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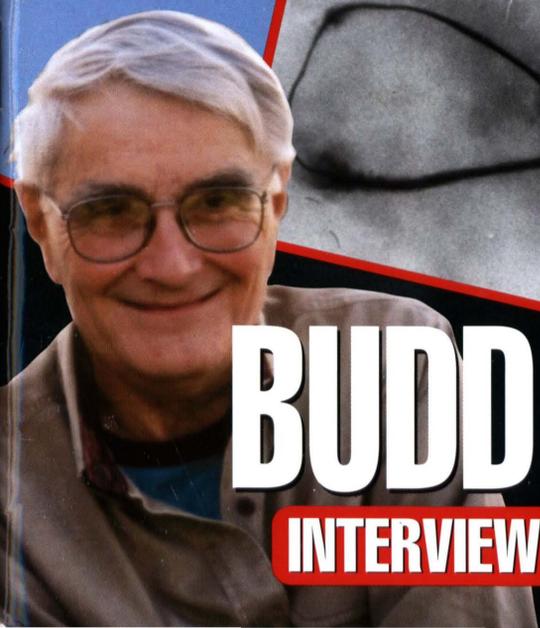
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In my recent article, *Letters From the Underground: An Alien Carousel*

(November/December 2003 issue), I made a case for the possible existence of clandestine, sub-bottom, manned, undersea bases. I continue to actively research this possibility and amazingly, new information continues to surface, bit by bit.

On more than one occasion, I spoke about my interest with the late editor of this magazine, Graham Birdsall. I clearly remember him telling me of stories that had been related to him of unknown objects and craft seen entering and leaving the sea. In addition, the writings of several other authors such as Linda Moulton Howe, Timothy Good and Jorge Martin have also raised the issue of possible alien undersea bases in far-flung locales as diverse as the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. My own recent work has explored the likelihood of clandestine, manmade undersea bases.

By Richard Sauder
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Way Down Beneath the Moonless Mountains:

The Remarkable Illustrations of Walter Koerschner

So you can imagine my interest when Mr. Koerschner mentioned to me that he still had some of the original illustrations he had done for this project. And when he offered to send them to me for publication I immediately accepted his kind offer.

It is directly due to his considerable artistic talent and spirit of generosity that we all are now privy to a bird's-eye view into the designs of the Rock-Site planning group circa 1968. What I will do is simply present his wonderful graphic illustrations for you to view, along with some descriptive commentary and analysis.

The old saw that "a picture is worth a thousand words" certainly holds true in this case. Many things that are described verbally in the Rock-Site documentation become so much easier to understand when you can see them depicted visually. ▶

The Magnificent Artwork Of Walter Koerschner

Notwithstanding all of that, I was taken completely unawares when this past autumn I was unexpectedly contacted by a gentleman who chanced to hear me interviewed on the popular, late night radio talk show, *Coast to Coast AM*, with host, George Noory. This is the biggest of the nighttime radio talk shows in the U.S., and millions of people tune in every night.

But to my pleasant surprise, this particular listener had a most unexpected professional background. It did not take me long at all to appreciate the unique talent and expertise of Walter Koerschner. He had been attached as an illustrator to the U.S. Navy's Rock-Site team back in the 1960s, at the Navy's China Lake, California weapons center. As those familiar with my recent work will remember, this was the time and place when the United States Navy began to develop detailed plans for siting large, technologically complex, deeply buried manned bases beneath the sea floor, in mid-ocean. I provide complete documentation for this in my 2001 book, *Underwater and Underground Bases*.

The Stanford Research Institute Connection

Before diving into Walter Koerschner's undersea pictures, however, I want to add that at about the same time he contacted me this past autumn my ongoing archival and documentary research uncovered a document, also from 1968, that explicitly discussed the construction of dozens of deep undersea bases. Two researchers affiliated with the Stanford Research Institute, in Menlo Park, California, published a study entitled, *Feasibility of Manned In-Bottom Bases*. (1) I want to reproduce the complete abstract from their study because it is so revealing of what the military-industrial complex was planning at that time, and shows so clearly what was considered within technological reach – as of 36 years ago. Keep in mind that in the intervening years technology has only grown more powerful and more sophisticated. Let's look at the abstract.

Abstract

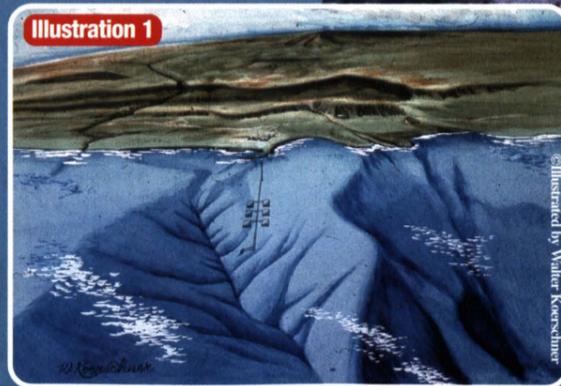
The construction of thirty manned in-bottom bases within the ocean floors is technically and economically feasible.

However, it will be necessary to establish some successive types of experimental facilities before a full construction program can be started. This could take 15 years.

The major technology for a land-linked station in-bottom is established now; only adaptations are needed. The remaining experimental phases will require further development of equipment and techniques applicable to remote sea access.

There are useful assignments for a succession of three experimental stations other than advancing in-bottom construction techniques. Science and engineering concerned with the oceans and their resources will be furthered, and military tests of undersea base functions complementing deeper operations can be accomplished. The costs of the experimental phases, called here a demonstration program, can be surprisingly modest: approximately one half-billion dollars, spent over 15 years.

A distinction between in-bottom and on-bottom facilities is made in the numbers of men enclosed and the depth of water, wherein areas of one atmosphere space can be created in-bottom at such low cost the ingress-egress system can be amortized if the space required is reasonably large. Economics thus can dictate choice between the two types; even so, some on-bottom facilities will be needed to aid the construction of remote in-bottom facilities.



Presently, establishing an in-bottom facility and building upon this will present fewer technical difficulties than do the submersibles which would support it and use it.

Subsequent to the completion of the third phase of a



demonstration program, which would be a remote, deep water station, and the evaluation of it, a multiple base program could be implemented. The cost of such a base program would be about \$2.7 billion for construction of a number of bases (assumed at 30). (2)

Well, that throws everything into sharper perspective. From the outset, it appears that the plan was to make dozens of undersea bases. The document itself makes clear that money would not be a problem. The figure of \$2.7 billion that it cites for 30 in-bottom, undersea bases is relative peanuts, even by the black budget standards of the late 1960s; what to speak of today, where hundreds of billions of dollars, if not trillions, have gone conspicuously missing at the Pentagon?

Interestingly, this particular plan, which makes clear and unambiguous reference in the text to sharing of information by the Naval Underwater Warfare Center at China Lake, also mentions the desirability of making the planned, in-bottom undersea bases "multipurpose", i.e. these facilities could serve industrial (hard-rock mining and oil drilling) and scientific (geological, seismic, oceanographic) purposes, in addition to military objectives. This raises the possibility that the military might occupy and use such a base, under cover of a scientific or, even better, an industrial operation, which itself could conceivably be clandestine.

I find further significance in the communication between the team at China Lake and the team at Stanford Research



Institute (SRI). For many years, SRI has played a key role in the military-industrial-espionage complex. It is a place where cutting-edge military policy can transform into clandestine projects – well out of the public eye. Perhaps the most salient example of this was the now well-known psychic military espionage programme that fielded a team of so-called remote viewers in the last quarter of the 20th Century.

The genesis of this programme was at SRI back in the 1970s, when the early work and training took place. Later the project moved to Fort Meade, Maryland, and much of the training shifted to the Monroe Institute, in Virginia. But the initial impetus of this highly clandestine, psychic espionage program came out of SRI. (3)

Has something similar happened in the case of the manned, in-bottom, deep undersea base plans? The question naturally arises, given the SRI affiliation of the authors, and their contact with the undersea base team at China Lake.

With this important background context in place, let's take a look at Walter Koerschner's wonderful artwork. Keep in mind that Mr. Koerschner is an artist, not an engineer, and he was tasked with pro-

ducing a body of work that would graphically depict U.S. Navy plans, as of 1968.

He has told me that he has no knowledge of any facilities such as appear in his artwork ever having been built, and I believe him.

But that is scarcely surprising. If clandestine undersea bases do indeed exist, then such a program would certainly be highly compartmentalized and only personnel with a strict need-to-know would be in on it.

The Channel Islands

The Channel Islands lie just off the coast of southern California. One of them, San Clemente Island, was the site of some of the preliminary testing of the U.S. Navy's Rock-Site related experimentation. A 1967 article in a leading mining journal forthrightly displayed a photograph of a truck-mounted drilling rig at work on San Clemente Island with the following caption: "Deep coring to determine feasibility of Rock Site installation takes place on and offshore at San Clemente Island."

The article was written by one of the U.S. Navy's research geologists at the China Lake Naval Ordnance Test Station. (4)



Another of the nearby Channel Islands is Santa Catalina. Interestingly, Santa Catalina Island is depicted in Mr. Koerschner's first illustration. The artist's notes say, "Illus of Catalina shore where dry installation might be placed." (Illustration 1.)

Notice the small cluster of buildings just onshore, in the centre-left of the frame. A shaft extends down below the buildings and extends underground and then underwater, out beneath the offshore slope of the island, as its flank submerges down into the sea. The several rooms of the in-bottom installation then open out from the shaft, with an opening at the bottom, directly to the open sea.

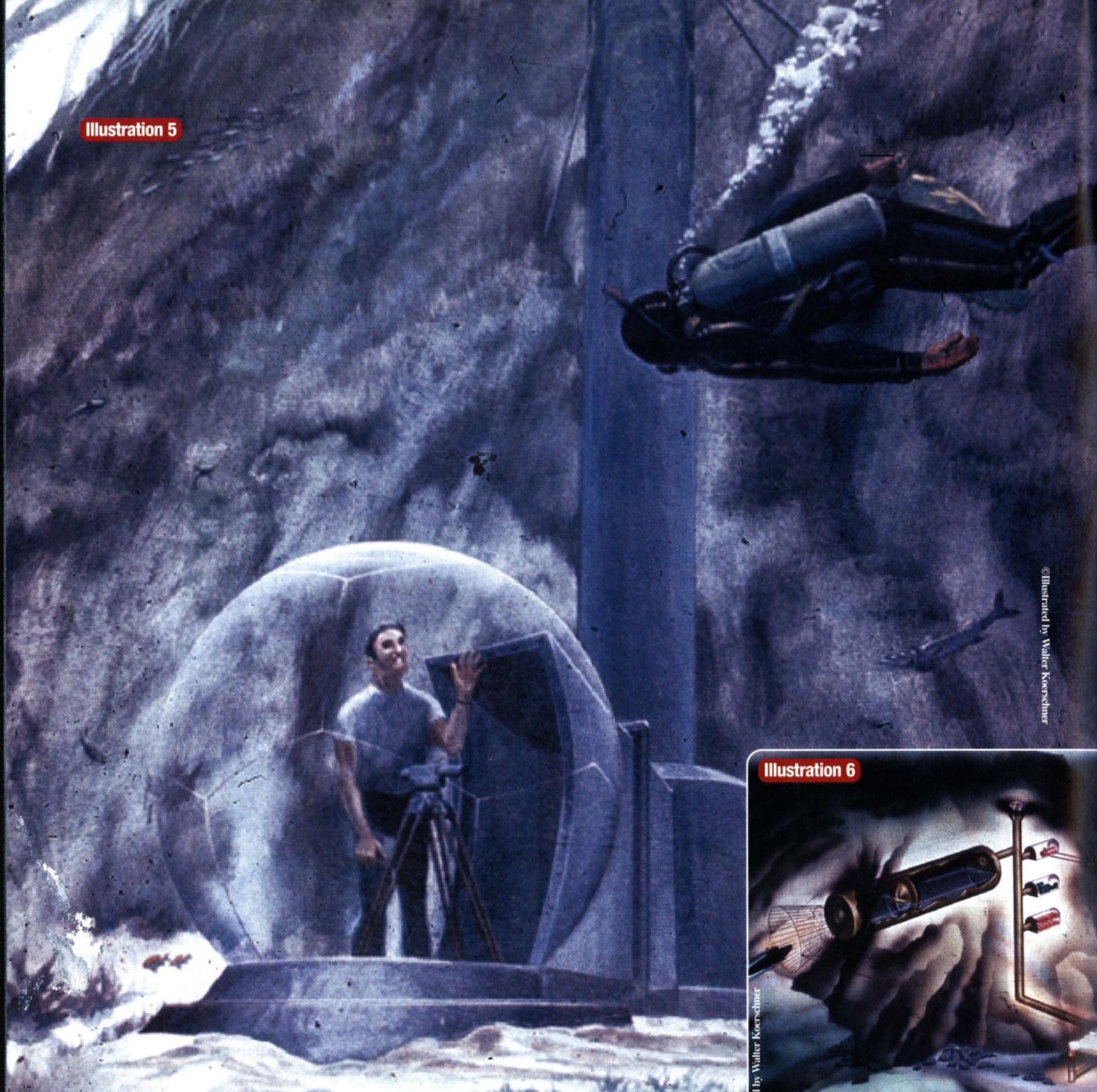
This is a fine example of an in-bottom, manned undersea base, that has a land connection. It provides ready access to both the deep sea and to the surface, onshore environment.

How might the opening to the sea from such a facility look? In the next view, the artist shows how "high profile visitors could view underwater activity in a dry environment." Notice the access tunnel and the spherical, glass bubble viewing area. (Illustration 2.) Another artistic representation of a "viewing capsule" for "high profile visitors" is shown in Illustration 3.

Notice the hatch for access at left, with the door lock, as well as what appears to be a vertical access shaft. Inside the glass walled viewing capsule, there is a shirt-sleeve work environment.

Larger facilities might accommodate several visitors at a time. From above (Illustration 4), you can see what a slightly larger capsule with multiple viewing ports might look like. Notice an access hatch on top of the seafloor installation and a connecting tunnel that disappears into the side of an undersea bluff at top-centre. Alternatively (Illustration 5), a smaller, spherical "viewing capsule", a sort of Sea Hut, could be constructed against an underwater bluff, with a vertical, access shaft. ➤

Illustration 5



©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

These are some of the sorts of viewing ports that could be associated with a land-based Rock-Site underwater base as depicted in Illustration 1.

Judging from the undersea scenery and activities shown in Illustrations 1-5, facilities such as these would be constructed at comparatively shallow depths, perhaps on the continental shelf, or in, and on, the underwater slopes of offshore islands.

I cannot help but remark at this juncture that it is strange that my research has uncovered these two explicit references showing U.S. military interest in possible undersea bases in the Channel Island region that lies just offshore of southern California. After all, as some readers may

remember, the alien abductee, Linda Porter, recounts a bewildering tale of being shown an undersea facility that rose up out of the seabed, somewhere off-shore from Santa Barbara, California. Those who are interested may consult her account in greater detail in Linda Moulton Howe's book, *Glimpses of Other Realities, Vol. II: High Strangeness*. (5) Can it be pure coincidence that the Channel Islands lie due south and southeast of Santa Barbara? I find it significant that Ms. Porter reports being shown a strange undersea base in the near vicinity of the very islands where the U.S. Navy showed interest in making undersea facilities. This is the very sort of evidence that once again raises the question as to possible clandestine cooperation between the U.S. military and purported aliens.

Illustration 6



©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

Planned Undersea Submarine Bases

Returning to the wonderful illustrations by Walter Koerschner, I want to say that I absolutely love the colours in these underwater scenes. But the artwork only gets better, as in this cutaway look at a planned, deep-sea, Polaris submarine base. (Illustration 6.) Notice the Polaris submarine approaching the massive air lock at left. The huge submarine berth inside the seamount is connected to crew accommodations and an under-the-seabed tunnel network by a vertical shaft and tunnel system. The first chamber

Illustration 7



©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

near the top of the vertical shaft has two pipes that extend outside the facility to the deep sea. Based on my research I believe that such a facility would likely be powered by a compact nuclear reactor and that the pipes would be for the circulation of seawater to cool the reactor core. As you may know, at great depth seawater is very cold, and so would serve admirably to cool a nuclear reactor.

I don't know what is at the top of the vertical shaft, but it looks as if it might be a glass-domed viewing/observation/surveillance area. It would be a natural location for an ingress/egress hatch or lock, as well. The tunnel system that extends beneath the seafloor and out of the frame to the lower right is very interesting. I believe that the several vertical shafts located at the end of the short tunnels that branch off at right angles to the main tunnel are meant to be underwater nuclear missile silos. There are two reasons for

my saying this: First, the 1968 SRI document that I cited earlier, explicitly mentions that one of the purposes of deep, manned, in-bottom bases might be for "Offshore missile launch sites". (6) And secondly, the U.S. Navy's Chief Scientist in the Special Project's Office from 1958-1972, Dr. John Piña Craven, has written a remarkable book, in which he recounts, among many other anecdotes, Dr. Edward Teller's great interest in placing nuclear missiles in undersea glass silos at the depth of 20,000 feet. The science behind glass missile silos is fascinating: at great depth glass has tremendous

structural strength and is a very sturdy construction material. It is counterintuitive, but nevertheless true. (7) As best I can determine from Dr. Craven's narrative account, his conversation with Edward Teller, concerning the emplacement of nuclear missiles in all-glass silos 20,000 feet beneath the sea, took place in 1964. This date is just four years prior to the illustration; hence, I think it is a fair bet that what we are seeing here is a depiction of what Dr. Teller wanted Dr. Craven to develop and deploy on the ocean bottom. There is not the slightest shadow of a doubt, by the way, that Dr. Craven would have interacted directly with the manned, undersea base team at China Lake.

Other illustrations make clear that the Navy was thinking of berthing several submarines at a time in in-bottom installations. For many years, I wondered how crews could keep from going stir crazy as they silently patrolled the ocean depths for months on end - up to a half year at a time! These illustrations have gotten me to thinking about other possibilities. Who knows what submarines and their crews really do when they submerge and disappear at sea for months on end?

Consider this "racetrack" facility, also called the "Nautilus Concept", for example, that can dock three submarines at a time, with an adjoining sister facility that also can handle multiple submarines. (Illustration 7.)

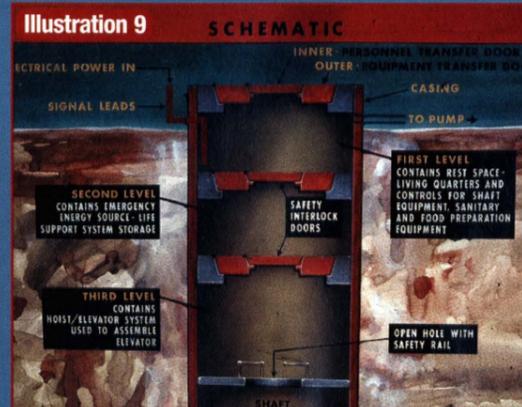
The picture is virtually self-explanatory. Large submarines are hundreds of feet long, so the dimensions of a facility such

Illustration 8



©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

as shown here would have to be very large. The central docking area might be more than a thousand feet long and easily more than a hundred feet in diameter. The living quarters would obviously have to accommodate hundreds of crew members in some degree of creature comfort. In the bottom-centre you will notice the same arrangement as in the previous illustration for circulating cooling water for a nuclear power plant. There are also two



©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

tunnels connecting the deep sea with the crew quarters. Perhaps these represent emergency ingress-egress hatches and tunnels for the living quarters.

Spiral designs also play a prominent role in the "Nautilus Concept" undersea base plans. (Illustration 8.) The reason for the spiral designs is this: tunnel boring machines cannot turn a sharp corner, so when they are used to excavate a complex, all turns must be curved, the radius of the turn determined by the tunnel boring machine's turning radius. The idea would be to bring a disassembled tunnel boring machine down the central shaft shown here. The actual lock tube entrance to the deep shaft might have an outer lock, and an inner lock, to admit both men and equipment. (See Illustration 9.) After all the component pieces were down the shaft, mechanics would be brought down to put the tunnel boring machine together and commence tunneling out the complex. Large tunnel boring machines can be hundreds of feet long, so the complex you are looking at could be quite large. Notice the looping entrance and exit tunnel for submarines in the lower-left-centre. Excavated muck would simply be discharged to the outside of the seamount. ➤

Layout of Other Possible Spiral-Type Facilities

Here is another possible configuration for a spiral undersea base. (Illustration 10.) Notice that in this case, the undersea base has an industrial function. It is an oil drilling operation, completely contained within the seabed. The rubric implies that it would be powered by a geothermal source of energy. The oil wells are arrayed in an outlying tunnel, and the petroleum they would produce is pumped up a central shaft for delivery to a waiting oil tanker on the surface of the sea, far above. I am not aware of any such operational facilities today. However, I have run across conceptual plans for such undersea operations in the mining literature that I have consulted in recent years. I will have more to say on this topic in my next book.

In yet another view of a possible, spiral-type undersea base, you can see that there are two vertical access shafts, one in the centre, and another on the left. (Illustration 11.)

Submarines are shown hovering around the entrance lock on the seafloor in the center, while at left another submarine departs an outlying entrance shaft.

The relevant literature suggests that such a facility might contain 50 men, to carry

out research and active tunnel boring. (8) The planned living and working arrangements are shown in greater detail here. (Illustration 12.) Starting at upper-left, submersibles are guiding a lock-tube assembly into a finished borehole that has already been drilled out. The next step is to cement the lock-tube into place. Then men and equipment can enter the lock-tube and tunnel down beneath the seabed, enlarging the facility as they go. Moving clockwise, at upper-right men are at work installing the power plant, likely a five-megawatt nuclear reactor. This is the size reactor that the U.S. Navy planned to use in its manned, in-bottom, undersea installations. (9) Continuing down to the lower-right of the illustration, a tunnel boring machine is depicted, grinding away, lengthening the undersea tunnel network.

Finally, in the lower-left, you can see some of the station's crew playing ping-pong and reading, in a recreation area.

Taking Stock

Remember, these are all artistic representations depicting the U.S. Navy's Rock-Site plans of the mid-to-late 1960s; they are not photographs of actual facilities.

Neither Walter Koerschner, nor anyone else with whom I have spoken, has told me that the Rock-Site plans came to concrete fruition.

Illustration 12



©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

And yet, we have the stories of Linda Porter and others, who tell us of mysterious undersea bases and installations that go absolutely unmentioned in the mainstream news media. What to make of this strange state of affairs?

Well, I am inclined to look at the documentation and information that my

research has uncovered and extrapolate from there. It is clear that starting at least in the 1960s, modern mining and marine technology had the capability to construct and man multiple, huge, sophisticated mid-ocean bases at great depth beneath the seafloor. This has been well discussed in the open, unclassified mining and military literature, some of which is presented for your consideration in this article. But then, as we move into the 1970s, the paper trail starts to run dry and the whole subject of manned, in-bottom undersea bases appears to go away.

Except that it actually *doesn't*. As we move into the last part of the 1990s, anecdotal tales begin to pop up from people like Linda Porter and others, describing strange undersea bases that they have seen or visited. In a nutshell, it looks like once the technology was proven, back in the 1960s, the whole thing went deep black/covert/ clandestine and the real work since then has been carried out in very great secrecy. That's the way it looks to me, and if I were a betting man, I would give you better than 50% odds that that is exactly what has happened. What could be the reason for the extreme secrecy? I don't know, but I am wondering if it may not have something to do with a possible alien presence on this planet. Or perhaps, there are other factors just as conducive to great secrecy. I wish I could tell you I understood what is going on! But I don't. The best I can do is to present the evidence that I have and draw tentative conclusions.

The Submarine Tunnel Stories

Let's get back to Walter Koerschner's wonderful illustrations. But before I present the next couple of illustrations, I have a small confession to make. Back in the early 1990s, when I first began my underground bases and tunnels research, people began telling me that the U.S. Navy was the biggest underground excavator and tunneller of them all. These were not "insiders" from government and military programmes who were telling me this, but ordinary people whom I encountered in the course of my everyday life. Somehow, I don't know how, maybe by picking up stray bits of conversation by chance, they had come to this realization that they then passed on to me. But at the time, I did not know what to make of this second - and third-hand information and so I thought that the people telling me such uncommon things must be deluded, addled - just a few bricks shy of a full load, in other words.

My incredulity only deepened when some of them told me breathlessly of alleged, secret submarine tunnels in the Long Beach, California area, that purportedly ran inland from the open sea to under-

marines silently gliding through them deep below southern California. I don't know that to be the case, but what IF?

Look at this illustration of a submarine gliding out of a tunnel that traverses a mountain, as the submarine passes from one body of water to another. (Illustration 13.) Presumably the scene is set in the polar regions, since the submarine is entering a sea covered by pack ice, or ice bergs. Of course, submarines have been navigating the polar regions for decades, so that is hardly a novel concept. But the idea of undersea, or underground tunnels for submarines? - ah, well, that is a rather novel idea that you don't encounter every day. And here it is looking you in the face in this illustration.

Take a look at this close-up of a submarine tunnel and lock system set into the side of an underwater slope. (Illustration 14.) I suppose in theory the submarine tunnel could be 1,000 feet long, or 20 miles long or ...? Who knows if such tunnels have actually been made? If you do, please contact me with the relevant details, courtesy of the editors of *UFO Magazine*.

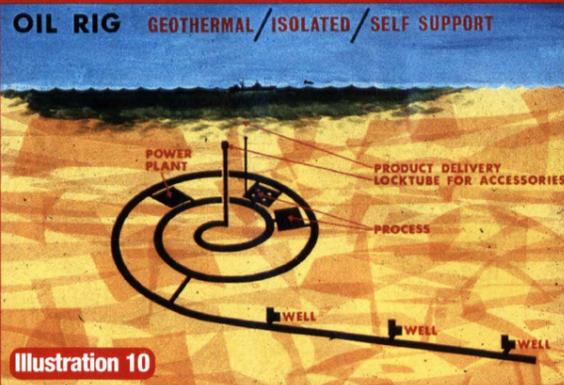


Illustration 10



Illustration 11

©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

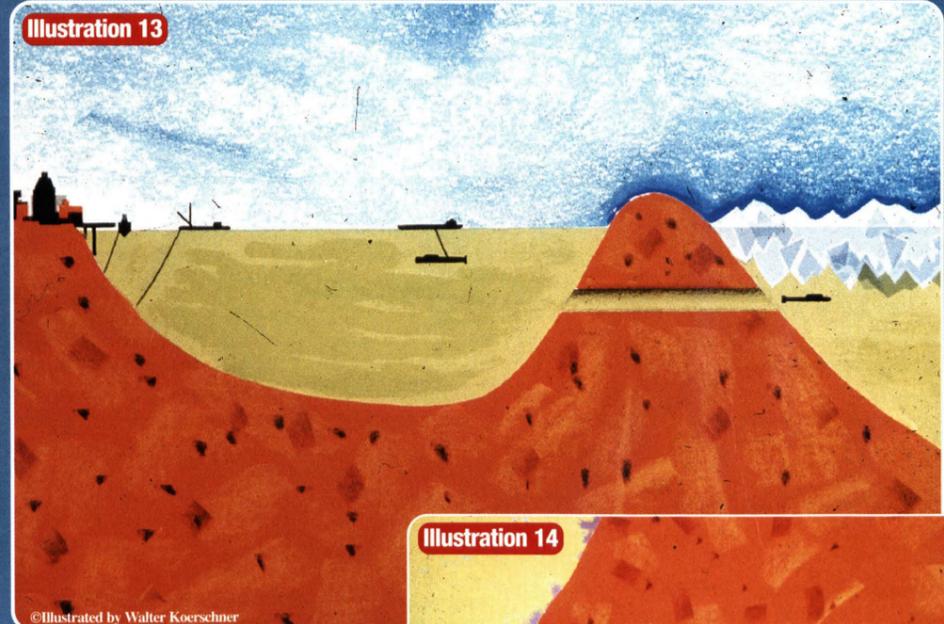


Illustration 13

©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner



Illustration 14

©Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

ground submarine bases well inland. I thought that such an idea was almost completely beyond the pale.

Hard proof was absent, so I was little inclined to take such stories seriously.

Now, however, my mind is open a little more and I see that the technology to make submarine tunnels probably has been around for decades. Maybe there are even huge, secret tunnels with sub-

Continued on page 62...

New UFO Documentary

'Flying Triangles' have for many years been a commonly reported phenomenon in the skies around the world. There are countless possibilities as to what they may or may not be, but whatever they are, they will be the basis for a new 45-minute documentary produced by Graham Allen, coordinator of Staffordshire UFO Group.

Graham's determination to highlight the UFO subject was sparked when he witnessed two Flying Triangles (FTs) in Staffordshire in May 1988. He was not the only one, as dozens of independent witnesses experienced the strange craft. Public concern was such, that the MP for the area at that time (Cash) took the matter up for debate with the Defence Minister. The official explanation offered by the Defence Minister (Roger Freeman), was that the sightings were the result of busy air traffic into Birmingham Airport. This response was considered ludicrous to the MP and to Graham.

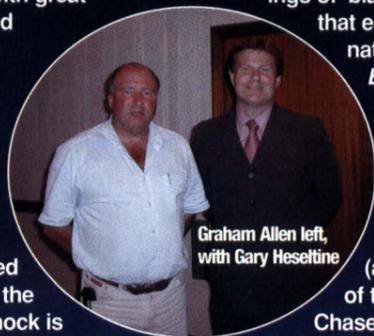
The documentary will highlight the above case among others and will focus on a recognised hot-spot for UFO activity, the 'Cannock Chase' in Staffordshire. The Chase area is a 17,000-acre forest, which in the far distant past belonged to the Kings of England before being sold on to the Bishops of Lichfield by Richard I (Lionheart). Its origins date back even further to the Celts and the Cangri or Catuvellauni tribe who inhabited the area and hunted in the then predominantly oak forest.

At that time the forest was endowed with great mystery and power, and pagan homage was paid to the god that dwelt there: 'Cernunos' (stag headed god). Even the name Cannock is derived from these origins with 'Cnoc' in translation meaning 'grey oak' and therefore the people were of the grey oak. Today, the Chase is an area of outstanding natural beauty with all its charm and mystery intact.

Such mystery has always surrounded this location and it is as much the case today as it was thousands of years ago.

Today, it is UFOs and sightings of 'black panthers' that excite the imagination. In the *Encyclopedia of Staffordshire* produced to celebrate the new millennium, Jenny Randles (author) writes of the Cannock Chase as a recognised UFO hot-spot and highlights a number of historic cases.

Graham has collated many witness statements of UFO encounters in the Chase area and Staffordshire as a whole.



Graham Allen left, with Gary Heseltine



John Brown (artist) courtesy of the 'Chase Post' newspaper



John Brown (artist) courtesy of the 'Chase Post' newspaper

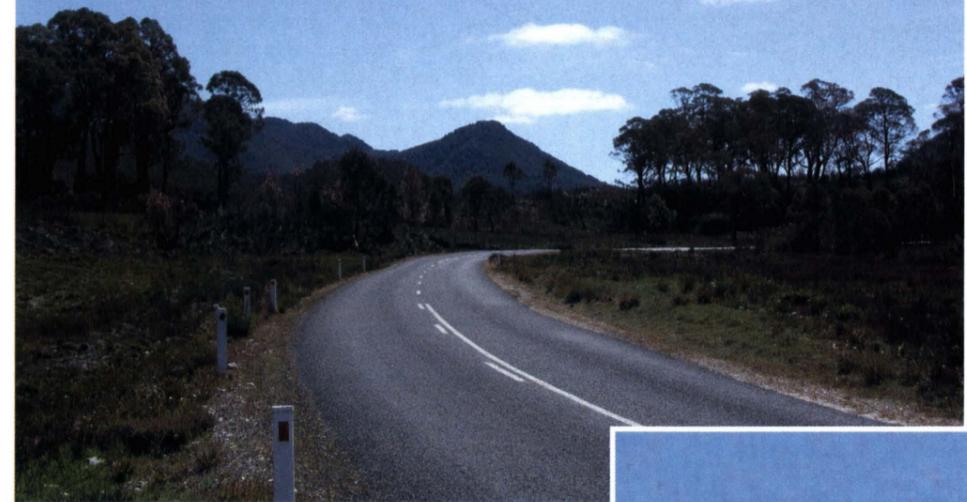
Further interviews with Larry Warren and comment from Lord Hill-Norton and retired RAF personnel have been procured for good measure.

The documentary is professionally produced through *Mirage 21* and presents stunning scenery of the Cannock Chase, state of the art graphics, some never before seen photographs and footage, and some startling new revelations guaranteed to astound says Graham.

The documentary will be released from March 2004 and will be available in all video formats for sale both in the UK and abroad. The documentary titled *Cannock Chase - UFO Hot-Spot UK* can be ordered via *UFO Magazine*, the Staffordshire UFO Group website: www.sufog.co.uk or by ringing 0044 1889 585149



Tasmanian UFO



Thanks to Dudley Rob and Steve Walters of UFO Research (NSW) for bringing this photograph to our attention. Their professional attitude towards the witness has secured permission to publish the image in *UFO Magazine* for all to see.

Rod Beveridge, the photographer explains how he came to taking the picture in his own words...

My wife and I recently spent eight days in Tasmania. We had a wedding to attend on 4 January and decided to get to Tassie a few days earlier and spend a few days there after the wedding. On 3 January we travelled from Hobart to our destination for that day, Cradle Mountain. Being a bit of a mad photographer and with a digital camera I tend to take a lot of photos.

Location of photo:

I took a series of 'panoramic' photos looking from the south-west to the north-west on the A10 Highway, somewhere between the Franklin and Alma Rivers. I would guess the time being around 2pm. We were staying at the Highlander in Cradle Mountain and I had my laptop there where I downloaded the images from my camera. It was not until the next day when we had arrived at Hawley Beach, location of the Wedding, that I was showing some friends my photos over a couple of pre-wedding drinks, when the object was spotted by my friend Jason.

On my return to Melbourne I sent the photo off to a couple of UFO sites I had found on the Internet, *UFO Magazine* being one of them. The other sent me a dirty reply for wasting their time.

Camera Used:
C5050 Olympus Camedia
(5 Megapixel Camera).

Rod Beveridge



Comment

The image is a very clear, well focused shot taken in good daylight conditions which appears to show a disc shaped object to the top right-hand side of the image.

The lighting of the object is consistent with the rest of the photograph and would not suggest any electronic tampering had been applied to the image.

I feel that although this is a classic UFO shaped object a few things must be taken into consideration.

The witness did not see the object at the time of taking the photograph so we can surmise that either:

1. The object was silent
2. The object was a long way in the distance
3. The object was very small and close to the camera or
4. The object was nothing unusual.

If the object was silent then we have to suspect a genuine unknown craft.

If the object was a long way off, then like the trees and hills in the visible distance I would expect some focal

blurring to be present on the object. Unfortunately this is not the case and the object appears very sharply focused.

If we see a small object close to the photographer then what could this be? A bird or insect perhaps caught in flight at a high shutter speed but we don't see evidence of wings or other expected features.

Finally, if the object was observed by the photographer but there was nothing unusual (e.g. a bird or insect), then would this register with the photographer or not?

Looking at the lighting conditions on the photograph I believe the object is close to the camera and in front of the right-hand trees. The object is very well illuminated by the sun and the only area in the shot bathed in sunlight is the area in front of the trees. Everything else is caught in the haze produced by the bright sun.

That's about as much information I can extract from the image.

So what is it? I don't know.

Russel Callaghan

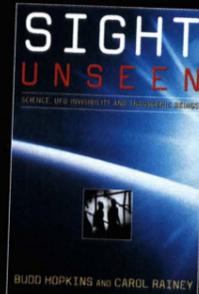
An Interview with Budd Hopkins

By Sean Casteel

It is generally acknowledged that Budd Hopkins is the world's foremost expert on UFO abduction. In his previous three books, *Missing Time* (1981), *Intruders* (1987), and *Witnessed* (1996), Hopkins set unsurpassable high standards for the integrity of abduction research and blazed a trail to aspects of the phenomenon that continue to be rediscovered and replicated repeatedly by the many investigators who came after.

Hopkins was, for example, the researcher who coined the term "screen memory" to describe the aliens' method of superimposing a less threatening false memory over the possibly traumatic events the abductee has actually endured. It was Hopkins who first took seriously and documented reports from abductees who recalled under hypnosis the medical procedures involved in creating the hybrid alien/human children that continue to be regarded by the UFO community at large as the primary focus of the overall abduction programme.

Hopkins recently published his fourth book, *Sight Unseen: Science, UFO Invisibility and Transgenic Beings* (Atria Books, 2003), co-authored with his wife, Carol Rainey. Rainey has a distinguished background as a documentary filmmaker and contributes some enlightening chapters on recent discoveries in mainstream science that point to the idea that things we used to think of as apparent UFO "magic" may in fact be nearly within the reach of our own technological capabilities.



In the following interview, Hopkins discusses *Sight Unseen* and some of the case histories presented therein, as well as grappling with the many genuinely frightening implications of what the latest evidence implies. Yet, in spite of the grim possibilities ahead, there is as always an unflinching optimism in what Hopkins has to say about both the UFO occupants and the many human lives they have so mysteriously touched.

Q. You once said that you never begin a new book unless the data demands it. So what led you to write *Sight Unseen*?

HOPKINS: There were two basic issues that needed to be explored. The first is the idea, and it's a radical idea, that during abductions, UFO, the occupants inside the UFO doing the abduction, and the abductees themselves are somehow rendered unseeable or invisible, if you want to call it that. It's the only way that abductions can be taking place in the daytime, in big cities, around the world, with nobody reporting them happening. And the very fact of the Linda Cortile case, which was deliberately made seeable, and the fact that it had so many witnesses, and we have new witnesses on the case is a kind of "control" that shows what would happen if abductions were seeable.

Invisibility is a very heavy-duty issue to bring up, because it seems so off-the-wall, so paranormal, that people don't want to deal with it, and yet I just felt it had to be dealt with in-depth in the book.

And of course there were so many cases that supported it in terms of physical evidence, anecdotal evidence, and witness evidence of one sort or another that we've accumulated over the years. There were just an enormous number of cases that had to be brought forward. I adduced about six separate cases at some length to support the idea of invisibility during abductions.

The second point is that we have known ever since I published *Intruders* that the UFO occupants have been interested quite centrally in producing a kind of "hybrid" mix of them and us. What we have found over the years, and this doesn't just mean the so called "Men-In-Black" cases, but cases where there seem to be very strange, not quite human individuals operating in the real world.

They're driving cars, apparently having jobs, going into restaurants, into stores and the like. We have had many cases along those lines suggesting that some of these, what we call in the book "transgenic beings," meaning genes have been engineered from alien genetic makeup to human and vice versa, to create these beings. And that these beings, at least some of them at least some of the time, are actually operating in the real world. Not in UFOs, but in everyday quotidian existence.

So there were so many cases there that needed to be brought to light that I felt these were the two major new points that we have to now attach to the UFO abduction phenomenon in general as aspects of it.

Q. Would you please tell the readers about your wife Carol Rainey and her contributions to the book?

HOPKINS: Carol is someone who has a lot of experience in doing scientific and medical films for the New England Research Institute, where she worked for many years in charge of their video department.

She has also worked on films for PBS. She worked on a "Nova" special on the subject of menopause.

So she has a background in science. She studied futurism, future studies, when she was in college. She's always had a scientific interest.

What Carol did in this book was to research areas in contemporary earthly science that seemed to parallel areas of what we might call "alien science." In other words, what she did in this book was to narrow the gap between what we as human beings seem able to do and what the aliens have long since been able to do. Essentially you can say the book has a goal to take the "para" out of paranormal, because instead of regarding things as near magic, which was the original attitude toward UFOs; you know nothing could go that fast, you can't make these right angle turns without decelerating and so forth.

