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SKYWATCH

SKYWATCH is the publication of the Manchester Aerial Phenomena

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SKYWATCH is an informal publication devoted to UFOlogy and related subjects. Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the Team or Editor. Items included in SKYWATCH may be reproduced in full or part; it would be appreciated if copies of journals using material would send a copy to the editorial address.....

FEEDBACK-----READERS LETTERS-----FEEDBACK

Dear David,

"SUFOI seems to be a fast growing organisation with many activities planned for 1979. SUFOI had a fine 1978 with a lot of new subscribers to UFONYT, our great exhibition from 1977 (please enclosed, find some pictures) is still touring the country and our lecturers have a lot to do. Our technical dept: FOTA will send our own detector (UFD) on the market (we hope) and we have started EDB-registration of our reports. In this way we do hope our report material will form the basis of scientific research".
Yours sincerely, Karen Linneballe, Sekretariatet-SUFOI, Denmark.....

Dear David,

"From one editor to another, there really isn't much that I can say about SKYWATCH, except that it is a very good publication done with extreme professionalism. I enjoyed reading the last issue from cover to cover and look forward to the next issue. I convey to you my congratulations and best wishes for continued success".
Sincerely yours in UFO Research, Howard Barker, Western Regional Director, UFO Bureau of Georgia, Colorado, USA.....

Dear David,

"As for the House of Lords debate, if you've read my piece in MUF08 about publicity, you will see that I hold out no hope at all for any constructive developments from this all too predictable affair. It has done nothing except strengthen the hand of those who want to abolish the House of Lords! It is comparatively easy for publicity-conscious elements to get yards of newspaper space for any sort of twitterings about UFO's. Real progress involves getting serious researchers from all parts of the academic spectrum involved in the subject, and this is hardly likely to happen by getting UFO articles sandwiched between the tits and bums in the Sun or the Star. (UK National Newspapers - Ed) And a final thought, what happens when politicians start getting interested in UFO's? Just ask Sir Eric Gairy of Grenada! and on that interesting touch of paranoia I'd better say,
Cheers, John Rimmer, MUF08, Surrey.....

* * * * *

The following article is by Chris Rutkowski of UFO Research Manitoba in Canada; he is also editor of the Swamp Gas Journal. The First Family of UFOlogy is taken from an interview Chris had with Allen Hynek and his wife Mimi on Hecl3 Island, Manitoba - 100 miles North of Winnipeg. DLR.

THE FIRST FAMILY OF UFOLOGY - by Chris Rutkowski.

I knocked on the door and waited. A muffled noise echoed inside, then silence. I knocked again, and this time the door opened. There he stood, pen in hand. "Come in, come in," he said. "I was just doing some writing."
Dr. Hynek led me into the room, and sat down on a bed. "Take a seat," he told me.
Shoes off, dressed in clothes suited for relaxing, he looked like anyone's father. In fact, an employee of the resort we were at commented to me about "That old guy with the beard". But he's really just as active, if not moreso, than when he wasn't retired, since he's travelling quite a bit now, and accepting many more invitations to lecture.

His wife came into the room: a definitely nice woman with straight grey hair, and again, quite active, as she was just about to go skiing. She was followed by two of their sons - Paul, 16 and Ross, 15 - who had come up to Hecla Island with them to view the eclipse. They were, of course, quite impressed by the event, as everyone was, but also managed to take in everything else the resort had to offer, including snow-shoeing, swimming, badminton and, no doubt, girl-watching.

I asked Mimi Hynek if she would grant me a few questions, and she agreed. I began with one thing I've always wondered about; I asked her to describe the day that Dr. Hynek came home and said, "Dear, I'm investigating UFO's"

"There never was a day like that," she said, much to my disappointment. "It was all very gradual. It began probably in 1948; he mentioned at one point that the Air Force asked him to sort through some reports of lights in the sky, and pick out the meteors. At the time, it wasn't very significant".

"Were you a little, er, 'worried', that your husband had something to do with flying saucers?"

"No. It wasn't that unusual".

"She would ask the wrong questions in the beginning," Dr. Hynek explained. "Things like 'How did they get here?' and 'Where are they from?'; questions one got at public talks or media interviews. It was, of course, because she didn't have enough background in the subject to give her a detailed explanation of what she was asking. I'm afraid we didn't talk that much about it then".

"But now, I've got the exposure to it," Mrs. Hynek said, nodding, "after years of taking messages for him and having to learn some of it that way".

"She couldn't understand why it took so long to find out the answers," Dr. Hynek added. "I was quite glad when Jacques Vallee came along, as I finally had somebody to talk with about the subject".

"'Behind every great man is a great woman'; does that apply to you?" I asked her.

"No," she answered, "Not in the beginning. As I said, it took a while".

"What do your children think?"

"Not much; they're quite blasé about it".

"Sometimes it's, 'Oh, you're on TV again?'" Dr. Hynek added.

"There was one time," Mrs. Hynek went on, "when I was on television many years back and Paul was a year and a half. He went up and kissed the TV screen".

"Are they following in their daddy's footsteps?"

"Well," she said, "Scott is working in nuclear physics and Joel works for an optical supply house. But Paul and Ross are sixteen and fifteen; we'll see."

(I was a bit sheepish now, as I had asked another question earlier about their children. Obviously, they're not "children" anymore).

"What do you think of your husband's wide media exposure, which turns occasionally to you?"

"Publicity is a trap!" Mrs. Hynek said strongly. "I don't like it because it's so, so, -"

"I would disagree with that," said her husband. "In the kind of thing we're dealing with, one needs the visibility. For example, I'm going to give a talk soon to the Air Force Academy. If I had not had the visibility I have had over the years, it would have been someone else talking to them, possibly someone who wouldn't be accurate and objective. We need the media for working with us, as well".

"When you're not doing work with UFO's," I asked, "what do you do to relax?"

Silence. I had them stumped at last. "I play backgammon," said Dr.Hynek at last, "and we listen to music. Classical and opera".

"And reading," said Mrs.Hynek.

"Yes," he said, "but I find I don't have time to read much anymore".

"Do you travel with Allen a lot?" I asked, turning to Mrs.Hynek again.

