there

was already an American series called "Sightings" from America ? Surely, there will be law suits flying around if the series title is not changed ?)

Stewart Edwards also gave us a four pager on "British Alien Abduction Research"... a Discussion Paper... and asks for comments on his copyright project that sums up and suggests solutions to several weaknesses in the UK abduction support field... one of which I often speak of . This is the FACT that most UFO organisations are run by dedicated people who deal with this awesome enigma in what spare time they have ! I hesitate to use the description "amateurs" since the experience or knowledge comes first and dealing with it second ! I'm lucky, I admit, since a set of circumstances in the late seventies meant I got made redundant from my job and, it seems, all such future employment. Thus, at 55, I had a lot of free time which allowed me to investigate, deeply, the strange objects I'd been seeing since 1960 and more so in the seventies and ever since. So you COULD say I became a fully professional UFO investigator. Hopefully, currently, an author too ! Of course, I don't get paid ! That's not the answer... although the TV and Radio appearances, and SOME lectures, means, like many of us, get our services for free ! There isn't any immediate solution to this overall problem. Yet ! A different situation prevails in the USA. Paid or unpaid professionals exist in numbers. Ranged against us we ourselves have the salaried Ministers, MoD officials, etc... and those whose position enables them to assure the general public, the media, and even leading politicians and Prime Ministers... and Presidents !... that there's 'nothing in it' ! It allows them to LIE !

Of course, we know better, don't we? So speak up... write... together we stand, divided we fall... support our group in as many ways

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that you can... sit down and THINK... there are entities "out there" who will help... reflect on the many "coincidences" you have on whatever matter you are thinking of.

Apropos of that last bit, a paper "fell into my hands"... "Probability Theory and the UFO Reality"... by Donald R. Burleson, Ph.D. and I quote : "It follows that the probability that at least some UFO's are extraterrestrial , given the Roerich sighting (Nicholas Roerich and his party sighted a fast travelling, high altitude, metallic, disc shaped object over the Himalayas, in ideal daytime conditions, and with the aid of binoculars... in 1926 ! Only 23 years after Kittyhawk) Total UFO sceptics, Donald goes on to say, will always have an uphill job maintaining their position when the theory of probability abundantly supports the notion that the Universe is replete with life, and that we are being visited by flying objects that are in many cases unaccountable except in terms of the extraterrestrial hypothesis. Some UFO's are from the Great Outside and you can bet on that!

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WHAT IS ?

A question to ponder from the previous article by Ernie Sears : '**What is a professional UFOlogist**'... I am not a professional UFOlogist and as far as I ma concerned there is no such person as a 'Professional UFOlogist'.. To be a professional, one requires professional qualifications... Who offers such ... BUFORA 'Trains' Investigators and there is a course at 'Totton College' that claims to give you a pass equivalent to an 'A level'. Note the word equivalent... We all get into the subject because we have a general interest in the subject, no more, no less. There are those who want the lime light and think that they should be top dog.. We are professional in how we deal with sightings, but there 'Is no such thing as PROFESSIONAL UFOlogist'. If someone says they are, ask to see their written qualifications... Remember, there are people in UFOlogy with big ego's and nothing more. Us genuine UFO researchers have no formal qualifications, just good at heart and wanting to find out the truth.

Steve Gerrard April 2002.