

WESSEX UFO RECORD.

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E D I T O R I A L

Science may be defined as the classification of facts and the recognition of their significance in the order of Nature. It is a part of our task to uncover as many facts as possible bearing on the UFO problem and to fit these facts into their correct niche in the scheme of things. The question is, whether the facts about UFOs can be accommodated satisfactorily within the natural order as it is understood by the champions of the present scientific Establishment.

Centuries of barren theological speculation have saddled us with the meaningless concept of the "supernatural." We must eschew the idea and conceive of Existence as a Whole, embracing not only the restricted portion of Reality which our five physical senses reveal to us but a great realm of the Unseen as suggested by the findings of many psychical investigators.

This implies, for instance, that the human psyche is a natural thing and that after physical death it continues to exist in a realm which is as much a part of Nature as the one it has quitted. To look at things psychic in this way is to lose the sort of superstitious, eerie dread which takes hold of so many people in the presence of inexplicable phenomena.

Some prominent thinkers believe that the material universe is no more than the four-dimensional surface of a five-dimensional hypersphere. On this view of things, the interior of the hypersphere, (which there is no need to regard as a mere mathematical fiction), may be populated, as Benson Herbert of the Paraphysical Laboratory at Downton has observed, not only by discarnate humanity but by alien creatures to whom our universe would appear a thin, unreal cross-section or shadow.

Such an hypothesis is needed to account for innumerable awkward phenomena which psychical research has dumped in the laps of our embarrassed scientists, who are at a loss to account for them in terms of the narrow scientific materialism which seeks to limit existence to the bounds of the physical universe. We must always, of course, approach our data in a scientific manner and spirit, but let us not imagine that the data will invariably be explicable within the context of today's scientific orthodoxy.

It may well be that, in seeking for an explanation of UFOs, we must look to some of the races of alien beings dwelling within the vast interior of

the hypersphere. Such beings would seem to correspond very well with John Keel's "ultra-terrestrials," especially insofar as they would be largely free of spatio-temporal limitations. There is no incongruity in assuming them to be able to manipulate, to some extent, the archetypal contents of the human racial psyche or collective unconscious.

As regards the motives and intentions of the UFO-denizens or ultra-terrestrials, I think I cannot do better than quote from the writings of Allen H. Greenfield, the talented propounder of the "Alternate Reality" Theory. Greenfield supposes that the ultra-terrestrials:

" have been in touch with human beings throughout the history of mankind. Some of this contact has been for purposes generally friendly to mankind, while other contact has been for neutral or directly hostile purposes. A purpose of the latter seems to be the domination of mankind through covert manipulation at times and overt control at other times. One group of entities seems to be interested in combating the malevolent forces. They may in fact be wholly or partly a group of humans living in symbiotic relation with mankind as we know it."

Unquestionably, as Greenfield suggests, much of the UFO activity experienced at present is of a negative order. The forces of destruction and disintegration within our society are re-inforced, when they are not actually engendered, by pressures from outside.

Fortunately, a residual fragment of UFO activity is of a positive complexion. We can only hope that, in the long run, Light will triumph over Darkness and the dwellers on this planet find new strength and purpose to grope their way back to sanity.

WARMINSTER SKYWATCH CARAVAN will be available until the end of October, details from Mrs. M. Carey, 61, Corton, Nr. Warminster, Wilts, or Mr. A. West, 49, Mill Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex. (S.A.E. essential, thanks).

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WERE LUMINOUS METEORS FIERY UFOs?

- Arthur Shuttlewood -

Probable glimpses of shining UFOs peep through news cuttings of 121 years ago.... Yes, way back in 1853, according to correspondence that year which appeared in the old Illustrated London News. For example, in a letter headed "Extraordinary Meteor" dated September 3rd 1853, John S. Sloane, of Great Britain Street, Dublin, wrote to the editor: "I send you herewith a hasty sketch of a curious appearance in the sky, which was first observed directly NE at about eight o'clock last night (September 2nd) over Dublin. It was like a vapoury cloud; and I could plainly distinguish the stars through it. The time of its greatest brightness - which I have endeavoured to depict - was about nine o'clock, after which it gradually became faint and disappeared altogether about ten, having changed from NE to SE.