"About a quarter of the time. We're going to Sao Paulo next."

Later, we had talked about sceptics and their attitudes, including their reaction to the New Zealand TV film incident.

"What did you think of Sir Bernard Lovell saying the films showed meteors?", I asked Dr.Hynek.

His forehead furrowed. "In the scientific community, one of the rules is never to open your mouth without the facts. I think Lovell's statement is a classic case of scientific irresponsibility".

"What about Philip Klass?"

"I turned down a speaking engagement where I would have been in a debate with him, arguing about UFO's. There would have been no value to it. It would have been like a Jesuit arguing with a Rabbi".

Soon after this I left, leaving Dr.Hynek and his family to enjoy their vacation. I only with my tape recorder hadn't decided to go on the fritz before I came. As it stands, this was not a verbatim account of our rapport, but only a relation as accurate as possible, from rough notes and direct quotes written during the day. I wished I had had it for another reason, too: for another record of my conversation with one of the most fascinating men and his family tyat I have met. The first family of UFOlogy.

SCOTTISH UFO

THE MRS. ANNE CLARK SIGHTING OF JUNE 1966

This case was discovered on October 30 1976 when Mrs.Anne Clark, of Tarbolton in Ayrshire, wrote of her experience in the "Daily Record" newspaper. No action was taken upon it at the time for SMIO was not founded till November 1977. In September of that year, though, I rediscovered the paper cutting and passed it on to Mr.A.D.Swan - now a SMIO member - to find out details. It was in December that he was able to contact her at home and obtain what now follows:

In the June of 1966, date not remembered, Mrs.Anne Clark, who now works in school meals, was with her husband, son and daughter on a motoring holiday in the south-west of Scotland. At approximately 2200hrs, whilst driving north to New Galloway, they spotted a cigar-shaped object, though it is unsure in which area to the north it was, when seen. However, the object was moving south-westerly at a speed unknown, and was 10-15 miles distant. They stopped the car and watched it for some four minutes until it vanished in the distance towards Dumfries (east-woutheasterly).

The object was cigar-shaped but the size was not calculated. Mrs.Clark said it was soundless but it was some 10-15 miles distant which is a little far away to detect any noise at all. It had a greenish-orange glow around it, magnitude one in brightness. Its altitude was equal to the mountain tops, or approximately 1,300 feet about sea level (Mrs.Clark was at 500 feet).

Since then, Mrs.Clark's husband and son have died, which made her reluctant to talk of her sighting and she expressly informed Mr.Ewan that she did not wish to speak out any more; this eliminates any suspicions of a hoax.

David Sydeserff.

UFO-LINCOLN '79 THE FIRST LONGON INTERNATIONAL UFO RESEARCH CONGRHSS

DATES: SUNDAY and MONDAY, 26-27 AUGUST 1979 (August Bank Holiday weekend)

VENUE: MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL, MARBLE ARCH, LONDON W1 (adjacent to Oxford St.)

GUEST SPEAKERS: DR. J. ALLEN HYNEK, Director of the Centre for UFO Studies, former Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University, Illinois, and Director of the Lindheimer Observatory. For 20 years a civilian consultant to the US Air Force.

A second American and well-known European UFOlogists have also been invited. UK speakers are expected to include J. Bernard Delair BSc, editor of Awareness and co-ordinator of Contact International's Data Research Centre; onJ Norman Oliver FRAS, editor of BUFORA Journal, a BUFORA Director, an producer of 'Skyquest' lecture tapes.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME: SUNDAY 26 AUGUST: Commence about 10 am. Formal opening by distinguished person. Lead speaker in afternoon. Documentary film on UFOs in evening, following (optional) special Congress Dinner.

MONDAY 27 AUGUST: Optional visit to London Planetarium. Dr. Hynek to give paper in afternoon. Working Party recommendations. Close 6 pm.

About eight main papers or talks will be presented. There may be also group sessions, and ample breaks. Am coffee and pm ten to be inclusive.

INTERNATIONAL CO. ORDINATION: Behind the scenes leading researchers will try to thrash out a common policy on terminology and classification, data processing and software, with a view to recommending a system of standards, that if endorsed by the Congress, would carry sufficient weight to attract international recognition.

EXHIBITION: Material relating to UFO research will be displayed in the Congress foyer. Groups able to illustrate their own work, or perhaps a case history (a high standard of presentation is essential) should contact the Congress Secretariat. There will also be a bookstall.

PACKAGE DEAL: A special package offer schedule has been worked out including RGil travel, HotBI and Admission, that will represent a substantial saving on normal costs. Delegates from abroad have special arrangements.

LEAFLETS: Organisations wishing to circulate their members can be supplied with leaflets (please state number) post free by the Secretariat.

GENERAL NOTES: Since its formation in 1962, BUFORA has sponsored conferences about once every 18 months. Successful two-day national research and investigation conferences were stages at Stoke-on-Trent in 1975, at Birmingham in 1976 and at Nottingham in 1978. The latter was particularly successful and it is a natural progression for BUFORA to move into the international conference arena. As in the past, the overall budget is aimed at covering costs rather than making a profit, and this will be the first truly international event of its kind to be held in the UK. Also it will be unique both by virtue of its size and its international research objectives. The cultist fringe will not be welcome. The event is to be widely publicised in Europe, and already a number of UK societies have expressed interest. As a final comment, over 200 enquiries have already been received from individuals.

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NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

NEWFOUNDLAND (Magazine Canada): January 17th, Bonavista. A couple reported the observation of an oval object approx. 20 ft long. The object was grey with red and green flashing lights, it also had a single bright light which at times became brighter. The witness also described what appeared to be an antenna on top (Credit: UFO Canada Vol.3.No.3 Mar 1979).

LIMA, Peru: Somewhere in the Peruvian Andes, scientists of NASA are endeavoring to take up contact with Extraterrestrials, reports today the local evening paper 'extra'. According to the paper, NASA scientists are located in Peru and other Latin American countries with the exclusive intent of communicating with the UFO crews. 'Extra' recalls that Flying Saucers were seen in the heights of the Andes and leaving some likes, the same as in some places near Lima and the Andean foothills (Credit: UFO Newsclipping Service No.114 - January 1979).