All of those things now seem possible, and our science is approaching them. This was the area that Carol was documenting.

Carol is currently working on a documentary on the Linda Cortile case. It's not in shape yet, but she has many, many hours of filmed interviews and documentary pieces which when brought together make for a fascinating programme.

Q. As you were saying before, the new book concentrates on subjects only touched on by researchers before, invisibility and transgenic beings. Can you summarize some of the invisibility cases that most stand out in your mind?

HOPKINS: There are many fascinating cases that I deal with in the book. One, which is extremely striking to me, involves a family in Australia. I interviewed the husband and wife, who several years ago took their very young children to the park one Saturday afternoon. Certainly the husband in the family had felt that he had been having abduction experiences, and it also seemed to be something that was being experienced by the other members of the family, too. But at any rate, he was very aware of his experiences.

At some point, he and his wife began photographing each other posing with the two children, but all the while feeling very strange. They left the park feeling very uneasy. And the children, who loved to go there, never wanted to return to the park again.



Linda Cortile left, and one of many witness drawings of her abduction

But afterwards, when they developed their photographs, they were not in any of the photographs even though they had been taking pictures of each other posing against the water and so forth. They could not understand this.

Well, when we looked into this using hypnosis, first the wife and then the husband, doing them quite separately, it turns out that as he was photographing his wife and the two children, she and the children suddenly lifted off the ground. This was at a playground with a lot of people around. They were taken straight up in some kind of light, even though this was the middle of the afternoon. They went up into a craft. She was put on a table and the children were taken from her. She was extraordinarily upset and to shorten the story, when they were returned by the same method they went up, lowered down by a beam of light, there was her husband standing on the ground holding the camera in place, just as it had been before, half an hour or an hour or so before. No one had approached him.

He felt, when I did hypnosis with him, that nobody could actually see him. But the fact remains that when they took pictures of each other they were literally invisible. It's quite an incredible story.

Another case that I went in to has to do with Katharina Wilson.

Q. I was going to ask you about her.

HOPKINS: She had this bizarre experience of arriving in Chicago at O'Hara Airport, walking into the ladies room, again feeling very strange. She'd had an odd encounter on the plane with a woman, which is something that has not been explored. There's been no hypnosis in this case, at her request. ➤

At any rate, she went to the ladies room and when she put soap on her hands, and put her hands under the automatic faucets with a sensor, the water wouldn't go on. And she kept moving her hands from faucet to faucet and nothing was working. When a woman would step away from the sink with water still running, Katharina would pop her hands underneath and it would stop.

At some point, she became aware that people weren't able to see her and that she was not registering on the faucets. She even asked a young woman who was in the restroom, "Can you see me?" Katharina received no response whatsoever.

She had soap on her hands and went to a baby changing sink which had traditional taps she was able to operate and wash her hands.

Her next recollection was a phone call to her husband. This registered the idea that there had been missing time from her getting off the plane, but the next thing she knew was when she sort of appeared as if by magic at the baggage claim area. The only luggage on the carousel was hers, all the other passengers had collected the luggage and gone some time previously. The people who were there to meet her from the airport said that she virtually appeared out of thin air.

So these are cases where you have testimony of various kinds. There are mechanical aspects in both of them, one, the sensors didn't work and the other, the camera didn't register, the film didn't register human beings. Those are quite similar physical details. But this all seems totally crazy and off-the-wall, and yet it seems to be an essential part of the abduction phenomenon.

Q. It's obvious that invisibility is a crucial aspect of the abduction phenomenon, and in fact as you were saying before, abductions could not be carried out in the numbers that they are without it.

HOPKINS:

Absolutely. No way possible.

Q. So why has it taken so long to call the "invisibility" spade a spade?

HOPKINS:

Well, that's an interesting thing. As I mention in the book, the bravest among us, in terms of UFO abduction researchers, has been David Jacobs in so many ways. He was the first one to bring this to public attention, although at a very modest conference in Santa Barbara a number of years ago. But he addressed it head on. I spoke about it also at a MUFON conference a few years after that. But essentially, it is so much the province of science fiction and fantasy and so forth. I think UFO researchers have been aware of it but have not wanted to bring it into public view.

In the same way, when I was writing *Missing Time*, I was aware that during abductions, people were passed through closed surfaces, windows or doors or walls or whatever. Yet I did not mention that in

the book because I felt that I wanted to present the strongest evidence first, and an element that would be harder for people to accept would actually give them a reason to say, "I'm not going to bother with this because this is impossible." I think in a similar way researchers have treated the issue of invisibility very carefully for exactly the same reason, if you bring it up you weaken the case to a lot of people.

Q. Can we go back and discuss the transgenic beings again?

HOPKINS:

When I wrote in *Intruders* in 1987 that the alien agenda seemed focused on the creation of a kind of "mixed breed," one might say, with alien and human characteristics, and that the reproductive focus of all this seemed to point in that direction, and that ova and sperm samples and flesh samples and skin samples were being taken regularly, I was attacked very roundly by biologists who said that that isn't possible. You can't make hybrid beings. Genetics do not allow that. That's just impossible.

Now of course we're at a point where science is doing far wilder things.

If I had suggested back in 1987, sixteen years ago, that we would be able to put a gene from a jellyfish into a monkey so that it would glow under a black light and be phosphorescent, people would have laughed me right out of the bookstores, yet this has actually happened.

So the lesson here is that the more we stick with the data, regardless of what the contemporary theories are about the possibilities of any particular thing happening, if we stick with the data we're safe. Throughout the history of the UFO phenomenon and its investigation, it has been our data versus orthodox theories. They don't have data that refutes this. They just say, "this can't be because it's impossible."

So once we deal with the reality, certainly the plausibility, of creating these beings, which our science seems able to do, in terms of crossbreeding different species of animals, then I certainly think what we have to say is that some of these beings may be on Earth. They may be on Earth some of the time, or a long time, we don't really know. They may be learning our ways. It's very, very hard to know the purpose of this, and of course it can fuel a range of paranoid terrors. But I have just come across too many cases.

I think the whole phenomenon of the so-called Men-In-Black, who are really a group of individuals who don't seem fully human, and that's been the way this has appeared from the beginning of so-called MIB incidents. This suggests that we have people who can drive up in a car and get out and talk to you and also paralyze you and pass through a wall and read your mind, etc. So whether this is some slow, gradual infiltration or whether this is



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something more benign than that, we don't really know. But in fact it seems to be what this whole thing is actually about.

Q. Well, can you describe some of what I found to be truly chilling encounters with transgenic beings detailed in the book?

HOPKINS:

One case that I went into is the case with a woman I call Terry in the book. It's a very interesting case. I had been working with her looking into her abduction experiences later on in life, and at one point she mentioned that she had had a funny thing happen when she was sixteen, when she went to this strange job interview with a strange man. I of course wanted to find out about what that was, and the very fact that she had remembered this and brought it up in the context of other experiences of hers would suggest that unconsciously at least she connected this with the UFO phenomenon.

What happened was this, she was approached by a man, a normal looking person, in a pizza parlor and asked if she wanted a summer job, she said yes and gave him her address. He picked her up the next afternoon in a car, without getting out of the car. Her mother, for some reason, totally unlike her, found out nothing about the man or where her daughter was going, a sixteen-year-old, very pretty little girl. Her mother just said, "Oh, fine. Good luck."

Now the moment the young girl got in the car with the man, she began to feel extremely strange, almost a kind of altered state. This man began speaking to her about elements in her life, going all the way back to her early childhood. Knowing everything about her, including things that were very, very secret, even the fact that she had been abused by a stepfather, something she'd never told anyone, including her mother.

This man seemed to have total knowledge of her and total control over her. Well, one thing led to another. There didn't seem to be any kind of a job.

The man made a sort of a tentative suggestion that they have sex, but in the strangest way, something guaranteed not to be effective, and yet she was still so much under his power that when she left after turning him down, she got right back in the car with him and he drove her to the country. She remembered all of this part consciously, everything that I've just described. The following information emerged under hypnosis. He drove them into a field where there was a landed UFO. He turned the girl over to the UFO occupants, as if he was some kind of an agent or go-between. We're not certain what happened at that point, it has not been very well explored as she was very upset.

She recalls getting back in the car and the man driving her home. The UFO part of it was forgotten for the rest of her life until we looked into this experience. But there are a number of cases where we seem to have a normal human operating totally in conjunction with the small grey aliens, as if his alliances are totally with them, even though he may look relatively human.

Q. Do you have another story like that?

HOPKINS:

One of the most interesting is a case involving a farmer. This is a man I worked with a number of times, he is a very solid person. He's no longer living, unfortunately. But he had met near his farm this strange person who looked almost exactly like his son, except different and rather strange. This man, this strange person who looked like his son, seemed to have some unusual powers. The farmer was out cutting hay in a field with his wife, and she took a rest. He was on his tractor, and his conscious memory was of seeing two helicopters overhead. They landed where his wife was sunbathing in the nude on this wagon on some bales of hay. He doesn't remember exactly what happened consciously, but his wife began having all kinds of emotional problems and was committed to a mental hospital. She became almost suicidal, afraid to go outside, and was subjected to electric shock and all kinds of treatment. When I met her, she was in pretty bad shape.

After agreeing to hypnotherapy the helicopters turned out to be UFOs. When they landed and he rushed towards where his wife was lying, this odd, semi-human figure approached, the one who looked like their son, and told them to calm down, everything was fine and he shouldn't be angry.

They just wanted him to see what was happening. They made him witness some procedures they were doing to his wife in broad daylight as she lay on these bales of hay, which included some kind of vaginal instrument, and some instrument inserted in her naval, and a great deal of pain. This poor farmer, the husband, was unable to move. He was cursing and weeping and the transgenic being, who looked like his son, was telling him, "Don't you see? Everything's fine. We're not hurting her," as if there was a profound inability to understand what this man was going through. It was as if the entire range of human emotions was outside the understanding of this strange being.

It's a very touching story and I think it's one of the most important stories in the book, actually.

Q. It is certainly a dramatic thing to realize that there are aliens who can easily pass as human beings walking among us. What are some of the most basic implications of that aspect of things?

HOPKINS:

Well, of course, at the more paranoid end, the implications are of a sort of systematic infiltration of earthly society. That could mean an ultimate kind of takeover. We have no way of knowing. It could also mean somehow a way of becoming used to earthly ways and perhaps of enriching their own emotional range and their own knowledge of other beings. The most pleasant possible scenario is that they could just perhaps learn what they needed to know about the way our kind of civilization develops, and then leave and go somewhere else and populate another unpopulated planet.

There are a thousand implications. But, as I always say, I'm much better as a reporter than I am as a prognosticator. So I don't really know what this is going to lead to, but certainly there is nothing about it at all that should make us feel in any sense complacent or comfortable.

Q. Well, David Jacobs says something similar in *The Threat*. He says he's become very depressed contemplating our future under alien guidance or whatever, and he says it's a simple matter of colonization.

HOPKINS:

See, that's certainly a completely logical interpretation of the information. I just think that Dave Jacobs is braver than I in that he is willing to follow the implications of the data he has been gathering, which is very, very close to what I've been gathering. It's the same data.

I am perhaps more hopeful that somehow or other the world will go on in the way that I have known it all my life for a little while longer. I have a thirty-year-old daughter and a little step grandson who's eight, and I would like that little boy to grow up in the world that I grew up in, as far as possible. And for my daughter to have a future that is the kind of future I had when I was thirty. Therefore, I would rather hope and believe that we do have time and that perhaps the worst will not occur and that there might be some other circumstances or some other aspects of the alien agenda that we're not yet aware of that might make this somehow less dire.

Q. This is a question that might make you a little uncomfortable, but how much is human anger a factor in all this? I've talked to some abductees who are very angry about what's happened to them, and I've talked to researchers and therapists who are angry for the sake of the abductees they work with. What are your feelings about the anger response?

HOPKINS:

Well, I certainly feel a great deal of anger myself at what people are being put through and I feel a

great deal of sorrow. There is absolutely no doubt that the abduction experience, in an individual's life, is extremely harmful. No doubt about it. The post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms, the damage to self-esteem, the damage to the idea of trust, and human relationships, all of these things have been demonstrated by psychological testing. These are people who've had a very difficult time.

Yes, there is plenty to be furious about. I've said many times, I don't believe that the aliens are coming down here with some kind of malevolent attitude and now let's see how many lives we can disturb and damage by scaring these people and paralyzing them and putting them through some extraordinarily upsetting experiences. I don't think that's it. I think this is what we used to call collateral damage. The alien idea of collateral damage is that this is just what goes along with the work that they're doing with human beings on their agenda. It's extraordinarily damaging to people.

I think that anger is one of the healthiest emotions that people can have about their experiences, because at the time they're having experiences, very often they can't express the anger. They're frightened to death. They're in a kind of altered state. They can't move. Very often, when I do hypnosis with somebody, as a matter of fact, almost every time, at a certain point, when a person's feeling some degree of calm, they're on a table or whatever's happening, I will often say, "Well, maybe you couldn't say anything to the people, the occupants who've taken you here, or maybe you couldn't ask them any questions. But let's say right now if you could ask them anything you want to ask them, or say anything to them, let's have you say or ask it." And very often they will shout out, "Leave me alone!" "You have no right to do this!" Things that they possibly could not express at the time. So I believe anger and trying to let that anger flow is a very worthwhile aspect of the sort of de facto therapy that's part of what we do.

Q. Is there anything you wish to add? Is there some question I haven't asked or some kind of final comment you'd care to make?

HOPKINS:

I think that over the years, in my three previous books, I have stayed in as cautious a frame of mind as I possibly could about what I would claim. It was only when I received a great deal of evidence backing up a particular assertion that I would ever make that assertion. And in this case, I have more case material than in any of my earlier books. The last two books have just focused on a single case, more or less. But here, there are many, many cases, which are adduced in support of these two extremely radical aspects of the phenomenon. I don't think I've ever written as radical a book as this, or as daring a book, but I think I've assembled enough evidence to make these new issues certainly seem plausible. It's a bit of a daring trip for me, but if people trust me based on the earlier books, I hope they'll trust me on this one, too. ■

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Professional Sceptics Group Proves UFOs Real!

Organization expected to retract defamatory claims, and facilitate \$1,000,000 award to Swiss man

by Michael Horn

LOS ANGELES - It was only a matter of time before a breakthrough in authenticating the existence of non-terrestrial UFOs would take place but, surely, nobody thought it would come about this way. Despite mounting evidence over the past half-century, the arbiters and manipulators of public opinion in media, governmental and scientific circles, along with professional sceptics and debunkers, have marginalized serious discussion of UFOs and dismissed all evidence as inconclusive and flawed.

Defamatory Claims?

A special target, at the top of the hit list for sceptics and debunkers for more than 25 years, are the claimed contacts of a Swiss man, Billy Meier. Meier, who claimed that his contacts with extraterrestrial humans began in 1942, when he was five years old, also says that they continue to this day, more than 60 years later. But the sceptics, in labelling Meier and his evidence as fraudulent, claim that he hoaxed his 35mm photos and 8mm film segments of the UFOs during the mid-1970s using models or some unidentified form of special effects wizardry to accomplish the alleged deception. Professional sceptics, such as the international organization CFI, magician/sceptic The "Amazing" Randi, and science writer/sceptic Michael Shermer, have long been in the forefront of those accusing Meier of hoaxing his physical evidence, which also includes video and sound recordings, as well as metal alloy samples.

Meier's supporters state that these claims run counter to the results of scientific examination of Meier's evidence by experts from JPL, IBM, USGS and Nippon TV, as well as special effects expert Wally Gentleman, known for his work on Stanley Kubrick's "2001", among many films. They also claim that all of Meier's physical evidence remains irreproducible even with today's technology.

The Challenge

In order to definitively resolve the matter, in early February 2001, a number of Meier's more than 1200 photos and eight film segments were presented for examination to case investigator Vaughn Rees of CFI West, the Los Angeles branch of CFI. Mr. Rees concluded that, in his expert opinion, they were all "easily duplicated hoaxes" and that the two lights seen flashing alternately from

two different parts of the UFO in the film (*Hasenbol*, March 18, 1976 at: www.figu.org/us/ufology/videos.htm) were accomplished simply by Meier's scratching the film with a pin.

Mr. Rees agreed to back up his claims by duplicating one of Meier's UFO photos along with the film segment, which should be the easiest to duplicate because it was the only one of Meier's that had no other objects in it to compare to the UFO. Mr. Rees stated that he already had a 35mm photo camera and knew where to acquire an 8mm movie camera. His work wasn't required to be exact to the last detail, just convincingly comparable in quality to Meier's.

Over the next two months Mr. Rees failed to submit anything to back up his claims and, in May of 2001, it was suggested that he could try using any high-tech equipment available to him, i.e. computers, special effects, Photo Shop, etc., to fulfil his commitment. It was



Billy Meier

also suggested that, if he wished to be sporting about it, he should use only one hand since Meier is a one-armed man.

The Results

Two years later, at a UFO conference in February of 2003, Mr. Rees was confronted about his failure to meet the challenge. He responded that he still didn't have access to a photo-processing lab, which Meier himself never had access to, having sent all of his films off to a local shop for developing. Mr. Rees was reminded that he could, and perhaps had already tried to, use any high-tech means at his disposal instead. In a comparable two-year period Mr. Meier had, with one hand, produced hundreds of photos, while the able-bodied, technology-savvy Mr. Rees had produced none.

Now, about three-years have passed and Mr. Rees has still failed to provide even one photo or film to back up his claims. In a three-year period of time Meier had taken nearly 1,000 photographs and, in one period of about twelve months, he took at least one-half dozen of his 8mm films, and he did all of this using only one hand! A comparable number and quality of such types of films for an individual special effects person during the mid-1970s (and maybe any other time period) would be quite respectable, though an Internet search will reveal that no such cinematic accomplishments, professional or otherwise, exist.

This may be the first, and most important, time in history that sceptics have set out to disprove a presumed hoax and ended up proving its authenticity. And, in this case, what they proved is undoubtedly the factuality of the most important event in human history, the existence of, and contact with, extraterrestrials.

What Integrity Demands

The professional sceptics of the Meier case have concocted all sorts of fanciful notions and theories as to how he hoaxed the evidence. But when challenged to prove their claims they repeatedly replied that it was not their job to attempt to duplicate the evidence, although conducting themselves according to the scientific method would require it.

Their time for freely, and irresponsibly, attacking Meier ran out when Mr. Rees and CFI West utterly and completely failed to meet the challenge they had finally accepted. In so doing, they effectively proved Meier's UFOs real and their own claims unsubstantiated and defamatory.

Unequivocal public retractions and apologies are now owed to Meier from CFI West, Vaughn Rees, Randi, Michael Shermer, etc. They have indulged in character assassination, slander and libel, and the sloppiest, least scientific thinking imaginable. It is now absolutely incumbent upon any and all of the sceptics who have offered money for proof of "paranormal" phenomenon, to offer it to Meier and his non-profit organization in Switzerland, FIGU. Specifically, the offer by Randi of \$1,000,000 for proof of a paranormal ability has been more than satisfied and must be paid.

Integrity demands that they now live up to their word. There can be absolutely no argument, dispute or doubt now, especially considering the abysmal, failed attempts by the sceptical accusers themselves, with any tools at their disposal, to debunk, let alone duplicate Meier's stunning proof. Now it's time to recognize that the most important event in human history has occurred and to discover what meaning it holds for us.



Addendum

While the sceptics have offered an unexpected contribution to authenticating what has come to be known as the Meier Contacts, it's really only the tip of a very deep and solid iceberg of irrefutable proof far beyond reasonable doubt.

Noted Astronomer Corroborates Additional Evidence

In April of 2003, Dr. Joseph Veverka, Chairman of the Astronomy Department at Cornell University, was presented with documentation of specific information on Jupiter, its rings and its moons, published by Meier in October, 1978, five months before the Voyager probe photographed and relayed the information back to Earth. When shown the evidence that Meier described the moon Io as being the most volcanically active body in the solar system, prior to the first official knowledge of it in March of 1979, Dr. Veverka was direct and candid, "If he said that three to five months before, then all that I can say is that he's right."

Meier also documented the fact that Jupiter had rings, described the chemical composition of the planet's surface, the coloration of its moons, Io's smooth surface and Europa being encrusted in ice. But far more amazingly, Meier accurately described both the composition and the source of Jupiter's rings 20 years before scientists from Cornell announced their findings, in 1998!

Prophetically Accurate Information

In February of 1995, Meier published a lengthy document of enormous complexity in which he foretold the likelihood of certain specific future events. In September 2001, portions of that information were included in the book *And Yet They Fly!* written by Guido Moosbrugger, a former Austrian school-teacher and principal acquainted with Meier for about 25 years.

The following seven items, foretold on pages 347 and 348 of *And Yet They Fly!* have recently occurred and virtually in the sequence Meier foretold:

1. The strike or attack by the US and its president (Iraq). Meier even used the word "stun" when he said the strike would "...stun the entire world..." "Stun" is a synonym for the term "shock" used by the US as in "shock and awe".
2. Meier correctly predicted the following upsurge in unrest and violence from Islamic fundamentalists.
3. Meier foretold the spread of AIDS, which has indeed become very widespread.
4. Mad Cow Disease has since spread to other animals and humans as Meier also predicted.
5. Meier said that a new disease and epidemic would then appear and SARS did just that.
6. His warning regarding a renewed threat of chemical warfare is more in the news than ever.
7. Meier specifically warned of the possibility of an accident, one that he said could be avoided, however, at the nuclear power plant near Lyon, France. The emergency scenario, and the timely shut down of that exact plant, occurred on August 12, 2003.

Now, in case the astronomically high odds against any kind of coincidences or lucky guesses aren't apparent, consider that Meier identified the following eight years in advance:

1. The exact country and leader (out of hundreds) that would launch a stunning attack and a synonym for the term actually used by that country's leader (impossible to calculate).



2. The exact religious group (out of thousands) that would respond with their own attacks.
3. The exact disease (out of thousands) that would spread widely among humans.
4. The exact animal disease (out of thousands) that would spread to other animals and humans.

5. The sudden appearance of a new disease and epidemic.
6. The exact kind of weapons and warfare that would cause renewed threats.
7. The exact location (out of 436) and type of facility (out of several) that would have a near-accident.

If this doesn't qualify as a genuine demonstration of psychic or paranormal abilities nothing does. And it far exceeds any reasonable requirements to garner the financial award promised for such a demonstration, though that never has been the purpose of Meier's mission. It is only fitting, however, that those who have long accused him of being a hoaxer out for non-existent, and unproven, financial gain, should now have the opportunity to reward him, not only for his abilities, but also for suffering the fools and their defamation for so long.

For those who may be unaware Meier, in addition to character assassination, has survived 19 (documented) actual assassination attempts.

The Sound Recordings

Finally, the sceptics (and others who've actually tried) have also been unable to reproduce the sound recordings Meier made of a UFO, using only a cassette tape recorder, in an open field in front of 15 witnesses. There are 32 simultaneous frequencies occurring, 24 in the audible and eight in the inaudible range. To date, they remain irreproducible even with state-of-the-art synthesizers, let alone with cassette machines outdoors.

You can hear, and download, a three-minute sample of the sounds, experiment with them yourself, and also find more documentation on the Meier Contacts at this website: www.andytheyfly.com

The Most Important Event In Human History

Now that the authenticity of the Meier Contacts has been firmly established, we can begin to examine the information, and the real purpose, behind the most important event in human history.

Hint: It has to do with our future survival. ■

Nottinghamshire Light Show

Cameron's Encounter

19 January 2004
By Russel Callaghan

Cameron is the general sales manager for a large motor industry main dealership in the West Midlands. His journey to and from work is a long one, taking well over ninety minutes to complete. It takes him through the now redundant coal fields that sprawl across the Nottinghamshire countryside.

Monday evening 19 January, 2004 was wet and miserable. Cameron had explained to me that he always timed his journey, knowing at about what time he should be at a certain landmark on his drive. He told me this helped shorten the long repetitive drive.

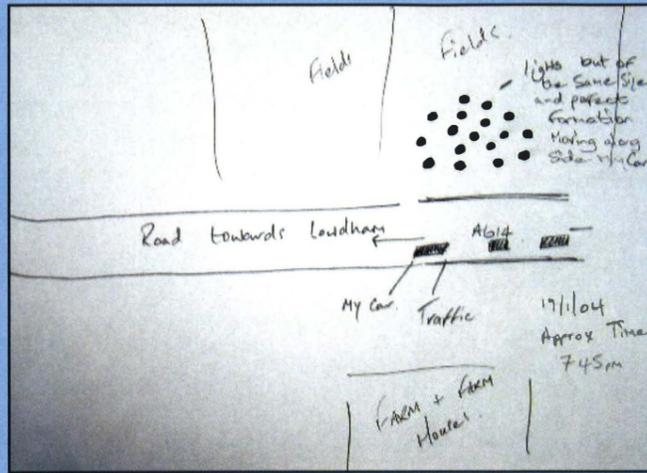
He was travelling on a dark lonely stretch of the A614, it's a derestricted single carriageway with a maximum speed limit of 50 mph. Radio 2 was playing on the car radio helping him pass the time as it did on many a drive home.

Out of the blue and without warning the radio simply went silent. A few seconds passed as Cameron, half listening and half concentrating on the road ahead, thought the presenters had simply stopped talking. After a few more seconds he inquisitively pressed the channel selectors, just the same, silence, although the LCD display showed the station details as if nothing was wrong. Incidentally Cameron has a brand new car - it's part of the job and the radio was fine the following day.

It was whilst he was fiddling with the radio that Cameron caught a glimpse of something that was to leave a disturbing impression with him.

Remember it was raining, but Cameron was intrigued by what he estimated to be between 30 and 40 lights, bright powerful lights, not emitting a beam as such but powerful enough to illuminate the low cloud. In fact they appeared to move in and out of the clouds.

Cameron's interest in the objects had meant he had slowed down at about 20 mph to get a good look at the phenomenon. There were about four cars behind him, but Cameron believes they too were observing the light show, as not one of them showed impatience to his slow driving. At the first opportunity he pulled into a side road and dropped



the window. He observed them for about seven minutes at which time the objects simply blinked out.

Cameron has toyed in his mind as to what it was he watched that rainy night. Disco lights? In a field miles away from anywhere in the pouring rain, I don't think so. Likewise balloons let off by pranksters. I don't know many teenagers who would travel miles and miles on a wet night to let off a load of candle powered balloons, do you?

Whatever it was Cameron observed certainly affected him. So much so, he told me he found his return journey to work the next morning a disturbing one.

What Cameron also remarked on was the similarity to the formations observed in Fleetwood as featured in recent issues of *UFO Magazine*, he said 'there was an uncanny resemblance'.

Our Wonder at the Shapes in the Skies

The UFO phenomenon seems to have died down in recent years - but back in the 1960s and 70s, sightings were commonplace, as **ANDY SMART** reports.

The brightly-coloured object flashed low across the Nottinghamshire skyline that April evening in 1969. People in Newark described it as "greenish-yellow in colour, and was like a huge firework in the sky with a long tail".

Over in Kirkby-in-Ashfield they said it was "cigar-shaped - green in colour with a red tip".

The fireball was seen from Central London to Lancashire and even in Ireland.

At around the same time, a flaming object crashed into a hillside in the Conway valley in North Wales setting fire to undergrowth??? and there the mystery deepened.

A Caernarfon police spokesman said: "There is no obvious reason why there was a fire. No sign of any object.

"As we first had it, somebody saw an aircraft crash. We did all the usual checks and there was no aircraft missing.

Over the weekend Joanne England rang me to inform me that she had seen the 'Fleetwood Lights' again.

The lights were observed at low level, passing between the rooftops of several neighbouring bungalows. Joanne reported seeing first two objects, then dozens, but lost sight of the large formation behind the houses.

On speaking with Cameron I checked with researchers



around the area for any similar reports. Although no direct sightings could be associated with Cameron's experience, the following short article (below) appeared in the *Nottingham Evening Post* on 15 January.

"But it indicated something must have been seen going on. What caused the fire? Well, your guess is as good as mine. It's all a bit of a mystery."

Even the experts were at odds.

The Royal Observatory said it must have been a meteorite and Jodrell Bank chief Sir Bernard Lovell agreed, but at the Royal Greenwich Observatory they said it was almost certainly a Russian space satellite re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The British Interplanetary Society even gave it a number, Cosmos 265.

A couple of months later, police in Mansfield "kept watch" on a UFO hovering over the area for more than 90 minutes.

It was first spotted by PC D. Page, who was near the old Mansfield General Hospital when he saw a bright, triangular object with concave sides. It was seen to change colour in the cloudless sky, stop, move to the right and stop again.

Other officers, with the aid of binoculars, described it as brilliant and distinct.

The *Post's* files bulge with similar stories, Bilborough being a particular hotspot for sightings. Again in 1965, five people standing on a

hill near St John's Church saw an orange disc in the sky.

"It was changing colour, from red to blue to green and at times, bits seemed to drop off it and then return," said John Atkin.

A couple of years earlier, John Derry, of Albert Avenue, Bobbers Mill, saw a large, round, silver object drift over the city, and three Bilborough youths reported the sighting of orange discs. But Nottingham Astronomical Society said they were almost certainly part of the Perseid meteor shower.

In January 1979 - exactly 25 years ago - the Nottingham UFO Investigation Society talked of 30 sightings being reported to it in the first two weeks of the year, and as late as 1998 the Derbyshire-based National UFO Investigation Society said the number of reports had stretched its resources to breaking point.

Valerie Shaw, of Radcliffe-on-Trent woke to see a mysterious light hovering and circling in the sky.

Silent and mysterious, it was still there two hours later.

And on the Edwards Lane estate, Julie Bettinson spoke to the *Post* after her young son Lawrence said he had seen a shooting star.

"I had been woken by a deafening sound like an aircraft hovering which made the walls of the house vibrate," she said.

It has been like that since the UFO era began in 1947 with the Roswell incident, which continues to fascinate people and remains at the heart of conspiracy and cover-up theories.

Sometime during July 1947 something crashed in the New Mexico desert, leaving a trench several hundred yards long and scattering debris of an unusual material over a wide area.

The military initially confirmed that a "crashed disk" had been found but later changed their statement, saying it was a weather balloon.

Then came stories of small 'humanoid' bodies being taken to a local hospital - but nothing official has ever been released. The US government continues to take the stance: "There's no conspiracy. No aliens. Just us, alone in space."

©Nottingham Evening Post

Comment

Could it be that this article fuelled someone to attempt a hoax UFO event?



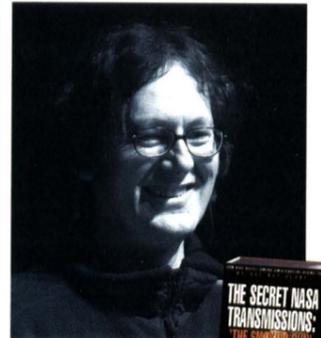
I think it highly unlikely. The night as described by Cameron was wet, cold and windy and the area where the sighting occurred was somewhat remote. Not the ideal place to set up disco lighting and generators but who knows what lengths some people will go to, and for what reason? To try and gain some anonymous credit for fooling the unsuspecting?

We will keep you informed.

Thanks to Dr David Clarke for his help in obtaining some of the contained information.

Russel Callaghan

The Secret Nasa Transmissions



Whilst conducting interviews with Cable TV station manager Martyn Stubbs, during the making of *The Secret NASA Transmissions* (the smoking gun) and the follow up *Secret NASA 2*, reference was drawn to certain individuals by Martyn Stubbs.

One person in particular has informed *UFO Magazine* that he does not wish to be associated with the productions.

He is Bob Sutherland. He asks that we inform our readers and viewers that 'his memories of events recalled by Martyn Stubbs differ to those of Martyn's and neither him or his son should be associated with the claims made in the productions.

We apologise for any misunderstanding caused by the content of the documentaries.

UFO Magazine

BETTY HILL INTERVIEW



After several phone calls and the help of our correspondent KT Frankovich in the USA, we must inform readers that Betty Hills promised interview will not take place.

Betty, who is in her eighties and suffers from lung cancer informed me through KT that she did her last interview back in 1960, and isn't about to start doing anymore now.

So that told us.

I'm sure readers will join with us here at *UFO magazine* in wishing Betty well with her illness.



Fig. 2 © Alan Foster 2003



AURORA

in Southern Britain

Displays of the Aurora Borealis in southern Britain are certainly an unusual sight. They are more usually associated with the Arctic Circle in places like Alaska, Canada or Northern Scandinavia. Yet, over the past five years, I have witnessed the Aurora four times in the county of Somerset, in southern Britain.

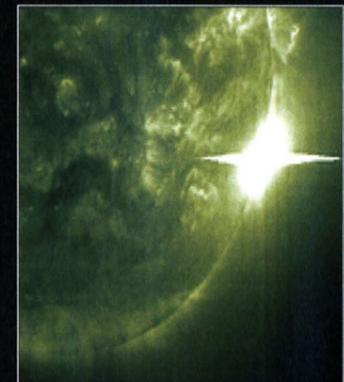
By Alan Foster

The two nights of display were part of a ten-day period of unprecedented solar activity in late October and early November 2003 when the Sun unleashed huge solar flares that sent billions of tons of superhot gas and charged particles into space and towards the Earth.

regions. Scientists have acknowledged that the magnetic field is diminishing, so far by at least 20 per cent, and that the field could either collapse or even reverse its polarity.

This could leave us vulnerable to even more damaging effects on Earth from the impact of flares and rays from space, most particularly physically as well as technologically.

According to a report on the BBC on Wednesday 5 November, the Sun had unleashed its largest recorded solar flare (right), which was so large that the monitoring devices on the SOHO Satellite (Solar and Heliospheric Observatory) went off the scale.



I suspect part of the reason there is a D-notice on the connection with solar flares and power-grid failure is that the authorities do not wish people to realise that our civilisation is vulnerable to an outside force. A civilisation that uses electrical systems for all of its advanced technology, can be crippled

The solar flare activity caused a major disruption to satellite communications and on a couple of occasions the mobile phone network in the UK went down. There are many people who feel that solar flares are the cause of the power-grid failures that affected the northern hemisphere in 2003, in places like north-eastern U.S.A. (14 Aug 03), London (28 Aug 03), Denmark (22 Sep 03) and Italy (28 Sep 03). This affected a combined total of many tens of millions of people.

instantly by magnetic field disruptions. And of course, those that have the most technology, have the most to lose.

Displays of the Aurora Borealis in southern Britain are certainly an unusual sight. They are more usually associated with the Arctic Circle in places like Alaska, Canada or Northern Scandinavia. Yet, over the past five years, I have witnessed the Aurora four times in the county of Somerset, in Southern Britain. The two photographs shown here were taken around 12:15 a.m. on the 30 October 2003. The camera used was a Minolta Dynax 505si using Fujichrome Provia 100asa transparency film. Exposure time for fig.1 was about two minutes, and for fig.2 about five minutes at f.5.6 aperture. The main Auroral display began about 11:45 p.m., through to about 1:15 a.m.

It has been alleged that there is a 'gag-order' or 'D-notice' on this information so the media does not connect solar flares with power-grid failure, even though it is acknowledged that a solar flare knocked out Montreal's power-grid in the winter of 1989. Solar flares also cause an increase in adverse environmental conditions such as flooding, hurricanes, hailstorms, excessive temperatures, forest fires and magnetic field fluctuations.

If ancient prophecies that say in the 'end-times' there will be 'signs and wonders' on Earth and in the Heavens are correct, then perhaps the Aurora Borealis (or Australis) spreading further from the polar regions is one of those signs that helps people to realise change is coming. In fact, during the aforementioned excessive solar flare activity in October and November 2003, the Aurora gave displays as far south as Florida.

The following night, on 31 October, there was an even more beautiful display with the Aurora showing the classic ribbons and curtains of coloured light rippling right across the sky. On both nights, the Aurora started on the northern horizon, expanding to be directly above us, then spreading further and further south virtually across the whole of the sky.

We are already reaching the critical-mass point with Global Warming effects on Earth, therefore solar flare activity could exacerbate this situation and push us over the edge.

These wonders of the sky are perhaps a clarion call that there is a massive change coming. A visual display that gives us the opportunity to prepare for those changes. A preparation that is essential if we are to grasp the magnitude of what is about to happen, and be ready for the physical, spiritual and cosmic events that are soon to unfold.

Where we live in Somerset there is minimum light-pollution which is helpful to view this phenomenon. However, in a town or city it would be much more difficult to observe the complexity and subtlety of the Aurora and its colours.

The Aurora Borealis is caused by a burst of charged particles from the Sun hitting the Earth's magnetic field, usually over the polar

UFOs and the Battalion that Vanished



The fog of war is an ideal breeding ground for stories and rumours of mysterious or miraculous events and the cataclysmic circumstances of the First World War are no exception. Wartime legends such as the Angel of Mons – visions which are said to have appeared in the sky to protect British soldiers from the Germans in 1914 – were widely circulated and believed during the conflict and have become part of folklore in its aftermath.



Dr David Clarke

The subject of this article is a story that is second only to the Angel of Mons in its popularity and longevity, particularly in the literature of UFOlogy. It concerns an entire regiment of British troops which it has been claimed were spirited away by a "mysterious cloud" from the middle of one of the fiercest battles of the Gallipoli campaign in 1915. Even today questions and queries about the "mysterious disappearance" of the soldiers are frequently encountered on Internet newsgroup discussions dedicated to UFOs and alien abductions. Few of the questioners appear to be aware that the fate of the soldiers was the subject of a Government investigation that involved a real cover-up, not of alien visitations but of a wartime atrocity.

The link between the disappearance of the soldiers and UFOs emerged not – as many believe – during the war itself but in 1965, on the fiftieth anniversary of the Allied assault on the Gallipoli Peninsula. It was during a reunion of veterans who took part in the campaign that three former sappers from the New Zealand Expeditionary Force described a "strange incident" they observed during the most severe fighting at Suvla Bay. Also in attendance was a UFOlogist, Gordon Tuckey, who felt the story was so interesting it should be recorded for posterity.

One of the three, Frederick Reichart, signed a statement that declared how, on a morning he identified as 28 August 1915, they saw six or eight odd-looking "loaf of bread" shaped clouds, light grey in colour and all exactly alike, hovering in the sky above a position known as 'Hill 60'

held by the Turks. At the time the men were in trenches on Rhododendrum Spur that was 300ft above the fighting around the hill. As they watched the peculiar-looking clouds remained perfectly still and never changed position despite the presence of a prevailing wind. Beneath them was another cloud, more dense and solid-looking, that appeared to be 800 ft in length and 200ft high. It appeared to be straddling a dry creek bed or sunken road. From a distance of around 2,500 yards the men then saw what appeared to be an entire British regiment, marching up the sunken road that led through the valley directly towards Hill 60. The statement continued:

"... when they arrived at this cloud, they marched straight into it, with no hesitation, but no one ever came out to deploy and fight at Hill 60. About an hour later, after the last of the file had disappeared into it, this cloud very unobtrusively lifted off the ground and, like any fog or cloud would, rose slowly until it joined the other similar clouds.... On viewing them again, they all looked alike 'as peas in a pod'. All this time, the group of clouds had been hovering in the same place, but as soon as the singular 'ground' cloud had risen to their level, they all moved away northwards....In a matter of about three quarters of an hour they had all disappeared from view."

In his statement the sapper made a direct link between this vision and rumours the men heard afterwards about the disappearance of an entire British regiment who were recorded as "missing" or "wiped out" during the attack on the hill. He identified the missing regiment as "the First Fourth Norfolks" and added:

"...on Turkey surrendering in 1918, the first thing Britain demanded of Turkey was the return of this regiment. Turkey replied that she had neither captured this Regiment, nor made contact with it, and did not know that it existed. A British Regiment in 1914-18 consisted of between 400 and 800 men. Those who observed this incident vouch for the fact that Turkey never captured that Regiment, nor made contact with it."