"The sky was cloudless and starry and the aurora borealis made its appearance about the same time; flashes being very bright and faintly tinged with green." And on September 5th 1853, writing from York, Robert F. Hutchinson stated: "The following account of a remarkable phenomenon visible here last Friday night may not be unacceptable to your columns My attention was arrested that evening, about nine o'clock, by seeing a nebulous band stretching across the firmament from the zenith to the NW horizon. It emitted a bright white light and moved slowly from E to W. The stars shone clearly through the nebula as it passed over them. Having travelled to a certain extent, it became stationary; and then, slowly assuming the form of an 'S', it gradually disappeared. What rendered the appearance more remarkable was that the sky was cloudless and a fine aurora was playing in the N. Some persons near me observed how similar the band was to the tail of a comet: it reminded me, indeed, of the great comet of 1843."

Writing from Huddersfield College, "Tertius" affirmed that " a very strange phenomenon presented itself in the sky here last Friday evening. About nine o'clock, going out of doors to look for the comet, in looking up I saw, instead of it, a broad beam of light springing from above a cloud in the NW, close above the horizon and extending across the sky slightly to the SW of the zenith, almost to the horizon near the SE. My first idea - and that of some others - was that it was the tail of the comet;

but a little consideration told us that it was immensely too long for that, though what it was we could not imagine. It cut right across the galaxy, which it greatly exceeded in brightness. Some stars were visible through it. It was brightest about 35 degrees above the NW horizon.

"It was pretty nearly in a straight line,, but not of very even breadth, and about 50 or 60 degrees above the horizon there was a very decided bend, which increased gradually in time till it appeared almost in two parts, joined by a waving band of fainter light than the rest. The whole seemed to sink slowly below the horizon till it did not reach further than the galaxy; though soon after this another narrower short beam, more defined in outline, appeared in the SE of the sky, where the hind part had been. I watched it for about half an hour; and when I left it, as I said, it reached only to the galaxy, whilst the bend had come to about 20 or 25 degrees above the horizon. When I came out again, rather before ten o'clock, it had quite disappeared." Now let us, from the olde Ufological chronicles of the past, select a news item in the same illustrious press organ, but dated October that same year:

"One of those beautiful and extraordinary wonders of the heavens - a large and brilliant meteor - passed over the norther parts of the county of Nottingham on the afternoon of Friday the 28th October, and was witnessed by a great number of inhabitants. Had it not been for the broad daylight, it would have appeared one of the most luminous meteors that had been witnessed for many years. When first seen at Retford, about four minutes past four p.m., it was somewhat to the westward and moving at an immense velocity from the SW into the NE. Its course was not altogether direct, but somewhat serpentine: in size it was nearly that of the horizontal full moon,, and considerably brighter than the moon appears whilst the sun in above the horizon.

"Its general appearance was that of a luminous ball, nearly globular but rather flattened on its upper and lower extremities. The greater portion of the body was of a deep red colour; whilst round the outer edge it was of a beautiful blue and yellow tint. Behind it were several smaller globes,, and a white streak of light - the latter ending in a point about a degree from the body of the meteor itself. Its height was apparently trifling; but its passage was so exceedingly vivid that this could not be correctly ascertained. It is somewhat singular, but not ~~we~~

believe unusual, that each of those who observed it - although at a considerable distance from each other - fancied it fell within a few yards of himself. A labourer at Blyth saw it, as he said, fall into an ungathered bean field: not knowing what it was, he ran home and told his master of the conflagration which might be expected.

"His master hastened to the field, but failed to discover the cause of the alarm," the news story ends. But was it really an "extraordinary meteor?" Or a mother-craft with her UFO "infants" trailing in the rear? Better perhaps, even in the middle of last century, to reduce scare-mongering and fears by the general public that alien forces from outer space were surveying earth ready for imminent takeover However, it is a colourful glance back at celestial oddities; and I am indebted to observant reader David W. Paynter, of Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, for loaning me the interesting old cuttings from an eventful yesteryear. More up-to-date, here is what happened one afternoon in June of 1964 at Hastings, Sussex, according to witness Arnold W. Menn, of Lowman Road, Holloway, London N7: "I saw coming straight down, from an immense distance out of a clear blue sky, a tiny brilliant point source of light that grew larger and larger into a dazzling bright white disc