UFO'S OVER POLAND: Two residents of Krakow claim to have seen a UFO, a big ball bearing red light which disturbed the running of their car engine, the Polish News Agency PAP reported. Astronomers said it could have been a falling meteorite. (Credit: As above but No.115 February 1979).

UFO SEEN - KUALA LUMPUR: Four farmers sighted a UFO while on their way to work at the rice fields, the New Straits Times reported yesterday they had sighted the "small glittering object floating in the air" at Jitran. (Credit: As above).

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SHEFFIELD SPACE CENTRE: The centre was set up recently and is proving very successful. Available via calling or by post are Science Fiction, UFO and related books. As well as Space material, magazines, tapes, slides and pictures and posters. The Space Centre has a large stock of US and British magazines available (over 130 book titles dealing with UFOs etc). Send a large SAE for current lists.

Peter Hamerton is the brainchild behind this venture. The shop hours are Monday to Friday 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Peter's address is 485 London Road, Heeley, Sheffield, S24 HL. The telephone number 0742-581040. As someone who has bought items from the Centre I strongly recommend you to try its service. They are all of high quality, especially the slides and books. Peter is to be congratulated in providing the North of England with a specialist bookshop. Peter welcomes enquiries from anyone, whether from Britain or some other country. - D.L.Rees.

IAN RIDPATH: ANOTHER DR. DONALD MENZEL? by D. J. Goring.

Astronomers, as many of you know, are, on the whole, against the idea that real UFOs, i.e. alien craft, exist - (here on earth, anyway). In a recent issue of Hermes (I), the quarterly publication of the Junior Astronomical Society, is an article entitled 'Close Encounters of the Fraud Kind' written by science writer and past contributor to by Group's publication "Earthlink", Ian Ridpath. The following extract gives his reason, as a typical astronomer, for disbelieving in real UFOs.

".....Some people say that we already have evidence of extraterrestrials in the form of UFOs, which they interpret as alien spaceships. It would be nice if this were right - but one major cause for concern is the high number of reported UFOs. Can we really be under such close scrutiny? Let's try to estimate the number of visits we might expect if alien life were abundant throughout the Galaxy - say, a million other civilisations, which is one optimistic estimate. If each of these civilizations launches one spaceship a year to a different star, then, since there are at least 100 thousand million stars in the Galaxy

simple division shows that we would expect to receive not more than one extraterrestrial visit every 100,000 years. It's certainly not enough to satisfy the UFO enthusiasts.

But perhaps the earth is special? If so, then life cannot be as abundant in the Galaxy as we have assumed. So where are all the extra visitors coming from? These scientific estimates imply that not one of the hundreds of thousands of UFO reports on file throughout the world is likely to have been due to an alien spaceship.

Indeed, in the past 30 years that UFOs have been under close scrutiny, not even the groups of UFO believers have been able to identify one report as a genuine extraterrestrial visitation - although plenty of UFOs have been identified as natural or man-made objects.

In an article in the Sunday Times on March 19 this year, I reported facts which raise severe doubts against the three best-known UFO cases, including the likelihood that at least one was a blatant hoax; anyone who wants more details on these cases will find it in the concluding chapter of my book Messages from the Stars, published on July 30 by Fontana.

It would be a foolish man who denied that some UFO reports may refer to some unknown phenomena, such as electrical or atmospheric effects - and indeed UFOlogists and scientists are now coming to agree that the poorly understood phenomenon known as ball lightning is responsible for many cases. But one thing is abundantly clear: UFOs are not extraterrestrial spaceships".

I feel that Ian Ridpath is mistaken - perhaps grossly - in all his assumptions regarding UFOs. In his article he makes basic assumptions, (no real facts); follows these assumptions through and then assumes that he is correct in saying that UFOs are not extraterrestrial spaceships, and therefore not under intelligent control, and are only natural or man-made objects seen by people who don't know exactly what they're looking at. How can he then say that the situation is abundantly clear? He is obviously basing this statement on little-known facts and statistics which satisfy his own tiny mind; a tiny mind typical of most astronomers and many scientists.

Ian Ridpath and others like him ask the believer: "If you think real UFOs exist, PROVE IT!" This, of course, we cannot do. But must we prove the existence of UFOs scientifically? What this implies is actually capturing one, but do you think any government in the world would allow details of such a capture to reach the public? Of course they wouldn't! There's too much in the way of scientific knowledge to be gained for military purposes for any government to release such information. With the proof lacking, in view of the above, what of the testimony of the millions of people throughout the world who have been witnesses to close encounter cases? They're not all mistaken, lying, etc. Indeed, the majority are more likely than not correct in what they believe they say, i.e. real UFOs.

Are all astronomers possessors of tiny minds? Perhaps not. Take the following passage by eminent astronomer V.A. Firsoff, MA, FRAS, found in one of his many works (2):

Referring to the number of stars in the Galaxy, which number about 100,000 million, he writes:

"If only 1 per cent of these have planetary systems there will be a thousand million of them, with a few planets in each. To how many 'technological civilisations' this might correspond it is impossible to guess: but I am not too sure that even in the Solar System ours is the only one."

The last line, if one refers to the book's bibliography, shows that Mr. Firsoff has been reading Sagan & Thornton's "UFOs - a Scientific Debate". Perhaps Ian Ridpath would do well to read the same book, though doubtless his beliefs would still remain the same. I often wonder what makes certain people who have studied the subject come out in such a strong, critical way, writing their strongly opposing views here, there and everywhere, as though they feel it is their duty to inform everyone. Perhaps this is another peculiar facet of the UFO subject that has yet to be explored.

References: 1) Hermes, vol.25, no.3, July 1978, pp.78-88. 2) The Solar Planets, by V.A. Firsoff (David and Charles), chapter 2, p.27.

MAPIT NEWSDESK

Hello! Welcome to issue 32 and now onto the news:

Bernard Delair of Contact UK and Editor of Awareness has been presented with the 1978 award for services to UFOlogy by BUFORA. Well done, Bernard, and may you continue to contribute to UFO research in the future.