In fact the "First Fourth" was actually a battalion of the Norfolk regiment and consisted of 266 officers and men. This was just the first error to creep into the story that was soon to puzzle and fascinate UFOlogists across the world.

Reichart's statement first appeared in a small circulation UFO magazine called *Spaceview*, published in New Zealand. Another more sensational version, attributed to "22 eyewitnesses" from the ANZAC' forces, was published by Brad Steiger and Joan Whritenour in a paperback book called *Flying Saucers are hostile* in 1967. In this account the sapper's statement was corroborated by an extract from an "official history" of the Gallipoli campaign which the authors claimed confirmed the Norfolks were swallowed up by an "unseasonable fog".

It said the fog had reflected the sun's rays in such a way that artillery observers were dazzled by it and were unable to fire in support of the infantry.

During the late 1960s the mystery of the "Vanishing Regiment" began to capture the imagination of UFO writers both in Britain and America who were collecting evidence of cases where it was believed humans had been abducted by extraterrestrials. In the years that followed the story was frequently republished with new details added or others taken away to make it a better read; and during this process the account became so distorted that it became difficult to reconcile it with the original version in *Spaceview*. In some of the new versions the mysterious cloud became a giant cross, and in another the whole incident was relocated from Suvla Bay in Turkey to Uvula Bay in Australia!

¹ANZAC : Australian, New Zealand and Commonwealth forces

The most popular theory remained that the men had been kidnapped by a UFO hidden within the mysterious cloud that was seen by the New Zealand soldiers. This idea was a personal favourite of the veteran UFOlogist and author Brinsley le Poer Trench (Lord Clancarty) who included it in his book *Mysterious Visitors*, published in 1973. The UFO link was also promoted by the French computer scientist Dr Jacques Vallee who listed the "vanished regiment" in a catalogue of close encounters with flying saucers that was published as an appendix to his book, *Passport to Magonia*, in 1969.

So what was it that the three New Zealand soldiers saw that fateful day in 1915? Did UFOs or mysterious aerial phenomena really play a part in the disappearance of a battalion of British soldiers at Gallipoli? And if that was the case, which battalion was it and what really happened to them? Despite the confusion that has surrounded these events for decades, it is now possible to use primary documents – including the War Diaries of the soldiers involved in the campaign – to discover the truth.

Firstly it is necessary to understand the historical background to the Gallipoli campaign. This was a second front opened by the English and French forces in an attempt to break the deadlock on the Western Front and to relieve pressure on their ally Russia whose forces were suffering setbacks on the Eastern Front. The campaign was fought by the Allies to control the Dardanelles which is a narrow 40 mile channel connecting the Mediterranean with the Black Sea. The Gallipoli Peninsula, through which the channel ran, was controlled by Turkey which in 1915 was allied to Germany.

The Allied plan was to relieve pressure on Russia by landing troops on the peninsula to capture Constantinople and then force Turkey out of the war. The landings, in April, were preceded by a naval bombardment and at first it seemed the plan might succeed. However, hesitation and bad judgement on the part of the Allies, combined with stubborn resistance by the Turks, led to more stalemate and appalling loss of life.

Among the hundreds of thousands of Allied troops sent to Gallipoli were two battalions of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, the 1/4th and the 1/5th (Territorial), the former being wrongly referred to as a regiment in Reichart's statement. The Norfolks left Liverpool aboard the SS *Aquitania* on 29 July and arrived at Suvla Bay in Gallipoli on 10 August 1915. Just two days later the 1/5th battalion were ordered to clear Turkish positions on the Anafarta Plain prior to the Allied advance.

Their sister battalion, the 1/4th waited in reserve and were not involved in the events that followed. The outcome was typical of the poor planning which characterized the whole campaign. The attack was to be made in broad daylight without adequate maps against the well-prepared Turks, who were firmly dug in along a ridge of hills overlooking the bay. The enemy were armed with machine guns and supported by dozens of snipers, many of them teenage girls, camouflaged and hidden in trees.

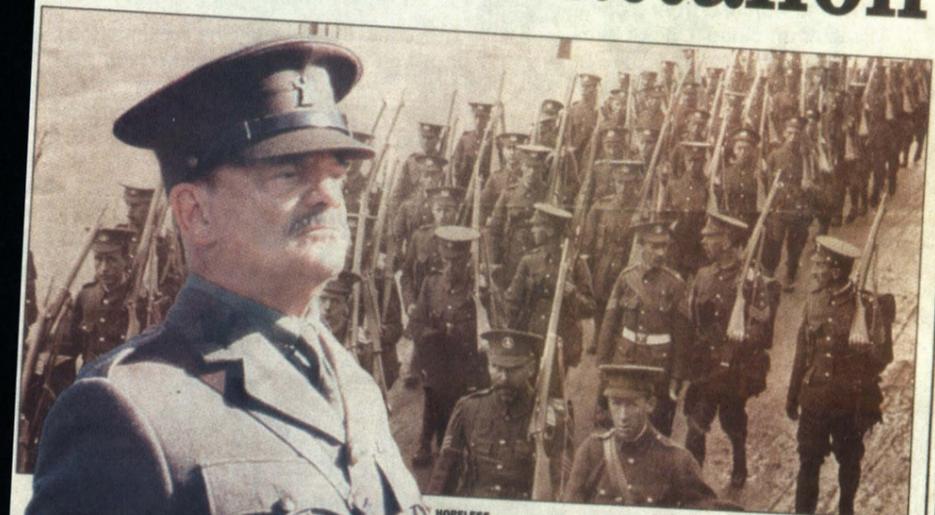
The Norfolk battalion was made up of 16 officers and 250 men and was led by a veteran of the campaign in the Sudan, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Horace Proctor-Beauchamp. As they left their positions, the 1/5th battalion were joined by hundreds of other British soldiers from battalions of the Suffolk and Hampshire regiments.

The attack quickly turned into a massacre. For some reason during the advance the Norfolks turned slightly to the right, opening up a gap between them and the other British troops from whom they had become separated. As the exhausted Norfolks fixed bayonets and prepared to charge the Turkish positions on the Kavak Tepe ridge they were picked off by snipers and mown down by machine gun fire. Lt-Col Beauchamp was last seen leading his doomed men into a burning forest from which they never emerged. As night fell the few survivors, wounded and exhausted, began to filter back to the British positions at Suvla Bay.

The Express, Saturday, May 22, 1999

went to war in 1914 were all the King's men. JAY ILIFF learns why they never came home

The mystery of the vanished battalion



HOPLESS CAUSE: David Jason, right, as Frank Beck in *All The King's Men*, a BBC drama about the company of Sandringham estate workers whose fate at Gallipoli in 1915 remained a mystery until eight years ago. The 9th Norfolk Regiment, above, was a slice of country society at the time, ranging from landed gentry to farm labourers. Filming now, the production will be shown later in the year

questions in the Commons, no hard information was forthcoming. Hopes of a man might be prisoners of war in Constantinople came to nothing.

The Great War was fertile ground for myths and legends: the Angel of Mons, said to have appeared in the sky during the British retreat from Mons in 1914; the ghostly German motor supposed to materialise in British trenches on the eve of an attack; the battalion-size live in caves beneath the battlefields of northern France, who emerged at night to steal food and drink.

Meanwhile, Sir Ian Hamilton had an interest in clouding the issue. As McCrery points out, when George V first inquired about the fate of Beck and his company, "What was he to say? 'Sorry but I've just sacrificed them all' would be a little more than he could quite readily do. As for another batched believe, was to create an air of mystery and thereby stop any form of enquiry into their loss or his leadership.

Like so much else in that war, all this was absurd. However you look at it, the King's men did die bravely doing a job which they were ill prepared and inadequately led. As for Sir Ian Hamilton, a few months after the Gallipoli debacle he lost his own life – and was never offered a state funeral.

UFOs and the Battalion that Vanished

The battalion War Diary held at the National Archives records the following under the date 12 August 1915:

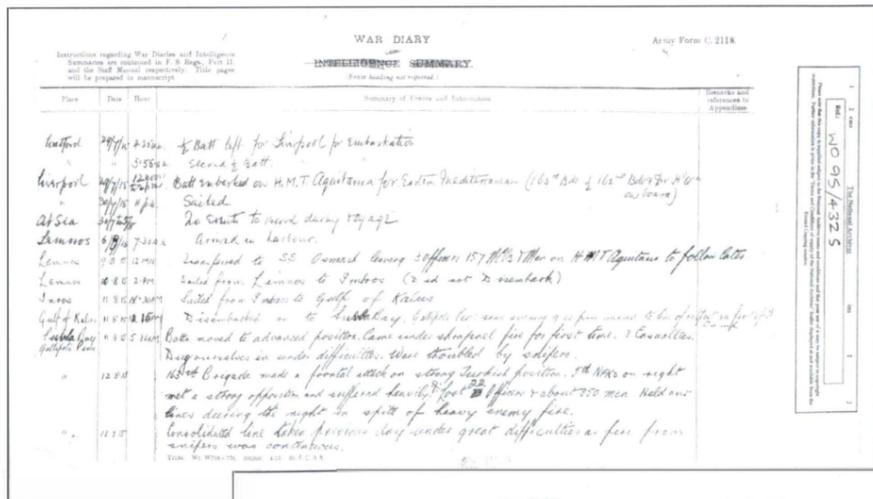
"163rd Brigade made a frontal attack on strong Turkish position. 5th Norfolks on right met a strong opposition and suffered heavily. Lost 22 officers and about 350 men. Held our lines during the night in spite of heavy enemy fire."

In December 1915, as the Allies prepared to abandon the campaign, the Commander in Chief of the British forces, Sir Ian Hamilton, sent his "final dispatch from the Dardanelles" to the Secretary of State for War, Lord Kitchener. In it, he accounted for the loss of the Norfolks in the following way. I have italicized the words that seem to emphasize the inexplicable nature of the incident:

"...in the course of the fight...*there happened a very mysterious thing...* against the yielding forces of the enemy Colonel Sir H. Beauchamp, a bold, self-confident officer, eagerly pressed forward, followed by the best part of the battalion. The fighting grew hotter...[and] at this stage many men were wounded or grew exhausted...but the Colonel, with 16 officers and 250 men kept pushing forward, driving the enemy before him...*nothing more was seen or heard of any of them.* They charged into the forest and were lost to sight or sound. *Not one of them ever came back...*"

Hamilton's account must have been based upon reports from British officers who had watched from a distance as the disaster unfolded. One of these was a brigade major, Lt-Col Villiers Stuart, who watched the Norfolk's attack through field glasses. He wrote:

"On the evening of 12 August 1915 I was observing the low ground in the neighbourhood of Anafarta Ova...[at] a distance of about 2000 to 2500 yards, when, to my surprise I saw what appeared to be about a battalion of our troops advancing



Public Record Office copy of Norfolk war diary for August 1915. The entry for 12 August records their fate.

©National Archives Ref: W095/4325

rapidly, and apparently unsupported towards the enemy positions on Kvak Tepe. Knowing that there was a considerable concentration of Turks in a gully...on the left flank of the advance, I anticipated trouble and got the two mountain guns...ready for action to try to protect the left flank of the advancing troops.

"Almost immediately the Turks debouched from their cover and attacked our men in the flank and rear. It was soon too dark to see the issue of the fight, but at the time I was afraid they would be destroyed."

The actual fate of the battalion was discovered in 1919 at the end of the war when the Commonwealth War Graves Commission began searching the battle

fields at Gallipoli for the remains of soldiers. There an investigator discovered a cap badge belonging to a soldier of the Norfolk regiment hidden in sand 800 yards behind the Turkish lines at Suvia Bay. This led the commanding officer to write home triumphantly: "We have found the 5th Norfolks." When this news reached the War Office they sent a chaplain who had served during the campaign back to Gallipoli to investigate. The Rev Charles Pierrepont Edwards examined the area where the cap badge had been uncovered and found a mass grave containing 180 bodies, from which the remains of 122 were identified as members of the "Vanished Battalion". The remains included those of their commanding officer, Lt-Col Beauchamp, who

was identified by the distinctive shoulder flashes on his uniform. Of the 266 officers and men reported as missing, 144 remained unaccounted for, but a number of these had been captured and some had subsequently died in the notorious Turkish prison camps. A few had survived captivity to describe what had really happened, but their stories did not emerge until half a century later.

From 1965 when the New Zealand soldiers first spoke publicly about the events they had witnessed, the story of the "Vanishing Regiment" would not go away. A decade after the story appeared in the UFO press the British Ministry of Defence and the Imperial War Museum began receiving letters asking for official confirmation of what appeared to be a mass kidnapping by extraterrestrials. In 1998 it resurfaced again in new document – the "1st Annual Report" – attributed to MJ-12 the super secret panel of eminent US scientists and officials which some believe was responsible for concealing wreckage of the Roswell UFO crash in 1947. The story appears in a list of strange historical incidents linked to UFOs as part an annex to the document, apparently dated 1952. The relevant passage reads:.

"On August 21 1915, members of the New Zealand Army Corps' First Field Company signed sworn statements that they saw the One-Fourth Norfolk Regiment disappear in a unusually thick brown cloud which seemed to move and rose upward and vanished. There were no traces of the regiment nor their equipment. No explanation can be found in the historical records of the Imperial War Museum archives."

In *UFO Historical Revue* (January 2003) US researcher Barry Greenwood revealed how this paragraph was riddled with errors that proved the whole document was a fake. The statement by the three soldiers was, as we have seen, first made not in 1915 but in 1965. Therefore, it could not have been referred to in a document written in America 1952, 13 years before it was made! It seemed that whoever had faked the MJ-12 papers had failed to do their homework and had based their dossier not on official files but the contents of paperback books on UFOs published in the 1960s.

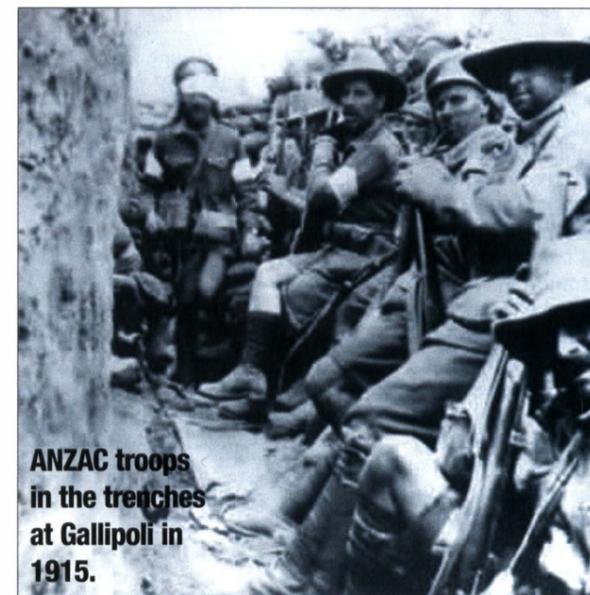
In addition, those responsible for this fake had not sought to check the facts described in Reichart's statement and were content to repeat errors such as the use of the term "One-Fourth Norfolk Regiment". Ironically the MJ-12 document included the claim that "no explanation" of the Gallipoli incident can be found in the records of the British Imperial War Museum. In fact, the museum was one of the first to reveal the facts behind the story in a special "fact sheet" published in 1977.

The Museum found that the "First Fourth Norfolks" identified by the New Zealand sappers were not a regiment, but a battalion that formed part of the Norfolk Regiment. Their movements were accounted for by the war diaries, and although they took part in several actions at Gallipoli, they did not vanish and all the men remained in active service for the remainder of the war!

Quite clearly, if any British battalion could be described as having vanished it was the 1/4th's sister battalion, the 1/5th's who, as we have seen, were wiped out in the attack on Turkish positions on 12 August 1915. These were the men referred to by Sir Ian Hamilton in his dispatch as having charged into a forest never to be seen again. But why would the ANZAC soldiers make fundamental errors such as the name of the battalion and the date of the event they witnessed?

The answer lies in the fact that half a century separated the events and 1965 when Reichart first made his statement to UFOlogists. His original account refers not to 12 August but to 28 August 1915, but he did not keep a diary and accepted the date was a guess because: "I lost count of time during that week of severe fighting." Furthermore, historian Nigel McCrery points out that the sappers were over four and a half miles from the attack on 12 August and "even with binoculars their power of observation must have been phenomenal if they could see through the dust and conditions of a major battle, and identify the units taking part in the attack".

McCrery concluded the ANZAC soldiers had not invented their story but were describing something that happened during a completely different action that happened not on 12 or 28 August, but on 21 August 1915. This date marked the opening of a massive Allied attack upon Turkish positions on Hill 60 involving 3,000 Allied soldiers. The involvement of Hill 60 does in fact sit more comfortably with Reichart's description as the sappers did have a clear view of this objective from their positions. The battle to capture Hill 60 from the Turks continued for a week and again ended in confusion and disaster. Sir John Milbanke VC who led the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry into the attack could not see the Turks because of a thick "pearly mist" which hid them, but the enemy could see the advancing Allies plainly. Of the many casualties in the slaughter that followed Milbanke was



ANZAC troops in the trenches at Gallipoli in 1915.

killed, and few of the Allied force survived to tell the tale. Was this "pearly mist" the mysterious cloud witnessed by the ANZAC sappers from their trenches?

Another clue to emerge was the testimony of another New Zealand soldier, Gerald Wilde, who wrote to *Spaceview* in 1966. Wilde witnessed the attack on Hill 60 but did not see any mysterious clouds.

However, he did remember how after the fighting died down there was a persistent rumour that "a company of Sherwood Foresters completely disappeared in a cloud of smoke and apparently no trace of them was ever found". Was this the same rumour overheard by Reichart that he and his fellow sappers connected with the disappearance of the "First Fourth Norfolks"?

The final answer can be found in a report compiled by a Royal Commission on Gallipoli appointed by the British Government during the war. This was completed in 1916 but the report was kept secret and the full version was not released at the Public Record Office until 1965. This was the 50th anniversary of the campaign and the same year in which Reichart's made his statement to *Spaceview*. Could this really be a coincidence? Intriguingly, contained in the report is Sir Ian Hamilton's "final dispatch" and on the page facing his account of the 1/5th Norfolk's disappearance is a paragraph which reads:

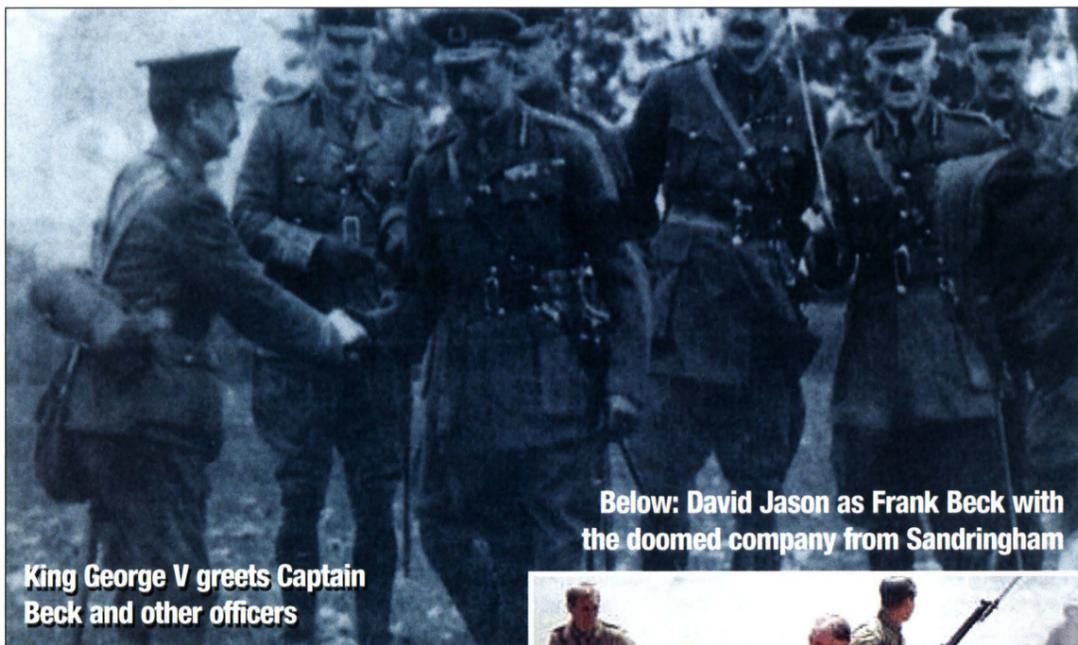
"By some freak of nature Suvia Bay and Plain were wrapped in a strange mist on the afternoon of 21 August. This was sheer bad luck as we had reckoned on the enemy's gunners being blinded by the declining sun and upon the Turks' trenches being shown up by the evening sun with singular clearness. Actually, we could hardly see the enemy lines this afternoon, whereas to the westward targets stood out in strong relief against the luminous light." ➤



British troops marching along the beach at Suvia Bay in 1915.

Credit: Alexander Turnbull Library

Was Hamilton's account the same as the extract from the "official history" referred to by Brad Steiger in 1967? The reference to "a freak of nature" and "a strange mist" appears too similar to the incident witnessed by the ANZAC soldiers to be unconnected.



King George V greets Captain Beck and other officers

In my opinion they confused an incident they witnessed during the attack on Hill 60 with the rumours they overheard about the disappearance of a British regiment during the battle. The troops they saw marching into the freak mist referred to by Hamilton were probably the Sherwood Rangers, but in the fog of war their identity became confused with the First Fourth Norfolks who had been wiped out in a futile attack a week earlier. As the years passed the two events became combined as one memory and as Nigel McCrery noted: "...once the story had been told it undoubtedly became embellished [and] with each re-telling... over fifty years [it] became totally confused".

In the aftermath of the First World War the disappearance of a whole battalion in one assault was dwarfed by the total losses of nine million soldiers from both sides. The campaign to capture the Dardenelles lasted more than eight months and cost the lives of 34,000 British and Commonwealth troops before withdrawal was ordered in December 1915. To place this in context, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's memorials contain the names of 771,982 dead of the two world wars who have no known grave. Of those who died in the Gallipoli campaign a large percentage have no known grave and as the historian Paul Begg commented: "...when faced with such staggering numbers is the fate of 144 missing in one of the worst theatres of war imaginable really all that mysterious?"

In itself the myth of the "Vanishing Battalion" was just one of a collection of wartime rumours concerning mysterious clouds that shielded soldiers during battle. The reason why the Gallipoli story has endured is partly because of its incorporation into the UFO literature, but also because many of the missing men were Royal servants recruited from the Sandringham estate of King George V.

Among them was the land agent Captain Frank Beck who led a company of territorials into the battle. After the war ended a

gold watch belonging to him was recovered from a Turkish officer and this was eventually presented to Beck's daughter on her wedding day. In the 1990s the Royal connections of the men were thoroughly researched by historian Nigel McCrery. The 'royal' theme was also used as the basis for a dramatic adaptation of the events that was recreated in the BBC TV dramatization, *All the King's Men* (BBC TV 1999), with actor David Jason playing the role of Captain Frank Beck.

In his book *The Vanished Battalion* (1991) McCrery revealed new evidence that explained why the full facts discovered by the clergyman who visited the mass grave were not revealed in 1919. He found there was evidence of an official cover-up but this was not to hide evidence of an extraterrestrial kidnapping. In this case it was to conceal evidence of both a military blunder and a war crime.

For it emerged that of the bodies discovered many had been shot through the head as the Turkish soldiers did not like to take prisoners of war. His evidence was backed up by the story of a British survivor of the massacre, who testified before his death in 1969 that he had seen Turkish soldiers bayoneting wounded and helpless prisoners and shooting others in the wood where the battalion disappeared. The survivor escaped only because of the intervention of a German officer who saved his life and he spent the remainder of the war in a prison camp.

It appears that the Rev Charles Pierpoint Edwards concealed this disturbing evidence in his report to the War Office so as to spare the feelings of the families and the King, who continued to believe their loved ones died gallantly in battle

Below: David Jason as Frank Beck with the doomed company from Sandringham



with the enemy. Furthermore, McCrery points out that Sir Ian Hamilton - the Allied commander responsible for the campaign - had a personal interest in making the disappearance of the battalion appear more mysterious than it actually was. His dispatch to Kitchener suggested the disappearance of the battalion was inexplicable. During the campaign the King personally telegraphed Hamilton asking about the fate of Captain Beck and his Sandringham company. McCrery asks:

"What was he to say? 'Sorry, but I've just sacrificed them all quite needlessly in yet another botched attack?' His best course of action, I believe, was to create an air of mystery and thereby stop any form of enquiry into their loss or his leadership."

Shortly after the disaster at Gallipoli Hamilton was relieved of his command and never offered another. In the years that followed, the story he had set loose would become transformed into a fully-fledged legend of the war and a UFO mystery that simply would not die. ■

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*David Clarke's new book on First World War mysteries, *The Angel of Mons: Phantom Soldiers and Ghostly Guardians* is published by John Wiley (London) in April 2004, in hardback and paperback.

The Great Gonerby UFO

Mr Spick is a retired businessman who resides in the Lincolnshire village of Gt Gonerby. On Monday 17 January this year at 12:20am, Mr Spick observed what can only be described as a huge multi-coloured UFO from the window of his bedroom.

The object was travelling from the north and heading south. He thought it seemed to be following the general direction of the A1. You can see from Mr Spick's illustration that the object appeared large and brightly coloured, so you would expect others to have observed this unusual sight even at such a late hour.

On 30 January, this time at 12:14pm, he saw the same object crossing the sky at about 2-3,000 ft and approximately a third distant. Its track was a straight line across the sky. The illumination was also different on this occasion.

Around the object sighted on 17 January, there were brightly coloured lights that flashed

with alternating colours, but on the second sighting, the lights were observed flashing in synchronisation.

It was also travelling a little quicker than was observed in the first sighting.

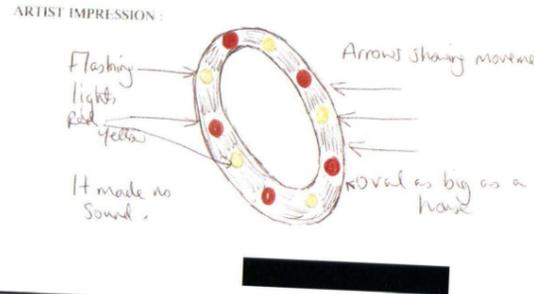
Mr Spick has a camcorder and on seeing the object for a second time he attempted to get his camera up and running to film what he was seeing.

Unfortunately by the time he had loaded the tape, the object was out of view.

When asked if he thought somebody might be playing a prank and hoaxing the sighting, Mr Spick said, "Definitely not. The second night was clear and cloudless with a full moon, if we were seeing disco lights they would need clouds to project onto and there were none. What I saw was real no sound but a real object flying across the sky.

"What more, over the last couple of years I have had four separate sightings."

Dear Chris Rolfe (UFOUK),
I wish to share with you a sighting my Uncle saw very recently, because he is too shy/embarrassed to ask a researcher what it could possibly be. I wish to keep this strictly PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.
NAME OF WITNESSES: [REDACTED]
LOCATION OF SIGHTING: A VILLAGE JUST OUTSIDE GRANTHAM LINCOLNSHIRE (East Frez (near sea) RAC (E150C))
DATE/TIME OF SIGHTING: SATURDAY JAN 17TH 12:10 AM
WEATHER CONDITIONS: GOOD CLEAR NIGHT SKY NO CLOUD
WHERE THEY WERE: IN BED [REDACTED] WOKE FROM SLEEP, AND NOTICED SOMETHING THROUGH BEDROOM WINDOW. COS BEDROOM CURTAINS OPEN.
ACTION TAKEN: [REDACTED] GOT OUT OF BED ON BEING WOKEN BY HIS WIFE TO GO TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THE WINDOW.
TIME OBJECT WAS OBSERVED APPROX: 2 OR 3 MINS (MR SPICK WANTED TO GET HIS CAMCORDER TO RECORD EVENT BUT NOT ENOUGH TIME TO DO SO).
STYLE OF MOVEMENT OF OBJECT: SLOWLY & HORIZONTAL PAST WINDOW.
SIZE OF OBJECT: AS BIG AS A HOUSE - POSSIBLY A BIT HIGHER THAN ROOF TOP IN THE SKY AS SEEN.
COLOURS/SHAPE: OVAL METAL HOOPRING, WITH RED AND YELLOW LIGHTS FLASHING INTERMITTANT.
NOISE: NONE HEARD.
FEELINGS/COMMENTS: EXCITEMENT, REPORTED SIGHTING TO LOCAL NEWS PAPER, A COUPLE DAYS LATER.



Mr Spick contacted RAF Cranwell to see if anything unusual was flying on that night at the time of the observation. They said not. Well, someone else did see it and they reported it to the local radio station BBC Radio Lincolnshire. Mr Spick has promised to keep his camcorder loaded and charged up just in case this object returns for a third time.

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An evening with author and guest speaker Terry Walters
22nd May 2004, 7:30pm - 10:00pm
The Morgan Centre, Crawthorne, Bracknell, Berkshire.

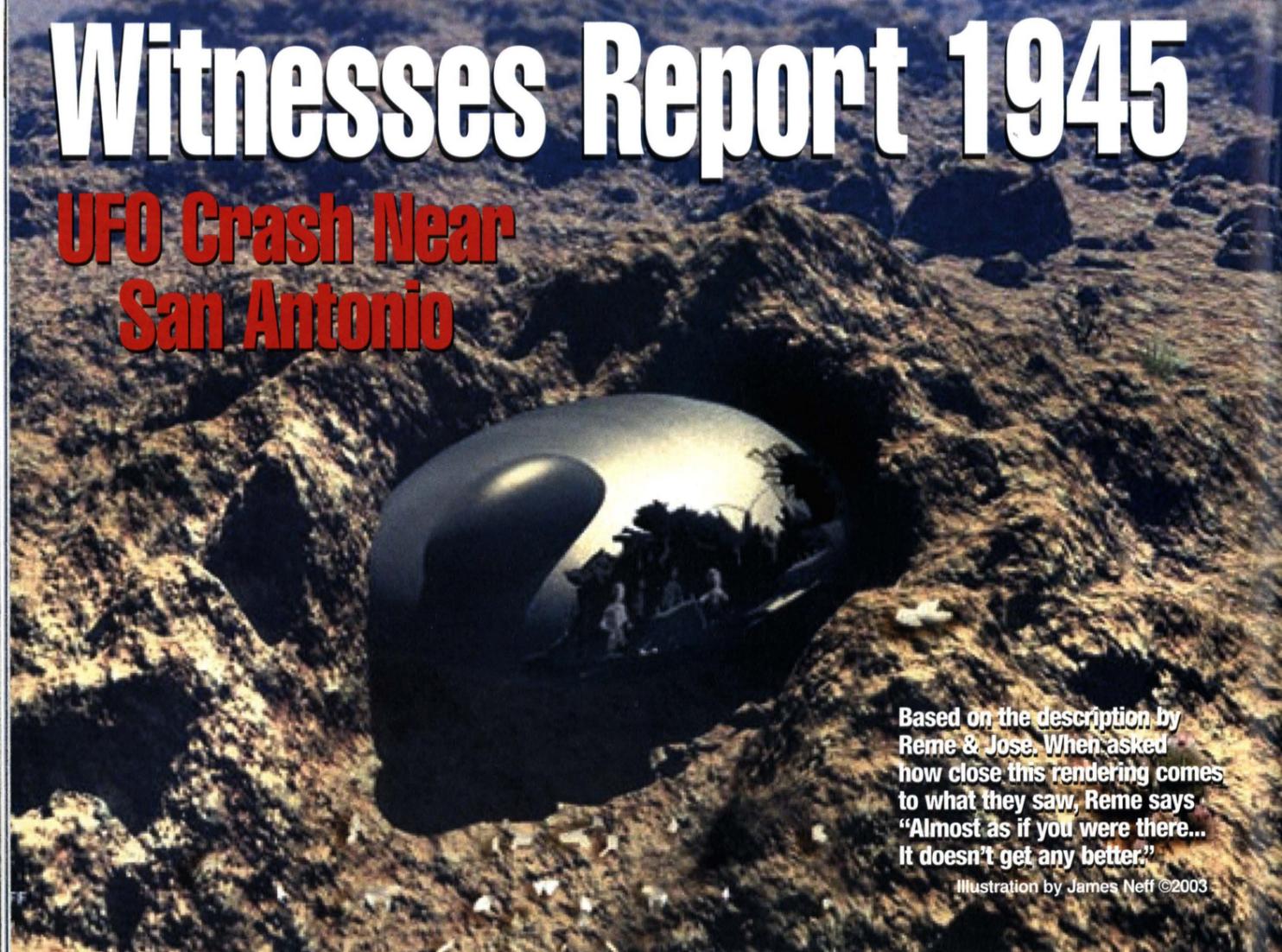
Enjoy an evening when Terry invites the audience to share his experiences in a fully illustrated lecture: UFOs, Ghosts and Egypt.

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Witnesses Report 1945

UFO Crash Near San Antonio



Based on the description by Reme & Jose. When asked how close this rendering comes to what they saw, Reme says "Almost as if you were there... It doesn't get any better."

Illustration by James Neff ©2003

Just before dawn on 16 July 1945, scientists detonated the world's first atomic bomb at Trinity Site, some 20 miles southeast of San Antonio, New Mexico.

Three weeks later, on August 6 and 9, the United States brought World War II to a dramatic end by using the bomb to destroy the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

On August 6, the world first learnt of the Trinity event. This scared the hell out of the residents of San Antonio: the military had told them "not to worry, an ammunition magazine containing high explosives and pyrotechnics" had been detonated. This of course was a cover story; the explosion that shook their quiet world was in fact an atomic bomb, "death, the destroyer of worlds," in the words of project physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer.

Trinity test
16 July, 1945



Courtesy of Los Alamos

It was in this crucible of suspicion and disinterest bred by familiarity that a small contingent of the U.S. Army passed almost unnoticed through San Antonio in mid-to-late August 1945 on a secret assignment - to recover a crashed 'flying saucer'.

Little or nothing has been printed about this mission, shrouded in the 'hush-hush' atmosphere of the time. But the military personal apparently came from the White Sands Proving Grounds where an earlier atom bomb had been exploded.

This was a recovery operation destined for the mesquite and greasewood desert west of Old U.S. 85, at what is now Milepost 139, the San Antonio exit of Interstate 25.

Over the course of several days, soldiers in army fatigues loaded the shattered remains of a flying apparatus onto a huge flatbed truck and hauled it away. This part of the story is confirmed by the eyewitness testimony of two young friends, Remigio Baca and Jose Padilla, who back in 1945 were children, aged nine and seven.

The two boys discreetly watched the soldiers' recovery work from a nearby ridge. They were excited and felt sure they were the only non-military people to see what was happening. They could see a long, wide gash in the earth, with a manufactured object lying askew and partially buried at one end, surrounded by a large field of debris.

They believed then, as now, that the occupants and survivors of this crash were evidently non-human.

They told Jose's father, Faustino Padilla, of their amazing discovery. It was on his ranch that the craft had crashed. They also recall a military visitor asking Mr Padilla for permission to remove the wreckage.

During their school years, Jose and Remigio, remained the best of friends and would sometimes whisper about the events of that summer, but they didn't talk to others about it on the advice of their parents and a state policeman friend. The significance of what they saw, however, grew in their eyes over time as tales of UFOs and flying saucers became commonplace. The stories continued and reports just kept coming through their teenage years and into adulthood.

Amongst the most prominent was Socorro police officer Lonnie Zamora's incident of 24 April 1964, he saw and officially reported the landing of an occupied UFO just south of Socorro, less than 10 miles north of the Padilla Ranch crash.

The boys and their families went separate ways. Remigio and his family moved on to Tacoma, Washington, while he was still in high school and Jose's family relocated to Rowland heights, California. The boys didn't keep in touch and so never had the opportunity to discuss the incident again.

However, two years ago in a chance meeting via an Internet site the two childhood friends were reunited. They were both checking their ancestry but after more than half a century it was the most intriguing event of their childhood that became the topic of conversation.

Ben Moffett was a classmate of the boys back in the 1940s. Ben is a veteran newspaper reporter and it was with Ben that Jose and Remigio decided to share their experience.

That experience was recounted as follows:

The pungent but pleasing aroma of greasewood was in the air as Jose Padilla, age 9, and friend, Remigio Baca, 7, set out on horseback one August morning in 1945 to find a cow that had wandered off to calf. The scent of the greasewood, more often called creosote bush today, caught their attention as they moved away from this tiny settlement on their horses, Bolé and Dusty. The creosote scent is evident only during moist weather, and its presence on the wind meant rain somewhere nearby. So as they worked the draws on the Padilla Ranch, they were mindful of flash flooding which might occur in Walnut Creek, or through side arroyos, if there were a major thunderstorm upstream.

Gully-washers are not uncommon in late summer in the northern stretches of the Chihuahuan Desert of central New Mexico, especially along the foothills of the Magdalena Mountains looming to the west. Despite minor perils associated with being away from adults, it was a routine outing for Jose and Reme. It was not odd to see youngsters roam far afield doing chores during the war years. "I could ride before I could walk," said Jose in a recent interview. "We were expected to do our share of the work. Hunting down a cow for my dad wasn't a bad job, even in the August heat."

They moved into terrain that seemed too rough for the horse's hooves, and Jose decided to tether them, minus bridles, allowing them to graze.

He had spotted a mesquite thicket, a likely place for a wayward cow to give birth, and they set off across a field of jagged rocks and cactus to take a look. As they moved along, grumbling about the

thorns, the building thunderhead clouds decided to let go and the heavens opened. They took refuge under a ledge above the floodplain, protected somewhat from the lightning strikes that suddenly peppered the area.

The storm quickly passed and the thunder and lightning abated. Then came another brilliant light, accompanied by a crunching sound that shook the ground around them. It was not at all like thunder. Could it be another test from White Sands? The boys thought no, it seemed too close. "We thought it came from the next canyon, adjacent to Walnut Creek, and as we moved in that direction, we heard the cow in a clump of mesquites," Reme said. Sure enough, it was the Padilla cow, licking a white face calf. A quick check revealed the calf to be healthy and after nursing it the boys decided to reward themselves with a small lunch. Jose had packed up a tortilla each, washed down with a few swigs from a canteen, and followed by an apple.

As they munched, Jose noticed smoke coming from a draw adjacent to Walnut Creek, a main tributary from the mountains to the Rio Grande.

Happy that the cow and calf were fending well the two boys headed towards it. What they saw as they climbed on top of a hill "stopped us dead in our tracks," Reme recalls.

"There was a gouge in the earth as long as a football field, and a circular object at the end of it. It was barely visible through a field of smoke," he said. "It was the colour of the old pot my mother was always trying to shine up, a dull metallic colour." As they closed in for a better look they found the heat from the wreckage and burning greasewood to be intense. "You could feel it through the soles of your shoes," Reme said. "It was still humid from the rain, stifling, and it was hard to get close." They retreated briefly to talk things over, cool off, sip from the canteen and collect their nerve. Worried there might be casualties in the wreckage they headed back towards the site.

There was an eerie feeling about the whole situation. The boys had to wait for the heat to die down before they could get close to the object but they



Lonnie Zamora pictured left, overlooks a geiger counter check of the Socorro landing site

began examining the debris at the periphery of, what appeared to be a huge litter field. Reme picked up a piece of thin, shiny material that he says reminded him of "the tin foil in the old cigarette packs. It was folded up and lodged underneath a rock, apparently pinned there during the collision," said Reme. "When I pulled it from the wreckage, it unfolded all by itself. I refolded it, and it spread itself out again." Reme put it in his pocket.

Eventually they worked their way to within yards of the wreckage, "I had my hand over my face, peeking through my fingers, not knowing what I might see," Reme recalled. "Jose, being older, seemed to be able to handle it better."

As they approached they saw ... thought they saw ... yes, definitely DID see ... movement in the main part of the craft.