"It grew until it almost hurt the eyes to look, then it stopped at a height impossible to tell with complete accuracy. I estimated it to be a possible couple of miles. Size? Who can tell at that height? To my gaze it was as big as a dustbin lid or something equally immense. What I do know is that its light was intense, yet sharply cut off at the edges, with no flames and no smoke, and it remained dead still. I looked away, then lay down on my back, cupped hands around my eyes and looked again. It was still there and must have been for between 40 seconds and a minute.... Having been a photographer for many years, I made a quick analysis in order not to be misled by reflected light, balloons and various other possibilities; but I am sure it was creating its own light, which changed very slightly towards yellow and back to brilliant white.

"It then began moving slowly and traversed three huge circles, covering at least three to five miles diameter, and finally came to rest in exactly the same spot above me, staying there for at least sixty seconds before moving off again. This was the most staggering manoeuvre of all because the acceleration was phenomenal! It went in a dead straight line, with a constant velocity increase of probably double its speed every

fraction of a second, until finally disappearing from sight. I estimated it must have been travelling at least five times as fast as the fastest aircraft we know: in the region of 10,000 miles an hour. Nothing on this earth could reach that rate at such low altitude without someone knowing about it. I am quite prepared to believe it was a machine from another galaxy.

"In terms of universal time we have not long been in existence as mankind. If in the last fifty years we have increased speeds of our machines to many thousands of miles and hour on moon journeys; can easily converse with someone many miles away via a tiny instrument on our wrist; can create temperatures greater than the sun's; build up pressures previously undreamed of and control viruses and germs that would have wiped out whole nations not too long ago; is it not feasible some other intelligence millenia older than us and much further advanced could not have perfected machines to utilise anti-gravity and cosmic forces, thereby visiting us whenever they wish? Perhaps simply to observe, measure and study, but certainly not to contact us and shatter the colossal ego of man on earth!" Pondering deeply on his visual experiences since, trying hard to disprove what he saw, Mr. Menn says: "The only result is that I am more firmly convinced than ever that this was something which arrived from space, under complete control and intelligently directed, able to manoeuvre at speed and acceleration rates that we have no hope of reaching until we have more knowledge of heat-resistant materials and a new form of propulsion."

WARMINSTER SIGHTINGS

Most of the phenomena witnessed at Starr and Cradle Hill during the last three months appears to have been of the LITS variety, as detailed in issue No. 4 of the Wessex UFO Record.

However, in the past three weeks more positive phenomena have been reported: the 'invisible walker', unidentifiable mechanical sounds, and many occurrences of a psychic nature.

In our year-long analysis of Warminster sightings, to be printed in our next issue, we will detail the above-mentioned cases more fully.

PSYCHIC EXPERIENCES AT CLEY HILL

by Mrs. Betty Stead.

Before I relate my experiences at Cley Hill, Warminster, perhaps I should give you some picture of my psychic 'group.' There are three married couples, one extra girl and myself - I am the oldest by far. Although all the above-mentioned are keenly interested in efforts to pierce the mystery of Cley Hill, not all of us were able to go there, so the actual participants in this account were two married couples, myself and my sons Ted and Chris - all of us, I feel free to say, well balanced, intelligent adults. My sons are the photographers, and the 'ballast' of the group; not being part of the circle, they provide a very valuable and necessary leavening to the whole. These are the visible and physical members of our group, but our numbers are greatly increased by those souls who are our friends and guides from the other side of life and who work with us in whatever way they can. Some mediums speak of those who link with them as if they were a different breed entirely. We cannot see it this way - the only difference between us is that we are spirit still in the body and they are spirit liberated. Accepting this slight difference, we function perfectly together and work as a team, each member, from both sides of life, bringing into the circle something that is uniquely personal. I cannot think of these souls as anything but my friends. They have a delightful sense of humour and the difference in personality and approach is a never-ending wonder. This then, is something about my circle! And now for the tale

When, last October, my group and I visited Warminster for the first time, our interest was undoubtedly in the enigma of the UFO and we had our own reasons for wishing to penetrate this mystery.

