

MAPIT SKYWATC..

The M A N C H E S T E R Scene

U.F.O.

Newsletter of FSIT Manchester

NEWSLETTER 1

SEPTEMBER 1973

YOUR MOUTHPIECE:

Why do we need a newsletter? There are many reasons not the least of which is to keep everybody bang up to date with what is happening on the UFO front in and around Manchester. It also gives everyone a sense of belonging to something, and this is very important because only through a TEAM effort will we do anything towards our aim - to collate enough information on as many cases as possible to so that officialdom will simply have to sit up and listen. We can't solve the UFO problem ourselves, but it will not be solved without us! Apart from containing news and views on our own activities we will try where possible to widen the scope to encompass the world wide UFO field. Don't forget YOUR views count - let us know what you think or give us any ideas for investigation techniques or research. Although a good deal of our space will be devoted to investigation reports there will be regular features about the more theoretical aspects of the subject. We start with just a news-sheet, basically because of economics, but it could soon grow. REMEMBER this is your mouth-piece. MAKE SURE IT HAS SOMETHING TO SAY.

FSIT NEWS:

On the national front the Nottingham unit just pipped us as the first operating branch. They have some two dozen members and are involved in some interesting cases, of which more will be published at an early date. The country is being divided into eight or nine regions, although final boundaries are not settled and it may be that we are responsible for a larger area than at present we envisage. To prepare for this we have subdivided the area into sections, and recently area controllers have been appointed. They will soon contact you, and the hope is that they will help overcome the geographic problems incurred over our large region by maintaining a much more personal contact with everyone. I am sure that they will make sure that everyone who wants to do something has the opportunity to do so. They will be responsible for all investigation in their area and reports will be submitted to me. Basically it is my job to keep all records and type out copy reports of each case for FSIT HQ and our own files. With this and general secretarial duties, plus of course this newsletter, I have my hands full. A similar problem may arise with the area controllers and they may well ask you to fill positions of responsibility. If they do I hope you are able, but even so it is the work of YOU, the investigators, by whom our whole aim will stand or fall. YOU MUST DO YOUR JOB AS WELL AS POSSIBLE. The following are the area controllers :-
NORTH EAST: Mr G Leonard 61 Brierley Av, Failsworth, M35 0RF (TEL: 682-0871)
SOUTH WEST: Mr DL Rees 'Leuna' 40 Mersey Rd, Sale M33 1LF (TEL: 973-0307)
SOUTH EAST: Miss CH Brown 2 Shelley Gr, Millbrook, Stalybridge (TEL: 338-4923)

TALKING POINT:

It was hoped that for the first 'Talking Point' the results of the aptitude forms could be considered, but as yet only 10 out of the 28 have been returned. Let's hope that we can do this next month. Instead what about the scope of our activity? Do we confine ourselves to UFO sightings or should we look at ALL unusual phenomena? The Nottingham Unit are doing this and it is true that there is a known correlation between psychic activity (ie ghosts & plotergeists) and UFO's. What about such things as power failures? These have been UFO caused before. Your area controllers are thinking carefully about this point and I am sure that they would welcome your views.

INVESTIGATION SECTION

In this section each month will be contained a brief synopsis of each selected investigation. Obviously, owing to the large number, we will not be able to detail every one but the files are always available for reference to any investigator. One general point. Several cases still have some loose ends. When looking at a case always TRY to find an explanation and check this - in this way you will be more thorough. Remember too that witnesses often forget details and don't mention them. It is up to you to stir their memory. Those little points may be the key that we are missing.

CASE: 73 h 001 (ie 1973, h= August, case number 1)

Witness; G. Dunscombe Date: Aug 18 1973 Place: Reddish Duration: 2 hours

The witness is 53 and although an invalid is a very capable observer. He noted a very bright circular light above a house close by when closing the curtains. The time was 8pm and the light remained stationary for about 2 hours. At 11pm it had disappeared. The light was described as similar to a Molotov basket dropped during the war or a car headlight. It was 6" in diameter AT ARMS LENGTH. There was no sound and no movement. There were no other witnesses.

INVESTIGATION: Miss Drury (SE2) interviewed the witness in great depth, tape recording the conversation. Also Mr Randles (SW1) spoke to him for an hour on the telephone. One immediate thought is that it was an Astronomical phenomena, but he is quite sure that it did not move and also a bright star (which has been identified as Jupiter) was seen exactly where it should have been. This was the brightest object visible but the UFO was at least 20 times as bright as this. Even if we can explain the size through optical effects this would tend to rule out a star etc. Likewise an aircraft does not seem to fit the facts. From measurements made the size of the object is thought to be 40' - but an unanswered question is why nobody else in quite a populated area reported such an object on a Saturday night!

CONCLUSION: No explanation has been found and it would seem that a UFO is very probable in this case. Both investigators do not consider a hoax/hallucination at all likely. What we could do now is try to find more witnesses. Before it gets too late visit the witnesses's neighbours. Perhaps the SE controller will take this in hand.

CASE: 73 j 001

Witness; W Davies Date: Sept 12 1973 Place: Moors near Oldham Duration: 10 seconds

During early morning with the Sun just up the witness sighted through a bus window a cone shaped object over Potts & Pans Hill. It hovered for about ten seconds then shot off at an incredible speed and vapourised. The object was described as metallic bronze (probably strongly reflecting the Sun which was BEHIND the observer)

INVESTIGATION: The case was investigated by NE1, 2 & 5 Mrs Wanner and Mr Frost, Mr Aspinall. They interviewed the witness and visited the scene. The area would seem to be quite desolate and so further witnesses may not be available. It is not known whether any markings were visible, but there was no sound. The dissolution of the object is reminiscent of an optical phenomena but it could be due to the speed of departure.

CONCLUSION: The investigators feel that this was a genuine UFO experience. It would be useful to get more facts to try to confirm or disprove the optical theory however. The weather conditions and any aircraft in the vicinity could be checked with Ringway. A further interview may well bring more points to light.

SEVERAL OTHER CASES ARE IN COURSE OF INVESTIGATION, NOTABLY A LANDING WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE LEFT MARKINGS. TRY TO FIND OTHERS BUT DON'T SIT EASY KEEP PRESSING FOR MORE FACTS.