The Jersey UFO Group UFOJA are to produce a new magazine called "Unidentified Encounters", this will be available from around Sept/Oct this year. Items are required by Dean Preston, i.e.: Articles, research papers, etc. To contact Dean see his address in Advertisement section of this issue. The new magazine will cost 75p per issue.

David Kay of NUFOR based in Brighton sent me the following information recently: "We are pleased to inform you that NUFOR has written a book which is due to be published within the next couple of months". Title of this book is: 'The UFO Explosion' and will be hard bound, selling at approximately £5.00. For further details write to David at: Basement, 4 Queens Square, Brighton, BN1 3FD. How about a review copy for inclusion in SKYWATCH, David???

The magazine 'Ragnarok' featured in the last issue of SKYWATCH, edited by Magda Graham, has ceased publication. Best of luck, Magda, with any new projects!

Fortean Times, the best magazine of its kind in the world, dealing with mysterious and anomalous events is to have some forward-looking changes - first its format will change from A5 to A4 size; a new name to FT has been decided, this will be Strange Phenomena; thirdly its publishing schedule will move forward one month to March, June, September and December, and finally, the new look magazine will have a positive policy of creative graphics and illustration. With all of these new developments, Strange Phenomena will, of course, appeal to a larger readership and Robert Rickard is, as Editor, to be applauded for this giant leap for Fortean Kind. For further information on this magazine write to: Fortean Times, c/o DTWAGE: 9-12 St Annes Court, London, W1. U.K. Subs. is £3.00 a year or 75p sample copy.

Fans of the Spielberg Epic film 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind' will be interested to hear that you can buy a CE3K Calendar; this is a US import and is in full colour - the price is £3.30p from: Andromeda Book Co Ltd. 57 Summer Row, Birmingham. B3 1JJ

Back to Contact UK, their new International President is Miss Ruth Rees (no, she is no relation to me). I wish her luck; she takes John Longhorn's position after his recent retirement. Ruth can be contacted at: Flat 5, 15 Kew Gardens Road, Richmond, Surrey, England.

Knowing many of you are interested in the Earl of Clancartys UFO debate in the House of Lords on the 18th January, I am pleased to tell members that we have a copy of the House of Lords Official Report (Hansard) in our Reference Library. We have to thank Lionel Beer of BUFORA for sending this report to us. Thank you, once again, Lionel (See Lionel's advert in this issue for UFO magazine etc.)

A new newstand magazine called ALPHA is now available; included in the first issue are items on Psychic Surgery, Uri Geller and Prof. John Taylor. The Valentich UFO case and much more. It has a neat and professional presentation, running to 32 pages - 60p an issue - available from: Alpha, 20 Regent Street, Fleet, Hants. GU13 6NR - try a copy!

Magix Saucer is the name of another magazine with a difference; is for the under 18s age group and is to my knowledge the first UFO magazine aimed at children and for this reason I applaud its creator and editor for a bold step. Crystal Hogben informs me that the response to the first two issues has been very good indeed. So if you have any children, buy them a copy and I'm sure they will enjoy it. The Feb/March issue runs to 13 pages; MS is published 6 times a year and copies are 25p inc. postage. Write to: 8 Ely Close, Habberley Estate, Kidderminster, Worcs., England. Contributions from all age groups welcome

since the lost SKYWATCH, we have had two items in the media: first a small article in the TrufforJ eJition of Today No.12 feb. unJ an item concerning an alleged blip detected at Manchester Airport - possible Uf07. This appeared in the Eccles Journal, April 5th (full story in this issue).

MAPIT member Warren Gemlik would like Pen Pals/correspondents to write to him concerning the UFO subject. If you're interested you can contact Warren at: 158 Swinron Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 9EY, England.

Kathy Preston is hoping to re-publish Pulsar magazine (dealing with the possible connections between Leys and UFUs); she asks me to make it known that she requires articles and adverts for the first issue. Write to: Pulse Publications, 29 Sairstow Street, Preston, Lanes. PR1 3TN.

With ref:tw: MAPIT meeting dates mentioned in last issue (SW31 8/15 April), I'm sorry to have to say this, but not one member wrote to me or rdng me about attending. I am very surprised by this because many of you have asked me in your letters when the next meet was. I can quite understand members who live many miles from Stockport, although one of the reasons these two dates were chosen was because they were on a Sunday and before the Summer Holidays begin. Anyway, the 12 members that live in Stockport could, one feels, have made an effort. Other researchers and groups are using our Reference Library and also our Information Service. It is you, the members, who are the leaders by not making full use of your membership.

The french Journalist and Editor of Kruptos informs me that he has recently had a UFO book published. It is about UFOs in France and Italy and runs to 260 pages with 24 photo pages. English title: Extraterrestrials or Time Travellers. french Title: Extraterrestres Ou Voyageurs Du Temps. Sorry to say only in French Text at the moment, price 39F. Write to "Editions Alain Lofcuvrc", 29 Avenue Pasteurlli 06000 Nice, France. Herve Laronde hopes to see this book in English text in the near future.

WANTED: By MAPIT, UFO/Related Newsletters-magazines-books (any go); UFO slides and pictures. Send your sales list and price wanted/condition to the Editorial address. This includes overseas items, also.

NUFON WITHDRAWAL: At a recent get-together with investigators and involved Team members (in March), MAPIT wish to make it known that it has immediately withdrawn from the Northern UFO Network. We do not wish to elaborate on the reasons for our withdrawal. Also I (David Rees) have made my position as News Editor to NUFON Publications vacant.....

Well, that is all the news this issue; until next time, Live Long and Prosper.

David Rees.