I had met some people, who, some years ago, had seen in the skies over Kensington, flying saucers, which were subsequently reported in the press as having been advertisement balloons. Following this, they had received an invitation from friends at Warminster to come down and have a look at these 'Things' that had made their appearance over that part of England. They went and saw - and came back, baffled, not only by these strange flying objects, which resembled most strongly those seen over Kensington, but to a greater degree and far more unpleasantly, by the lack of hospitality which they encountered in the very air at Cley Hill.

This name I had already heard on numerous occasions, though not in direct

reference to UFOs. An old and very dear friend of mine had recently returned to the Spirit fold. She had been a remarkable woman, way ahead of her time, and her particular field of research was investigation into 'Inner Earth Kingdom Elementals'. To my own subsequent deep regret, I never had the time to go into this deeply. I was at that time doing my own 'thing' and my way of life doesn't leave me with much time to spare. However, to get back to the bone, so to speak. Cley Hill was a place that had been mentioned by my friend as being worthy of investigation, as she believed she could link this territory with this work of her own. Also she had developed a tremendous interest in flying saucers (the two subjects to her had no connection) and had therefore spent a great deal of time in Warminster over the years.

At the time, I didn't know what I expected to see, hear or feel, on my first visit to Warminster. I do know that I shall never forget the fantastically beautiful orange globe that passed behind Cley Hill. If I close my eyes at any time I see it again - vividly and in detail; nor shall I ever forget my first experience of the strange odour of, shall I say, decay, that Cley Hill presented to me - which I have encountered before in places far away from Wiltshire - and which to me spells only one thing: I am definitely not welcome on that particular psychic scene. We came away from that visit wondering what on earth - possibly that is the wrong expression - we were up against and I wished, once more, that I had made the time in the past to apply myself more thoroughly to my old friend's teachings.

One more visit, later in that year, was a complete write-off as far as 'sky-riders' were concerned, but we came bang up against this malevolent barrier that seemed intent on pushing us back - and succeeded only in stiffening our resolve to sort it all out, if only as a long overdue apology to my old friend Grace, who, it seemed, had been through it all before. On our return home, we really got down to business which, we were decided, would be either the routing or the pacifying of these strange guardians of the Hill; and with our plans ready to put into action, we returned, at a much later date, to Cley Hill.

How on earth can I describe the utter chaos of that weekend, early in March, when the great snows fell upon Wiltshire? We arrived there early on the Saturday afternoon and we felt already that the forces of nature were armed to the teeth against us. It was most shockingly cold, with a

bitter and unwelcoming wind already snapping around, and when we finally reached the Hill, the first flakes of snow were beginning to fall. We assured one another, without much real confidence, that this was just one of those out-of-season storms that couldn't possibly last. Our first job was to get our Gaz cooker out and start the coffee going - No go! We just could not persuade our Gaz (a big one) to co-operate, and the snow (forgetting the light and playful touch bit) got really threatening. Finally, we were forced willy-nilly to spend the whole of that wretched, dreadful night, between the hours of 10 and 6, huddled in our cars, snowed-up, fed-up and increasingly conscious of baleful influences without, pressing in upon us. And yet, as we thankfully departed on the first leg of our journey home (we still had Avebury to drop in upon) so breathtakingly beautiful was the countryside, clothed in sparkling white, that despite all our black mutterings throughout that endless night, we were beginning to think it was just possible we would go back, even though we were convinced that the County of Wiltshire wanted nothing at all to do with us.

We were, I must admit, somewhat shattered by our snow-bound night on Cley Hill. What pathetic creatures we really are, when faced by a little discomfort! We discussed this very thoroughly on our next circle night, the outcome being - can you guess? We fixed a return visit, telling ourselves that we must now have touched rock bottom and this time, come hell or high weather, we would proceed with the business in hand. So, three weeks later, with our heads bloody but unbowed, we took the now familiar route to Warminster!

We ran into the vilest weather on the motorway - fog, sleet, and blinding rain, although we had left Hayes in brilliant sunshine. We called, with a good deal of feeling, upon the Spirits of the Elements to work with us instead of against us for a change. We then pushed on and finally reached base, and what was beginning to seem like a home from home - Cley Hill.