"Strange looking creatures were moving around inside," said Reme.

"They looked under stress, they moved fast, as if they were able to will themselves from one position to another in an instant, they were shadowy and expressionless, but definitely living beings."

Reme wanted no part of whoever or whatever was inside. "Jose wasn't afraid of much, but I told him we should get out of there. I remember we felt concern for the creatures. They seemed like us, almost children, not dangerous. But we were scared and exhausted. Besides it was getting late."

The boys backtracked, ignoring the cow and calf. It was a little after dusk when they climbed on their horses, and dark when they reached the Padilla home. Faustino Padilla asked about the cow, and got a quick report. "And we found something else," Jose said, and the story poured out, quickly and almost incoherently. "It's kind of hard to explain, but it was long and round, and there was a big gouge in the dirt and there were these hombrecitos (little guys)." Their tale unfolded as Jose's father listened patiently. "They were running back and forth, looking desperate. They were like children. They didn't have hair," Jose said. "We'll check it out in a day or two," Faustino said, unalarmed and apparently not worried in the least about survivors or medical emergencies. "It must be something the military lost and we shouldn't disturb it." Faustino told Reme to leave his horse with them as it was late and that he and Jose would drive him home.

Two days later at about noon, state policeman Eddie Apodaca, a family friend who had been summoned by Faustino, arrived at the Padilla home. Jose and Reme directed Apodaca and Jose's dad towards the crash site in two vehicles, a pick-up and a state police car. When they could drive no further, they parked and hiked to the hillside where the boys had initially spotted the wreckage. As they topped the ridge, they noted the cow and calf had moved on, probably headed for home pasture. Then they walked the short distance to the overlook.

For a second time, Jose and Reme were dumbfounded. The wreckage was nowhere to be seen. "What could have happened to it?" Reme asked. "Somebody must have taken it," Jose responded defensively. ➤

Apodoca and Faustino stared intently but unac-
cusingly at Jose and Reme, trying to understand.

They headed down the canyon nonetheless, and suddenly, "as if by magic," in Reme's words, the object reappeared. "From the top of the hill, it blended into the surroundings," Reme explained recently. "The sun was at a different angle, and the object had dirt and debris over it," which he speculated may have been put there by someone after the crash. Apodoca and Faustino led the way to the craft, and then climbed inside while Jose and Reme were ordered to stay a short distance away. "I can't see the *hombrecitos*," Reme offered. "No," replied Jose. "But look at these marks on the ground, like when you drag a rake over it."

The huge debris field had been cleaned up," Reme recalled. "Who did it, and when, I have no idea? Was it the military using a helicopter or the occupants?"

The main body of the craft, however, remained in place with odd pieces dangling everywhere. Now, Reme remembered, it was time for the adults to lecture Reme and Jose. Reme quoted Faustino as saying: "Listen carefully, don't tell anyone about this, Reme, your dad just started working for the government. He doesn't need to know anything about it. It might cause him trouble."

Faustino also worked for the government at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge and the ranch itself was on leased federal land.

According to Jose, Faustino was a patriotic man and honest to a fault in his dealing with the federal government.

"The government calls them weather balloons," the state policeman chipped in. "I'm here to help Faustino work out the recovery with the government. They'll want this thing back."

Reme stated: "This isn't like the weather balloons we've seen before, they were little things, almost like a kite."

"You're right, Reme. Este es un monstruo, que no Eddie?" Faustino said. "Yeah, it's big for sure," the state policeman acknowledged. "And the *hombrecitos*?" Reme persisted. "Maybe you just thought you saw them," said Faustino. "Maybe somebody took them, or they just took off."

The party headed home, the cow and calf grazed their way back over the next couple of days.

The Recovery

The recovery operation actually started two days after Reme, Jose, Jose's father, Faustino, and state policeman Eddie Apodoca, a family friend, visited the site on August 18. It was then that a Latino Army sergeant named Avila arrived at the Padilla home in San Antonio, a tiny southern extension of San Antonio.

The Captain Mountains, northwest of Roswell, still overlook the ranchlands in the region where the Roswell incident occurred in 1947

After some small talk, Sgt. Avila got down to business. According to Reme's and Jose's recollection, and what they learned subsequently from Faustino, the conversation went something like this:

"As you may know, there's a weather balloon down on your property," Avila said. "We need to install a metal gate and grade a road to the site to recover it. We'll have to tear down a part of the fence adjoining the cattle guard."

"Why can't you just go through the gate like everybody else?" asked Faustino.

"Well, the problem is that your cattle guard is about 10 feet wide, and our tractor trailer can't begin to get through there," said the sergeant. "We'll compensate you, of course."

The sergeant also asked for a key to the gate until the military could install its own. He also wanted help with security.

"Can you make sure nobody goes to the site unless they are authorized and don't tell anyone why we're here."

"What should I tell them?" Faustino asked.

"You can tell them the equipment is here because the government needs to work a manganese mine west of here," the sergeant said.

"That was to justify the presence of road-building equipment," said Reme in a recent interview. "It wasn't until decades later, on the Internet, that I learnt the Army told a lot of untruths about that time. I found another manganese mine story was used to cover a UFO incident on the west side of the Magdalenas near Datil in 1947, about the time of the Roswell UFO incident."

"I know for sure that the cover story was at least the second piece of misinformation they gave out in a month," noted Reme, a former marine, chuckling and referring to the acknowledged false press release used to cover the Trinity atom bomb explosion as the first example.

It wasn't long after the sergeant's departure that the Army was on the scene with road building equipment. Long before the road was graded, however, soldiers were at the site, carrying scraps of the mangled craft to smaller vehicles that were able to get close to the scene immediately.

Although warned by Faustino to stay away from the area, Jose, sometimes with Reme, when they shared a pair of binoculars, kept out of view and observed as the military constructed a road and soldiers prepared for the flatbed's trucks arrival. Jose actually made off with a piece of debris, which is still in his possession.

White Sands Missile Range

"The work detail wasn't too efficient," said Reme, who noted from his experience in the Marines that military parts had numbers and were carefully catalogued.

"The soldiers threw some of the pieces down a crevice, so they wouldn't have to carry them," he said. "Then they would kick dirt and rocks and brush over them to cover them up."

According to Jose, four soldiers were stationed at the wreckage at all times, with shift changes every 12 hours.

"One stayed at a tent as a guard and listened to the radio. I could hear the music. They'd work for an hour and then lock the gate, climb in their pick-ups and go to the Owl Café, where they'd look for girls. I know because one of my (female) cousins who was there told me."

Once the flatbed was in place, the soldiers used winches to hoist pieces of the wreckage in place.

"They had to build an L-shaped frame and tilt it to get it to fit into the tractor-trailer, because it bulged out over one side," Jose said. "They finally cut a hole in the fence at the gate that was 26 feet long to get it out."

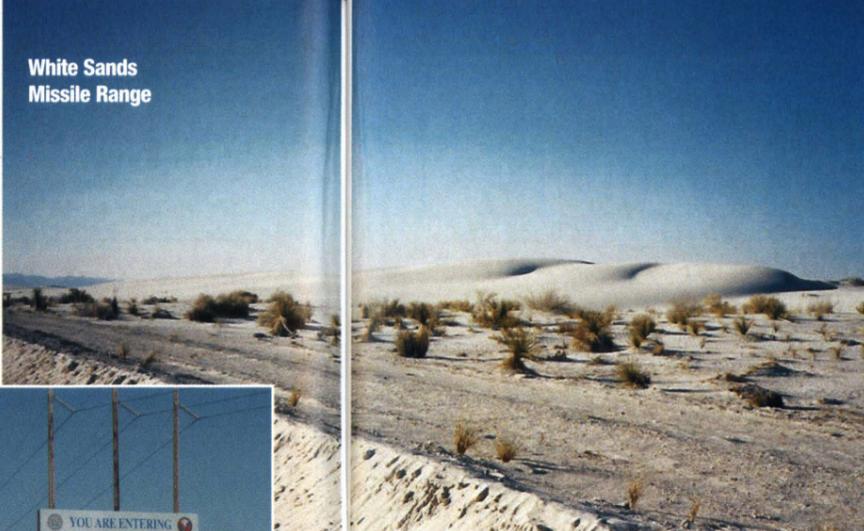
Off it went, shrouded under covers, through San Antonio and presumably to Stallion Site, now the White Sands Missile Range, where, according to Reme, it might still be there.

Was this clandestine operation undertaken to recover a weather balloon? Or, as Jose and Reme contend, was it something far more mysterious?

"I think the term 'weather balloon' was a euphemism, a catch-all for anything and everything that the government couldn't explain," Reme said.

Reme and Jose knew about legitimate weather balloons.

"My father and I found about seven of them before and after the 1945 crash," Jose remembers. "We always gathered them up and gave them back to the military."



They were nothing but silky material, aluminium and wood, nothing like what we found in that arroyo in 1945."

"Those weather balloons were not much more than big box kites," Reme said. "They sure couldn't gouge a hole in the ground. Remember, in 1945, despite the bomb, we weren't all that sophisticated. The Trinity Site bomb, Fat Man, was transported on a railroad car to the site."

"Radar was primitive or non-existent in some places. Maybe the military knew what they had, maybe they didn't, maybe they couldn't say."

Reme and Jose are convinced, and they say Faustino soon joined them in their belief, that the object on the ranch was no mere weather balloon, but an object of mystery. Faustino, however, had no interest in challenging the status quo, nor did state policeman Apodoca, whatever his beliefs were.

And why would a mere sergeant be sent to negotiate with Faustino Padilla on a mission that involved something more than a routine weather balloon flight? "He wore sergeant stripes," Reme said. "That doesn't necessarily mean he was a sergeant. He was also Latino which meant he could communicate with the locals."

Finally, why did the military allow such cavalier treatment of the wreckage if it were a foreign or alien craft with scientific value?

"I don't know if they knew what they had," Reme said. "It was a fairly crude craft with no parts or numbers on it, and the piece we have, we were told, is not remarkably machined even for 1945. But there's nothing that says aliens have to travel in remarkable spaceships."

"Given what we know about distances in the universe, space travel seems far-fetched, I'll grant you. Perhaps they got here by some method we can't fathom and they manufactured a crude object here to get around in this atmosphere. We hear about other dimensions, and parallel universes."

"I don't know much about those things. But I do know what I saw, which was some unlikely looking 'hombrecitos' at the crash site. I know that later other people in the area reported similar things. And I know the government was interested in keeping it quiet."

Reme has studied the UFO phenomenon in his spare time over the years, especially as it pertained to New Mexico.

"The military opened the door at Roswell, and then they closed it," he said, referring to the July 1947 report by the Roswell Air Force Base information office about the crash and recovery of a "flying disc" that they reported had been "bouncing" around the sky. Then the base retreated by reporting it was merely a "radar tracking balloon" that had been recovered.

Details of the Roswell event can be found in a 19-page Freedom of Information Act request made by the late New Mexico Congressman Steve Schiff, and released by the General Accounting Office, 28 July 1995. It can be found on the Internet at www.conspire.com/ds/gao2.html

The Roswell crash, along with the sighting of a UFO south of Socorro by city policeman Lonnie Zamora in 1964, are the two most famous of a string of UFO reports over central New Mexico.

From 1946 through 1949, 25 UFO sightings that "may have contained extraterrestrial life" were reported worldwide by the Center for the Study of Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence. Seven of those were in New Mexico, including one near Magdalena (1946), Socorro (1947), Roswell (actually near Corona, 4 July 1947), Plains of San Agustin (Catron County, 5 July 1947), Aztec (1948), White Sands (1949), and Roswell again (1949). Another in this pattern, is the sighting on the Hopi Reservation of Arizona in 1947.

"There was a pattern of sightings and incidents in a band across New Mexico. Socorro and San Antonio are central to this pattern," notes Reme.

"Our 1945 sighting just adds to that base of information. It's intriguing to say the least. If you were an eyewitness it becomes even more intriguing."

Reme and Jose are excited enough to tell their story after more than 55 years, even knowing the problems that plagued Lonnie Zamora after his spotting a UFO near Socorro. The two men would

like to see an excavation of the crevice where a few odds and ends from their 'alien craft' were tossed. "The crevice was recently covered up by a bulldozer doing flood control work," Reme said.

And they'd like to have the part they have from the wreckage examined more closely. However, they are not eager to surrender it to anyone.

"I've heard from others that if you give it up to the government, you stand a good chance of not getting it back," said Reme.

A second piece, which Reme likened to the "tin foil in a cigarette pack," is gone. "I used it to stop a leak in a brass pipe under a windmill at our house in San Antonio in the early 50s," he said. "I used it to fill the stripped threads on two pieces of pipe."

Reme said he regrets using it now, but it was handy. "I kept in for years in an old Prince Albert (tobacco) tin down in the pump house, and it was the nearest thing available." Reme said the foil stopped the leak in the pipe for years. The windmill is now gone and the property is no longer owned by the family.

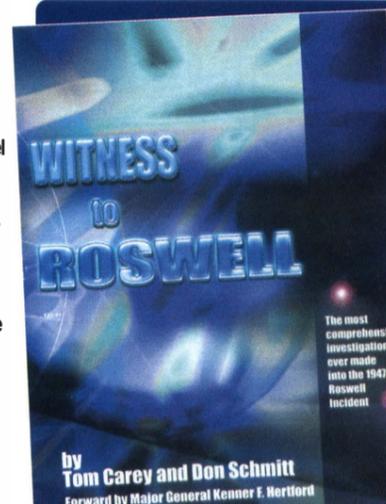
Finally, Jose and Reme were asked why they decided to tell the tale today, after nearly 60 years.

"It's something you can never get out of your head," said Reme. "When we saw it, we had never heard the term UFO, and 'flying saucers' didn't become a part of the language until June of 1947 when a pilot named Kenneth Arnold reported nine objects in a formation in the area of Mount Rainier."

"We didn't invent this phenomenon," said Reme, "We experienced it. Others have apparently had similar experiences. I believe Jose and I have an obligation to add our story to the mix." ■

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Council Engineer Photographs UFO

Whittlesea, Melbourne Australia

Whilst carrying out a routine inspection at a level crossing and photographing the facility for repair reference, a council engineer got the shock of his life when he returned to his office and was downloading the photographs he had taken.

From a series of ten images, one jumped right off the computer screen.

It appeared to show a typical 'Flying Saucer' in the top right of the image.

Since the image was placed on the Internet 15 January, the Internet has been busy with researchers trying to prove the photograph shows a real image of a UFO, and local news media in Australia trying to debunk it as being nothing more than a bug or bird.

We have to thank the Whittlesea council for making the image available to researchers and enthusiasts alike.

This is how the story was reported in the local press.

Whittlesea's alien lies in the eye of the beholder

By Stephen Cauchi, January 24, 2004

Is this a Martian payback for NASA's invasion of the Red Planet? If so, they've chosen to land at the City of Whittlesea.

The above UFO photo, taken on January 15, caused a stir on radio and TV yesterday as excitement mounted over an alien visitor.

A Whittlesea traffic engineer took the photo while assessing street signs and road markings on Beveridge Road. He did not notice the UFO while he was taking the digital photo, only when the image was printed.

The City of Whittlesea yesterday posted the photo on its website with a disclaimer.

"This council has no opinion about the object. We just do not know what the object could be and would welcome any explanation . . . the image has been referred by council to the chief defence scientist, (the) Defence Science & Technology Organisation, and the Civil Aviation Authority.

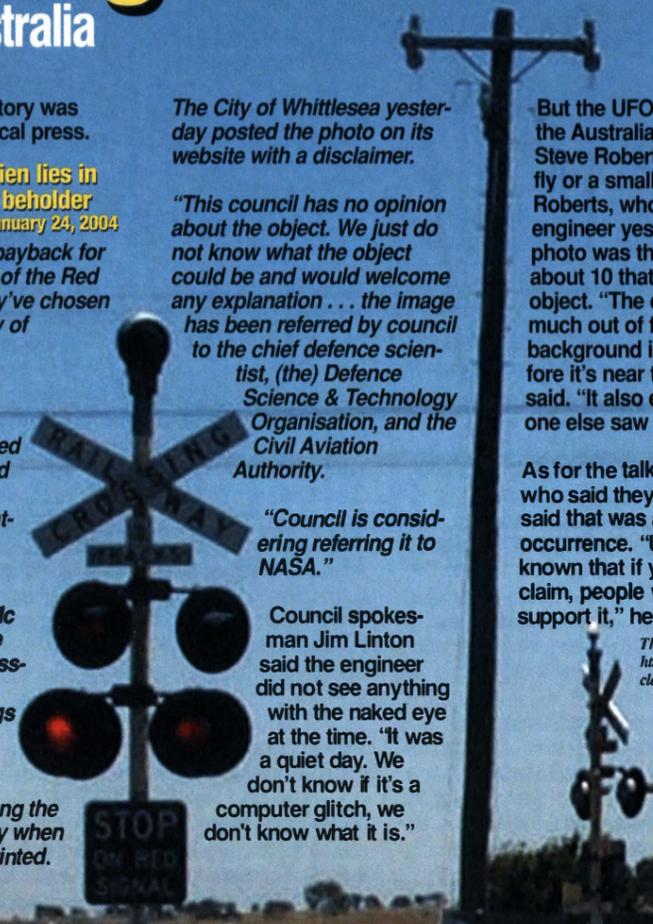
"Council is considering referring it to NASA."

Council spokesman Jim Linton said the engineer did not see anything with the naked eye at the time. "It was a quiet day. We don't know if it's a computer glitch, we don't know what it is."

But the UFO spokesman for the Australian Skeptics, Steve Roberts, thinks it's a fly or a small bird. Dr Roberts, who interviewed the engineer yesterday, said the photo was the only one of about 10 that showed the object. "The object is very much out of focus, but the background is in focus, therefore it's near the camera," he said. "It also explains why no one else saw it."

As for the talkback callers who said they did, Dr Roberts said that was a common occurrence. "Unfortunately, it's known that if you make a claim, people will come and support it," he said.

This story was found at: <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2004/01/23/1074732605811.html>



UFO MAGAZINE

The image is quite similar to the Tasmanian photograph taken 3 January, 2004 and featured on page 13.

I wonder if the sceptics would be so quick to scoff if the dates were identical?

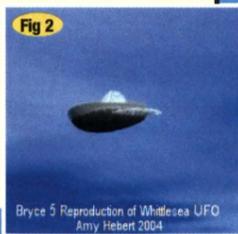
Amy Herbert, who is known to the UFO community, has on several occasions applied a logical approach to some UFO images with very positive identification results, became involved.

While studying the original image Amy accidentally lifted the contrast of the photograph too much, Fig 1.

The object in the photo now resembled an insect shape (body and wings, Fig 2). Amy went on to design a computer model insect and after applying filters and effects to the model came up with a strikingly similar shape seen here alongside the original image, Fig 3.

But this is only one scenario. Amy has shown two things.

1. That it is possible to create the image complete with blur and superimpose it into the background shot. (Hoax the picture).



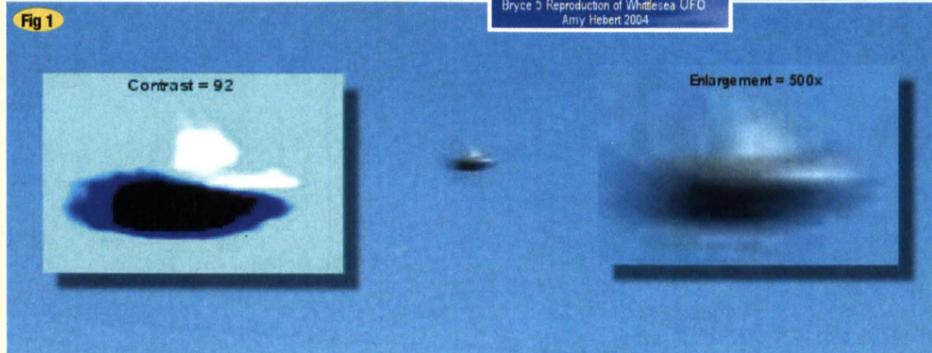
Bryce 5 Reproduction of Whittlesea UFO Amy Hebert 2004



Whittlesea UFO enlarged 500X's



Bryce Model Adjusted For Size and 'Blur'



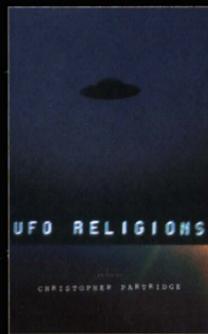
2. That what was caught on camera was an insect, and that is why the photographer saw nothing at the time. I don't think someone busy carrying out important safety and maintenance work would have the time to even consider hoaxing a UFO image. I believe like in so many cases the photographer was simply unaware of the object at the time of taking the photograph.

Amy Herbert concludes that the above is only a possible explanation of what is on the photograph:

"This is only one example of what the object may be in the Whittlesea photograph. Images of flying objects not seen by witnesses at the moment a photograph is taken and discovered only when reviewing the resulting images can be anything from UFOs to birds, bugs, debris, lens flare, conventional aircraft or a whole list of photographic anomalies/possibilities. Until conclusive evidence is forthcoming, images of this nature should be considered 'unidentified' and neither promoted as UFOs nor hastily dismissed as IFOs."

15. 1. 2004

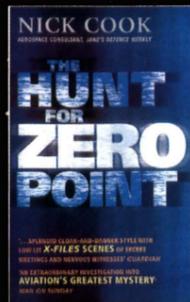
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UFO Religions analyses the religions and spiritualities which incorporate UFOs, extraterrestrial life and alien contact as core beliefs. The volume brings together an international group of scholars to consider the cultural and religious ideas within UFO religion, the incorporation of ufological elements within non-UFO religions, spiritual aspects of alien abduction narratives, and interpretations of UFO belief from the perspectives of psychology, sociology and religious studies.

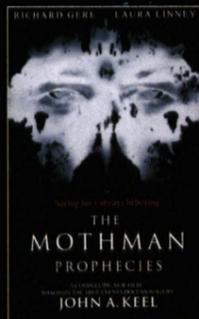
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The Hunt for Zero Point traces the origins of advanced technologies back to the closing days of WWII, and how Nazi scientists enabled the U.S. to stay one step ahead of the Soviet Union. But has an even bigger step been taken? One of the best books for ages, forget the science fiction - this is science fact!

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PAPERBACK

This is not a book about the hit movie, but a revised version of John Keel's original work which inspired its making. For those that have seen the movie, this is an 'absolute must'. For anyone who hasn't, be prepared for what lies in store, because Keel is describing *real* and extraordinary experiences which impacted upon *real* people - and were scared witless!

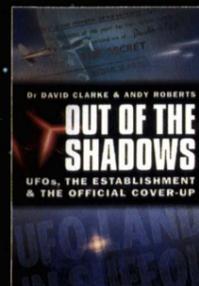
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PAPERBACK

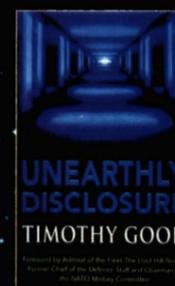
Without Consent, newly reissued by Beyond Publications, is a laudable study for readers wishing to understand the alien abduction phenomenon. Plainly presented, *Without Consent* neither indulges in unfettered speculation nor subjective interpretation; the cases it presents stand as representative enigmas from the annals of British ufology. The authors approach the abduction enigma as a challenge to conventional thought, leaving the verdict to the reader. *Without Consent* is a short, sensible primer that shines a much-needed light on the state of UFO research in the UK.

QP/XX174 Price: £11.50 Europe £13.50 USA/Rest of World £15.50



The British Government's early involvement in the UFO issue is brought to the fore by Dr. David Clarke and Andy Roberts. You may not agree with their conclusions, but you cannot fail to be impressed by the sheer wealth of reports, eye-witness testimony and hitherto classified UFO documents they uncovered. Read the facts and decide for yourselves!

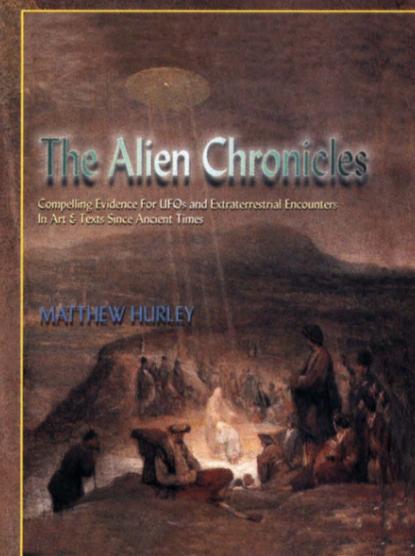
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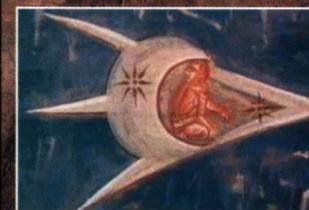
Best-selling author Timothy Good reveals startling new evidence which suggests that the alien presence is firmly fixed at hidden locations around the world. A meeting between Timothy and high officials at the Pentagon is but one of many fascinating disclosures. Highly recommended.

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"An enthralling journey through the past to a new vision of the UFO phenomenon. Not since Jacques Vallee's legendary Passport to Magonia has an author tackled the fact that UFO sightings and close encounters have been a part of human history for millennia with such expertise. This book is an absolute must for anybody who's curious about unexplained phenomena. A major addition to the field of UFO research."

Whitley Strieber
Author of *Communion*, the New York Times bestseller



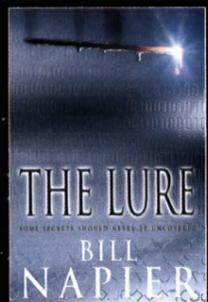
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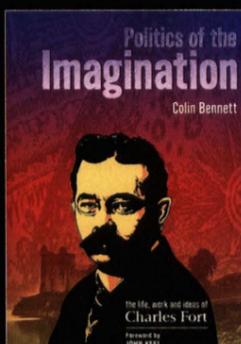
The Lure, by Professor Bill Napier, an astronomer at the Armagh Observatory in Northern Ireland, is a work of fiction, but brilliantly intertwined with science fact. As a group of astronomers and scientists ponder over how best to inform the world they have discovered an extraterrestrial signal, the powers-that-be set about trying to stop them. A cracking yarn!

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Reg Presley, lead singer of "The Troggs", here details the wild things that he believes the government secretly knows about, but will go to the most extraordinary lengths to stop the public from finding out. He presents evidence of alien visitation, crop-circles and his scientific theory of why the Earth is gradually changing shape.

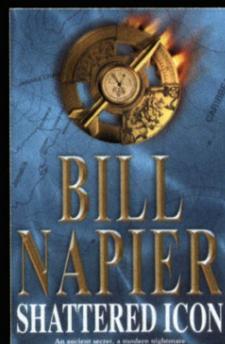
QP/XX182 Price: £18.49 Europe £21.49 USA £23.49 Rest of World £24.49



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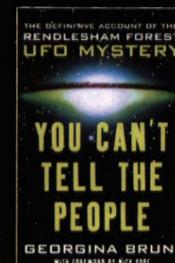
Colin Bennett's astute study of the life and times of Charles Fort is rich in detail and high in coming to understand what the man was all about. Years ahead of his time in alternative thinking and open to all possibilities, Fort's reputation and methodology have been tarnished to some extent by those who claim to support them, but they are, in fact, as closed-minded as they come. The scourge of sceptics and debunkers, Colin Bennett does the business!

QP/XX170 Price: £14.99 Europe £17.99 USA £19.99 Rest of World £20.99



As an antique map dealer in a small English town, Harry Blake appreciates the quiet life. But when a local landowner asks him to value a 400 year old journal and twelve hours later he is brutally murdered. Harry's peace of mind is shattered. What does the dusty journal contain that is a matter of life or death? Why is someone prepared to pay Harry a fortune to steal it? He turns to marine historian Zola Khan to uncover the mysteries. And when they meet at the old Greenwich Observatory, Harry is convinced there is more to Zola than meets the eye. The trail of the journal leads him into a world of deadly Elizabethan conspiracies, and the thread of history takes him through a thousand years of religious intrigue back to the blood-soaked Crusades. And he finally learns that at stake are millions of dollars and a plan to trigger nothing less than war...

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PAPERBACK

Britain's answer to Roswell? What actually occurred near the joint twin bases of RAF Woodbridge and RAF Bentwaters, Suffolk, in December 1980? Why would former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher issue a comment that would later feature as the title for this stunning new book? New facts and eye witnesses uncovered. A highly recommended work.

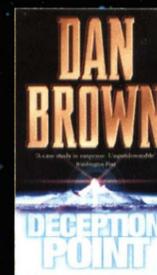
QP/XX156 Price: £9.49 Europe £11.49 USA/Rest of World £13.49



PAPERBACK

A staggering 834 pages in length, and one of the bargain books of the year. Packed with UFO case incidents and a myriad of UFO-related topics gleaned from around the world, this is a veritable A-Z of all things alien. Lacks updated info on UK matters, but is nonetheless a book that will keep you fully engrossed until Xmas 2004!

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PAPERBACK

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PAPERBACK

"AWAKENING" will give the reader a concise review of the abduction phenomenon, from the Contact experiencers themselves, right through to understanding the coping process and looking at what Contact may mean. "In my opinion this will become the bible of the Alien Abduction Phenomenon and will make itself apparent in every library the world over," Dr. Roger Leir

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DAVID SPOOR

UFO: David, what do you do for a living?

DS: Things are quiet at the moment but my main line of work is as a landscape photographer and sometime house-husband. But for the record, I can honestly say I never made a lot of money out of my UFO footage.

UFO: I find that alarmingly reassuring. People who make a lot of money out of a particular subject are driven on by necessity. When an author or film maker tells me they have not made a great profit from their work, I accept that the reason for them doing their particular thing, is because they wanted to do it. That for me carries a great deal of respect. Have you had a long term interest in the UFO subject?

DS: I have always had an open mind but it wasn't until the first filmed sighting in 1997 that my interest became more involved, although I have always thought there was something else other than us out there in space.

UFO: When was your first encounter?

DS: Actually when I knew you were going to conduct this interview I looked up in my old diaries. I had seen something strange as a young man and I remember I had noted the date in my diary at the time. It was 1960 and I would have been 18 years old. I was very interested in aircraft spotting at the time, living down here in Suffolk we were close to many air bases and there was always a lot of interesting traffic in the skies.

I remember on one occasion standing in my garden with the binoculars. I believe I was observing a 'RAF Javelin' and to one side of this aircraft was what I could only describe as a 'shiny white light', it was static and I wondered 'what on earth was it?' I thought it could have been a star because as you know, you can sometimes see stars in daylight conditions. I soon realised it

wasn't a star as it broke up into about five sections and shot off in different directions. I simply couldn't relate it to anything I knew of at that time, as an aircraft enthusiast. I would say after this sighting my interest in the possibilities of the existence of UFOs was ignited.

UFO: Have you always had an interest in photography and video?

DS: I have been taking photographs from the age of around fifteen. A school pal got me into the hobby and I was able to do my own developing of black and white film in a dark room I had at home. In fact I did that right up until about 1987.

Nowadays of course with the advent of digital cameras none of this is necessary although I don't think the quality is quite the same as regular film.

UFO: What did the neighbours think to you sky watching from your rooftop?

DS: Well of course the odd joke passed across the gardens, but I had a great vantage point from my flat roof. Basically I suppose I just got on with it, keeping myself to myself.

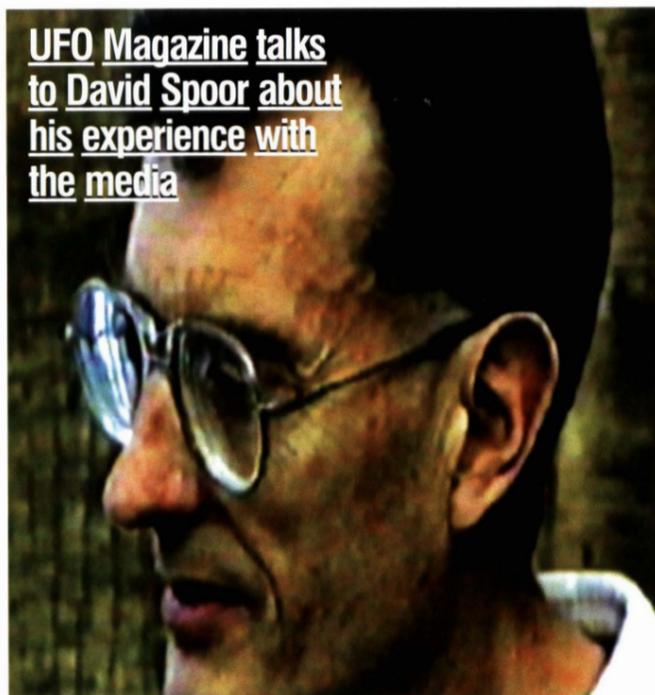
UFO: Did your neighbours ever witness any of the footage you recorded?

DS: You know I don't think they did really although in one instance I called old Fred across from over the road to look at what I was filming. Sadly he passed away a few years ago now, so he was probably my only witness at that time apart from my wife.

I suppose I didn't talk too much about what I was doing for fear of being labelled an eccentric or the like.

On another note, I do a bit of running and you tend to observe people while you're out there and I can't help but notice how unobservant people can be, they get on with their lives and don't

UFO Magazine talks to David Spoor about his experience with the media

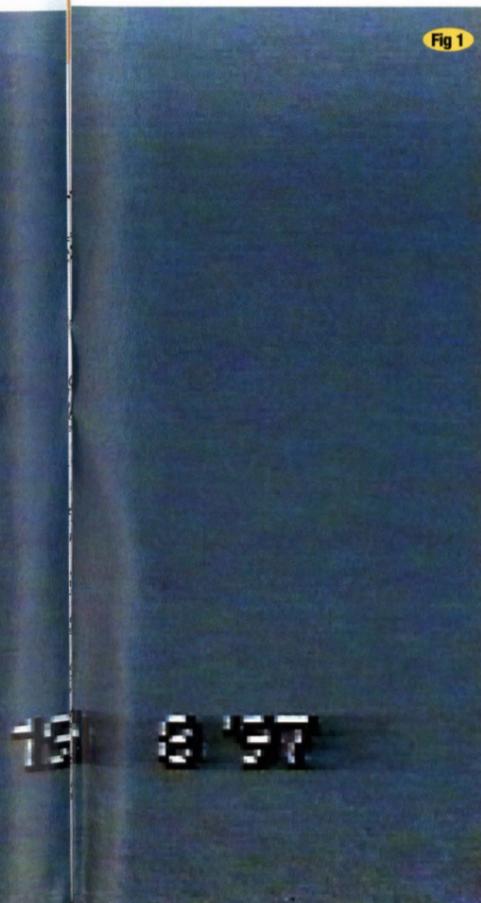


seem to even look up. I recall a trip into Norwich one time and the streets were busy with shoppers, I heard this distinct sound coming from the sky. I looked up and there was a WW2 Hurricane and Spitfire, they must have been performing at a local display but you know it seemed I was the only one taking notice.

There was this thunderous roar filling the sky and people never even looked up.

One time I was out running with a friend, Ian, and I caught sight of several strange lights in the night sky. I called to Ian to have a look, he sort of went oh, yeah and carried on with his run. It didn't mean anything to him. I suppose there's a kind of apathy about all this really.

UFO: Did the local press take up your story?



DS: Well actually it was me that informed them after filming the cylindrical object. I had a good look at the tape and really wanted to know if anyone else had seen it. We had a friend at that time who worked on the local journal who in turn took it to the district paper. From there it got on to *Look East* our local TV news, then the BBC got hold of it and it all started from there.

I must tell you that the first unusual clip I recorded, the cylindrical object (Fig 1), wasn't recorded on my camera, I didn't actually own one at the time. But my son's girlfriend's father's camcorder was in the house and when I spotted the object (at this time it was basically over my head) I ran indoors remembering the camera was in the house and started filming.

It wasn't long after that incident though that I obtained my own camera and started filming some unusual stuff.

I had time on my hands and once I had my own camera, I used to get on my bike and cycle all over the place trying to capture more of what I had already filmed. It actually took over my life for a period of time.

Fig 2

I learned about the stars and read books on the subject to make sure I was aware of what was genuinely out there.

Debunkers were quick to quote Venus as one of the things I was filming. If they'd have taken the time to see where I live and the position of our house they would soon realise that Venus would have been in a totally different part of the sky to what I was filming.

I was convinced I had observed something worthy of research and study.

UFO: What sort of equipment did you film with?

As I mentioned earlier the first clip I filmed was the cylindrical object and that was recorded on a borrowed camcorder that was left at our house. After that I got hold of my own. The first one being a Canon Hi 8 with interchangeable lenses, and then as time went on, I bought a small JVC digital model. That wasn't as good as the Canon but it did a job.

UFO: How did you get involved with *Riddle of the Skies*?

DS: It was about 12 months after the first filmed sighting that *Riddle of the Skies* made contact with me. I suppose I was a bit green but the producers explained how they wanted to do things and that seemed fine by me, however the end result wasn't what I expected.



UFO: I would like to make a point here. David was the only witness from the general public with camera footage. But he was subjected to intense scrutiny where as pilots, air traffic controllers, scientists, and the military were treated with respect.

It seemed the minute the producers of the programme got hold of a UFO experimenter, (David Spoor), they systematically tried to either destroy his evidence or make him out to be a hoaxer. When the object in Fig 2 was put before the programme's expert he suggested to the cameras that we were looking at a cloud perhaps or maybe a star.

Well I know who I see as the fool here and it's not David Spoor.

DS: I must admit I was pretty naive at the time and I accepted people at face value. I gave them my original master tapes and to be perfectly honest with you I don't think I would ever do that again. I felt that they picked on certain things and though they did tell me they carried out

analysis, I felt that instead of picking on what to me seemed insignificant they should have tackled the more obvious unusual qualities of the images on the films.

One incident featured the triangular light which to me and anyone watching moves across the skies behind my house. Well the producers were more interested in telling me that they didn't think it moved, they thought I was moving with the camera. This is correct of course. I moved with the object otherwise it would have been out of shot in a couple of seconds, and to relate this object to being Venus is ridiculous. As I said earlier, my house doesn't move and a simple compass bearing would confirm that Venus would have been behind me, and as for the cloud theory I can only say this. I don't know what it was but I do know it wasn't 'a bloody cloud'.

Another thing that suggests the analysis was purely cosmetic was the suggestion of me recording Venus. I had thought prior to the TV people coming to my house that they might cite Venus as the object in some

of my films so I recorded the planet on my camcorder. I filmed it in focus, slightly out of focus and made sure they had a copy of the tape with the footage they were going to feature in the programme. That footage was obviously not shown in the documentary and not shown to the 'experts' who passed a supposed informed comment on my films.

Incidentally, I never claimed these objects were ET, all I ever wanted was to know just what they were.

UFO: It was suggested that the apparent acceleration of the cylindrical object could have been an effect produced by the zooming out of the camera lens. Would you care to give us your thoughts?