* * * * *

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Two newsclipping agencies based in Dallas, Texas and Paris, France scan 8000 difference US Daily and Weekly newspapers every month. Multiply that by the number of each paper's monthly issues and the US total is well over 100,000 per month. Add to that the total number of English Language Newspapers checked in over 70 countries, and you'll see why there is no finer UFO Journal to keep you completely informed on the world scene. Many Foreign Language translations. PROMPT ON-TIME Service! Attention is shown to searches for extraterrestrial life by radiotelescopes for signs of intelligence and of life-based molecules floating about interstellar space, or if our test runs to the Bermuda Triangle the Loch Ness monster, Gig Foot, Ancient Astronauts, or just nature at its most mysterious self. Planet-wide press coverage. Subscribe and see the BIG difference. Over 150 pages each month. First issue Mailing July 1st. North America \$3.50 per month \$40.00 per year surface mail - \$4.50 per month \$50.00 per year airmail. Elsewhere \$3.50 per month, \$40.00 per year airmail. Cheque or money order in US currency or foreign equiv. P.O. Box 45673, Dept A. Dallas, Texas 75245 USA.

THE UFO RECORD: GLIMPSES OF ANOTHER REALM? - by J.B. Delair (Contact UK)

For the purposes of this article the assumption is made that the ufo phenomenon is not only real but exhibits repeated indications of being intelligently controlled.

This assumption is widely held by those who have troubled to study the ufo problem, although the origins and motives of the intelligence supposedly underlying the phenomenon are not so widely agreed upon, and several rival hypotheses currently exist purporting to explain the enigma. At this juncture, however, it is not necessary to argue whether or not ufos are of extraterrestrial, infra-terrestrial, or Inner Earth origin, but what we must do is to examine the ufo record dispassionately in order to discover what it appears to be telling us.

All ufologists who try to keep abreast of the ufo literature - which embraces not only books but a host of magazines (glossy and otherwise) - know that, after the first few publications printed during the initial three or four years of the modern (post 1974) ufo era, authors began to introduce into their texts all kinds of subjects not always discernibly associated with ufos pure and simple. Thus we have had innumerable articles concerned with "Men-in-black" episodes, with inexplicable animal mutilations, with strange acoustical phenomena, with extraordinary sky falls, with sightings of mystery animals and/or unknown anthropoids ("Bigfoot", "Sasquatch"), and missing ships, aeroplanes and persons. Collectively these may indeed be fascinating themes to explore, and they certainly give rise to extensive speculation and surmise, but in no instance are these topics indisputably linked to the ufo phenomenon, despite what the most ardent advocates claim.

Many ufologists, however, seem to prefer their ufology uncluttered, and have been critical of a literature which permits such diverse subjects as those just mentioned to rub shoulders as if connections between them were demonstrably proven. From the viewpoint of "pure" ufology, it is certainly possible to sympathise with these critics, yet, on closer analyses, one wonders if their attitude is really defensible and, perhaps, actually obstructive. In other words, could it be that to ignore at least some of these "other mysteries" one ignores vital aspects of a larger problem of which ufos constitute but one part? This paper therefore, examines what the ufo record ("pure" and "unsullied") may in fact represent in a wider context - that of an alien realm.

* * * * *

The known "Pure" ufo record (that is those accounts describing aerial activity of unknown objects and their occupants) reveals that objects exhibiting precise and manufactured configurations are repeatedly observed in Earth's skies, and that the descriptions of these objects, made over many decades by variously qualified percipients having little or no prior knowledge of ufos or of each other, are remarkably consistent. In some instances, these objects have reportedly landed and leave, after their subsequent departure, marks of symmetrical form and disposition upon the ground, from which it may be inferred that the phenomenon responsible for these effects is of artificial origin.

Artificialness is the produce of ordered intelligence. The fact that some landed ufos leave measurable ground indentations show them to be objects of real mass and weight. They must, therefore, be composed, even if partially, of hard and unyielding material capable of producing ground indentations. Many eyewitnesses have specifically reported ufos seen by them as having metallic-looking surfaces, and some have even described rivet-like features on ufo exteriors. When still sightings are made in which retractable antennae, ramps, tripod supports, hose-like pipes, mechanical arms or lifting gear are described, a strong impression is gained of some sort of machine or vehicle. Indeed, a large number of ufologists already identify ufos as machines or craft. The likelihood of ufos being composed of metals and other hard substances is therefore apparently high.

The incredible flight capabilities of ufos also presupposes that, provided ufos are truly artificial constructions (as they do appear to be), they utilize a powerful but highly controllable propulsion system. Such a system, however, simply based, must inevitably have several integral control units, themselves of sophisticated design to produce the amazing behavioural patterns so characteristic of ufos. The near perfection of performance shown by ufos the world over forcefully argues for the sophisticated nature of the mechanics of ufos. That in turn strongly suggests a high order of intelligence necessary to create such sophistication.

One begins, therefore, to already appreciate that an extraordinarily efficient and proficient technology underlies the ufo phenomenon, as it is presently known to us.

The realisation that ufos and their activities represent an advanced technology inevitably leads one to the conclusion that, if ufos are, as seems likely, craft or vehicles of some kind, they cannot amount to more than a comparatively minor aspect of a far greater whole, perhaps no more than say a motor car is any more than a comparatively minor aspect of Man's civilization. Ufos, then, are almost certainly no more than the tip of an iceberg, the greater portion of which is still largely unknown to us.

It is, however, possible to gain a few glimpses of other aspects of this mysterious and mostly hidden realm presently epitomized by ufos, particularly through the close study of the behaviour and preferences of ufo occupants when observed on or near earth. A review of some of their principal activities is revealing.

Ufo occupants of various kinds are known, so that some writers have advocated that at least some may be subservient or robotic forms. In a sophisticated society possessing advanced technology such forms would not be out of place. However, in the present context the true nature of ufo occupants is of less importance than what they have reportedly done while on Earth; and what they have repeatedly done. A list of these activities and the preferences of Ufo occupants for certain terrestrial sites and artefacts affords clues as to the culture ultimately responsible for the ufo phenomenon. Such glimpses may be fleeting, and in some instances must be inferred. Yet, even in this sketchy form they provide impressions that are surprisingly consistent.

We may, for example, begin by considering the character of ufos themselves. If, as previously suggested, at least some ufos are of artificial construction and are composed of metals and other hard substances - capable of leaving measurable ground indentations - those metals and hard materials have had to be acquired and then worked in a raw state prior to conversion into units from which ufos can be built. Raw materials have to be located before extraction of same can be attempted, which in turn presupposes that detection techniques are used to locate the materials in some presumably natural habitat in the first place. It is true that advanced technology can create spin-off materials capable of being used for constructing things, and no doubt any advanced technology would avail itself of such bonuses.