We spent the two or three hours before darkness fell, making sure that this time everything was in order. Before very long we knew that we had company. At the end of the lead-up lane to the Hill, by the water hut, a narrower lane branches off towards a stile. At the hut end is a tree or over-grown bush, where we had first become aware of the presence which had, on our first visit, been instrumental in providing us with a photograph which is still a mystery to us (Wessex UFO Record have a copy of this intriguing photo.).

We sat at the foot of the tree in a circle, with Ted and one of the group outside the circle and some distance away. My friend had been under the

weather and I decided not to use him on this occasion.

The night was cold, with a faint breeze, which died away as we sat in silence, tuning into those whose presence and support were so essential to what we hoped to do. In a little while, I felt the strength and loving encouragement flow from my guide and I broke the silence, challenging those who sought to keep us off the Hill. I said I was not afraid, that I was protected by the White Light of Spirit and filled with the strength and power of the Shining Ones. I said I was coming further up the Hill and bade them come and meet me.

Oh! Brave and valiant words! They had no sooner been spoken - and certainly I had no chance to rise from my chair - when a mighty blast of wind, evil in its anger, howled down Cley Hill and hit us head on, rocking John and myself in our chairs. We were nearest the tree and caught the first blast. It went straight through the circle and whistled horribly around our two rear-guards. We were, quite literally, blown breathless, but re-grouped and challenged again. The second onslaught was, if possible, more concentrated than the first and was accompanied by a howling noise quite apart from that the wind was making, and which was having no effect on any of the branches of the neighbouring trees. They remained quite still. At this point I thought it advisable to clothe my circle in the protective White Shield, and in my third and last challenge that night, I used ancient words that have been spoken through ages past, when those who carried the White Light of Spirit have stood against the forces of Darkness and Evil. The attacks against us dropped away after that, although I could still hear the howling retreating up the Hill. I was sure we had made progress - and we intend to press on with this at a later date, and, of course, further up the Hill.

The two who stood outside the circle, felt strongly the wind that rushed upon us; and Ted said that as I was speaking he could see many strange lights flashing and winking up the slopes of Cley.

Well, there it is; the mystery of Cley Hill, as seen by my group. There is only one more thing to be added. My two sons and I paid a further flying visit to Warminster not long ago, the rest of my circle being tied up with holidays, etc. We just decided to drop in and in the absence of the group, keep strictly to UFO business. We saw two objects that we

wouldn't care to be definite about, one flying very high and very fast in a south-westerly direction and another further away travelling in approximately the same direction.

The varied phenomena at Warminster certainly requires further investigation!

Wessex UFO Record wish to thank Mrs Betty Stead and her group for allowing the above information to be printed in full.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

The following details, together with the cover photos, were kindly supplied by Mr. Ian Scott.

WARMINSTER SEPTEMBER 12th 1971.

At 1.00 p.m. Derek Cooke and I took a bus to Boreham and then walked down the B3095 till we found a pathway opposite Eastleigh Court. We then took a photograph of Bishopstrow Church, looking in a N.E. direction, at 2.00 - 2.30 p.m. The weather was sunny with fair weather cumulus. Wind East. At the time the photos were taken no noise or any sign of an object were noted.

I was using a Minolta SRT101 35mm single lens reflex. Lens: 28mm Rokker F/35. Emulsion: Panatomic X rated at 100 A.S.A.

Derek was using a Nikon F 35mm single lens reflex. Lens: 50mm Nikon F/2. Emulsion: Ilford F.P.3 rated at 125 A.S.A.

Derek fired first, with me exposing 3 to 5 seconds later. Exposure approx. 250th F/11.

On processing, I took my negative to Kodak, who gave me a receipt, telling me that my negative would be sent to the Kodak laboratories for analysis. Three months later they sent me a letter informing me that the negatives were lost.

Before sending the negatives off to Kodak, I observed the object at 100X magnification under a microscope. The object had a definite grain structure. There were no marks or dust specks on the emulsion surface.

Upper photograph: Derek Cooke.

Lower photograph: Ian Scott.

THE RECENT CHANGE OF CLIMATE OVER UFOs

by Brinsley Le Poer Trench
(President, Contact International)

On 8th January, 1969, the University of Colorado panel of scientists, headed by the late Dr. Edward U. Condon, commissioned by the U.S. Air Force, published the results of their study of unidentified objects.