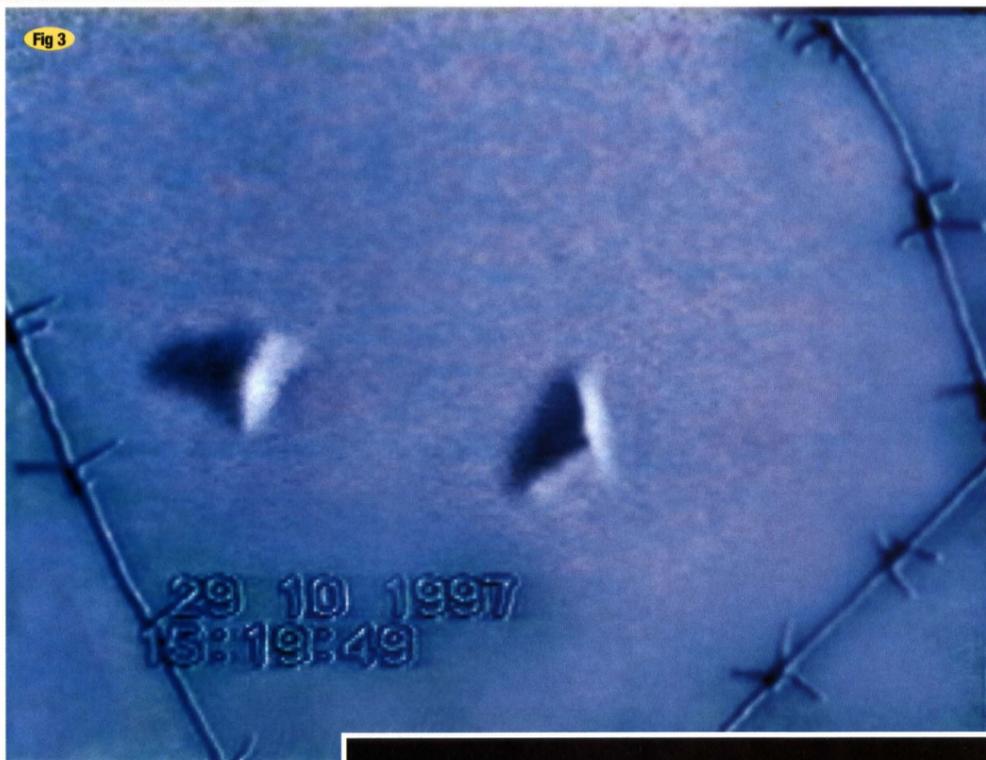
DS: Again I'll be perfectly honest with you and say I'm not sure. I had seen the object overhead and remembered that the camera was indoors. I'd never really had experience of a video camera but I got myself rested firmly against the fence and started filming. I suppose I could have caught the zoom inadvertently but I don't think I did.

UFO: On first seeing the clip I thought it could well be the zooming out of the lens that gave the appearance of acceleration. But if that had been the case, two elements that would back up this theory are missing in my copy of the film.

1. When you are filming a quiet scene you can hear the workings of the camera captured by the built in microphone, the zoom is a quite pronounced whirring sound. You don't hear that.

2. Another common effect caused by zooming in or out too quickly is that the image goes out of focus for a second or so until the auto focus controls catch up with what is required of the camera. This also doesn't happen.

By this time David your name had become known to many UFO researchers and enthusiasts.



Did you ever feel suppressed now that you were in the public gaze?

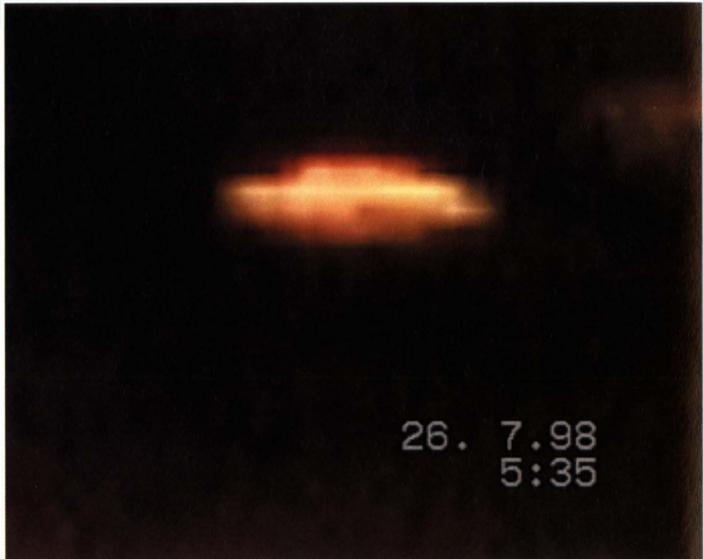
DS: I never got any weird phone calls or letters from anyone claiming to be special services or MI5, and I don't see myself as paranoid but there was a time when I was pretty sure that my movements were being watched.

There was a run down MoD facility near Hopton. At the time it was active but now it's totally closed down. I used to cycle down there quite a lot because it was there where I filmed these objects (Fig 3).

One time I was cycling up there and saw this man standing on the other side of the road and you get a sort of inclination when someone is watching what you're doing. I had met someone there and we saw that this man was actually holding binoculars and giving us a long hard stare through them.

Another time I went to the old facility, someone was sitting just outside the gates. There was another chap wandering around and I passed pleasantries with him and he asked me 'Do you think he's watching us?' I didn't know for sure, but decided it was time to go.

As I rode my bike up the lane I noticed the chap at the gate giv-



ing me a good once-over. I also noticed a parked van with two occupants.

Now this road is about two miles long and I couldn't believe it when the van followed me on the bike. I was only doing ten miles an hour or so and he could have passed me at anytime on that journey but he didn't. It wasn't until I got into Caughton that he turned right as I went straight ahead.

This left me feeling quite uncomfortable.

There was also a period of time when our telephone at home was acting strange. You could hear crackles and clicks on the line and of course this has been associated with telephone tapping.

I've never had anyone scare me off but that occasion with the van did disturb me. On reflection though I remember calling my old mum and telling her that I was going up to the MoD place on my bike and with hindsight I wonder if someone knew I was going up there.

I took pictures of some unusual burn marks on the beach (Fig 4) near the old MoD buildings. I don't know what they were but they just seemed out of place on a quiet beach. I sent the pictures to the local paper to see if anyone could come up with an answer to what they were.

I got various suggestions. Someone thought they might be marker beacons for radar testing but I

never did get to the bottom of what they were. When I actually took the photographs the blackened remains were still smouldering.

UFO: Do you still sky watch?

DS: Oh yes, I think I'll always do that. You never know what you might see. Although I've only seen satellites and aircraft these last few years, but I still enjoy the clear night skies.

UFO: Having watched recent TV documentaries produced on this subject, I can't help but notice a change in the way this subject is presented. It has to be a change for the better.

Most of what David Spoor recorded on video tape stands out as very interesting and very unusual. It warranted further investigation at the time.

David handed over his tapes, entered into a deal and seemingly lost control of the way his evidence would be portrayed.



Instead no serious research was carried out. They simply shot the piano player.

I was put in contact with David by a friend of his, David Dane, another Norfolk based researcher, who regularly contributes his thoughts to *UFO Magazine*. He had told me of some interesting photographs of Chemtrails that his friend David Spoor had photographed (Fig 5).



Our late editor Graham W. Birdsall wrote many words about this phenomenon that is causing concerns around the world, and we will look at evidence in a future issue of *UFO Magazine*. ■

Russell Callaghan

Dr Who Crystal

Scientists have created crystals that look small on the outside but have a massive internal capacity - just like Dr Who's Tardis.

They are full of tiny holes and can "soak up" immense numbers of gas molecules like a sponge. A gram of the crystals can store enough molecules to cover 17 tennis courts.

The new material could be used to absorb harmful ozone-destroying emissions from cars and aerosol cans.

Professor Omar Yaghi took 12 years to develop the MOF-177 crystals at Michigan University.



The Sun, February 5, 2004

Thanks to Lee Nichols



THE JOURNEY

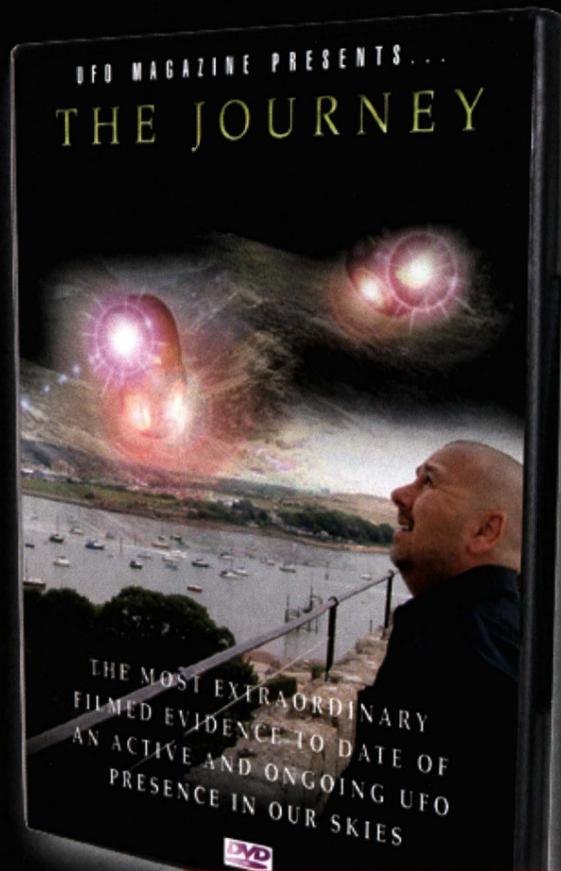
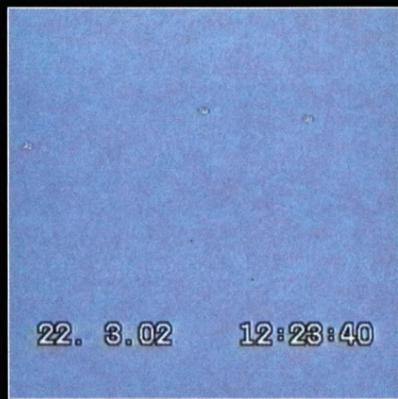
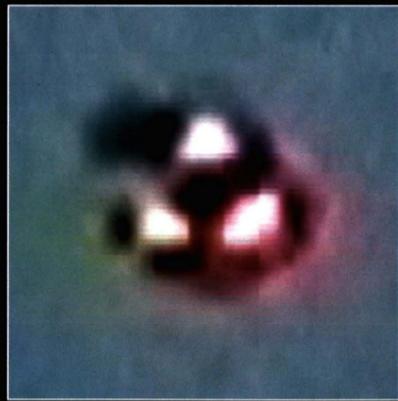
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WORLD EXCLUSIVE!



EYE WITNESS TESTIMONY



NICK POPE



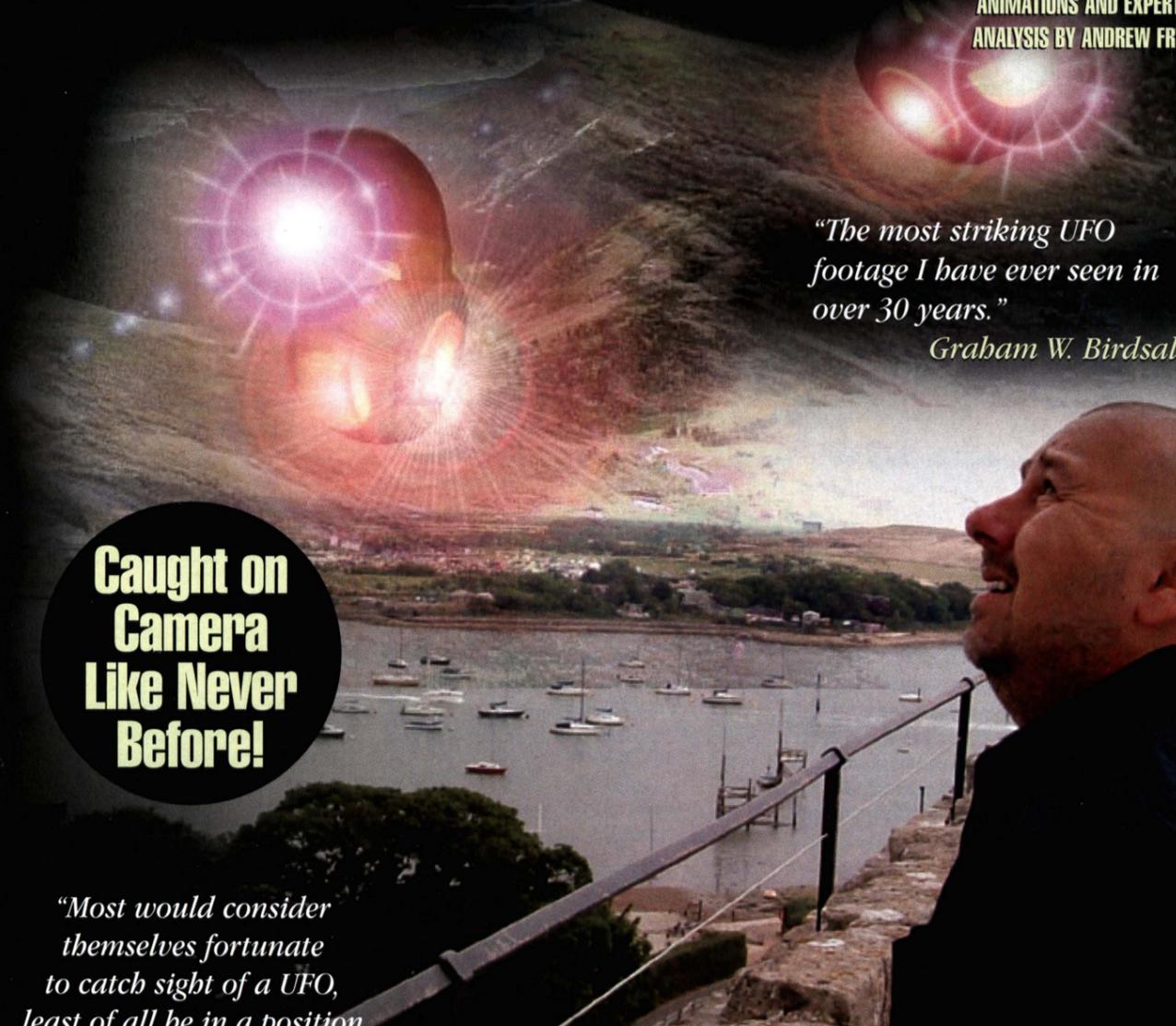
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Russel Callaghan

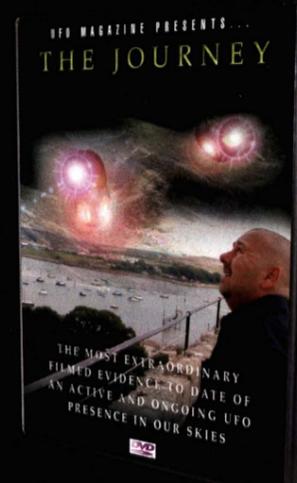
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The 'Stated Case' Principle

By Detective Constable 1877 Gary Heseltine BTP

It is well over fifty years since the modern era of UFOs began. During that time the subject has followed a chequered path. In the fifties flying saucers were widely reported in the media. As we have learnt from recent research, several members of the Royal Family and senior military figures in Britain believed that UFOs were of extraterrestrial origins.

However, as time has gone by the media's attitude to the subject has changed from one of genuine interest to one that appears to have pigeonholed the enigma in the same league as 'The Loch Ness Monster and Vampires'. This does a great disservice to the subject and the public alike for it gives the impression to the world at large that UFOs are nothing more than fleeting glimpses of identifiable objects or some form of human paranoia.

This is not the case because there is a wealth of accurate facts from around the world that circumstantially point to a real phenomenon.

Rarely do the media display the best evidence for the ET hypothesis. I have followed this subject for over 28 years and it is simply not true to say that there is little evidence to support the ET hypothesis that will hold up to close scrutiny.

What is true is that in the public domain that evidence does not present itself in the form of a 'nuts and bolts' alien vehicle. Instead it manifests itself in the form of compelling circumstantial evidence (bear in mind that many people are convicted of murder without the weapon being found or any independent witnesses to the attack and people are regularly convicted on this basis).

I have been a police officer for over fourteen years and a detective for the last decade. That experience has given me a good grounding in determining what 'evidence' really is. Linking that experience to the excellent testimonies of pilots, astronauts, cosmonauts, senior military figures, scientists etc has formed the basis of my belief system that some UFOs are indeed extraterrestrial in origin.

As a relative newcomer to active UFO research I can look at the subject from perhaps a slightly wider context than most who are within it.

I have watched and listened to so many UFO debates on TV and radio where sceptics reel off the same inaccuracies time after time. So much time is wasted because the subject has not addressed some key issues.

A sceptic will rarely speak in detail. They constantly make sweeping generalisations. Sadly we (the ufologists) generally let them get away with it because we have not evolved our own basic standards - i.e. a series of 'stated cases' that would act as rebuttals.

From a police perspective all offences have what are called 'stated cases' that are held as defining reference points.

Whether it be murder, rape or fraud these 'stated cases' are always referred to for guidance.

In that same vein I have long thought that there have been enough genuine UFO cases over the last fifty years to allow us to adopt some 'stated cases' of our own, cases that have stood the test of time in terms of both investigation and analysis.

I believe that we are now in a position to do that as, hopefully, demonstrated by the following cases.



STATED CASE NUMBER ONE - Earliest Nuts and Bolts Craft

In my opinion the best evidence to support the earliest nuts and bolts alien craft theory derives from recently uncovered military records by David Clarke and Andy Roberts. The following case featured in the July 2003 issue of UFO Magazine:

- 11th August 1944
- Earliest and best example of nuts and bolts UFO

On the night of 11th August 1944 a Lancaster bomber was returning to Britain from a mission over southern France when the crew encountered a disc shaped UFO that dwarfed their aircraft many times over.

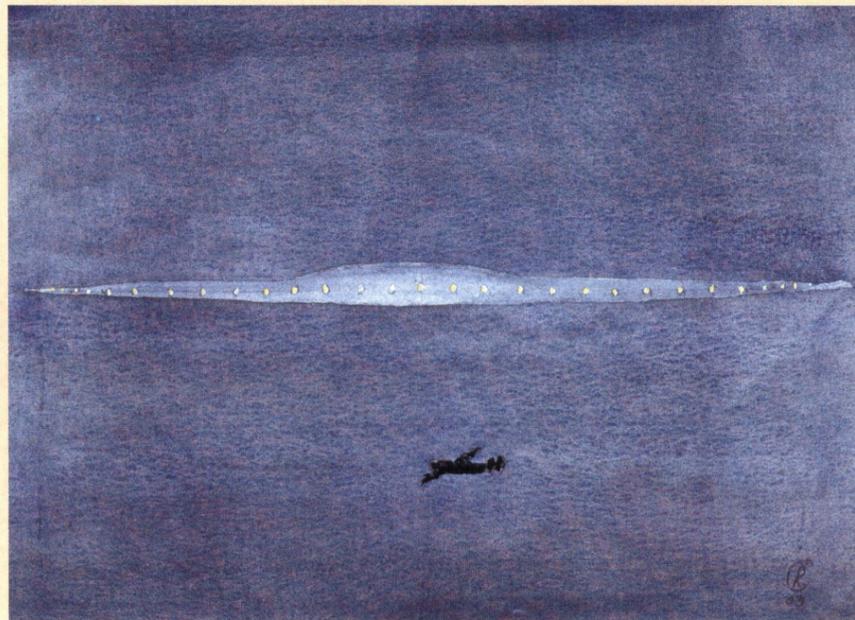
The crew of eight watched the disc at an estimated distance of 1000 yards for approximately three min-

utes before the object accelerated away from the plane and out of view. There was no reported engine noise or any vapour trail.

The sighting represents a physical craft of enormous size operating in the skies above wartime Europe three years before the 'flying saucer' phrase was coined and long before the term UFO was in use.

Ronald Claridge DFC was the radio/radar operator involved in the sighting and his description of the object is telling.

"The lights were circular, rather like portholes in a ship. The colour was a very bright yellow changing to intense white. My estimate was that they were about 1000 yards from our aeroplane. The ones nearest our Lancaster were the largest and brightest; they stretched fore and aft to what seemed



Source - Ronald Claridge DFC courtesy of David Clarke and Andy Roberts

STATED CASE NUMBER TWO - Photographic

It will surprise few that in this category I would put forward the McMinnville photographs as the best photographic evidence to date of a genuine UFO caught on film.

- 19.14 hours on 11 May 1950
- Farmer Paul Trent
- Location: McMinnville, Oregon, USA, Photos 1 and 2

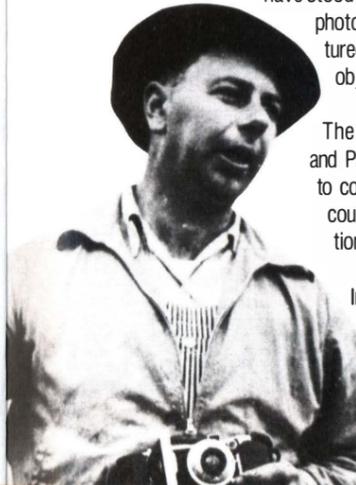
Taken on 11 May 1950 by farmer Paul Trent at 1914 hours at his farm in McMinnville, Oregon, USA, the photographs clearly depict a structured flying object.

The two photographs, taken only seconds apart, provide information that suggests that the object was a disc shaped aerial platform of between 40 and 30 feet in diameter.

Trent, who was with his wife at the time of the sighting, stated that there was no sound emitted by the object as it flew by.

The two photographs (pictured) have been examined by experts from around the world and

have stood the test of time. The photographs *have* captured a disc shaped object on film.



The Condon Committee and Project Blue Book had to concede that they could offer no explanation for the object.

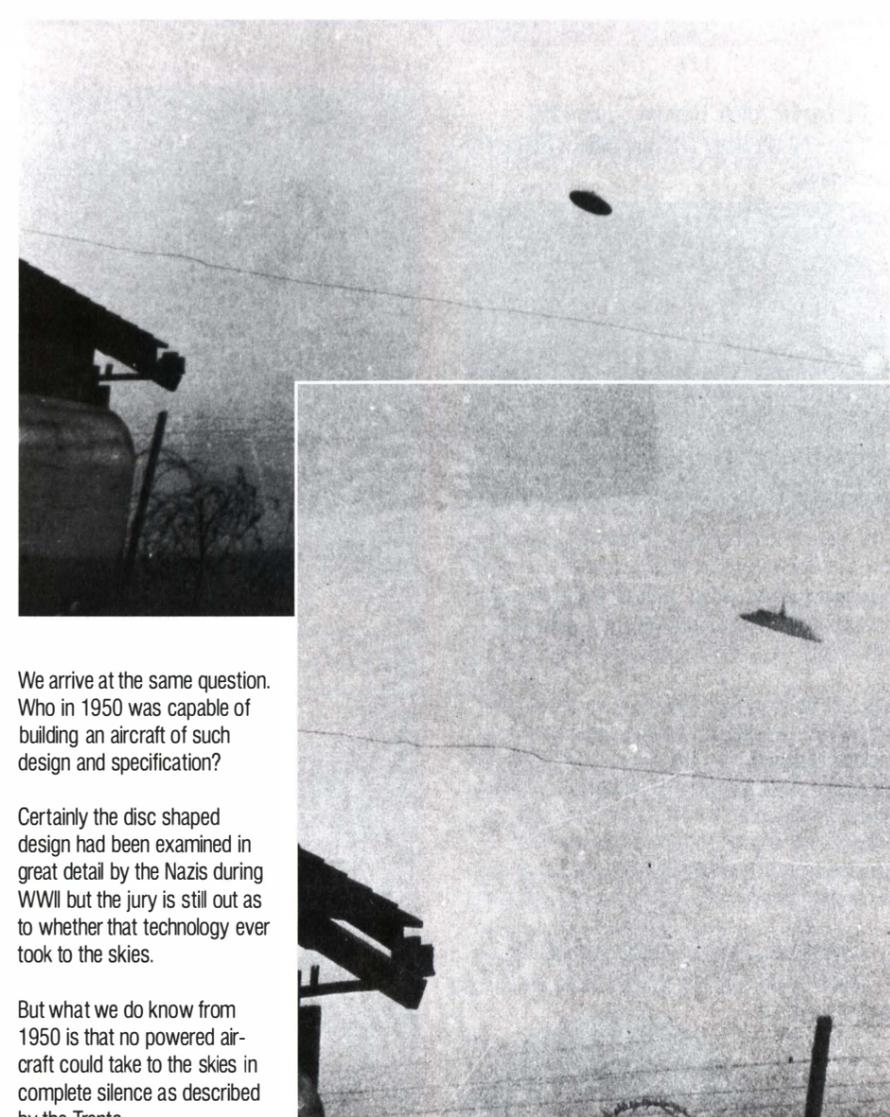
In determining what this object was we must use the same criteria which were applied to the 1944 sighting.

infinity. After about thirty seconds I could see they were part of an enormous disc."

Later he said, *"That this was not of this world was certain."* Claridge painted a picture (left) which clearly illustrates that the object was indeed a craft of some kind.

When the plane landed the incident was immediately reported and each of the crew was interviewed about the sighting. Interestingly, all were instructed not to say anything to anyone else and more significantly, they weren't to record the encounter in their log books.

Clarke and Roberts are to be applauded for their diligent work in uncovering these files, yet, for all their great efforts, I still have not seen either one come out and support this case as evidence of ET. This case is either genuine or the crew of eight were responsible for perpetrating a hoax, it is as simple as that. You can't have it both ways.



We arrive at the same question. Who in 1950 was capable of building an aircraft of such design and specification?

Certainly the disc shaped design had been examined in great detail by the Nazis during WWII but the jury is still out as to whether that technology ever took to the skies.

But what we do know from 1950 is that no powered aircraft could take to the skies in complete silence as described by the Trents.

I believe that the Trent photographs should be held up by Ufologists and enthusiasts alike to counter the sceptic who asserts that there has never been a photograph that holds up to scrutiny.

Given that it was wartime and early aircraft recognition was of paramount importance (because their lives depended on it) and given that it was before the era of UFOs and flying saucers, you are left with only one logical answer - that it was a real and accurately described experience by a group of witnesses of the highest credibility.

If that is the case then what was this huge aircraft?

It dwarfed the Lancaster many times over (note the Lancaster was one of the largest aircraft in the world in 1944) and was of a circular disc shape. Was there any military power capable of building an aircraft of such size and design in 1944? The answer is overwhelmingly 'No!'

So if mankind wasn't able to build that disc someone else had to and that takes it toward the ET hypothesis as the only logical answer.

STATED CASE NUMBER THREE - Film and Video

- Great Falls, Montana, USA on 15 August 1950
- Taken by Nicholas Mariana on 16mm



The case for genuine UFOs caught on moving film is just as compelling. In May 1950 two objects were captured streaking across the daylight sky in Great Falls, Montana.

The footage has been analysed the world over. Even the sceptical Condon Committee had to conclude that the objects were real, self luminous and travelling anywhere from 1000 - 2000 mph. Not bad for 1950!

After a detailed examination of the film, Blue Book could not find a conventional explanation for the objects.

Simply labelling them 'unexplained' or 'unknown' will not do - it is a cop out. If the conventional explanation doesn't fit we should be open to examine the unconventional theory. If you apply that logic we are once again left with only one plausible explanation - the objects displayed flight characteristics beyond the technological capabilities of the era. ▶

- Tremonton, Utah, USA on 2 July 1952
- Taken by US Navy Warrant Officer Delbert C Newhouse

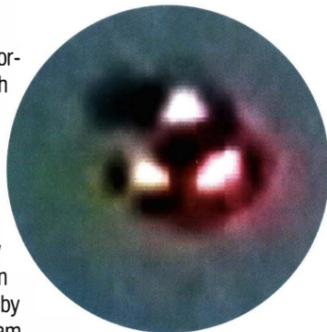


This piece of footage has defied rational explanation for over fifty years. It has been examined extensively and everyone has had to conclude that the objects caught on film were not aircraft, birds, helicopters etc.

Yet over the years there have been several excellent video/films showing very similar groupings of objects clustered in the sky. During the 80s and 90s a number of sequences were recorded over Mexico that mirrored closely the Tremonton footage of 1950. More recently the Anthony Woods 'fleet' footage over Portsmouth, England, merits more than a passing resemblance to the footage at Tremonton.

- Portsmouth, England, 1999 onwards
- Taken by US Anthony Woods using a camcorder

I have been fortunate enough to have been involved in the making of *The Journey* - a documentary feature written and narrated by the late Graham Birdsall and put together by his right hand man, Russ Callaghan. Two 'fleet' sequences recorded by Anthony Woods mirror the sightings listed above: white spheres set against blue daylight skies that appear to move independently of each other.



What Anthony Woods has captured on film is nothing short of sensational. He has filmed a variety of objects which clearly do not fit any known aircraft etc. In one particular sequence lasting over four minutes an unconventional aerial craft can be seen operating over the skies of Britain. Known as the 'Big Red', the object's movement, shape and flight characteristics appear to defy all logical explanation.

I recently showed the Woods footage to a senior reporter of a leading national daily newspaper and he was very impressed and totally mystified as to what the object could be. He agreed that the UFO sequence was newsworthy and that it should be broadcast throughout the world as a news feature. To date that newspaper is choosing to sit on this story.

STATED CASE NUMBER FOUR - Best Physical Evidence

In police terms 'evidence' can come in a variety of forms. They are referred to as 'real' and 'documentary' evidence. Real evidence is the knife, the gun etc. but it can also be the CCTV tape, camcorder footage and radar/data tape.

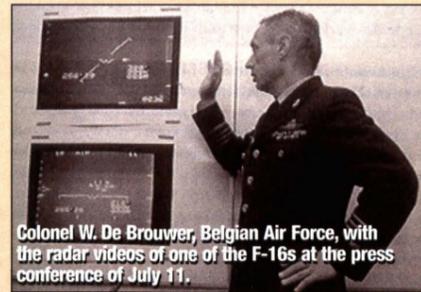
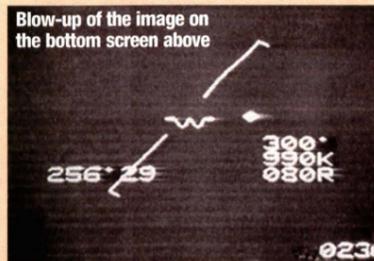
On 31 March 1990 across the skies of Belgium a triangular UFO was widely reported by the police and public alike. The object was recorded and tracked by three independent radar stations. As a result two F16 fighter aircraft were sent to investigate and intercept the UFO.

During the course of that attempted interception one of the aircraft recorded several of its cockpit instruments.

One of these instruments went on to capture what is in my opinion the best piece of physical (real) evidence yet to show an extraterrestrial vehicle in our skies.

The footage recorded a manoeuvre that is beyond the human envelope in terms of machine and body. The UFO is seen to drop 9500 feet in just under five seconds before disappearing at speed. Although the pilots did not get a visual themselves, the object was recorded for posterity on their cockpit radar and instrumentation.

The then Chief of Operations for the Belgium Air Force, Colonel Wilfried De Brouwer, was so moved that he called a press conference where he aired the relevant footage. His words are telling:



Colonel W. De Brouwer, Belgian Air Force, with the radar videos of one of the F-16s at the press conference of July 11.

"The (Belgium) Air Force has arrived at the conclusion that a certain number of anomalous phenomena has been produced within Belgian airspace. The numerous testimonies of ground observations reinforced by the (Air Force) reports of the night of March 30-31 (1990 F16s and Radar recordings), have led us to face the hypothesis that a certain number of unauthorized aerial activities have taken place. The day will come undoubtedly when the phenomenon will be observed with technological means of detection and collection that won't leave a single doubt about its origin."

"This should lift a part of the veil that has covered the UFO mystery for a long time; a mystery that continues to the present. But it exists, it is real, and that in itself is an important conclusion."

These comments reflect, in all but name a direct admission that the object being referred to was a genuine UFO.

The cockpit recording of the UFOs extraordinary manoeuvre rules out the stealth argument once and for all and when you think about it, why would the United States (the only country capable of producing Stealth) want to over fly Belgium, an allied member of NATO when it could fly at will above the skies of the US?

STATED CASE NUMBER FIVE - Rendlesham Forest 1980 'Actual Contact'

Once again this case will not come as a surprise to the genuine UFO enthusiast. What happened at Rendlesham is arguably the best case of ACTUAL CONTACT WITH ET that is in the public domain. I believe the case to be more 'evidential' than even Roswell.

Significantly, over Roswell this case has a number of actual documents to support the assertion that something of great importance took place over the 1980 Christmas period.

At the heart of that evidence is the famous 'Halt Memorandum'.

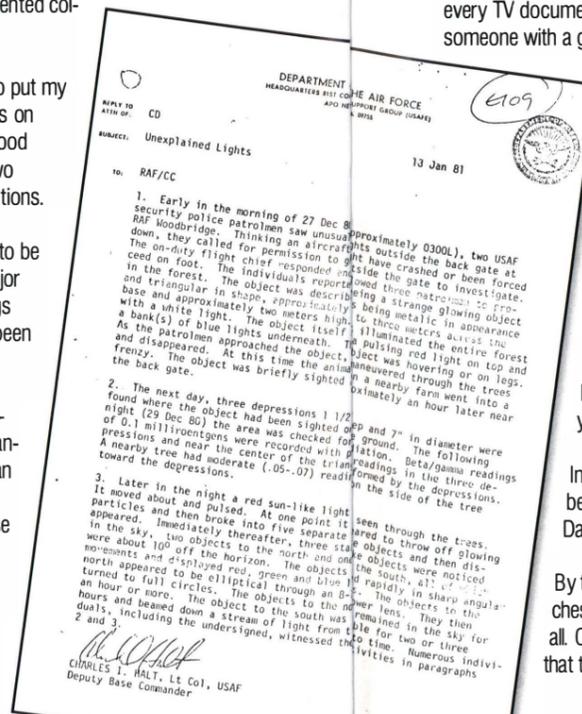
If this were a police enquiry that would be my starting point in the investigation. For in that document we get testimony from Halt, the Deputy Base Commander, who confirms that he saw several UFOs in the forest. At one point he describes how a single UFO divided into five parts and later that one of the objects shone a beam of light down to the ground in front of him.

Sadly the media has played a large part in playing this case down. Rarely are all the military witnesses interviewed and presented collectively.

I have long wanted to put my Rendlesham thoughts on paper and this is a good opportunity to nail two common misconceptions.

If these events were to be rerun as a police major incident several things would have quickly been established.

Based on Halt's testimony in the memorandum he highlighted an earlier landing of a UFO and gave precise descriptions of an object seen by one of his men (Penniston).



Vince Thurkettle, a local forestry worker, has long been held up by sceptics, and since then just about every TV documentary made about the incident has someone with a good theory for what caused the triangular markings at the alleged landing site. His assertion that the marks were caused by animals would have been dismissed out of hand because the 'evidence' in chief, i.e. the Halt memorandum was clear about the cause. It was not open to speculation. The animal theory does not equate to the known facts of the case yet the media has allowed this theory to be a valid scenario for over twenty years!

In an incident room it would have been filed as 'unused material' on Day One of the investigation.

By the same token the second old chestnut should be buried once and for all. On many occasions Halt has stated that the UFOs he witnessed were not

the lights of the Orfordness Lighthouse yet for over twenty years people who were not present on the nights in question have gone to great lengths to say that the numerous military witnesses were somehow duped by the 'strange' beams emitted from it.

Once again from a police major incident point of view this would have been consigned to the 'unused material' file on Day One. The lighthouse theory does not match the testimonies of the people *who were there*, not least Halt and Sgt Jim Penniston who describe movements close at hand in the forest and in Halt's case he observed one of the UFOs divide into five objects. In addition Halt asserts that he and his team of men were out in the forest for over four hours!



If it had been the lighthouse they would have discovered the source within an hour at most as this is the time it would take to walk to a position where the location of the lighthouse could have been verified.

Throughout all the intervening years Halt has steadfastly maintained that what he saw was truly extraordinary and appeared to be intelligently controlled. The lighthouse theory does not hold water based on the testimony of Halt and others.

In 2003 Halt and Penniston were reunited for a documentary (aired UK 09/01/04 on Sky One) when they returned to the Bentwaters base. That visit resulted in at least two pieces of 'new' evidence coming to light.

Firstly, for the first time Halt has gone public with the revelation that one of the UFOs shone a beam of light down to the actual nuclear weapons storage area.

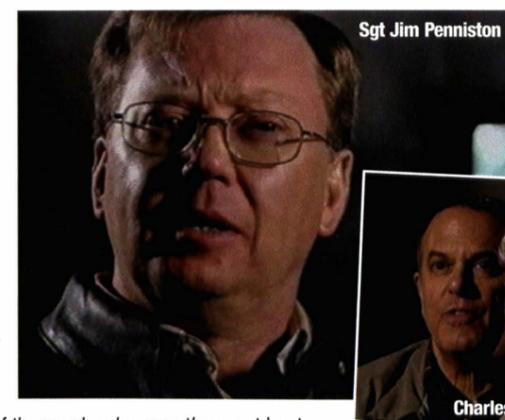
Secondly, when Penniston took Halt to the place where he said he saw and touched a landed UFO, Halt maintained that he had been taken to a different landing site!

Significantly, at the end of the show, Halt stated that he believed that at least two of his men had been interrogated at great length using somewhat 'inappropriate' methods by members of the intelligence community.

There is one other piece of information that I believe has relevancy. During my service in the Royal Air Force I was stationed at two nuclear bases - RAF HONINGTON in Suffolk and RAF LAARBRUCH in what was West Germany (between 1983 and 1988).

The design of the nuclear weapon storage areas was almost identical to that of the one at Bentwaters.

For around three years I was employed to protect those nuclear facilities as a Royal Air Force police officer. I was the exact equivalent of Halt and his men.



The supplementary storage areas had at least one high vantage watch tower. That tower would almost certainly have had a view over the tops of the forest. It would have been manned by at least one US security police officer.

The tower would have held an elaborate plan of the entire compound because it would be from that location that any breach in the perimeter fencing would be detected.

The tower was a key area of the compound because of its elevated vantage point. If something had been in

the woods outside the perimeter and close to the base and the storage area, the officer on duty would have seen the UFOs. British towers were equipped with binoculars so it is likely that the US Air Force did likewise. However, such a tower is rarely mentioned in any discussion of this case.

There is also another key area that to my knowledge has never been raised. From my experience of those storage facilities a security police officer would have been responsible per shift for maintaining a 'Daily Occurrence Book'. Anything seen in the woods over the Christmas period that was close to the storage area would have merited an entry in that book.

This book is not to be confused with the Base Security Daily Occurrence Book that would have been compiled by security police officers who were not employed in the storage area.

I can only speak from a British perspective but the 'Station RAF Police' were almost a separate entity to those who were employed on the SSA (Supplementary Storage Area). During the period of the Cold War, RAF policemen were also employed in other types of storage area known as QRAs (Quick Reaction Alert). These sites would contain a number of aircraft permanently nuclear armed, ready to respond to a threat within minutes. These areas would be protected by RAF police officers pooled and resourced from the main SSA contingent.

What I am getting at is that I suspect that there are other officers who witnessed the events over Rendlesham Forest that have never been identified. Certainly the officer in the watchtower is a likely candidate. As detailed above there are grounds for believing that further documents containing information about the UFOs did or do exist. Finally I suspect that many more security officer pocket notebooks contained information about the lights. As is likely with our American counterparts, RAF police officers were handed individual pocket books to maintain on a daily basis. Any event of note would have been recorded within them. Do they exist now I wonder?

Conclusions

I believe the Rendlesham Forest incident represents the best case yet for direct contact with an extraterrestrial object (that is in the public domain). In listing these and the other 'stated cases' I have tried to put forward incidents that defy conventional explanation. I believe that if they were consistently used to rebut sceptical generalisations the message to the public at large would increase dramatically.

If Ufology is ever to break out from its present pigeonholed standing in the world, we as researchers and enthusiasts alike will have to speak with clear voices to get the message across to a wider audience.

No doubt other people will favour their own particular sightings for being adopted as 'stated cases' but the same principle applies - that we already have a wealth of compelling circumstantial evidence. Let's put it collectively and consistently to constructive use.

Gary Heseltine, The PRUFOS Police Database



Similar Phenomenon Photographed Almost 40 Years Apart

By Russel Callaghan

In our February issue we featured some strange images that appeared on NASA's website showing an unusual 'smoke ring' - taken at the 2001 Cleveland Air Show.

NASA captioned these images as 'special effect over air show' and 'strange effect left by airship'.