But the detection, location, and extraction of raw materials are phases necessitating some form of sweep or probe, which, in turn, demand control. Control systems imply a knowledge of mathematics (or an equivalent computational system) and the means whereby it is itself capable of extension as occasion demands. Mathematical knowledge permits design and invention, so almost certainly (and perhaps particularly in view of the very wide range of reported ufo shapes) the culture underlying ufos possesses all these capabilities. Ufo behaviour over several terrestrial sites has been most suggestive of investigative or probe activity.

The interest of many ufo occupants in terrestrial animals and plants, soils, and water bodies - reported again and again - is exceedingly suggestive of biological knowledge being extended. The collection of specimens of these denizens and of samples of soils and water further supports the supposition that ufo occupants are engaged in some programme of biological research. Any sophisticated technology or culture such as we have postulated in this article would almost certainly find itself developing such biological interests, if only from the point of view of producing nutritious foodstuffs and/or of

improving existing organisms. A particularly advanced culture capable of reaching worlds other than its own might even find itself engaged in cross-breeding selected denizens from different worlds in order to create superior flora and fauna for seeding in hitherto non-lifebearing areas. Certainly the interest of ufo occupants in terrestrial plants and animals is consistent with a normal type exploratory programme and with the requirements of the culture of which they are a part. An inevitable spin-off of such activities and requirements is an increase in medical knowledge, perhaps on a vast scale. Curiously enough the ufo records contains quite a number of instances in which ufo occupants have (if witnesses are to be believed) exhibited advanced, and extremely efficient, medical expertise. The preoccupation of ufo occupants allegedly responsible for abducting certain human beings and subjecting them to clinical examinations, or, in at least one celebrated case, to breeding experiments, clearly points to a keen interest among these alien visitors in medical and biological disciplines. Again, such interests are consistent with a sophisticated culture.

One might examine many further aspects of ufo behaviour with a view to tracing probable clues to other facets of the alien ufo culture, but suffice here to merely summarize the glimpses that appear possible from an analysis of the overall ufo problem.

Firstly, assuming that ufos are real, they often appear to be made of solid materials capable of leaving measurable ground depressions, and thus indicative of mass and weight. The latter in turn suggest that ufos are designed creations utilizing various hard materials, or fihwh metals may be common. Secondly, propulsion systems capable of propelling ufos around our skies in the manner reported, is, however simple it may be in concept, clearly controlled in an advanced technological manner.

Thirdly, the utilization of such materials and propulsion systems in ufos, indicated by the known ufo record, suggests that both materials and fuels must initially be detected, extracted, and harnessed to meet ufo requirements, and that to achieve that various more fundamental techniques and control systems would be involved. Such techniques themselves imply mathematical or computational systems, and they, in turn, imply systems of "writing" or communicating abstract thoughts prior to converting them into workable designs and subsequently, units comprising complete ufos. There have been those who, in the past, have suggested that ufo occupants are so advanced that they may be able to literally "think" ufos into existence, whereby it might be argued that all the foregoing is based too much upon extensions of perhaps inapplicable terrestrial technology. One might agree with that viewpoint were it not for the fact that hypotheses such as this are not presently capable of being confirmed, and more importantly, some witnesses have described watching ufo occupants apparently "repairing" landed ufos - repairs involving the removal and replacement of parts. These latter reports suggest that ufos are composed of several parts each presumably manufactured individually before being assembled into complete ufos. Thus, somewhere, such parts are designed and made.

Fourthly, the repeated interest in biological subjects leads to the conclusion that the ufo culture possesses a deep medical knowledge and that ufo occupants may be engaged in extensive breeding experiments and biological research programmes. Monitoring equipment almost certainly a necessary part of such programmes would seem to be used by ufos on some occasions, and, not inconceivably, some of the beams of light or luminous rays emitted by some ufos may represent such monitoring techniques or recording processes analogous to Man's photographic processes. The soundless bursting of blobs of light near or over certain witnesses or sites is suggestive of such possibilities. Certainly the possession of such techniques would, again, be eminently consistent with an advanced technology. The often recorded interest of ufos in hospitals and terrestrial farms is apparently further confirmation of some deep seated pre-occupation with biological topics.

In conclusion, therefore, ufos and their observed occupants appear to represent but a limited part of a vaster whole, some aspects of which can be reasonably well inferred from detailed consideration of ufo behaviour here on Earth. That vaster whole, while very possibly strange and inexplicable to us in many constituent details, must nevertheless conform in its basic construction and modus operandi to the fundamental building blocks of the Universe, and as such is doubtless comprehensible even to us. It is sobering to realize that, in all probability, something or some creatures of great apparent intelligence, exist and design objects, equipment, and various bits of sophisticated paraphernalia, take a deep interest in biological and medical subjects, and inevitably must possess social systems, communication media, and control techniques to successfully regulate these and doubtless many other activities of which we have no knowledge. At present our only clues concerning their very existence is via the ufo phenomenon, which affords us glimpses, tantalizingly small, of an alien realm upon which conventional literature is wholly silent. Having sighted the tip of the iceberg, let us take steps to explore the hidden portions that, we all know, are nevertheless there. But icebergs can be dangerous, as all mariners will attest, so let our exploration be systematic and cautious.

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ADVERTISMENTS

But perhaps equally dangerous would be the attitude that precluded studies of topics like those previously mentioned - inexplicable skyfalls, unaccountable acoustical phenomena, strange animal mutilations, and unexpected appearances of animals, pseudo-animals and anthropoid forms - for although none of these mysterious events have yet been linked indisputably to the ufo phenomenon (for want of positive evidence), it is nevertheless an interesting fact that incidences of ufo activity in specific regions very often coincide with outbreaks of strange animal sightings, reports of unknown anthropoids, and rashes of bizarre animal mutilations. The cessation of one of these outbreaks in a given locality is very often accompanied by similar cessations in the activity of the other mysteries. Thus, although connections between these apparently dissimilar enigmas have still to be positively established, the close similarity between their periods of manifestation (a repeated one, it may be added) at least lends support to the suspicion that some or all may in reality be very firmly connected with one another. In that case they would respectively represent different pieces of some larger but still obscure whole - the "whole" presumably being that "alien realm" much better known through so-called "pure" ufo activity.