Although the very lengthy report contained radar and visual sightings that could not be explained, it was the negative Introduction to the report by Condon himself that really 'put the boot in' and put paid - or so it seemed at the time - to Ufology being taken seriously.

The Introduction by Condon was probably the only part of the close on 1,000 page report that newspaper men troubled to read. Consequently, there were headlines in the world press stating that UFOs did not exist. Authority had stated it. After that, the media ceased to give any reports (or a bare minimum) for some considerable time.

In spite of the Condon Report, UFOs continued to be reported all over the planet, culminating in an unprecedented spate of activity during the last three months of 1973 in the Americas, Europe and elsewhere, and reports have continued during the first half of 1974. Now, the world press is reporting on the UFO scene again. The harm done to Ufology by publication of the Condon Report has almost evaporated, though the wounds remain to some little extent.

Oddly enough, the pendulum has swung right back to the other side. Public opinion is now more than ever coming round to the view that UFOs are something to be seriously considered. Indeed, a recent Gallup Poll established that 51% of those interviewed in the United States believe the UFOs to be real. This was the highest figure ever recorded in these polls. However, this swing in favour of the existence of UFOs is not confined to the United States. There is a marked trend to the same effect in Europe, including the United Kingdom. Last November, in Italy, due to the UFO 'flap' going on there at the time, a radio station in Rome had for one of its regular 'phone in' programmes, one on UFOs. While the programme was in progress, people were phoning in describing flying saucers that they could see from the windows of their apartments! Just imagine the interest this must have caused throughout Italy.

Although there are not now so many downright sceptics among middle-aged and older people as before, it is the younger generations that tend to accept the subject as a matter of course. Naturally, not all of them. You will appreciate that I am writing in general terms. The general attitude of the younger generation reminds me of the remark made about UFOs many years ago by the late Jean Cocteau, the French poet of international repute who died in 1963. He said: 'The astonishing thing would be if they did not exist.'

There seems to be a subtle change of climate, too, in the attitude of Authority to the UFO subject. Here in Britain, there has always been very little given out from either the Ministry of Defence or the Air Ministry. They may have 'explained' some reports over the years as being the planet Venus, spots before the eyes, meteorites, or debris from expended satellites re-entering out atmosphere. However, they certainly have not been so talkative as their counterparts in the United States who over the years issued both 'hot' and 'cold' statements, causing the public to be utterly confused. In Britain, on the whole, there has always been that quiet British reticence, if you see what I mean.

Well, that policy of being unforthcoming to the public still operates with the Ministry of Defence. However, I have the odd friend or so in the Ministry, and without divulging any names or secrets, I get the firm impression that they are perfectly aware of the reality of UFOs. That in fact, UFOs have been tracked on radar many times, as well as having been seen from R.A.F. aircraft.

But, as in the case of the U.S. Air Force, their British counterparts are only concerned with any possible threat to our air space. Up till now, I gather that no such threat has manifested itself. Therefore, there is no cause for the Ministry to take any direct action.

I can well understand that for the present the UFOs must remain 'under wraps', though I have not been told this one way or the other. In my assessment, the authorities do not have all the answers - again, I have not been told this - and would be subject to some awkward questions from both Parliament and the general public if any premature announcement was made that UFOs are real.

The impression I get from my friends is that the Ministry hope that the public will gradually get used to seeing the UFOs in our skies and that eventually there will be a gradual general acceptance of them. As I wrote earlier in this article, there is already a marked trend in this direction.

Naturally, individuals in both the Ministry of Defence and the R.A.F. are curious as from where the UFOs emanate and what their motives are in coming here. All ufologists and, indeed, the public would like to know the answers to these all important questions, too.

Now, what I have written here is strictly 'off the cuff', and in no way official. I repeat that all this is my impression of the official attitude which has changed in recent years, and is only to be taken at that evaluation. The Ministry may well deny what I have written about radar and visual sightings. If so, I would not blame them.

Nevertheless, I am convinced that they do know of the reality of UFOs, and I think that we can best help the authorities by passing on to them all UFO sightings and landing reports. If we do this - and I think it important - then it must be stressed that no important information will come our way from them. The reason for that is obvious to any person who has his or her head screwed on properly. They have a security job to do, and if the authorities were to return the compliment by giving us data about UFOs, then 'the cat would be out of the bag!'