Having read the short feature and seen the images Bob Tibbitts was prompted into contacting me at *UFO Magazine*.

Having introduced himself he went on to describe a UFO sighting that he had shared some 45 years ago with a friend and the friend's father:

"At the age of 9 (1959) myself, a friend and his father saw a round object hovering above our heads, it looked much like a Chinese lantern, ruby red in colour, glowing steadily and divided into segments by black areas and had a large black central hole.

"None of us remember the craft leaving but my friend's father said he had seen something very similar while serving in the WW2 on an aircraft carrier. He said, 'The thing shot up from under the sea and sped skywards.' (I wonder if this could be corroborated, as there can't be many aircraft carriers used during the Second World War?)

"Our sighting took place on 5 November 1959, and that is why we were all outside that night. I know that this was no firework, it was nothing like any firework I have ever seen. The object was about the size of a sixpence held at arm's length and totally silent."

After describing this UFO incident (which to me sounds very similar to the object (Fig 1) captured on film

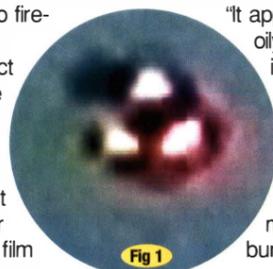


Fig 1

by Anthony Woods and featured in our DVD and Video documentary *The Journey*), Bob went on to explain how the smoke ring that appeared on NASA's website was surprisingly similar to the smoke effects photographed in two historical UFO cases.

Firstly, the image shown in Fig 2, taken on an old Polaroid camera, is one of two photographed by Rex Heflin on 3 August 1965 at 11.30am in Orange County, California.

Long suspected a hoax, Bob considers that Heflin may have seen this 'smoke effect' (Fig 3) first and photographed it prior to hoaxing the 'Hubcap Classic' (Fig 2).

The second incident Bob refers took place a little nearer home.

Carl Robbins, a freelance photographer, had taken some photographs (Figs 4 and 5) at 9.10 pm on 18 June 1969 at Bordesley Green, Birmingham. Bob interviewed the photographer for a book project and Carl made the following statement:

"I was driving along Charles Road, Bordesley Green, Birmingham, on the 18th June, 1969 at approximately 9.10pm, when a huge ring of smoke came into view ahead of me. It was almost a perfect circle as it slowly rolled over in the sky, like a large rubber band. At a very rough estimate I would say that the ring was about 50ft in diameter.

"It appeared as a thick ring of black, oily smoke, having some sort of inner cord, around which it was burning. There were three equally spaced lumps around the ring which appeared to be burning a little more fiercely than the rest. After about five minutes the smoke started to burn away from one of these

Fig 2

Fig 3



lumps in each direction towards the next. Then the smoke between these last two lumps burned away, leaving a thin ring of what appeared to be smoke or gas. This reminded me of some sort of fuse burning down. The thin ring remained for another three or four minutes with smoke still lingering around the three lumps. Then the whole lot faded away."

"Some people who had seen the smoke ring thought it may have been caused by a fire. However, a spokesman for Birmingham Fire and Ambulance Service said that it had not dealt with any fires in the Bordesley Green area that night.

"Prof. John Fremlin, of Applied Radioactivity at Birmingham University, said that it was difficult to establish what it had been. An official at the Birmingham Airport Meteorological Office said that he could not think of any natural reason nor could he put forward any theories for he had never known anything like it before."

Bob asked Carl over the telephone if he had noticed any form of air vehicle in the sky beforehand, but he said that he, nor anyone else, had any previous cause to look towards the sky, but there could have been a UFO flying above, un-noticed.

Subsequently, William Turner wrote to *UFO Magazine* with these interesting comments (the letter in full is included under CORRESPONDENCE, page 78):

"Regarding page 25 of the latest issue: the 'smoke rings' photos. I have seen these many times at air shows (most often at the CAF - Commemorative Air Force displays in Texas). The smoke-rings are caused by 'pyrotechnics' being exploded - to simulate bombs being dropped!

"Depending on the manner of explosive and container in use, the smoke rings are seen at some UK displays, but ours are often less spectacular than the US versions! I know of no connection with an airship in the photo."

TO CONCLUDE:

We refer to individual events, happening in different parts of the world, and almost forty years apart (1959, 1965, 1969, 2001) with similarities linking each to the other.

The air display pyrotechnics are a very possible cause of the smoke but as far as researchers are aware Rex Heflin was not in the vicinity of any air show and it is unlikely that Carl Robbins was taking photographs of air display remnants at ten past nine on a summer's evening.

It seems that strange events can be filmed very many years apart and bear a striking resemblance to each other and the researchers and investigators still come up with as many negative arguments as what something might be as there are positive.

Russel Callaghan

Fig 4



Carl Robbins, a freelance photographer took these photographs on 18 June, 1969 at 9.10 pm at Bordesley Green in Birmingham

Fig 5



The Rendlesham Experience



Russel Callaghan writes:

Recently the BBC produced an interesting documentary about the incidents of Christmas 1980 entitled *Britain's Closest Encounter*. Both Brenda Butler and Dot Street took part in the programme and with author Jenny Randles relived the events of just over 23 years ago.

There is little doubt that if the women had not pursued their suspicions and beliefs then perhaps Rendlesham would have remained secret for many more years than it did.

For those who saw the documentary, they may recall Brenda's closing comments: "It's in my body and I just can't get it out. As soon as I try to forget about it, it's there. I tried to give it up some years ago and word soon got round the UFO community 'oh she's not doing it anymore'."

"That lasted for about a fortnight. I got straight back into it, mainly because Col. Halt started writing to me. I wrote back and that really drove me on."

For many who experience the UFO subject at first hand, there is no dropping out or backing off. I speak from experience. It was around the time of the Rendlesham incident that I observed the craft that convinced me that this subject is about real nuts and bolts machinery. I tell my lecture audiences that if you think you've seen a UFO you're probably not mistaken because, from my experience, once you have seen a UFO you know you've seen one.

Dot Street let go of the Rendlesham Forest incident back in 1987 to spend time with her children but Brenda still pursues the UFO and alien phenomenon.

Back in the winter of 1980 Brenda Butler and her friend Dot Street stumbled across rumours suggesting something had happened at the twin US Air Force bases at Woodbridge and Bentwaters in the Rendlesham Forest area of Suffolk, south-east England. With the help of others it was eventually discovered that the deputy commander of the base, Col. Charles Halt, had officially written up the alleged UFO encounters and, through the United States freedom of information act, a document known as the 'Halt Memo' came into the public domain. The Rendlesham Forest Incident became firmly placed in the UFO history books.



Brenda Butler, Jenny Randles and Dot Street - Circa 1983

Brenda explains: "For 23 years my life has been Rendlesham, I go down to the Forest two or three times a week. When you are walking through the trees you feel part of the Forest. It's very special because of the contact we get down there. We have actually seen ETs; we call them visitors now because that's what they require to be called. It's just magical, it really is. If people don't believe what my friends and I have experienced we tell them to come down here, we will take you around this very special place."

Brenda, along with Peter Parish and retired police officer John Hanson, has documented many strange happenings in the forest at Rendlesham and, like professional photographer Paul France, they have not only captured the events on camera but have seen something with the naked eye.

But it was John Hanson who contacted *UFO Magazine* and sent us the following account replete with images.

John Hanson's report

I thought it was time to let readers know that during frequent visits to Rendlesham Forest, in the company of my friend Brenda Butler and her companion Peter Parish, many strange things have occurred.

One cannot fully describe the feelings of excitement that surge through the body in a range of emotions when you actually see this phenomenon, which appears as football sized globes hovering quietly a few feet off the forest floor, unless you've been there and experienced the phenomenon for yourself.

Whatever these objects are, they appear to have a willingness to reveal themselves (when trapped in the flash of a digital camera) in much greater numbers to those who already believe in their reality.

There are many out there who sceptically believe that this phenomenon can be explained away as nothing more than water droplets, pollen, moisture on the lens, etc. etc.

Despite our many visits to this spectacular area of natural beauty, nothing can capture the excitement experienced in the presence of a great swathe of 'Orbs' or the feeling as they brush across one's face and legs. Walk through the forest at night and subsequently see the amazing results on the photographs as dozens of



Section cropped out and enhanced

'Flying saucer' unseen by the observers, and highly unusual, this tiny UFO was only a matter of a few yards away, when it was caught in the illumination of the flash



Enhanced copy of the original showing more detail

'Orbs' blot out facial features and background. Sometimes in complete contrast you're lucky to catch a solitary 'Orb'.

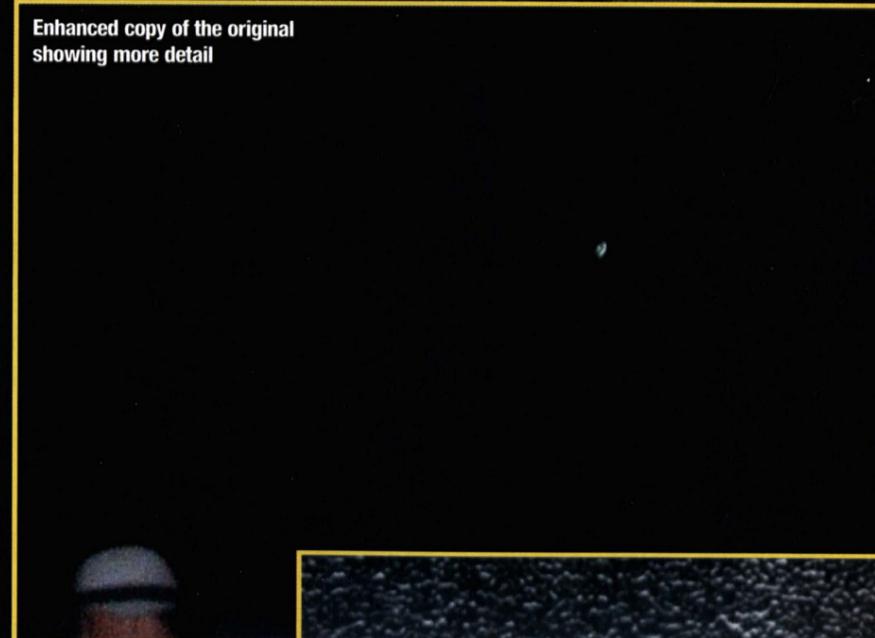
Why this is so one can't be sure, but in our experience loud sounds and bright lights appear to minimise the likelihood of capturing this strange phenomenon on film.

Many doubters suspect that the electronics and image recording systems of digital cameras are responsible for causing these 'effects' on digital film exclusively.

This thankfully is not the case. Brenda Butler has been coming to the forest for many years and she has in her possession numerous 35mm photos showing identical effects, taken prior to the 'digital revolution'.

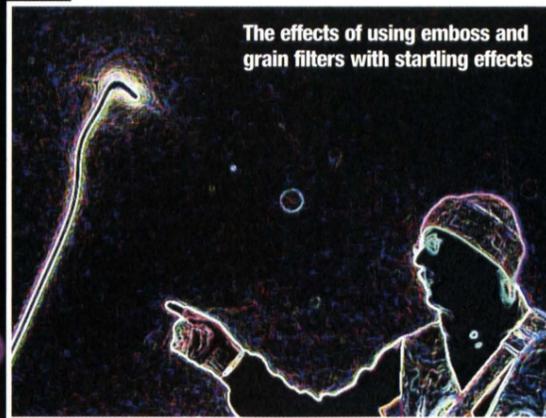
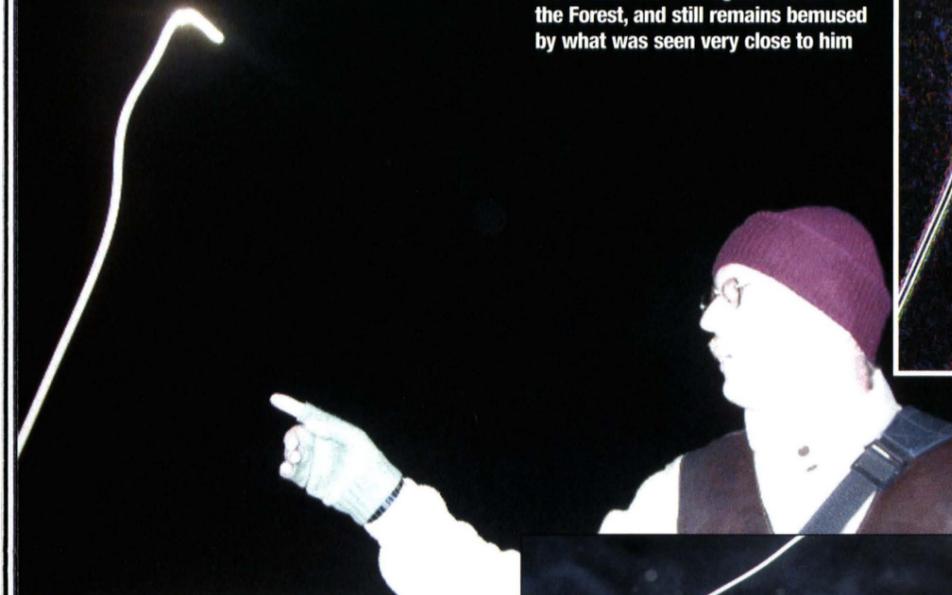
There is no doubt that from the results of our research, we believe Brenda is the 'key' or 'trigger' to this phenomenon. Whether this is the result of some form of personal interaction with unseen energies, which appear localised to the area, or her innumerable visits to the Forest over the years, can only be a matter of speculation.

Strangely, we have seen with our own eyes the many photographs taken by Brenda showing double exposures but,



A bas relief filter, induced to show more detail

Terry from Bexleyheath, a veteran UFO researcher. He is a regular visitor to the Forest, and still remains bemused by what was seen very close to him



The effects of using emboss and grain filters with startling effects

even more extraordinarily, some photographs show fragmented images which are rather disconcerting to the eye.

It also seems strange that when Brenda takes images at the same time as others she seems far more likely to capture 'Orbs' in her images. There were also occasions when Brenda was standing next to someone with a camera taking almost the identical shot. When viewing the images from both cameras, Brenda's has 'Orbs', the other has none.

A few months ago there was a subtle change in what was being captured on camera. Instead of 'Orbs' Brenda began



A background of 'Orbs' and a 'streamer' of light taken close to the runway at Woodbridge air base opposite track 10

to capture numerous photos of what she referred to as 'streamers'. These 'streamers' have the appearance of glowing lines of colour sweeping across the ground in front of her weaving in and out just above the forest floor.



Below: A golden ball of light unseen by human eyes, but caught in the illumination of the digital flash, apparently just over Brenda's dog Mason



A spectacular streak of orange light descending close to Mason

UFO Magazine Comment

The testimony of the US Airman involved in the UFO incident back in 1980 draws reference to lights in the forest and beams of light being shone down through the trees; could this be the same 'Orbs' phenomenon experienced some 23 years later?

It has also been suggested that the fast moving luminosities are in fact part of the moth-balled base security originating from inside the airbase itself; this seems unlikely.

Whatever Brenda and her friends are experiencing in Rendlesham Forest appears to be very real. Some may suggest the photographs are merely images of a light source i.e. a match or torch taken on a very slow or open shutter speed creating the impression of movement. Photographs such as this have to be set up on a tripod and the only way a light source could get into the picture would be by putting it there, for instance throwing a lighted match across the camera lens, but surely the photographer would be aware of such an action.

This would also suggest that the photograph had been manufactured. If the photograph were taken hand held with a slow shutter speed then any movement would have shown. The resulting image would be well out of focus and visible shake would be obvious. This is not present in the 'streamer' photographs.

I suspect the photographs show real events as described by Brenda, Peter and John who, I believe, have no reason whatsoever to be nothing more than truthful in their accounts of strange happenings in Rendlesham Forest.

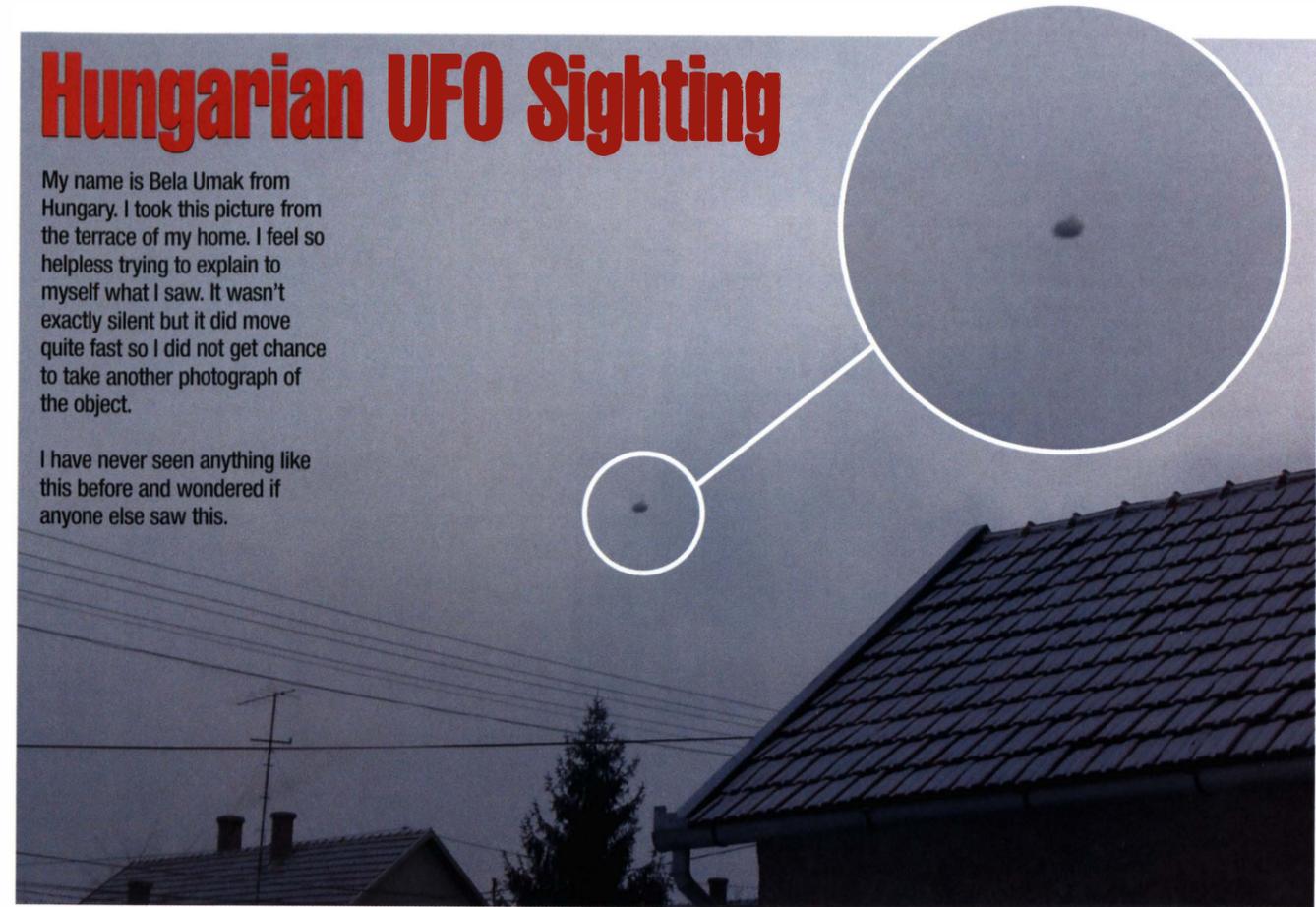
Out of all the hundreds of fantastic photographs they have taken, Brenda, Peter and John have selected what they consider to be the most thought provoking and intriguing examples. They are published here for the first time.

John Hanson can be contacted via the following
Email address: Holloway1947@hotmail.com
Or by writing to 31, Red Lion St, Alvechurch, Worcestershire B487LG

Hungarian UFO Sighting

My name is Bela Umak from Hungary. I took this picture from the terrace of my home. I feel so helpless trying to explain to myself what I saw. It wasn't exactly silent but it did move quite fast so I did not get chance to take another photograph of the object.

I have never seen anything like this before and wondered if anyone else saw this.



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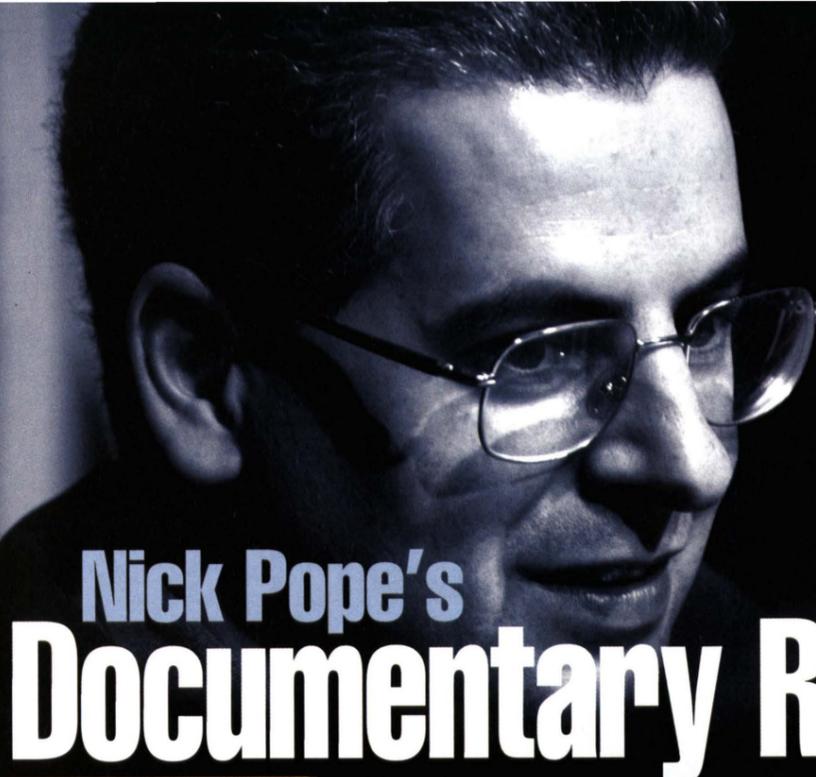
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DATE	SPEAKER	TITLE
Saturday February 28th	Ron Pearson	Survival Physics: Life After Death
Saturday March 27th	Nigel Wright & Robert Snow	UFOs, Black Cats & All That Jazz
Saturday April 24th	Natalie Osbourne Thomason	Ghosthunting From A Physics Perspective
Saturday May 29th	Professor Chris French	Many Happy Returns: Reincarnation Claims In The Lebanon
Saturday June 26th	Andy Thomas	The Crop Circle Mystery
Saturday July 31st	Philip Mantle	The Alien Autopsy
Saturday August 28th	Nick Pope	Inside The Project
Saturday September 25th	Brenda Butler	A Paranormal Journey Through Rendlesham Forest 1980-2003
Saturday October 30th	Jane McCarthy	Spirit Paranormal Photography
Saturday November 27th	Reg Presley	Wild Things They Don't Tell Us
Saturday December 18th	Mark Bennett	UFOs: The Spiritual Dimension



Nick Pope's Documentary Reviews

On Friday 9 January BBC2's *Timewatch* series screened a UFO documentary. I offer the following comments by way of a review.

Overall, I thought the show was pretty good. The BBC team did a great job of presenting a wide range of material, and didn't seem to have the agenda that sometimes spoils UFO documentaries.

Michael Wadding, who directed and produced the show for *Timewatch*, let the various witnesses and commentators have their say, but kept editorial opinions to a minimum, leaving viewers to make up their own minds.

Little of the material will have been new to members of this list. The show covered the setting up of the *Flying Saucer Working Party*, Winston Churchill's memo on UFOs, and the 1952 sighting involving RAF pilot Michael Swiney and his Royal Navy student David Crofts.

The West Malling incident from 1953 was featured (a sighting by RAF aircrew Terry Johnson and Geoffrey Smythe), as was the wave of 'flying cross' sightings from 1967, including the incident involving two police constables, Clifford Waycott and Roger Willey. Interest expressed by the Duke of Edinburgh and Earl

Mountbatten was highlighted, and the saga of royal equerry Sir Peter Horsley and his extraordinary meeting with the mysterious 'Mr Janus' was also featured. Much of this material will be familiar to many ufologists, and has been featured previously in books such as Timothy Good's *Above Top Secret*. I do not say this as a criticism, because I thought it was well put together, and *Timewatch* will have brought the subject to a new audience. The interview with Mountbatten's daughter, Lady Pamela Hicks, was very interesting.

The Rendlesham Forest incident was covered briefly, but the main focus of the show was on sightings in the Fifties and Sixties, and the response to these on the part of the Ministry of Defence. I was interviewed about this, and had previously discussed the official policy with the *Timewatch* team.

Ufologists were hardly featured; Dave Clarke and Andy Roberts appeared, and there was some decidedly odd footage of somebody who claimed to be speaking Venusian, some material on LSD, and 'alien babies'; but for the most part, this was a show that highlighted the testimony of the witnesses, and allowed them to tell the stories of their respective encounters. Their quiet dignity shone through.

Nick Pope, as most of you will be aware works for the Ministry of Defence. In the early 1990s he was in charge of the Ministry's office that handled UFO reports, Air (SEC 2A). Since then Nick has always been happy to oblige film makers and researchers with his own personal views of the subject, and discuss where possible his experiences during his term of office within the department.

There haven't been too many serious looks at the UFO subject documented on film that haven't included comments from Nick.

Recently the Sci-Fi channel's *UFO Invasion at Rendlesham* was aired by SKY One in the UK, and the BBC's *Timewatch* was aired on UK terrestrial and satellite television. Nick was interviewed for both programmes and here he shares his thoughts on the final products that were presented to the viewing public.

Social and cultural historians appeared too, and it was interesting to hear their views on how the UFO phenomenon tied in with popular culture, such as science fiction, the Cold War and the space programme.

What impressed me most about the *Timewatch* team was their thoroughness. My main contact was the associate producer, Lisa Charles, and I remember in particular a conversation we had about the percentage of UFO sightings that remained unexplained.

She'd heard ufologists bandy about various figures, but wanted to know whether any of these could be backed up by official statistics and public statements. I sent her copies of

various MOD letters and Hansard extracts in which such figures were given, cross-referenced with US statistics from Project Blue Book. We got into an interesting discussion about the (sometimes difficult) process of deciding whether to categorise a sighting as "unknown" or "insufficient data".

Ironically, this was never used; but its an interesting insight into *Timewatch's* professionalism.

Overall I think this was a worthwhile programme. While it will not have been to everyone's liking, the important point, it seems to me, is that it was made at all. It is not often that one sees one of the BBC's flagship history programmes tackle this subject.

©Nick Pope

UFO INVASION AT RENDLESHAM

I've now seen the Sci-Fi Channel's documentary *UFO Invasion at Rendlesham*, and thought I'd offer a few comments, primarily for those in the UK, where it hasn't yet been shown.

Overall I thought it was very good, not least for the obvious reason that the length of the show allowed more material to be presented in more depth than would have been the case with a shorter documentary.

The producers used two main consultants, thanked in the credits: Georgina Bruni and Peter Robbins. Accordingly, the documentary drew heavily on material published in *You Can't Tell The People* and *Left At East Gate*. However, that's not to say that there wasn't a lot of new material presented. After a brief overview, I'll focus on this new material, and what I see as the key points.

Georgina Bruni and Peter Robbins were featured through

out the documentary, with other researchers such as Tim Good, Nick Redfern and Rich Dolan also offering comments. So far as USAF personnel were concerned, Halt and Penniston played the central role, with Larry Warren also being featured a lot. Gordon Williams, Monroe Nevels and Ray Gulyas gave what I believe to be their first television interviews, and Edward Cabansag was also featured a fair bit. Civilian witnesses included Gerry Harris, and Roy and Marina Webb. No official USAF or MOD spokesperson appeared, but Lord Hill-Norton and I were featured extensively in a private capacity, giving our personal views on the incident, the official investigation, and other relevant points. I picked out the following as new or interesting pieces of information:

Penniston said that Staff Sergeant John Coffey confirmed to him that an uncorrelated radar target had been tracked immediately prior to the first sighting.

With regard to the official USAF witness statements published in *You Can't Tell The People*, Penniston said that he sanitised his by choice. Cabansag stated that he was forced to sign his.

Penniston was filmed with his original notebook, on which he said he'd made notes and drawings at the time of his sighting. This merits further study. The sketch of the hieroglyphs, for example, is rawer than the more tidy version that appears in *You Can't Tell The People*.

Penniston, Nevels and Gulyas all said that photographs had been taken during the various sightings, but that they came back fogged.

Halt and Penniston disagreed over the location of the landing site, and then concluded that two separate locations were involved. Forester Vince Thurkettle (the original proponent of the lighthouse theory) confirmed that the lighthouse would not have been visible from this second site. That said, I wondered whether Halt or Penniston could really be certain about the locations so long after

the event, given that the forest has changed significantly, most notably as a result of tree loss during the so-called Great Storm of 1987, and subsequent replanting.

Halt went further than I've heard him go before in public on promoting the idea that some aggressive debriefings were carried out using chemicals and/or hypnosis, and that disinformation techniques were used.

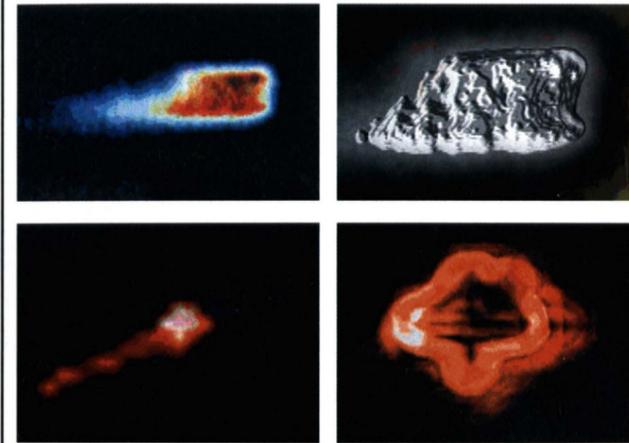
Penniston recalled (albeit under regression hypnosis) that two people he described as agents of either C8 or DS8 had been present during a debriefing involving an injection of Sodium Pentothal. I was then filmed explaining that Defence Secretariat 8 had been the Ministry of Defence's lead department on the UFO issue at the time. This division evolved into Secretariat(Air Staff), where I worked, so I was a little unhappy at the potential implication that my predecessors had engaged in such an activity. I should point out that it was public knowledge that the departmental lead for investigating UFO sightings lay with DS8.

A few quibbles; some dates were wrong, including (crucially) the dates of the incidents themselves, and the date that the MOD released documents from the files on the incidents. An interesting initiative involving environmental scientist Patrick Davison checking the landing site for radiation fizzled out, possibly because of confusion over the locations. And the point about the then C in C USAFE (United States Air Force Europe) General Charles A. Gabriel (who died on September 4, 2003) being given the tape recordings wasn't really developed as thoroughly as it might have been. Overall, however, this was an excellent programme.

The end credits finished with the following poignant message: Dedicated to the memory of Graham W. Birdsall, Founder and Editor-in-Chief *UFO Magazine* (UK), 7th April 1954 - 19th September 2003. He will be remembered for his courage, sense of humour, drive, and countless contributions to the field.

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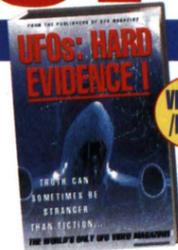
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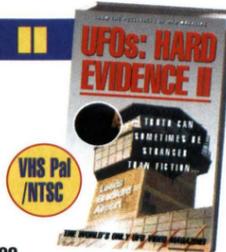
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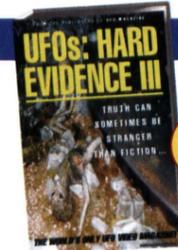
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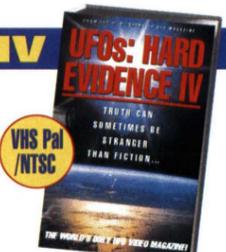
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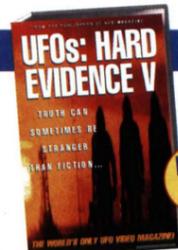
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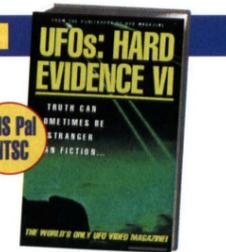
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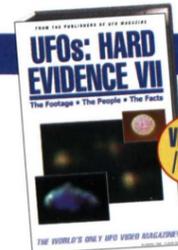
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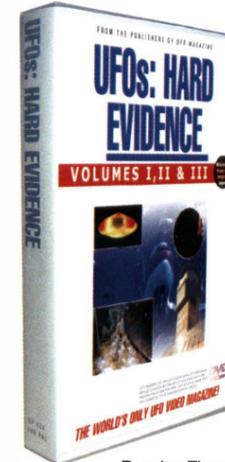
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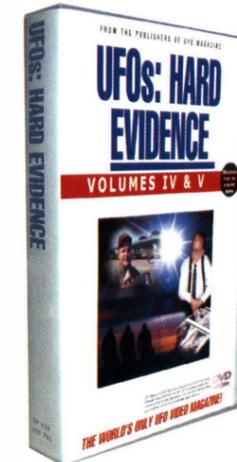
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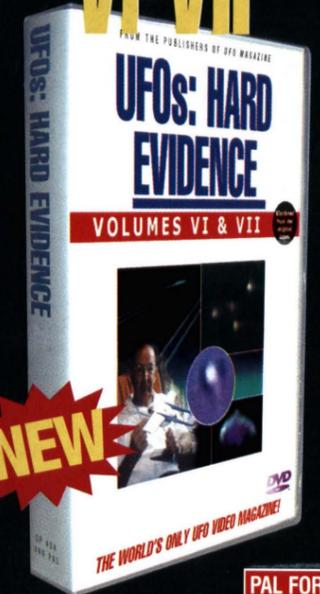
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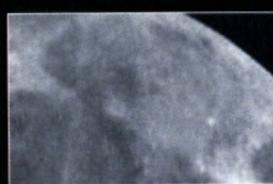
A Queen on the Edge of Serenity

The Tiny tale of the Lady on the Moon

In this month's issue of *UFO Magazine* I'd like to share with you my finding of a funny but intriguing (anomalous) pattern on the surface of the Moon. The anomaly is visible through an ordinary pair of binoculars and shows a striking resemblance with a human (lady) face. Let me put it more clearly: in my mind there's no doubt it's a trick of shadow and light, but the illusion is so beautiful and outstanding that I don't want you to miss it.

In addition there are some coincidences that make this story even stranger.

Here are the facts:



Notice the earring and curvature of hair-dress



Sunday 18 August 2002 was a relaxed and quiet summer day. In the evening I started testing a brand new pair of giant binoculars that had just arrived from the United States. With it came a solid tripod on which I mounted the glasses.

Christien was chattering with some neighbours in the yard and the kids were playing football.

It was a peaceful evening and I started observing the Moon, enjoying the crisp clear views of my new astronomical toy. After twenty minutes of intense observing, my mind slipped into a "meditative mode" and just seconds later, all of a sudden, it was there: 'The portrait of a Lady on the Moon'. My first impression was "foolish...this can't be". I closed my eyes, shook my head and tried again. No way to escape her; etched on the surface of the Moon was a Lady, so vivid and prominent that it knocked my socks off.

Moments later a name popped up in my head spontaneously "Lady Diana".

I tried to distinguish several other female VIPs in the image, such as Madonna, Barbara Streisand, Dusty Springfield and even Margaret Thatcher, but none of them matched.

Once I had labelled 'the lady' as Diana, all other possibilities, one way or another, seemed to fail.

Flabbergasted I sat back and waited for Christien to come in. When she finally did and listened to my story I saw her raising the eyebrows in a way only she can do.

"You're a lunatic," she whispered..." ooh my God...why did I marry such a weirdo?"

Once behind the glasses (it took quite some time to persuade her) and after a lot of pinpointing she finally had to admit I was right 'there was a lady on the Moon'.

Later that night I consulted several Moon atlases; the anomaly showed up in every photograph. I surfed the internet and visited hundreds of web pages, in search of someone else who had seen the same.

All in vain...it didn't show up, not even a trace of it. I did some digging into the history of the name 'Diana' and learned she was the Goddess of the Moon, the Roman counterpart of the Greek virgin Goddess Artemis: daughter of Zeus and Leto.

Diana: Goddess of the Moon. Wasn't that a first coincidence? Deeper digging into Apollo pics delivered another weird coincidence, confirmed by later observations. Just beneath 'the face', at five o'clock, appears a glyph.

The Glyph

Bet you know that the glyph is saying: "Dai" (see pic). But isn't that exactly how you write down "Di" phonetically? Things were getting more and more bizarre (what a joy).

Position of the glyph

- A quick summary:
1. There's a nearly perfect illusion of a human (lady) face on the moon.
 2. The first intuitive association: "Diana, Princess of Wales"
 3. First coincidence: Diana was a Roman Goddess of the Moon.
 4. Second coincidence: "the Dai glyph".

At that moment, all the bells were ringing. I sent Emails to Jessa Powell, *The Sun* and Mr. Al Fayed. "Why them?" Well...at that particular moment there was a lot of discussion going on in the UK about realising a monument for the late Lady Diana. None of them responded, so I decided to share this funny find with you, the readers of *UFO Magazine*.

Take your glasses and convince yourself (it's the only way to taste the quality of the image).

Carved on the surface of the Moon is the portrait of a lady. She stole the heart of millions around the world. Diana; a monument on the edge of forever.

Once you've seen 'the lady' yourself your perception of Luna will never be the same.



In conclusion:
An Unidentified Lady Object (ULO); a trick of shadow and light, but a beautiful one. Don't use a telescope; it will destroy the illusion, a pair of binoculars will do. Observe the illusion when the Moon is low on the horizon and a little bit fuzzy and orange.

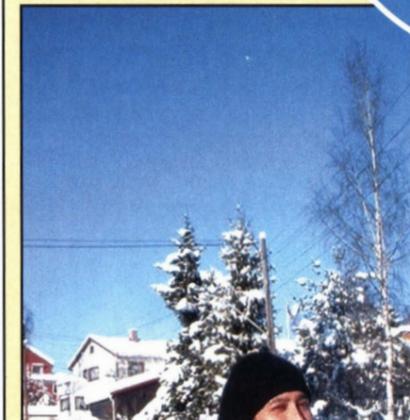
All the witches in the world will be happy; they finally have their own Diana in the Moon.

My wife still loves me.