It, as has been suggested, ufos and their occupants represented but a tip of an iceberg, the remainder of which concerns some far reaching culture and technology, then these other mysteries (e.g. Surry Pumas, falls of frogs, Bigfoot sightings, poltergeist events, etc.) could very well be aspects of that hidden portion of the iceberg only revealed to us sporadically and erratically. We may, therefore, be rendering both ufology and ourselves a very great disservice by ignoring these "other" mysteries if, as some have advocated, ufology pure and simple contains within itself enough mysteries and problems to last a lifetime. It is immediately conceded that it does, but equally it is pointed out that even securing solutions to purely unological problems may not solve the entire puzzle, particularly if many other facets of it remain unrecognized. At present, those who busy themselves with studying any of these various mysteries often tend to "bury" themselves, as it were, in their own particular interest to the exclusion of the remaining topics, whereby, while they frequently acknowledge the existence of the other topics, do little or nothing to see if definite correlations occur between two or more of them. Thus specialists arise who, while digging their pet "trenches" ever deeper, eventually find themselves at a level whereby they are unable to see out of their trenches to, if they desire, monitor the progress of similar specialists nearby digging similar trenches. Eventually nobody knows what his well-meaning colleagues elsewhere are up to, and each struggles unsuccessfully to resolve problems incapable of full solution until the findings of individual specialists are compared and correlated. Modern unology is, in some quarters, seriously close to arriving at the stage here described. Certainly it behoves all serious

researchers to at least give close attention to "other mysteries" that repeatedly coincide timewise with their beloved ufo activity. Similarly, those studying say "Bigfoot" sightings or outbreaks of animal mutilations would be well advised to have a serious look at ufo activity reported from the localities at the periods in question. Such appraisals may very well represent the keys to a wider problem than any of us have hitherto given serious thought to, and it behoves us all not to fall into the sticky trap of "isolationism". In that connection it is encouraging to note that some bodies have recently been established to correlate interdisciplinary studies. If these are monitored and correlated effectively, then perhaps the percentage of the iceberg that ufos represent can be determined within our lifetime, and then, perhaps, we can begin to study ufos and the other aforementioned mysteries on our terms, not their.

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AWARENESS: Journal of Contact UK and edited by Bernard Delair. Details from: The National Chairman, Contact UK, 59d Windmill Road, Headington, Oxford.....

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LOCAL SIGHTING SCENE

Since late last year MAPIT has been very much involved in investigations of alleged UFO sightings. To keep our readers up to date with our work, below you will find some summaries of cases still being investigated by us.

Witness: Mrs.I.Jones
Date: A Monday in June 1978
Time: 11.00 a.m.
Location: Hale Station in Cheshire.

The witness was hanging out her washing in the garden and suddenly she heard a noise in the sky which didn't sound like a usual aircraft. She looked up and saw a huge cigar shaped object, silver in colour with a red 'undercarriage' It was not moving in the sky and remained static all the time she viewed it. It remained there during the morning and at 14.00 hrs had disappeared from sight. : Still under investigation.

Witness: Mrs.B.Rostron
Date: Friday 1st December, 1978
Time: 00.05 a.m.
Location: Offerton in Stockport.

The witness, who is 31 years of age was getting ready for bed and she let her dog out into the garden. As she was waiting for the dog she noticed a bright star in the sky; it was emitting three different colours. She thought nothing of this and brought the dog in and went to her daughter's bedroom, where again she saw this star. All of a sudden a roundish object appeared to the east of the star - it looked like a fireball and hovered for a while. It then began to come straight towards the witness and as it got closer she could see it was shaped like a triangle with one light in each corner. As it got closer the witness estimates it passed only 15 feet above the house and disappeared from

view. Her daughter also saw the object. As it passed over their heads they both heard a swishing noise. On the 10th December Mrs. Rostron and her daughter were out walking in Woodbank Park, also in Offerton, and were looking up into the sky when they saw three lights converge on each other from different directions; they stopped and blinked on and off with a red light before moving off as before. This was early evening and one interesting aspect from interviewing the witness is to find that she is Psychic.

: Still under investigation.

Witness: Mr. A. Grange

Date: Sunday, February 11th, 1979

Time: 17.40 hrs.

Location: Congleton in Cheshire.

The witness thought this object at first was an aircraft, coming towards his home, but he soon changed his mind. It was round and moving at a fast speed, glowing like a star; it had two bright lights at the front and as the object neared him it started to elevate and a ray of light appeared from the top of the object and lit the sky above it. Soon after it disappeared from view.

: Still under investigation.

To date MAPIT has 45 sightings still under investigation and evaluation from cases reported to us from last year. As I'm sure you will understand this takes time and a lot of hard work to attain the standard of report we feel necessary. If any members wish to help in this work then please contact the editorial address.

And finally, this issue, as far as local reports go, a most interesting story, that MAP IT was recently involved in.

AIRPORT GOES ON RED ALERT? by David L Rees.

I received a phone call from Piccadilly Radio news room on the evening of the 26th March. I was informed by Steve Wihstanley that a UFO had been picked up on Radar approaching Manchester Airport, at the same time as a flight was on its final approach. The fire service had been alerted as were tenders from Altrincham and Trafford. I was asked by Steve to contact him should anyone report seeing a UFO and if possible to look into the case. Mr. Woods was the spokesman who contacted the radio station; he is a leading fireman. A short item concerning this alleged incident was featured in the Eccles Journey - I quote, "An airport fire spokesman said that back-up services were called from Altrincham and Trafford was air traffic control spotted an Unidentified Flying Object. It was dangerously close to the airport as a large jet was about to land. The blip on the radar disappeared about two miles from the airport and the jet landed safely. But the blip later reappeared on the other side of the radar screen and vanished in the opposite direction. We on the ground saw nothing, said the fire officer, and it was eventually put down as a radar anomaly, but there was no radio contact, or anything".