What I have written here is highly controversial as many ufologists are suspicious and critical of the authorities over the way the UFO situation has been handled in past years. I must admit that I was, too. However, I have to a great extent changed my views.

To sum up, the impression I get in Britain is that the Ministry of Defence would like our assistance in passing over UFO reports, and that in turn, they appreciate our efforts through groups, books, magazines and newsletters, to educate the public about UFOs.

Strangely enough, I have a 'hunch' that the ufonauts themselves appreciate that we are doing our best to do a public relations job for them. They probably don't want to cause a panic by suddenly landing all over the place, and would, no doubt, prefer public opinion to accept them before making such an open contact. I think we are well on the way to such a dramatic situation.

S R I N A R A Y A N A

Having disposed in my last article of the topic of "possession," I am now free to return to a general consideration of the realm of the Astral.

Perhaps the most satisfactory way of freeing the astral form from the physical body is that of "The Door." Sit in an easy posture, with firm support for the back. The temperature of the room should be not too warm or cold for comfort and the lighting should be subdued.

Relax completely and picture a heavy door set in the wall in front of you. Continue to concentrate on the door, to the exclusion of all other thoughts whatsoever, until, (as will happen eventually if you persist in spite of initial failures), it swings slowly open. Picture yourself as walking forward through the gap. You will then find that you are on the Astral. When this occurs, remain calm. If you panic the result will be to hurl yourself back into the physical body.

There are, of course, many techniques for attaining astral travel. Most of them are harmless, but never make use of drugs in order to quit the body. To do so is to invite disaster in that you will reach only the lower astral regions and may encounter entities of a highly malefic type.

I am using the term, "Astral," to encompass the entire gamut of supra-physical planes or states of consciousness. The lowest astral regions are dark, gloomy and unpleasant and there is a transition to brighter and more earthlike realms and thereafter to radiant spheres which may properly be denominated as spiritual in every sense of the term.

While at large on the Astral you may encounter any or all of a variety of dwellers. There are human beings like yourself, either in sleep or trance or sundered from the body. ("Dead" in popular parlance). As a matter of fact, one feels a great deal more alive and vital when astral travelling than when "in the body pent."

There are non-human entities whose proper home is the Astral. Some of these appear in quasi-human guise and have found mention in the World's mythologies. (Fauns, satyrs, centaurs and the like).

There are "artificial elementals." These are beings brought into existence by the concentrated thought of human beings or other intelligent entities. This can happen involuntarily or by design. The celebrated "invisible walker" of Cradle Hill, Warminster, is almost certainly an artificial elemental created in the past by a magickal ceremony and set to patrol an area around the hilltop. The deities of primitive peoples, worshipped as they are with blood rites which are sometimes of a revolting description, may outlast their creators by centuries and linger to vex future visitors to what were once their sacred places - for these deities are simply artificial elementals.

There are nature spirits, the psychical counterparts of plants and animals. These are not really conscious entities at all and soon melt into the general reservoir of life after the death of their physical bodies. While existing, however, since all living beings on the physical level represent types on the rungs of the ladder which culminated in the human form, they may manifest in diminutive humanoid aspect - hence folk tales of elves, gnomes and so on.

Finally, when on the Astral we may consult the Records of the Astral Light. That is to say, we may enter into the Memory of Nature and review the happenings of far away and long ago.

Is there danger involved in astral travelling? Not often, but occasionally one may encounter an undesirable entity. Should this happen, the immediate remedy is to enshroud one's astral form in a protective aura of brilliant blue light and fervently to invoke the protection of the Powers of Light. Beyond that, return to the body as quickly as possible. Unpleasant episodes may occur if one ventures on to the Astral while unwell, angry or sexually tense.

A special kind of astral travel is involved when one seeks to overlook physical events and the doings of persons embodied and awake. Here, one retains while travelling the shadowy, wraith-like double or ka, which I mentioned on page 16 of the "Record" for April, 1974. A special responsibility rests upon the operator in connection with this type of astral voyaging, in that it could, if misused, degenerate into a sort of psychic voyeurism which would be unethical and undesirable to a degree. Fortunately, perhaps, it is not easy to accomplish, at anyrate consistently,

in addition to which is is complicated by the violent astral currents often encountered at ground surface level while engaging in it.