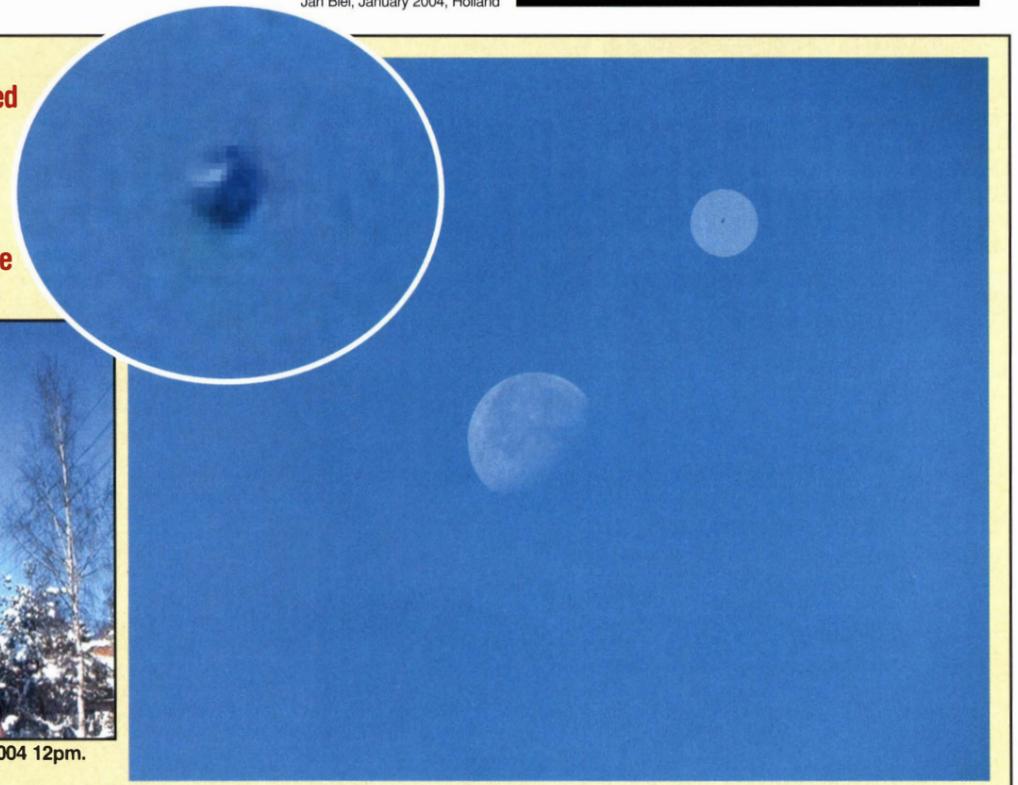
Jan Blei, January 2004, Holland



A resident from Nijverdal, the Netherlands discovered a strange anomaly when downloading an image of the moon he had taken on to his computer. He saw nothing at the time of taking the photograph.



Oslo, Norway. 01 February, 2004 12pm. Miguel Tinizaray



Mars Images Doctored!

Several years after the first Apollo missions visited the moon, rumours started to surface that all was not as it seemed in the way NASA had illustrated their 'Giant Leap'.

Russel Callaghan

PROOF

Recently, I have had many conversations with our science correspondent Graham Ennis, sharing our thoughts about the possible doctored images that NASA had received from its missions to Mars.

Ever since the 'Face' appeared on Viking's low orbit passes, and the mysterious geometric shapes at Cydonia were put into the public domain, many people have wondered if Mars is really as dead as we are being told.

When you have read our recent findings I am sure that old NASA flag waver James Oberg will have an explanation so simple that even the dumbest whatever should be able to see it. Until then, we think we are showing you proof absolute that the imagery returned to earth from Mars is doctored before entering the public domain.

Why is Mars Red? We are told that the surface is covered with an Iron oxide (Rust) and there has been no life or vegetation for many thousands, if not millions of years.

In February's column, Graham Ennis showed images that were not in the public domain until legal intervention had NASA release them. These are high resolution B/W images showing what clearly looks like trees or bushes and even lakes of water visible on the surface of Mars.



The futurist, science fiction writer and developer of the communications satellite, Arthur C. Clarke, was shown these images of Mars and went on record claiming 'They look like trees to me'.

I passed comment in last month's issue as to why we were able to see B/W images from the 'Spirit Rover' almost as soon as it touched down - but according to NASA, colour images are a little more tricky, you have to have the antenna in just the right place and we store them in the rovers memory etc, etc. Hogwash. The next day we still had no colour images to look at but hey, NASA gave the world a 3D panorama of the Martian surface. About a week later the first colour image was transmitted (or so we are told). It was a postage stamp sized thumbnail showing the orangey red surface that we have come to expect.

So why should we think that NASA have reason to tamper and alter the images we are presented with.

We perceive Mars as the Red planet. All images we see from NASA show a barren red landscape with the same red tones reflected in the Martian skies. This is where things might not be exactly as they appear.



First B/W images from the Spirit Rover

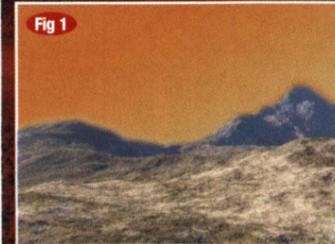
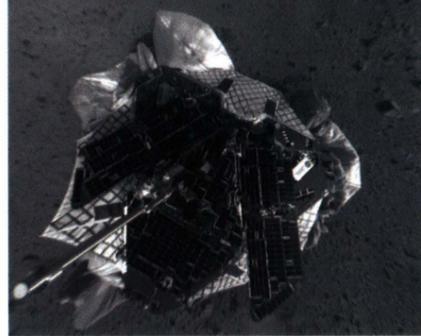


Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3

According to some scientific beliefs, the known composition of gases within the Martian atmosphere, when illuminated by the sun, will give off a pale blue hue, not red. Do NASA think that if we saw a blue sky on Mars we would not be able to handle the consequences? If the sky is blue, then blue it should appear on the photographs.

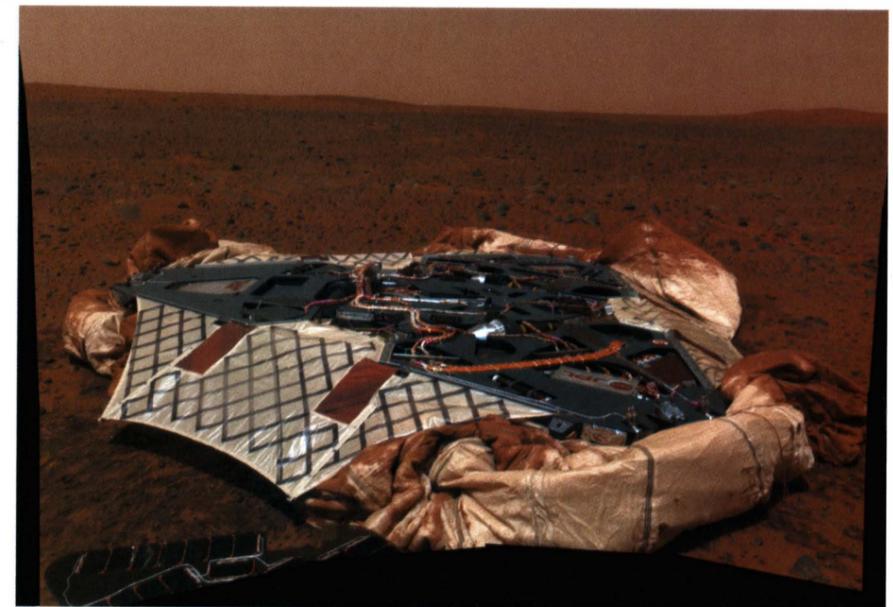
Now could NASA have another reason for colouring the sky red and if so how would they do it?

With the digital image processing capabilities of today's computers, we can achieve basically whatever a NASA image technician could accomplish.

You could simply change the colour of the sky in any images you release, to a tone of red that blends in with the rest of the image, see Figs 1 and 2. You could be a little more devious and alter the colour balance of the picture, taking out the blue and yellow content of the image until the sky became an acceptable colour. In doing this, however, you change the properties of other colours in the picture. This could prove inconvenient or not as we are suggesting.

By removing the blue and yellow content of an image and shifting it towards the red, one colour in particular is affected: GREEN. How convenient.

If Mars does have patchy vegetation in these so-called oasis that Graham Ennis described, then by ensuring that Mars keeps its ruddy complexion you have erased any trace of greenery.



NASA wouldn't do that would they?

Take a close look at the beautiful Martian vista (Fig 3). Now look at Fig 4. It shows the colour calibration device used for setting up the camera aboard the Rover. All the primaries are visible: red, blue, green and yellow. It seems NASA chose CYMK as opposed to RGB for colour referencing, just like the printing industry use.

Now look at the calibration tool in the panorama photograph. The green has miraculously turned blue.

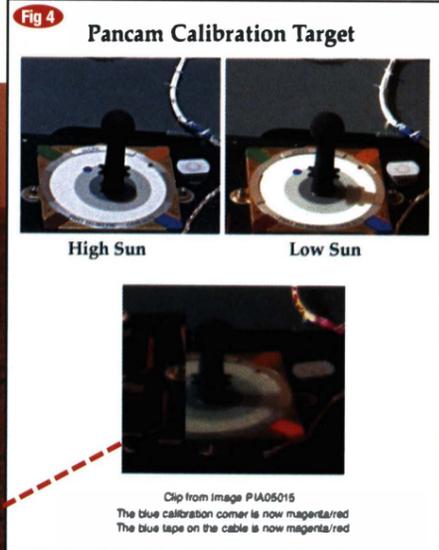
For what possible reason would NASA need to false colour one of their mission signature photographs other than they simply have to, to keep Joe Public comfortable with

the red sky vision of Mars that NASA created years ago.

There are even issues with the early Spirit B/W images. I find it amazing that the only object so beautifully lit by the Martian sunset in two images, is the label NASA firmly affixed to the spacecraft themselves. It says NASA JPL.

I ask you. What chance did Colin Pillinger and the team who put so much work into the Beagle 2 mission have of beating Uncle Sam to Mars?

NASA will never accept second place. ■



Way Down Beneath the Moonless Mountains:

The Remarkable Illustrations of Walter Koerschner
Continued from page 11...

Way Down Beneath the Moonless Mountains

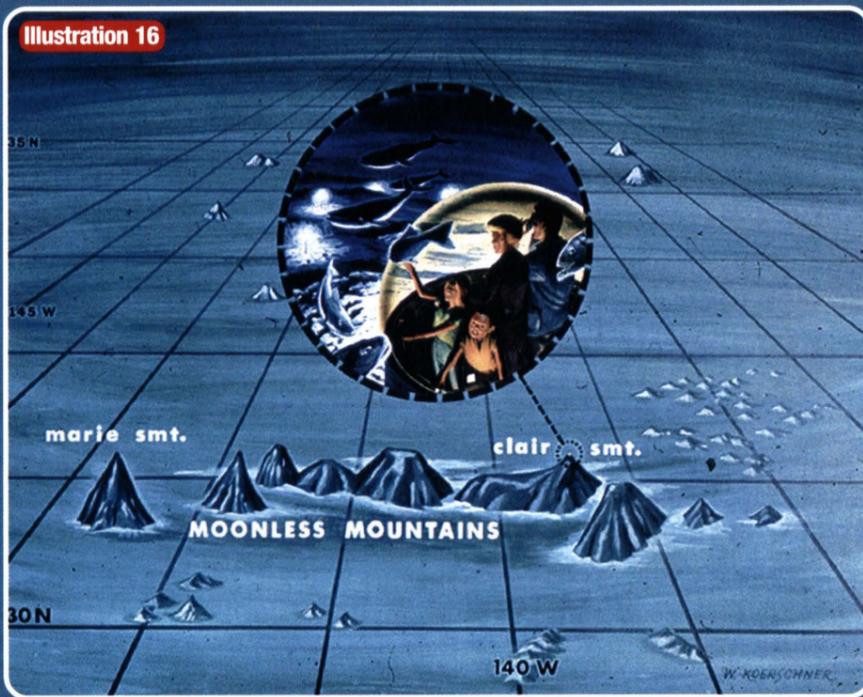
Where in the world might manned, in-bottom undersea bases be found, assuming they exist? I suppose they might be just about anywhere on Earth, under just about any body of water. One such place might be beneath the seamounts that rise from the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, to the west of Gibraltar. (Illustration 15.) All of them would be ideal candidate sites for construction of the type of undersea base depicted in Walter Koerschner's illustrations.

Another possible location for an undersea base might be in the Moonless Mountains, which lie deep beneath the Pacific Ocean, between California and Hawaii. (See Illustration 16.) The illustration shows a family paying a visit to an observation bubble on top of an undersea mount. The idea of stationing families in undersea bases was very much current in the thinking of the 1960s-era undersea base planners. I can't help but recall that the so-called Rock-Site document that came out of the China Lake Naval Weapons Station in 1966 makes unambiguous mention of stationing families in such facilities. (10)

But why the U.S. Navy interest in the Moonless Mountains? One obvious reason might be their strategic location between the U.S. mainland and the mid-Pacific state of Hawaii. Other reasons might plausibly be scientific, such as for purposes of conducting oceanographic or seismic research. In any event, I wanted to know more, so I typed the words, Moonless Mountains, into an Internet search engine and quickly discovered that there is, indeed, an undersea observatory not far south of the Moonless Mountains! It is called the H2O Long-Term Seafloor Observatory. (11)

I began to read and learned that there are plans to drill a borehole 325 metres deep into the seafloor and then cement a casing in place, all the way to the bottom of the bore hole. The purpose for this is to put seismic monitors into place and monitor the local geology and seismic activity.

I further learned that the data from the scientific instruments will be carried back to Hawaii via the Hawaii-2 submarine cable system that was laid down by AT&T between San Luis Obispo, California, and Makaha, Oahu, Hawaii in 1964. Other instruments could also be installed there to monitor geomagnetics or hydrothermal activity. (12)



This is all very fascinating and it got me to thinking what such a facility might look like in connection with a manned, in-bottom base, especially in view of the SRI document that I cited at the beginning of this article. The SRI authors say forthrightly that a deep undersea, manned, in-bottom base could have "multiple uses", including military, industrial and scientific.

In the appendix, the authors list one of the possible functions of a manned, in-bottom base as being "seismic monitoring". They mention this in the context of a "shallow remote" in-bottom base; however, the same technology could just as easily be deployed at a deep, remote, in-bottom base. (13)

I do not know if a manned, in-bottom base was ever secretly constructed under or near the Moonless Mountains, replete with submarine cables that connect it to Hawaii or California, or perhaps to other undersea bases, but if it was, it might well resemble what you see in the next illustration. (See Illustration 17.) Here you can see a depiction of a manned base burrowed deep down into the seabed, connected to an elaborate, sonar monitoring system that is wired into a cable network that runs across the seafloor.

Immediately the question arises: are there really installations like this, deep beneath the Atlantic, or the Pacific, or the Gulf of Mexico, or the Indian Ocean, or the North Sea or Mediterranean Sea? I don't know, I really don't. But I do know, after slogging through many thousands of pages of pertinent documentation in recent years, that it is well within the state of the art of modern deep-sea engineering to make facilities such as you see here in Walter Koerschner's illustrations.



The Americans can do it, the British, French, Germans and Norwegians can do it, the Russians can do it, so can the Chinese and Japanese – and if I had to guess, I would hazard to say that at least one of them, and maybe all of them and more, have done so. This does not exclude the possibility that there may also be aliens involved in similar activities, maybe on their own, or possibly in cahoots with one or more of the nationalities mentioned above. I am not saying that is what is happening (because I don't know), but I don't categorically rule out the possibility either, for reasons I have already discussed.

Domed Undersea Cities?

The illustration of the shark hunt really caught my eye. (See Illustration 18.) I am greatly intrigued by the glowing, translucent dome-shaped structures on the ocean floor. It is very dark at great depth in the sea, since sunlight cannot penetrate thousands of feet of seawater, so presumably any structure that is sited on the deep sea bottom would need to be well lit. But the translucent, glass-like appearance of the domed structures jogged something in my memory. A couple of years ago I was reading a fascinating book, *Vieques: Polígono del Tercer Tipo*, by the well-known Puerto Rican UFOlogist Jorge Martín, that had a description of a purported undersea base



near Puerto Rico that was under a big, transparent dome. The story is very unusual. A man named Mr. Roldán reported being taken by tall, human-like alien beings to an elaborate undersea base to the east of Puerto Rico that was constructed under some kind of big "transparent cupola". (14) The book contains an illustration of this undersea city's appearance and it is most thought provoking, I assure you. As with all stories of this type, we must consider two possibilities: a) the story is false, or b) the story is possibly true. More and more of these sorts of stories are popping up as the

years go by, such that I am starting to suppose that just maybe at least some of them are true. It may even be possible that Mr. Roldán's story is true, though I readily admit that I do not know one way or another.

One of the things that I find interesting about his story is the reported location of this alleged undersea base to the east of Puerto Rico. As it happens, the U.S. Navy for many years had an active base on the east coast of Puerto Rico, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads (now in the process of being closed down), (15) and for many years also conducted extensive war games on and around the nearby island of Vieques which lies directly east of the main island of Puerto Rico. Given the decades-long history of heavy U.S. Navy activity in and around the waters that lie to the east of Puerto Rico I seriously doubt that a deep undersea city under a transparent cupola would have gone unnoticed and unremarked by the U.S. military. Could such a thing possibly be true? Is it possible that such a city exists and that the U.S. Navy knows of it, but says nothing? I just do not know. The waters around Puerto Rico are extremely deep and what lies beneath them is beyond my limited ability to rigorously investigate.

That said, we do have this puzzling illustration by a U.S. Navy artist of brightly glowing domes set on the deep seabed.

Walter Koerschner has clearly told me that the inspiration for these illustrations came out of his own artistic imagination.

And of course that has to be true. How could it be otherwise, since he is the creative entity behind them? But at the same time, I cannot ignore that his artistic inspiration took place within the specific context of a U.S. Navy, manned, in-bottom, undersea base, R&D program. ▶



© Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

Is it possible that the U.S. Navy asked one of its artists to render a drawing of what a glass-domed, deep sea installation might look like, without telling him precisely where the idea came from? Questions and more questions. We have the illustration, and we have the anecdote from Puerto Rico, and not much else. Perhaps time will reveal if there is any possible connection between the two.

Deep Sea Submersibles

As for how deep sea construction might take place, the U.S. Navy has had a deep sea diving capability for many years that permits it to operate at great depths.

By way of example, in Illustration 19 you can see a submersible approaching another, disabled submersible to attach a lifting bag to it. A closer view shows the submersible attaching the lifting bag. (Illustration 20.) A more detailed examination of the inflatable lifting bag shows its inner mechanism in a cut-away view. (Illustration 21.)

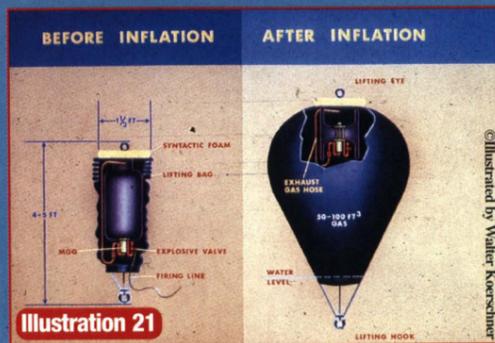
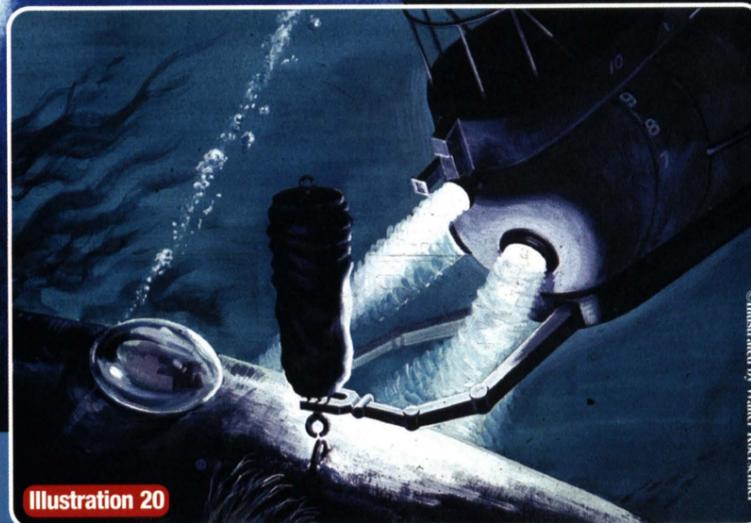


Illustration 21

Illustration 20



© Illustrated by Walter Koerschner

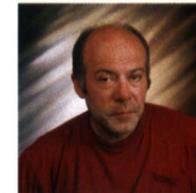
Magical, Mystery Tour Concludes - Or is it Just Starting?

So there you have it. A magical, mystery tour through the deep undersea world of Walter Koerschner. How much of what he has depicted in his illustrations has been carried out, if anything, remains unknown to me. And quite possibly to him, as well. The extremely compartmentalized world of special operations is a highly secretive, very high-tech and massively well-funded place (with untold billions of black budget dollars, of course). Perhaps the best we can hope for is to view the plans for what was on the drawing board 36 years ago. Maybe something like these plans has been carried out; maybe not. Maybe what has happened goes so far beyond what is depicted in these illustrations as to be like science-fiction. Or maybe not. All I can do is present for your consideration the evidence that my efforts have so far uncovered. Make of it what you will. ■

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- (12) Ibid.
- (13) Warfield and Parkinson, op.cit.
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- (15) See the WWW at <http://www.navstarr.navy.mil>, 2004. Note that the Naval Station Roosevelt Roads is scheduled for closure under the Fiscal 2004 Defense Appropriations Act.

NEW FOR REVIEW



Reviewed by Stuart Miller

excellent	★★★★★
very good	★★★★
good	★★★
average	★★
avoid	★

DIMENSIONAL JOURNEY

• AUTHOR: LINDA BELL
 • PUBLISHER: LIGHT TECHNOLOGY
 • ISBN: 1-891824-34-1
 • PRICE: £9.80 Amazon UK

Sedona in Arizona seems to be a serious New Age area, with quite a few ranches in the region experiencing some very strange occurrences. The most famous one is the Sherman ranch, which was eventually bought by Robert Bigelow, a millionaire with a deep interest in the paranormal. Bigelow later went on to form NIDs, an excellent establishment, which takes a scientific yet accessible, approach to the subject of UFOs and other related material. It was suggested that perhaps there was a dimensional portal on the farm as some very strange creatures and events seemed to appear and occur there and Bigelow bought the property so as to be able to study the phenomena more closely. He is yet to publish his results.

Linda Bell's book is about the Bradshaw ranch, where she lived, and the events that went on there. They appear to be as equally bizarre as the events at the Sherman ranch. Consisting of 90 very isolated acres and surrounded by Forest Service land, Linda's nearest neighbours were two miles away.

It is an area of outstanding natural beauty, yet night-time brought strange sensations of other presences and sounds that terrified the family dogs. Linda was relieved to find that other members of her family could also hear and see the same strange events, which started off with the appearance of orbs. Many, many hundreds of them.

If I was prepared to live in a very out-of-the-way location like this, I don't suppose I'd be afraid of the dark.

Nevertheless, the thought of walking around outside at night, as Linda did, specifically looking for the sort of thing that would sit comfortably in a John Carpenter film, is not my idea of fun, even if all that she came into contact with was mostly benign. I have no shame.

If I'd been with her I would have been happy to place my six feet plus frame firmly behind her, and, purely in the interests of chivalry, would have insisted that she went first.

Orbs eventually turned into unseen people who could be felt brushing past and whose footsteps could be heard. Occasionally, briefly, these people would allow themselves to be photographed. The most notable of these was The Blue Man, who just happened to be close to ten feet tall. There is a picture of his head. He looks frightening. Frighteningly normal that is. Except for his ears. His ear hole appears towards the top of his ear, about half an inch higher than is "normal".

And speaking of pictures, the book is awash with them, many in colour. A good few are of orbs and energy sources. The photos themselves lead on to another aspect - evidence. There are plenty of pictures that support Linda's claims - footprints, indentations etc. but one can only take her word and that of her companions about their authenticity. So you, the reader, make the decision. Purely instinctively, I would say it looks genuine but that's hardly scientific confirmation.

Nevertheless, if I were going to fake it, I would have gone for more spectacular and convincing effects. Linda used a particular shop to get her pictures developed and one day, after collecting yet another batch, she noticed a number of photos that had been taken with her camera from inside her house, looking out through the kitchen window. The pictures were odd showing a strange distortion in the images captured, but odder still was the fact that Linda hadn't taken

them. She resolved to get to the bottom of it. After checking with her family to make sure no one else had used her camera, she left it on the kitchen table overnight having first dusted it down with talc so that finger prints might be left if anyone picked it up.

Sure enough, the next day there were prints all over the camera. They were not human. The being that had picked the camera up had one very pointed appendage and a short, wide digit next to it.

There are many similar stories in the book and it is obvious that the experience of living on the ranch was a deeply spiritual event for Linda. There were many times when she was frightened but also many times when she felt overwhelmed by Love. When she felt cornered she would cry out to God, and she has placed in the book her thoughts and feelings about her faith. This might be off putting for some. While it isn't seriously intrusive, I did find reading her thoughts in relation to this a bit like reading a rambling sermon and, as it comes fairly early on in the story, I wasn't sure at first of either its context or relevance. Later on, as the penny dropped, I was left feeling very uncharitable. Given what she experienced, she was bound to want to try to cling on to a reality and comfort that she was familiar with.

There will be some who would wish to dismiss the entire book as the ramblings of a disturbed mind, but that is not easy to do. There are too many other people involved, and not just family. There are ample witnesses and an abundance of photographic evidence to support her story.

And yet somehow, it didn't quite grab me. It wasn't to do with doubts about its authenticity, probably more to do with my own personal interest. But there's no question there's a market for this book and it should sell well.

★★★★★

If you have produced material on a UFO subject - written a book, produced a video or edited your own magazine/newsletter - and would like to see it reviewed in these pages, send a copy to Stuart C/O UFO Magazine.

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- the government imposed truth embargo - the cover-up
- the role (complicity?) of the media in the truth embargo
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SLIME HUNTERS OF MARS

Last month's issue, dear readers, aroused a considerable amount of interest. I had several calls from national newspapers, who were initially very sceptical, but eventually semi-convinced, proving once again that the photograph is worth a 1000 words. The sensational pictures of lakes, and what appeared to be vegetation, were once again a UK exclusive for this magazine. You read it here first again! Not long afterwards, there were lots of stories in the papers about water on Mars, and there was speculation on whether or not there was any accompanying life.

But more was to come. After we went to press, and I passed my deadline for this column, some even more remarkable pictures turned up. The European Space Agency Orbiter spacecraft, circling endlessly 150 kilometres above the Martian desert, started sending back very clear signals from its onboard reconnaissance cameras. These had amazing resolution. From orbit, they could see your family car, or in fact anything larger than two metres across. So when the pictures arrived showing the landing sites for the British and American spacecraft on the Martian surface, I was fascinated. Particularly with the European Space Agency images.

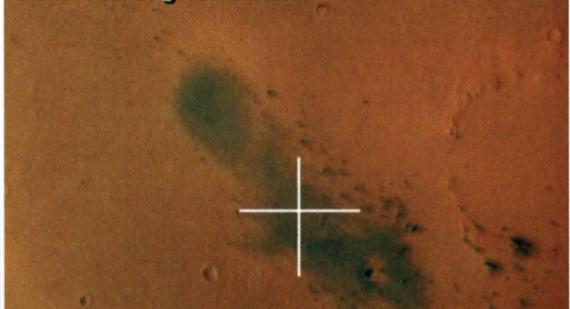
Right in the cross hairs on the photograph was the British landing site. Deep in a crater lay the last resting place of British hope. Right where the blue colour showed what was undoubtedly the surface of a deep brine lake. Now we knew why no signal had been finding its way back to the giant radio telescope at Jodrell Bank in the Midlands. Beagle was deep underwater!

Moreover, the brine in that lake was probably as corrosive as battery acid, a strong alkaline, that made the Dead Sea on Earth seem like spring water. Beagle would soon be corroded junk.

The American Spirit landing site was even more interesting. The cross hairs showing the touch down area are right in the middle of a large green patch. Mysteriously, the ground based pictures from the American space-craft show only featureless red desert, without a trace of green to be seen.

Also, there was the curious difference in the colour balance of the American and European pictures. American Mars was such a deep red. It was almost purple, whilst European Union Mars was a more restrained yellow-brown colour. The principle difference was that the purple shades blotted out completely any traces of green.

American probe lands right in the middle of green swath



This remarkable image, taken by the European Space Agency Orbiter, shows the last American landing site. The lander is right in the middle of a vast area of mysterious green, stretching for forty miles. NASA has no explanation for what this green substance can be, but the likelihood is that it is lichen and fungi growing on the surface of rocks.

In the circumstances, I thought this somewhat suspicious. American Scientists that I Emailed the green Mars pictures to, were astounded. Elaborate excuses from NASA in Houston that the colour balance was 'provisional' did not convince me.

But what these pictures did do was concentrate my mind closely on what real evidence there might be for the existence of any life on Mars.

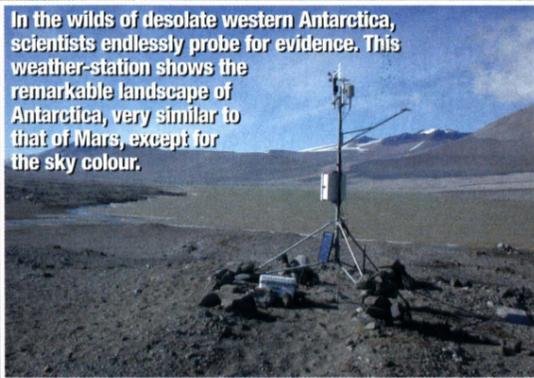
Even at the level of micro-bugs, and I started an extended trawl through the online archives for scientific material. What I found astounded me. I had known about the controversy of the 'Mars Meteorite' recovered from Antarctica some years ago.

When sliced up by geologists and looked at through a microscope, they had been astounded to find what looked like the fossilised remains of bacteria, deep inside its rocky core. What I did not know about was the extensive amount of work being done on other meteorites by NASA's newly established \$5,000,000 Astrobiology Unit at an American University, or the research in the western Antarctic by polar scientists.

The western Antarctic is probably the most desolate and lonely place on Earth. There, almost no rain falls, the night-time temperature is minus 100 centigrade below freezing, and the summer temperature at noon barely above 2-3 centigrade. Harsh freezing winds sweep everything flat, and even in the mysterious 'Dry Valleys' there is almost no sign of life, except patches of green scum floating in the small lakes that thaw out in the Summer.

Conditions are almost identical to that of Mars, except for the higher air-pressure. But in this apparently lifeless, desolate wilderness, lies a paradise for micro-biologists. Slice open any of the rocks scattered around on the surface, and inside, under a microscope, they teem with micro-organisms, fungi, and other traces of life.

In the wilds of desolate western Antarctica, scientists endlessly probe for evidence. This weather-station shows the remarkable landscape of Antarctica, very similar to that of Mars, except for the sky colour.

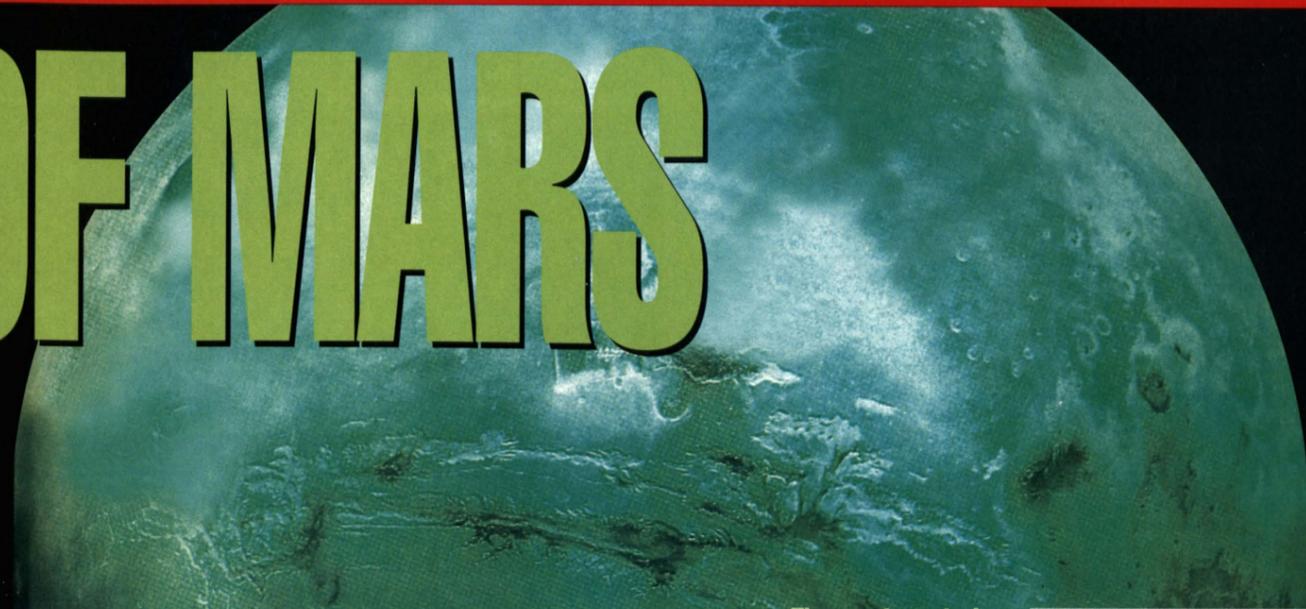


These life-forms do not survive as others do elsewhere, in more temperate conditions. They have their own unique ways of getting energy for life, and scientists studying these have discovered what they have called SLIME. (No, there is not a spelling mistake!!) SLiME stands for: "Subsurface Lithoautotrophic Microbial Ecosystem"!

Unlike other life-forms on Earth, these microorganisms survive not from living off the carbon or hydrogen from decaying plant matter, but from the hydrogen given off by the chemical reaction between the basalt rocks and ground-water. (A sort of geological rust.)

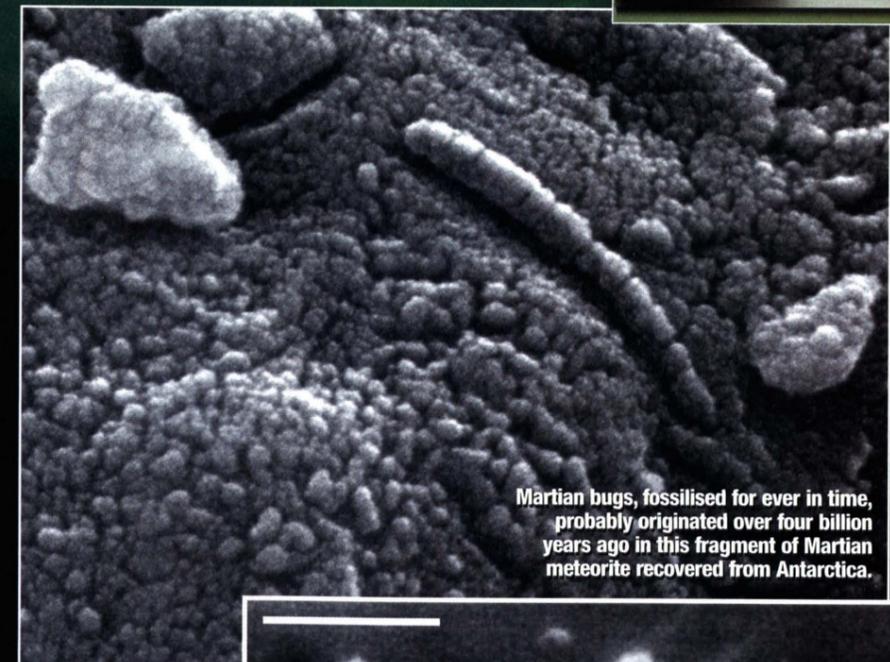
These organisms might also be very old. They get their life processes energy from the chemical reactions of water and the iron rich rocks. (Hematite, to name one.)

The earliest life on Earth has been traced back 4 billion years, but photo-synthesis, (for plants and bacteria) began only 2.8 billion years ago. So these creatures are the remnants of life from the very beginning, and such life processes would work perfectly well on Mars. Now once you have such basic life, micro-organisms inevitably evolve into more complex life, and eventually, you get an entire eco-system. >

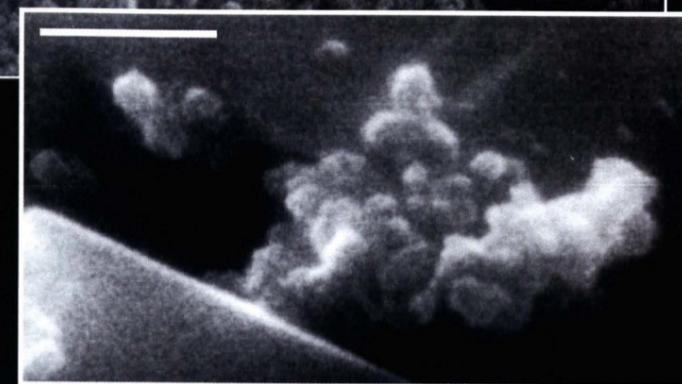


The most mysterious rock in the World

Sealed tightly inside a level 4 bio-container, usually used only for super-deadly killer-bugs, lies the Martian rock that might yield the secret of life in our Universe. Recovered as a meteorite from the wastes of Antarctica, biologists found traces in its core of fossilised bacteria and other micro-organisms.



Martian bugs, fossilised for ever in time, probably originated over four billion years ago in this fragment of Martian meteorite recovered from Antarctica.





I was relieved. Now I had a scientifically credible explanation for all that pesky green stuff that kept creeping up on Mars pictures. (Unless they were American!) But what actual evidence was there? Ahh.....that was very interesting.

A few swift Emails to my scientific friends and pictures started arriving. Lots of scans of the innards of sawn-up meteorites. (Some from Mars. When big asteroids hit a planet, as they do periodically, they splash up huge amounts of surface rock fragments. Some of these fly so fast, they go into orbit, and then drift off into deep space. Eventually, Aeons later, a rock can come down on Earth, and then we have a real sample of Mars rock.) Some meteorites were very clearly showing amazing pictures, of what seemed to be bacteria fossils just like the ones in Antarctica. (For those interested, details can be found in the American journal *Science*, founded by the great Edison, in 1880. Look for the October 1995 edition, most local university libraries keep copies.)

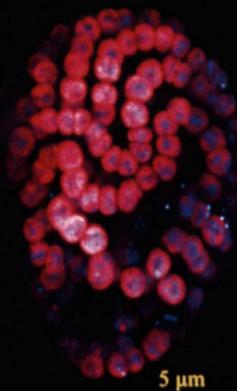
After a lot of thinking and reading, I was convinced. The coincidence of green areas on Mars, the mysterious formations that looked like advanced life (tree-like), and the existence of free water on the surface in some Martian Oasis, was bending the evidence towards some kind of life there, but all depending, as we do, on the existence of microbial life. It seems that what we are looking at on Mars is the remnants of what was once a planet possibly teeming with life. Now, small fragments, (mostly lichens, fungi, bacteria, etc) were all that remained, except for the mysterious tree-like objects we saw in last month's magazine.

Twenty five years ago, Viking, the first American lander on Mars, shot numerous colour pictures. What is interesting is the colour balance of this picture. Unlike the lurid purple images NASA has recently been releasing, this shows an almost believable colour balance. The sky is greenish, not purple, but towards the Zenith, directly overhead, it becomes bluish-black. NASA's most recent colour pictures of Mars are not even consistent with its own pictures from 25 years ago. There are now considerable doubts that NASA has not tampered with the recent images.