I made contact with the ATC at Manchester Airport and spoke to them over this incident. When I was first put through the gentleman said, "Oh, I'd better not say anything - there's some things we're not allowed to tell people like you!" I then spoke to the supervisor on duty and he informed me that he had no knowledge of this occurrence. He also told me all records are sent to the MOD in London and this could have been a straying aircraft. I asked him about the chances of this 'alleged' blip being of natural origin and he stated, 'Ionised air is rarely detected', and went on to explain how complicated the radar setup was at the Airport. After this I contacted Leading Fireman Woods at the Fire Dept in the Airport; Mr. Woods told me that this incident was recorded in their log book; he could not understand the ATCs comment as to not knowing of any such incident. MAPIT is hoping to find out more details about this incident and readers of SKYWATCH will be the first to be informed of our final conclusions.

SKYWATCH UFO DETECTORS

One of the few facts that has been realised about UFOs and their activities, is that they cause an electromagnetic effect on electronic and magnetic equipment. The reason for this is not really known; magnetic compasses spin wildly; TVs ghost and radios emit hums and crackles. It has also been known for the UFOs E.M. field to cause switching relays to react in power stations and cause widespread blackouts.

For the ufologist to stay out in the open searching the sky for 24 hours a day is not practical. So a device that could detect UFOs presence would be a vital piece of equipment for the serious UFO researcher.

Over the years that I have been producing "Skywatch UFO Detectors" (SKUFOD) I have had many requests and inquiries about the possibility of a pocket size UFO detector. I have in the past built such detectors but have not been practical or very successful.

Now this is to me a real electronics. I have produced such a detector that satisfactorily fits the requirement of the ufologist. This detector can be carried in your pocket, handbag, even used in your car, on public transport, and at night, left by your bedside. Of course, if you carry it in your pocket you must make sure that you don't have any other magnetic metal objects in the same pocket, such as steel keys, penknives, etc.

The electronic component that makes the portability of this SKUFOD possible is an electromagnetic field sensor that will detect the E.M. effect of the UFO when in the area. Although this new model is not as sensitive as the compass needle type detector, I believe that you will receive sufficient warning of the UFOs presence. The advantages of this new detector outweigh this slight reduction of sensitivity.

When the sensor detects the electromagnetic effect of a UFO, it pulses a signal to a latching circuit that in turn sounds an alarm. This alarm sounds until switched off or the battery runs down. When the detector is switched on guard, no battery power is used, only when activated does the detector's circuit draw current, so the battery will last for a considerable period.

Skywatch UFO Detector (SKUFOD) pocket portable model specification.

An electromagnetic field sensor type detector incorporating latching circuit and audio alarm. Housed in a high impact plastic case, battery operated. Size: 70 x 50 x 25 (mm) 2 3/4 x 2 x 1 (inches)

Price: inclusive of post packing and battery.....£9.00

When ordering state: Pocket Portable Model.

Obtainable from: Malcolm Jay, 102 Nelson Road, Chingford E4 9AS, England.

THE END BITS

A 're-hashed' version of CE3K with basically the same plot but some new scenes and a different ending is released in the USA this spring. There are no plans to release it in Britain as yet.

Film version of the recently published book "The Amityville Horror" is to appear. Margot Kidder (Lisa Lane in Superman), James Brolin, Rod Taylor and Murray Hamilton (Mayor in Jaws) are the stars. To quote the advertising blurb: "This book is more frightening than the Exorcist, because it actually happened. Should make a great film."

What has the film musical "The Sound of Music" in common with Science Fiction? Well, some of the Von Trapp children were undergoing training for later SF roles - take blonde Nicholas Hammond, known today for his role as The Amazing Spiderman. Heather Menzies, today can be seen in the TV series Logans Run as Jessica. Finally Angela Cartwright, alias Penny, from Irvin Allen's Lost in Space TV shows for three years. How about bringing them all together again for a brand new series called "Edelweiss in Space!!"

Quote: Actor Peter O'Toole as the 14th Earl of Gurney in the 1971 film 'The Ruling Class': "I know I am God because when I pray to him, I find I'm talking to myself!"

For all fans of the film E.T. - next time you go to see the film look out for the following items on the Mother Ship: a model of R2 D2 from Star Wars standing upside down on the rim of the craft as it rises over Gillian's head - that's very easily noticeable. Also on the ship are a 1945 airplane on a catapult launch ramp; a Volkswagen van; Darth Vader's space ship; C3PO and Chewbacca the shark (Jaws). Spielberg certainly has a vivid imagination!

Arrangements are underway for the 7th World Conference of the Ancient Astronaut Society to be held in New Zealand in 1980. This event will be hosted by the Excellent AA group, The Earth Colonisation Research Association. In fact, its President, Rocky Wood, is visiting this year's Conference in Munich and then flying over to Britain for some lectures. If you are at all interested in attending these two events then please write to: Gene Phillips, 1921, St. John's Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois 60035, USA. The AAS also publishes an informative publication called 'Ancient Skies'.

Lord Davies of Leek, speaking at the House of Lords debate on UFOs - "The Welsh aristocrat capped his contribution by calling anyone who doesn't believe in extraterrestrial intelligence 'Anthropological Arrogant Specimens'. I don't know what it means, but I like it!"

Credit: Irish UFO News Vol.1. No.6 January 1979)

Voice from the Grave - The latest fashion in the American burial business is a talking tombstone. As mourners approach they hear messages such as 'I'm John Smith. I died on February 20th, 1977. Thanks for coming'. The makers - Creative Tombstones, say they have been swamped with orders.
Credit: NUFOR Research Newsheet Dec 1978)

DIVERSIONS - Title of a lecture advertised on a poster outside a Norfolk Hall: "Extra-sensory perception - Does it exist?". Scrawled below, someone had added - "I knew you were going to ask that!"

Credit: Earth Colonisation Report Vol 3 No 8 January 1979)

A POEM
To see a world in a grain of sand
And heaven in a wild flower
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand,
And Eternity in an hour. William Blake (1757-1827)

Should you ever visit America, may I suggest you visit two towns. The first is in Texas called Heaven and the second in Michigan called Hall. Take your pick!

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