It is, naturally, quite impossible for such an article as this to do more than outline the almost infinite variety of scenery and beings which may be met with on the Astral. It is possible for the student to "go it alone and if he or she be of reasonably ethical outlook and free from gross mental defect or physical handicap, (as heart disease), no serious harm is likely to be experienced. Even so, the guidance of a guru, (teacher), is a benefit to be sought.

The aura, with which I shall deal at length in future, is simply the extension or projection of the astral form beyond the confines of the physical body. The body is linked with the astral form by the so-called "silver cord," a luminous magnetic cord which, during projection, emanates from a spot between the eyes, the "third eye" or Ajna Chakra.

I have stated above that animal astrals or nature spirits are not really conscious entities at all, being merely semi-conscious units within the group-life of their particular species. This is not the case with the highest types of animals, which progress to rudimentary self-consciousness. Pet animals, in particular, survive death as individual units which may persist for many years, finally amalgamating with the astrals of the owners who cherished them. When we give our affection to a pet, that affection is not wasted. It will return to us after many days. One does not like to think of the return which may come to the vivisector and the tormentor of helpless creatures. For cruelty, like kindness, comes home to roost!

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BOOK REVIEW:

"URI" by Andrija Puharich M.D. Northwestern University U.S.A.
Published by 'Futura' Publications Ltd., 49, Poland Street,
London W1A 2LG.

In paper-back form the book runs to 285 pages and deals mainly with the psychic exploits of Uri Geller and Andrija Puharich in the fields of telepathy, telekinesis and clairvoyance.

It begins with an account of the meeting of Dr. Puharich with an Indian sage Dr. D.G. Vinod, who, while in a trance state, transmitted information from a cosmic entity (M calling) that he - Dr. Puharich - had been chosen by the 'Nine Principles' to act with them on the earthly plane in helping to achieve the perfect state of human harmony and peace for all mankind.

In his search for an emanuensis he came upon Uri Geller in Israel in 1971, then twenty-five years old and already famous in his own land for his ability to influence inanimate objects and for his remarkable clairvoyance. Dr. Puharich became convinced of the genuineness of Uri's powers after a series of experiments, during which conversations were held through the medium of a tape recorder, with several cosmic entities who claimed that through Uri they were seeking to influence the destiny of mankind towards the ultimate perfect truth and peace - and that Andrija was to introduce Uri to the world and write a book about him. The cosmic entities claimed to be stationed upon space-craft and allowed both Uri and Andrija to catch glimpses of these vehicles - or UFOs. Andrija took Uri back to America in 1972 where he gave many public performances of the well-known spoon-bending, watch mending and clairvoyance routine. At the Stanford Research Institute in California, Uri was subjected to a series of scientific tests, which appeared to be well devised and unbiased. Their final verdict after investigating Uri and another 'psychic' Ingo Swann, was as follows:-

"We do not claim that either man has psychic powers; we draw no conclusions as to the nature of these phenomena or need to call them psychic.

We have observed certain phenomena with these subjects for which we have no scientific explanation. All we can say at this point is that further investigation is clearly warranted."

A film of these experiments was made. Uri and Andreja have been touring the world and the apparent psychic powers of Uri Geller have become controversial argument wherever he appears.

The book is well written, in spite of the highly compressed nature of the contents, which is not easy to digest. To me it was rather like a Chinese

meal finishing the book in a bloated state, stuffed with highly-
coloured accounts of psychic occurrences, cosmic messages of great length,
miraculous telepathy and telekinesis 'proofs', 'claims' and so on, and so
on; but after a few hours of quiet consideration and analysis, I was left
with an empty feeling that I had found no concrete evidence that the
powers of Uri and Andrija Puharich were indeed of world-shattering
importance, but time will tell and I leave the reader to form his own
conclusions.

Geoffrey G. Doel
M.R.C.S. D.M.R.E.

Other books by Andrija Puharich

The Sacred Mushroom 1959
Beyond Telepathy 1962

"WESSEX UFO RECORD" exists to report UFO, Fortean and Psychological manifestations in Wessex and beyond and to study the implications of such phenomena. It is published quarterly, at a cost of £1-50 for each annual quota of four issues, or 35p per single copy.

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