What a Martian bacterium might look like

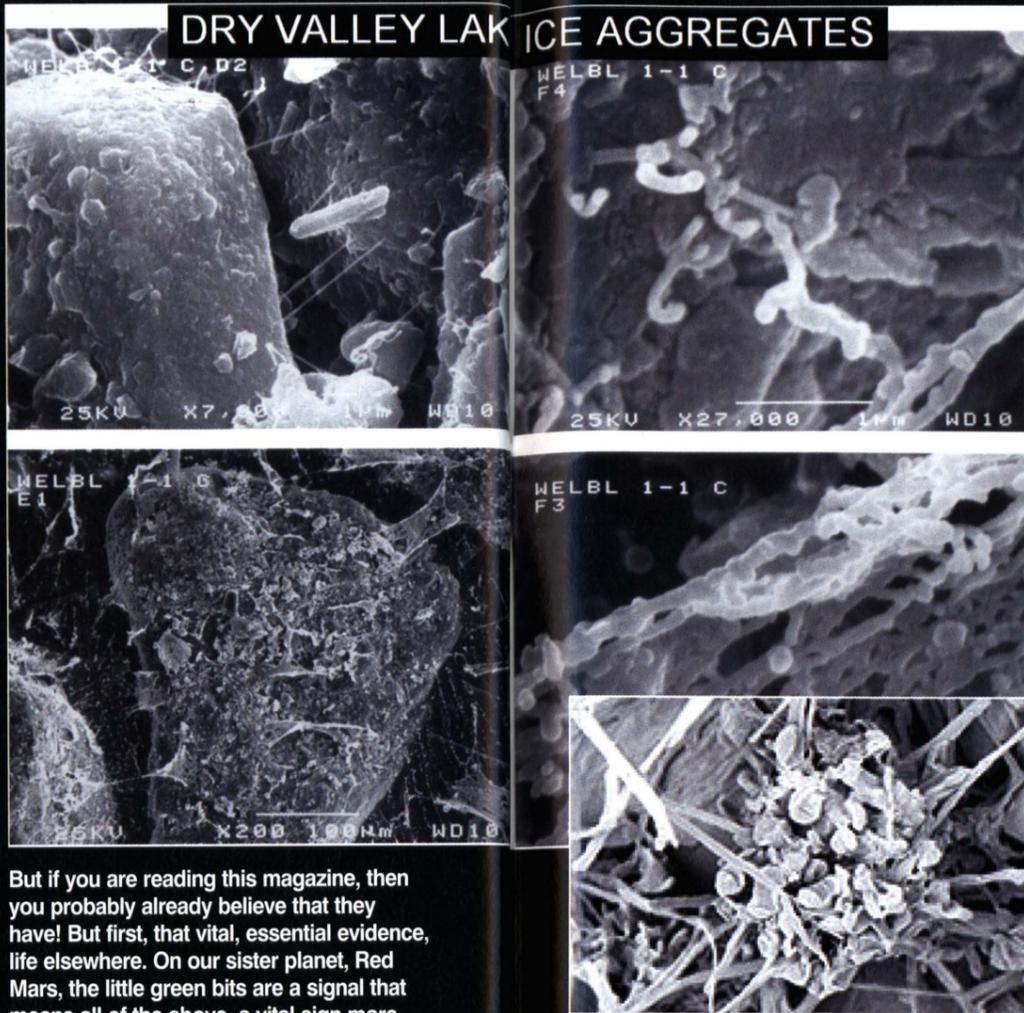
The closest living bacteria on Earth looks remarkably like the fossilised remains found in the meteorite.



5 µm

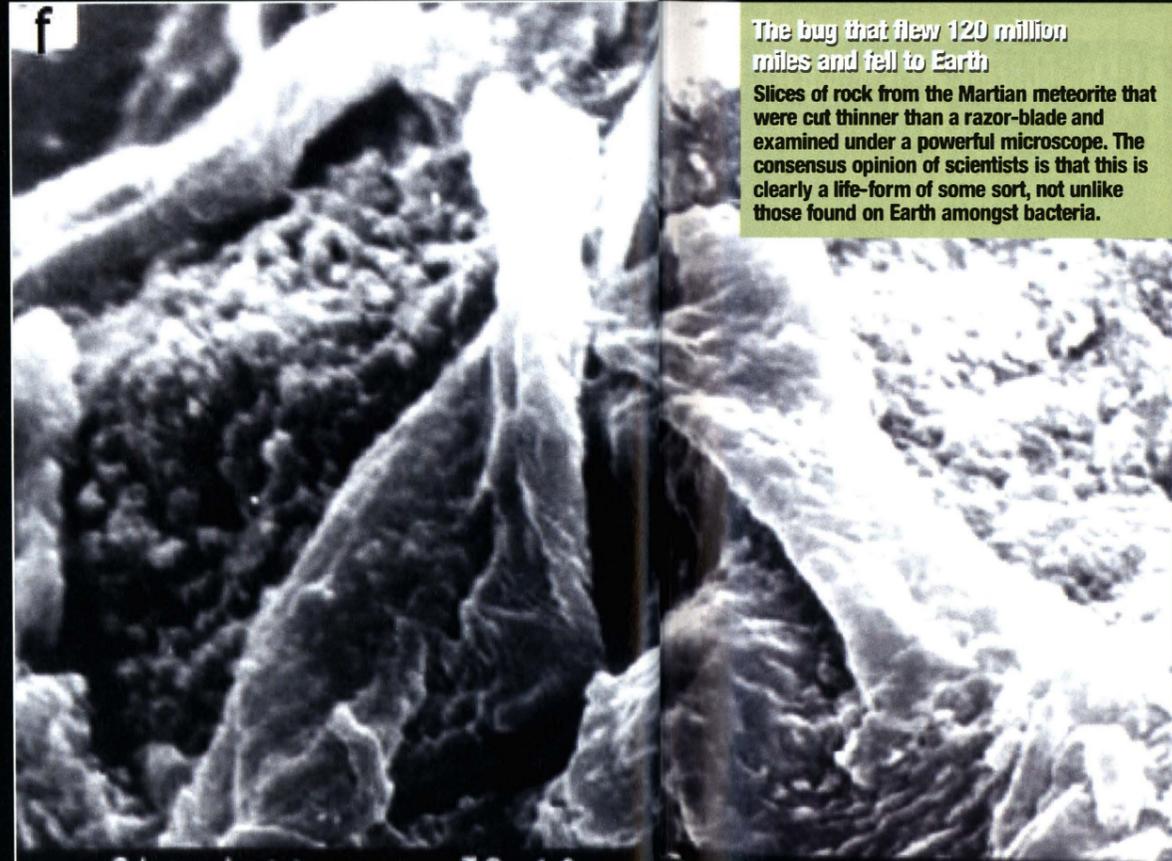
What has any of this, however, got to do with UFOs? Plenty. As I have said once before, if we find life right next door, on another planet in our solar system, which we can fly to with our very early space technology, then that is not coincidence. It is hard proof (once confirmed) that life is a very common substance in a vast Universe.

If here, in our obscure planetary system, then almost certainly, in others. If life, then eventually, through Darwin's forces of evolution, complex life, then animals, then intelligent animals, then creatures as evolved (in their own way) as us. Then social cultures, civilisations emerging, technology, then star-flight. Then, perhaps, visitors. Sooner or later, our neighbours will come calling.



But if you are reading this magazine, then you probably already believe that they have! But first, that vital, essential evidence, life elsewhere. On our sister planet, Red Mars, the little green bits are a signal that means all of the above, a vital sign more important than you can barely imagine. If there, then out-there, however far distant, there are others. The rest, as they say, is just a matter of time. ■

Scientists have found not only bacteria remains in Martian meteorite material, but also small life-forms, such as this earth-like green algae remnant. Not unlike Earth pond-scum, it might show that life had evolved on Mars beyond the existence of simple bacteria.



The bug that flew 120 million miles and fell to Earth
Slices of rock from the Martian meteorite that were cut thinner than a razor-blade and examined under a powerful microscope. The consensus opinion of scientists is that this is clearly a life-form of some sort, not unlike those found on Earth amongst bacteria.



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SPACE & Astronomy



Andrew Pike BSc MSc PGDip FRAS

This novel method of revealing the secrets of the cosmos is the one chosen by a team of scientists in a Helsinki laboratory lead by Grigori Volovik (pictured).

Helium has a wonderful quality when cooled to almost the lowest temperature possible or absolute zero (-273.15 degrees Celsius). The normal form of helium, called helium-4 can be cooled down to almost the point of absolute zero, but its close, rarer cousin, helium-3, can cool just that little bit closer to absolute zero and when it does so it becomes a *superfluid*.

As a superfluid its viscosity (stiffness) reduces to zero and as a result it starts to leak from its container through the tiny microscopic holes. However, to the astronomer it has a very special quality - it starts to mimic the behaviour of the quantum vacuum, the structure of empty space. Empty space is not truly empty, but consists of many billions upon billions of sub atomic particles phasing into and out of existence in a split second. As such the quantum vacuum exhibits a wealth of subatomic particles like electrons, photons, quarks, gravitons, etc.

In the case of helium-3 it exhibits its own kind of particles called *quasi-particles* which are like tiny packets of sound in the liquid. Like the quantum vacuum particles, quasi-particles come in different sizes and shapes and mimic the different types of particles in quantum vacuum of our Universe. Some of these quasi-particles act like

electrons while others act like photons, gravitons, etc.

They also behave like ordinary particles in a different way. Ordinary particles cannot exceed the speed of light



(300,000 km/s) while quasi-particles cannot exceed their own equivalent of the 'light barrier', except that for them the speed is only a few centimetres per second. This makes measuring them

and following their behaviour much easier. Because many of the large, macroscopic, qualities of the Universe are dependent on the small, microscopic, quantum properties, the 'helium-3 universe' allows the Helsinki University scientists to study a controlled universe under more suitable conditions.

It is hoped that this work will answer many of the mysteries of the cosmos, like how colossal cosmic strings came to criss-cross the Universe, why the Universe is dominated by matter and not antimatter, why the Universe is accelerating as it expands and what is quantum gravity. In fact it might even allow us to look over the event horizon of an artificial black hole.

However, it is one of the basic questions of Einstein's theory of relativity which might get an answer - the value of the cosmological constant. This was the factor introduced by Einstein into his equations before it was realised the Universe is expanding. It was the factor which Einstein called his biggest mistake. When astronomers realised we do not live in a static Universe but one which is expanding, the

constant was eliminated by setting it to zero. However, in recent years astronomers have started to think again about the true value of this factor, especially in light of the fact that the expansion is accelerating.

Because empty space is not really empty, the constant boils down to assigning energy to the quantum vacuum because when these energy figures are added up for all those particles popping into and out of our Universe, the value is enormous.

The helium-3 version of our Universe makes matters clearer. Here the vacuum energy of space is simply the total energy of the helium. Using the Gibbs-Duhem equation of thermodynamics there is an exact cancellation and the value of zero drops out of the mathematics after all. However, this is true only if space is empty and static. Add the property of expansion or matter and the value becomes non-zero. This all fits with recent investigations suggesting the cosmological constant for the Universe is small and non-zero, what we astronomers call *dark energy*, and it is the gravity of this which gives the Universe its extra kick to make it accelerate as it expands. The overall value of the dark energy is believed to be 2 to 3 times larger than the energy of the matter which does seem to fit well with the Gibbs-Duhem equation.

Quantum Gravity

However, it is the very gravity factor in this work which caused the rush of controversial views from some astronomers. For decades physics has tried to unite the theories of relativity and quantum mechanics as a unified all-in-one theory of quantum gravity. If this helium-3 work is cor-

rect those working on quantum gravity might have been wasting their time. Why? Because it suggests the reason the unification has been so elusive is because quantum gravity does not exist! The idea is gravity did not exist when the Universe was created at the time of the Big Bang, it emerged later from the chaos as the Universe expanded, cooled and evolved to lower energies. The helium-3 universe, like our own, starts as a high temperature, high energy substance. It is only when it cools and moves to lower temperatures that the quasi-particle properties and laws appear. At higher temperatures it is chaotic and impossible to separate gravitational degrees of freedom from other degrees of freedom. This, says Volovik means quantum gravity does not exist, it is an 'emergent phenomenon'.

Cosmic Strings and Black Holes

One of the earliest successes in the helium-3 work was the creation of artificial cosmic strings. These are vast lengths of high energy material which theory suggests threads throughout the Universe. The artificial strings of the helium-3 universe were created by firing neutrons into a rotating vat of helium-3. This triggered nuclear reactions that flash heated small regions of the fluid. As the regions cooled swirling vortices (vortex lines) behaved exactly like cosmic strings. One of the problems with the cosmic strings created in the Big Bang is they cannot be confirmed by observation.

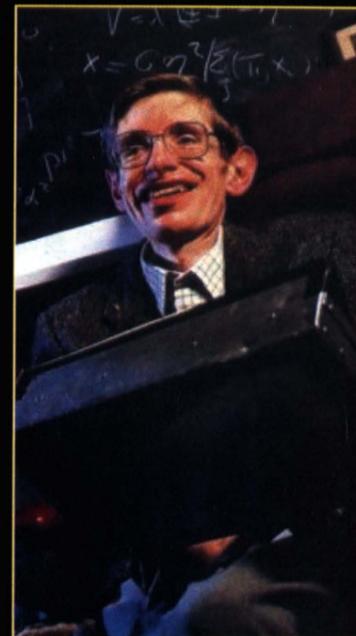
They are a consequence of the theory, but we might never see them. In the helium-3 work we at least see the laboratory equivalent.

If you were to set about investigating the ultimate secrets of the Universe, how would you go about it?

One way might be to use a series of multi-million pound space probes, another might be to use the world's largest telescopes or even manned exploration of space. How about using a few drops of liquid helium?

A Very Controversial UNIVERSE

Readers of *UFO Magazine* will be aware of the idea of quantum vacuum particles popping into and out of our Universe under a different name. It is the idea of *zero point energy* and work in spinning superconductors to produce an advanced propulsion system - *electrogravitics*. The same work involves extracting the energy from the Zero Point Field (quantum vacuum). So considering how familiar this mainstream, albeit controversial, work



sounds compared to the more secret world of electrogravitics, is there a connection? There are certainly interesting similarities but it is early days to say whether a mainstream science is catching up with secret propulsion work let alone alien technology and flying saucers!

Of course, as I have said many times, the idea of zero point energy is fine if it exists at all and we can find a way to tap into it. Opinion about this point is divided in physics with some physicists saying there is an infinite power source for the taking, while others claim the total value across the whole Universe might just be enough to boil a kettle of water and make a cup of tea! Some astronomers have claimed that if the helium-3 work is to be believed we might have to settle for tea rather than infinite clean power and easy space travel.

However there might be compensations. Having constructed artificial cosmic strings the same scientists have also set to work constructing artificial black holes.

The same work has been used to build a device which uses superfluid helium-3 and 4 in a cylindrical vessel. By making these flow just right a kind of artificial black hole is possible complete with *Hawking Radiation*, the radiation which Stephen Hawking predicted comes from real black holes.

However the advantage here is we will be able to look over the edge of the artificial black hole (the event horizon) to see what is going on inside, something we can never do with a real black hole. This might lead to new theories and ideas on black holes and their use as a short-cut across the Universe, but it is early days.

I have to say all this is very controversial, but the same was said of relativity and quantum physics when they were first proposed a century ago. I realise that followers of Zero Point technology might start to make connections with work said to have been going on in Nazi Germany during 1944/5, in particular a device called the 'Bell'. This was said to be a vessel containing a strange liquid with spinning cylinders inside which gave off radiation.

It is also a device connected with advanced propulsion work and anti-gravity flying machines.

If you are unaware of the full story see the book *The Hunt for Zero Point*, by Nick Cook.

Whether anything comes of all this is not certain. What is certain however is some interesting results and ideas are present. But, as regards its connections with electrogravitation, anti-gravity and seeking the true value of Einstein's cosmological constant in the search for zero point energy, I cannot say. ■

For details of how to order *The Hunt for Zero Point*, by Nick Cook see page 36.

Andrew Pike's

Night Sky Guide

MARCH 2004



Late March will see all five naked eye planets on show in the evening sky. Mercury will pull away from the Sun's glare, Venus reaches its greatest angular distance from the Sun, Mars is still lingering before sunset as is Saturn, while Jupiter comes to opposition.

Bright Stars

Many bright stars can exhibit strange effects unfamiliar to the casual observer, like colour change or disappearing behind haze especially when low on the horizon. As always I have included the brightness (magnitudes) of the most prominent stars after their name in brackets. This should also act as a guide when comparing brightness of objects throughout the guide. The magnitude system works such that the lower the value the brighter the object with particularly bright objects having increasingly negative values.

Arcturus (-0.06) and Spica (1.0) rise in the east during the early evening and should be on view by 22h at the beginning of the month and by 20h at the month's end. To find these follow round the handle of the Plough or Big Dipper and you will first arrive at Arcturus then Spica.

Vega (0.04) and Deneb (1.26) hover low on the northern horizon as the night begins but will climb in altitude steadily as the early hours approach. By about 03/04h they will be almost overhead.

Altair (0.77) in Aquila will follow behind Deneb and Vega rising at about 02h in early March and by 01h at the end of the month. Again the star will climb in altitude throughout the remainder of darkness. Antares (1.35) in Scorpius is rising at the same times but further around the south-eastern horizon.

Regulus (1.4) in Leo can be seen in the south-east after sunset appearing due south just before midnight at the beginning of March and at 22h by the end of the month. It will remain on view until dawn.

Capella (0.05) is still high up towards the south-west after sunset but will sink lower in the west during the night until close to the northern horizon by dawn.

Castor (1.58) and Pollux (1.16) in Gemini are almost due south at dusk and will

remain on view setting towards the west for most of the night appearing close to the western horizon by dawn.

Aldebaran (0.8) / Betelgeuse (0.4) / Rigel (0.1) / Sirius (-1.46) / Procyon (0.4) are all winter stars, so as spring approaches they will appear close to the western horizon after sunset, setting in the west around midnight.

THE PLANETS

Mercury

Mercury starts the month in superior conjunction (behind the Sun) but will become an evening feature by the middle of the month for observers in equatorial and northern latitudes. For northern temperate latitudes this will be the most favourable evening apparition of the year. Mercury will reach greatest eastern elongation on 29 March when its angular distance from the Sun is 19 degrees. Throughout the apparition its magnitude will decline from -1.2 to +0.4 at the month's end.

Mercury will be 4 degrees north of the Crescent Moon on 22 March.

Venus

Venus continues to dominate the west-north-western evening sky throughout the month at magnitude -4.3. The planet reaches greatest eastern elongation on 29 March (same date as Mercury) when the angular separation will be 46 degrees.

Venus will be 2 degrees north of the Crescent Moon on 24 March.

Mars

Also in the western, evening sky is Mars which continues to linger for some time yet. Despite being well past opposition (August last year) Mars will remain on view throughout March moving from Aries into Taurus passing south of the open star cluster, the Pleiades (M45) when a separation of only 3 degrees occurs in the third week of March. This encounter will be enhanced when a

thin crescent Moon appears nearby on 25/26 March. Mars will also fade slightly from magnitude +1.1 to +1.3.

Mars will be 0.8 degrees south of the (almost) half Moon on 26 March.

Jupiter

Jupiter remains visible as a bright object in the constellation of Leo. The planet will come to opposition on 3 March when it will be on view throughout the hours of darkness, appearing due south at midnight. The planet's brightness holds steady at magnitude -2.5. Jupiter will appear in the east at sunset and will remain on view until dawn as a conspicuous night time feature.

Jupiter will be 3 degrees south of the Full Moon on 6 March.

Saturn

Saturn remains on view in the western sky in the constellation of Gemini. For northern latitude observers the planet will remain on show for a short while after midnight and, although a relatively bright object, will fade slightly from magnitude -0.2 to 0.0 during the month.

Saturn will be 5 degrees south of the Gibbous (three-quarter) Moon on 1 March and 5 degrees south of the half Moon on 28 March.

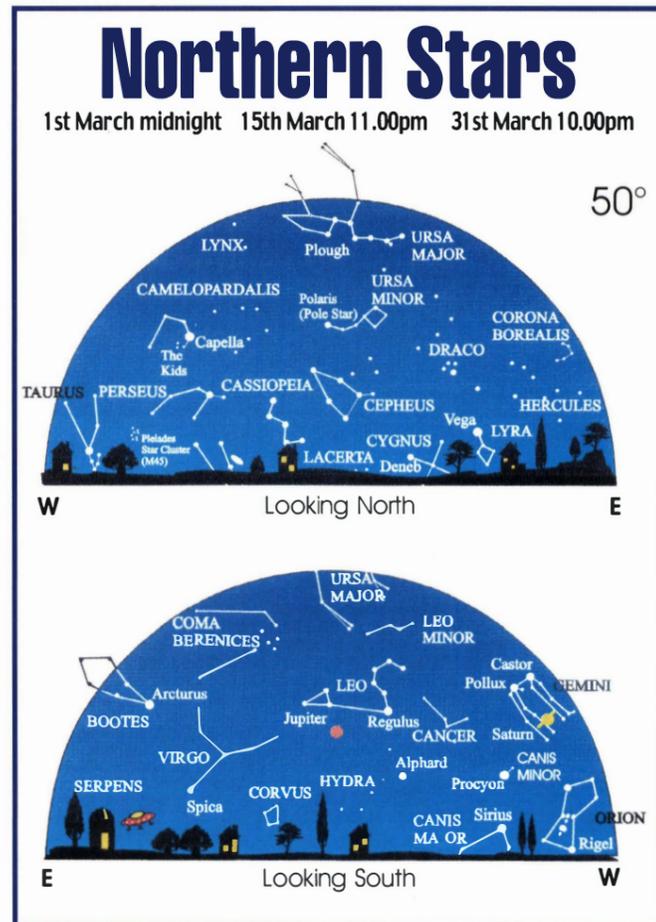
March Meteors

Like February, March also seems to be devoid of major meteor shows although sporadic meteors can appear without warning at any time.

Comets C/2002 T7 and C/2001 Q4

Hopes remain high that these two comets will be prominent summer features during April and May. From the UK there is a chance they will both be visible either side of the evening sky during May. However, May weather in the UK is somewhat unpredictable as are cometary apparitions!

Both have brightened more than expected but the best, T7, is still around magnitude 8 or 9 making it a telescopic object. However, at opposition on 23 April it may be a prominent feature as it moves from Perseus, through Triangulum into Pisces. Comet Q4 is moving northwards from the region of the winter constellations of Canis Major and Orion towards Ursa Major in July. I will say more in next month's sky guide.



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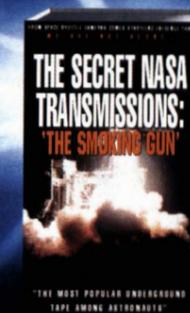
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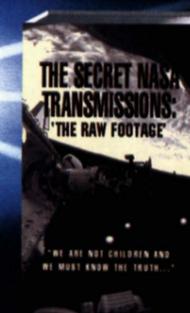
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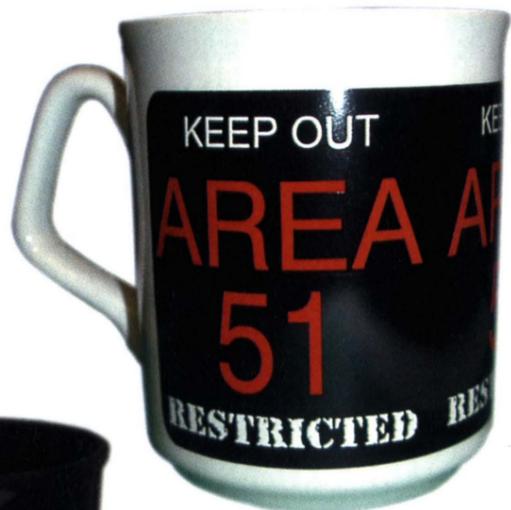
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UFO VIEWPOINT

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WHY ARE FLYING SAUCERS THAT SHAPE?

We must assume that any intelligent being capable of celestial 'flight' has evolved subjected to gravity. Therefore he/she/it would be affected by weightlessness in the same way as our astronauts i.e. weakening of bone or skeletal framework or support structure.

Surely, there has been enough evidence over the last 50 years for the extraterrestrial hypothesis that was always the predominant view of the magazine for all the years I have taken it. So your article *Little Gems* in the January 2004 issue of *UFO Magazine* seems to make you a bit of a sceptic. I'm open minded but not to that extent.

Mr A. W. Bastick,
Rhoose, South Glamorgan

I assure you that I am a firm believer in this subject but there has to be a fine line drawn between a sceptical approach and objective reporting. Attention to detail also counts for much. In my article 'Little Gems' no reference whatsoever was drawn to the incident at Roswell in 1947. In fact I



related to a 1945 alleged crash also in New Mexico (proving grounds for the US military). That 'crash scenario' is featured on page 30.

Maintaining the effect of gravity to avoid this would be attained by using centrifugal force. The effect of which would be creating artificial gravity similar to that of their home planet during the initial stages of a mission, with the added facility of adjustment to the gravitational force to be experienced upon the planet or body to be visited.

A 'saucer shape' revolving upon its own axis would at any point on its circumference afford this facility. The speed of rotation being the controlling factor.

The gravitational effect would be at right angles to the axis of the saucer and therefore in the case of humanoid occupation, the erect beings would be affected likewise.

The control centre would ideally be situated on the axis of the saucer where virtual weightlessness would be experienced, and where contrary rotation could be used to afford stability.

Sidney G. Carter,
London

'LITTLE GEMS'

I admire the work you did with Graham on the *Secret NASA Transmissions* and, no doubt, carried out a lot of investigation into the UFO phenomenon. I was though rather surprised at your dismissal of the Roswell Incident of 1947!

MARS

The astonishing photographs unofficially obtained from NASA by Graham Ennis showing glaciations and open water on Mars are mind boggling. I have for years observed the Red Planet with my back garden reflecting telescope, able to make out the dark markings and polar caps. I bought into the politically correct view that Mars was dry, arid and lifeless.



Malin Systems have collared the rights to publication of the shots from Mars Global Surveyor and these are downloaded in Malin's own time with ample opportunity to doctor images prior to release, including those of the 'Face' at Cydonia.

Long ago Strughold wrote a detailed book called *The Green and Red Planet*, not a fantasy but a book by a professional astronomer and astro-biologist. It was well regarded at the time and then later ridiculed when 'Totally Lifeless Mars' became de rigueur.

Richard Hoagland and others had clearly shown the artificial nature of this mile wide object, displaying symmetrical eyes, pupils, mouth and a head-dress not unlike that of the Sphinx. Natural rock formations?, pull the other one.

The truly surprising aspect of this matter is the attempt to mislead by NASA by withholding these revealing photographs. What are they afraid of? Do they think the population will panic because we have water and vegetation on our solar neighbour?

It is highly possible that the greening of Mars observed by Percival Lowell and others was not an illusion at all but caused by the spread of seasonal vegetation as water flowed from the polar cap.

NASA know perfectly well that water means there is a good chance of life and you just can't explain away huge root spreading 'Banyan' type trees as tricks of light or rock formations. They change colour in the Martian spring and multiply in ice fields.

Come on NASA at least keep an open mind and see what is out there, like Graham Ennis.

Mr J. N Brown,
Peterborough

Thanks to Glennys Mackay in Australia for sharing this pearl of wisdom within the UFO community.

"All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed, second it is violently opposed, and third, it is accepted as self-evident."

Arthur Schopenhauer, Philosopher, 1788-1860

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Refunds are being paid back in order of receipt and although taking longer than first anticipated it is a continuing process. We thank you for your patience and understanding and assure you that all refunds will be made.

Christine Birdsall is dealing with the refunds personally and can be contacted at this email address orders@ufomag.co.uk

SMOKE RINGS

Regarding page 25 of the February issue of *UFO Magazine*, the 'smoke rings' photos...

I have seen these many times at airshows, (most often at the CAF - Commemorative Air Force displays in Texas).

The smoke-rings are caused by 'pyrotechnics' being exploded - to simulate bombs being dropped!

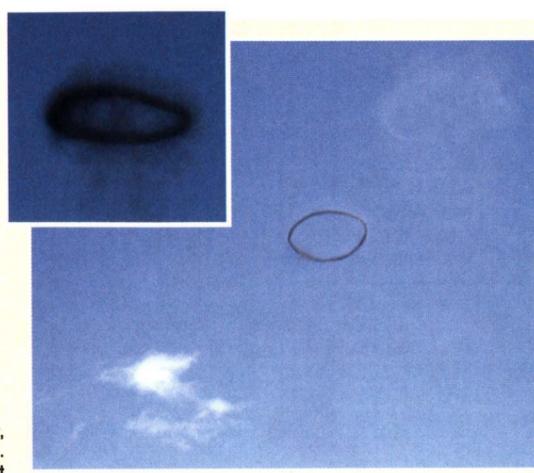
Depending on the manner of explosive and container in use, the smoke rings are seen at some UK displays, but ours are often less spectacular than the US versions!

I know of no connection with the airship in the photo, (I got a 'dead link' to the URL provided!) and can only assume it's a typographical error.

As I'm a part-time Military Aviation Photo-Journalist, I'd be happy to advise on any aircraft/airshow questions you may have.

I'm a member of the Mil-Spotters & Mil-Scanners Yahoo Groups, & if I don't know an answer, I'm sure I could find someone who could!

William Turner,
FlyingFOTOS UK.
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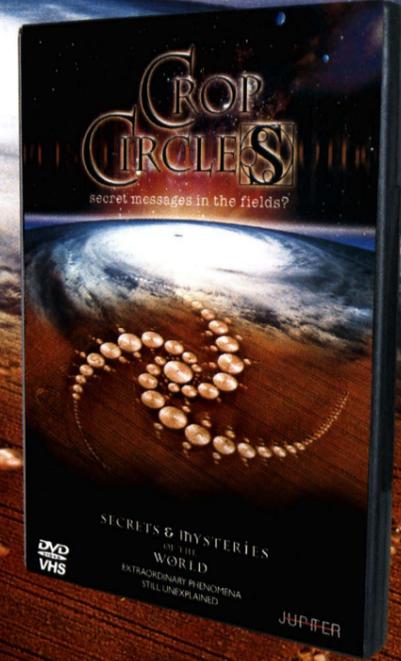
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miscellaneous

•IN THE BEGINNING GOD created The Heaven and The Earth. And The Earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Genesis 1=1-2

•I'M TELEPATHIC and I can easily prove this to all people with pictures and full sentences. I'm trying to make it into the public domain via scientific testing, public shows or similar. Can anyone help me to achieve this? All help or advice welcome. M Alexander, 62 Holcombe Crescent, Bolton, BL4 8JY.

pen pals

•BRIGHTON, SUSSEX based male, just back from USA UFO Congress, would like to hear from like-minded people in the area with a view to possibly forming an active UFO group. Mark Easen, 110 Stoney Lane, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 6LD. Email: mistermarkout@hotmail.com

events

•Dr. UFO/USA CONVENTION. March 26,27 & 28, 2004. Trenton, N.J. Speakers are Jaime Maussan: Mexican UFOs - Vincent DiPietro - Rosemary E. Guiley - Tom Van Flandern, Ph.D - Michael Salla, Ph.D - T. Peter Park, Ph.D - Anthony & Lynn Volpe - Jay Solomon. For tickets see www.drufo.org or phone Pat Marcattilio 609 631 8955

•IRISH UFO CONFERENCE, GALWAY, IRELAND. 11/13 June 2004. Organised by Betty Meyler, President, UFO Society of Ireland. Website: www.ufosocietyireland.com or email info@ufosocietyireland.com See page 81 for more details.

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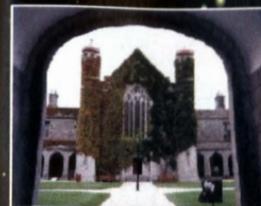
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WE KNOW THEY ARE OUT THERE!!



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The VENUE is the O'Flaherty Theatre of National University of Ireland, Galway. As the Theatre seats only 360, it is advisable to book early, as reservations will be on a 'first come, first served' basis.

The University is set in spacious grounds on the banks of the River Corrib and is one of the most attractive university sites in Europe. It is within easy reach of the town and its strategic location on the West Coast of Ireland gives visitors easy access to the surrounding beauty spots. The friendliness of the people of Galway will ensure that leisure periods between conference sessions will be looked back on with much pleasure, so why not take advantage of this break and bring the family. There is lots to see and do...

Galway itself - known as "The City of the Tribes" is a vibrant city with excellent shops, superb restaurants and lively traditional pubs, many with live music. You haven't lived 'til you have seen 'the Sun go down on Galway Bay!' To make the most of the city take a walking tour or an open top bus tour, or perhaps take a river cruise on 'The Corrib Princess' or visit the lovely off-shore Aran Islands. Nearby attractions include the Galway Irish Crystal Heritage Centre as well as Thoor Ballylee, once the summer house of the world famous poet William Butler Yeats and lots, lots more...

Galway is easily reached by air, ferry, train, bus or car - some websites to visit for more information are: www.irelandwest.travel.ie, www.aerarrann.ie, www.galwayairport.com, www.shannonairport.com, www.west-irl-holidays.ie

The Conference opens on 11th June 2004 at 6.30 p.m. with a Wine Reception hosted by the UFO Society of Ireland in association with Ireland West Tourism. This will be followed by the Opening Forum and Introduction of Speakers.

On Saturday 12th and on Sunday 13th the Conference will start at 10 a.m. and finish at 6 p.m.

Details of times of individual Speakers will be announced at a later date. For information on Speakers click www.ufosocietyireland.com

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Email: info@irelandwest.ie

SPEAKERS

BETTY MEYLER (Ireland)
Betty is the Founder and President of the UFO Society of Ireland. She has witnessed many UFO sightings and is dedicated to the task of disseminating information about UFOs and is the only person in Ireland collecting information about sightings in Ireland. Her Presentation will be entitled "The UFO Scene in Ireland".

EAMONN ANSBRO M.Ast.FRAS (Ireland)
Eamonn is the Director of Kingsland Observatory, Ireland. He is a SETI scientist and has conceived and developed a unique All-Sky Tracking system dedicated to seeking out AOPs (UFOs) that may indicate the first scientific evidence of extraterrestrial intelligent probes. His Presentation will be entitled "Search for Extraterrestrial Visitation (SETV)".

RUSSEL CALLAGHAN (U.K.)
Russel has worked for over 25 years in the commercial and broadcasting television world as both cameraman and editor and casts an experienced eye over much of the alleged 'UFO material' that crosses his desk at *UFO Magazine*. Some images simply fail, but he will present a collection of unusual clips from around the world. His Presentation will be entitled "UFOs - the Video Evidence".

STANTON T. FREIDMAN (Canada)
Stanton was awarded the first ever 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at the 2002 Leeds UFO Conference. He was the original civilian investigator of the Roswell incident and has lectured at more than 700 colleges and professional groups in 15 countries. His Presentation will be entitled "Star Travel? YES!".

GARY HESELTINE (U.K.)
Gary is a Police officer with the British Transport Police and he has been collecting information from fellow Police Officers who have had UFO-related experiences. He is the founder of PRUFOS - Police Reporting UFO Sightings. His Presentation will be entitled "Evidence through Police Eyes".

MICHAEL HESEMANN (Germany)
Michael won the award for 'Best Video on a UFO Subject' for his 'Ships of Light' in the 2002 *UFO Magazine Awards* and is a much travelled international researcher. He has a vast library of startling UFO footage gleaned from around the world. His Presentation will be entitled "The Secret KGB UFO Files".

Dr. ROGER LEIR (U.S.A.)
Roger has done pioneering work in the surgical removal of alien implants from abductees and his scientific research uses academic science from which he draws his conclusions. He is the author of numerous books on the subject. His Presentation will be entitled "Alien Implants in Humans".

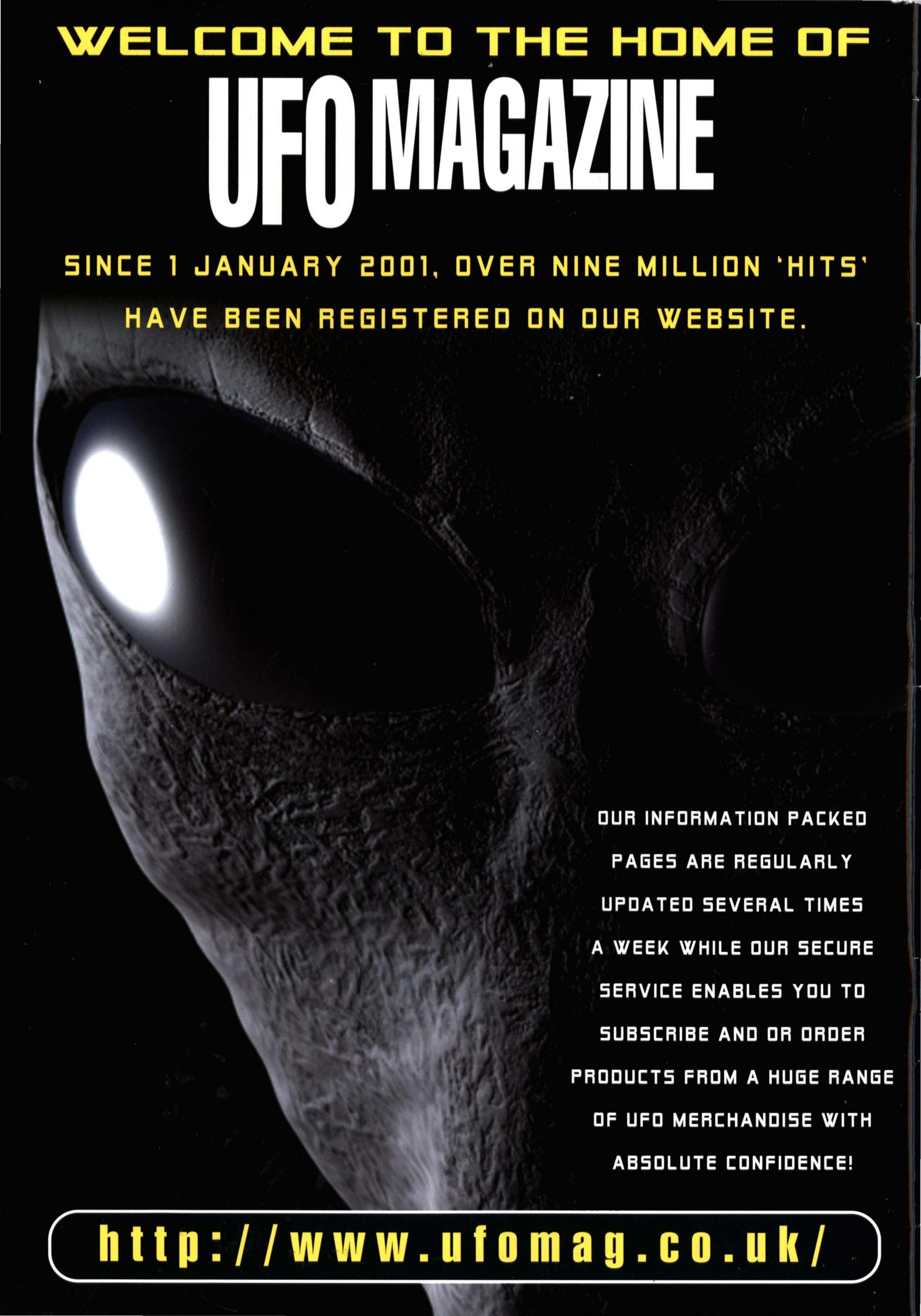
PHILIP MANTLE (U.K.)
Philip has spent many years researching the UFO phenomenon and is the author of many books on the subject. He was particularly interested in the controversial 'Alien Autopsy' footage. His Presentation will be entitled "Alien Autopsy Update".

PHIL MEDLEY (U.K.)
Phil has seen over 50 UFOs including several craft together at the famous Gulf Breeze in Florida. He has been in communication with an ET pilot from a craft for the last 7 years and his contact with ETs has involved travelling all over the world. His Presentation will be entitled "The Stargate Grid".

MIKE MURRAY (U.K.)
Mike is one of the three founding Directors of InterSeti (EUROSETI until 2003), most famous for their 'outing' of the SOHO satellite images of UFOs at the UK National Space Centre in 2002. This will be the first time these images will have been shown in Ireland. His Presentation will be entitled "Behind the Veil of Secrecy".

CARL NALLY (Ireland)
Carl is the co-founder, together with Dermot Butler, of U.P.R.I. - U.F.O. and Paranormal Research Ireland, which conducts independent and objective research into unidentified flying objects and the paranormal scene generally. His Presentation will be entitled "The Phenomena of Hypnosis and Altered States".

Dr. NABIL SHABEEN (U.K.)
Nabil, who is an actor, writer and film-maker, will present a talk about his personal UFO research and will describe some of the very extraordinary UFO experiences that he himself has had. His Presentation will be entitled "Of course it's true. But are they just tourists?".

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of an alien face, likely a Grey. The skin is a mottled grey with a wrinkled texture. The left eye is a bright, glowing white oval, while the right eye is dark and unlit. The background is black.

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